Airlines Gold Cup

East Bengal

drub Abahani

Sisir Ghosh began the Bengali

new year with a brilliant hat-

trick as East Bengal drubbed

Abahani Krira Chakra of Dhaka

5-1, while Mohun Bagan stru-

ggled hard to suppress a spi-

rited Mohammedan Sporting

2-1 in the extra time, to enter

the final of the Capstan 10th

All Airlines Gold Cup football

tournament at the Salt Lake

Stadium here today, reports

terval, Sisir Ghosh slammed in

his third goal early in the sec-

ond session while the speedy

Manoharan pumped in two

goals in quick succession to

leave the Dhaka outfit in a

Alexander scored a consolation

goal midway though the open-

ing session capitalising on a

cied Mohun Bagan came from

behind to prevail over Moham-

medan Sporting with defender

Satyabrata Bhowmick scoring

the golden goals in the dying

minutes of the extra time after

both the teams failed to break

the 1-1 deadlock in the

Bengal and Mohun Bagan will

battle for supremacy in the fi-

Bangladesh sail

·Sports Reporter

hopes for a next-round berth

in the Davis Cup Asia-Oceania

Zone (Group-3) alive after

winning their first three

Group-B engagements, now be-

issued here by the Bangladesh

Tennis Federation (BTF) yes-

terday. Bangladesh sauntered

past both Jordan and hosts.

the United Arab Emirates

(UAE) with an identical 3-0

margin before winning the

third against the Pacific-Ocea-

According to a press release

ing held at Dubai.

Bangladesh kept their

nal to be played on Monday.

The two arch-rivals East

In the other semifinal, fan-

defensive lapse.

regulation time

Abahani's Russian recruit

After leading 2-1 at the in-

CALCUTTA, Apr 15: Striker

Klinsmann saves Spurs



LONDON, Apr 15: Jurgen Klinsmann nailed a spectacular 25-meire free kick with three minutes to

play Friday to give Tottenham a 1-1 draw at Crystal Palace in the English Premier League. reports AP.

The German striker hit a perfectly-placed drive: Curling the ball over and to the right of the Palace defensive wall and back toward the net to deflect off the underside of the crossbar and in. It was his 27th goal of the season.

"Darren (Anderton) normally takes the kicks, but I went up to him and asked if could have a go." Klinsmann said. "He was happy, so I just struck the ball and luckily it went in.

Klinsmann, subject of transfer rumours over the past week, was reticent to talk about his future with Tottenham, despite a contract that extends through next season. German team Bayern Munich are considered leading contenders for the services of the striker, who is reported to want out if Tottenham doesn't qualify for next season's UEFA

It is a great honour when the big clubs ring you," Klinsmann said. "but I want to wait until the end of the season before I decide anything."

Klinsmann's goal matched Chris Armstrong's 20-metre strike four minutes before halftime that gave Palace the lead.

The result satisfied neither team. Palace, who lost to Manchester United in a Football Association Cup semifinal replay on Wednesday, remained in the Premier League relegation zone, and seventhplace Tottenham failed to make up substantial ground in their UEFA Cup bid.

Another team in the relegation battle. Manchester City, jumped seven places in the standings with a 2-1 home victory over Liverpool.

German midfielder Murizio Gudino, on loan from Eintracht

Federation announced Friday

that the most successful US

national team coach since

1950 had resigned, but Milu-

tinovic said he was fired, re-

plans." Milutinovic said from

his home in Laguna Niguel

California. They have the right

to decide what they like, but

they also gave me their word.

United States to the second

round of the World Cup last

summer, coaching the Ameri-

cans to their first victory in

the tournament since 1950.

He led the team to an upset of

England in 1993 and a tie with

"We achieved good results."

"I'm very proud," he said.

Since last October. USSF

president Alan Rothenberg had

ment for Milutinovic to remain

through the 1998 World Cup.

and that the lawyers were

putting the deal to paper. The

coach's original contract ex-

ment saying that Milutinovic

resigned rather than accept a

broader role that included

more administrative work. Mi-

lutinovic said Rothenberg fired

him during a meeting Wed-

ficial, speaking on the condi-

tion he not be identified, said

terms for the new deal. The

"It's kind of sudden." US

with Derby. "I was just think-

there for the games this sum-

A US Succer Federation of-

Rothenberg issued a state-

said he had and oral agree-

Italy the year before.

pired Dec. 31.

nesday.

Milutinovic. 55, led the

and they have to respect that.

They have new ideas, new

ports AP.

NEW YORK, Apr

15: Bora Miluti-

movie is out as

coach of the US

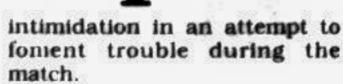
soccer team, me

of the US Soccer

Frankfurt, scored the gamewinner in the 73rd minute. Nicky Summerbee also scored for City in the 18th and Steve McManaman equalised for Liverpool three minutes later.

The victory rocketed City from 18th to 11th in the 22team league. Liverpool remained fifth.

Later Friday. Everton hosted Newcastle on the first day of a busy holiday schedule



"People who send letters with razor blades in them should be rooted out and dealt with." Rioch said. "Had the girls opened them in the normal manner there could have been serjous problems.

When these issues take place before we play a match it



RIGHT ON TARGET: Juergen Klinsmann, the Tottenham striker swivels to fire a left-footer towards the Crystal Palace goal during their English Premiership tie at Selhurst Park in London on Friday. The match ended in a 1-1 draw. — AFP/UNB photo

In Division One. Pat Nevin's 34th-minute goal moved Tranmere into second place as the Rovers beat Bolton 1-0.

After the game, Bolton manager Bruce Rioch revealed that his team this week had received threatening mail containing razor blades. The letters suggested the club's Irish

players would be the target of

USSF sacks Milutinovic?

American team, Milutinovic

led Mexico to the quarter fi-

nals of the 1986 World Cup

and took Costa Rica to the ser-

ond round of the 1990 World

B MILUTINOVIC

States to a record of 31 wins.

36 losses and 29 ties since re-

placing Bob Gansler on March

27. 1991. The high point was a

lirst-round victory over Colom-

don't really think he

chanced anybody as an individ-

baa in the World Cup.

Milutinovic led the United

is quite disgraceful. ... If that is the climate in which we are playing then Gold help us in this life." Police were alerted to the

threats, and the game took place without any major inci-

In another Division One game. Watford beat Millwall

ual; he changed us a team.

Germany's First Division.

said forward Eric Wynalda,

who plays for VfL Bochum in

group of people that we were

good and we could be success-

ful. The most important thing

he did was that he brought a

bunch of guys together and

taught them to be a team - I

wouldn't besitate to say a fam-

Milutinovic's last game was

2-2 against Uruguay on

March 25. He held his last

practice Thursday in Mission

Viejo, California, preparing the

US-based players for an April

22 exhibition game against

Belgium in Brussels. Just four

tract's not signed. I can't go to

Belgium", defender Paul Cali-

giuri said. "I think he wanted

to stay here. I don't think he

had hopes of moving. He was

very up front, saying, 'this is

a big loss for US soccer. The

coach became a great perso-

nality, and ambassador for

soccer in the United States.

He's brought this team a lot of

success and credibility. We're

basically giving that up for a

new start again.

"It's shocking. It's definitely

life, this is what happens."

"He told us. 'If the con-

players attended:

"He brought in a belief to a

nia by 2-1. As the top finisher from the group will earn a right to move into the next round. Bangladesh's fate now lies in their last two engagements against Saudi Arabia and Lebanon.

They are scheduled to meet Lebanon today while the out come of vesterday's match against Saudi Arabia is yet to be known.

National youth v'ball results

Chittagong and Naogaon won their respective matches in the Rahima Food national youth volleyball championship played at the Dinajpur Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Chittagong beat Dhaka 15-9, 15-6. 15-6 in the morning while Naogaon defeated Tan gail 15-8, 2-15, 15-4, 15-2 in the afternoon. On the inaugural day on

Friday, Dinajpur beat Chittagong. Tangail defeated Gaibandha and Naogaon overcame Rajshahi, all by 3-1 sets. In another match. Rajshahi outplaved Gaibandha 3-0.

> Rising Star win big

CHITTAGONG, Apr 15: Rising Star Club beat Elite Paint Club by 94 runs in the CJKP Ispahani First Division cricket league at the Chittagong Stadium today, reports Rising Star batted first and

scored 191 for nine in the stipulated 40 overs match. In reply, Elite Paint were all out for 97 in 34 overs.

SCORES

Rising Star: 191 for 9 (Faisal 49, Ishtiak 40, Harun 19. Tamal 12. Piku 4/32. Jamai 2/29).

Elite Paint: 97 all out (Sohir 20. Zulfikar 19, Pavel 17, Nuruddin 3/24, Saikat 4/26, Subrata 2/18).

Meanwhile. Mohammedan Blues moved into the semifinals of the metropolitan Ispahani juntor cricket competition beating Sandhani Krira Chakra by 87 runs at the Dampara Police Line ground

Mohammedans batted first made 196 for five in 38 overs. in reply. Sandhani Krira Chakra were all out for 109 in 34 overs.

Mohammedans' captain Shahanewaj Kabir Shubha scored brilliant unbeaten 101 off 116 batts. He hammered seven boundaries and four sixes. Mohammedans' bowler

Bobby captured three for only 16 runs.

Lifter banned

BERLIN, Apr 15: World and Olympic champion Alexander Kurlovitch of Belarus has been banned for two years internationally on Friday, reports Xinhua.

Kurlovitch's German club Samswegen announced that he has been suspended for two years for taking steroids.

It's an all-American final



Andre Agassi did-

n't show any we-

aknesses in blas-

ting his way into

the Japan Open final, but he

said a back strain would force

him out of a tournament next

in Sunday's final of the 1.2 mil-

lion dollars tournament, said

Jim Courier, his opponent

ANDRE AGASSI

"For Andre to be in the final

Agassi reached the final

he doesn't expect to gain any

points from Agassi's back prob-

of this tournament indicates to

me that his back is really not

with a 7-5, 6-2 victory Satur-

day over No 3 seed Wayne Fer-

reira of South Africa, the world

15th from his No 1 ranking in

late 1993, overcame fellow

American Michael Chang 6-4,

7-5 and said it felt good

a top player in a big match. I

haven't done it in a while,

Chang is ranked sixth in the

world, and was seeded second

here. Courier is seeded fourth.

five straight matches to Agassi.

said his opponent was hitting

as well as ever from the base-

line and serving better than in

Ferreira, who now has lost

getting over the hump beating

Courier, who has slipped to

lems, reports AP.

too bad," he added.

No 10.

72 per cent of his first serves TOKYO, Apr 15: New world No 1 to 56 per cent for Ferreira. Agassi gained the No 1 ranking on Monday, toppling fellow American Pete Sampras

> after 82 weeks at the top. "I'm sure that's he's very confident because he's No 1. and rightfully so," Courier said. "I'm very confident because I'm playing well right now."

Neither Agassi nor Ferreira had a break point until the 11th game, when Agassi created one with a forehand serve return winner. Ferreira then netted a backhand volley and Agassi served out the set.

Agassi broke again in the second set's first game after Ferreira had taken a 40-15 lead on three aces. At 40-30, Ferreira slipped while chasing along the baseline for an Agassi shot, hurt his foot and sent a backhand long. He then served two double faults, giving Agassi the game. The foot gradually got bet-

ter. Ferreira said, but Agassi broke again in the fifth game and won in slightly more than an hour before about 9,000 spectators. "I feel like I'm hitting the

ball well." Agassi said. but added that his doctor, coach and manager "have been concerned with me just finishing this week" because of the back strain he suffered in preparations last month for the US Davis Cup victory in Italy. "Il come out here and finish tomorrow but I can't play next week at all" at a tournament in Hong Kong. Agassi said of the strain:

"The more fatigued it gets, the more you play on it, the worse it gets, and it can turn into something that could be chronic. I've got to take care of He said that after a couple

ment, he hoped to be back in action for a tournament in Atlanta May 1-7. Courier broke Chang's serve

of weeks of rest and treat-

in the third game of the first set and the 11th game of the second, when he had help from a double fault by Chang at

Chang was attacking the net often against Courier, and said: "I think I was winning a good percentage at the net. There were a number of points I should have won. I think it's just becoming more and more a part of my game."

Chang, known as a tenacious baseline retriever, said he wanted to take the game to his opponents more so he



JIM COURIER

didn't depend so much on how well they were playing.

In the women's event, second-seeded American Amy Frazier advanced Saturday by beating qualifier Tang Min of Hong Kong 6-3, 6-3. Date beat compatriot Nana Miyagi in two quick sets Friday in the other semifinal.

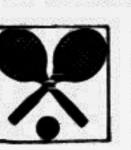
Date beat Frazier 7-5, 6-0 in last year's final.

Tang, a native of China, had reached the semifinals by coming from behind to beat two Japanese seeds.

In an all-Japanese women's doubles final, 19-year-olds Miho Saeki and Yuka Yoshida overcame a 2-5 final-set deficit and beat No 2 seeds Kyoko Nagatsuka and Ai Sugiyama 6-7 (5-7), 6-4, 7-6 (7-5).

The men's singles winner receives 156,000 dollars from total prize money of 1.2 million dollars. The women's division offers only a 25,000 dollars top prize.

their past battles. Agassi put in Martina has no regrets



AVENTURA, Florida, Apr 15: Martina Navratilova, who makes her return to elite tennis competi-

tion in 10 days, said Thursday she has no regrets about retiring from regular singles play on the WTA Tour, reports

"It has ben sort of a big relief," Navratilova said during an international conference call. "There are no tuggings at my heart strings. I'm quite happy where I am. I have no reason to come back."

Navratilova will be playing for the US team in the Federation Cup opening round against Austria here on April 22 23. This will be her first Fed Cup appearance since helping the US team win the 1989 title.

li will also be Navratilova's first competition since retiring from the WTA Tour last November after an openinground defeat at the tour championships.

"The things I miss, I don't miss — the nerves and training and watching everything you do." Navratilova said. "Everything is tempered by optimum performance. I don't miss that. If I miss anything, it's being out there and performing our best. It's the blessing and the curse as well.

Navratilova has enjoyed snowboarding, something she never felt she could risk while on tour, and stretching her

"I can read books, go to the movies and do pleasurable things for me instead of work on my tennis," Navratilova said. "Things are much more

relaxed for me. I still have physical training I don't play as much tennis but I still do cardiovascular workouts, lift weights, play basketball here and there. If I miss a day, I don't panic because I don't have a tournament the next

Navratilova, who is 36-0 in Fed Cup play, would not play in July's possible second-round match against France or South Africa. But she might return if the US team reaches the November final. Either way, singles are not in her plans.

Navratilova will play doubles

Sasaki stays in front

KAWANISHI, Japan, Apr 15: Hisavuki Sasaki birdied the last three holes en route to a 1-under-par 71 Saturday to keep the one-shot lead going into the final round of the 100 million ven (dlrs 1.2 million) Tsuruya Open gold tournament, reports AP.

7 Affix one's 26 Potential

-, Wis.

world singles number one Steffi Graf. "I thought about it for

at Wimbledon, paired with

months and I finally got the serve to call her." Navratilova said. "She said yes immediately. I was jumping for joy over the phone. Navratilova said she would

not play at the French Open, but would consider playing doubles at the US Open. "I haven't thought about it," she said. "It's too far away."

The same is true of a possible 1996 Olympic bid. "It's fun to stay sharp with-

out having to play a tournament. It's the only way I could think about the Olympics." she said. "For me, they are a long way away."

Navratilova's US teammates will be Lindsay Davenport, Mary Joe Fernandez and Gigi Fernandez.

"It's nice to get that extra support from your teammates." Navratilova said. "I feel less pressure because I'm not all by myself. It's more fun. It's a change of pace, everybody relaxes and plays better."

Navratilova first played Federation Cup in 1975. helping Czechoslovakia to the title. She became a US citizen in 1981 and has played on US Federation Cup championship squads in 1982, 1986 and 1989.

Brazil blank Syria

DOHA, Apr 15: Eighteenyear-old Reinaldo scored three goals to lead defending champions Brazil to a 6-0 rout of Syria Thursday in their opening game at the World Youth

Championship, reports AP. Reinaldo, who plays for Atletico Miniera, scored twice in the first 24 minutes to spot Brazil to a 2-0 lead in the onesided match. The victory puts Brazil atop Group A in the 16nation tournament.

Qatar and Russia, the other two teams in the group, drew 1-1 Thursday.

Reinaldo opened the scoring in the 11th minute from the penalty spot after he had been fouled by Hassan Abbas. He scored his third in the

Elder scored in the 68th minute, with Caio in the 70th and Murilo in the 80th.

Japan, Chile draw

DOHA. Apr 15: Hidetoshi Nakata scored with three minutes remaining to lift Japan to a 2-2 draw with Chile on Friday in a Group B match at the World Youth Championship, reports AP.
Chile, one of the pre-tour

nament favourites after finishing behind Argentina and Brazil in South American qualifying, twice took leads on goals by Sebastian Rozental.

The Chilean captain gave his side the lead fust before haltime, converting a penalty after Japanese defender Naoki Matsuda brought down Aviles Valenzuela inside the area in the 41st minute.

Japan, who dominated the first half, equized two minutes into the second half when Susumi Oki picked up a long pass from by Sotaro Yasımaga from the left wing and booted it home

Chile, lackluster in the first half, regained their form in the second and started building up better attacking moves. Their efforts were re-

warded in the 67th minute when Rozental curled in a free-kick from 25 metres past the agile Japanese keeper, Seiji Honda. But Chile's euphoria was

short-lived as Nakata rifled a shot into the Chilean goal in the 87th minute. "We're not happy with the

result. We should have won the match." said Chilean coach Leonardo Veliz Diaz. "But we made so many mistakes."

Japan's coach, Koji Tanaka, said: "Our players played their real game only for about 10 minutes. That's not enough to win an international match."

GERMANS HELD

Former champions Germany drew 1-1 with Cameroon in Group D.

Half-time score was 1-0. Germany, reduced to 10-

men midway through the second half when Marcel Rath was sent off after a second caution, took an early lead through captain Castern Hinz.

He converted a penalty in the 10th minute after Rath was brought down inside the area by Cameroon fullback Nlend Wome.

Cameroon, who played a spirited game, scored a welldeserved equalizer in the 91st minute during injury time through Simo Augustin, who blasted the ball home from a goalmouth melee.

Simo Augustine of Cameroon was chosen man-of-thematch.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer **ACROSS** 37 Run up the 4 "A mouse!" shade 5 Give rise to 24 Links 1 Loafer's phone bill 6 "Show lack 38 Layered gadget Boat" com- 25 Fond du

5 Avail of rock 41 Chum 42 More, in 8 Lose hair 12 Lotion Monterrey 45. Zhivago's additive 13 Pigs' digs

love 14 Lacquered 46 Bird sanctuary? metalware 15 Blotch? 48 Eternally 17 Basilica 49 Moreover 50 Impulse area

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HELMET JAN

WIGS RAW

DOWN

1 Boys

19 Make the final pay ment on 20 Gordon Gekko's 21 Sweetie 22 Round-

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author sounds? 20 Sailor 35 Base on 21 Listen to 2 Jai follower Superman? 37 Near-3 "Hee Haw" 22 Pale meters 23 Blonde 38 Coaster 39 Possess Solution time: 27 mins. 40 Mars' PEDOSSA AVID AXE NEON MANO ZAP TEXT PLOWS MOTH

counter-41 Glazier's sheet NUB TEEPEE 42 Clay PILIOPPED DULLY deposit AURA GIT PULE TRAYSPAJAMAS 43 Jason's craft EXIT IDEAL 44 Distort JOHN GOD ULNA 46 Minstrel's EGO PLOD

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fighter

rendition

CRYPTOQUIP

NHCWVWRZ UPCU PM'F NHWVTMO VSARUCWR, TAU P M ' F THAYYWRZ. SRHX Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FOLLOWING THEIR MARRIAGE, HIGH-FLYING ASTRONAUTS WENT ON A HONEYMOON.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: H equals L The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which

letter stands for another. If you think that X equals 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.

the sides couldn't agree on official said Milutinovic wanted some of his payments to be made outside the United midfielder John Harkes said from England, where he plays ing that Bora was going to be Carlos Queiroz, the coach of Sporting Lisbon in Portugal and the former coach of Portugal's national team, became the immediate favourite to take over. Earlier this week, the USSF offered Queiroz a job as director of technical coaching Before taking over the

Paris Saint Germain striker Pascal Nouma (R) is

challenged by Montpellier's Fabien Lefevre during their

French First Division match in Montpellier on April 14.

Saint Germain trounced Montpellier 3-0. - AFP/UNB photo

Arsenal to visit Beijing BEIJING. Apr 15: British

and youth player development

Premier League club Arsenal. armed with nine international players, will become the latest European team to visit Beijing to take on a Chinese team, reports AFP. Arsenal will play an exhibi-

tion match against Beijing Football Club on May 16, the official agency said in a report late Friday.