Sports Reporter

The Partex First Division basketball league begins at the Outer Stadium wooden floor gymnasium in Dhaka today.

In all twelve teams are tak ing part in the league, organised by the Bangladesh Amateur Basketball Federation.

The teams are - Dhaka Winners Club. The Gregs Dhumketu Club, Hornets Club, Eagles Club, Josephites Club. Back Stroke Boys Club, Dhaka Wanderers Club, Angels Club, Fleet Club, Azad boys Club and Kurmitola Apollo Club.

On the opening day, Angels Club take on Fleet Club and Azad Boys Club meet Kurmitola Apollo Club.

### Div II cricket

#### Sports Reporter

Uttara Eastern Sporting Club, aided by a fine allround performance from Shyamal, thrashed Evergreen Cricket Club by 105 runs in one of the two matches of the Second Division cricket league on the western strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Put in to bat, Eastern piled up 223 runs in 38.4 over's.

Chinu topscored with 42 runs. The other major contributors were Shyamol, Manju, Paltu with scores of 34, 29, 23. Extras provided 23 useful

Najib captured four for 41 while Sujon three for 38 for Evergreen.

Chasing a huge victory target of 224. Evergreen innings ended on 118 runs in 32.1 overs. Najib, Fuad and Asad were

the main scorers for Evergreen with 27, 17 and 16 runs respectively Shyamol followed up his

performance with the bat to finish with fantastic figures of three wickets for nihe runs.

Litu was the other successful Eastern bowler, taking three for

in the other match of the day, Kakrail Boys Club defeated Nabin Sangha by three wickets at the Dhanmondi Club ground Nabin Sangha, batting first, made 169 runs for eight in the

stipulated 40 overs. Habib topscored with 51. The other notable scorers for Nabin Sangha were Adil, who made 37, and Kashem with 24. Kakrail Boys Club reached the winning target of 170 runs for the loss of seven wickets with seven balls to spare.

Opener Arti scored 36 while Asifu Hassau and Moni made 32, 26 and 21-respectively.

Adil, who captured three wickets for 24, was the most successful among the Nabin

#### Uttaran win Tejgaon Club Cup V-Day cricket

**Sports Reporter** 

Nakhalpara Uttaran Club became champions in the Tejgaon Club Victory Day Cup cricket tournament when they outplayed Russel Smriti Sangha by five-wickets in the final at the Tejgaon Science College ground yesterday. Batting first, Russel Smriti

were all out for 93. Lokman scored 23 and

Nantoo 12. Atal with three for 19 and Ripon with three for 10 shared the spoils for Uttaran.

Uttaran Club, chasing a reachable target, made 97 for

Shihab top scored with 42. He was followed by Babu (Jr) with 14 and Babu (Sr) with 13. Sumon claimed two wickets

for 25. Shihab was later adjudged man-of-the match.

hoped to be available for State Minister for Textiles Friday's opening match in the Abdul Mannan gave away prizes best-of-three finals series if South Africa qualifies ahead of after the match. New Zealand.

Obituary

A K M Wahidul Anwar member of the organising committee of the Sixth SAF Games and joint secretary of the accommodation committee of the Games, died of a heart attack in New York on Thursday night, according to a message received in Dhaka yesterday, reports

He was 40. Anwar, who was senior Assistant Secretary in the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

of the WACA pitch. joined the government service to get my head out of the way (BCS administration) in 1981. and that particular one just He left behind his father kept coming at me," he said.

mother, wife, two sons and four brothers to mourn his death. thought and the pace of the His body is expected to arball off the wicket was pretty

rive here on Friday next Ministry of Youth and Sports sources said.

#### It's unsporting

SYDNEY, Jan 17: Australian women's cricket star Denise Annetts had no grounds for complaint against omission from the squad to tour New Zealand, team captain Belinda Clarke said Monday, reports AP.

Annetts complained to the government-funded Anti-Discrimination Bast week that she was left off the team be cause she is not a lesbian.

Clark said the selectors had other reasons for sacking the 29-year-old Annetts.



Professor Rashid Uddin Ahmed addressing the newsmen at a press conference convened in connection with the l'artex First Division basketball league '93 organised by the Bangladesh Basketball Federation at the conference room of the National Sports Council (NSC) yesterday. The league begins today at the Outer Stadium wooden floor gymnasium. - Star photo

### A narrow squeak for PWD

Sports Reporter

A breezy 51 from Sumon laid the bulwark of a squciky three-wicket win for Public -Works Department (PWD) over Shantinagar B in one of the two Milnars First

Division relegation league matches at the Dhanmondi Cri-cket Stadium vesterday. Set a daunting task of scoring 165 to win in 30 overs.

PWD squeezed home with five balls to spare, making 166 for the loss of seven wickets. Having won the toss, Kallol,

the PWD captain, invited Shantinagar B batsmen to make the first use of the wicket in the over-reduced match and his decision seemed to work out perfectly well as the Shantinagar batsmen, facing all kinds of trouble on a wet wicket. found scoring quite difficult.

Moreover, losing the first three wickets for only 42 in 11.4 overs, really pushed them to the backfoot. However, Nehal, who opened the innings with Rupu, kept his cool and helped the score rolling on. He featured in a useful stand of 53 for the fourth wicket with Pappu, who hit a run-a-ball 27. to give the innings some sort of respectability.

Nehal was dismissed in the 22nd over after scoring a se-

SYDNEY, Jan 17:

Australian cricket

captain Allan Bor-

der has dismiss-

that his career is

winding down following his

omission from the Australian

fimited overs team last

wanted to make sure that the

Kirsten to

fight on

South African batsman Peter

Kirsten is ready to ignore a

fractured left cheekbone and

play in the World Series

cricket finals - if the South

by a bouncer from Australian

pace bowler Glenn McGrath

during South Africa's World

Series win at the WACA

Kirsten said Monday that he

"I'll be running on Thursday

"I have come all this way.

you can't come for two or

Kirsten, 38, joined the

South African squad earlier

this month after captain

Kepler Wessels was sidelined

when he misjudged the bounce

He said his injury occurred

"Basically, I was just trying

"It didn't bounce as much as

New Zealand face Australia

in the final World Series pre-

liminary round match on

Wednesday in Melbourne and

the Kiwis need to win to over-

take South Africa and clinch a

Div II soccer

Sports Reporter

a narrow 1-0 win over City

Club in the Sonali Bank Second

Division football super league

match at the Mirpur Stadium

lone goal for the winners.

Mostafa Kamal scored the

Bangladesh Police recorded

quick. It just hurried on."

finals spot.

vesterday.

three innings," he said.

and if we make the final on

Friday, I'll be available for se-

Ground on Sunday.

lection," he said.

by a knee injury.

Kirsten was hit in the face

Africans qualify, reports AP.

SYDNEY, Jan 17: Veteran

"I didn't play because I

weekend, reports AP.

suggestions

date 75-ball 41 with the help of a couple of boundaries and Pappu followed him two runs

After losing another wicket on 99, Shuvro and Tuhin were left with the task of helping the Shantinagar side out of the lurch. And the two carried out their responsibility magnificently.

Shuvro, who made 33 off 25 balls, and Tuhin with a 20-ball 31 kept the PWD fielders on their toes till the end, going for singles and doubles whenever they got breaks. Thanks to their unbeaten stand of 65. Shantinagar B bowlers had an impressive total of 164 for six to defend.

PWD, in their turn, were given a comparatively sound start by their opening pair. who put 36 runs for the first wicket in 8.1 overs before Obayed got out for 10.

Sumon then joined Atiq. the other opener, at the crease and together they took the total to 122 in 21.2 overs to set the eventual winners on the right track.

Sumon went back to the pavilion after, hitting a fine half century, made off 49 balls with the help of five shots across the fence, and suddenly PWD found themselves in trouble.

Border dispels doubt

other blokes got every oppor-

tunity leading up to some im-

portant games." Border said

Monday after arriving in

Sydney from Perth where

Australia were thrashed by

Border did not play in that

"The best option was for

Border's poor form with the

match, part of the World

me not to play. Why does ev-

eryone seem to jump to these

conclusions?" Border asked.

bat recently has led to specu-

lation that he could step down

Former Australian Test bats-

man, Neil Harvey was reported

to have called for the

Australian captain to move

jealousy there, but whether he

wants to admit or not - it's

just disappointing," Border

said, referring to Harvey's

quit. Border said: "I hope I

cerns about the brittleness of

the Australian batting lineup in

recognise the right time."

When asked when he would

Border played down con-

"There's obviously some

aside for a younger player.

comments.

South Africa on Sunday.

Series tournament.

Atiq ran himself out for 47 to be the fourth batsmen out and an ominous collapse saw PWD staggering at 154 for seven in 28 overs. But, Boglu who remained not out on 26. made sure that his side made it home.

Shipar was by far the best Shantinagar B bowler, bagging three for 23.

#### LALMATIA CRUISE

In the other match at the Mirpur Pallabi ground, Lalmatia Club beat Evergreen Sporting Club. Sent in to bat first. Evergreen were all out for 148 with Shaibal topscoring with

34. Extras provided 30 odd Fahim and Malik evenly shared six wickets between themselves for 34 and 25 runs

respectively. In reply, Lalmatia, aided by some responsible knocks. journeyed past the victory target, scoring 154 for the loss of five wickets in 41 overs.

Chayan hit 35 to be the highest individual scorer for his side with Hassan, who hit a six to collect the winning runs, remaining not out on 32.

Shantoo, who was unbeater on 24, and Fahint with 31 were the other notable

"The expectations are that

we're trying to win and we are

trying to win," he said. "But

the other sides are bit more

desperate because they've got'

to win, rather than needing to

we got into the big games we'll

could be in the wind and sug-

gested that an out-of-form

Mark Waugh may be consid-

him at opener in the future is

debatable -maybe that could

ered as an opener.

happen," he said.

like everyone else."

be right."

"We're off the boil, but once

However, he said changes

"Whether we want to use

"But if you're batting, in the

top four you're getting reason-

able opportunities, so it's just

up to mark to start producing

the goods. He's under pressure

on Wednesday night in a World

Series match at the Melbourne

Cricket Ground. A victory by

New Zealand would clinch

them a spot in the World

Series finals against Australia.

Zamalek's Nigeria striker Emmanuel Amunike Retangles with an unidentified player of architivals Al Ahly during the all-

edging out South Africa.

Egyptian Africa Super Cup final in Johannesburg on Jan 16. Zamalek won 1-0.

Australia play New Zealand

#### Sher-e-Bangla Cup nat'l soccer begins today

The 18th Sher e-Bangla Cup national football championship begins at different zones across the country today reports BSS.

Sixty District Sports Associations and six services teams will take part in the nine zonal competitions, according to the fixtures prepared by the Bangladesh Football Federation.

The nine zonal champions last year's champions Dhaka University, runnersup BUET and hosts Khulna will later meet in the final round beginning on February 6. Khagrachari, Shariatpur and

Panchagar did not enter the championships. On the opening day hosts

Feni will take on Rangamati. The zones are: Rajbari zone - Narayangani

Dhaka, Madaripur, Narsingdi, Munshiganj, Faridpur, Gopalganj and Rajbari. Sherpur zone - Sherpur

Netrokona, Mymensingh. Jamalpur, Gazipur, Tangail Kishoreganj and Manikganj. Feni zone - Feni.

Rangamati, Bandarban, Cox's Bazar. Noakhali. Chittagong and Lakshmipur. Sylhet zone - Sylhet, Sun-

amganj, Hobiganj, Moulvibazar Brahmanbaria, Bhola and Coınilla.

Bagerhat zone - Bagerhat Patuakhali, Pirojpur, Barisal. Jhalakathi, Bhola and Barguna. Jhenaidah zone

Jhenaidah. Jessore Chuadanga, Magura, Satkhira, Meherpur, Narail and Kushtia. Bogra zone — Bogra. Rajshahi, Sirajganj, Joypurhat.

Pabna, Naogaon, Nawabgani and Natore. · Lalmonirhat zone — Lalmonirhat, Rangpur, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Dinajpur, Thak-

urgaon and Nilphamari. Seba zone (Munshiganj) -Bangladesh Army, Bangladesh Police, Bangladesh Customs. Bangladesh Ansars, Bangladesh Air Force and Bangladesh Navy.

#### Amarnath nostalgic

ISLAMABAD, Jan 17: Former Indian Test cricketer Mohinder Amarnath has called for revival of Test series between India and Pakistan saying such matches had been always beneficial for the two neighbours, reports PTI.

Cricket series in the past had contributed to raising the standard of the game in the two countries. Amarnath, cur rently official coach of the Bangladesh cricket team, told reporters at a dinner hosted by airport Gymkhana in Karachi last week.

Amarnath had come with the Bangladesh side which undertook a '15-day tour of Pakistan at the invitation of the Airport Gymkhana. The team visited Lahore and Karachi and played several matches with local sides.

Amarnath regretted that India and Pakistan had not played cricket for sometime now and hoped the cricket links would be revived soon.

He maintained that he had always enjoyed playing cricket in Pakistan which had talented players giving tough competition. He also related an incident involving one of the greatest steps of the game, Sunil Gavaskar.

It was in Australia, he said, that Gavaskar ignored sledging from Australian players till he had crossed the. 150 runs mark and once he achieved the target, he just spoke a few words to silence his distrac-

Gavaskar, he recalled, did not even talk to his team-mate at the non-stricker's end while playing as he thought it would disturb his concentration

### India-SL Test begins today

### Kapil nears moment of glory



LUCKNOW, Jan 17: India opens a tiree-Test series igainst Shri Lan ha on Tuesday with all eyes on Kapil Dev as he goes for

reports Reuter. The great Indian allroundar needs just seven more wickets to break Sir Richard Hadlee's record of 431-Test scalps and the chief interest in India's matches against their southern neighbours is when he will accomplish the feat.

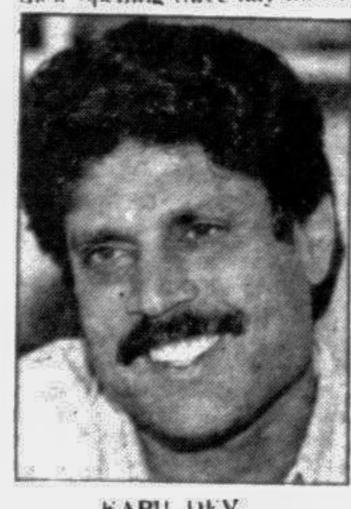
cricket's Test bowling record.

The wickets at Lucknow's K D Singh Stadium, where the first Test will be played, has a reputation for favouring the batsmen then helping spinners towards the end of the five

Normally there would be little hope of Kapil taking the wickets he need at Lucknow. but rain last week softened the ground and may help his fastmedium swing and seam, If Kapil falls short in

Lucknow, where he will also have the advantage of bowling to Shri Lankan batsmen who have had little practice, then he has further chances in Bangalore and Ahmedabad.

The Shri Lankans prevented from serious practice by rain at home, arrived in New . Delhi last week to more rain plus fog, that reduced their opening three-day match



KAPIL DEV

to a lour-hour batting session. Captain Arjuna Ranatunga is likely to bring in at least one new cap, either medium pare bowler Ravindra Pushpakumar. or batsmen Anura Gunawar dene. He will decide after looking at the wicket on Tuesday morning.

Indian captain Mohammed Azharuddin will also have to decide between paceman Javagal Srinath and spinner Venkatapathy Raju.

India will also have one new cap, Nayan Mongia who was the surprise choice of wicketkeeper over veteran Kiran More and Vijay Yadav.

They also have an old face back in Sanjay Manjrekar. dropped after failing miserably in South Africa last year. A prolific domestic season meant the selectors could not ignore

#### TEAMS

INDIA (from): Mohammed Azharuddin (captain), Navjot Singh Sidhu, Manoj Prabhakar, Ajay Jadeja, Sanjay Manjrekar, Sichin Tendulkar, Kapil Dev. Livagal Srinath, Anil Kumle Venkatapathy Raju, Rajesh Chauhan, Nayan Mongia.

SHRI LANKA (from): Arjuna Ranatunga (captain), Roshan Mahanama, Dulip Samraweera, Hashan Tillekeratne, Arvinda de Silva, Sanath Jayasuriya. Ruwan Kalpage. Marwan Atapattu, Pubudu Dassanayake, Ravindra Puspakumarn, Promode Wickremesinghe, Anura Gunawardene.

## Fletcher's firm belief



ANTIGUA. Jan 17: England's cricketers began their three and a half month tour of the Caribbean

on Sunday with a lengthy net session in ninety degree heat and the backing of team manager Keith Flecher. reports AFP.

eight defeats and only one victory in 10 Tests since taking over from Mickey Stewart.

tice at the recreation ground, venue for April's final Test, he expressed a firm belief that Michale Atherton's relatively inexperience side can reverse that trend.

"We've brought a young side here, and they are all keen and all raring to go," he said.

"They've got everything to, prove, but I believe if they play to their full potential, then we might end up winning - or well certainly surprise a few people."

Fletcher remains confident that England, despite their poor recent record, can overbeaten in a home Test series for 21 years.

all-round side, but I've never

Fletcher has presided over

But as he supervised prac-

come a West Indies side, un-

"The West Indies are a good

feared anybody." he said.



KEITH FLECHER

We respect the West Indies. They have got a good bowling attack in Curtley Ambrose, Courtney Walsh and Kenneth and Winston Benjamin, and they have some useful batsmen, but we don't

Fast bowler Alan Igglesden came through his first lengthy workout since picking up a side strain at England's pre-Christmas training camp in Portugal, bowling for 40 minutes in the afternoon sun and reporting no reaction after-

All England's seamers looked in lively form with Middlesex's Angus Fraser, only recently returned to international action after a lengthy injury lay-off, striking Jack Russell a painful blow on the shoulder with a lifting delivery.

Robin Smith continued his recovery from an operation on his damaged right shoulder last September. Smith, under the supervision of physiotherapist Dave Roberts, threw overarm for the first time since the surgery, and afterwards pronounced himself satisfied with the results.

Smith was then one of the players - Graeme Hick and Matthew Maynard were the others - who ran the three and a half miles back to the team hotel.



Barcelona's Brazilian star Romario was sent off or the first time

League . . Sunday for punching Sevilla's Diego Simeone in the/ face, reports AFP.

Barcelona's Dutch coach Johann Cruyff said after the match: "Romario did not have to retaliate against Simeone."

Romario came on for Bulgarian Hristo Stoichkov for the last half-hour and had only been on the field 15 minutes when the incident happened. Simeone appeared to have provoked Romario.

Spain's media was surprised by the incident as Romario. who tops the league's goal I charts with 16 is not a volutile

Barcelona should have earlier taken advantage of 10-man Sevilla when Manuel Jimenez \* was set off just after the break.

Meanwhile Romario's Brazilian colleagues in La Coruna's team has a better weekend as Mauro Da Silva and Bebeto scored in a 3-1 victory at Valencia in the mid-point of the Spanish season.

Barragan Claudio got the other for Deportivo and Jose Galvez had earlier opened the scoring for Valencia.

Xavier Escaich had in incredible game for Sporting Gijon with four goals in their .7-1 win over Osasuna Pampiona. Croatia's Mario Stanik hit two and Fernandez Abelardo the other as Gijon re-

gained third place. Polish striker Jocek Ziober scored for Pamplona, but it did not prevent them dropping to the foot of the table. Lerida's goalless draw at home to Racing Santander was enough to bring them up from bottom

An early goal from Emilio Butragueno and two penalties from Gonzalez Michel earned fourth-placed Real Madrid a 3-2 victory over nine-man Real Zaragoza. Arias Belsue was sent off in the first half hour and Fernando Caceres received his marching orders in the second

In Italy, AC Milan's third ()-O draw running, in front of 40,000 specialors at Carnot propelled them has ther alread.

Milan he three points ahead as Sampdoria could not capitalise on the neighbourly act of Genoa, who share the same Luigi Ferraris Stadium.

Champions Milan were found wanting up front despite the presence of Jean-Pierre Papin in his first league match after suspension for headbut-

But Papin, who scored against Parma in the European Super Cup in midweek, was rightly marked and failed to inpose himself. Montenegro's Dejean

Savicevic was also virtually invisible in Milan's midfield. Sampdoria were well beaten 2-1 at lowly Piachenza. Marco Piovanni opened the scoring

for Piacenza on the half hour

after the break.

- AFP photo

and Marco Ferrante put them two ahead a quarter of an hour Bald winger Attilio lombarod struck home in

England's David Platt was brought into the match on 72 minutes, but was uhable to prevent "Samp's" fifth league loss this season.

ference with their second draw running against midtable opposition. Giovanni Trapattoni's men drew 0-0 at home to A S Roma but both sides and a man sent off. Juventus' German defender

Depleted Juventus moved

into second place on goal dif-

together after a clash two minutes before half-time. But Juventus were without Massimo Carrera, Brazilian Julio Cesaer, Dino Baggio. Andrea Fortunato and Gianluca

Jurgen Kohler and Roma's

Walter Bonacina were sent off

and Roberto Cravero earned a 2-0 victory at home to Reggiana. Di Matteo scored on the stroke of half-time and Cravero fired home a penalty five minutes after the break. England's Paul Gascoigne excellently marshalled the

Lazio's Roberto di Matteo

Lazio wiped away the memory of their 4-1 loss to Foggia the week before. Fifth-placed Parma drew 1-I bottom club Lecce in a late

midfield and managed to com-

plete the whole match, as

match on Sunday. Andrea Silenzi went further alread in the goal scoring charts as Torino held Atalanta to a 2 2 draw. Silenzi hit his 13th league goal five minutes before the break, but Maurizio Codispoti equalised just before

the half-time whistle. Roberto Rambaudi give hosts Atalanta the advantage. before Paolo Poggi earned his side a valuable point

In France, Paris St Germain and Olympique Marseille stole the show here this weekend. as Bordeaux failed to capitalise on an ill-tempered draw between France's top two clubs. PSG maintained their four

point lead over Marseille, the European champions, after à 1-1 draw at the Parc De Princes saw fists and boots fly. Bordeaux could have ex-

plotted that stalemate, and

gone to within a point of Marseille, by a winning visit to sixth placed Nantes on Saturday evening.
In Belgium Anderlecht maintained their four point lead from FC Bruges with a 2 !

win at RC Liege Alax 83rd minute penalty, but Amsterdam's 4-1 win at home to Maastricht kept them two Sampdoria failed to find an equaliser in the closing minpoints clear in Holland.

# Barcelona, Romario rocked



in the Spanish

Though the match ended goalless, leaving "Barca" three points behind leaders Deportivo La Coruna, Romario's left jab ensured the Catalonian club kept in the headlines this weekend. The 27-year-old striker Brazilian was immediately sent off.

