Wanderers, Agrani Bank earn promotion

Sports Reporter

Dhaka Wanderers Club and Agrani Bank confirmed their promotion to the Navana Premier Division cricket league next year when the two friendly outfits tied their last Yamaha First Division cricket super league engagement played at the Jagannath Hall ground vesterday.

Incidentally it was the second tie match between the two teams following the first one during a series of play-off matches which virtually assured both Wanderers and Agrani Bank a berth in the five! team super league.

However, in the day's match Kamrul Huda hammered a swashbuckling century as Agrani Bank, sent in to bat first, reached a fighting 192 for eight in their share of 45 overs.

In reply. Dhaka Wanderers finished at par for five when the stipulated 45 overs were exhausted.

Kamrul, the elder brother of Shamsul Huda, needed 126 balls for his maiden century in the league which featured with 14 sparkling hits to the fence.

The outcome of vesterday's match left both Wanderers and Agrani jointly finish atop the league table with 19 points each, one point clear from the nearest rival City Club, on completion the super league matches.

Wanderes, who had earlier once qualified for the Navana Premier ericket league, will face Agrani Bank, for whom it was their maiden entry in the elite group, in a championship deciding play-off match afterwards.

BEXIMCO nat'l youth cricket results

Sports Reporter

Six first round matches were decided on the maugural day when the 15th Beximco national youth cricket champi onship got underway at different venues across the country vesterday.

In the Zone-B opener at Rangpur. Rashed dazzled with the willow as Thakurgaon posted a massive 130-run victory over Panchagarh.

Brief scores: Thakurgaon 184 in 37.2 overs. Rashed 78. Jewel 29. Masud 6/26. Panchagarir 54 in 22.3 overs. Tawfiq 12. Rashed 2/12. Jewel

Mantkganj had a similar thrashing in a Zone-F engagement when they recorded a huge 146-run win over Sher-

Brief scores: Manikgani 234 for seven in 45 overs. Mizan 63, Abu Taher 52, Shawkat

Sherpur 88 for nine in 45 overs. Sumon 21. Nadir Shah

3/24, Ghanl 4/7. At Jessore, Satkhira made light of Jhenidah in a Zone-E

affair with a facile 85-run vic-Brief scores: Satkhira 190

for seven in 45 overs. Asif 48. Akhter 21. Rashed 36. Shahriar 2/38, Zahid 2/31 and Sumon 2/28. Jhenidah 105 in 37.1 overs.

Shahabuddin 25, Rashed 2/11. At Dinajpur, Chapainawabganj beat Rangpur by four wickets in a low-scoring Zone-

D affair. Brief scores: Rangpur 119 in 38 overs. Ujial 31, Alam 2/11, Nasirul 2/16, Masum 2/19. Chapainawabgani 120 for

four in 43 overs. Nasirul 41 (not out), Shafique 2/18. Chandpur stepped into the next round with a convincing minute from time after being 59-run win over Habigani in a set up by Roberto Baggio.

Zone-A engagement a Noakhali. Brief scores: Chandpur 137 for seven in 45 overs. Shimul

38, Kalu 38, Mithu 36, Habiganj 114 in 40.5 overs. Bidhan 19, Mithu 4/22, Nitul 2/14.

In a Zone-C match at Faridpur, Rajbari defeated Jessore by five wickets. Chasing Jessore's modest total of 124 in the stipulated 45 overs, Rajbari rattled up the required 125 in 31.4 overs for the loss of five

wickets. Pachel, who had earlier destroyed the Jessore batting order with figures of five for 14, also dazzled with the willow contributing 38 runs in the Rajbari total.

Biman inter-club shooting begins tomorrow

The third Biman inter-club shooting competition under the auspices of the Bangladesh Shooting Federation begins at the Lakaturasta Shooting Range in Sylhet on tomorrow morning, reports BSS.

President of the federation and Jute Minister ASM Hannan Shah will inaugurate the competition as the chief guest. The concluding function will be held on March 19.

Four hundred shooters and officials from different shooting and rifle clubs are expected to participate in the competition organised by the Sylhet Rifle Club.

Biplab stifles GMCC hopes

Sports Reporter

The day, however, began with all the good signs for GMCC with skipper Mahbubur Rahman winning the toss and the bowlers doing quite well to restrict Victoria to an impressive but manageable total.

Biplab Sarker bl-

ew out Greater

Wymensingh Cri-

cket Club's (GM-

('C) slender ho-

pes of enforcing a

three-team play-off series for

two Navana Premier Division

cricket super-league slots

when the left-arm spinner

notched the first hattrick of

the league to help Victoria

Sporting Club record a shaky

five-run win at the Dhaka Sta-

from opening batsman Rafiqui

Inspired by a superb knock

BIPLAB ... hattrick

Hassan, GMCC, needing 201

runs in 45 overs to finish at

par on points with Victoria and

Brothers Union, were undone

by Biplab's late afternoon

magic and from a comfortable

score of 176 for three were

restricted to 195 for nine

Aussies 210-9

Sports Reporter

Anstralia had made 210 for

tine after electing to bat in the

rain-reduced fourth one-day

international against the West

Indies at St Vincent, according

to radio commentary moni-

fored in Dhaka late last night.

Slater top scored with 68 after

skipper Mark Taylor won the

toss in the 48-over-a-side en-

in the five-match series, took

the field without record-break-

ing batsman Brian Lara and key

strike bowler Curtley Ambrose,

with the former ruled out

Opening batsman Michael

The Windies, who lead 2-1

The home side was yet to bat.

when overs ran out.

dium vesterday.

The openers Rafiq and Javed Omar Belim gave GMCC's chase a solid start, sharing 97 runs in 24.1 overs before the latter was trapped leg before Indian Test-discard Chetan Sharma for a sedate 72-ball 44. Although Sri Lankan Tushara Koddikara left 18 runs later. Mahbub hung around for a while to help Rafigue and 37 runs for the third wicket before becoming Ziauddin Ahmed's second victim of the match. The GMCC captain

made 18. Sanwar Hossain only scored seven but help up one end long enough for a 25-run stand until Chetan Sharma struck again at 175. Three balls later Biplab Sarker began his act.

With the first ball of the 42nd over, Biplab bowled Rafique to terminate the GMCC opener's tenure at the crease. The patient 111-ball knock only featured three shots across the rope.

The southpaw resumed his demolition act with the second ball of the penultimate over and three consecutive deliver ies, all of which fooled the victims' bat ans pads en route to the wicket, smothered the slightest hopes the GMCC cricketers brooked.

Sharfuddowla Ibne Shaheed and Towhiduzzaman saw the dejected dreamers through to their eventual total.

Biplab finished with a blazing analysis of four for 37 to overshadow Chetan Sharma's fantastic figures of three for

Earlier in the morning. Indian Rajinder Singh Chawla savaged the GMCC bowlers as Victoria overcame an ordinary start to amass 200 for six in the 45-over quota.

The ever dependable Sardarji went after anything and everything that came his way and was especially harsh with spinner Sharfuddowla on his way making to a 83-ball 77. Almost all of the nine boundaries Rajinder Singh cracked came off, the young spinner's deliveries.

Chetan Sharma was equally

aggressive in his 26-ball 24 and Ziauddin Ahmed contributed a workmanlike 43-ball 21 before attempts for suicidal singles brought about their downfall.

Predictably Sharfuddowla was the most expensive GMCC bowler giving away 50 runs in nine overs.

In the other match of the day, an inconsequential affair at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium. Surja Tarun outplayed Sadharan Bima by eight wick-



RAFIQUE ... 80

45-over collection of 195 for seven. Tarun raced to 198 for TODAYS MATCHES

Biman vs Abahani (Dhaka Stadium) Mohammedans vs Eskaton

Economics win JU inter-dept b'ball title Sports Reporter

The Department of Economics clinched the inter-departmental basketball championships of the Jahangirnagar University with a convincing 66-30 points win over Department of English in the final at the university gymnasium vesterday.

Manik led the eventual winners' charge in a rather one-sided attair witnessed among others by Vice Chancellor Prof. Amirul Islam Chowdhury:

Twenty departments of the University took part in the Asia Cup cricket

Pakistan are coming, says Dalmiya

CALCUTTA, Mar 15: The Asia Cup cricket tournament scheduled to begin in Sharjah from April 5 is very much on and Pakistan would be taking part in the biennial tournament, according to Jagmohun Dalmiya, the secretary of the Asian Cricket Council here today, reports PTI.

Appearing in a section of newspapers Dalmiya said "Pakistan are geared up for a great competition on the field and there is no question of Pakistan not playing in Asia

"The tournament begins with India taking on Bangladesh on April 5 and the final will be played on April 14 between the two top teams which would be decided following the round robin league match among the four participating nations," Dalmiya said. Former West Indian skip-

per. Clive Lloyed has been appointed the ICC match referee while Cyril Mitchey (South Africa), fan Robinson (Zimbabwe) and Nigel Plews (England) have been nominated as umpires by the ICC.

Dalmiya said that unlike previous tournaments in Sharjah when the innings of one had to be truncated due to Friday prayers, the matches in this year's Asia Cup on Fridays would start earlier and there would be continuous play, followed by a slight extended in-

The Asian Cricket Council would meet during the tournament on April 13 to discuss various issues pertaining to the development of cricket in Asia. mainly to strengthen the idea of the ACC trophy 1996, in the lines of the ICC associates tro-

Dalmiya said that the Astan associated members would play among themselves and the winner of the tournament would qualify to play in the next Asia Cup cricket to be played in 1997.

Following is the schedule of the Asia Cup matches:

April 5: India vs Bangladesh April 6: Sri Lanka vs Bangladesh April 7: India vs Pakistan

April 8: Pakistan vs Bangladesh April 9: India vs Sri Lanka

April 11: Pakistan vs Sri

April 14 final. Lankans ecstatic COLOMBO, Mar 15: Sri

Lanka were overjoyed after securing their first ever Test win on foreign soil with a convincing victory over New Zealand on Wednesday, reports Reuter. - The Sri Lankans won by a thumping margin of 241 runs after bowling out the New

Zealanders, chasing a target of 427, for 185. Duleep Mendis, who led Sri Lanka to their first Test win at home 12 years ago and is now chairman of the cricket selection committee, said it proved

that Sri Lanka can win abroad. "It also proves that Ranatunga is a good captain. he said.

Ranatunga is the only surviving member from Sri Lanka's first Test in February 1982 and the captain of that team, Bandula Warnapura, said.

"This has been a win that we have been looking for sometime now and most people believed that the true test of our ability was to achieve a win overseas."

One of the few to sound a note of caution was former Test skipper Anura Tennakoon, also Sri Lanka's cricket board secretary.

State television and local radio stations interviewed many cricket personalities about the win, amid widespread speculation that a public holiday would be declared to honour the victory.

Injury sidelines Morrison

NAPIER, New Zealand, Mai 15: New Zealand fast bowler Danny Morrison's international cricket career continues to be dogged by injury, reports AFP. He Wednesday dislocated a

thumb while batting as New Zealand suffered a 241-run loss in the first Test against Sri Lanka. New Zealand selection panel convener Ross Daykes confirmed Morrison was out

for the remainder of the season, which includes the second Test against Sri Lanka starting in Dunedin on Saturday and the following one-day series. A delivery from left-arm

seamer Chaminda Vaas thudded into Morrison's gloved hands and he later collapsed in the New Zealand dressing New Zealand coach John

Reid said Morrison had been taken to hospital after losing blood pressure and fainting. "He was in considerable discomfort. The thumb was severely dislocated," Reid said.

Morrison complained of muscle spasms in his lower back on the first day of the

Muralidharan, Vaas design Kiwis' downfall

Sri Lanka make history



off Vaas.

Rutherford failed to add to his

overnight score and lasted just

nine minutes before falling to a

keeper Chamara Dunusinghe

son lasted seven more minutes

fensively to Muralidharan and

offering a sharp catch to close

fifth wicket and his best return

in Tests when he had Adam

Parore caught brilliantly by

Hashan Tillekeratne at leg slip.

His 5-64 surpassed his previ-

Africa in Colombo.

of "throwing."

ous best of 5-101 against South

found the perfect reply to re-

marks by New Zealand coach

John Reid, who had queried

the legality of his bowling ac-

tion on Tuesday while stopping

short of directly accusing him

Morrison both departed with-

out scoring. New Zealand were

facing the prospect of a heavy

defeat which has become all

too familiar in their centenary

wickers of Vasli, Morrison and

herry Walmsley, completed his

Value, by snapping up the

When Dion Nash and Danny

The 22-year-old spinner

Muralidharan captured his

fielder Asanka Gurusinha.

before prodding forward de-

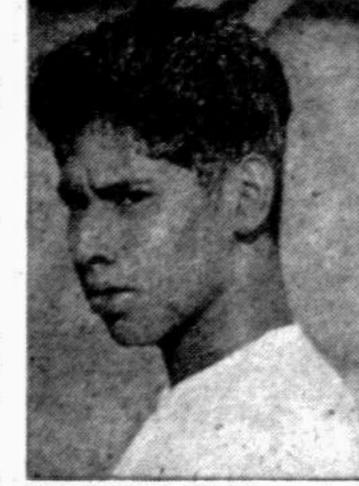
His partner Shane Thom-

fine diving catch by wicket-

second bag of five wickets in the match. His match analysis Zealand, Mar 15: of 10-90 makes him the first vi Lanka chalked Sri Lankan to take 10 wickets up their first Test win on foreign in a match. It was Sri Lanka's fifth Test soil today as New

Zealand capitulated to the spin of Muthiah Muralidharan and the scam of Chaminda Vaas. reports Reuter. overseas The New Zealanders, re-

suming at 139 for four and chasing a mammoth target of 427, were bowled out for 185 in their second innings, giving Sri Lankan captain Arjuna the tourists victory by 241 New Zealand's captain Ken



Ranatiniga said

His New Zealand counterpart Ken Rutherford spoke of "despair" at times within the team but said there was nothing to do but to keep trying.

defeat in their last six Tests the other was a rain-affected draw - and added to the deepening gloom of their 100th anniversary celebra-The second Test starts in

Dunedin on Saturday. New Zealand's premier batsman Martin Crowe, who missed the Napier game, was ruled out

again when he failed a fitness test today.

Adding to the woes of the Kiwis, Morrison has a dislocated thumb and Nash is suflering from a side strain, potentially robbing New Zealand of their two main strike

bowlers. SCOREBOARD Scoreboard on final day of the first Test between New

Zealand and Sri Lanka today: SRI LANKA: First innings

NEW ZEALAND: Fist in-

nings 109 SRI LANKA: Second innings 352 (C Dunusinghe 91. H.

Tillekeraine 74. A de Silva 62:

Morrison 4 for 61) NEW ZEALAND: Second in-

B Young c Samaraweera b Muralidharan D Murray c Dunusinghe b Vaas 36 M Greatbatch C Tillekeratne b Muralidharan

S Fleming e Tillekeratne b Muralidharan K Rutherford c Dunusinghe b

S Thomson e Gurusinha b Muralidharan A Parore v Fillekeratne b Muralidharan

D Nash c Dunusinghe b Vass

G Larsen not out

20-

D Morrison e Gurusinha b Vaas K Walmsley c Dunusinghe b Vaas 4 Extra: (b-6, lb-11, nb=6) Fall of wickets: 1-37: 2-

108: 3-108: 4-112: 5-141: 6-141: 7-166: 8-181: 9-181 Bowling: Wickremasinghe 10 .43 5 2 79 0 Pushapakumara 36 15 64 5 Muralidharan

Result: Sri Lanka won by

241 runs. Man-of-the-match: Chaminda Vaas. Second Test in Dunedin March 18-22.

Culprit quintet questioned season. A day earlier. England



Mar 15: Three Premier League stars faced a second day of questioning Wednes-

day following their arrests in English soccer's biggest match-fixing scandal in 30 years.

Police were granted a 12 hour extension to continue holding Bruce Grobbelaar, the Southampton and former Liverpool goalkeeper at the center of the bribery allegations.

Police were also expected to seek extension orders allowing them to continue questioning Wimbledon goalkeeper Hans Seger. Aston Villa striker John Fashanu, Fashanu's girlfriend and a Malaysian businessmen.

separate raids Tuesday following a four-month investigation into allegations of players taking bribes from an Asian gambling syndicate to fix results.

No charges were filed against the five, who were held overnight at different police

Detective Rod Davis said the investigation was continuing and other arrests were possible. News reports said as many as six Premier League

a series of events that have tarnished English soccer this

and Chelsea midfielder Dennis Wise was sentenced to three months in jail, then released on bail, for assaulting a 65year-old taxi driver.

United stars Eric Cantona and Paul ince are scheduled to ap-

bling ring was behind the scandal. The match-rigging allega-

and banned from the game. Davis said Grobbelaar was arrested "on suspicion of being

Grobbelaar, à 37-year-old Zimbabwean, was put under investigation in November after a tabloid newspaper published allegations that he received bribes from a Far East gambling syndicate to throw

Zimbabwean friend and business partner Chris Vincent.

The Sun newspaper alleged Grobbelaar received \$60,000 to let in goals during a match between Liverpool and Newcastle last season. The gambling syndicate allegedly made \$4.5 million on the match,

The syndicate was believed to be based in Malaysia, where 14 players and two former coaches were arrested recently in a match-fixing scandal. A total of 80 players have been implicated in the Malaysian case.

After the allegations against Grobbelaar were published, the FA charged him with misconduct but allowed him to continue playing while police pursued their investigation. He has also continued to play in international matches for Zimbabwe, where he is a national

Fashanu. 31, is a well-known television personality in Britain as co-host of the Gladiators show. He joined Aston Villa this 'season after nine years at Wimbledon, where he

The 33-year-old Dutch goalie joined Wimbledon in 1988 after earlier stirits with Nottingham Forest, Stoke and Sheffield United.

Questions have been raised about Segers performance during the final game of last season at Everton on May 7. Everton, needing a win to escape relegation, came from 2.0 down to beat Wimbledon

very strange to me, but I've never had any suspicions about any previous games." Wimbledon managing director Sam

Dortmund, Bayer Leverkusen, Parma join



through moury.

TURIN, Italy, Mar 15: Italy's Juventus struck three goals in the final 13 minutes to

record a 3-0 win over Eintracht Frankfurt in their UEFA Cup quarter-final second leg on Tuesday and move to the last four on a.4-1 aggregate, report agencies.

The Italian league leaders struggled for rhythm for most of the game but their superior finishing skills showed in the end as Antonio Conte. Farbizio Ravanelli and Allessandro del Piero claimed fine goals to kill off Eintracht.

Conte ran on to a sweetly struck pass from Del Piero to volley past Eintracht goalkeeper Andreas Koepke in the 77th minute. The impressive Koepke was left helpless again nine min-

Italy's World Cup midfielder

hammered a superb left-foot shot beyond him for his ninth UEFA Cup goal of the season. The 20-year-old Del Piero was on the scoresheat a

utes later when Ravanelli

The two teams drew 1-1 in Frankfurt two weeks ago. In Dortmund, Karl-Heinz Riedle headed a 90th minute goal to give Germany's Borussia Dortmund a 2-0 win over Lazio of Italy in their UEFA Cup

quarter-final second-leg ma-His goal put the Bundesliga leaders into the semifinals 2-1

on aggregate.

Pressing home a Dorumund attack. Riedle splashed through the middle to head home across from Swiss Stephane Chapuisat

Dortmund made a storming start, eager to atone for their weak performance in losing 1-0 at Lazio and their subsequent timid approach to Bundesliga action that has seen their lead whittled down to one point.

They drew level in the tie after 11 minutes when Chapuisat converted a penalty awarded when goalkeeper Luca Marchegiani tripped Riedle as he scrambled for a rebound from Chapuisat's shot. in the French city of Nantes. Bayer Leverkusen.

keen to make up for a disappointing domestic season in Germany, cruised into the semifinals when they held French league leaders Nantes to a goalless draw. Nantes, swept aside 5-1 in

90 minutes in Leverkusen's half but rarely threatened to breach their defence. Defender Eric Decroix had the ball in the net as early as the 10th minute but the goal was disallowed for a foul on goalkeeper Rudiger Vollborn

the away leg, spent most of the

by Nantes' Chadian striker Japhet N Doram. The home side, desperate to break the deadlock, claimed a penalty in the 50th minute when Marcus Happe stopped a

Nicolas Ouedec shot with his right hand. But the referee ruled he

had not handled intentionally.

In Odense. Denmark. Parma qualified for the round of four after a scoreless match against Odense Boldklub. The Italians qualified on a

1-0 aggregate. Odense set the pace and fought fiercely against the Italian favourites, cheered by 12,000 fans.

The Danes had two chances

to score but Parma's goalie

Luca Bucci saved shots by Carsten Hemmingsen (44th) and Jess Thorup (75th). Parma seemed satisfied with a draw and most of the time the Italians played de-

fensive with striker Gianfranco Zola as the sole man up front. in the 25th minute, Parma came close to scoring when midfielder Antonio Benarrivo looped the ball to Roberto Sensini standing alone in front of an empty goal. But Sensini missed the ball by a few

The Danes reached the

UEFA Cup quarterfinals after surprisingly ousting Kaiserslautern and Spanish powerhouse Real Madrid in earlier rounds. Parma's coach, Nevio Scala tested injured national squad striker Dino Baggio in the sec-

inches.

Faustino Asprilla who is suspended. Branca and Gabriele Pin were booked by Bulgarian ref-

eree Atanas Quzounov.

ond half when replacing Marco

Branca. The team had to do

without Colombian striker



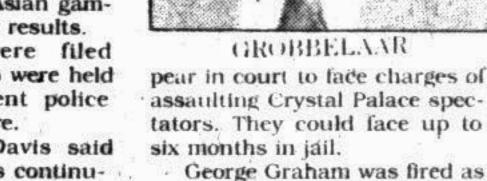
The players of Victoria Sporting Club return to the pavilion after recording a squeaky five-run win over Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club in a Navana Premier Division league match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. - Star photo

reports AP.

All five were arrested in

stations in Hampshire.

players could be implicated. The arrests are the latest in



ball Association has maintained

PREMIER ROLL OF SHAME



LONDON, Mar. 15 (AP): A list of the scandals which have rocked English soccer this season; Nov 9: The Sun newspaper publishes allegations that Southampton and former Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar received bribes to fix matches. The Football Association

launches a two-footed, kung-fu-style assault on a taunting Crystal Palace fan at Selhurst Park in London. He is later banned by the FA through September and charged with assault by police.

charged and 11 police injured in the melee. Feb 15: England's exhibition match against Ireland at

Feb 21: George Graham is fired as Arsenal manager after a Premier League inquiry alleges he received 425,000 pounds

for three games after biting a reporter's nose in a Dublin hotel

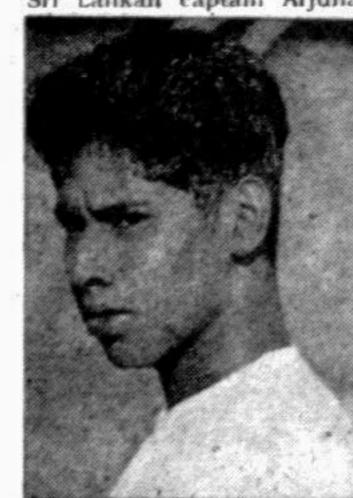
in Bruges. March 3: It is confirmed that Crystal Palace star striker Chris Armstrong tested positive for cannabis. He is dropped by the club for four games.

Palace fan during the same incident that led to Cantona's ban. Both he and Cantona are scheduled to appear in court on March 23. March 13: Chelsea captain and midfielder Dennis Wise is

sentenced to three months in jail for assaulting a 65 year-old

March 14: Goalkeepers Bruce Grobbelaar and Hans Segers and striker John Fashanu are among six people arrested in connection with match-fixing allegations.

victory in their 59th match since being awarded Test status in 1982, and their first win Tve waited 13 years for this. There were times when we went close in the past but we didn't finish it off them. Now we've done it." Jubilant



CHAMINDA VAAS

It was New Zealand's fifth

We remain convinced that corruption is not rife in our national sport," FA spokesman

Next week. Manchester



pear in court to face charges of assaulting Crystal Palace spectators. They could face up to

after it was alleged he took under-the-table payments as part of transfer deals. Throughout it all, the Foot

Arsenal's manager last month

the sport is clean.



charges him with misconduct. Grobbelaar denies the allegations. Nov 25: Arsenal striker Paul Merson admits to cocaine, alcohol and gambling addiction. He spends six weeks in a rehabilitation clinic before returning to action in early February.

Jan. 25: Manchester United's French striker Eric Cantona

Feb 8: Chelsea fans invade the field after their team loses to London rival Millwall in the FA Cup at Stamford Bridge. Mounted police separate brawling fans. Nineteen fans are

Dublin's Landsdowne Road is abandoned in the first half after English hooligans tear up their seats and throw them at Irish spectators below. Feb. 16: Wimbledon's Vinnie Jones is dropped by his club

in under-the-table transfer payments. He denies any wrongdoing but is charged with misconduct by the FA on March 7. Feb. 28: Belgian police deport more than 800 English fans before and after Chelsea's European Cup Winners Cup match

March 6: Manchester United midfielder Paul Ince is charged with common assault by police for attacking a Crystal

taxi driver. He is released on bail pending an appeal.

David Davies said Tuesday. "To suggest that it is can be no more, no less, than a slur on the integrity of hundreds and thousands of professional play-

and down the country." In addition to the three players, the others arrested Tuesday were Fashanu's girlfriend, Melissa Kassamapsi, and Malaysian businessman Heng Suan Lim, whose detainment lends weight to reports that a Malaysian gam-

tions are the most serious in England since the 1960s. when England international stars Peter Swan and Tony Kay were among 10 players jailed

involved in a conspiracy to defraud."

matches while playing for Liverpool. Grobbelaar denied the charges, which were based on allegations made by his former

which Newcastle won 3-0.

was a teammate of Segers.

The whole game seemed

Hammam said