



Army athletes dominate Day 2

Bangladesh Army dominated the second day of the 23rd national athletics competition at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday, reports BSS. They grabbed nine gold, nine silver and two bronze medals at the end of the second day followed by BJMC with five gold, six silver and 10 bronzes and Bangladesh Navy three gold, three silver and one bronze respectively. Army walked away with five gold medals. Mahbul Alam took the gold in 20 km walk and Rezaul Haq got the pole vault gold. Mostafa Talukder grabbed the gold in hammer throw and Saiful Alam won the gold in discus. Mujibur Rahman took the gold in 3,000m steeple chase. Lubna Mahmud and Nely Jesmin of BJMC earned gold in 400m sprint and shot put. Navy's Abdur Rahim Naeem and Fariduddin took gold in 400m sprint and high jump. Firoza Khatun of BTMC shone in the 100m hurdles.

Firoza Khatun of Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation who won the gold in women's 100m hurdles on the second day of the national athletics championships at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday. — Star photo by Enamul Huq

Gooch poised for one more

ADELAIDE, Jan 30: Graham Gooch may still break one more England Test cricket record before he finally departs the big time at the end of the current Ashes series, reports Reuter. The 41-year-old former England skipper announced on Sunday that he will retire from international cricket after the fifth Test against Australia in Perth.

nearly 20 years ago. A fitness fanatic, Gooch has also been finding it increasingly difficult to maintain the peak physical condition he be-

win, to entertain the public and enjoy the game. "You wish you had done things differently sometimes and had more success, but most of the time it has been great. "I suppose the biggest disappointments have been losing three World Cup finals, while the highs were beating West Indies in Test home and away. "And I enjoyed my 333 against India at Lord's."



GRAHAM GOOCH

England manager and former Essex teammate, Keith Fletcher, said: "It's sad because Graham has had a long and distinguished international career. I still think he has got some runs left in him and there's a good chance he will score a century at Perth. "But you can't turn the clock back and I think he's probably made the right decision. "I don't know what the future holds, I've got other things on my mind at the moment," said Gooch.

Playing in that match would give him a record 118 appearances for his country. Already England's record Test scorer, Gooch moved above Pakistan's Javed Miandad on Sunday as the third highest Test run-maker of all time with 8,859 — behind Allan Border of Australia (11,174) and India's Sunil Gavaskar (10,122). But his 34 in the fourth Test at the Adelaide Oval was exactly the kind of innings he has come to hate and which led to him making his retirement decision.

Getting 20s, 30s and 40s is not what it's about," said Gooch after he was dismissed by Craig McDermott. "I was playing well and everything felt right—but I got out." That has been the story for Gooch since he scored the last of his 20 Test hundreds—a double century against New Zealand at Trent Bridge, Nottingham last June.

Another 17 innings have brought only a further 356 runs at an average of 20.94. "I set certain standards for myself and I've not been attaining the level of performance I want," said Gooch, who first came into the England team

leaves necessary to succeed at the highest level. While he is poised to move above David Gower as England's most capped player, Gooch said: "I don't play cricket for records, I play to

Former England captain Graham Gooch moved above Javed Miandad into third place in the leading Test run-scorers list during his innings of 34 in the fourth Test against Australia on Sunday.

Table with 4 columns: Tests, runs, average, centuries scored. Lists players like Allan Border, Sunil Gavaskar, Graham Gooch, Javed Miandad, Viv Richards, David Gower, Geoff Boycott, Gary Sobers.

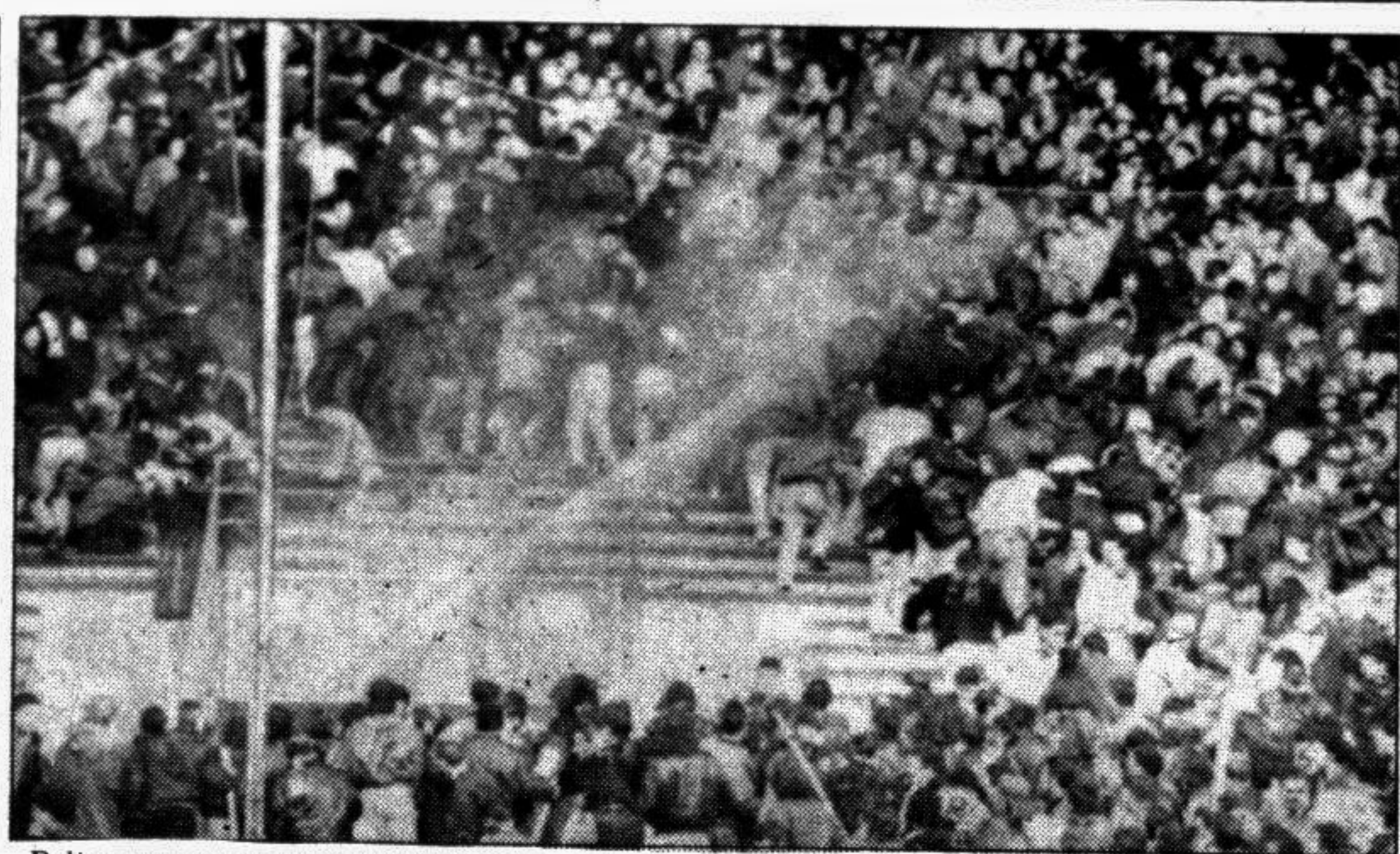
One thing is sure. Gooch will be trying very hard to make a big score in Perth. And after a short break, he'll start preparing as enthusiastically as every for another season with Essex in the English county championship. "Late nights, regular drinking until 2 am were a feature as they savoured the social opportunities which are available in South Africa," the newspaper quoted Fulton as saying. The newspaper said Fulton had accused team members of lacking pride in playing for their country and recommended removing Ken Rutherford as captain. Most notably, one player told Fulton he couldn't remember anything of the two days after a party to celebrate New Zealand's first Test win in Johannesburg. Asked about the newspaper report, Rutherford said: "He (Fulton) inferred that I didn't put the right lines of discipline across to the team and for him to say that and not what happened is very disappointing. "It's very disappointing that a leading member of the administration of New Zealand Cricket should say such a thing. We take great pride in playing for New Zealand. "Our results haven't been that good over the last month and although the country as a whole is feeling it, I know there are 16 or 17 cricketers involved in feeling it a lot more than Rod Fulton or the rest of the country."

Another blow for NZC

WELLINGTON, Jan 30: New Zealand Cricket suffered another damaging blow in its centenary year on Sunday when a newspaper published a report alleging the recent tour of South Africa had been marred by late night drinking sessions and a lack of discipline, reports Reuter. A Sunday newspaper said a report from New Zealand director of cricket Rod Fulton had claimed excessive partying had affected the team's performance. New Zealand became the first team this century to lose a three-match series after winning the first Test.

Three of the team, Stephen Fleming, Dion Nash and Matthew Hart, were suspended on their return for three one-day matches against the touring West Indians for smoking cannabis. In addition, coach Geoff Howarth was sacked and replaced by former international John Reid and team manager Mike Sandlani resigned. Fulton was unavailable for comment but officials said they would investigate the leaking of the report. "Late nights, regular drinking until 2 am were a feature as they savoured the social opportunities which are available in South Africa," the newspaper quoted Fulton as saying.

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Police resorts to using water cannons to disperse rioting fans after a spectator was stabbed to death during the Italian First Division between AC Milan and Genoa in Genoa on Jan 29. — AFP photo

Violence order of weekend

PARIS, Jan 30: The death of a fan rioting and police intervention in armoured vehicles in Italy overshadowed the weekend's European football scene already reeling from the midweek behaviour of French international Eric Cantona who attacked a fan after being sent off in an English Premiership clash, reports AFP. Italian sports chiefs called a crisis meeting after a Genoa fan was stabbed to death Sunday before the match against AC Milan, prompting rioting which police only ended with armoured vehicles and baton charges. Italian Football Federation president Antonio Matarrese will meet his Olympic Committee counterpart Mario Pescante on Monday for urgent talks after 25-year-old Genoa fan Vincenzo Spagnolo died in hospital from knife wounds. Pescante said: "I have said for some time that there was a risk somebody could be killed. This death will weigh heavily on public opinion and everybody's conscience."

The announcement of his death caused riots at half time as Genoa fans, looking for revenge, hurled bottles and missiles at rival supporters and aborted referee Gianni Beschin to abandon the game with the score at 0-0. Some 1,000 AC Milan supporters remained holed up in the Marassi Stadium for hours after the match as police reinforced by riot squads using tear gas and baton charges tried to defuse the tension. It was nearly midnight before police finally managed to get the besieged Milan fans into buses and on to the motorway back home, car windows were smashed and property damaged around the stadium. The two captains, Genoa's Vincenzo Torrente and Franco Baresi, had unsuccessfully appealed to the 30,000 fans to leave the stadium peacefully. Massimiliano Maggi another Genoa supporter with Spagnolo's group, suffered a fractured skull while six other fans were also reported to have been injured in the rioting. The tragedy, the sixth death of an Italian supporter since 1979, is just the latest in a series of violent incidents this season which have marred Italy's international image. A policeman was stabbed in November and needed an emergency stomach operation after 300 AS Roma fans, armed with baseball bats and bars rioted at Brescia. Italian police chief

Fernando Masone immediately called for a change in the law to protect his officers several of whom had been hurt in October during clashes between Napoli and Bari supporters and in November when AS Roma and Lazio supporters hurled seats and wooden batons. Meanwhile at the start of December, a 19-year-old Parma fan was stabbed when his team played Fiorentina in an Italian Cup quarter-final game. Italo Cucci, editor of Rome sports daily Corriera Dello Sport, wrote in a front page article in Monday's edition, "We want the state to intervene."

In Sunday's other Serie A matches, Juventus won three points clear at the top after a 2-1 home victory over bottom club Brescia. Veteran Gianluca Vialli hit an 89th minute penalty, his eighth goal of the season, to earn the points and stop the rot after the side's defeats to Cagliari and Torino. Nearest rivals Parma could only draw 1-1 at Cremonese. Gianfranco Zola's spotkick just after the break cancelled out with 20 minutes to go by Enrico Chiesa.

Lazio in third place crashed to an unexpected 2-1 home defeat against Bari Giuseppe Signori's 11th goal of the season in the final seconds little consolation after Sandro Tofalieri's earlier double, giving him a total of 13. AS Roma joined Lazio on 31 points with a 1-0 away win at Foggia, courtesy of a second minute goal from Argentinian Abel Balbo.

PSG PLIGHT CONTINUES In France, impetuous Daniel Bravo was sent off for the second match running as Monaco blunted Paris Saint Germain's French title hopes with a 2-1 victory. Bravo sent off against leaders Nantes last time out, this time took an early bath after 56 minutes for two yellow cards in a match in which six other players were also booked. The defeat leaves Paris Saint Germain in third on 41 points, ten behind Nantes with 15 matches to play.

International left winger David Ginola, who has made his peace with Fernandez after a war of words over his poor form, opened the scoring on the half hour with a neat control and left foot drive into the right hand corner.

Portugal had two other clear scoring chances in the final minutes but both Alves and Nelo, on a penalty kick from just outside the box, couldn't finish effectively. Krogh made a save on Nelo's low shot through the wall while Alves took a pass at the top of the box turned to his right to create space but squandered the chance when he shot high. The game also marked the first time a woman has officiated a full international match in Canada. Sonia Denoncourt of Montreal was one of the 11-nesmen.

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Jackpot LAS VEGAS, Jan 30: A gambler is dlr\$ 300,000 richer after betting dlr\$ 2.4 million on the San Francisco 49ers to win the supper Bowl on Sunday, more than double the record sports wager in the United States, reports AP.

Thai Farmers reap rich

BANGKOK, Jan 30: Thai Farmers became the first team to retain the Asian club championship when they beat Al Arabi of Qatar 1-0 in the final at the national stadium, Bangkok, late Sunday, reports AFP.

It was also another personal triumph for the Thai club's 40-year-old coach, Chanvit Polchivim, who was voted coach-of-the-year 1994 by the AFC last month. Chanvit said: "It feels much better to retain the trophy than it did to win it for the first time last year because of the quality of the other three teams who reached the semi-finals. "The teams from South Korea (Ilhwa Chunma) and Uzbekistan (Neftchi) are full-time professionals, while Arabi have imports from Brazil, Ghana and Liberia.

Chanut admitted his team would be scared to meet European champions AC Milan and South America's world club champions from Argentina, Velez Sarsfield, in the same competition. "Obviously there is a big gap between Asia and Europe in terms of individual players and tactics, but we are never going to close it if we don't play teams like Milan," he said. The bank's football club was founded only seven years ago and played in the Thai Fourth Division. Chanvit, a physical education teacher employed by the government, took over as coach when they were in the Second Division five years ago and has steered them to two successive Asian Club championships — the first side to retain the title since the competition began in 1967.

Thai Farmers, an amateur squad belonging to the Bank's Sports Club, scored the only goal in the 82nd minute through striker Natiphong Sritong-in. When a weak goal kick from Al Arabi keeper Ahmed Khalkil struck the heels of his sweeper Rayed Yaqoub 30 yards from goal, Natiphong pounced on the loose ball, raced to the edge of the penalty area and curled a right foot shot into the corner for a superb individual goal. His goal earned the club a cheque for 50,000 US dollars from the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and put Thai Farmers into the first Asian Super Cup against J-League outfit Yokohama Flügels, recent winners of the continent's Cup Winners' Cup.

"We tried to play good football in defence and attack for 90 minutes and scored a goal at the perfect time to make the spectators happy," he said. AFC general secretary Peter Velappan, said the International Football Federation, FIFA planned to begin an official World Club Championship in 1997 featuring the leading clubs from the five continental federations — Europe, South America, Africa, Asia and CONCACAF (North and Central America and the Caribbean).

Goal-scorer Natiphong, whose mother is half-French, half-Vietnamese and whose father is Thai, has played semi-professional in the French Second Division and is now a student at Bangkok University and from Oceania. Chanut admitted his team would be scared to meet European champions AC Milan and South America's world club champions from Argentina, Velez Sarsfield, in the same competition. "Obviously there is a big gap between Asia and Europe in terms of individual players and tactics, but we are never going to close it if we don't play teams like Milan," he said. The bank's football club was founded only seven years ago and played in the Thai Fourth Division. Chanvit, a physical education teacher employed by the government, took over as coach when they were in the Second Division five years ago and has steered them to two successive Asian Club championships — the first side to retain the title since the competition began in 1967.

Nirman cricket

Ahmed Bawani Academy made a resounding start to the 13th Nirman schools cricket campaign with a huge 96-run win over Mirpur Siddanata High School on the western strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday. Sent in to bat first, Ahmed Bawani compiled a mammoth 206 for six in the allotted 35 overs and then bundled the Mirpur outfit out for a paltry 108 with more than eight overs to go. However, the Ahmed Bawani innings owed a lot to 67 extras, which included 43 wides. Sundries apart, Arif with an unbeaten 51 off 88 balls was the highest run-getter among the willow wielders. Ashrafuddin with four for 26 was the most successful Siddanata bowler followed by Shafiqur who took two for 34.

Grossman upset

AUCKLAND, Jan 30: Big-hitting South African Marlaan de Swardt upset third-seeded American Ann Grossman in straight sets in a first-round match Monday in the US dlr\$ 107,500 Amway Classic women's tournament, reports AP. De Swardt defeated Grossman 7-5, 7-6 (7-2) in only the South African's second tournament since taking a break in October.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes words like Rudiments, Likely, Diner, entree, Diner, Wahine's bestowal, Cairo's river, Moralizing discourses, Theseus' challenge, Scratch (out), Erstwhile acorn, Earrings' locales, Possesses, Poultry buy, Underbrush tackler, Grad, Josh, Racetrack, Undoes an amendment, Skill, Prepare for battle, Indivisible, Positive, thinking, proponent, Columbine call, Ovine line, Indy entry, Men's hats, Unyielding, He often calls out, Quest, Nap, Scroogean expletive, Renders dumb-struck, DOWN, Rue the run, A gift opened more than once?, Fond du —, Wis., Hit movie of 1990, Scoundrel, See 45, Across, Milwaukee waukee product, Whelp, — for the million..., Zsa Zsa's sis, Center X?, Wapiti, Dutch airline initials, Exist, Boss, Ann, Sheridan's attribute, Receipt stamp, Continental prefix, The gamut, Deep sleep, Make, Down, Writer, James, Queries, Nave, Neighbor of Can.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with letters Z, X, R, Q, K, E, R, C, G, B, A, V, F, Q, G, B, E, K, D, C, Q, F, C, K, B, C, V, D, C, Q, U, R, R, Z, T, K, Q, U, K, A, R, B, A, A, T, R, X, A, R, R, G. Includes clue: Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MOROSE MAN-EATING TIGER FOUND THAT HE WAS REALLY FED UP WITH PEOPLE.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: A equals F 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.



Tottenham Hotspur's German international Juergen Klinsmann (C) catches Sunderland keeper Alec Chamberlain off his line to add score his second goal in Spurs 4-1 FA Cup win in Sunderland on Jan 29. — AFP photo