

## Shooters return

Sports Reporter

Ace shooter Sabrina Sultan, who clinched Bangladesh's lone gold in the second Commonwealth championships in Kuala Lumpur on November 26, returned home along with her five teammates last night.

Sabrina was accorded a warm welcome at the Zia International Airport by State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader. A good number of local sports organisers including Bangladesh Shooting Federation president Abdus Salam, MP, were present.

The six-member team took part in the meet which concluded on November 29. Sabrina won the individual small bore sport rifle prone event.

## NZ schoolboy's hefty hitting

WELLINGTON, Dec 1: The New Zealand cricket team, which is taking drubbing after drubbing on its tour to Australia, might take lessons from an Auckland schoolboy who lashed 400 not out in a four-hour innings at the weekend, reports Reuters.

Chris Knight, playing an under-19 match for Cornwall, smashed 26 sixes and 42 fours for 324 runs in boundaries alone.

"I guess it was pretty amazing — I've never played in a team who have scored 400," Knight was quoted as saying in the New Zealand Herald published on Monday.

Cornwall ended their innings at 619 for two on the first day of the two-day match.

The world record for a schoolboy is 628 not out, scored by Englishman A E J Collins in 1899. It took him five afternoons.

The Kiwi cricket team may be out of luck if it wants Knight's services — the seventh from Auckland Grammar School student plans to get a summer job rather than play cricket.

And his real sporting love is hockey — he was in New Zealand's under-18 team this year.

## Inter back on song

ROME, Dec 1: Argentine midfielder Diego Simeone struck two goals six minutes apart and Brazil's Ronaldinho added a third Sunday as Internazionale rebounded from a midweek UEFA Cup loss to beat host Vicenza 3-1 and increase their lead atop the Serie A, reports AP.

The victory improved Inter's record to 8-2-0 for 26 points, a season-high four more than second-place Juventus. The defending champions drew 1-1 at AC Milan in the night match.

Simeone, who hadn't scored in the league until last weekend, scored the opener from close range in the 32nd, following a free kick. The Argentine doubled Inter's advantage in the 38th, with a rising, angled shot.

Massimo Ambrosini slotted in a rebound for his first career goal to bring Vicenza within 2-1 in the 59th. But Inter's shaky defence, missing suspended starter Fabio Galante, made the lead stand up, and Ronaldinho scored an insurance goal in the 68th. The Brazilian star, playing with a bruised knee, capitalized on his first real scoring chance to net his eighth of the season.

It was Inter's ninth win in 10 road games this season; their lone loss away from home was Tuesday's 2-0 defeat at French side Strasbourg in UEFA action.

Juventus' result kept their unbeaten streak alive at 17 games, dating to last season. But Juve failed to fully atone for a 2-0 defeat Wednesday at Feyenoord Rotterdam that hurt their chances of reaching the Champions' League quarterfinals.

As Roma and Udinese share third place on 19 points after away victories, Roma earned a 2-0 win over Parma, who stayed on 18 points and slid two places to fifth. Udinese rallied with two goals in the final 18 minutes to defeat Lazio of Rome 3-2.

Vicenza, Lazio and Sampdoria who came back from a 2-0 hole to salvage a 2-2 draw at Bologna — share sixth place with 15 points.

In other games: Napoli ended a club-record six-game losing skid by drawing 1-1 with Fiorentina; Piacenza moved out of last place with their first win of the season, 3-2 at Empoli; Bari edged Brescia 2-1, and Atalanta and Lecce drew 0-0.

## Ostersund to revive its bid

STOCKHOLM, Dec 1: Ostersund will seek support from Swedish sports groups today for a revival of its aborted campaign to win the 2006 Winter Olympics, reports Reuters.

Ostersund is challenging a decision made last week by the Swedish Olympic Committee (SOC) board, which voted not to back the Swedish town in its fourth consecutive Olympic bid.

Ostersund has asked the SOC to reconsider the decision at its joint annual general meeting with Sweden's Olympic sports federations to be held today in Stockholm.

The decision could be reversed with the backing of a majority of the sports federations.

Ostersund argued that its bid should be supported with the Winter Games due to return to Europe in 2006 after stints in Nagano, Japan next year and Salt Lake City in 2002, Svartberg said.

## First first-class century for Bangladesh

Sports Reporter

Al-Shahri Rokon became the first Bangladeshi to score a first-class century when the young hammered a fluent 102 against Southern Conference in a four-day match at the Shell Conference tournament at Carisbrook in Dunedin yesterday.

The fantastic feat of the talented youngster finally gave the beleaguered Bangladeshi cricket team a much-needed boost to shrug off their nightmarish tour of New Zealand when the visitors piled up 286 for nine at stumps on the inaugural day.

Coming in to bat at number six shortly after the lunch break, Rokon found a wily

partner in wicketkeeper Khaled Masud Pilot to steadi the rocking boat, putting on 100 runs for the sixth wicket after Bangladesh lost half of their wickets for 163 runs on the board.

With Rokon playing with a matured approach, the day turned out to be a refreshing change for off-coloured Bangladeshis, who not only played out a whole day for the first time, but garnered their highest total in an innings in their third first-class match in New Zealand.

A last minute inclusion in the touring national team, Rokon, who, despite being tipped as one of the most promising youngsters of the country, had hardly lived up to

his ratings in the domestic cricket, appeared to have come of age finally, reaching the magical three-figure off 184 balls which included seven hits across the rope and a quartet of sixes.

He was eventually out in the last session of the day, but not before Bangladesh were comfortably placed at 263. Rokon's dismissal, however, inflicted a stunning collapse as Bangladesh lost their next three wickets at the same score with Khaled Masud, who played the perfect foil at the other end with a defiant 45 off 141 balls, and Mdizur Rahman Munna returning for a duck.

Hasibul Hossain Shanto made a breezy 18-ball 20 punctuated with a couple of fours and a sixer before becoming the ninth batsman out off the final delivery of the day, leaving slow left-arm spinner Saifulla Gemb 3 to resume Bangladesh innings with rookie left-arm seamer Monzurul Islam today.

The day certainly belonged to the boys of Akram Khan when Bangladesh, after winning the toss in morning, recovered from a horrible start of 11 for two to some sort of solidity as the tourists went to lunch without further damage with one-down Sanvar Hossain and vice-captain Aminul Islam putting on 84 runs.

But both Sanvar, who scored 54 off 115 balls, and Aminul Islam (30) departed in quick succession, leaving Bangladesh at 97 for four. Skipper Akram Khan scored a sedate 19 before being caught at square leg off Waseman, the most successful Southern Conference bowler with four for 101.

### SCOREBOARD

**BANGLADESH:** First innings

Athar Ali c Croy b Sewell	5
Javed Omar c and b Wisnieski	5
Sanvar c Croy b Wisnieski	54
Aminul C. Cumming b Wisnieski	30
Akram Khan c Stead b Wiseman	19
Al-Shahri c Wisnieski b	102
Wiseman	102
Khaled Masud c Murray b	5
Wiseman	45
Mofizur c Stead b Richardson	0
Hasibul lbw b Sewell	20
Saifulla not out	3
Extras: (b-1, lb-2)	3
Total: (for nine wickets in 112 overs)	263

Did not bat: Manjurul Islam.

Fall of wickets: 1-7; 2-11; 3-

95; 4-97; 5-163; 6-263; 7-263; 8-

263; 9-286.

### Bowling:

O M R W

Sewell	22	5	60	2
Wisnieski	22	7	55	2
Bond	24	9	54	0
Wiseman	32	4	101	4
Richardson	12	6	13	1

Total: (for nine wickets in 112 overs)

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