

Sport

BEXIMCO tennis Tofazzal in Round 3

Eight boys, four of them Indians, 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.

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.

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 dollars):

Matthaeus availful

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

Raymond advances

OKLAHOMA CITY, Feb 18: 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 IGA Classic, reports AP.

Terry striving for variety

SYDNEY, Feb 18: (AP): They'll be coming from Germany, France, Italy, Croatia and Greece. From Malaysia and Japan. From everywhere, in fact, except Australia.

Grobbelaar's funny tale

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

Gascoigne cleared

GLASGOW, Feb 18: A police probe into allegations that Rangers star Paul Gascoigne shouted abuse at a 12-year-old boy was dropped because of "insufficient evidence," police said Monday, reports AP.

India counting on pattern

Dhaka has always been a happy hunting ground for India, and this time for the India A, one of the four squads in the third SAARC cricket tournament which kicks off at the Dhaka Stadium this morning, hopefully, things will not be of any different story.



SRIKKANTH time, I think, we have a better possibility having lot of talented youngsters in the side who are waiting in the wings to play alongside national members in the international level," Srikkanth added.



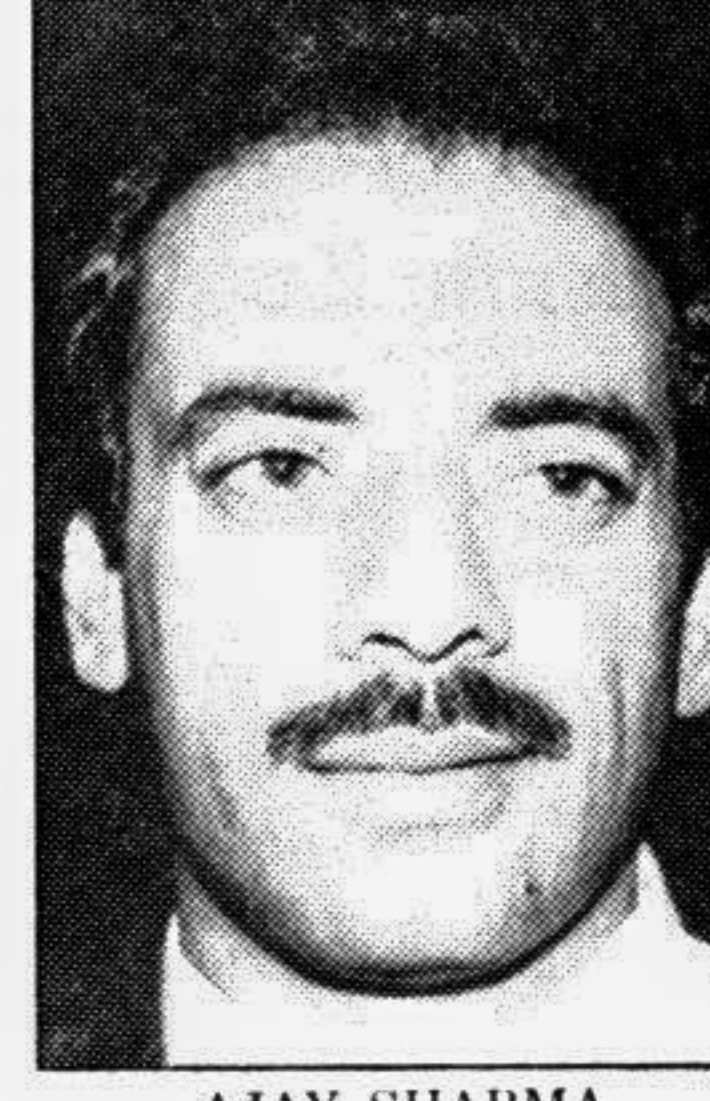
ANSWERING TO A QUESTION about who are the players to be watched in the tournament Srikkanth specially mentioned the name of emerging Mumbai opener Wassem Jaffer. He is a gifted right-hand bat who scored a triple century against Saurashtra. We have another

Today's Match Third SAARC cricket tournament (Venue: Dhaka Stadium) Bangladesh vs Pakistan A (9:15 am)

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

exposures. I have heard that this level. Well Pakistanis, as I have heard, are certainly a good and balanced side. But that does not ensure a victory because cricket is a funny game and everything depends on the performance of the particular day."

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



AJAY SHARMA we have come here to retain the title. "We are a balanced side and those who are there in the team have done very well in the domestic cricket. Everybody is in good touch and capable of performing better."

Becker returns to court

ANTWERP, 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 Wednesday, reports AP.

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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 Sweden's Thomas Enqvist.

Rios, now up to sixth on the ATP Tour list, opens against Romanian Adrian Panu.

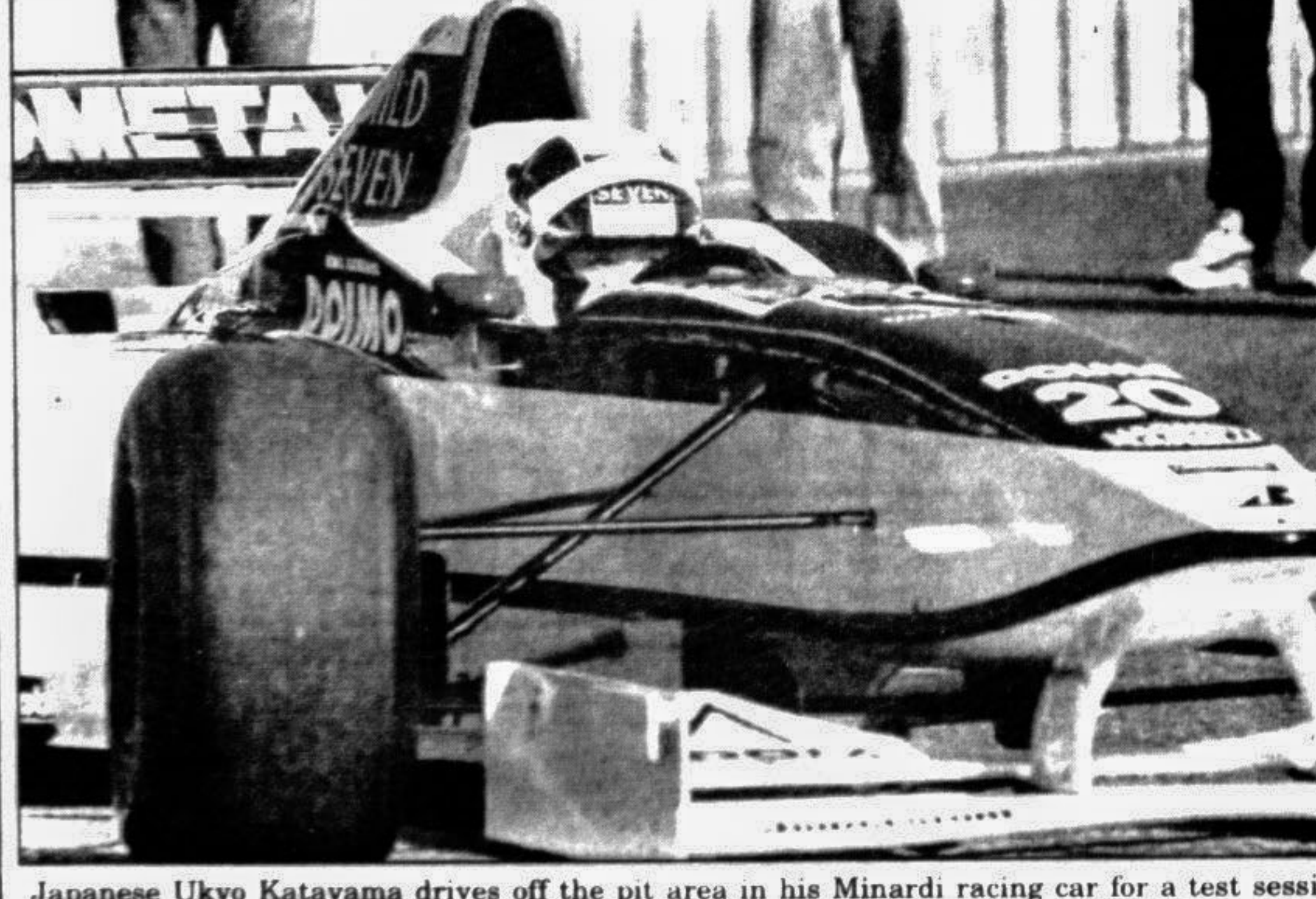
Tim Henman, Britain's sixth seed, has a lot to prove after winning an event to start the year, doing moderately well at the Australian Open, then crashing out in the first round at Dubai.

Boris Becker

The London-based player plays today against wildcard Sergi Bruguera of Spain, a dual French Open winner who has improved his form recently on the unfamiliar indoor carpet.

Also starting here Wednesday 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 Forget.

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



Japanese Ukyo Katayama drives off the pit area in his Minardi racing car for a test session on the Estoril circuit near Lisbon on Feb 17. The 1997 Formula One session will start later in March with the Australian Grand Prix. — Reuter/UNB photo

Hosts to miss Nannu, Rafique

Sports Reporter Min hazul 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.

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.

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.

Saij Bahutule: Born: Madras, 14-11-1976. Left-hand middle-order batsman and left-arm slow bowler. FC debut: 1996-97. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India.

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.

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The players and officials of the India A cricket team that arrived at the ZIA yesterday to take part in the third SAARC four-nation tournament that gets underway today. — Star photo

THUMBNAIL SKETCHES

AJAY SHARMA: Captain. Born: Delhi, 3-4-1964. Right-hand middle-order batsman and left-arm slow bowler. FC debut: 1984-85. Test Debut: v WI, Madras 1987-88. 53 runs (avg. 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, Bangalore, 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 left-arm slow bowler. FC debut: 1989-90. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India.

HEMANG BADANI: Born: Madras, 14-11-1976. Left-hand middle-order batsman and left-arm slow bowler. FC debut: 1996-97. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India.

SAIJ 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.

DEBASHISH MOHANTY: Born: Bhubaneswar, 20-7-1976. Right-hand lower-order batsman and right-arm fast-medium bowler. FC debut: 1994-95. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India.

RAHUL SANGHVI: Born: Surat, 3-9-1970. Left-hand tall-end batsman and left-arm slow bowler. FC debut: 1994-95. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India.

NOEL DAVID: Born: Hyderabad, 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.

SHARATH SRIDHARAN: Born: Madras, 31-10-1972. Left-hand middle-order batsman and occasional right-arm off-break bowler. FC debut: 1992-93. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India.

SUKHBIR SINGH: Born: Gurudaspur, 3-1-1974. Right-hand tall-end batsman and right-hand medium pacer. FC debut: 1993-94. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India.

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.

KRISHNAMACHARI SRIKANTH (Coach): Born: Madras, 12-12-1958. Right-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 1994-95): 101 matches, 2062 runs (avg 29.88).

PROF R.R. ROHI (Manager): He is the secretary of the Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association.

NIKHIL HALDIPUR: Born: Calcutta, 19-12-1977. Left-hand middle-order batsman and occasional right-arm off-break bowler. FC debut: 1992-93. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India.

HARVINDER SINGH: Born: Amritsar, 23-12-77. Right-hand tall-end batsman and right-arm fast-medium bowler. FC debut: 1995-96. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India.

MANNAVA SK PRASAD: Born: Guntur, 24-4-75. Right-hand middle-order batsman and wicket-keeper. FC debut: 1994-95. Has not appeared in any Tests or ODIs for India.

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Michelle in hot water

LONDON, Feb 18: Irish swimmer Michelle Smith, who won three gold medals and a bronze at the Atlanta Olympics, is one "no-show" away from a possible four-year ban for failure to make herself available for drug testing, reports AP.



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."

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

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 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."

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

Smith's Olympic performances provoked rumors 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 no-show 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 leading 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 left eye after his pupil was cut by flying glass as hooligans pelted the bus.

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 (non-refundable) 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 accepted. 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 G-477