any different story.

ternoon.

Krishnamachari

Srikkanth, the coach of the

reigning champions, uttered his

optimism while talking to the

Daily Star at his hotel suit yes-

terday in the afternoon. The 16-

member Indian team were the

last among the three touring

outfits to arrive in the capital,

reaching at the ZIA in the af-

any absolute mission. Our aim

is to play here some good

cricket and try to win the tro-

phy," said a casually dressed Srikkanth, laying on the bed

while discussing about his ex-

in the past as I won Asia Cup

here in 1988 and India A

clinched the previous SAARC

trophy two years back. This

SRIKKANTH

time, I think, we have a better

possibility having lot of tal-

ented youngsters in the side

who are waiting in the wings to

play alongside national mem-

bers in the international level.

consider star cricketers for

their team like Pakistan, the

When asked why they did not

Belgium, Feb 18:

Germany's Boris

Becker is to make

a quick return to

tennis this week

when he plays in the million-

dollar European Community

Championship here from

world, had to pull out of the

Dubai Open last Friday before

his quarterfinal match with

Goran Ivanisevic with an in-

weekend in Munich showed

that the injury was not as seri-

tors gave the 29-year-old fourth

seed permission to test himself

The 1996 Antwerp semifi-

nalist asked for and received a

Wednesday start to play against

Raymond

advances

Fourth-seeded Lisa Raymond

survived six match points in

the third set Monday and held

on to beat Karin Kschwendt of

Austria in the first round of the

sylvania, won 5-7, 6-2, 7-5 and

then left immediately to get

treatment for flue-like symp-

toms. She trailed 3-5, love-40 in

the third set, then came back

seeded player in action Mon-

day. Sixth-seeded Amy Frazier,

who won this event in 1990, was

upset by Francesca Lubiana of

port and Amanda Coetzer won't

play singles until Wednesday, but will play doubles together

plays Tuesday, as does fifth-

seeded Jennifer Capriati.

Top seeds Lindsay Daven-

Third-seeded Kimberly Po

Italy, 7-6, (9-7), 7-5.

on Tuesday.

Raymond was the highest-

from 15-40 in the next game.

Raymond, of Wayne, Penn-

IGA Classic, reports AP.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Feb 18:

ous as originally feared. Doc-

But an examination at the

Becker, ranked 11th in the

Wednesday, reports AFP.

jured wrist.

this week on court.

Czech Petr Korda.

Srikkanth added.

" Dhaka has favoured India

pectation in the meet.

"We have not come here with

BEXIMCO tennis

Tofazzal in Round 3

Eight boys, four of them In-dians, two Thais and one each from Korea and host Bangladesh, advanced to the third round on the second day of the BEXIMCO eleventh international junior tennis championships yesterday, reports UNB.

Tofazzal Hossain who got rid of compatriot Nadeem Kamran by 6-1, 6-4 at the Ramna Tennis Complex will be the only host qualifier for the third round of the boys' singles among the

Other local boys, M H Obhi lost to Indian Y Dandeep by 0-2 sets, S Faisal was outplayed by Thai Udomchoka Danai by same margin and Salahuddin lost to G Mustafa of India by 1-2

In the other boys' singles, Sudhakar of India beat compatriot Karanveer by 2-0 sets, Yeon Lee of Korea outplayed Ravishankar of India 2-0, Ataboost of Thailand beat Hyung Joon Ko 2-0 and Indian Mahadevan outwitted compatriot Akshay Vishal on their way to the third round.

Besides, eight boys' singles consolation matches, eight boys' doubles and eight girls' singles were also held in the

One-dayer

Australia 319/3 against Boland

PAARL, South Africa, Feb 18: Australia scored 319 for three off their 50 overs in the day-night match against Boland today, reports Reuter.

SCOREBOARD AUSTRALIA

Taylor c Jackson b Truter M Waugh retired M Bevan not out J Langer c Vorster b Albanie G Blewett not out Extras: (lb-3, w-6, nb-1) Total: (for three wickets, 50 overs)

Fall of wickets: 1-155; 2-174; 3-278 Did not bat: M Hayden, M

Elliott, P Reiffel, S Warne, J Gillespie, G McGrath. Bowling

Telemachus Albanie Jackson 45 Vorster Truter 43 (Incomplete)

Martina leads earners' list

ST PETERSBURG, Florida. Feb 18 (Reuter): Leading money winners in women's tennis this year as issued by the WTA Tour on Monday (earnings in dol-

. Martina Hingis 828,615 230,529 . Mary Pierce 3. Natasha Zvereva 140,807 4. Lindsay Davenport 133,516 Amanda Coetzer 128, 798 125,394 6. Fernandez 110, 307 Anke Huber 8. Irina Spirlea 90,645 9. Steffi Graf 10. Sabine Appelmans 80, 815 11. Kimberly Po 79, 803 12. Van Roost 78, 343 13. Lisa Raymond 74, 947 72, 722 14. Chanda Rubin 15. Schultz-McCarthy 68, 440 Karina Habsudova 65, 024 17. Conchita Martinez 64, 660 18. Gigi Fernandez 54, 519 19. Larisa Neiland 54, 234 20. Iva Majoli 53, 904

Matthaeus availful

BONN, Feb 18: Former World Cup captain Lother Matthaeus will be fit to play in Bayern Munich's clash with Karlsruhe is the German Cup quarterfinals on Wednesday despite hurting his thigh at the weekend, reports Reuter.

Matthaeus had to leave the field in the first half of Bayern's 3-0 defeat of St. Pauli on Saturday when the Bundesliga resumed action after the winter break and he had been expected to be ruled out of the cup game. But the Bayern captain said

on Monday: "Things are looking okay. It shouldn't be a problem for Wednesday. Bayern, who hold a two-

point lead over reigning champions Borussia Dortmund, are on course for the league and cup double. After their early exit from Europe this season, the UEFA Cup holders are even more determined to get domestic success.

"Of course we want the double, this goal is in all our minds," said captain Juergen Klinsmann who returned to form with two goals against St. Pauli after a disappointing first half to the season when he was criticised for not hitting the

The performance went down well with chairman Franz Beckenbauer who wants to see more entertaining football from Bayern despite their posi-

tion in the table. Beckenbauer was not in Munich's Olympic Stadium at the weekend because he was in South Africa but he watched the

game on television. "What pleased me was the way we won," the former World Cup-winning coach and captain said on Monday. "We needed to be critical of ourselves because we were not convincing in the

first half of the season. "A victory like this is important as a signal for the next few weeks so were Klinsmann's two goals, strikers need to feel right and those two goals will have improved his confidence."

VFB Stuttgart, who played some of the most entertaining football in the first half of the season, renewed their campaign with a disappointing 1-0 defeat at Schalke and are now eight points behind Bayern in fourth

India counting on pattern

Sports Reporter

pable of playing cricket at this level. Well Pakistanis, as I have Dhaka has always been a happy hunting ground for Inheard, are certainly a good and dia, and this time for the India balanced side. But that does not A, one of the four squads in the ensure a victory because cricket third SAARC cricket tournais a funny game and everything ment which kicks off at the depends on the performance of Dhaka Stadium this morning, the particular day." hopefully, things, will not be of



Answering to a question about who are the players to be watched in the tournament Srikkanth specially mentioned the name of emerging Mumbai opener Waseem Jaffer." He is a gifted right-hand bat who scored a triple century against Saurashtra. We have another

TODAY'S MATCH Third SAARC cricket tour-

nament (Venue: Dhaka Stadium) Bangladesh vs Pakistan A (9:15 am)

Umpires: I Ananappa (Sri anka) and S K Bansal (India). Match adjudicator: Mujibul laque Montu. Lunch break 12:45 pm to :25 pm

good left-handed batsman in Amay Khurasiya . Besides, Ajay Sharma is also an experienced player, and I expect some good all-round show from Sairaj Bahutule who was here in the previous meet. Furthermore, Debashish Mohanty of Orissa is an impressive fast bowler ." Srikkanth, however,

pointed out that his team initially might face some problems playing on synthetic turf. But I think this will not be a big headache as other teams except the hosts will have to cope with the same problem."This will be easier after playing one or two matches on such type of wicket," predicted the former dashing Indian opener.

Srikkanth also hoped confident Indian coach said." Bangladesh a success in the We have picked the boys basing meet and said, "Bangladesh on their recent performance in have some good talented playthe domestic cricket and thinkers and what they need is more ing on the future .They are ca-

Also getting a late start for

medical reasons will be second

seed Chile's Marcelo Rios, who

pulled up in the middle of the

final in Marseille on Sunday.

handing the title to Swede

ATP Tour list, opens against

Romanian Adrian Voinea.

at Dubai

Rios, now up to sixth on the

Tim Henman, Britain's sixth

seed, has a lot to prove after

winning an event to start the

year, doing moderately well at

the Australian Open, then

crashing out in the first round

exposures . I have heard that Gordon Greenidge has taken over the teamis responsibility. It's a positive sign for your cricket and I hope he will tune up a good team for the future especially in the ICC Trophy."

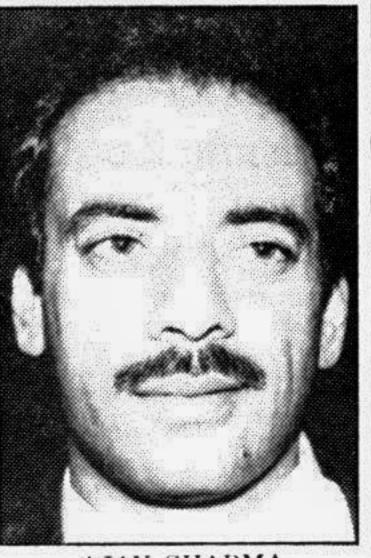
"I saw their performance in

the ACC Trophy last year and was really impressed with Aminul Islam Bulbul and Mohammad Rafique who seemed capable of playing in any inter-national side," said Srikkanth who was the match adjudicator of the ACC final in Malaysia.

Although Srikkanth seemed well aware of Bangladesh cricket, captain Ajay Sharma, was found in complete dark about the hosts.

A visibly tired Indian Test discard whose afternoon nap seemed disturbed by this correspondent said, "I am not very clear about Bangladesh , but] think they have a good chance in the tournament as they are habituated to play on the synthetic turf."

About his own team's prospect, Sharma said, "We are the defending champions and



We are a balanced side and those who are there in the team have done very well in the do-

that is the synthetic turf here. Tomorrow we have a practice session and let us see how it works for us," said Sharma while commenting on the Synthetic turf.

Hosts to miss Nannu, Rafique

Sports Reporter

Minhazul Abedin Nannu. the experienced middle-order batsman, and left-arm spinner Mohammed Rafique are certain to be out of the Bangladesh eleven for today's match against Pakistan that will mark the beginning of the third SAARC cricket tournament.

Nannu, the former national skipper, is nursing an injury on his hand sustained during a practice session at the Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protishtthan (BKSP) in Savar a couple of day's back while Rafique had his ankle badly injured vesterday.

Rafique, it was learnt, had his ankle damaged when the car driven by Enamul Huq Moni, the senior of the two left arm spinners in the squad hit him during a preatice session. Enamul Haq Moni who recently came to reckoning for selection in the national team after a serving punitive measure on disciplinary ground was driv-ing close to the practice ground. It was, however, not yet confirmed immedietely how grave the injury was, but a reliable BCB source informed the injury was bad enough to rule the tweaker out of the whole tournament.

Meanwhile, it was earlier reported in a Bengali daily that a few players took their cars at the BRSP apparently, after being given the green signal by the authorities.

Orient, Railway record wins

Sports Reporter

Orient Sporting Club and Bangladesh Railway won their respective super league matches of the Acme Second Division cricket held at different city venues yesterday.

At the City Club ground Orient Sporting handed Khelaghar Samaj Kalyan Sangstha a crushing 125-run defeat.

Opting to bat, Orient piled up a huge 237 for nine in their stipulated 45 overs with opener Mahmudul Haque hammering highest 46. Habib and Barkat added 25 and 23 runs respectively to the winners' account.

Orient's new ball bowler Joy captured four wickets for 35 runs while Habib took three wickets.

In the day's other match a the T&T ground, Bangladesh Railway registered a 16-run win over India Road Krira Chakra.

Electing to bat in a low scoring affair, Railway scored 14 in 38.4 overs before they were all out. On the other hand, Indira Road could manage only 125 runs in 33 overs before being bowled out. the ferring held

FIFA warns Cameroon

YAOUNDE, Cameroon, Feb 18: World soccer's governing body has warned Cameroon that they could be suspended from all international competition, including the World Cup, if they don't immediately pay overdue wages to one of their former players, reports AP.

The suspension threat. signed by FIFA secretary general Joseph Sepp Blatter, was sent to newly-elected Cameroon football federation (FECA-FOOT) president Vincent

FIFA ordered FECAFOOT to pay Cameroon's veteran goalkeeper Joseph Antoine Bell about 37 million cfa (74,000 dollars) which it has owed him since the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

FIFA said Cameroon would be suspended from FIFA-organised competitions if they didn't immediately pay Bell. That could mean an automatic suspension from the 1998 World Cup in France.

The money dispute goes back to the 1994 World Cup, when Bell led a players' revolt against the national federation. The goalkeeper threatened

to lead a team boycott of the game against Brazil over the federation's failure to pay the players' qualification bonuses.

Grobbelaar's funny tale

WINCHESTER, England, Feb 18: Former Liverpool goal-keeper Bruce Grobbelaar said on Monday he had been drunk when a video showing him allegedly discussing fixing soccer matches was secretly shot, reports Reuter.

Grobbelaar told a court trying him for match-fixing that he had been drinking on October 6, 1994, when the video was shot and everything he said came off the top of his head.

On the tape which triggered the start of an investigation into Grobbelaar after it was shown on British television. the goalkeeper talks about making the "blinding" saves against Manchester United in a game he is alleged to have thrown". He said he was his own

"worst enemy" on that because he does not like to lose. Prosecutor David Calvert Smith said: "You seem to be saying they were blinding saves. and it was your instinct that forces you to do it?"

cleared

probe into allegations that Ran-

gers star Paul Gascoigne shou-

ted abuse at a 12-year-old boy

was dropped because of "in-

sufficient evidence," police said

Monday, reports AFP.

GLASGOW, Feb 18: A police

"That's what it looks like." Grobbelaar said. Gascoigne

the bus.



take part in the third SAARC four-nation tournament that gets underway today. - Star photo

AJAY SHARMA: Captain. Born: Delhi, 3-4-1964. Righthand middle-order batsman and left-arm slow bowler. FC debut: 1984-85. Test Debut: v WI, Madras 1987-88. 53 runs lavg. 26.50). HS: 30.0 wkts. 1 catch. ODI debut: v WI, Calcutta, 2-1-1988. 31 matches. 424 runs (avg. 20.19), HS: 59 v Zim, Pune. 25-3-93, 50's: 3.15 wkts (avg. 58.33). Best: 341 v Aus. Banga lore. 27-10-89. R/O: 4-60.6 catches. Captaining India "A" for the first time. Toured Bangladesh in December 1992 for the first SAARC tournament.

AMAY KHURASIYA: Vice captain. Born: Jabalpur, 18-5-1972. Left-hand middle-order batsman and occasional leftarm slow bowler. FC debut: 1989-90. Has not appeared in any Tests and ODIs for India. Appearing for India "A" for the first time.

HEMANG BADANI: Born Madras, 14-11-1976. Left-hand middle-order batsman and leftarm slow bowler. FC debut 1996-97. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India. Appearing for India "A" for the first time.

SAIRAJ BAHUTULE: Born: Bombay, 6-1-1973. Left-hand middle-order batsman and right-arm leg-break bowler. FC debut: 1991-92. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India. Toured Bangladesh in December, 1994 for the second SAARC tournament. Toured Kenva with India "A" in August

NOEL DAVID: Born: Hyder-

abad, 26-2-1971. Right-hand middle-order batsman and right-arm off-break bowler. FC debut, 1992-93. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India. Appearing for India "A" for the first time.

THUMBNATH SKONGHOS

NIKHIL HALDIPUR: Born: Calcutta, 19-12-1977. Lefthand middle-order batsman and occasional right-arm medium pace bowler. FC debut: 1994-95. Has not appeared in any Tests and ODIs for India. Appearing for India "A" for the first time. HARVINDER SINGH: Bo-

rn: Amritsar, 23-12-77. Righthand tail-end batsman and right-arm fast-medium bowler. FC debut: 1995-96. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India. Appearing for India "A" for the first time. DEBASHISH MOHANTY:

Born: Bhubaneshwar, 20-7-1976. Right-hand lower-order batsman and right-arm fastmedium bowler. MANNAVA SK PRASAD:

Born: Guntur, 24-4-75. Righthand middle-order batsman and wicket-keeper. FC debut: 1994-95. Has not appeared in any Tests and ODIs for India. Appearing for India "A" for the first time. RAHUL SANGHVI: Born: Surat, 3-9-1970. Left-hand tailend batsman and left-arm slow

Has not appeared in any Tests and ODIs for India. Appearing for India "A" for the first time. ARINDAM SARKAR: Born: Calcutta, 12-8-1973. Left-

handed tail-end batsman and

bowler. FC debut: 1994-95. (for

Railways): 1995-96 (for Delhi).

right-arm medium pacer. FC debut: 1994-95. Has not appeared in any Tests and ODIs for India. Appearing for India A for the first time SHARATH SRIDHARAN:

Born: Madras, 31-10-1972. Lefthand middle-order batsman and occasional right-arm offbreak bowler. FC Debut: 1992-93. Has not appeared in any Tests and ODIs for India. Appearing for India for the first SUKHBIR SINGH: Born:

Gurudaspur, 3-1-1974. Righthanded tail-end batsman and right-hand medium pacer. FC debut: 1993-94. Has not appeared in any Tests and ODIs for India. Appearing for India A for the first time. WASSEM JAFFER: Born:

Bombay, 16-2-1978, Right-hand opening batsman and occasional right-hand leg-break bowler. FC debut: 1996-97. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India. Appearing for India A for the first time.

KRISHNAMACHARI SRIK-KANTH (Coach): Born: Madras, 12-12-1958. I tht-hand opening batsman and right-arm off-break bowler. FC career (1978-79 to 1992-93): 134 matches, 7349 runs (avg. 34.99). HS: 172 for TN vs Karnataka at Madras, 1980-81; 12 100s & 45 50s: 29 wkts. Best: 3-14 for TN vs Rest of India. Test career (1981-82 to 1991/9/2) or 13 matches, 2062 runs (avg 29,88)

PROF RR ROHI (Manager): He is the secretary of the Himachal Pradesh Cricket Associa-

ported Monday that FINA has

expressed concern to the Irish

Amateur Swimming Associa-

tion about the difficulty drug-

testers have faced in trying to

tained documents showing that

sampling control officers from

International Doping Tests and

Management arrived unan-

nounced at Smith's residence in

Celbridge, County Kildare, on

eration on Jan. 16, attaching

the report on Smith's unavail-

ability and noting, "in order to

prevent any sanction in the fu-

ture, it is important that each

swimmer be responsible for

his/her federation of his/her

schedule and that the informa-

FINA wrote to the Irish fed-

The newspaper said it ob-

contact Smith.

Oct 13.

Michelle in hot water



Irish swimmer Michelle Smith. who won three gold medals and a bronze at the Atl-

anta Olympics, is one "noshow" away from a possible four-year ban for failure to make herself available for drug testing, reports AP.

Smith, whose Olympic performances provoked rumours and allegations of drug use, was absent when a team of drug testers turned up at her home in Ireland four months ago, the sport's world governing body confirmed Monday.

While stressing that Smith was not yet in violation of its rules, the international swimming federation (FINA) said that a second "no-show" could result in sanctions.

"The rules state that two noshow is considered a violation and you may be sanctioned," FINA director Cornel Marculescu said. "We are not yet at this stage. To date. Michelle Smith does not violate FINA rules. In the case of a second non-

show, FINA's independent doping panel would look into the case and decide whether to apply any punishment.

A swimmer who misses two drug tests "could be considered to have refused to submit to doping control," Marculescu said by telephone from FINA headquarters in Lausanne. Switzerland.

The penalty for refusing a dope test is a four-year ban, the same sanction as for testing positive for steroids.

The "no-show" rule was adopted at FINA's congress during the Atlanta Games.

Smith has repeatedly denied ever using performance-enhancing drugs. Suspicions about Smith's phenomenal progress were raised in Atlanta by members of the US team. including Janet Evans and women's coach Richard Quick.

In Atlanta, Smith won the 400m freestyle, 200 individual medley and 400 individual medley. She also took bronze in the 200 butterfly.

"I just have to laugh at it," Smith said in Atlanta of the

Shocking! MELBOURNE, Feb 18: A lea-

ding Australian soccer player has been left blinded in one eye after rival fans attacked his team's bus with bottles and rocks, reports AP.

Adelaide City midfielder Angelo Costanzo will find out on Tuesday if he has permanently lost the sight of his lfet eye after his pupil was cut by flying glass as hooligans pelted

G-477



MITCHELLE SMITH

rumours. "Every time I'm tested it's always negative, and I'm tested again and again and again. For every one time a person on the US national team is tested, I'm tested five times."

Each national federation gives FINA a list of the addresses and daily movements of its top swimmers so they can be tracked down by drug-testers for unannounced, out-of-competition controls. The Times of London re-

tion is forwarded to FINA in Smith's agent, John Gibbons, said Monday in Dublin that the swimmer was in the United States to receive an award at the time of the drug testers' visit. Smith did submit to the test once she got back a

"It's all innuendo and it's all designed to hurt her career," he

few day later, he said.

Bangladesh Rice Research Institute Gazipur

Tender Notice

No-21(96-97) for Purchasing Vehicle Sealed tenders are invited from bonafide dealers/agents of

vehicles, standard fixed by the government, for purchasing a bus under Rice Research Strengthening Project (Programme) of Bangladesh Rice Research Institute.

2.5% of the total quoted price as earnest money should be submitted with the tender through Pay Order/Demand Draft from any approved commercial bank in favour of the Director General, BRRI. Interested firms can collect tender schedule with rules & regulations of supplying vehicle on cash payment of Tk 750 (seven hundred fifty) only (nonrefundable) from the Accounts Department of BRRI, Gazipur on all working days during office hours. Tenders should be submitted in the tender box kept at the office chamber of the Director General, BRRI, Gazipur within 12:00 Noon of 27/2/97. Tender box will be opened on the same day at 12:30 PM before the tenderers (if any) present. No schedule will be sold on the date of receiving tender and tenders received late will not be acceptable.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason and is not bound to accept the lowest tender.

Md Hedayetul Islam DFP-3322-15/2 Deputy Director-in-Charge (Administration) on behalf of the Director General

on the Estoril circuit near Lisbon on Feb 17. The 1997 Formula One session will start later - Reuter/UNB photo in March with the Australian Grand Prix.

AJAY SHARMA we have come here to retain the

mestic cricket. Everybody is in good touch and capable of per-"Only one thing is new to us

forming better.

Becker returns to court 3-6, 6-4, 7-5 but Spain's fifth seed Felix Mantilla dropped only three games against Ger-

many's Bernd Karbacher.

Sweden's Mikael Tillstrom ousted Hernan Gumy of Art gentina 4:6, 6-1, 6:4; Martin Sinner lost 6-7 (5/7), 6-4, 6-3 to Martin Damm of the Czech Republic and Belgium's towering Dick Norman beat Damm's compatriot Bohdan Ulihrach who was forced to retire with Norman leading 5-2.

Today's programme features an all-German afternoon battle between seventh seed and defending champion Michael Stich and Marc Goellner, a first-round loser a week ago to Becker in Dubai.

SYDNEY, Feb 18: (AP): They'll be coming from Germany, France, Italy, Croatia Japan. From everywhere, in

ing camp in London from Feb 24-26 it will be only the overnational coach Terry Venables. The camp is designed to pre-

internationals against Macedonia on March 12 and Hungary on April 2 — matches that will feature not one player based in Australia. Former Barcelona, Totten

Venables used Australian-based players for a Four Nations tournament last month and the socceroos responded by beating

The London-based player plays today against wildcard Sergi Bruguera of Spain, a dual French Open winner who has improved his form recently on Also starting here Wednes-

Forget. On Monday, Germany's little-known Nicholas Kiefer caused a major upset when he put out eighth-seeded Jan Siemerink of the Netherlands



BORIS BECKER

the unfamiliar indoor carpet. day will be the top-seeded Ivanisevic, now back to third in

the world after losing the Dubai final to Austria's Thomas Muster. He plays France's Guy Terry striving for variety

and Greece. From Malaysia and fact, except Australia.

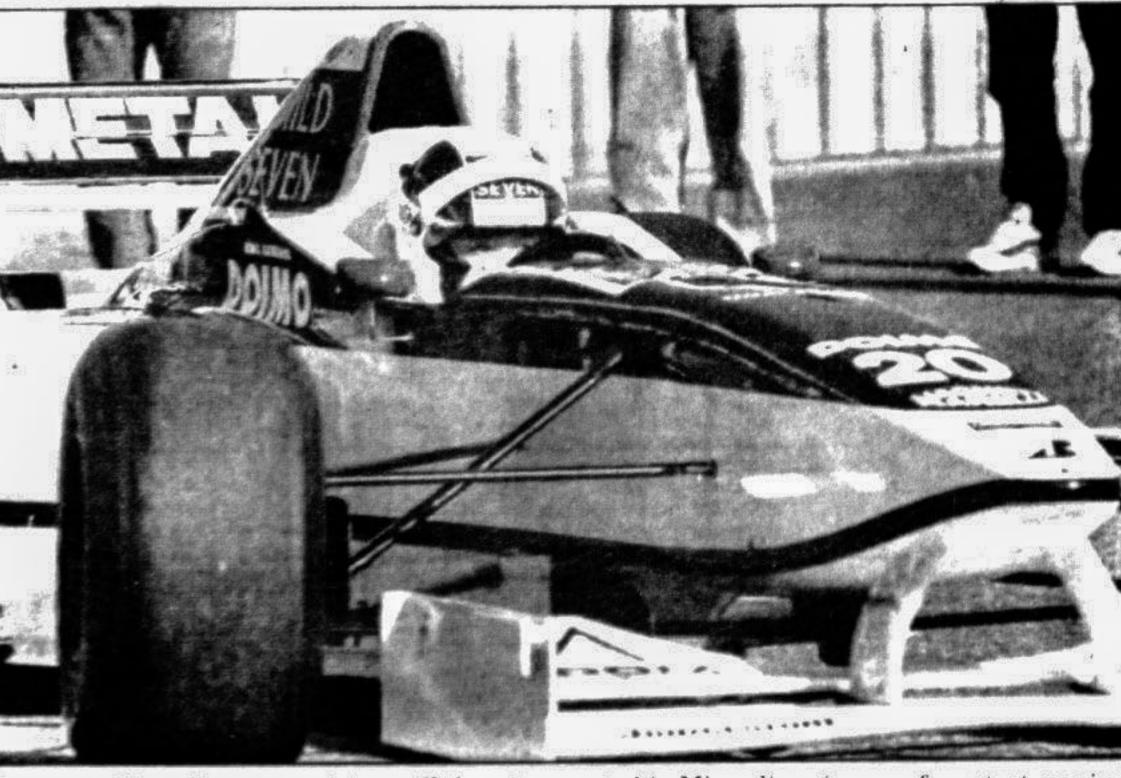
When the Australian soccer squad gets together for a trainseas-based professionals who get the chance to impress new

pare the Australian squad for ham and England manager

South Korea. Norway and New Venables is putting together a squad to help Australia qualify for next year's World Cup in

France and wants to canvas all

his options.



Japanese Ukyo Katayama drives off the pit area in his Minardi racing car for a test session