Agrani Bank end Ajax's run

Sports Reporter

Ajax suffered their first defeat in the Yamaha First Division cricket league when they lost to Agrani Bank by 14 runs in the lone league engagement Monday.

Chasing 143 for an outright victory. Ajax. who had three wins and a draw from a tied match leading up to their fifth match, buckled in a very unheroic fashion on the eastern strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

They were all out in their pursuits for 128 in 42.4 overs thus failing short of bankers' deposit of 142.

Former national, cricketer Dipu Roy Chowdhury led Agrani Bank from the front capturing three wickets at a cost of 28 runs from the nineover quota.

Nuruddin Jalaly and Kazi Bashar gave Dipu good support chipping in with one wicket . Sajjad Hossain hit a sixer in

his 19, the topscore in the Aiax innings.

Azim and Zakir made 17 and 16 respectively. Earlier, a 77-ball 37 formed

the backbone of the Agrani

Bank innings. · · Other notable contributions came from Kamrul and Ismail who made 22 and 19 respec-

Rahmatganj win big in King's Cup

Sports Reporter

Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society made a rollicking start in the King's Birthday Cup invitational football tournament when they romped past an U 19 selection of the hosts Nepal with a massive 11-1 victory at Kathmandu yesterday.

In a one-sided affair, na tional striker Ranjan and his partner Milan, the highest scorer in the domestic football last year, pumped in four goal apiece as the Dhaka Star First Division football league champions sauntered into the semifinal of the meet

Midfielder Alfaz with two and Shoaib one were the other scorers for the winners.

Howarth steps down

WELLINGTON, Jan 17: New Zealand cricket | coach / Geoff Howarth resigned today just five days before the national side was due to face the West Indies at the start of its 100th anniversary season, reports Reuter.

Howarth, who was New Zealand's most successful Test captain, announced his deci sion after days of intense media speculation that he was about to be sacked.

His position had become untenable after series defeats against Australia. England and South Africa. On the recent South African tour, New Zealand lost every one-day match they played and conceded the Test series 1-2 after winning the first game.

Howarth announced his decision in a terse statement through his lawver

"It was made purely in the interests of New Zealand cricket in general and the New Zealand team in particular," he

New Zealand Cricket, the national body, said it had ac cepted Howarth's resignation but made no announcement on

a successor. Speculation has focused on

former opening batsman Glenn Turner, who has held the coach's job before but made clear he would only be tempted back if given a strong role in selecting the side.

New Zealand are due to face the West Indies Auckland on Sunday in the Arst of three one-day internationals, to be followed by two

Tests. Donald goes the pace

DURBAN, Jan 17: Strike tiewier Alian Donald took a step closer to his Test return when he was included in South Africa's squad of 13 for the one-off Test against Pakistan in Johannesburg starting on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Donald and uncapped Northern Transvaal batsman Mike Rindel join the 11 who won the third and final Test against New Zealand earlier this month.

Donald missed the series against New Zealand because he was still recovering from a cyst on his right big toe suffered on last year's tour of England, but made his first international appearance since that problem in the second final of the Mandela Trophy against Pakistan last Thursday.

SQUAD

Gary Kirsten, Rudi Steyn. John Commins, Daryll Cullinan, Hansie Cronje (captain), Jontry Rhodes, Mike Rinhdel, Brian McMillan, Dave Richardson, Clive Eksteen, Fanie de Villeris, Allan Donald, Steven

Premier Div resumes today

Sports Reporter

pions Abahani and Bangladesh Biman, and Mohammedans last ira Chakra would year, don't quite have the theosurely like to retical strength they enjoyed last season, nothing should be taken away from Wart's win. ter memories of a

> Above everything the Mohainmedan players should consider the circumstances under which Wari realised Sunday's victory. Defending only six runs in the last over. every Wari cricketer kept composure and rose wonderfully to the occasion for a scintillating two-run triumph.

Abahani. Mohammedans and Wari all have three wins each from four league engagements so far and crowd the second place along with Kalabagan and Victoria Sporting Club, both of whom are faring fantastically until date. Kalabagan and Victoria, have been revelations this year having emerged from obscurity into the limelight with a number of creditable performances.

Brothers Union, who have four consecutive wins to their credit, currently lead the

Sport

points table. Brothers, who earlier had a real nightmare during the inter-club players' transfers at the very onset of this season losing several key cricketers mainly due to cash constraints. have so far had the going under total control with young allrounder Al-Shariar at the

Although players must be itching to go into action after a brief, welcome lay-off, weather might just play the villain and put the resumption off for only heaven knows how long.

POINTS TABLE

	TEAMS	M	w	L	Pa			
	Brothers Union	4	4	0	8			
	Abehant KC	4	3	1	6			
	Mohammedan SC	4	3	1	6			
	Kalabagan KC	4	3	1	6			
	Victoria SC	4	3	1	6			
	Wart Club	4	3	1	6			
	Bangladesh Biman	4	2	2	4			
	GMCC	4	2	2	4			
	Eskaton SS	3	0	3	0			
	- Sadharan Bima	3	0	3	0			
•	Surja Tarun	4	0	4	0			
es.	Gulshan Youth	4	0	4	0			
-		_						

A quiet, homely end to WSC

Old Guards hold the order



three finals.

MELBOURNE Jan 17: Australia's cricket civil war

Défending cham-

ptons Abahant Kr-

shrug off the bit-

shocking 37-run defeat at the

hands of Kalabagan Krira Cha-

kra when they take on lowly

Gulshan Youth today at the

Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium as

the Navana Premier Division

cricket league resumes today

after an unscheduled two-day

pits another superpower of lo-

cal cricket. Mohammedan

at the Dhaka Stadium.

Sporting Club against Wart Club

have a smooth sail against the

Gulshan outfit, winless in their

four outings so far. Mohamme-

dans may find spirited opposi-

tion in Wari. who achieved

giant-slavers' reputation of a

sort like their footballing ma-

tes following a stunning two-

run victory over Greater My-

just before the break

menshing Cricket Club (GMCC)

Although GMCC, who fin-

ished third behind joint cham-

While Abahani are likely to

The other match of the day

break.

nation's senior side on Tuesday when Mark Taylor's Australian side defeated Australia A by six wickets to clinch the World

Series Cup. reports Reuter. Australia responded to the A team's total of 226 by scoring 229 for four, winning with one over to spare to take an unbeatable lead in the best-of-

Man-of-the-finals Steve Waugh guided the senior side home with an unbeaten 56 in 64 balls and there were also half-centuries for Taylor and Michael Slater

Australia's victory was their fourth in as many matches over the A side, and meant they lost only one of their eight matches in_the competition over the

Australia As total, although testing, was not as imposing as it had promised to be after Damien Martyn and Greg Blewett had given their side a great start when Martyn won

Martyn made 58 in 40 balls whilst opener Blewett scored 64 in 91 deliveries and the pair took the A side to 111 for one from only 17 overs.

But after Martyn's dismissal. leg before wicket to leg-spinner Shane Warne, the A side's batsmen lost their way and no other batsman passed 20 as seamers Dannen Fleming and Glenn McGrath broke thro-

McGrath, who had bowled his first two overs at a cost of 21 runs, recovered to take three for 41, whilst Fleming captured four for 28.

For the second time in as many matches, Steve Waugh played the crucial match-winning innings for his side.

Following his unbeaten 21 in 27 balls in Sydney. Waugh again produced some nerveless batting after Australia had allowed their target to reach 41 from the last six overs.

Waugh hoisted Jo Angel for a massive six and he and Stuart Law, who made 27 at a run-aball, added an unbeaten 57 in 50 balls to secure the win

after they made a break-neck start to their innings.

Blewett and Martyn took full toll of the senior side's bowlers, producing some blazing hitting and audacious running between the wickets.

The pair added 99 for the second-wicket in 14 overs and a total of around 300 looked a real possibility.

But after a break for drinks. Warne, whose first three overs had cost 22 runs, removed Martyn and the innings gradually lost its momentum. Blewett skied McGrath to

cover with the New South



STEVE WAUGH ... m-o-m

Wales seamer also removing Michael Bevan (19) and Justin Langer (14) to catches by wicketkeeper lan Healy

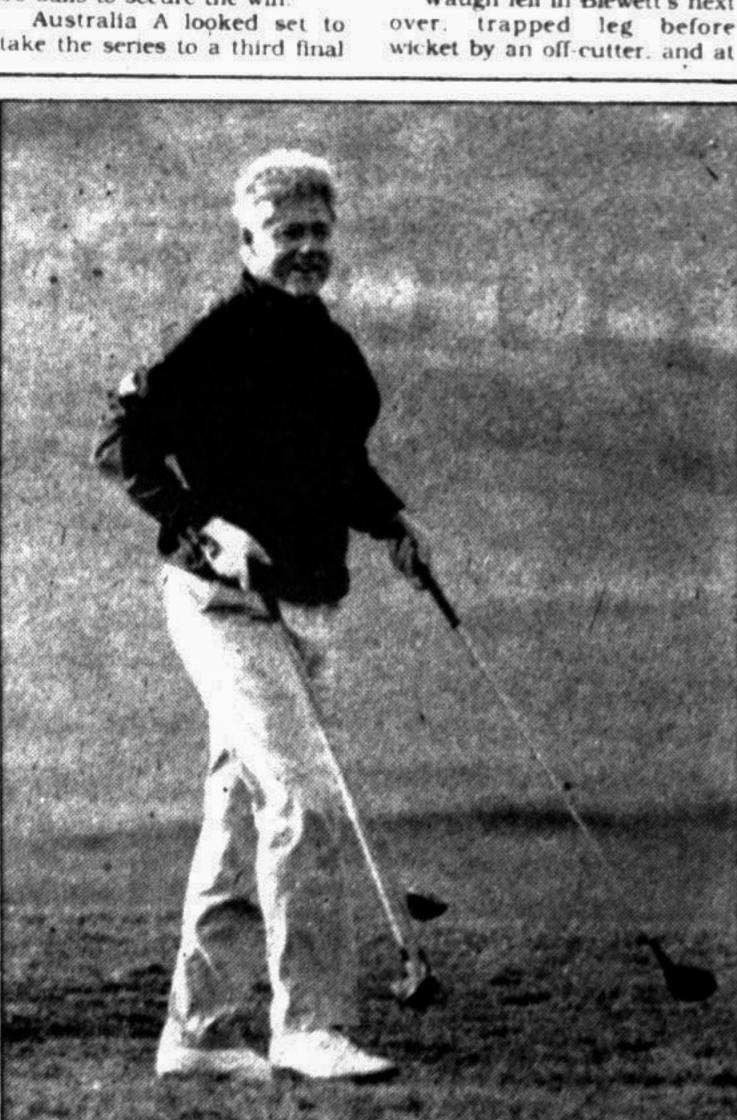
Fleming claimed the last recognised batsman. Ricky Ponting [13], before mopping up the tail

Australia looked to be cruising to victory, with Taylor (50) and Slater (56) adding 107 in 25 overs before three wickets tumbled in 25 balls to give the A side new hope.

Taylor was brilliantly caught at midwicket by Langer off Blewett after facing only 69

Then two overs later. Slater, following on from his 92 in Sydney on Sunday, was needlessly run out when Mark Waugh called him for a quick single to mid-off.

Waugh fell in Blewett's next over, trapped leg before



US President Bill Clinton juggles golf clubs he gets ready to tee off at the Black Rock Golf Club in Hagerstown, Washington on Jan 14. - AFP photo

116 for three in the 29th over the match was on a knife-edge. Steve Waugh and David

Boon (27) stabilised matters with a stand of 56 in 12 overs but, when Boon fell, a further 55 were needed to 56 balls.

Seamer Greg Rowell bowled impressively as the tension rose, but Waugh, with the advantage of 176 one-day internationals behind him, kept cool and hit pace bowler Jo Angel through cover to seal the victory.

The one sour note was the omission of Paul Reiffel from the senior side for the second game running.

Scamer Reiffel played in all six qualifying matches for the A team but was then elevated to the Australia side for the finals, only to be left out.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the World Series second final between Australia and Australia A today: **AUSTRALIA A**

G Blewett c Taylor b McGrath 64 M Hayden c Slater b Fleming D Martyn Ibw Warne M Bevan c Healy b McGrath J Langer c Healy b McGrath R. Ponting c M Waugh b Fleming 13 P Emery b Boon G Robertson b Fleming J Angel not out G Rowell c Slater b McDermott S George b Fleming Extras (lb-10, w-4, nb-1) 15

Total: (All out 49.4 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-12; 2-111; 3-144; 4-158; 5-174; 6-191; 7-193: 8-197: 9-218.

Bowling	0	M	R	33
McDermott	10	1	38	
Fleming	9.4	1	28	
McGrath	10	0	41	
Warne	10	0	55	
Law	2	0	21	
M Waugh	.3	0	20	
Boon	5	0	13	
AUSTRALIA				

M Taylor c Langer b Blewett M Slater run out M Waugh Ibw Blewett D Boon c Martyn b Angel ' S Waugh not out S Law not out Extras: (lb-8, w-1, nb-1) Total: (for four wickets, 49 dvcrs)

Fall of wickets: 1-107; 2-111. 3-116: 4-172. Did not bat: I Healy, S

Warne. C	McDermot					
Fleming, G 1	McGrat					
Bowling:	O	M	R			
Angel	10	0	55			
Rowell	10	1	40			
George	8	0	34			
Blewett	10	1	44			
Robertson	10	0	40			
Martyn	1	0	8			
D la.	A	11-				

Result: Australia beat Australia A by six wickets. Australia won the best-ofthree finals 2-0 and win the

World Series for 1994-95. 13-man Kiwi one-squad

named WELLINGTON, Jan 17: New Zealand Cricket selectors Monday announced their 13member squad for the first one-day international against the West Indies on Sunday January 22, reports AFP.

The only new cap is Nathan Astle, who has performed well in domestic matches this season. Andrew Jones is back after a year in retirement from international cricket. Gavin Larsen also returns to the team. He was not available for the tour to South Africa.

Ommissions from the team which toured South Africa include the injured Martin Crowe, fast bowler Chris Pringle and all-rounder Chris Harris.

SQUAD

Ken Rutherford (captain). Danny Morrison (vice-captain). Nathan Astle, Mark Douglas. Simon Doull, Stephen Fleming. Matthew Hart, Andrew Jones, Gavin Larsen, Dion Nash, Adam Parore. Shane Thomson and Bryan Young.

Mohammedans drop first point

Sports Reporter

litie-aspirants Mohammedan Sporting Club lost their first point in the Green Delta Insurance First Division hockey league when lowly Azad Sporting Club held them to a one-all draw at the Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Azad, who played their second match within 24-hours. took the lead in the 21st minute with Zia scoring.

Siam struck the equalizer ten minutes later for Mohammedans, who dropped their first point after six conwrutive victories.

Azad had earlier split points iii a 1-1 draw with Sadharan Bima on Monday before they faced Mohammedans in the last preliminary round match of the league last afternoon. The draw left Mohamme-

dans on top of Group B with 19 points from seven matches. They qualified for the six-team super league along with Usha and Sonali Bank from this group

The three other qualifiers are: Dhaka Mariner Youngs. Ajax Sports Club and defending champions Abahani Krira Chakra form Group A.

The super league will begin from February 14.

Meanwhile, the relegation play-off match between the two bottomers from each group - Dhaka Wanderers Club and Dhaka Ansars - will be held on January 21 at 2.30 pm.

GROUP B TABLE

Metropolis Green Delta First Division Hockey league on completion of first phase group matches today (Tuesday)

Following is the standing after the first phase (with group M W D L GF GA Pts

					_			
Mohammedan SC	7		1	0	24	3	19	
Usha KC	,		1	1	28		16	
Sondh Bank	7	3	3	1	4	2	12	
Sadharan Birns	7	2	2	3	4	14		
Police AC	7		3	3	2	16		
Farashgani SC	7		2	4	2	9		
Bangladesh SC		50	2	4	4	17	5	
Wanderers Club	7	0	3	4	0	14	3	
A				•				

Acme cricket

Sports Reporter

Two half-centuries by Shawkat and Raju powered Amar jyoti to a hage seven-wicket victory over Public' Works Department (PWD) in one of the three Acme Second Division cricket league matches held Monday

Shawkat remained unbeaten on 61 and Raju made 60 as Amarjoti, chasing 181 for a victory, attained the target exactly in 39.3 overs - three balls to spare from the quota of 40 overs in the western strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

The two were in full cry in the morning, too, sharing six wickets evenly as PWD, despite Lunik's whirlwind, 63, were all out for 180 also in 39.3 overs. Western Cricket Club beat

Shantinagar 'B' by 47 runs at the Mirpur Outer Stadium. Western batted first and were all out for 196 for nine.

R. Islam and R. Khayam were the main run-getters for them with 43 and 42 respec-Chandan Pal and S. Huq

claimed three wickets apiece among the Shantinagar 'B' bowlers. S. Alam Ranga made a fighting 33 but Shantinagar were all

out for 149 in 39.5 overs. In the day's other engagement. Khelaghar beat Rainbow by five wickets at the Dhanmondi Club ground. Rainbow batted first and

made 179 for nine from the allotted 40 overs with Ujjal making 43. M. Islam bagged four wickets for 46 runs among the

Khelaghar bowlers. An unbeaten 42 by Shamsul Alam guided Khelaghar past

their target as they posted 183 for five in 39.2 overs.

Div II football Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Police edged past City Club 3-2 in a violence-marred Second Division football league engagement at the Mirpur Stadium Monday. Referee Sheikh Badruddin.

who cautioned five players in a heady and hot encounter. flashed the dreaded red card when Manik of City Club kicked down an opponent player twelve minutes into the second half. The ruling prompted a sharp reaction from the local

men in black in protest. At one stage Manik, who got the marching order, kicked Badruddin before he rushed off the Meanwhile, in the match. which was suspended for ten minutes. Mustafa Kamal

Masud Rana and Saiful Islam

scored one goal apiece for po-

lice while Mehdi and Igbal

players who cordoned off the

made it for the losers. Adamjee SCC earned a comfortable 2-0 win over Lalbagh in the second match.

Alamgir gave Adamjee a fifth minute lead before Zahir doubled the margin shortly after the breather. BRTC SC and Mirpur Cha-

lantika split points in a one all draw in the other match at the same venue.



French woman Mary Pierce serves to Slovenian Tina Krizan during her first round match at the Australian Open in Melbourne on Jan 16. Pierce is considered a genuine contender for the women's title in the absence of Steffi Graf. - AFP photo

'A' team does it for England India, Jan 17: England's second string cricket te am restored so

me of their coun try's battered pride with h four wicket victory over India A in the first five day in ternational here Tuesday, reports AFP.

The narrow but well-deserved win came as a welcome relief to the English cricket followers, who have been dismayed by the lackluster display of Mike Atherton's senior team in Australia. England A dismissed the

home side for 104 ffl their second innings and then knocked up the victory target of 116 with four wickets and a day to spare. India A added 21 runs to their overnight score of 83 for

seven before they were bowled

out an hour after the start of

the fourth day's play. Amol Mazumdar. 48 over night and India's last hope, added three more runs before being trapped leg before by seamer Glen Chapple for 51 in the day's fourth over.

Chapple, the 20-year-old Lancashire all-rounder, was the pick of the English bowlers with figures of five for 32 and a seven-wicket haul in the match The touring batsman defied

the Indian spinners on a wicket that turned sharply as they marched confidently towards victory in the first of three five-day internationals on the tour. England A suffered a minor setback when they lost three

wickets in the space of six

runs to slump from a confident

83 for three to 89 for six in the post-lunch session. But vice-captain Mark Ramprakash, who made 99 in the first innings, and wicket-keeper Paul Nixon guided their team to victory in the second

Ramprakash remained un-

made nine not out.

A group of English tourists. who came to watch the final day's play, sang 'sweet chariot' popular with English rugby fans as Ramprakash and Nixon completed the final rites after tea.

England's former Test

spinner John Emburey, who is the bowling coach of the touring party, said the victory was "well-deserved and badly needed. He singled out Yorkshire's left arm spinner Richard

Stemp, who claimed six wick-



G CHAPPLE 5 for 32 most improved player on the

"Richard is learning well and should be a strong challenger to Phil Tufnell for the upcoming home series against the West Indies," Emburey

Indian manager Sandeep Patil said bad batting cost his team the match. "We had no business to get out for 104 in the second in-

nings," he said. "The wicket was not that bad at all." The second five-day international will be played at the

January 27. The third match is at Chandigarh from February 4. The tourists will also play three one-day internationals

after the unofficial Test series. SCOREBOARD

The fourth day's score in the first five-day international between the touring England A and India A here Tuesday: INDIA A. First innings

INDIA A: Second innings (overnight 83-7) J Singh c Ramprakash b Chapple 5 V Rathore c Nixon b Chappie A Mazumdar Ibw b Chapple

ENGLAND A: First innings

P Amre c Cork b Chappie R Drávid b Cork S Bahutule c Salisbury b Cork V Yadav c Salisbury b Weekes

U Chatterjee c Ramprakash

b Stemp R Chauhan run out P Mhambrey c Cork b Chapple A Kuruvtila not out

Extras: (1-lb) Fall of wickets: 1-5; 2-21;

3-43; 4-44; 5-46; 6-77; 7-80; 8-86: 9-102. Bowling:

31 2 Cork

32 Chapple 22 Stemp. 2 16 0 Salisbury Weekes

ENGLAND A: Second in-N Knight c Yadav b Chauhan M Vaughan c Rathore b Mhambrey J Gallian Ibw b Chauhan M Ramprakash not out A Wells c Dravid b Chatterjee P Weekes c Bahutule b Chauhan

D Cork st Yadav b Chatterjee P Nixon not out Extras: (b-4, lb-2, nb-4) Total: (for six wickets)

Fall of wickets: 1-10: 2-43: 3-50: 4-83: 5-88: 6-89 Bowling: Mhambrev Kuruvilla Chauhan 25 Chatterje 26 Bahutule

First Division circuit, Major

League Soccer, has promises of

almost 50 million dollars with

more money expected soon

league will need more than

teams smaller than original

expectations, home cities for

two of the clubs have yet to be

promises to open in 1996.

The planned 10-team

One year later and two

Results: England A won by Eden Gardens in Calcutta from four wickets

from Japanese groups.

Preachers of new century world and saw the latest wares WASHINGTON. Jan 17: The coa from makers of equipment, shoes and uniforms. ches set to guide

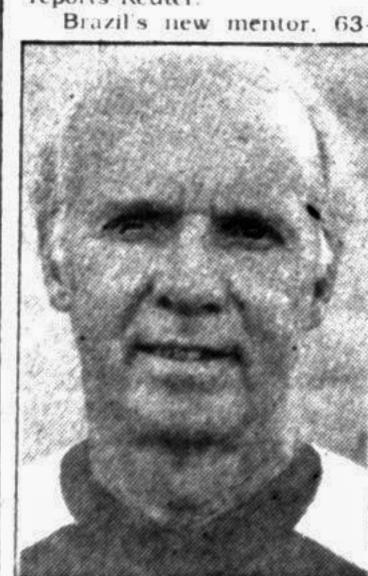


over after tea.

reigning cham pions Brazil and

the improving US squad at the 1998 World Cup spent the weekend advising those who will teach football's stars of the 21st century.

reports Reuter.



MARIO ZAGALLO year old Mario Zagallo and US

World Cup coach Bora Milutinovic spoke here at the 48th annual convention of the National Soccer 'Coaches Association of America. "They call me the coach of

the future. Milutinovic said. But it's more important for younger players to learn tactical skills, to be able to put the ball where you want it. By coming together, we will improve the game.

A record 3,400 participants many of the youth coaches from the Americas, heard speakers from all parts of the

Zagallo, a member of all four Brazilian World Cup championship teams, takes over the programme from Carlos Alberto Parreira. Zágallo, an assistant coach to last year's winners, coached Brazil to the 1970 title and was a winger on the 1958 and 1962 championship squads.

This was a challenge could not refuse," Zagallo said of his new post. "We have many things to do before the next championship. It will not be In addition to handling stars such as Romario. Zagallo

pic team, featuring his homeland's best under 23 players in a showcase of future greats. Milutinovic must rebuild a US team for qualifying rounds, a task not needed last year with the host's exemption into

will coach Brazil's 1996 Olym-

the 24-team finals. The first thing we must do is go and find players, this will not be so easy." Milutinovic said. If you don't know if we have good players, it's difficult to be in the game, I don't know if we have good players

Milutinovic's team takes its first steps toward the 1998 World Cup in France by facing Mexico. Colombia and either Russia or Nigeria in this year's US Cup. The US team will also take part in the Copa America tournament in Uruguay.

who are intelligent.

Milutinovic stressed tactics and education for US coaches, saying. If you know the game you can win, if you don't you have no chances.

of the US Soccer Federation,

told the gathering his fledgling

Alan Rothenberg, president

B MILUTINOVIC determined. MLS teams will hire general

managers in the next few months. Rothenberg said, with coaches to be hired by the end of 1995 in anticipation of a start in April of 1996.

4 more behind bars KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 17

Four Malaysian footballers. in cluding the national striker were arrested Tuesday, bring ing to 66 the number of players picked up in a nationwide probe into match-fixing, reports AFP