

Jamal inspires **Wanderers**

SPORTS REPORTER

Wari Club crashed to their first defeat in the Green Delta Insurance First Division Hockey League when they went down to Dhaka Wanderers by a solitary goal at the Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Jamal sealed full three points for Wanderers when he separated the two sides on the half hour.

In the day's other match, a brace by Niloy helped Shishu Kishore Sangha edge Uttara Hockey Club 2-1. Shuvo found the net for Uttara.

Army champs in office b'ball

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Army emerged unbeaten champions in the Office Basketball League beating Bangladesh Navy 63-59 in a keenly contested final at the Dhanmondi Basketball Gymnasium yesterday.

Mithun caged 15 points while Tofazzal and Ataur scored 10 points each for the winners who led the first half 31-23. Rashed scored 29 points and Miji 11 for the losers.

Bangladesh Basketball Federation president Maj Gen (retd) ZA Khan distributed the prizes as

Marcos claims maiden title

AFP, Beijing

Marcos Baghdatis claimed the first title of his fast-rising career Sunday after a 6-4, 6-0 thrashing of Croatian Mario Ancic in the final of the China

The smiling Cypriot who won many hearts nine months ago as he battled through to the Australian Open final before losing out to Roger Federer, turned in a dominating performance in the capital.

It took just 72 minutes for the third seed to complete his dream debut week in China.

Baghdatis, winless in three previous meetings with Ancic -including two defeats this season -was untroubled as he fired down six aces, broke four times and never faced a break point.

A concluding unforced error from Ancic, playing for the first time in two months after injuries in the post-Wimbledon period, sealed the

Baghdatis took a step closer to possible qualification for the season-ending Masters Cup in Shanghai, an eight-man final.

He move up to eighth in points race, passing American

The 21-year-old Baghdatis is in the midst of a breakthrough year, finally coming good in his lucky third final after Melbourne in January and Basel last November. The Cypriot came to China for

the first time after losing in a five-set thriller to Andre Agassi at the US

Ancic was also making his debut in China and had won 19 of his last

21 matches The Croatian has one trophy to boost their hopes of reaching the from four finals in 2006 final, Collymore is anxious to return. A decision will be made on the morning Baghdatis improved his season

record to 36-17 while Ancic stands of the match. "With treatment over the past week it has been improving well," said Collymore.

BCB shortlists

FROM PAGE 17 Hasan and Forhad Reza along with voung wicketkeeper Mushfigur Rahim made up the list for the Emerging Cricketer while Mehrab Hossain, who got his first national call for next month's ICC Champions Trophy, Nazmus Sadat and Nadif Chowdhury were selected for Young Tigers award.

Late coach and national cricketer Daulatuzzaman has been selected for the Lifetime Achievement award.

For the Best Umpires, the nominees are Akhteruddin Shaheen. Nadir Shah and Khandaker Ziaul Islam Masud.

Beximco light

Partex, who did not take part in last year's tournament, confirmed the services of Test opener Javed Omar. They also had 10 other players sign for them.

Last year's finalists Epyllion, Acme Laboratories, Startel, Syfang Fan and Bangladesh Biman were also partially busy, signing a few players to complete their respective squads on a surprisingly more frantic day at the under-construction stadium.

Absent on the first two days of the bourse, Raju Fish Culture and MM Ispahani completed all their signings on the final day. Other

teams also signed several players. As many as 85 players took part in the transfers yesterday, taking the total number of players to have figured in the three-day transfers to iust less than 200.



Hingis,

Mirza's

time to prove

Former world number one

Martina Hingis and Indian star

Sania Mirza have been drawn to

meet in the semifinals of the

175.000-dollar WTA tournament

Top-seeded Swiss player

Hingis, who in 1996 had become

the youngest Wimbledon cham-

pion at the age of 15 years and

nine months, has an important

assignment at hand in a bid to

Fifth seed Mirza, who will turn

20 in November, faces pressure

of a different kind in front of a

home crowd as she looks to

bounce back after seeing her

rankings fall to 70 from 31 last

World number nine Hingis's

first round opponent will be

Hungarian Melinda Czink, who

had a couple of good WTA outings

recently while Mirza is lucky to be

playing a qualifier in the opening

field include Karolina Sprem of

Croatia, Nicole Pratt of Australia

Other prominent names in the

starting here on Monday.

recapture old glory.

Pakistan batswoman Sana Javed (R) who scored 121, cuts the ball against Hong Kong in a women's World Cup prequalifying match at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore on Sunday. The hosts beat Hong Kong by 230 runs.

England stars' anxious hours

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

quota until April.

Injured England stars Michael Vaughan and Simon Jones will find out on Wednesday if they have gained central contracts for the next 12 months

Neither England captain Vaughan nor fast bowler Jones, who both have knee problems, has played this summer Vaughan aims to be back by

January but Jones has been told to stay out of action until next season. England could offer 16 contracts, each worth about £250,000. but are likely to save some of the

They also face a dilemma over Ashley Giles, who has been named in the Ashes squad despite having missed the whole year so far with hip and groin trouble.

Giles will travel with the one-day squad to India next month, aiming to complete his return to fitness in training, although he will not play in the ICC Champions Trophy.

Vaughan, who has undergone knee surgery twice since last November, is aiming to play in next

REUTERS, Kuala Lumpur

Australia

West Indies are sweating on the

fitness of fast bowler Corev

Collymore ahead of Monday's tri-

series one-day international against

defeat to Australia as well as the

Duckworth-Lewis victory over India

on Thursday because of a right thigh

With West Indies needing a victory

West Indies skipper Brian Lara

said after the victory over India that

Collymore was their best bowler and

crucial to his side's hopes of winning

Australia, meanwhile, will be

the tournament.

Collymore missed their opening

January's one-day VB Series in a bid to regain a place for the World

"It's going to be a long road but hopefully I'll be back playing cricket in the early part of 2007," he said recently

"At least it looks like I'm on the upward slide and I can look forward to playing cricket again. It's going to be guite a hard rehab but I'm looking forward to getting back in Jones, however, has been

advised by a specialist to delay his

return until the 2007 domestic

season following surgery on his left ECB medical officer Dr Peter Gregory, said: "Simon recently to America for a reassessment of the left knee which was operated on earlier in the

"The specialist is encouraged by Simon's progress but he has advised that any return be delayed until next season to give the surgery the best chance of succeed-

All players named last week in the Ashes tour squad and the Academy group, which is also travelling to Australia, will be contracted over the winter.

without their new bowling sensation

Mitchell Johnson, who took four

wickets against India on Saturday

only for the match to be abandoned

Jaques were due to return to Australia

on Sunday, leaving captain Ponting

with a 15-man squad for their remain-

before coming out here," said

Ponting, "We arrived with an 18-man

squad and wanted to experiment by

Victory for the Australians would

Organisers on Sunday that all

almost guarantee them a place in

remaining matches would start at

1.30pm local time (0500 GMT), an

hour earlier than scheduled, to allow

more playing time should bad

giving everyone a chance.'

also return for Australia

weather strike again.

Johnson, Mark Cosgrove and Phil

"This was a decision we made

because of rain.

ina matches.

and Estonian Kaia Kanepi. Second-seeded Sprem has an easy draw till the quarterfinals, WI wait on Collymore where she has the chance to meet eighth seed Anastasia Rodionova of Russia.

Third seed Yuliana Fedak of Ukraine may have an easy ride till the semifinals where she may face seventh seed Pratt.

Germans retain

FROM PAGE 17

corner that caused much protest from the German players. Luke Doerner's flick was deflected slightly by Bubolz and hit the left post, the opportunity now gone.

Australia soon found themselves running out of time. They attacked Ponting is also to be rested for the desperately but were denied time match, with Mike Hussey set to take over the captaincy. Matthew Hayden, and again by the ever reliable, Andrew Symonds and Brett Lee will excellent German defence.

With this spectacular win in the final, Germany hold on to their world champion title for another four years. Olympic champions Australia take silver.

Meanwhile, Spain beat South Korea 3-2 in the third-place play-off thanks to Pol Amat's 71st-minute golden goal.



Players of Shishu Kishore Shangha and Uttara Hockey Club are locked in a battle for possession at the Green Delta Insuarance First Division Hockey League at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Sunnydale win boys' mini handball title

SPORTS REPORTER

Sunnydale clinched the Sunnydale-Bexi Fabrics Mini Handball (boys') tournament with an exciting 14-12 victory against BAF Shaheen School in yesterday morning's final.

Sakib fired five goals and Sarik four as Sunnvdale, who led the first half 7-4, survived a second half charge by Shaheen School at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex.

For the losers, Mohiuddin slammed six goals and player-ofthe-tournament Wisarut netted four.

Dhanmondi Tutorial finished third defeating Ansar VDP School 6-4 in the play-off.

GIRLS' HANDBALL

In the Bexi Fabrics Mini Handball (girls') tournament, BIS won both their matches to set a semifinal clash against Sunnydale.

BIS defeated Rahmatullah Model School 9-1 and Dhanmondi Quamrunnessa 3-2 while Sunnydale booked their place in the last four with a convincing 10-1 victory against Dhanmondi Tutorial.

Scholastica, who meet Play Pen in the other semifinal, dumped Agha Khan School 7-3. Play Pen blanked

Both the semifinals and the final will be held tomorrow at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports

Tanima has the last laugh

SPORTS REPORTER

Tanima Parveen lifted the Begum Laila Alam Women's FIDE Rating Chess title vesterday despite losing her last round game to International Woman Master Rani Hamid at the BCF hall-room.

Tanima finished top of the table jointly with Rani and Shamima Akhter Liza, who defeated Swati Maiumder of India on the final day, all collecting 6.5 points.

Tanima was declared the champion by virtue of her better progressive score (26). Liza was runner-up with a progressive score of 21 and Rani third with 19.

Hussey all

before the tour that they would only be participating in the first two games of the DLF Cup," he said.

"This was a good opportunity for all three young players to display their skills at international level. They have all performed extremely well and their return home is in no of those players." The West Indies were buoyed by

Duckworth-Lewis method last week in a rain-affected match but have kept a low profile since as they plot Australia's downfall. Their team is expected to remain much the same with Chris Gavle

their victory over India on the

and Shivnarine Chanderpaul opening the innings. Fast bowler Corey Collymore

remains iniured. Fidel Edwards. with his 90mph pace, will provide the firepower.

Rain shifts

FROM PAGE 17 Kallis had spoken about prior to the series was missing.

This series is the last competition for either side ahead of next month's Champions Trophy in India and both captains would be keen to get

matters underway on Monday. TEAMS SOUTH AFRICA: Jacques Kallis (captain), Loots Bosman, Boeta Dippenaar, Herschelle Gibbs, Jean-Paul Duminy, Mark Boucher, Shaun Pollock, Robin Peterson, Charl Langeveldt Andre Nel, Mkhaya

ZIMBABWE: Prosper Utseya (captain), Terrence Duffin, Vusi Sibanda, Justice Chibhabha, Hamilton Masakadza, Brendan Taylor, Stuart Matsikenyeri, Elton Chigumbura, Twanda Mupariwa, Ed Rainsford, Anthony Ireland.

Chelsea brave FROM PAGE 20

improved by Riley's refusal to award a penalty 15 minutes from time for what he believed was a clear push on Gerrard by John Terry, the man who beat the Liverpool talisman to the England captain's job under new coach Steve McLaren.

Inter let off

FROM PAGE 20 after he had come on five minutes

Mancini added: "The goal by Patrick (Vieira) seemed fine to me. I

would really like to see it again." After their 3-2 away win at iorentina last week, Inter face their first big shock of the season against Roma on Wednesday

Watch McGrath Henin powers & learn: Dravid

Cricket

AFP, Kuala Lumpur

India captain Rahul Dravid has told his young bowlers that if they want to make the grade they need to watch and learn from Australia's Glenn McGrath.

McGrath, 36, was out for nine months to help wife Jane fight breast cancer but has returned in his first two games since then as if he had never been away, pitching perfectly and causing the batsmen all sorts of problems.

While Dravid was encouraged by his seam bowlers in their DLF Cup match against Australia here Saturday, he recognises that they still have plenty to learn, and McGrath is the man they should be watching. "Glenn is fantastic. It's a great

lesson for a lot of our bowlers, particularly our young seamers," said Dravid, referring to people like Munaf Patel and RP Singh. "There's a lot of young boys in our team and just to watch McGrath

is a great learning experience for "He can come back after six months out and pitch the ball excatly

where he needs to, he knows

exactly which areas are difficult to score in, he reads wickets very quickly and he knows what length to bowl very quickly

"It's not always fun batting against him but it is always nice to

watch a good craftsman at his art. "I was telling some of our young bowlers during the rain breaks that they have got to look and learn and watch these things and see how the

legends of the game do it.

Despite their need for bowling lessons from McGrath, who has taken 874 wickets for Australia in Tests and one-dayers, Dravid was encouraged by his seamers in their rain-affected game on Saturday.

"One of the things we've spoken about before with our bowlers is the parts of the wickets they should be bowling at," he said.

"I'm happy to say we are getting better at that, bowling in the right areas more consistently, so that was a good sign from this game.

'That is what is going to be critical for us going on, in the first 20 overs, how we bowl, because we know we've got the quality spinners who can control the middle overs for

"It's very important that the seamers give us a good start."

India next play the West Indies Wednesday.

Belgium

AFP, Charleroi

Justine Henin-Hardenne defeated Francesca Schiavone 6-4, 7-5 here on Sunday to give Belgium a 2-1 lead in the Fed Cup final against

It was the second win of the final for the world No.2 and came despite her struggling with a knee She won a tough first set in 51

minutes but, as in her first match on Saturday against Flavia Pennetta, trailed 2-5 in the second set before going on a five game run to close out the match.

"I was in a lot of pain from the knee injury that started on Saturday," she said.

"It was tough at times but I played my heart out. I needed to win in two sets because I could not have managed a third set.'

Henin-Hardenne is carrying the home hopes of a second Fed Cup win after that of 2001 following the withdrawal of former world No.1 Kim Clijsters with a wrist injury she sustained in preparing for the US

The second of the reverse singles sees Mara Santangelo take on the replacement for Clijsters, Kirsten Flipkens, who lost in straight sets to Schiavone on Saturday.

If the match is level at 2-2, the final will be decided by a doubles



Belgian Justine Henin Hardenne is overjoyed after winning over Flavia Pennetta of Italy in the Fed Cup final match in

Svetlana's Bali treble

Tennis

Svetlana Kuznetsova overcame ill will after striking opponent Marion Bartoli on the arm with a ball during warmup on the way to a title hattrick at the Wismilak International on Sunday.

seed at a tournament for the first time in her career, had to marshal all of her game to overcome the fighting Frenchwoman 7-5, 6-2. A third victory for the 2002 and

The Russian, playing as top

2004 champion at this tropical resort took one hour, 40 minutes. The title was the second this season for world No. 5 Kuznetsova.

who won the Miami trophy in March but lost the final at Roland Garros to Justine Henin-Hardenne. The warmup incident left a bad taste in the mouth of the 26th-

ranked Bartoli, who seemed not to accept Kuznetsova's quick apology for the incident

me." said the sixth seed, who won her first WTA-level title in January at July through the US Open, then had Auckland. "That's not the way you two days off before coming here."

"It didn't affect my game, but it

was a shock.' Bartoli, close to tears in the moment after the affair, went to the sidelines to apply some ice before the start, then set out to prove that

she had the makings of an upset in It was a gruelling first set featuring three breaks of serve for Kuznetsova, who won the US Open 2004 the week before she

claimed her second Bali title. The Russian struggled before taking control in the second set as Bartoli ran out of puff after a long

"If I could have won the first set, it would have been a different match," said the 21-year-old French player. "I need to be able to compete in a

lot of tough matches over the

weeks. I was getting tired and was

feeling the matches I played over

Kuznetsova who plays next week in Beijing. "I had to play consistent "I played OK in the first set but got better in the second.'

second set.

Kuznetsova, who is undefeated at the venue, overcame more than 20 unforced errors and had to spend 56 minutes in winning the opening set as Bartoli showed she was not about to roll over.

"I played from the first week of

Bartoli profitted from nine dou-

Kuznetsova struck for victory

"It was a tough match," said the

with a concluding break as Bartoli

busted a backhand into the net.

ble-faults off the Russian's racket,

but came up short after three

breaks of serve in succession in the



American sprinter Sanya Richards continued her dream year with an astonishing win in the women's 400m in a time of 48.70sec at the

woman over one lap of the track in more than a decade and also a United States national record, breaking a mark which had stood since Valerie Brisco-Hooks won the 1984 Olympic Games gold

much time looking at the clock during races and it was slowing me down so I made a point of not doing that," said the 21 year-old Jamaican-born athlete

Richards is now unbeaten in 15

400m outings this summer and will

"One more race and then it will be some time for holidays," added Richards, who is 30,000 US dollars richer after her victory. record.

"I was a bit tired after the The best performance in the World Athletics Final (in Stuttgart last weekend) but I told myself

But the Russian held on for 6-5 then moved to claim the combative opener as Bartoli doubled-faulted to hand over the set.

Richards' dream run on

team at 100m.



AFP, Athens

World Cup here on Saturday. The run was the fastest by a

"I was told by my father, who coaches me, that I spend too

"Everything he told me came

also run in the 200m on Sunday.

men's events also came from an American sprinter. Tyson Gay, who last Saturday that I will never give up and I

produced the equal-third fastest never want to lose," said 200m ever, dropped down dis-Lebedeva, who has gone over tance to replace the disgraced Olympic and world champion Justin Gatlin in the United States Gatlin, who won the US 100m

revealed he had failed a drug test two months earlier, wasn't missed as Gay shot down the track in 9.88sec. Portugal's Francis Obikwelu, the reigning European 100m champion and Olympic silver

title in June before it was

medallist on the same track two years ago, was second again but his time in a distant 10.09. Apart from Gay, it was the women who generally grabbed the spotlight on the first of the two-day competition which con-

tinues on Sunday. Cup records were set by Ethiopia's Tirunesh Dibaba, who won the women's 3000m in 8min 33.78sec and Russia's Yelena Isinbayeva in the pole vault with a

clearance of 4.60m. Russia's Tatayana Lebedeva continued her unbeaten season in the triple jump by bounding out to 15.13m for another Cup

the world-class barrier of 15 metres in six of her nine competitions this summer. The World Cup brings together representative teams of five continents as well as the United States.

European nations who qualified from the European Cup in June. Team Europe lead the men's competition at the end of the first day with 76 points, two ahead of the United States.

hosts Greece and the two leading

The women's competition after 10 of 20 events was being lead by Team Americas with 65 points, helped considerably by a win in the last of the first day's events, the 4x100m relay.

The quartet, composed exclusively of Caribbean sprinters including Jamaica's 100m winner Sherone Simpson, won in 42.26sec, the best time in the world this year. In addition to Simpson, who

won the 100m in 10.97sec, Cuba's Zulia Calatayud won the 800m in 2:00.60 for Team Americas. Russia, who are defending

their women's World Cup title, also have 65 points and had three winners but are behind Team Americas on account of their number of second place finishers.