

Navy now have to wait

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Navy finished their Sonali Bank office hockey league campaign on a winning note with a lone goal victory over Sonali Bank at the Hockey Stadium yesterday.

The win keeps Navy's title hopes alive, raising their collection to 14 points from nine outings.

But they will have to wait for the outcome of today's match between Sadharan Bima and Bangladesh Air Force.

Bima, who earned a crucial 1-0 goal victory over Navy in their previous super league match, need a win to clinch the crown.

In the day's match, Abdul Karim struck the match-winner in the 36th minute from a short corner.



Gavaskar's new job

SHARJAH, Apr 16: Sunil Gavaskar will manage India for the remainder of the Australasia Cup, team officials said today, reports Reuter.

India have operated without a manager since the opening day of the one-day tournament when Ajit Wadekar was hospitalised following a mild heart attack.

Gavaskar, who is here as a television commentator, said he had agreed to a request by skipper Mohammad Azharuddin and vice-captain Sachin Tendulkar to manage the team for the rest of the tournament. The former world batting record holder, 45, added the job was only temporary and was unlikely to accept the position for a longer term since he was committed to doing media work.

Berasategui shows Edberg way out

NICE, France, Apr 16: Rising clay court specialist Alberto Berasategui of Spain upset top seed Stefan Edberg of Sweden to reach the semifinals of the Nice Open tennis tournament on Friday, reports Reuter.

"I'm not surprised to be in the semifinals but to beat Edberg is definitely some thing special even if he wasn't at his best today," said Berasategui, ranked 37th in the world, after winning 6-3, 6-4.

Erratum

We regret the erroneous heading of a news item on the legendary West Indian cricketer Sir Garfield Sobers in our yesterday's issue.

Aussies amble into semis



SHARJAH, Apr 16: Australia brushed aside New Zealand by seven wickets here on Saturday to storm into the Australasia Cup semifinals with an all-win record, reports AFP.

The Aussies, who had defeated Sri Lanka by nine wickets in their Group B opener on Thursday, put in a solid performance to trounce their Trans-Tasman rivals with equal ease.

Celebrated leg-spinner Shane Warne grabbed four for 34 as the Kiwis, electing to bat first, were restricted to 207 for nine in the stipulated 50 overs.

Mathew Hayden (67) and David Boon (68) put on 123 for the second wicket to fire Australia to an easy victory with 13 balls to spare.

Australia's likely opponents in Tuesday's first semifinal will be India who have 1-1 record in Group A.

New Zealand take on Sri Lanka in the last pool match Monday to decide the second spot from Group B.

Warne, who took three for 29 against Sri Lanka, once again struck terror in the Kiwi camp with his mesmerising high-quality spin bowling. Seamer Damien Fleming also chipped in with four wickets.

Kiwi opener Brian Young top-scored with a defiant 63, but as wickets tumbled at the other end, New Zealand rued the absence of captain Ken Rutherford and star batsman Martin Crowe who opted to give the tournament a miss.

Australia, themselves without skipper Allan Border and fast bowler Craig McDermott, showed no signs of fatigue at the end of an arduous season.

Stand-in captain Mark Taylor picked up two brilliant catches in the deep while the bowling was backed by sharp,

agile fielding all round. Michael Slater was bowled when Danny Morrison's second delivery, but Hayden and Boon hit back with breathtaking strokeplay against the limited Kiwis attacks.

Boon, playing his first match in the tournament, hit 10 boundaries and a six before holding off spinner Shane Thomson out near the long-on fence.

Opener Hayden fell in the 41st over when 44 were needed for victory when Chris Harris picked up a low diving catch at point off seamer Chris Pringle.

Michael Bevan and Justin Langer, Australia's two young batsmen, guided their team to victory without trouble.

Australia's emphatic victory was, however, dampened by an injury to off-spinner, Tim May.



SHANE WARNE... m-o-m who broke a flitcher in his right hand while fielding against Sri Lanka on Thursday. Coach Bobby Simpson said

the fracture was diagnosed on Saturday and added that May will miss Tuesday's semifinal and also the final, if Australian qualify.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the first innings in the Australasia Cup one-day match between Australia and New Zealand here Saturday.

NEW ZEALAND				
Young c and b D Fleming	63			
Hartland lbw b Warne	23			
Douglas lbw b Warne	0			
S Fleming c Taylor b D Fleming	35			
Thomson c Taylor b D Fleming	32			
Parore c and b Warne	12			
Harris lbw b Warren not out	14			
Larsen not out	9			
Hart c Hayden b D Fleming	2			
Morrison b McGrath	2			
Pringle not out	2			
Extras: (b-1, lb-6, nb-4, w-2)	13			
Total: (9 wickets, 50 overs)	207			
Fall of wickets: 1-75, 2-75, 3-125, 4-134, 5-169, 6-183, 7-191, 8-201, 9-203.				
Bowling				
O	M	R	W	
Reiffel	10	0	35	0
McGrath	10	0	44	1
S Waugh	10	1	48	0
Warne	10	0	34	4
D Fleming	10	0	39	4

AUSTRALIA				
Slater b Morrison	0			
Hayden c Harris b Pringle	67			
Boon c sub (Nash) b Thomson	68			
Bevan not out	39			
Langer not out	20			
Extras: (b-11, w-3)	14			
Total: (3 wickets, 47.5 overs)	208			
Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-123, 3-166.				
Bowling				
O	M	R	W	
Morrison	6	2	22	1
Pringle	9.5	1	43	1
Larsen	9	0	42	0
Harris	6	0	25	0
Hart	7	0	26	0
Thomson	10	2	39	1

Result: Australia won by 7 wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Shane Warne.

Windies 48 for two at lunch

Sports Reporter

West Indies were 48 for two at lunch on the fifth and final Test against England in St John's Antigua, according to a message received in Dhaka late last night.

SCOREBOARD

Scores at lunch Saturday, the first day of the fifth cricket Test match between England and the West Indies:

WEST INDIES: First innings	
Simmons lbw b Caddick	8
Williams c Caddick b Fraser	3
Lara not out	23
Adams not out	11
Extras: (legbyes 1, noballs 2)	3
Total: (for 2)	48
Fall of wickets: Williams 8; Simmons 12.	

To bat: Keith Arthurton, Shivarine Chandernaul, Junior Murray, Winston Benjamin, Curtly Ambrose, Kenny Benjamin, Courtney Walsh.

Bowling				
O	M	R	W	
Fraser	8	2	12	1
Caddick	8	4	12	1
Tufnell	6	2	5	0
Lewis	6	0	18	0

DU cricket

Sports Reporter

The Department of Finance registered a facile 60-run win over Department of Zoology in the inter-department cricket championship of Dhaka University at the Jagannah Hall ground yesterday.

The originally scheduled 30-overs-a-side match was reduced to a 20-over one because of damage done to the spoil wicket by some spoil sports.

Sent in to bat first, Finance piled up an imposing 135 runs for five wickets and then went on to restrict Zoology to a paltry 75 for nine wickets.

Robi of Finance top-scored with 42. Titu claimed three wickets at the cost of 31 runs for the losers.

Palash, the most successful Finance bowler, dismissed three for only ten runs.

Sharan and Dipak were the only Zoology batsmen to have scored double-digit scores, making 17 each.

Javed Miandad changes mind

KARACHI, Apr 16: Pakistan's star batsman Javed Miandad has withdrawn his decision to retire from international cricket, saying he was doing so in deference to the wishes of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, reports AFP.

"The prime minister asked me to withdraw my retirement and be available for the country," Miandad said after a meeting with Bhutto in Karachi on Friday.

"I have great regard for her and have therefore decided to withdraw the decision," which he had announced on April 6, Miandad said in a statement.

Miandad, 36, had retired in protest after being dropped from the Pakistan team currently playing in the Australasia Cup tournament at Sharjah. Earlier, he was excluded from the tour of New Zealand.

He said he hoped to join the team at Sharjah.

"I cannot say no to the country's prime minister who wished that I must break a world record during her tenure," Miandad said.

He is 1,168 runs short of the coveted 10,000 runs in Test cricket. Miandad has played 124 Test matches in his career, scoring 8,832 runs with an average of 52.57.

Miandad has 23 Test centuries to his credit and his highest score was 280 not out, against India at Hyderabad in 1982-83. He has captained 34 Test matches, won 14, lost 6 and drew 14, making him Pakistan's most successful skipper with a success rate of 61.96 per cent.

Chang just a match away

HONG KONG, Apr 16: Top seed Michael Chang moved within one match of his long-awaited first Hong Kong title after reaching the final of the Salem Open with a 6-2, 7-5, defeat of American veteran Brad Gilbert on Saturday, reports AFP.

Chang's opponent will be rising young Australian Patrick Rafter, a convincing 6-3, 6-4 winner over second seed and former world number one Ivan Lendl.

The Chinese-American Chang has made 10 trips to Hong Kong and played in this tournament four times, but has yet to justify the fanatical support he receives here with a tournament win.

He reached the final once before, in 1992, but lost to fellow American Jim Courier, then the world number one.

Rafter, for his part, will be appearing in his first ATP tour final.

Chang, the 1989 French Open champion, was at his aggressive and terrier-like best against Gilbert.



American Michael Chang makes a forehand return to Brad Gilbert during their semifinal tie in the Hong Kong Open yesterday. Chang won 6-2, 7-5. — AFP photo

Saudis have little to lose



DUBAI, Apr 16:

The thought of Saudi Arabia playing Morocco in a major soccer competition in the United States is one of the more prosaic promises by this summer's World Cup finals, reports Reuter.

But oddly, it will not be the first time these two Arab states have met each other in such circumstances.

Ten years ago Saudi Arabia and Morocco clashed at Pasadena, the venue for this year's World Cup final, in the opening phase of the Los Angeles Olympics soccer competition.

Morocco won the game 1-0 and although both teams failed to get past the opening stage of that tournament, Morocco made a big impression two years later when they reached the second round of the 1986 World Cup finals in Mexico.

Saudi Arabia have made little impact on world soccer since then, apart from one significant achievement.

In 1989 they won the world under-17 championship in Scotland and six players from that squad are likely to be involved in the United States again this summer.

As well as playing Morocco in New York on June 25, Saudi Arabia will also play the Netherlands and Belgium in Washington on June 20 and June 29 respectively.

The intense heat and humidity that could pose problems for the European players is unlikely to trouble the Saudis. But they could be severely troubled by the technical skill, fitness and all-round ability of the Dutch and Belgium players. Their main chance of avoiding defeat will be against the Moroccans.

Although an early exit seems inevitable, there have been too many upsets for the Europeans by Arabic and Middle East nations for anyone to treat them with anything but the utmost respect.

Morocco's second round performance in 1986 when they narrowly lost 1-0 to West Germany after a 3-1 win over Portugal and draws against Poland and England, remains the best showing by an Arab nation, but there have been other surprises in the last 16 years.

In 1982 Algeria caused one of the biggest World Cup upsets of all time when they beat West Germany 2-1 in Spain.

Egypt held both the Netherlands and Ireland to draws in their opening round matches in Italy four years ago and only lost 1-0 to England, while Iran held Scotland to a 1-1 draw in Argentina in 1978.

Kuwait also held Czechoslovakia to a 1-1 draw in Spain in 1982.

Whether the Saudis, currently in France preparing for the finals, can match any of those achievements is debatable.

Their qualifying campaign was littered with sackings and dismissals as coaches, deputy coaches and advisors, came and went, although they are now being managed by a man with first-hand knowledge of the heat and passion of the World Cup — Jorge "Indio" Solari of Argentina.

Solari was a ball-winning midfielder and a member of the Argentina team who were described as "animals" by England manager Alf Ramsey after his side beat Argentina 1-0 in an ill-tempered quarter-final at Wembley in 1966.

Solari is now an experienced coach whose most recent clubs include Independiente and Newell's Old Boys.

He became Saudi coach in February this year and said recently the team was fit and capable of giving a good performance in the United States.

Even so, recent performances in warm-up matches have been patchy, although they played well in a 2-2 draw with Chile in March, improving as the match went on after trailing 0-2 at one stage.

Local newspapers praised the performances of Said Al-Owairan in mid-field, defenders Ahmad Jameel and Fouad Anwar and strikers Sami Al-Jaber and Fahd Al-Malik.

But the good news for the soccer-crazed Saudi fans was that the country's star striker and team captain Majid Abdullah, was in good shape after suffering a minor injury.

Abdullah, 33, was actually in the 1984 Olympic squad, along with deputy captain and full-back Mohammed Abdel-Jawad.

Twenty-nine Saudi players are taking part in the preparation stage in France before the squad is whittled down to the final 22. The squad are expected to arrive in the United States in mid-May.

Saudi Arabia were unbeaten in the 11 qualifying matches they played in the Asian zone, and topped the final qualifying group ahead of South Korea to claim their place in the US.

The squad travels to the finals under no illusions of what it is capable of achieving.

Prince Sultan, a son of King Fahd and the deputy chief of the Saudi Soccer Federation summed it up when he said recently, "The important thing is for our national side reaching a level to give an honourable portrayal of Saudi soccer at the World Cup."

Their opponents will underestimate the Saudis at their peril.

Anti-Sacchi campaign in US



NEW YORK, Apr 16: An Italian-language newspaper has caused a furor in New York by calling for the sacking of Italy's World Cup coach Arrigo Sacchi, reports Reuter.

"Sacchi must go now before it's too late," the daily American Oggi declared last Monday after Italy lost 2-1 to Fourth Division Tuscan club Pontedera.

It was their third defeat in a row.

The Italian media expressed outrage at the article, the reporter has complained of being cold-shouldered by Italian journalists and dozens of soccer-mad Italian-Americans telephoned the paper to vent their spleen.

"We're still having our backs slashed," said Domenico Delli Carpi, co-author of the article, on Friday.

But if the local reaction to the article is any indication, Sacchi faces some serious trouble in June if Italy fail to shine before the New York crowds.

"I would say he will get a semi-warm reception as no-one wants to pick on him yet," said Delli Carpi. "But if he should lose or draw the first game, you will see some strong security around the Italian hotel."

"I said before that if Italy lose then he should go to one of those Pacific atolls and disappear."

Delli Carpi said some 80 per cent of the estimated 600,000 Italian-speaking Americans in the New York area trace their roots to southern Italy while Sacchi is a northerner from near Ravenna

and ex-coach of AC Milan. Sacchi has upset some southerners by not selecting crowd-pleasing stars from the south.

"On Monday we had about 100 calls from the Bronx and Brooklyn — the hotbed of Italian soccer here — from Canada and from Italy," said Delli Carpi.

The calls were still coming in on Friday.

Some 75 per cent were against Sacchi because he had not called up certain players from Napoli.

"Some of them are saying 'We're with you, I called Sacchi an imbecile six months ago'," said Delli Carpi.

Mondy's article quoted several prominent Italian-Americans who declared it was time for a change. Cansalvo Turchi, former president of New York state's Italian soccer league, was adamant Sacchi should go now.

"I think Sacchi should leave immediately the national team, otherwise the Azzurri (Blues) will be left standing when it comes to the World Cup," he told the paper.

Attilio Gioannini, twice a winner of the league title with internazionale in the 1950 and 1954 World Cups, was harsher.

"He's crazy," he was quoted as saying. "I don't know whether to commiserate with him or not. I have never heard of a coach who calls up 72 players in some three years."

In the singles final to be played Sunday, top seed Pan Bing of China will meet Andres Vysand of Estonia.

Australian pair wins ITF title

KUALA LUMPUR, Apr 16: The Australian pair of Johan Anderson and Stephen Gleeson defeated top doubles combination of Adam Malik of Malaysia and Scott Hulise of United States 7-6 and 6-4 to emerge champion in the final of the ITF-Malaysia satellite tennis championship in Langkawi Saturday, reports AP.

The sterling display by the Aussie pair gave the top seeds, Adam and Hulise no chance at all to repeat their last week's success, the national news agency Bernama reported from Langkawi, 400 kilometers (250 miles) northwest of here.

The final lasted one hour and 45 minutes with both pairs putting up some of the best performances seen so far.

With the win, Anderson and Gleeson received US dollars 787 in cash while Adam and Hulise received dollars 422.

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS
- 1 Go bald
- 5 Jazz style
- 8 Gen-darme's chapeau
- 12 Head light?
- 13 Abner's adjective
- 14 Mimicked
- 15 Woody's son
- 16 Brewery product
- 17 Vessel of 1492
- 18 Trick-taking card game
- 20 Boxers, e.g.
- 22 Appoints
- 26 Merman
- 36 Johnny Mathis hit
- 37 Treats sacrilegiously
- 40 Opening stake
- 41 Unbroken
- 45 Word of warning
- 47 Prepare for battle
- 49 Cupid's specialty
- 50 Never again?
- 51 About to arrive
- 52 Cattle
- 53 Crystal gazer
- 54 Absolutely
- 55 Tense
- DOWN
- 1 Persian cat?
- 2 Aesopian loser
- 3 Raines or Logan
- 4 Very eager
- 5 Designer Bill
- 6 Lubricate
- 7 Swore
- 8 Poph's marsupial friend
- 9 Letters
- 10 Coop
- 11 Mrs. Eddie
- 19 Ball prop
- 21 Neighbor of Mich.
- 23 Type of ink or rubber
- 24 Into the sunrise
- 25 Vacillate
- 26 "Diary of — Housewife"
- 27 Proboscis
- 28 Pest
- 32 "So soon?"
- 33 Goof
- 35 Do Hamlet
- 36 Fellows
- 38 Stage direction
- 39 Los Angeles

role

29 Bottom line

30 Mason's field

31 Grimace

32 Build on

33 Small plateau

34 — was saying...

35 Clay, today

news-paper

42 Surrounded by

43 U.S. legislature

44 Unlikely trick-taker

45 Uno + uno

46 Indivisible

48 Wish otherwise

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER 8-19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18			19			20	21			
			22			23			24	25
26	27	28				29			30	
31				32				33		
34				35				36		
37				38				39		
				40				41		
45	46					47	48		49	
50						51			52	
53						54			55	

CRYPTOQUIP

GYXO RANVFNOP KB

RTCXAYNOP GNAY AEVFR,

NA YXZBR AT WX

EZZ AYKCR

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHY TYPICAL HOUSE-PAINTER WAS USUALLY WARM: TOO MANY COATS.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: Y equals H

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.

It's too taxing for 'Magic'

LOS ANGELES, Apr 16: Earvin "Magic" Johnson, who returned to professional basketball last month to coach his old team, the Los Angeles Lakers, announced Friday night that he would not be back next season, reports Reuter.

In the latest twist in his on-