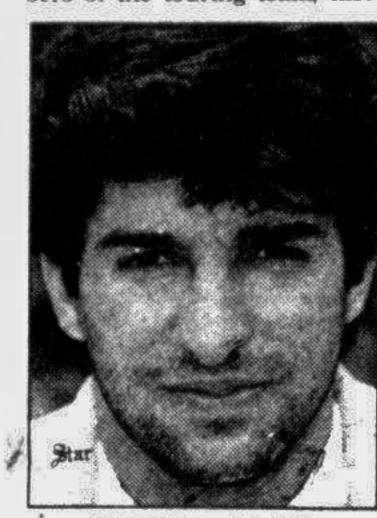
ST GEORGE, Grenada, Apr 9: Pakistan captain Wasim Akram and three other members of the touring team, fast



WASIM AKRAM

bowlers Waqar Younis, Aaqib Javed and leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed, were arrested on Thursday night for alleged possession of marijuana, reports AFP. They were later released on

Ranatunga retains captaincy

COLOMBO, Apr 9: Arjuna Ranatunga has been asked to continue as captain of the Shri Lanka cricket squad for the forthcoming tours by India and South Africa, officials announced Friday, reports AP.

Ranatunaga, 29, led Shri Lanka to victories over New Zealand and England at home recently.

India is scheduled to tour Shri Lanka in July/August to play three one-day internationals and three Test matches in addition to a couple of threeday games.

The South Africans, led by Kepler Wessels, will follow immediately after to play nine matches, including three Tests and three limited-over international, officials said.

Wallace's chance to prove his worth

ST. GEORGE, Grenada, Apr 9: Phil Wallace, rejected by the West Indies selectors after an unsuccessful trip to Australia last winter, gets a chance to re-establish himself against the Pakistani tourists here tomoryrow, reports AFP. The hard-I hitting opening batsman from Barbados has been picked for the West Indies Under-23 XI to face the tourist in their final match before the start of the Test series starting on Thursday in Trinidad. Also included in the team of

young trialists is 18-year-old Guyana all-rounder, Shivnaraine Chanderpaul, who took four wickets and scored 140 runs for the President's XI against Pakistan earlier in the week.

Pakistan bowlers Aagib Javed and Mushtaq Ahmed are both suffering from back injuries.

West Indies Under-23 XI: J Eugene (capt), P A Wallace, H R Waldron, C O Browne (wk), A F G Griffith, V C Drakes, R G Samuels, F A Rose, H A G Anthony, S Chanderpaul, C E Cuggy, R N Lewis.

A day of draws

Sports Reporter Shatadal Samajik-Sangs

kritik Sangha shared points with Mirpur Sports, Physical and Cultural Centre (MSPCC) in a one-all draw in the Janata Bank Pioneer football super league at the Outer Stadium yesterday. Adil scored for Shatadal

Sangha while Shakil found the net for MSPCC. The other match of the day

between Motifheel T&T Club and Kawranbazar Pragati Sangha ended in a scoreless

Handball final postponed

Sports Reporter

Rajarbagh Police Lines High

School finished third in the fifth Bata schools handball tournament They beat last year's cham-

pions Narinda Govt Boys' High School by 20 goals to 15 in the third-position deciding match at the Outer Stadtum handball court yesterday.

The winners led 10-6 at half time.

Sohel netted six goals while Amin and Jamal got five each for Police Lines School. Rabbani and Tabib netted five goals each and Bishnupada four for Narinda School.

Meanwhile, the final of the tourney between Bangladesh Ansars and VDP School and Shaheed Nabi High School will not be held today for "unavotdable circumstances", a press release of the Bangladesh Handball Federation, the organisers of the

meet, said yesterday The fresh date for the final match will be announced in due course.

Zonal finals begin from today (Magic's secret)

Sports Reporter

Shahnawaz Shaheed Shanu, Saiful and Babul took one wicket each to help the airlines team conjure a 41-run

Narayangani meet

Dhaka in Mymen-

singh and Jessore

take on Bagerhat

in Khulna today

to trigger off the

zonal finals while five other

teams from different groups

wait their turn following wins

in their respective groups of

the 19th Gold Leaf national

cricket championship zonal

competitions at various venues

entered the final of the Ser-

vices Group with a comfortable

41 run victory over BUET in a

match cut short due to

11-30 because of wet patches

on the pitch caused by Thurs-

day night's welcome showers,

was reduced to a 30 overs-a-

side contest by the umpires

Biman clobbered the BUET

bowlers to collect 171 for five

wickets from their quota of 30

overs with veteran Ahmed

Iqbal Bachchu smashing a

cipal contributor with a disci-

Zahid Razzak Masum, the tall

hard-hitting opener of Bro-

23 among the BUET bowlers

followed by Rupak who claim-

sources did rather well to

score 140 in their turn against

a vastly superior side. For the

students Hassan Iqbal top-

scored with 40. Shoaib re-

mained unbeaten on 33 fol-

lowed by Selim and Noman

with 12 each and Kaiser with

thers Union, made 90.

plined innings of 40 while

Kaiser took two wickets for

BUET with their limited re-

Zakaria was the other prin-

Batting first, Bangladesh

because of the delayed start.

The match which began at

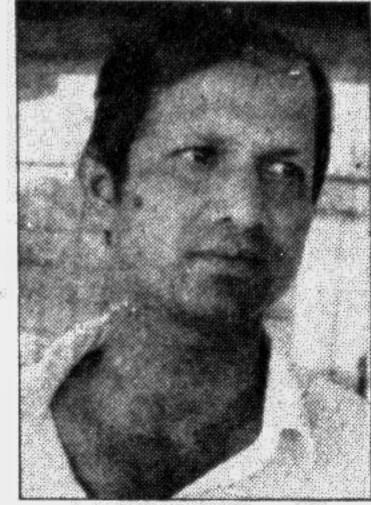
overnight rain.

quickfire 70.

ed one for 26.

Strong Bangladesh Biman

across the country yesterday.



A I BACHCHU ... 70

KHULNA IN FINAL

Khulna reached the Group C final with a thrilling six-run victory against Satkhira in Jessore.

A devastating spell of five for 32 by Satkhira's Firoz bowled Khulna out for 136 in 34.1 overs.

Babu with 29 and Fayez with 22 featured prominently in the dismal Khulna scorecard blighted by Firoz's inspired spell. Arif aided Firoz well by

The Satkhira batsmen let Firoz down by some disappointingly poor batting as the chasers were allout for 130 in 33.05 overs.

claiming two for 28.

Arif held one end up with an unbeaten knock of 43. Jeetu with two for 30 added to the miseries of the indiscreet Satkhira batsmen.

Another exciting tie - the

Group D match between Tangail and Madaripur - saw the latter scramble into the zonal

final with a one-wicket victory. In a low-scoring match, Asad and Talha of Madaripur kept their cool to guide their side to a fine victory. Asad remained unbeaten on 45 while Talha was there at the kill on 22 as Madaripur made 139 for nine in 26.4 overs.

Earlier, Tangail made 135 for nine from the possible 30 overs. Arif made an unbeaten 29, followed by Liton 26 and Lintu 17.

EASY WIN FOR MYMENSINGH

Mymensingh registered facile seven-wicket victory against Brahmanbaria to reach the final of Group A.

Batting first Brahmanbaria were all at sea against the leftarm spin bowling of Billu. The young GMCC bowler took five wickets for 15 runs as Brahmanbaria were allout for 46 in 20.2 overs.

Mymensingh had the match wrapped up in 9.4 overs posting 47 for three.

RAJSHAHI CRUISE

Rajshahi had a similarly cushy win against Chapainawabganj at Thakurgaon to emerge as the Group F finalists. Masud, Nayan, Shoaib, Saad

and Tamal scored 41, 30, 29, 26 and 17 respectively as Rajshahi were allout for 198. Babu with three for 28 and

Sujoy with three for 34 were the successful bowlers for Chapainawabganj. Left-arm spin again proved

to be the bane for batsmen as Gem took five wickets for 15 runs to skittle Chapainawabganj out for 86 only leaving Ratshahi winners by 112 runs.

KALAMAZOO, Mich, Apr 9: Magic Johnson has rebuffed nearly all requests for information about his former sex partners sought by attorneys for a woman who maintains the retired NBA star infected her with the AIDS virus, reports

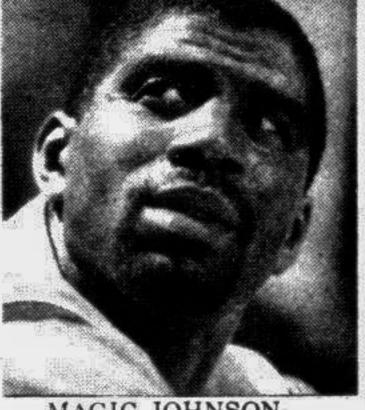
On Tuesday, US Magistrate Doyle Rowland rejected requests by attorneys for both Johnson and the woman, identified in court documents only as Jane Doe, to seal a document filed by the woman's attorney. The document asks Johnson to answer questions about his sexual and medical history.

The attorneys argued that future documents may name other people with whom Johnson had sex between 1982 and June 1990, when the woman alleges Johnson infected her.

Rowland ruled that so far, there is no sensitive information in the document to justify sealing it.

"There isn't a single name of a third party in it," Rowland said. "Why seal it?"

Attorney Theodore Swift. who is representing the wo-



MAGIC JOHNSON

man, has asked Johnson to identify the names of people with whom he had sex from 1982-90; all health care professionals who have treated him since 1977; and the name of anyone other than his client who has accused Johnson of infecting him or her. So far, at the advice of his

attorneys, Johnson has only said that before 1990 he did not have sex with anyone he knew to be infected with HIV. His attorneys have de-

scribed the questions as overly broad and irrelevant. The case is scheduled to go

to trial in March 1994. couple of times during the

LONDON, Apr 9:

Title-chasing Ma-

nchester United

will this weekend

attempt to forget

last year's Easter

nightmare which virtually han-

ded the English league crown

side seemed on the verge of a

first championship for 25

years as they trailed Leeds by a

point with two games in had in

matches in seven days the

wheels dramatically fell off

Southampton 1-0 at Old

Trafford, but a draw at Luton

on the Saturday was followed

by Nottingham Forest's 2-1

win at Old Trafford on Easter

Monday and when Ferguson's

men crashed 1-0 at West Ham

two days later, the initiative

spot. After triumphing at Nor-

wich, they won only two more

matches - that game against

Southampton and the final

match of the season, when the

title had already been lost, at

Even 'lions' don't

appreciate

melodrama

oon's soccer squad departed

on Thursday for a key game

against Niger, unhappy at the

appointment of an unpopular

Ministry officials decided to

send a sorcerer "with a bad

record and a gift for melodra-

previous exploits but a radio

sports commentator said the

team, known as the "Indo-

mitable Lions," disapproved

Sorcerers are an integral

part of traditional African be-

lief and common in soccer

where they seek to protect

their teams from evil spells

and work magic on oppo-

with chicken feathers in op-

ponents' goals.

State radio said Sports

It gave no details of his

sorcerer, reports Reuter.

matic incidents."

YAOUNDE, Apr 9: Camer

home to Tottenham.

United never regained to

had been handed to Leeds.

They started well, beating

United's title bandwagon.

However, in a spell of four

A year ago Alex Ferguson's

to Leeds, reports AFP.

second place.

Stormy ride for Pete Sampras match. As the match was very close and I was down a couple of break points in the third set and came back, I feel pretty good," said Sampras.

ON TOP OF THE WORLD: Pete Sampras of the United States stretches to return the ball in

his quarter-final against compatriot David Wheaton in the 1.19 million dollar Japan Open

tennis tournament in Tokyo yesterday. Sampras won the tie 6-3, 3-6 and 6-4 to dethrone

fellow American Jim Courier as the number one player of the world.

Pete Sampras se-

cured the world

when he outgu-

nned fellow Ame-

rican David Wheaton in the

quarter-finals at the 1.19 mi-

llion dollar Japan Open tennis

tournament here today,

With a 6-3, 3-6, 6-4 win,

the 1990 US Open champion

earned at least 136 points, in-

cluding 21 bonus points, for a

total of 3,591, overtaking cur-

rent number one Jim Courier

in the world rankings to be is-

Defending champion couri-

er, who crashed out to his

compatriot Jonathan Stark

Thursday, collected only 32

points instead of 304 last year

to stand at 3,563 on the list

decided by a player's best 14

tournaments in the past 12

US Open final in September,

Sampras suffered a four-sets

defeat to Stefan Edberg of

Sweden, who regained the

number one ranking for some

back again in October.

weeks until Courier wrested it

"I was thinking about it a

At the first attempt in the

sued next Monday.

months.

reports AFP.

number one place

"Since I won the US Open in 1990, I've been in the top five, and basically it's been a target in the last couple of years. But it shouldn't affect me, I'm not gonna change, I'm gonna play the same... I just want to win tomorrow."

Sampras fired nine aces and nine service winners to take the first set, but Wheaton came back from one break down in the second, hitting several sparkling service return winners to even the match at one Wheaton unleashed another

couple of marvelous service returns to take a double break point in the opening game of the decider, but Sampras banked on his strong first serves to erase them, and the set went with serves till 5-4 for the second seed. Sampras, although missing

his first match point in the following game as Wheaton landed a volley winner, retaliated with a service return winner to take another and made no mistake on his second attempt with a forehand "Among all the young

Americans, I see David as the most dangerous player for me. He's just got a big serve and he can tee off service returns. He's really a tough guy to get rid of," said Sampras. "In the middle of the sec-

-AFP photo

ond set and the rest of the match, it was pretty breezy and we both had a tough time. When it was a little bit windy, it's tough to control the serve. But I served pretty well on the big points in the third set." For Sampras, it was his

fourth win over Wheaton against no defeats in major tournaments so lar. In the semifinals Saturday, he will play Wally Masur, who

defeated Todd Woodbridge 6-4, 6-0 in an all-Australian match on the outside court. Henrik Holm of Sweden also went through when he

brushed aside Neil Borwick 6-2, 6-3. In the women's semi-finals,

defending champion Kimiko Date powered past Nicole Provis of Australia 6-3, 6-1, while Stephanie Rottier of the Netherlands beat Mana Endo of Japan 6-4, 6-2, moving to within a step of winning her first major title.

Eager fans await Milanese derby need to win and the atmowith a groin injury, Danish ropean football fastriker Flemming Povisen is sphere promises to be of cup out for up to six months with



ns attention will be trained on the San Siro Stadium on Sunday when rising Internazionale face for-

lorn AC Milan in a crunch Italian league derby match, reports AFP.

Just over two weeks ago, AC Milan held an 11-point lead in the championship, were unbeaten in 58 league matches, and a cake walk to the European Cup looked certain. But a dramatic slump has

given fervent hope to their arch-rivals, as Milan's league season sung sharply down-A loss to Parma, then draws

to Torino and Napoli mean Milan have not won for over a month - since beating Florentina on March 7. Exit from the Italian Cup by AS Roma has given further grief to Fabio Capellos men.

An Inter victory would close the gap to five points with seven games left. Since speculation of a move

by Ajax star Dennis Bergkamp to Inter, the sides form has improved, while Milan clearly miss European footballer-ofthe-year Marco van Basten. Early last month, Van Bas-

ten was assumed on course to play in this derby, but his ankle problems were worse than feared.

Both teams desperately

final proportions. This year, the number 13 could be unlucky for Milan, who have won the league title 12 times.

But Milan booked their European Cup final place with a 1-0 victory at Gothenburg for a welcome boost to morale.

Sunday sees another derby between two big clubs who play in the same stadium. Juventus, who beat Paris St Germain in the semifinal, first leg of the UEFA Cup on Tuesday, entertain Torino.

Paul Gascoigne's Lazio, five points adrift of Inter, entertain Foggia, while fourth-placed Parma, whose goal by Colombian Faustino Asprilla stopped Milan's incredible run, host

BUNDESLIGA

The German league has vital fixtures on Saturday as the top four teams face each other.

Bayern Munich have hung on to top spot by their fingernails following two successive losses, 2-0 to fourth-from-bottom Wattenscheid last Friday, and a 3-1 defeat against

Munich, level on points with Werder Breamen, host third-placed Borussia Dortmund, who have notable absentees despite their 2-0 win over Auxerre in the UEFA Cup semifinal, first leg on Tuesday. Striker Frank Mill is out

FRENCH LEAGUE

championship this Saturday.

Auxerre who host Valenciennes, had the day of on Wednesday following European action, and coach Guy Roux has just one injury doubt - a back problem for Didier Otokore. Paris St Germain travel to

and Dider Monczuk. Marseille are likely to rest Wednesday night's star player against Glasgow Rangers -Franck Sauzee. Apart from scoring the opening goal in the

crossbar from a free-kick just before Rangers equalised. Alen Boksic is also likely to be rested with Jean-Marc Ferreri and Jean-Christophe

The league's two top scorers, Monaco's German Klinsmann with 15 goals, and Xavier Gravelaine of Caen on 18, will meet face to face in the principality.

Sports Reporter

Eleven players with full three points led the table of the Dhaka Metropolis qualifying chess competition for the forthcoming national championship at the National Sports Council chess room yesterday.

The players were Rezaul Hug, Shahadat Hossain Ratna, Abul Kashem, Ruhul Quddus, Abdullah Rakib, M R Milki, Arman Monir, Omar Faruk, Saifullah Rashed, Yaseen and Nooruddin Dhali.

BSWA TT

Sports Reporter Naquib Ahmed Nadvi beat

Utpal Shuvra of Bhorer Kagat 21-17, 12-21, 21-18 and 21-16 in a men's singles tie of a table tennis meet arranged for members of the Bangladesh Sports Writers' Association (BSWA) at the NSC gym yesterday.

In a doubles encounter Nadvi paired with Shuvra to beat Pintu and Anwarullah 21-17, 21-13, 21-15.

A deja vu M United can do without The scenario this time

> cerned. "We're playing the way. want, the way the supporters like to see," he reasoned. "We're enjoying ourselves." "After the pain of last year

and play and enjoy it. If that and well. and it's still tight. But we have

ffield Wednesday on Saturday and visit Coventry on Monday.

travel to Arsenal, Wednesday's opponents in those FA and League Cup finals. Norwich, who are a point

Villa play host to Coventry

either, despite their drubbing They take on Tottenham at White Hart Lane today and play Leeds at Carrow Road next

more, cannot be disregarded

"It's been uphill for us all season and I don't see why our players should get disheartened now," said Norwich man-

the fact that we're not supposed to be up there with the super elite."

At the other end of the table rock-bottom Nottingham Forest have just six games left to preserve their premier po-The next four of those fix-

ture games are against London clubs, a visit to Queens Park Rangers on Saturday being fol-



ALEX FERGUSON

lowed by a home clash against Tottenham on Monday and then trips to Wimbledon and Arsenal.

Their record this season against clubs from the capital is not encouraging. Their five trips south have failed to bring a single victory with three defeats and two draws.

However, they will be encouraged by the fact that they beat QPR at the city ground in February and Tottenham in the League Cup in December.

But Arsenal have beaten Brian Clough's men three times this season — 1-0 at the city ground in October, and 2-

"I played five major tourna-

ments between January and

the Portuguese Open besides a

number of exhibition matches

play with a new vigour in the

duced the level of vibration," Backley recalled. "But I don't believe Jan was aware of it."

after the fourth-round match. "I didn't do well at Lipton, but did better at Hilton Head. I'm really eager and feel I'm getting better with each match."

Rinaldi 7-5, 5-7, 6-3. No. 2 Gabriela Sabatini, the defending champion from Ar-

gentina, downed Czech Petra Langrova, who retired with a pulled groin with Sabatini leading 5-0. "I would have liked to have

had a tougher match," Sabatint said. "I'll get it in the next



Scene from yesterday's schoolboys' handball championship between Rajarbagh Police Line School and Narinda Government High School at the Outer Stadium handball court. Rajarbagh won the match 20-15 to clinch the third position. -Star photo

is also injured, leaving Switzerland's Stephane Chapuisat as his sole front man. The continued absence of Knut Reinhart and Sweeper Michael Schulz have created further problems for coach

knee problems, Lothar Sippel

Ottmar Hitzfeld. Yet Hitzfeld has high hopes some of them may be fit for forthcoming UEFA Cup second

Werder Bremen entertain fourth-placed Eintracht Frankfurt as they try yet again to unperch Bayern. Had they improved on their 1-0 win over Kaiserslautern last week to a Mirko Votava goal on the stroke of half-time, Bremen would have led the champi-

Auxerre and Paris St

Germain have the Chance to wipeaway the memory of their midweek UEFA Cup semi-final losses during the French

Nimes, who have no serious injuries apart from Maharzi, who had been out three weeks with a knee problem. Nimes Olympique coach Michel Mezy may recall Philippe Vercruysse

1-1 draw, Sauzee always looked dangerous and hit the

Thomas recalled.

Chess results

of the choice of warlock. Cameroon need a win against Niger in Sunday's African Nations Cup qualifier if they are to replace Oabon at the top of the Group One table.

> nents. Common techniques include taking their team for eve of match prayers in a cemetery, putting sacred tree bark in players' pockets and attempting to hide bottles of mystic potion mixed

round is verily familiar. Like last season, United have just won 3-1 at Norwich and they are also in second place, a point behind Aston Villa.

But Ferguson is uncon-

I've told them to just go out takes us to the title, all good "Now it's six games to go

reckon we're in a good posi-This weekend United, who have a superior goal difference of seven to Villa, entertain FA and League Cup finalists She-

a full pool of players, so I

on Saturday and on Monday adrift of United from a game

by United on Monday night. Wednesday.

ager Mike Walker. "We mustn't get away from

Jansher ready to defend British Open crown ISLAMABAD, Apr the main reason.

World number



one Jansher Khan will leave here for England at the weekend to defend his British Open title, the official Asso-ciated Press of Pakistan (APP), said here Thursday, reports AFP.

1991, but pulled out of last year's tournament because of back problems. "I am to bring the title once again to Pakistan and there is to be no compromise on that,"

champion, Jahangir Khan won

10 straight titles from 1982 to

Jansher said of the April 14-19 tourney. Jansher who remained undefeated for seven months before losing in the Portuguese Open last month said, mental and physical exhaustion was

which drained my energies. I could have opted out of the tournament but it would have had affected my ranking," he was quoted by the official APP news agency as saying. Former world squash "Now I have got the necessary rest and I will be able to

> British Open," said Jansher. Georgia in the quarterfinals. Meskhi defeated Mexico's Angelica Gavaldon 1-6, 6-3, 6-Shaun Stafford of Gain-

> esville, Fla., who upset No. 7 Lori McNeil on Wednesday, will face top seed Aranxta Sanchez Vicario of Spain in the quarterfinals Friday.

are third from bottom, will attempt to improve their fine run of one defeat in seven games at inconsistent Liver-

Highbury.

O in the fifth round of both

league and FA Cups at

Meanwhile, Oldham, who

"We're still in there, so don't write us off yet. We've got Sheffield United here next

Tuesday, which is obviously going to be a very big game for us," said Oldham boss Joe Backley sceptic

of Zelezny's effort LONDON, Apr 9: Steve Backley has cast doubt on Jan

Zelezny's capture of his world javelin record earlier this week in South Africa, reports The Briton refuses to praise the Olympic champion yet for

his huge effort of 95.54 metres

in Petersburg on Tuesday until

he finds out whether or not

the javelin was legal. "The only way we can find out how it works and if it's legal is if we cut it up," Backley told Thursday's Daily Express newspaper. "I hope that it is

The Czech has already lost one "record" for using an illegal javelin last year. "It had a piece of carbon fibre down the middle that re-

Capriati in qtrs AMELIA ISLAND, Fla. Apr 9:

Jennifer Capriati advanced Thursday to the quarterfinals of the dirs 375,000 Bausch and Lomb Tennis Championships, beating Argentina's Ines Gorrochategui 6-3, 6-1, reports AP. "I really want to do well in this tournament," Capriati said

Capriati, the No. 3 seed from Saddlebrook, Fla., will next face No. 5 Amanda Coetzer of South Africa. Coetzer defeated Amelia Island's Kathy