from Apr 11

Sports Reporter

uled to end on April 14.

the tournament referee.

officials of the tourney.

sports meet.

According to the general sec-

retary of BTTF Ishtiaq Ahmed.

this will the first time that two

Asian regional sports federa-

tions are getting involved in a

Talking to the Daily Star

yesterday. Ishtiaq said. "There

will be a meeting among the of-

ficials of the participating na-

tions on the formation of a pro-

posed SAARC-ASEAN Table

championships, Ishtiaq said

'We have proposed the idea of a

championships at youth-level.

The 12 nations are — Singa-

to play in

Dubai hockey

HYDERABAD, Apr 5: Arch-

About the future of the

Tennis Federation.'

Rain plays foul Going against the grain in Antigua

ST JOHN'S, Antigua, Apr 5: Rain forced the second day of the fourth Test between the West Indies and India at the Recreation ground to be abandoned today without a ball being bowled, reports AFP.

The first day of the Test yesterday was also abandoned for

the same reason. Several pools of water have developed across the saturated outfield due to steady overnight rain which has continued unabated

Umpires Steve Bucknor and Bulathsinghalage Cooray. along with the teams, returned to their hotels from where the decision of abandonment was made.

They were to return to the ground in time for an 18:00 GMT inspection but there was no need through the persistent rainfall.

Australia 211 for nine

DURBAN, Apr 5: Australia scored 211 for nine from their 50 overs against South Africa in the fourth of the best-ofseven one-day international series at Kingsmead today, reports Reuter.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the fourth one-day international between South Africa and Australia at Kingsmead on Saturday: AUSTRALIA:

Di Venuto run out Blewett c Crookes b Bryson Law c Kallis b Pollock · S Waugh c Crookes b Donald Bevan run out

Gilchrist c Cronje b Pollock Healy c Richardson b Pollock 19 Warne b Bryson Bichel Ibw b Pollock Dale not out Gillespie not out

Extras: (lb-2, nb-1) Total: (for nine wickets) Fall of wickets: 1-29; 2-40; 3-

48; 4-50; 5-83; 6-129; 7-153; 8-195; 9-198. Bowling: 33 Pollock Bryson Donald Kallis Crookes Cronje

Inter-varsity chess results

(Incomplete)

Sports Reporter

Md Rafur Rahman Roni of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) maintained his solo lead in the BEXIMCO first inter-university chess tournament at the IUB's chess club yesterday, says a press release. At the end of the fourth round, Roni's points collection stood at three and a half.

Four players were in second spot half a point behind. They were: Shumon Malik (JU), Numayr Enam (IUB), Sharif Md Javed (DU) and Arif Mohammad (NSU).

The final round is today In all, is players, from nine universities are taking part in the tourney.

Menotti to coach Sampdoria

ROME, Apr 5: Argentina's former World Cup-winning coach Cesar Luis Menotti could be at Sampdoria next season while Napoli have chosen Piacenza's Bortolo Mutti as their new boss. Italian newspapers said today, reports Reuter.

The Gazzetta Dello Sport said the 59-old chain-smoking independente coach, who has spent time in Spain with Barcelona and Atletico Madrid, was increasingly mentioned as the man most likely to replace Sweden's Sven-Goran Eriksson

TODAY'S MATCHES

Second Division Football League:

(Venue: Dhaka Stadium) Eskaton SS vs Little Friend's Club (2 pm) Shantinagar Club vs City

Club (4 pm) (Venue: Mirpur Stadium) BG Press vs East End Boy's

Club (2 pm) Adamiee SCC vs Mahakhali Ekadash (4 pm)

(Venue: Rajuk ground) Gandaria Famous Club vs

Prantik KC (2 pm) 8th Bata Schools Handball Championships: (Girl's final, Venue: Women

Sports Complex) Viguarunnissa School vs

Maghbazar Girls' High School (4 pm).

Woodbridge and Woodforde. winners of eight Grand Slam titles, dropped the first set after a shaky Woodbridge twice lost his serve, but then quickly estab-

Instead. Woodbridge and Woodforde played with their customary assurance, racing to a 4-1 in the second set before a brief rain delay and then wrapping up the set when they broke

Rikl's serve for the second time. The Australian pair also broke Rikl's serve in the 11th game of the third set and the

up the triumph. at home," Woodbridge said. "The crowd can really help you if you start nervously- like we did to-

Woodforde revelled in playing a Davis Cup match for the town crowd.

here," he said. "There is no bethome.

poussis scored singles victories Friday to put the Australians in command.

Rafter scored 6-1, 7-6 (9-7), 4-6, 6-4 victory over Damm and Philippoussis then overpowered late replacement Rikl 6-1.

into the contest as an underdog after the retirement from Davis Cup play of stalwart Petr Korda and the unavailability of Bohdan Ulihrach. Daniel Vacek and Slava Dosedel.

Jiri Novak, their No 2 singles player, then was forced to withdraw from the singles with

Steffi Graf, whose signature was on all the tax returns, has always denied any involvement in the affair, saying she had entrusted financial matters to her father and his advisers from an early age. The seven-times Wimbledon champion, who has not played

since the semifinals of a tournament in Tokyo on February 1 because of a knee injury, could make a return to the court at the end of April in the German Open.

Stars for destitute

NEW DELHI, Apr 5: Martina Hingis, Steffi Graf, Carlos Moya and other tennis stars are helping an Indian charity raise money to care for destitute and mentally handicapped women. reports AP.

An auction of bric-a-brac signed by the world tennis superstars is planned Sunday in the southern city of Madras.

Two copies of Sports Illustrated magazine autographed by Graf, a T-shirt signed by 1997 Sydney International finalists Hingis, Jennifer Capriati, Moya and Tim Henman and a pair of tennis shoes with Monica Seles' autograph will be auctioned. UNI said.

The Banyan is a three-yearold voluntary organisation that has helped more than 140 destitute women rebuild their lives.



which have been front-page

news in Germany, officially

started in April 1995. The

homes of Graf and her father

Peter were searched the follow-

early this year to three years

STEFFI GRAF

and nine months in jail for ac-

tual and attempted tax evasion

on Steffi's income.

the sentence.

amounting to 12 million marks

Joachim Eckardt received two

and a half years for complicity.

remain free because prosecutors

and defence appealed against

Steffi and the case against her

father were conducted sepa-

Former family tax adviser

But both Graf and Eckardt

The investigations against

Graf's father was sentenced

ing month.

BONN, Apr 5: Ste-

ffi Graf reluctan-

ly paid 1.3 milli-

on marks (777.000

dollars) to charity

last month as part

of a settlement with German

prosecutors who dropped their

tax evasion investigation of the

tennis player, a news magazine

Graf had "agreed with a heavy

heart" to the bargain with pros-

ecutors because she wanted to

put the "media circus" about her

tax affairs behind her and con-

her ranking as world number

one women's tennis player to 16-year-old Martina Hingis af-

ter 94 weeks on top, was quoted

by the magazine as saying that

although it hurt to agree to the

deal, it was worth it to avoid

investigation last month after

probing Graf's finances for

nearly two years when she

agreed to their offer to pay a

sum to charity. The amount was

use the charity donation proce-

dure, with the agreement of the

accused, to end a case which

they do not believe merits a

fused to comment on the size of

the payment. The player said

she had agreed to pay the money

although she stressed that she

The tax investigations,

had done nothing illegal.

Graf's office previously re-

lengthy legal process.

German prosecutors often

not made public at the time.

Prosecutors dropped their

Graf, 27, who recently lost

Der Spiegel magazine said

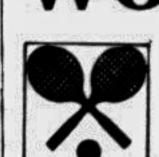
said today, reports Reuter.

centrate on tennis.

further litigation.

Chelsea player-manager Dutchman Ruud Gullit helds up the club's visa credit card in -AFP/UNB photo London on Apr 4.

Woodies wrap things up



Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde recovered from a sluggish start Saturday, beat

David Rikl and Martin Damm in four sets and sealed Australia's spot in the World Group semifinals of the Davis Cup. reports AP. Woodbridge and Woodforde.

the world's top-ranked team defeated the makeshift combination of Rikl and Damm 4-6, 6-1, 7-5, 6-4 and moved Australia into a winning 3-0 lead over the Czech Republic.

Australian captain John Newcombe then said Australia was looking forward to facing arch rival the United States in the semis in September 19-21. The Americans hold a 2-0 lead over the Netherlands between their quarterfinal in Newport

Beach, California. "We are looking forward to the US and we want (Pete) Sampras or whoever else they give

us." said Newcombe. "We'll go in as underdogs against the Americans, but they'll take us seriously. We

have the potential to upset

Australia has won the Davis Cup 26 times, second only to the United States' 31 triumphs. The Australians celebrated

their doubles win by dousing each other with Champagne and swigging bubbly from the bottle.

lished a stranglehold.

The Czechs originally nom- a viral infection and was replaced by Rikl. inated Rikl and inexperienced Pavel Vizner as their doubles Philippous combination, but elected to replace Vizner with Damm in a

bid to keep their hopes alive.

first game of the fourth set to set "It is a huge benefit playing

day."

first time in front of his home-"I'm gland we finally got

ter feeling than playing at Pat Rafter and Mark Philip-

6-4, 2-6, 6-4.

The Czech Republic went

from the World Group. in Davis Cup spirit can help you rise to your absolute peak and

pull through," he said. "We are

really putting the package to-

gether now. Pushing each other

The reverse singles between

sis and Damm and Rafter

The Australians, though, al-

"We won't be happy getting to

ready have their sights set on

the semis," said Woodforde. "We

all believe we can go all the way.

and Rikl will be played Sunday

but will be reduced to the best of

three sets.

bigger stages.

to the limit."

Whoever shows up, we'll feel we can win." Newcombe said team spirit was one of the keys to Australia's resurgence after losing in the first round in 1994 and 1995. after which it was relegated Reuter.

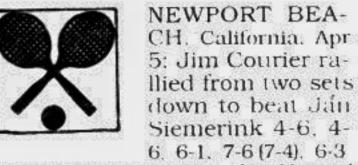
"We've got a great spirit and

and child victims of war.



American Andre Agassi makes a forehand return against Dutchman Sjeng Schalken during their Davis Cup semifinal in Newport, California on Apr 4. -AFP/UNB photo

US ride on Agassi, Courier



6. 6-1, 7-6 (7-4), 6-3 on Friday and give the United States a 2-0 lead over the Netherlands in their Davis Cup quarterfinal tie, reports Reuter. Courier needed three hours. 24 minutes to overcome Siemerink and put the Americans

the semifinals. "Jim showed the heart of a champion and at the big moments of the match he really stepped up," said US captain Tom Qullikson.

within one victory of reaching

"That's why the guy has won four Grand Slam titles and he has been number one in the world, because he doesn't panic, he's got a big heart and he will step it up and hit the ball at the big moments in the match. In the opening singles, An-

Jonathan Stark meet Dutch-

Family Circle

HILTON HEAD ISLAND,

Martina Hingis (1), Switzer-

Monica Seles (4), United

Brenda Schultz-McCarthy

Conchita Martinez. Spain.

Gigi Fernandez and Lisa

South Carolina, Apr 5 (AP): Re-

sults Friday of the Family Cir-

cle Magazine Cup at Sea Pines

land, def. Wiltrud Probst, Ger-

States, def. Anke Huber (7).

(14). Netherlands, def. Lindsay

Davenport (6). United States, 4-

(5), def. Amanda Coetzer (13),

Doubles quarterfinals:

Raymond, United States, def.

Alexandra Fusai, France, and

Mercedes Paz, Argentina, 6-4, 6-

States, and Martina Hingis.

Switzerland, (2), def. Lori Mc-

Neil, United States, and Linda

States, and Manon Bollegraf,

Netherlands, def. Ruxandra

Dragomir, Romania, and Iva

Majoli. Croatia, 7-6 (7-4), 6-2.

Nicole Arendt, United

Wild, United States, 6-0, 6-4.

Mary Joe Fernandez, United

Singles quarterfinals:

Racquet Club:

many, 6-2, 6-0.

6. 6-4, 6-2.

Germany, 6-3, 6-0.

South Africa, 6-1, 6-3.

... tennis results

end by taking part in a four-nadre Agassi won his 14th straight Davis Cup match. tion hockey tournament along with Asian Games champions pounding out a 7-6 (8-6), 6-4, 7-6 (7-2) hardcourt win over Sieng South Korea and Australia, re-Schalken in windy conditions Both India and Pakistan at the Palisades Tennis Club. The Americans can wrap up have agreed in principle to take part in the championship, secthe best-of-the tie today in doubles when Rick Leach and

Federation (IHF), K Jyothikumaran, told reporters here to-The IHF secretary added that the tournament is likely to be

held in November-December. When asked about the possibility of a Test series between India and Pakistan, Jyothikumaran said that efforts were on towards this end without any success so far.

The IHF secretary brushed aside the fear that allowing 39 teams to participate in the ensuing Bangalore nationals would adversely affect the tournament by saying such a complaint should come from the hosts, but Karnataka were happy with the schedule.

Weah's new role

MILAN, Apr 5: AC Milan's Liberian striker George Weah will be appointed special representative for sport by the UN children's fund UNIČEF at a ceremony in Milan on Monday, the Gazzetta Dello Sport newspaper said today, reports

It quoted Weah, world footballer-of-the-year in 1996, as saying in an interview that he would concentrate on raising awareness in two main areas children with the AIDS virus

men Jacco Eltingh and Paul Haarhuis, a win would put the United States into the semifinals against Australia. The rousing, comeback vic-

tory marked a first for Courier. The two-time French and Australian Open champion had never recovered from a two-set deficit in 25 previous instances on tour and in Davis Cup. "The first time is a good time

to do it," smiled Courier, who improved his Davis Cup record to 12-7. "It's never a bad time. especially in Davis Cup. Siemerink, displaying an ef-

fective lefthanded serve and volley game, pinned Courier to the baseline as he won the first two sets. But the American maintained his cool and began to wear down the Dutchmen with his aggressive ground game. "I wasn't happy to be down 2-

0 but I knew it was far from over," said Courier, "There was

Kiwis clinch it

JAKARTA, Apr 5: New Zealand secured its victory against Indonesia here today on the second day of the Davis Cup Asia-Oceania Zone, reports

New Zealand pair Alastair Hunt and James Grennhalgh beat Indonesia's Bonit Wiryawan and Sulistyo Wibowo 6-3. 6-4, 3-6, and 6-3, after New Zealand won both singles matches Friday.

¥KQ 1096

Open Room

Closed Room

♦AQ 65

♣KJ 8

WEST

Dbl

Pass

Dbl

Solodar

Masood

no reason to give up. He had to win the third set and I had to keep plugging away. I hung tough. Waited for my chances and when they came. I took them." Siemerink grabbed a 3lead in the fourth set and served for the set at 5-4. But Courier fought him off and forced a tiebreaker, which he won 7-4 to

even the match. The climactic fifth set was on serve at 3-3 before Courier ran off the final three games. Courier was almost flawless in the last set, making only one unforced error.

"My lack of first serve was the main thing," said Siemerink, whose first serve percentage dipped to 54 per cent in the last three sets. "I had to play a lot of second

serves and Jin: is a more ag-

gressive player, who gets more into the game. I started think ing about winning and couldn't get that out of my head. I became too defensive after that. Agassi, who has been made. in a bad slump, got the United States off to a good start as he

rose to the occasion yet again in

the Davis Cup, the Las Vegas showman improved to 23-4 in the team competition with his victory over Schalken. Agassi, loser of four succes-

sive opening-round matches on tour, was delighted. "It was great today," said Agassi, who improved his Davis Cup mark to 23-4. "It went right according to plan."

Board: 59

Dir: South

Vul: None

♦A 953

♦106543

Rowdell

♥742

BRIDGE NOTES &

By An Expert Hands from Bermuda Bowl

∳KQJ6 ♥85 Score Pakistan 95 1/2 **♦**J 10984 USA 122 **♦**10

> **♦**8742 ♥AJ3

> > Meckstroth

All Pass

♦K 73 ♣AQ 7 SOUTH EAST NORTH Fazli Munir Levin 1 NT Pass Dbl Pass Pass Pass Pass All Pass Pass

Zia

The US had registered 30 IMPs without answer so far in this segment and the American surge continued on Board 59 as both East-West pairs drove to an extremely doubtful game and only Solodar managed to make

Open Room The bidding here was nothing if not exciting. Solodar dou-

bled. Fazli's weak notrump with normal but near-minimum values and Munir "escaped" with a conventional 2. ostensibly showing a one-suiter (not necessarily clubs). Levin doubled for penalties but this was alerted as card-showing by Solodar, who left it in regard-Munir squirmed painlessly to 20 and this was passed around to Solodar, who doubled for business. That would surely have resulted in +100 (US), but Levin removed to 24. Somewhat end-played at this point, Solodar introduced his hearts, fully expecting to buy some support (Levin was marked with diamond shortness). Levin had no way of knowing that Solodar was as weak as he actually was and so continued gamely to 4♥. Munir led the .K and Solo-

dar produced a virtually doubledummy display. He won dummy's A and led a club. Fazli rose with the A (a costly error) and tapped Solodar with a spade. Solodar ruffed, cashed the A and continued by cross ruffing two diamonds and two spades. Reduced to the K-Q of trumps the good ♦Q and the ♠K-J. Solodar played a trumps. Fazli won and returned a trump but Solodar countered with the ◆Q. Fazli could ruff or not, but the VJ was his only remaining winner. Actually, he ruffed the ♦Q and played a club but Solodar finessed the &J and scored the **\Delta**K for the game-going trick.

The way the cards were lying. even a trump switch from Fazli upon winning his A would not have helped. An initial trump lead, however, would have left Solodar without a good answer.

Score: USA (E-W)+420 **Closed Room**

The bidding was much less complicated. When Zia raised hearts over Meckstroth's negative double. Masood simply leaped to game a normal aggressive move. Masood won the opening

spade lead in dummy and play a diamond, hardly an unreasonable looking play. The: J appeared from Meckstroth when Masood finessed the: Q and Rodwell dropped the: K when Masood continued with the ♦A. One diamond ruff passed off safely but when Masood ruffed a spade to play the fourth diamond. Rowdell overruffed the ♥4 with the: ♥J A third spade was led and ruffed in the closed hand and Masood led the K10 Rodwell's ace. Masood took the last spade force and drew all the trumps with his queen but he was looked in his hand forced to concede two clubs to Rodwell who in turn had to concede one club trick to Masood One down.

Masood was going to make 4♥. if diamonds were 4-4 and if he could score a club trick but he had another chance if diamonds were as they actually were: South had to hold: ♥A-5 3. Unfortunately, Masood had ruffed the first diamond with the ♥7 and the second with the: ▼4 so that extra chance had long gone, even had the right lie existed.

Score: USA (N-S)+50 Net score: USA+470 (10 IMPs) Score Carried Forward: PAKISTAN 95 1/2 USA 132

Austria lead Croatia 2-1

GRAZ, Austria, Apr 5: Croat ian ace Goran Ivanisevic and his partner Sasha Hirszon defeated Austria's Thomas Muster and Udo Plamberger on Saturday to keep Croatia's chances alive in a Davis Cup Euro-African Zone Group One tie, reports AP.

Austria lead 2-1 after Croatia swept the doubles in straight sets, 7-5, 6-2, 6-2. On Saturday's form, the

highlight of this weekend's tie -Muster vs Ivanisevic on Sunday — could go to the Croat, who was forced to concede the first singles of the tie Friday. He hobbled off court with leg cramps in the fifth set against Gilbert Schaller. Muster easily beat Hirszon in Friday's second Ivanisevic showed no sign of

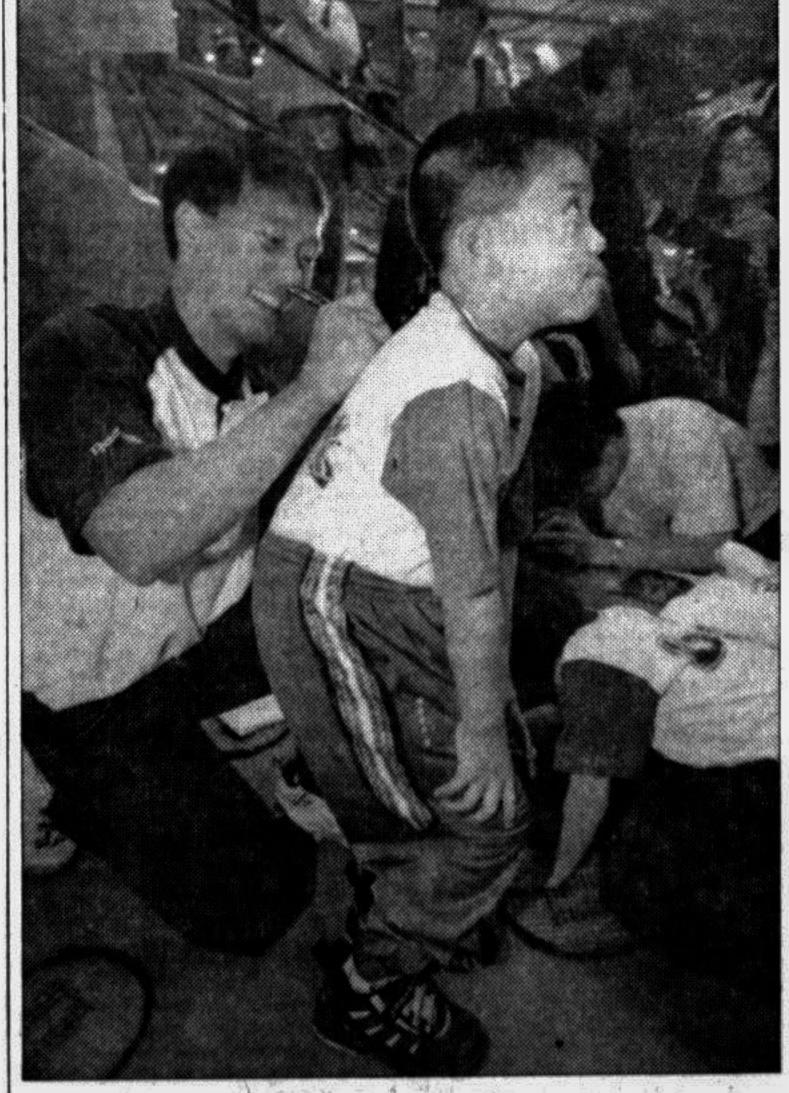
pain or trouble Saturday. In a top-class doubles, he and Hirszon used their greater experience as a duo to deliver an expected victory. "They're a really good doubles team. Goran has such a

under pressure," said Austrian coach Ronnie Leitgeb. Sunday's Muster-Ivanisevic duel - the world No. 2 against the world No. 5 - was expected to be a tough match for both.

serve that we're permanently

Ivanisevic decided the first set for Croatia when he took advantage of the set's first break point and - with the lucky help of a net cord - powered a backhand drive past Plamberger, breaking his serve and avoiding a tiebreak.

Things looked hazardous for the Croats when Ivanisevic lost his touch on his famed serve in the fifth game of the second set. He netted most first serves and had one double fault.



American Michael Chang signs an autograph during the launch of the "Michael's Friends" fan club in Hong Kong -AFP/UNB photo yesterday.

Directorate of Archaeology **Khulna Division Office** Majid Saroni, Shibbari, Khulna

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Tender Notice for Sale of Vehicle Sealed tenders as per the undermentioned terms & conditions are invited from the interested purchasers for sale of the undermentioned vehicle (kept at Saat Gambuz Mosque, Bagerhat) of the

Directorate of Archaeology. Number of | Chassis | Engine No Type of vehicle | Model | CC | Number | Reg No cylinders 100646 395180 Dhaka-Gha-7781 Mitsubishi Jeep 1980 2651

Interested purchasers can purchase the schedule of tender (with description and terms & conditions) from the officer of the undersigned and Sub-Assistant Engineer, Saat Gambuz Mosque, Bagerhat subject to application in their own letterhead pad up to 14-4-97 and should submitt in sealed cover in the tender box kept at the Regional Office, Khulna and office of Sub-Assistant Engineer, Saat Gambuz Mosque, Bagerhat by 12-00 Noon of 15-4-97. Tenders will be opened on the same day at 12-30 PM before the tenderers (if any) present.

Price of collecting schedule is Tk 100/- (one hundred) only (non-refundable).

Dr Abdus Sabur Mia DFP-7664-30/3 Regional Director.