Victoria SC complete quorum

Sports Reporter

Victoria Sporting Club completed the second round quorum in the 15th Damal Summer cricket tournament the traditional curtain-raiser of the domestic cricket, with a crushing 10-wicket victory over Surja Tarun Club in the last match of the first round at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

The facile victory for the Motifheel outfit means they will be placed in Group X along with defending champions Abahani Limited and GMCC. The other group fea-Mohammedan Sporting Club, Brothers Union and the joint-league champions Bangladesh Biman.

Yesterday, Surja Tarun Club found the Victoria bowlers too hot to handle after being asked to make first use of the pitch and were bundled out for 58 in 29.1 overs, the lowest in the 20-team tournament so far.

New-ball bowlers Tanveer Ahmed and Igbal Hossain shared the first five wickets in between them while Rahman Abu Hamid Piyal mopped the lower order as the Surja Tarun batsmen caved in almost without a fight.

Left-arm Pival, who served Mohammedan Sporting Club a few years back, finished with an excellent analysis of four for 15 in his 5.1 overs while Tanveer and Iqbal claimed two three wickets respec-

Only two batsmen — Towhidul Islam (16) and Abdullah Harun (15) - managed doubledigit scores in an innings. marked by seven ducks and topped by Mr. Sundries (17).

Victoria openers Hasanuzzaman and Mehrba Hossain had to sweat very little in steering the winners home and in 17.4 overs the pair posted 59 for a surprisingly easy win.

Hasanuzzaman made 22 while Mehrba scored 33.

Navana Premier cricket league begins Dec 10

Sports Reporter

The Navana Premier and the Milnars First Division cricket leagues will begin from December 10 and 1 respectively at different city venues. says a Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) press release issued yesterday. The participating teams

have been asked to complete players' registrations a day before the start of the leagues.

When politics gets in cricket's way

CALICUT, India, Nov 26: Saturday's second day of the three-day match between West Indies and India which started on Friday has been cancelled after opposition Communist Parties called for a general strike, reports Reuter. The strike was called after

police shot dead at least five people in a student protest in the neighbouring Cannamore district.

Incontrad v'ball

Sports Reporter The Dhaka District Sports

Association toyed with the Bakerganj spikers in the opening match of the final round of the Incontrad inter-district volleyball championships at the Outer Stadium court yester-

The winners had things under control from the word go and wrapped up the lopsided affair 15-1, 15-2, 15-3 in no

Earlier, Minister for Post and Telegraph Tarigul Islam inaugurated meet, organised by the Bangladesh Volleyball Federation.

Nine teams are taking part in the men's group while the women's group comprises six squads.

Another blow for FA

LONDON, Nov 26: Arsenal and England striker Paul Merson dealt English soccer a second bodyblow in three weeks when he confessed on Friday to snorting cocaine, reports Reuter.

Merson, the first Premier League player to admit to drug use, told the Daily Mirror he spent up to 150 pounds (dollars 235) a night on his cocaine habit during marathon drinking sessions.

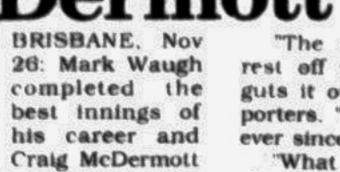
He said he was now determined to kick his habit.

"It's almost ruined my life. I've jeopardised my career and my marriage. Now I want everyone to know what's happened, to put it all behind me and start with a clean slate." Merson said.

Arsenal manager George Graham, a strict disciplinarian, has given Mersoin a week to sort out his life and regain his fitness, the newspaper said. Merson has 14 England caps.

Mark Waugh hits career best 140

McDermott mauls England bowlers through uneven bo-



ripped the England top-order to shreds Saturday as Australia took complete control on the second day of the first cricket Test at the Gabba ground reports UNB. Waugh scored 140 - his

highest Test score - as Australia made 426 in their first innings and then reduced England to 133 for six by stump.

Captain Mike Atherton is unbeaten on 49, but England still need a further 94 runs to avoid the follow-on. McDermott, playing in front

of his hometown fans, generated great pace on a docile pitch and finished with figures of four wickets for 28 from 13 flery overs.

He ended the day in great style, bowling Martin McCague for one with the final delivery - a vorker.

The elegant Waugh earlier completed the seventh Test century of his career after resuming on 82. It was the second superb batting performance following Michael Slater's 176 on Friday.

The 29-year-old was the only Australian to find his feet after the home team resumed at a healthy 329 for four.

Waugh hit 14 boundaries and one six in from the 215 deliveries he faced. He had some anxious moments before registering his milestone, surviving 29 minutes on 98.

He finally cut Darren Gough for his 11th boundary to move to 102 and, in the process, brought up his 50th first-class

Waugh's score bettered his previous Test best of 139 against the West Indies in Antigua in 1991.

Australia had the opportunity for a total beyond the 500mark, but England did well to fight back, taking the last eight wickets for only 118 runs.

The diligent Gough was rewarded with well-deserved figures of four for 107 from his 32 overs, while Phillip DeFreitas was accurate all morning.

Nightwatchman Shane-Warne became Gough's third victim when he was caught behind by Steven Rhodes for two.

DeFreitas then got a vital breakthrough after an hour of play when he had Steve Waugh caught by Graeme Hick at second slip for 19 with the score on 379.

DeFreitas and Hick combined again to dismiss lan Healy for seven. DeFreitas got some bounce and Healy directed the ball to the gully. where Hick took a diving coach.

McCague, whose first 16 overs had cost 92 runs, finally had some success just before lunch when he had McDermott caught by Gough for just two.

The last two wickets fell soon after lunch interval but England made a decidedly shaky start in the face of Mc-Dermott's assault.

McDermott first removed vice-captain Alec Stewart for 16 when the score was 22. Stewart presented wicketkeeper Ian Healy with his 200th Test catch.

The McDermott and Healy combination then removed Zimbabwe-born batsman Graeme Hick for just three. Hick attempted a hook shot and top-edged a catch to Healy.

McDermott also removed Mike Gatting for 10, and McCague.

Off-spinner Tim May, introduced after only nine overs, removed Graham Thorpe (28). while leg-spinner Shane Warne had Graham Gooch caught and

bowled for 20. England team manager Keith Fletcher praised Ather-

Intercontinental Cup against

AC Milan, two stars from

Argentina's Velez Sarsfield

team said Saturday their goal

They'd like a career in

"We'd love to play here,"

said midfielder Jose Horacio

Basualdo, who is also a mem-

ber of Argentina's national

team. "Getting some offers

after the game would be great."

way from becoming a world

soccer power, the 2-year-old

J-League's buying power is un-

deniably world-class.

Though Japan is still a long

Foreign players who have

joined its ranks include

Brazilian superstars Zico and

Careca, English star Gary

Lineker, Italy's Salvatore

Schillaci and Germans Pierre

Littbarski and Guido Buchwald.

Jubilo Iwata, is reported to

have the highest paying one-

year deal at dirs 1.85 million.

Schillaci, who plays for

Basualdo noted that compa-

isn't just to win, reports AP.

Japan's high-paying J-League.

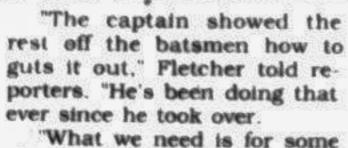
playing hard to

get. On their first

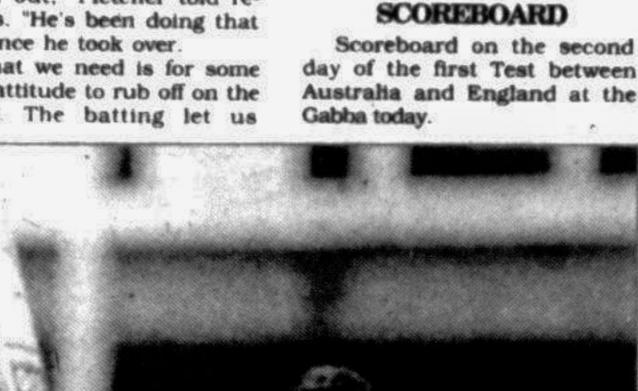
day in Japan to

prepare for the

ton's determination.



What we need is for some of his attitude to rub off on the others. The batting let us



unce over the last two days."

Australian Mark Waugh acknowledges the crowd's applause after reaching his seventh Test century during the second day of the first Ashes Test against England at Gabba, Brisbane yesterday. Mark, younger of the Waugh twins went on to scoring a career-best 140 as Australia made 426 in their first innings. - AFP photo

down." Fletcher added. "I'd like to think we can still save the follow-on as we have Steven Rhodes and some other useful batsmen to come."

McDermott, who said media speculation about his Test future had motivated his performance.

he said.



McDERMOTT ... four for 28

"I thought I bowled well and was happy with the way the ball came out today," McDer-

mott said. And ominously for England McDermott commented: "The · pitch is wearing and I think it should turn more and offer

something for the quicker

one of the J-League's most

successful imports. Diaz plays

AUSTRALIA: First innings (overnight 329-4) Slater c Gatting b Gooch 176 Taylor run out Boon b Gough M Waugh c Stewart b Gough Bevan c Hick b Gough Warne c Rhodes b Gough S Waugh c Hick b DeFreitas 19 Healy c Hick b DeFreitas

McDermott c Gough b McCague May not out McGrath c Gough b McCague Extras: (b-5, lb-2, nb-1) Fall of wickets: 1-99; 2-

126; 3-308; 4-352; 6-379; 7-407: 8-419: 9-425. Bowling: 102 DeFreitas McCague 19.2 32 7 107 Gough Tufnell 72 Hick 22 Gooch **ENGLAND**: First innings

Atherton not out Stewart c Healy b McDermott Hick c Healy b McDermott Thorpe c and b Warne Gooch c Healy b May Gatting Ibw McDermott McCague b McDermott Extras : (lb-1, nb-5) Total: (for six wickets)

28

10

Fall of wickets: 1-22; 2-35; 3-82: 4-105: 5-131: 6-133. To bat Robdes DeFreitas

Gough, Tufn	1 (200)	Der	Cita
Bowling (to		M	R
McDermott	13	3	28
McGrath	10	2	40
May	17	3	34
Warne	15	5	30
	STATE OF THE STATE		17927525-10

South Africa were 109-4 in reply to New Zealand's 411 at the close of the second day of the first Test today, reports Reuter.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the first cricket Test between South Africa and New Zealand at the Wanderers to-

NEW ZEALAND: First innings B Young c McMillan b Snell D Murray c Richardson b De Villiers

S Fleming b De Villiers M Crowe Ibw b Snell K Rutherford c Cronje b Eksteen S Thomson b Matthews

A Parore c McMillan b Matthews M Hart c Richardson b Matthews D Nash c Hudson b Eksteen S Doull not out R de Groen b Snell Extras: (lb-5, w-2, nb-1)

Fall of wickets: 1-7; 2-79; 3-92; 4-218; 5-249; 6-280; 7-280: 8-354: 9-354. Bowling De Villiers 34 78

Snell 33.5 9112 Matthews 3 98 McMillan 8 56 Eksteen 10 49 3 Cronje 0 13 0

A Hudson c Parore b Nash G Kirsten c Crowe b De Groen B McMillan c Murray b Nash H Cronje Ibw b De Groen D Cullinan not out J-Rhodes not out Extras : (b-6, lb-1)

SOUTH AFRICA

Total: (for four wickets)

Villiers.

Fall of wickets: 1-20; 2-28; 3-38; 4-73. To bat : Dave Richardson. Richard Snell, Clive Eksteen. Craig Matthews. Fanie de

Bowling:	0	M	R	W
Nash	11	4	29	2
Douil	7	1	27	0
De Groen	8	1	28	2
Hart	9	3	18	0
An ap	olo	g	y fe	or

Lara, courtesy Tendulkar

Indian star Brian Lara, struggling to score on the current Indian tour, has received support from an unexpected quarter - Indian batting genius Sachin Tendulkar, reports The 21-year-old Tendulkar,

the main challenger to the record-breaking Lara's mantle of the world's best batsman. said Friday the West Indian was too good a player to fail for

charts," the Indian vice-captain said of Lara. "He will come good before this tour is over. Lara is talented enough to get over the bad patch."

Lara, 25, who stunned the world earlier this year by notching up the highest individual scores in both Tests (375) and first-class cricket (501 not out), has so far failed to show his prolific batting to Indian fans.

ternationals at the start of the tour was 89, and managed only 14 and zero in the first Test in Bombay this week, which India won by 96 runs. Tendulkar has dominated

the series billed the "Lara-Tendulkar show", with twoone-day centuries and a match-winning innings of 85 in the Bombay Test. But Tendulkar concedes the left-handed Lara is a class act.

"Forget the ratings and rankings. No ordinary batsman can get the runs Lara has totalled this year." "I place him in the same

bracket as Martin Crowe of New Zealand and David Boon and Mark Waugh of Australia, to pick a few of the biggest names around," Tendulkar

The Indian little master. however, refused to place himself in the pecking order. "That's not my brief. My job is to get runs," he smiled. Tendulkar also termed as

mainly a battle between Lara and himself. "I'm not surprised that many are looking at it this way. But there's no question of a

myself," he said. "One of us could click, or even both. It's also possible that a 30-odd from my bat could prove more useful than a Lara century. That's what

terviews on the tour, preferring to let manager David Holford or skipper Courtney Walsh do the talking. Both believe the vice-captain is due for a big score.

Asian club soccer results CHANGWON, South Korea,

final games of the East Asian quarterfinal round-robin groday.

Ilhwa Chunma (South Korea) beat Thai Farmers (Thailand) 1-0 (Halftime 0-0).

SA 109 for four Pakistan edge past hosts



SYDNEY, Nov 26: Pakistan charged clear in their World Cup qualifying group today after

a controversial 2-1 win against hosts Australia reports Reuter. The Pakistanis had two stroke. players sent off during the final

minutes as they resisted a late onslaught by the Olympic Games silver medalists. The victory, their third

successive in the tournament. took Pakistan two points clear of Australia and England at the top of Group A. Each side has two more matches to play with two sides qualifying for the semifinals. England missed the chance

to move up to second in the group when they dominated Argentina but had to be content with a 1-1 draw. in other match today, also

in Group A. Spain achieved

their biggest win of the tournament, beating Belarus 4-1 with a hat-trick from 21-yearold Javier Arnau. Pakistan's match ended in turmoil when two of their players were sent off in the last three minutes as Australia

in the final seconds. Australia came back into the game at 2-1 following a hotly disputed penalty. Italian umpire Adrano Vechhi held the game up for more than one minute before signalling his

pressed for an equaliser.

squandering a penalty corner

After the long delay. Aus-

tralian captain Warren Birmingham coolly converted the

Pakistan inside left Tahir Zaman, who played despite the death of his father on Thursday, gave his side the lead from a 23rd minute penalty

Pakistan increased their lead after 40 minutes with a goal made by their captain Shahbaz Ahmad and scored by centre forward Kamran Ashraf Shahbaz tossed the ball past

Australian fullback Ken Wark near the half way line, outpaced the defence and gave a subtle reverse pass to Ashraf who took full advantage of the opening Shahbaz took no further

part in the game, colliding with a post after making the crucial pass to Ashraf. Four players - David Wansbrough of Australia. Pakistan's

Wasim Feroze - were given temporary suspensions during the match. Wansbrough and Zaman who went into the game with one yellow card to their name. face an automatic suspension

for the match against England

Naveed Alam, Tahir Zaman and

on Monday. Pakistan may also be missing Shahbaz who damaged a hamstring today.

Australia also have fitness doubts over Jay Stacy and Lachlanelmer for the clash with Spain on Monday.

Rashid described the game as

one of the best matches of

the World Cup ... so far." Australian coach Frank Murray said: "Pakistan scored two goals from their chances,

we scored only one from many Argentina gained their first point by drawing 1-1 with England. The South Americans took the lead against the run of play through Fernando Moresi through a 17th minute penalty

corner. England equalised with a wellstruck field goal from Jason Laslett in the 44th minute.

Spain's win over Belarus was their first of the World Cup and kept open their chances of making the semifinals. They are a point behind Australia and England. Arnau converted a stroke, scored in open play and then converted a corner for his hat-trick.

STANDINGS

Belgium

Standings after the fourth day of the eight men's World Cup hockey today (tabulate under played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points):

Group A: Pakistan Australia 3 1 2 0 2 1 4 England Spain 3 0 1 2 2 6 1 Argentina 3 0 0 3 1 7 0 Belarus Group B: Netherlands 2 2 0 0 12 5 4 Germany South Africa 2 0 2 0 1 1 2 South Korea 2 0 1 1 0 2 1

ident Primo Nebiolo in Mar del

ideas from the president of

what the IAAF can do to assist

USA Track and Field," Winner

should not be affected by some

provocative remarks from USA

Track and Field chief Ollan

Cassell, who has accused

forces outside the United

States, maybe within the IAAF"

Akram may play

against SA

Pakistan fast bowler Wasim

Akram, sidelined due to a si-

nus problem, may be fit to join

his team-mates in South Africa

in time for the one-off Test

starting on January 19, manger

Intikhab Alam said today, re-

next week or so, it all depends

on whether or not he has to

undergo an operation," In-

tikhab said after his team's

and a one-day series involving

South Africa, Sri Lanka and

New Zealand, during their

in Pakistan's recent home

series against Australia. He is

English in DU

soccer qtrs

Sports Reporter

advanced to the quarterfinals

of the Dhaka University inter-

department football champi-

onship with a lone goal victory

over the Department of Finan-

ce at the university ground

adjacent to the central gym-

The Department of English

Akram missed the last Test

currently undergoing medical

Pakistan will play the Test

arrival in Johannesburg.

"We should know within the

ports Reuter.

tests in London.

nasium vesterday.

JOHANNESBURG, Nov 26:

of seeking to discredit him.

The pledged assistance

"The council will hear new

Plata, Argentina, last month.

2 0 0 2 1 14 0

Drugs on top of IAAF agenda owed in a speech by IAAF pressuspicions that the top ath-

Pakistan manager Abdul



Drugs will feature prominently on the agenda of the three-day Inter-*national Amateur

Athletic Federation (IAAF) council meeting starting in Barcelona on Sunday, reports The council is likely to re-

instate American hurdler Danny Harris, banned for four years in 1992 after testing positive for cocaine, and make significant adjustments to the present doping regulations. It will also consider reinstating five time world cross

country champion John Ngugi.

IAAF sources said the council would consider a proposal under which one positive urine test would be sufficient to ban

an athlete. At present two samples are taken an athlete is not banned until laboratory tests confirm the second, or B sample, is also positive.

in practice there has never been a case where a B sample was clean when the first sample was positive and the sources said only a small percentage of athletes even bothered to turn up for the test on the second sample.

Under the proposal, results of positive tests will be announced after the first sample unless the athlete specifically requests that the second sample be also tested.

"This recommendation has been under consideration for 2-1/2 years," the sources said. "It has been brought to the council and if it is approved it should help simplify what has occasionally been a confusing process." The council is also ex-

pected to respond to a call from Britain's Olympic and world 100 metres champion Linford Christie urging more testing of top athletes. "A greater effort will be

made to test top international athletes," the sources said. "There have been rumours and

letes are not touched by our The Harris case is likely to be first on the agenda with the

council almost certain to respond favourably to the 1984 Olympic 400 metres silver medalist's submission that he has overcome his addiction to cocaine. Harris was reinstated by the

US Federation this year and ran in four European meetings before the IAAF belatedly discovered he was running while still officially banned. He was



rejected an appeal by Ngugi this month against the ban which does not end until

English, who won their previous match in penalty shoots-out, got the winner through Monirul Hossain in the first half and could have added more had the strikers been a little more accurate. In the cricket competition, the Institute of Business Administration made light of the Department of Applied Chemistry, winning the 30overs-a-side encounter by comfortable eight-wicket margin at the Jagannath Hall playground. Batistuta on threshold of

record books FLORENCE, Italy, Nov 26:

Fiorentina's Argentine striker Gabirel Batistuta is racing to break a 32-year-old Italian scoring record but he won't be driving to the stadium on Sunday, reports Reuter. Batistuta, who last week

equalled Ezio Pascutti's mark of scoring in each of the first 10 games of the league season, had his driver's licence confiscated by police who pulled him over in central Florence on Tuesday. The newspaper said Batis-

tuta, who was driving in a restricted area, did not have an Italian licence and his Argentine one had expired. Top scorer in Serie A with 12 goals, Batistuta can better

the run Pascutti enjoyed for Bologna in 1962 by scoring at home against Sampdoria on Sunday.

J-League — a money mine triot and former River Plate Velez won their berth in forward Ramon Diaz has been

for the Yokohama Marinos. "He has really opened the door, and there are many of us who would like to follow." Basualdo said.

Any player would be happy to play here," added defender Roberto Luis Trotto. Neither player said how

much they are currently paid. Robson renews contract with

Porto LISBON. Nov 26: Former

England manager Bobby Robson has extended his contract with Portuguese First Division Porto for a further two seasons, club president Jorge Pinto da Costa said on Friday, reports Reuter. Robson joined Porto last December after being sacked

by the Lisbon Club Sporting.

Porto currently lead the

Portuguese First Division by

goal difference over Sporting.

Both clubs have 19 points

after 11 matches.

the Intercontinental Cup, an annual game between the top clubs from South America and Europe, by defeating Sao Paulo for the Copa Libertadores, or Liberators Cup, in August. They now co-lead their do-

mestic league with River Plate. European Champions' Cup winner AC Milan, meanwhile, has had a dismal season. They will take to the field

Thursday without Dutch stars Marco Van Basten or Ruud Gullit, and Montenegrin midfielder Dejan Savicevic arrived with the team Friday but is injured and may not play. One Milan veteran who is here and in good shape.

longer stay in Japan. "I've got other things on my mind," he said. "It would be very difficult for me to play here." The Intercontinental Cup.

Franco Baresi, denied rumours

that he, too, is interested in a

which the South Americans have won 19 times to 13 for the Europeans, will be contested at Tokyo's National Stadium. Japan has hosted the competition, known here as the Toyota Cup, since 1980.

NEW DELHI. Nov 26: West

"He is at the very top of the

His best in nine one-day in-

"Ridiculous" the suggestion that this current series was

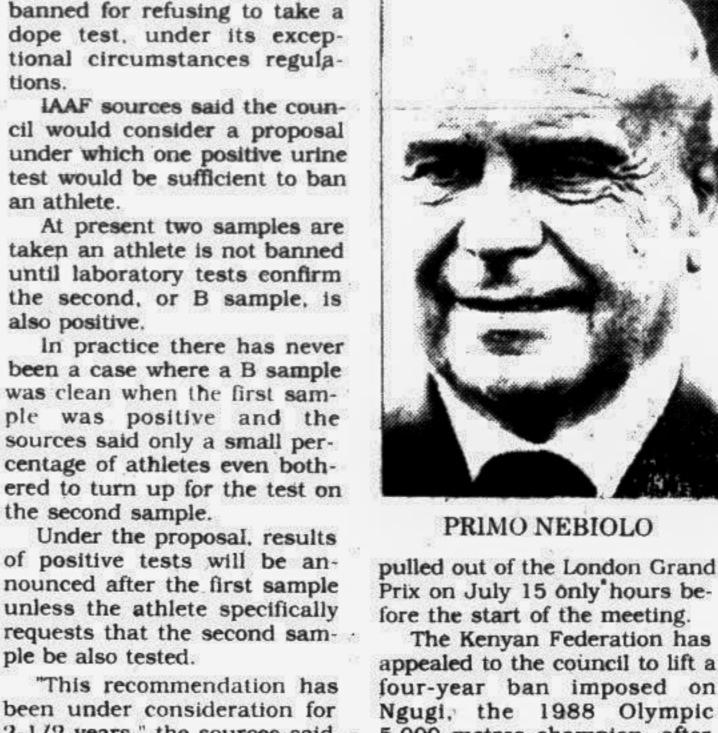
competition between Lara and

cricket is all about." Lara has so far refused in-

Nov 26 (Reuter): Results of the

up matches played on Thurs-Liaoning (China) drew with Yomiuri Verdy Kawasakil Japan) 0-0.

Doug Ellis (L), chairman of English soccer club Aston Villa, welcomes new manager Brian Little to the club in Birmingham on Nov 25. - AFP photo



four-year ban imposed on Ngugi, the 1988 Olympic 5,000 metres champion, after he refused to take a random The IAAF's arbitration panel

IAAF spøkesman Christopher Winner confirmed this week that the federation was also committed to ensuring financial support for the US

Federation in the runup to the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. The support was foreshad-

