Gillespie in doubt

BRIDGETOWN, Apr 1: Fast bowler Jason Gillespie, one of the Australian heroes in their one-wicket loss to the West Indies in the third Test Tuesday, is expected to miss the fourth and final match in Antigua because of a back injury, reports

The West Indies have a 2-1 lead in the four-match series, meaning Australia must win in Antigua to draw level and retain the Frank Worrell Trophy.

The 24-year-old Gillespie bowled 15.1 overs during the West Indies' successful chase of 308 on the last day, picking up three wickets. But the South Australian left the field .35 minutes before lunch for massage treatment and bowled with serious pain after his return.

jury," manager Steve Bernard said Wednesday. "He is very

"It was a miracle he went back out there and bowled. When he came into the pavilion before lunch, he could not even bend down to remove his boots and socks. We had to lie him down and let someone do that for him."

full of praise for Gillespie's effort, and that of his new ball

performance and McGrath was magnificent as always."

An unforgettable afternoon



been bitten lower and more prayers could not have been uttered for West Indies cricket than they were yesterday at Kensington Oval.

Still smarting from their recent annihilation in South Africa but buoyed by a win at Sabina Park two weeks ago, the regional side - spurred by thousands of inspirational fans scraped to a one-wicket win in the third Test against Australia.

win shortens

has shortened the odds on the West Indies winning this year's World Cup in the wake of their remarkable Test victory over Australia in Barbados on

William Hill have cut the odds on a West Indies World Cup triumph from 12/1 to 8/1, while still making Australia joint favourites with South Africa at

joint third favourites at 5/1.

West Indies surpassed the vic-tory target of 308 runs and

That nostalgic shot triggered scenes of which priceless video footage, photographs and memoirs are made and sparked allnight partying in local night-

West Indies fans crashed metal barriers that restrained them for four days of the Test to invade the pitch in wild cele-

Some of them kissed the wicket, rolled on it and, along with supporters of the vanquished Aussies, stood in the southern-end crease from which Lara secured success for

table image of the Trinidadian hero - 153 not out - being swept up in joyous, tear-enducing embraces by team-mates and legions of supporters.

and-tie, both managers and subordinates, who skipped work to watch the tense, seesaw action, it was worth whatever reprimand they might have faced.

What an "I was there" moment, with patrons still streaming into the Oval well after tea-time to glimpse the final, decisive rites of arguably one of the most electrifying

One Barbadian, now resident

Martina, Monica advance

HILTON HEAD, South Carolina, Apr 1: World number one Martina Hingis and former number one Monica Seles advanced to the third round of the 1.05 million-dollar WTA Family Circle Cup with straight-set triumphs here Wednesday, reports AFP.

In their first clay-court tuneup for the French Open, Swiss 18-year-old Hingis beat Austria's Sylvia Plischke 6-3, 7-5, while American Seles ousted Olga Barabanchikova of Belarus 6-3, 6-0.

Seles next faces Russia's Elena Likhovtseva while Hingis, here for the first time since winning the event in 1997, will face Spain's Conchita Martinez in the round of 16.

Since falling to Venus Williams in the second round at the Sydney international in January of 1998, Hingis has not lost before the quarterfinals over 24 events, although she was eliminated in her past three quarter-final matches.

After losing the first three games of the second set, Hingis rebounded to win the next five games to regain control of the match.

Hingis has not claimed a WTA crown since beating Amanda Coetzer February 7 at the Pan Pacific Open final the week after capturing her third consecutive Australian Open

Seles, who is without a title this year, has won eight of 10 matches in Hilton Head. In addition to a 1997 final loss to Hingis, Seles reached the semifinals last season, saving five match points against Swiss stand out Patty Schnyder in the quarterfinals.

"It's always a tough match the first time you play on clay every year.

Seles said, "Stifl have to make some adjustments, but I think by the second set I started playing a lot botter."

Becker to play against Russia

FRANKFURT, Germany, Apr 1: Former world number one Boris Becker announced on Wednesday that he will play in the doubles of the World Cup first-round match against Russia on Saturday, reports AFP.

The 31-year-old semi-retired player, who captains the German team, has already indicated that he will retire from tennis in July, one month before the birth of his second child. Becker is expected to partner

David Prinosil in the doubles against a Russian doubles team which will include Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Marat Safin or Andrei Olhovsky.

Germany's Tommy Haas and Nicolas Kiefer will play in the singles against Russia's Kafel-nikov and Safin.

Becker said that there is a slight chance that if he is needed and is in form he may play in the Davis Cup secondround match from July 16-18.

The draw for the first-round match-ups will take place to

May hints at quitting United

MANCHESTER. England. Apr 1 (Reuters/Internet): Manchester United defender David May says he is considering leaving Old Trafford because he is not playing enough games. United player to show his frustration at Alex Ferguson's squad system and hint that it may drive him out of the club.

May has become a regular fixture in the United reserves this season, despite being a key member of the team that won the F.A. Cup and League double in 1996 and the league title again in 1997.

"I don't want to leave Manchester United but I don't want to spend the rest of my career in the reserves," he told the Manchester Evening News on Wednesday.

lier this season and he told me to stick at it and that there were plenty of matches. "(But) it's not quite worked

May's career has been on hold since he was called into the England squad two seasons ago after helping United win the

the summer has seen May lose his status at United. The 1.4 million pound signing from Blackburn in July 1994 has played only two full League Cup matches this season.

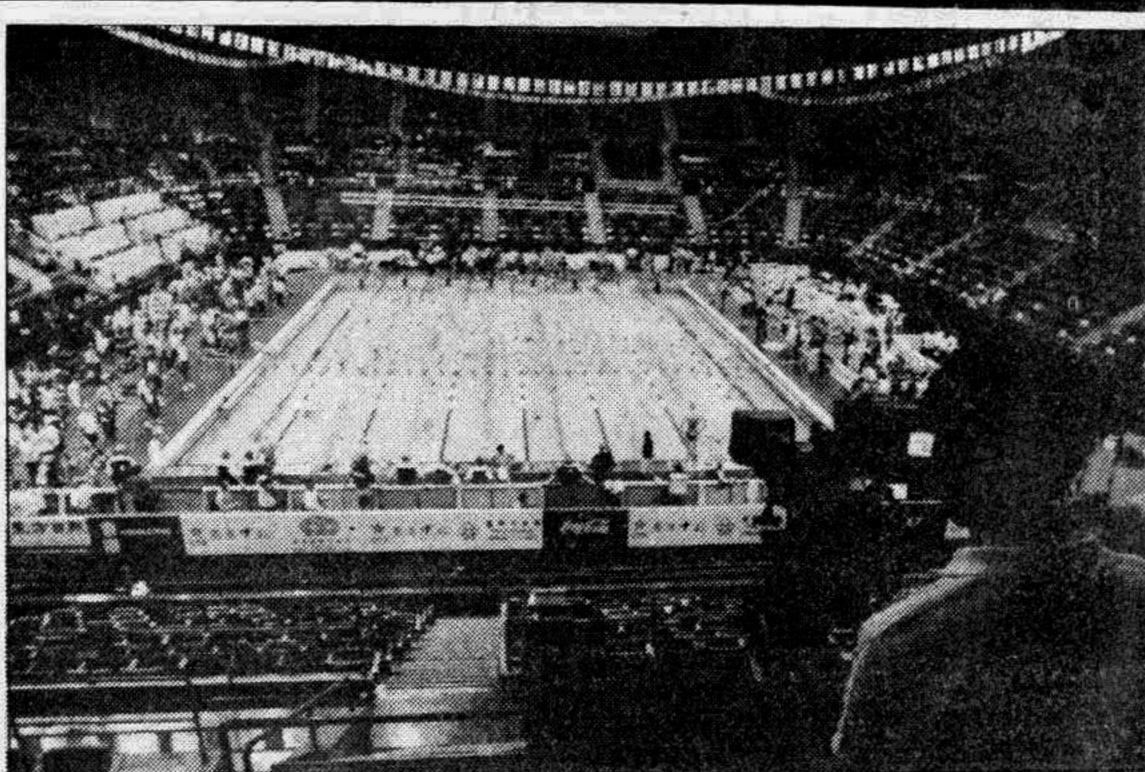
French bank's business

SYDNEY, Apr 1: French bank Societe Generale said today it was launching a quarterounce gold medallion aimed at Indian cricket fans for this year's World Cup, reports

Nick Farr-Jones, marketing manager for metals derivatives of SG Australia Ltd, told the firm hoped to sell around half a million of the medallions to Indian cricket fans around the world by the end of the compe-

The medallion, which will bear the image of batting hero Sachin Tendulkar and the message "Support India 1999", will cost around US 100 dollars, depending on the market price of gold, Farr-Jones said. It will be

tralian Rugby Union team captain, said the medalion would be marketed in India by Corporation Bank, and minted by the Perth Mint in Western Australia.



The Hong Kong Coliseum, which is usually used for cultural shows, concerts etc, has become the venue for the World Swimming Championships. This picture was taken yesterday. - AFP photo

FINA's way of fighting drugs



Reuters.

HONG KONG. Apr research group funded by the tional Swimming Federation (FINA) established a special task force on Wednesday to tackle doping, underlining its resolve to stamp out the problem, reports

Speaking on the eve of the World Short Course Championships, FINA president Mustapha Larfaoui said an extraordinary congress had approved the setting up of the doping control review board.

He said eight medical experts and chemists would be appointed to the board over the next two months and would advise FINA whether to pursue cases where swimmers tested positive for banned drugs. The board would also rule on

individual cases if swimmers could take for medication purposes drugs otherwise banned. But Larfaoui warned that the doping problem was one which will probably stay with compet-

itive sports forever. "We'll never finish with this problem because cheaters together with their friends will always find ways of cheating", he told a news conference.

During the four-day championships which start today, a

to take blood tests for growth hormones.

But Larfaoui said swimmers would undergo the tests — which are separate from the standard FINA urine tests - on a voluntary basis.

"It is only for research purposes," he said, adding that the confidential results will have no bearing on the urine tests.

Human growth hormone was banned from competitive swimming four years ago but there are not yet and official tests for it.

The research group GH (growth hormone) 2000 was set up three years ago to create a methodology to detect the substance in time to be implemented at the Sydney Olympics in 2000, GH 2000 project manager Claire Pentecost told Reuters.

muscle growth and reduction in body fat when growth hormones are given to normal people," she said, adding the same conclusion could be drawn for sports-

The group has taken 1,000 samples over the last three years and presented its findings to the IOC in February.

"We have seen substantial

'We are still hoping to con-1: The Interna- IOC would approach swimmers duct the tests in Sydney, but it's up to the IOC to implement it," she said.

> Earlier, the international swimming community toned down its rhetoric against China's record of doping scandals. saying the Chinese may at last be mending their ways.

Coaches and anti-doping experts said Beijing appeared to be clamping down on use of performance-enhancing drugs by their competitors and calls to ban the Chinese team from events have waned.

"It appears that the Chinese government has involved itself very strongly in the last 12 months or longer to solve the problem. I think far better off now," said John Leonard, director of the American Swimming Coaches Association and a well-known Chain critic.

Leonard said Chain's stance toward drug use was worlds apart from 1994 when he started a campaign to block Chinese swimmers from international meets.

"I felt then that there were no controls and individuals in China were abusing the system with no penalty from their own federation or anyone else," Leonard said.

UK-USA Davis Cup tie

Lloyd hopes for the best tin and former world number



BIRMINGHAM. England, Apr 1: British Davis Cup captain David Lloyd is hoping a

little of England football coach Kevin Keegan's magic will rub off on his players as they hunt their first win over the United States for 64 years in this weekend's Davis Cup first-round tie.

reports AFP. Keegan led England to an uplifting 3-1 win over Poland last Saturday in his first match since replacing Glenn Hoddle and Lloyd hopes he can inspire the likes of Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski to similar heights in the best-of-five en-

counter. "My job is exactly the same as Kevin Keegan's last week, to make sure the players are happy, relaxed and in the best frame of mind," said Lloyd.

"I know Kevin reasonably well, and he is very skillful, knows his teams well, recognises the differences in his players' needs and is a natural extrovert. We are both financial about our sports.

"It's about bringing enjoyment and light-heartedness to the team, to take their mind off the job so that they are ready and relaxed when it matters." Lloyd knows expectations

are high in the British camp with America's big guns such as world number one Pete Sampras, Andre Agassi and Michael Chang all opting out of tennis' premier team event in its centenary year. "We should win, we're at

home," said Lloyd. In place of the big names, US captain Tom Gullikson has world number eight Todd Mar-

milieu

man's

40 Helper

41 Blue hue

46 Jason's

craft

47 Between

48 George's

brother

49 Forehead

1 "Wham!"

2 "The -

Daba

50 Active

51 Nosh

DOWN

42 Sandwich

associate

3 Route of

4 Tobacco

material

5 Crow's-

6 Phalar-

8 Be a

match-

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9 Abrupt

11 Praiseful

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10 Lofty

Solution time: 26 mins.

IOWA ATRIUM

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nest cry

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call?

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13 Fad

14 Pound

17 Incite

15 Crested

songbirds

18 Prepared

to drive

vocabu-

bashful

22 Hair line?

feature

legumes

24 Walrus

25 Yellowy

30 Helen's

31 Pick up

captor

the check

32 Tussaud's

place

34 "Wheel of

Fortune'

option

vowel

35 Greek

36 Voters'

29 Yalie

19 X-rated

20 More

4 Ran in the

one Jim Courier at his disposal. But while the talented youngster Jam-Michael Gambill and Alex O'Brien make up the rest of the US team, Britain's back-up trio of Neil Broad, Miles MacLagan and Mark Hilton is far less impres-

What's more, Rusedski has won just one of five clashes with Martin and lost three out of three against Courier.

Henman lost his only previous match with Courier and has beaten Martin just once in four

meetings. Rusedski has had to endure taunts from Sampras about his Canadian roots in the build-up

to the tie, but the big left -hander said he was unmoved by the jibes. "My mum was born in Britain." said Rusedski, who re-

cently became engaged to British girlfriend Lucy Connor.

"I like the country and everything about it, I'm more worried whether the public think of me as Greg Rusedski, good person, rather than whether they ever accept me as fully British."

Rusedski also warned British fans against over-confidence. "Todd Martin is in the top

10, and Jim Courier is a former world number one. If we play well we have a good chance, but it's going to be a difficult match," he said.

Henman, too, rejects suggestions that the American team is weak.

"Todd has probably been playing the best out of the Americans," said the British number one. "Sampras and Agassi have

not really played very well this

year, as perhaps this might be their strongest team at the mo-

The British pair can expect the backing of partisan 9,500 crowd on the medium-paced indoor surface at the national indoor arena but Martin is deter-

mined they will be silenced. "We will know the quieter that they are the better we are doing," he said.

"Hopefully, they will be real quiet this weekend. I have enjoyed playing Davis Cup tennis in any environment, whether it

be at home or away. "It is enjoyable to have a partisan crowd and is almost more

enjoyable than having an evenly distributed crowd Gullikson is adamant that his side should not be underestimated and he has praised the

commitment of Martin, who has shaken off injury worries to take his place in the side. Gullikson said: "Todd Martin pulled out of a tournament

Cup very often these days." Rangamati chess

to get ready to play in the Davis

Cup and you don't see that kind

of commitment to the Davis

RANGAMATI, Apr 1: The

First Division chess tournament, organised by Rangamati District Sports Association (DSA), began here today, reports

Sixteen chess players are taking part in the knock-out basis competition.

General secretary of the DSA Nur Iman inaugurated the tournament at the association's conference room in the morn-

'BATIGOL' STRIKES: Argentina's striker-supreme Gabriel Batistuta (2nd from R) wrong footing Dutch custodian Edwin van der Sar (L) to score the equaliser in a friendly at — AFP photo Amsterdam on March 31.

The 28-year-old is the first

"At the moment, I am just preferring to hope I get a chance and then I'll sit down and think about things. "I spoke to the manager ear-

out like that."

double. The arrival of Jaap Stam in

Reuters.

tition in England on June 20.

99.99 per cent pure. Farr-Jones, a former Aus-

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer 19 Spheres 20 Leftovers concoc-21 Shake in the grass? 20 21 22 Anorak 23 W.W.II losers 25 Imperfec-Mom's 27 Apprehend 28 Roget's 30 Combine resources 33 Cricket bat 49 material CRYPTOQUIP 36 Hamelin BMDGHYMW GDHVNGQ

HERB SOP SCOT

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SAM FEZ CIDER

TIPPECANOE

TIPPECANOE

terminus KVBXSM'Q PIPM WYIP OPH KHPQDOPS GSLYHPH 39 Othello's G QBLNXP. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: NO ONE COULD DENY THAT THE INQUISITIVE CHILD WAS REALLY QUITE

A LIVE WHYER. terminus Today's Cryptoquip clue: L equals M

42 Peruke The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it 44 Geologic will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to 45 Snitch locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Real, who get back into

"It seems a serious back indoubtful for the last Test.

Captain Steve Waugh was

partner Glenn McGrath. "I thought our quick bowlers were magnificent," Waugh said. "Gillespie was struggling with a back spasm. His was a heroic

Cricket World Cup Bridgetown

WIodds LONDON, Apr 1(Reuters/ Internet): A British bookmaker

Tuesday.

England and Pakistan are

Captain Brian Lara's 19th four screamed to the cover boundary at 4:27 p.m. as the seized a 2-1 lead in the series. leaving one Test to go.

bration.

personal Kodak moments. There was also the unforget-

For the hundreds in collar-

in New York, changed his return flight from Monday to absorb the final day's play. It was also his birthday and, as far as Rodrick Barker was concerned. there couldn't have been sweeter

icing on the cake. "And miss this?" he declared when asked why he was still in

Barbados. Some, too faint-hearted to endure until the end, fled when the West Indies slumped to 248 for eight, only the beanpole bowling duo of Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh left to bat with their invincible leader.

"I can't handle this. I can't handle this," said one man. scurrying up Fontabelle away from the bat-and-ball battle. Thankfully, however, Lara and company could.

Courtesy: Barbados Nation

Barisal cricket

BARISAL, Apr 1: An allround performance by Bashar gave Jordan Road XI a onewicket victory over Brown Compound XI in the First Division cricket league at the local stadium today, reports UNB. Opting to bat first, Jordan Road Eleven scored 200 for

Bashar hammered 69 off 71 balls and claimed three wickets. He was adjudged man-of-the-In reply, Brown Compound

out access to any of the evidence

the reasons for their decision

although UK Athletics have

done as much as they can they

have been in a very difficult sit-

uation because they haven't

been given any information ei-

Tuesday that the first time they

were able to convene the advi-

sory committee was just eight

days ago even though they an-

nounced a positive drug test had

we can," insisted spokeswoman

number of factors outside our

control which have meant that

the process has been somewhat

logue with Dougie and Nick and

been good but we've not been

able to go at the pace we had

the relationship between us has

"We've been in constant dia-

slower than we hoped.

"We have worked as fast as

"There have been a large

been discovered in December.

UK Athletics confirmed on

because we simply don't know.

'We can't talk about any of

"It has been a nightmare and

they have had

Jyne Pearce.

wanted to."

seven wickets in 37 overs.

XI were all out for 199 in 33 overs with Rajib scoring 28 runs off 49 balls.



China's Zeng Qiliang in action during the 50-metre breaststroke heats at the 4th World Swimming Championships at

LONDON, Apr 1:

The solicitor rep-

resenting Dougle

Walker, the Scot-

tish sprinter sus-

pended on Wed-

nesday after a positive drugs

test, has threatened to take the

UK Sports Council (UKSC) to

court over their handling of the

metres champion, was sus-

pended pending a disciplinary

hearing at British Athletics'

ruling body UK Athletics after

traces of the banned substance

nandrolone were found in his

Walker, who has protested

his innocence throughout the

ordeal, is furious he was made

to wait four months for a deci-

sion by the doping panel and

has blamed the sports council.

which conducted the tests, for

can to prove Dougie's innocence

and if necessary we will have to

think about legal action."

Walker's solicitor Nick Bitel

"We will take it as far as we

urine samples last year.

the delay.

Walker, the European 200

case, reports AFP.

Walker's lawyer warns UKSC

"There's also the fact that

Dougle has missed competi-

tions since the scandal broke.

His name should never have

been out in the public domain

and then it would have been

in athletics we give up on our

own. Other sports protect their

sportsmen all the way but that

any other sports from this type

of incident and I am innocent.

My name should have been kept

secret and until the decision is

in December but it took until

Wednesday for a decision to be

old, he and his solicitor were

not given any viewing of the

proof gathered against him and

neither were they allowed to

appear before the advisory

it's not just the delay, it is also

the fact that we have been with-

Walker said: "I'm angry but

According to the 25-year-

Walker failed the drugs test

Walker said. "It seems that

"Athletics suffers more than

easier to compete.'

made."

isn't so with athletics.

Hong Kong yesterday. Windies include rookie Hinds

ST JOHN'S, Antigua, Apr 1(Reuters/Internet): West Indies have named uncapped batsman Wavell Hinds from Jamaica in their squad for the fourth and final Test against Australia starting here on Saturday.

Hinds has been added to the

squad from which West Indies

ultimately chose their side for the third Test, which they won by one wicket in Bridgetown on Tuesday to take a 2-1 lead in the Shivnarine Chanderpaul, who was initially named in the party for Bridgetown but subse-

quently had to be omitted because his right shoulder injury had not cleared up, was not considered this time. West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) executive secretary Andrew Sealy said that following scans and examination at a New York hospital earlier this week, orthopaedic surgeon

Ainsworth Allen recommended

further rehabilitation for lefthander Chanderpaul over the next 10 days.

lymore. Wavell Hinds.

SQUAD Sherwin Campbell, Adrian Griffith, Dave Joseph, Brian Lara (captain), Carl Hooper, Jimmy Adams, Ridley Jacobs. Nehemiah Perry, Pedro Collins. Curtly Ambrose.

Courtney Walsh, Corey Col-

Toshack angry MADRID, Apr 1(Reuters/ Internet): John Toshack strongly criticised his Real Madrid stars for a lack of

commitment after they suffered

an embarrassing defeat in

training.

Toshack watched in disbelief as his first team, minus a handful of internationals but still boasting the likes of Predrag Mijatovic, Davor Suker and Fernando Morientes, were beaten 4-3 by the Real youth "If some of these players

don't want to play seriously

then problems are going to arise," warned Toshack, who took over as coach in February. "I make a note of everything I "This is the first day I've seen things I don't like. There was a lot of individual play but no teamwork and also an air of complacency among some of

the players. The youth team played with a lot of desire to win the ball. whereas some of those in white shirts wanted to argue with the referee. They looked like a bunch of untouchables."

Spanish league action against Alaves on Sunday, still have a lot to do if they are to qualify for the Champions' League.