Sport

The Daily Star

Sreesanth punished

AFP, Dubai

India seam bowler Shanthakumaran Sreesanth has been fined 30 per cent of his match fee after being found guilty of two ICC code of conduct breaches during his side's first Test match against SouthAfrica.

Sreesanth was found guilty of the offences after a hearing conducted by match referee Roshan Mahanama following the completion of India's 123-run win at Johannesburg's Wanderers stadium which finished on Monday.

He was found to have acted contrary to the spirit of the game and also violated the rules on shirt logos.

Sreesanth was ruled to have shown unsporting behaviour when, after dismissing Hashim Amla in South Africa's second innings, he ran towards the batsman.

The charge was brought by onfield umpires Mark Benson and Daryl Harper and third umpire Karl Hurter and Sreesanth pleaded guilty. The other charge was a breach of ICC logo policy.

Sree amazes FROM PAGE 17

with Kapil Dev in England in 1979 when the latter picked up 16 wickets from four Tests and had a fivewicket haul but more importantly bowled with genuine pace, perhaps the last time he was seen doing so in international circuit.

"He (Sreesanth) has consistently bowled upwards of 140kmph and that's not common," said former South African skipper Kepler Wessels. "Everything about him is impressive.'

Champagne

FROM PAGE 17 page coverage, with pictures of the celebrating Indian team drenching each other with champagne, beer

and even orange juice. "The boys have gone berserk," captain Dravid was quoted as saying.

The team's Australian coach, Greg Chappell, rued the "wasted" lager. "Beer is meant to be drunk, not poured on each other," he said. "I must now teach them how to drink beer."

"Champagne comeback," screamed a front-page headline in the Hindustan Times. "Wanderers never cease," it said in a pun on South Africa's most famous cricket ground

"Indian party rocks the Wanderers," said the Indian Express. "The win pulled a zip them. across hundreds of chirping South African mouths.' The Times of India, under the

headline "Christmas comes early". said "the cocky South Africans just did not know what hit them as the Indians batted, bowled and fielded like men possessed

ROGER FEDERER

The Federer year ends

and the Masters Cup in Shanghai.

Federer comfortably finished

Such is his lead in the rankings

Even Nadal is showing signs of

The Spaniard still holds a 6-3

winning record over Federer, but the

world number one has won the past

two meetings -- the Masters Cup

Spaniard has looked a spent force

wasn't helped when he ordered his

lawyers to take legal action after a

His mood at the All England Club

failing to reach another final

semifinals and the Wimbledon final.

Toronto

Swiss

Tennis

AFP, Paris

Roger Federer rubber-stamped his status as one of the greatest players the world has seen with a year which was exceptional and recordshattering even by his own mighty standards

> The Swiss ended 2006 with 12 titles from 16 finals and a 92-5 match record

2006 as world number one for the He started in January with victory in Doha, ended it with a third Masters Cup in four years and, in between, won back his Australian Open title on February 26 next year. and defended his Wimbledon and US Open crowns.

big records I've broken, maybe the At the age of 25, his career title biggest so far in my career," said the count now stands at 45, his year's prize money of almost 8,500,000 dollars took his lifetime total to that he is guaranteed to remain 28,576,000 and sent his rivals into a

number one, even if he does not play trough of despair over how to react. again before March next year. And Federer's reaction to their shortcomings? He thinks it's funny. Iting "I had to laugh at one stage how

well I was playing, I always came up with a great answer," said Federer after he swept aside James Blake in the Masters Cup final in Shanghai.

"To come to this point in my career where I feel so happy with my game, it's come such a long way." Federer played 17 tournaments in

2006 and reached the final in 16 of Four of his five defeats came at

the hands of rival Rafael Nadal, surpisingly on the hard courts of Dubai, but not so surprisingly on the clay of Monte Carlo, Rome and Roland Garros, the only Grand Slam the world number one has yet to

crack. Only once did he fail to reach a French newspaper linked his name to the Operation Puerta investigation final when Britain's Andy Murray beat probing doping allegations in him in the second round of the Spanish cycling. Nadal retained his French Open Cincinnati Masters just days after a sapping march to another title in title edging Federer in the final but even he suspects the Swiss will be

His 2006 roll of honour reads: stepping up his pursuit of elusive Doha, the Australian Open, Indian Paris glory in 2007. Wells Masters, Miami Masters, Halle, "He's the best," said Nadal. Wimbledon, Toronto Masters, U.S. "That's the truth. Now I have to Open, Tokyo, Madrid Masters, Basel improve my tennis."

While Federer and Nadal were looking to the future, Andre Agassi was heading into retirement.

third year in a row and will now pass Time finally caught up with the 36-Jimmy Connors's 25-year-old record year-old American, one of only five of 160 consecutive weeks at the top men to have won all four Grand Slam "I think that is definitely one of the

His last match ended in defeat at the US Open by unheralded German Benjamin Becker.

His career brought 60 titles and delivered colour and controversy into a sport often stripped of personality.

A crowd of 24,000 gave Agassi a four-minute standing ovation at Flushing Meadow and the veteran, never one to call on a bland word when a little bit of metaphysics will do just as well, was at his emotional best. "The scoreboard said I lost today.

but what the scoreboard doesn't say is what it is I've found," Agassi said.

That would be three-in-a-row if a "Over the last 21 years, I've found elaxing exhibition match in Seoul in loyalty. You have pulled for me on the court and also in life. I have found November is factored into the equanspiration. You have willed me to Nadal picked up five titles in 2006 succeed sometimes even in my but after finishing runner-up to lowest moments." Federer at Wimbledon in July, the

Also willed to succeed as the year ended was the ever-colourful Marat Safin who supplied the finishing touches to an emotional 3-2 win for Russia over Argentina in the Davis Cup final in Moscow.

Vaughan to be back?

Cricket

endorsement.

against WA.

this week.

for swing bowling.

In his fourth match since knee

surgery, Vaughan was dismissed for

14 here Tuesday playing for the

England Academy, just hours after

England coach Duncan Fletcher had

given his rehabilitation a glowing

for the England Academy here over

the last fortnight, and did not bat in the

two-day game England played

stances for Tuesday's failure, as the

ball was seaming about prodigiously in

overcast and muggy conditions ideal

Vaughan lasted 32 balls and

showed signs of his form returning

with a couple of elegant boundaries,

before again falling to a mistimed pull

shot that was skied to mid-on, as he

2005 Ashes skipper is expected to be

recalled when England announces its

squad for the triangular one-day

series, starting in mid-January, later

Fletcher again ruled out Vaughan

said the selectors were vet to make a

final decision on the form and fitness of

1-0 lead on a penalty kick due to a

foul on - you guessed it - Materazzi.

DiCicco said. "Not that Italy would-

n't have won, but France was

pantheon of athletes who now

enjoy instant name recognition and

have left enduring moments in

casual sports fan may not be able

to tell you which nation won the

2006 World Cup. But mention

Zidane's name and it will strike a

chord. He becomes another Bill

Buckner, Chris Webber or Scott

Norwood - defined by a mistake.

According to DiCicco, that probably

Twenty years from now, the

starting to dominate the game."

"It certainly changed the game,"

Regardless, Zidane likely joins a

Despite his indifferent form, the

had done in his previous innings.

There were mitigating circum-

Vaughan had made a duck and

The Ashes series may already be AFP, Perth decided but Australian cricket officials believe record crowds will Despite another failure with the bat as still attend the Melbourne Cricket he continues his comeback, Michael Ground (MCG) to see Shane Vaughan is expected to return to Warne snare his 700th Test wicket. England's one-day squad later this Warne took his 699th wicket in week and may regain the captaincy.

Perth to end England's Ashes dream and send Australia into the fourth Test opening at the MCG on December 26 with a 3-0 series lead. The leg-spinner, already the

100K to turn up for Shane

AFP, Sydney

most prolific wicket-taker is Test history, is set to reach the 700 wicket milestone in front of his adoring home town crowd.

Cricket Victoria chief executive Ken Jacobs said crowds of up to 95,000 were expected in the first three days of the Test, beating the world record Test attendance of 90,800 set at the same ground in 1961. Jacobs said the record overall

Test attendance of 350,354, also set at the MCG in 1936, could also be under threat.

"If the weather's fine and the match is shaping up as a good match, it would be a possibility," he said.

Dhaka, Rajshahi FROM PAGE 17

Delwar Hossain and Mohammad Liton grabbed three wickets each conceding 32 and 35 runs respectively

SCORES IN BRIEF

the former skipper with regards to a BARISAL: 99 for all in 41.3 overs one-day recall. (Rabinath Sen 34 not out, Sajib 15, Saiful 9, Alam 9, extras 14; Faisal 3-21, Sharif 2-14, Sunny 2-21). DHAKA: 102 for 1 in 22.5 overs (Fatyaz 56 not out, Asif 34, Ashiqul 2

> FROM PAGE 20 Zidane's ejection cause France to lose the World Cup? It would be pure speculation, but

NARAYANGANJ: 168 for all in 43.2 kicks in World Cup competition, overs (Masum 63, Pappu 29, Ronny while Italy had never won in that 15, extras 24; Delwar 3-32 and Liton format. In an added twist of irony, Zidane had given France an early

3-35). Result: Rajshahi won by 40 runs.

BFF names 36 FROM PAGE 17

DEFENDERS: Ariful, Rajan, Saikat, Ripon (Youngmen's), Sony (Rahmatganj), Rony (Mohammedan), Kashem (Victoria), Jahirul, Aminul (Sheikh Russel), Waly (Abahani), Imdadul (Bangladesh Boys) and Rajib (Farashganj)

MIDFIELDERS: Rintu (Arambagh), Pappu (Muktijoddha), Zahed (Abahani), Sharif, Maruf (Sheikh Russel) Kaisar, Zahid (Mohammedan), Komol, Chanchal (Youngsmen's), Nasir (Badda), Rony

Uijal, Anwar (Abahani), Morshed

(Arambagh), Robin (Youngmen's),

Mithun (Victoria), Humayun

(Mohakhali) and Ripon

The Telegraph said the original

Australia go

(Farashganj).

FROM PAGE 17

will be the American perspective. (Farashganj), Mamun (Brothers) "I don't think it will be the defin-STRIKERS: Emily (Brothers),

history.

was very much on target to play in the triangular series. "It is very positive and it is pleasing

to see." he said. "Vaughan has been training with

(fitness trainer) Nigel Stockill and he is moving around very freely "In fact, he says he hasn't felt so good for some time. Fletcher confirmed Vaughan was

being considered as captain for the one-davers.

"We'll have to make that decision when we meet with the other selectors," he said The (players) have been happy

with (Andrew) Flintoff, we will have to take that into consideration when we pick the one-day side."

nine in his two previous appearances Flintoff had said he hoped to remain captain for the one-day series on Monday, just after the third Test loss o Australia. "If the job is available, of course I

will," Flintoff said when asked if he would make himself available to captain in the one-dayers.

Vaughan has not played at the top level for England since the third Test against Pakistan in Lahore 13 months ado.

and his last limited overs appearance for England was against Australia in July last year.

Pace bowler Steve Harmison is likely to return home after the Tests, along with spinner Monty Panesar and wicketkeeper Geraint Jones while batsman Mike Yardy and pace bowler Stuart Broad will be in the selection mix.

plaving in the last two Ashes Tests and All-rounder Jamie Dalrymple called into the Test squad following the departure of spinner Ashley Giles and a chance to play in the last two Tests, is likely to be part of the one-day outfit However, the tone of Fletcher's and provide the spin option response suggested the 32-year-old

> remember what he gave to the game, his style, his presence. SPORTS REPORTER Americans will probably remember that moment, unfortunately."

The Design Zone First Office What may have prevented Handball League begins today at serious repercussions in his own the outer stadium handball court. country and an angry backlash A press conference was held from French fans is Zidane's body vesterday in connection with the meet where four teams will take part

reputations tarnished for far lesser errors in international competition. One of the more notable incidents of fan retribution came in the 1994

World Cup. Colombia's Andres Escobar scored an own goal vs. the United States in an eventual 2-1 loss, which led to his country's elimina-

tion from the tournament. Ten days later, Escobar was eliminated - shot and killed in Colombia, with the motive behind the murder believed to be the own "The good news was that

France forgave (Zidane)," DiCicco competition. said. "There have been other instances where there's not the case. He could have been scarred for life."

Twenty20 rolls FROM PAGE 17

surface this time offer," he cautioned.

Another former Bangladesh captain Aminul Islam, new coach of Abahani, believe that bowlers are simply helpless in the new version of the game

"People come to watch the batsmen score runs. The spectators will not be happy if they saw 40 runs on the board and I also think there is any scope for the bowlers in this competition," explained

Aminul. The country's first Test centurymaker has some reservation about the game in the country.

"We have to take the competition seriously as ICC already recognised it and asked all the member countries to introduce the

He has a modest one-day record competition into their domestic circuit. "But I am worried as our players

have lack of temperament and this kind of cricket may damage it more." explained Aminul. Opening day's matches: Morning (9 am) - Old DOHS vs Partex (DCS), Victoria vs

Kalabagan (BKSP-2) and Biman vs City Club (BKSP-1). Afternoon (1 pm) - Sonargaon vs Young Pegasus (BKSP-1), Mohammedan vs Indira Road (DCS) and Brothers Union vs Abahani (BKSP-2).

Headbutt leaves wrong Handball meet starts today

of work over his magnificent career. Some players have had their on league basis. Design Zone provided Tk 25,000 out of total budget of Tk 75,000.

> **Gulshan Youth** tennis kicks-off

SPORTS REPORTER

The MGH Classic-Gulshan Youth Tennis competition organised by Gulshan Youth Club began yesterday. Seven clubs-- Gulshan Club, Officers' Club, Engineers' Club, Customs Club, Cadet College Club, Club Amazon and hosts Gulshan Youth Club-- are taking part in the

The final will be take place on December 24 at the Gulshan Youth Club premises.



Ronny 4-54, Al Amin 3-30, Nasiruddin 2-20)

Indian cricket board vicepresident Shashank Manohar suggested giving the players a bonus, less than a month after saying they should be handed a pay cut for the poor display in the onedayers.

"I have always said that there has to be a performance-oriented payment system and if the team has done well, as exceedingly as it has now, then they are entitled to a bonus," said Manohar.

But former Indian captain Sunil Gavaskar urged the team not to get carried away with two more Tests still to be played in the series.

"They deserve to enjoy the moment," he said. "Then it will be back to business again. The series is not over yet."

The second Test starts on December 26 in Durban, followed by the third in Cape Town from January 2.

41 Collar

42 Feedbag

tidbit

44 Ordeals

46 Small

racing

50 Computer

51 "You ---?"

52 Temple to

ton's

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57 Fix text

58 Commo

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59 Info (SI.

sight of

60 Catch

61 Stitch

DOWN

Heidi's

height

the gods

dog

key

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Venom

ejector

4 Speedy

runner's

8 Base

goal

12 Grazing

site

13 Ready

15 Scaly

for the

picking

certainty

anteater

17 Reply to

"Shall

18 Press for

payment

candidate

we?"

19 Oscar

21 Score

25 That guy

26 Emulate

Johnny

Apple

seed

28 Put one

32 Rainbow

34 Grecian

36 Story

37 Denomi-

39 "Uh-huhi

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vessel

over on

24 Gist

14 State with 56 Edmon-

six players would be young," he said adding that a foreign coach will join the club by the second week of January 2007.

"We are in touch with Diego Cruciani but we have yet to know whether he would be available," he said of the former Bangladesh national coach from Argentina. "We will start training under Amlesh Sen before a foreign coach takes over.

"As the league starts in mid-February, our foreign collection would arrive also in the middle of January. We will wait for the coach to take the decision." With a strong foreign collec-

32

46 47

YFTU

FG

48

CRYPTOQUIP

TS F LDRBJ QBFGX AFVJUBJ

BKZBNX ATY XD QB RVDPV

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN YOUR WHISKEY DRINK NEEDS TO BE REFILLED, I

LIKE TO THINK OF IT AS BOURBON RENEWAL.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals Y

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the

puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

PDMUJ

F ZDGX-DSSTNB DK?

By Eugene Sheffer

21 Anything

but

22 Finish

that

line

23 One of

us

27 Ironic

29 Cure-alls

30 Mideast

airline

candidate

Eugene

33 Makeshift

35 Trawler

38 Fool

need

40 Attractive

43 Reserva-

residence

tion

45 Some

what

(Suff.)

day's

filming

light?

with

54 Praise in

verse

55 Without

delay

amounts 53 Pinch

49 Small

46 End the

47 Head

48 Busy

31 Socialist

2 Vast

3 Wide-

expanse

spread

disease

4 Facades

5 Have a

bug

6 "Wheel

Fortune"

option

7 Mortise's

partner

8 Popular

food

fish

the

10 Appor

9 It takes

cake

tion

11 Gaelic

prop

20 Slander

Solution time: 25 mins

16 Oater

of

Abahani getting active

FROM PAGE 17

fought well last season but had to remain satisfied with three run-

ners-up trophies. Those who had impressed have all been retained but the incoming list is really enviable with the likes of national team's central defenders Sujan (Brothers Union) and Nazrul (Mohammedan) joining old guard Pradeep Poddar, fullbacks Siraji (Brothers) and Mintu (Mohammedan) both returning to the skyblues after a couple of seasons. Abahani will have the strongest

reserve in the backline with two emerging fullbacks Waly Faisal and Obaidur choosing not to

tion, Abahani's young recruits leave

The goalkeeping problem would also be solved in presence of Biplab (Mohammedan) and Tarek (Brothers) -- country's numbers two and three respectivelv

The lack of a creative midfielder would be filled with the arrival of Abul (Brothers) while Pranotosh (Brothers) would be a nice backup for skipper Joy as the holding midfielder. Ujjal, Zahid Parvez and Abdullah Parvez will give the coach a welcome headache of selection.

After a long time, they would be able to rely on a local striker to deliver the goods as the promising Emily, already a regular in the national shirt, has switched loyalties to the last year's National League runners-up.

Abahani have yet to sign up Farhad but made sure veteran Tipu stays.

"When Farhad left the camp, he took some time. He will let us know about his decision soon," added the Abahani manager

The world Cannavaro's oyster

one," he said of the FIFA annual gala. "As a player yes. But I think there will be something else." Brazil and Barcelona's 2004

and 2005 winner Ronaldinho failed titles in a row and was third with 380 votes.

Italy's steadfast defence in Germany this summer, was the first defender to carry away the world player of the year award, which has been the preserve of strikers and midfielders since 1990.

to come this far, because you have Zidane and Ronaldinho who do all these wonderful things," he told reporters.

Only fellow Real Madrid defender Roberto Carlos (1997) and Italian Paolo Maldini (1995) have come close before as runners-up.

Cannavaro kicked off his career

in a suburb of Naples, learning the game by marshalling defences in fiercely contested street games between children. He later became a ball boy at the

city's San Paolo stadium while Diego Maradona played there, before making his debut for the local club in Serie A in 1993 against Juventus.

Two years later he moved to Parma alongside French defender Lilian Thuram, gaining his first taste of success to lift the Italian Cup, a UEFA Cup title and make his debut for Italy in 1997.

After a passage with Inter Milan, Cannavaro made a comeback from a broken tibia by joining Juventus in 2004

As well as winning the World Cup this year, Cannavaro won the Serie A with the Turin side in 2004/05 and 2005/06 before it was stripped of those titles and demoted to the second division in a match fixing scandal this year.

ing moment of his career." DiCicco said. "The rest of the world will

goal

Ashes urn, currently in Australia for only the second time since 1883 should be housed down under while Australia hold the title, rather than residing with the Marylebone Cricket Club at Lord's in London. "The absurdity that denies the Ashes residence in Australia is more infuriating than trying to convince an Englishman to shower daily." it said. Under the headline "Rickv's

> Revenge", Melbourne's Age newspaper said the series victory vindicated Ponting, who was heavily criticised after last year's defeat but has performed superbly in the current series.

"He has been the campaign's outstanding figure," it said. "He presided over an incisive performance from a hungry team. He has stood glint-eyed at the crease, alert at slip or silly point, unblinking and composed."

8x3

30 31 FROM PAGE 17

LDM

to win an unprecedented three

Cannavaro, who marshalled

"It is more difficult for a defender