in Sri Lanka, particularly

since the recent huge bomb

preciative of the security

measures being taken by the

Sri Lankan authorities to try

and ensure the safety of the

West Indies team during its

scheduled visit on 25th

come to the conclusion that

for the players safety and peace of mind which is

paramount it has requested

PILCOM to reschedule the

Sri Lanka-West Indies match

on 25th February to be played

Nat'l Jr snooker

championship

Sports Reporter

nior (under-21) snooker

championship will com-

mence at the Gulshan Club

premises tomorrow under

the sponsorship of IFAD Au-

tos. The tournament will be

known as the Ashok Leyland

The first ever National Ju-

outside of Sri Lanka.

"The board has reluctantly

"The board is greatly ap-

in Colombo.

February.

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN

Sports WHiZZ KID competition-25 √ Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. Feb 9, 1996) Chinaman is a term associated Squash Table Tennts The MCC cricket team currently touring Bangladesi is from

England Australia New Zealand The SAF Games hockey champions are Sri Lanka India The Australian Open tennis women's competition was won by

Ziauddin Shovon is the captain of ohamedans Brothers Abahani

Roll No:... School Address:

Phone: (if any)

SPORTS TALK



Martin Crowe (Former New Zealand star

batsman). "In the end, its too painful and it is too hard to continue playing at this level I'd like to play at ... I had no choice at

Announcing his retire-

down."

this stage but to stand

Acme Div II cricket

Sports Reporter

Azad Sporting Club, Kathalbagan Green Crescent Club and East End Club began their Acme Second Division cricket super league campaign on winning notes yesterday.

Azad handed Rainbow Athletics Club an eight-wicket defeat at the Dhanmondi Club ground while the Kathalbagan outfit outplayed Nawabganj Krira Chakra by 73 runs at the Mirpur Outer Stadium.

In the day's other engagement at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, East End Club beat Nirman Eleven by ten runs.

BRIEF SCORES **RAINBOW AC:** 62 in 26.1

overs (Sujon 4/21, Biplab 3/12) AZAD SC: 63 for two in 11

overs (Fuzu 27, Mustafa 2/12) KATHALBAGAN GCC: 196 in 39.5 overs (Riad 38, Zakaria 33. Mithu 26. Biplab 4/37) NAWABGANJ KC: 123 in

35.2 overs (Rafiq 29, Monir

identical socks in their kit bags -- were powering to EAST END CLUB: 194 for rugby's World Cup final, the eight in 40 overs (Saiful 36, cricket side were taking a Subir 35, Shameem 33) South African, Indian, Aus-NIRMAN XI: 184 for nine tralian, Sri Lankan and West

in 40 overs (Ripon 37, Pradeep 3/29)

IFA Shield final Feb 8 Rakib rescues

East Bengal CALCUTTA, Feb 6: Defending champion East Bengal rode on the brilliance of Rakib Hussain to pip arch rivals Mohun Bagan by a solitary goal and squeeze into the final of the Lifebuoy IFA Shield football tournament at the Salt Lake Stadium today.

reports PTI. After a barren opening session, East Bengal's Bangladeshi-recruit Rakib produced a brilliant goal just seven minutes before the long whistle to save the day for his team in a rather insipid clash between the two

local giants. Despite enjoying territorial advantage for most part of the proceedings, the East Bengal forwards failed to get their acts together inside the box more often than not which prevented them from

winning by a bigger margin. Mohun Bagan, who emerged champion after their Group-B league engagements at Bolpur, played their hearts out to remain in contention but had themselves to blame for being humbled by their arch foes

yet again. East Bengal will now take. on Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club in the final slated for February 8.



The street of Karachi, on Feb 6, wears a festive look as a donkey-cart passes by a huge billboard advertising the - AFP/UNB photo upcoming World Cup cricket.

Waiting a riveting war



ISLAMABAD, Feb 6: The 1996 World Cup, like all those that have preceded it, will not only be about the crowning of new world champions. It will also centre on the X-factor - the special ingredient that wins the trophy, reports AFP.

It could be a player, or simply a decisive moment, that settles the tournament. Invariably, it is the drama of the final that is remembered rather than what has gone before. Who now remembers Gary

Gilmour's six wickets for 14 runs in the 1975 semifinal against England, followed by his crucial partnership with Dough Walters after his side, chasing 96, had slumped to 39 for six? Mr and Mrs Gilmour,

probably, the odd relation and a neighbour, for everybody else, 1975 was about Clive Lloyd's long-handled 102 in the final, followed by the electric fielding of Vivian Richards and five Australian run-outs.

New Zealanders may remember a misfield, dropped chance or a miscue four years later that led to their nine-run semifinal defeat to England but again, for most, the defining episode came in the climax as Richards plundered 138 runs off the home side's depleted attack.

There are plenty of prime candidates this time to follow in the footsteps of those

ISLAMABAD, Feb 6 (AFP):

All that will be red next

The side's desperate form

month, according to the form

- and the 11th-hour loss of

world-class batsman Martin

Crowe — could not have come

at a more inappropriate time

vacht Crew, in their lucky

red socks, were returning

home with the America's cup

and the all blacks — with

Indian battering... during

look pretty at the best of

times. A bout of internecine

blood-letting made things

ror story came against South

Africa. Manager Mike Sand-

lant resigned, coach Geoff

Howarth followed and three

players — Stephen Fleming.

Matthew Hart and Dion Nash

Sports Council yesterday.

The low point in the hor-

A battered Kiwi doesn't

their centenary season.

look even worse.

While Peter Blake and his

book, will be Kiwi faces.

It will take more than red

socks to save New Zealand

from a World Cup humilia-

great West Indians. Trinidadian Brian Lara -

who came close to Richards' one-day international record when scoring 169 off 129 balls at Sharjah this year will head the list of batsmen likely to play the central role.

Shane Warne, shadowed by Mustaq Ahmed and Anil Kumble, represent the spinners' interests while the like of Allan Donald, Craig Mc-Dermott and Wagar Younis will try to make it a trophy decided by pace.

The all-rounders, however, always get two bites at each cherry. Mohinder Amarnath went

down in Indian history in 1983 with three wickets for

Yuri keeps his title

OSAKA, Japan, Feb 6: Undefeated Yuri Arbachakov of Russia floored Mexican challenger Raul Juarez three times in retaining his World Boxing Council (WBC) flyweight title here on Monday with a unanimous points win, reports Reuter. At the end of the 12-

round bout, the judges scored the fight 114-112. 117-110 and 117-111, all in favour of Arbachakov.

It was the 29-year-old Arbachakov's eighth successful defence of the title he wrested from Muangchai Kittikasem of Thailand with an eighth-round knockout in June 1992.

With the victory, Arbachakov, who trains in Japan, extended his unbeaten streak to 22, including 15 knock-outs.

- were suspended after ad-

mitting they smoked

more ghastly follow-ups. In

March, the side generously

gave Sri Lanka its first Test

win abroad. Then there was

the worst reverse in the

side's history, by an innings

and 322 runs, against the

West Indies. And defeat in

the Centenary Test against

South Africa, the first game

between the sides in 31

bout of drastic action. In

came former batsman Glenn

Turner as coach in May. In

came a sports psychologist

(the previous year, the New

sacked as captain and re-

placed by the previously un-

capped Canterbury captain

cle. The side travelled to In-

dia and lost the first Test in

three days, only the third

time India had seen a side

defeated inside nine sessions.

ing Transvaal, gave the knife

a further twist in his autobi-

ography by firing off a few fi-

nal salvoes at some of his

Action from United Insurance chess championship at the chess room of the National

Rutherford, by now lead-

There was to be no mira-

Lee Germon.

Out went Ken Rutherford,

Zealanders had tried yoga).

It was time for the next

But there were plenty

cannabis on tour.

12 runs off seven overs that was good enough to stop a West Indian hattrick.

Perhaps, however, the key moment of that tournament had been provided by the bookies, who had riled the Indians by making them 66-1 outsiders before the off.

Another all-rounder, Pakistan's current captain Wasim Akram, claimed the man-ofthe-match accolade four years ago in Australia. Others would argue it should have gone to the rain god for his earlier tournament theatrics.

Wasim smashed 33 runs off 19 balls against England at Melbourne, then uprooted the stumps of Allan Lamb and Chris Lewis with successive deliveries to settle the issue. The rain had just as much

say in that success, washing out a crucial earlier game after Pakistan had been bowled out by England for a paltry 74. if the English felt ag-

grieved after the final, the South Africans had even more cause after playing them in the semifinals. They needed 22 off 13

balls to win when the rain came down, allowing a controversial rule to come into play. With timelost, the total was scaled down to 22 off 7 balls and by the time the South Africans had taken guard again it was 22 off one delivery. Not a happy way to miss out of a World Cup final. ₩Would-be stars in 1996

should, however, not be blinded by World Cup fame. Test match glory forms the bulk of cricket's history while one-day exploits can melt in the memory like the softest

former teammates.

limited ambitions.

Test runs.

fort them.

Then came the biggest

bombshell of them all when

Crowe, playing on shattered

knees for the last few years.

failed a World Cup fitness test

and was forced into retire-

ment along with his 5,000

the team, despite the recent

2-2 one day draw with Pak-

istan, will go to Pakistan with

ing the Group B minnows

from Holland and the United

Arab Emirates, the two non-

Test sides in the group.

Then do a lot of praying be-

on Germon's leadership qual-

ities in bringing out the best

of a very young and inexperi-

enced squad with a few

world-class talents to com-

all-rounder, is one. He took

three wickets and scythed

103 off 87 balls in the fourth

one-dayer against India. A re-

peat of that sort of form

And, if there is time, why

not phone up Blake and see if

he has any lucky foot-warm-

would not go amiss.

ers to spare?

Chris Cairns, an explosive

Much is likely to depend

fore the quarter finals.

All of which suggests that

First, make sure of beat-

MCC take on Bangladesh Youth in Sylhet today

Sports Reporter

The visiting Marylebone Cricket will play their second one-day exhibition cricket match against Bangladesh Youth team at the Sylhet Stadium this morning.

The limited-overs encounter will start at 9 am which Radio Bangladesh will cover live from Sylhet Stadium.

Both teams have already reached Sylhet and they had a brief practice session at the stadium yesterday afternoon. All-rounder Naimur Rah-

man Durjoy will lead the Bangladesh Youth while MCC will be captained by Alan Fordham.

cricket

Sports Reporter

Club won their respective Yamaha First Division cricket league matches on Tuesday.

Gopibagh Friends Association by ten wickets at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium while City Club recorded a 45-run victory over Khelaghar Samai Kalyan Sangsad at their home ground.

Winning the toss Gopibagh elected to bat first But the decision proved costly for the Gopibagh outfit as they were bundled out in 23.5 overs with only 76 on the scoreboard.

Wandering in wilderness six runs in 5.5 overs.

In reply, the Dhanmondi openers, Anisul Hakim and Mohammad Hira, took only 20.3 overs to reach home without any interference of Gopibagh bowlers.

came as extras.

Among others, Rezaul Hasan scored an unbeaten 72 off 88 balls while Symon added 28 runs to City Club account.

In reply, Khelaghar were restricted to 219 for nine in their stipulated 45 overs. Lower middle orders Shahidul Islam and Shakil scored highest 40 runs each for Khelaghar.

City Club's Topu earned runs in nine overs.

Milon power Majlish From Staff Correspondent here today. head his side's charge.

top scorer with 56 runs. today. The league will resume on Thursday with Padma Jubo Sangha taking on Jordan Road Pathagar Gosthi at - Star photo the same venue.

Yamaha Div¹

Dhanmondi Club and City

Dhanmondi outplayed

Dhanmondi's Sabbir Khan

and Mahmood Hasan Pappu were the main men behind the destruction of Gopibagh. Sabbir grabbed three wickets conceding only five runs in five overs inclusive of a maiden while Pappu pocketed two wickets giving away

Hira was not out on 33 off 52 balls including two boundaries while Anis remained unbeaten on 22. The remaining 22 runs for Dhanmondi

At Mirpur City Club ground, the hosts piled up a huge 264 for four which includes a brilliant century by middle-order bat Amir Ishaq. Ishaq faced only 113 balls for his 102 runs which included eleven boundaries.

three wickets conceding 36

Barisal cricket

BARISAL, Feb 6: Barisal

has gathered information rebazar have only three points National Junior snooker to their account.* garding the civil disturbances championship. Iva ringing the changes

WI follow Aussies way

The West Indies Cricket

Board of Control (WICBC)

made their request for the

game in Colombo on February

25 to be rescheduled for the

West Indies players "safety

Wednesday's bomb blast in

Colombo, blamed on sepa-

ratist Tamil rebels, which

killed up to 80 people and

The Australian Cricket Board (ACB) said earlier in

the day it was pulling out of

the match against Sri Lanka

in Colombo and asked the

PILCOM to change the venue.

quest to switch their match

was rejected by organisers, who said all four games in Sri,

Lanka would go ahead as

the West Indies Cricket

Board of Control, said he had

taken into account the Sri

tee against suicidal terror-

statement said: "The board

You cannot give a guaran-

The West Indies board

Lankans' assurances as well.

Peter Short, president of

scheduled.

ists." Short said.

However, Australia's re-

injured more than 1,200.

WICBC's move follows last

and peace of mind".

Croatian teenager Iva Majoli has emerged as a welcome threat to the almost

dictatorial grip on women's tennis held by Monica Seles and Steffi Graf, reports AFP. The 18-year-old's victory

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados,

Feb 6: West Indies cricket of-

ficials followed their Aus-

tralian counterparts on Mon-

day in asking World Cup or-

ganisers to move their match

in Sri Lanka to a venue out-

side of the island, report

Goal drought in

Progoti soccer

Sports Reporter

the Progoti Insurance Third

Division football league as

both matches - Matuail Jubo

Sangha vs T&T Club and

Aminbazar Krira Sangha vs

Kadamtala Sangsad — ended

engagement for all the four

teams from which Matuail

lead the other with eleven

points followed by Kadamtala

on seven points and T&T

Club on five points. Amin-

It was the sixth league

in goalless ties yesterday.

Goal drought continued in

at the Toray Pan Pacific Open in Tokyo at the weekend proved that the ruling duopoly will at last has a challenger. Majoli overcame Seles -

co-world number one with Graf in the quarterfinal. She defeated former world number one Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario in Sunday's final 6-4, 6-"Definitely it was the best

week in my life, it was really tough week, but a great week, beating Monica and Martina (Hingis) "I can't believe that I really won. Today I think I played the best tennis

played in the whole week,

said Majoli who won back to back tournaments last October in Zurich and Filderstadt. The Tokyo victory means she has achieved her 1995 ambition of getting into the world top five. She will move from eight to four in this

week's women's rankings. Majoli suffered pains to her shoulder and needed court side treatment to her right knee before beating Dutch power-server Brenda Schultz McCarthy in the sec-

ond round in Tokyo. She said she thought about abandoning her quarterfinal against Seles because she could not serve and needed three hours of treatment after the match. But Majoli who came out academy with Seles, never hesitated to attack the Yugoslav-American, relying on her dangerous forehand to score a 1-6 (7-5), 6-4 victory. "I expected a close

of Nick Bollettieris' tennis

match," said Majoli, who had taken only seven games off Seles in their previous two encounters. But I didn't expect to in. because she played really

couldn't believe I won." After returning from a two year layoff after being stabbed

good since she came back.



IVA MAJOLI

comed applying to his one. by a spectator in Germany, Seles easily won her first WTA tournament at the Canadian Open in August. She then crashed to Graf

in the US Open final and took the rest of 1995 off with left knee and right ankle injuries. But she won in Sydner and then took her fourth

Australian Open, where archrival Graf was absent. "She's the number one player in the world. Of

course, it means a lot to me.

said Majoli of her win over Seles last week. After you beat a top player

in the world, you start to believe more in yourself. "I've been working really hard in the last couple of months and I think that work is paying

Majoli again needed court side treatment to her left thigh during her 3-6, 6-3, 6-0 win over 15-year-old Swiss star Hingis - her doubles partner, in the semifinals in Tokyo. She proved her win

against Seles was no fluke by beating Sanchez pulverising the Spaniard's pre-match plan to charge to the net. Seles said, "She played a

great match. I don't know what happened after the first set . . . but I lost the match that's the reality." Hingis said: "It's difficult to play against someone who has tape on her shoulder and

both legs. She looked like she was in a war or something but she moved much better than I ever saw her." Sanchez said my goal is to see if I can move up to number one again, but you have to

keep playing your best. Iva and Martina are improving a Majoh said her first round defeat at the US Open last

year changed her attitude. "My goal for this year is to get into the top five at the end of the year

"I really had a good beginning winning this and playing quarter finals in Australia. think this year could be a really good year for me," said Majoli, who reached at her career-highest of fourth in the world.

Co-hosts stay the course



NEW DELHI, Feb 6: Organisers of the cricket World

Cup insisted on Tuesday that matches would go ahead in Sri Lanka, when the West Indies joined Australia in seeking a change of venue of its matches. Jagmohan Dalmiya, convenor secretary of the Pakistan-India-Lanka Committee (PILCOM), told Reuters by telephone from

his home in Calcutta. Dalmiya was reacting to a decision on Monday by the West Indies Cricket Board of Control (WICBC) to join Australia in seeking a change of venue of their Sri Lankan match for security reasons.

On Monday PILCOM turned down a request from the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) to shift their match following a huge bomb blast

ACROSS

1 Pouting.

4 "-- Lama

8 Popular

name for

poodles

gits after

18 Graham

of dance

growth?

house

selection

of cups?

losers

figure

37 Tease

12 Prompt

13 Semite

14 Enthu-

Ding Dong" 45 French-

15 Three di- 51 Author

17 Gambling 52 Scrap

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

source in

mountain

48 Address

ends

ships ..

53 Emulate

DOWN

1 Pyramid

scheme.

Solution time: 28 mins.

Johnny

Petraglia

all cells

40 Nonsense

in Colombo last Wednesday, blamed on Tamil rebels. which killed up to 80 people and wounded more than 1,200.

Dalmiya said Kenya and Zimbabwe, the other two teams in the group playing in Sri Lanka, had said they would go ahead with their matches. The possibility the West Indies might seek a change of venue had already been considered, he added.

'We will be making a request to the West Indies to reconsider," Dalmiya said. "In their over-anxiety they have reacted in this way."

WICBC said it had taken into account security measures taken by the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka, with the backing of the country's President and security forces, to ensure the safety of West Indies team. But they still decided they did not want to play in Sri

words..."

25 Piccadilly

figure

Pierce"

author

terminus

the moon

32 Dough knot

unfunny

brother

35 Mr. Ziegfeld

36 Decorative

39 Ex-Cabinet

member

character

44 "¿Cómo -

Usted?"

45 Triangular

46 GI enter

42 Object of

28 Anger

33 The

29 Serenade

26 "Mildred

2 Emanation 23 Pinnacle

3 Antelope's 24 Paddock

6 Not merely 27 Wheel-

4 "Silent

Spring'

author

Carson

5 Bellowing

eccentric

7 Heloise's

8 Charlatan

9 "- Gotta

Crow*

10 Shark's

giveaway?

20 "- picture 38 Talk

ganisers had tried to persuade Sri Lanka to allow the matches to be moved, as PIL-COM would lose sponsorship revenue if all 37 matches were not played. But Sri Lanka was adamant they should go ahead on the is-An ACB spokesman in

Sydney said until it had a

formal response from PIL-

COM it could make no com-

A PILCOM source said or-

ment on the latest offers of increased security from Sri Lanka. Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said he doubted the ACB would change its stance even with the assurances of tighter se-

"I believe that the board had made its decision on the basis of an assumption that absolutely maximum efforts would be made by the Sri Lankan government to pre-

serve security," Evans said.

XKWIZCQ

OUFM DGZWEM Yesterday's Cryptoquip: ISHAMIN APLUM ROLE A REFERENCE TO AN ACTOR'S PERFORMANCE OR

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. It you think that X equals (), it will equal () throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error

CRYPTOQUIP OGPNCGK-QWIK DGGRD

KGAKGDCGM PANGK XGN-

HIS LUNCH? Today's Cryptoquip clue. X equals G.

49 Dander

Sanskritik Majlish defeated 19 Risk nasal 54 Carson's Jordan Road Samaj Kalyan Parishad by 20 runs in a First 21 That girl Division cricket league en-22 Triangular counter at the local stadium 26 Year-end Batting first, Majlish piled up 196 for nine in 44 overs. 29 A couple Skipper Milon cracked a sparkling unbeaten 93 off 30 Links goal 31 WWII only 100 deliveries to spear-32 Cushion 33 Round In reply, Jordan Road were bundled out for 176 in 34 Not in the 43.3 overs. Masum was the 35 Saute No matches will be played 36 Male and