Friendly cricket BSJA beat TSJC

AGARTALA, Jan 28: Visiting Bangladesh Sports Journalists Association (BSJA) earned a facile five-wicket victory over hosts Tripura Sports Journalist Club (TSJC) in a friendly cricket match here today, reports UNB.

It was the first win for BSJA in foreign soil since its inception in 1977.

After the match, Industries and Commerce Minister of Tripura State Prabitra Kar distributed the prizes.
The BSJA squad later called

on Chief Minister of Tripura Manik Sarker at his office.

BRIEFSCORES

TSJC: 132/10 in 29.1 overs (Debabrata 40, Ashis 13, extras 45; Saifur Rehman 4/13, Muitaba Danish 2/32, Syed Mamun 1/26, Pertha 1/9) BSJA: 133/5 (Nasimul Hassn

36. Pertha Tanveer 28. Badal Mustafiz 28, Dibakar Nayan

Ind-SA ODI schedule

BOMBAY, Jan 28: Scith Africa will play one-day internationals against India at Cochin, Jamshedpur, Faridabad, Baroda and Nagpur in March, an official of the Board of Cricket Control in India (BCCI) said today, reports Reuters.

India had delayed finalising the schedule of the one-day series with the South Africans, who are scheduled to open their tour with a three-day match against the Board President's XI on February 19, and follow it up with two Tests.

The first Test will be played in Bombay from February 24. and the second at Bangalore from March 2.

Indian officials had earlier planned the one-day matches on March 9, 11, 14, 17 and 20. The dates of three matches have been changed and the venues for all announced.

Cochin - March 9 Jamshedpur - March 12 Faridabad - March 15 Baroda - March 17 Nagpur - March 19.

Rose, Hinds warned

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Jan 28: West Indies fast bowler Franklyn Rose and fellow Jamaican batsman Wavell Hinds have been reprimanded for misconduct during a recent Busta Cup game against Barbados at Sabina Park, reports Reuters

The Jamaica Cricket Board said in a statement issued on Wednesday that Rose was reprimanded by match referee Dudley Bryan for "conducting himself in a manner inconsistent with the true spirit of the game" when he kicked away a ball played back to him.

Shortly after the incident, a fired-up Rose grabbed a hattrick, dismissing top Barbados batsmen Sherwin Campbell. Adrian Griffith and Philo Wallace. He ended with six for 74 and took the man-of-the-match award after Jamaica won the game by 114 runs.

The Board statement said Rose later apologised "unreservedly" to the match referee, umpires, captains and managers of both teams.

Rose was unable to bowl in the second innings after injuring himself in the dressing room late on the second a ternoon, sustaining a badly bruised toe.

Hinds was given a "severe reprimand" for showing dissent after being given out lbw after offering no stroke to a delivery from leg-spinner Dave Marshall which hit his pad.

MacGill in hot water

HOBART. Jan 28: Australian and New South Wales leg spinner Stuart MacGill has been charged with a breach of the code of conduct over an incident during the Sheffield Shield cricket match against Tasma-

nia here today, reports AFP. Tasmanian Cricket Association (TCA) chief executive David Johnston said the charge was laid by umpires John

Smeaton and Paul Mulcahy. It will be heard by TCA Code

of Conduct Commissioner Bruce Neill before play resumes on Saturday. However the commissioner

does not have to make his finding immediately. If found guilty, MacGill could be warned, fined or sus-

pended. Johnston would not divulge the nature of the charge.

Jordan

From page 13

imitate his awesome moves. Jordan's gifted talents were paired with his good looks. charisma and his attitude. He earned the world over and took the game of basketball to new heights. The media loved Jordan and he never backed away from a question.

The latest chapter in his career was written a few days ago when he became part owner and executive director of the Washington Wizards, the NBA basketball team which has been

struggling for the last few years. Jordan said he would look to evaluate the current placers and make some changes, if ecessary. He added that he will practice with the team, but that was as far as it went Will Jordan make his third comeback to the game? The possibilities are slim, but for a man who lives for competition, you never

knowl



Sri Lankan wicketkeeper Peiris (R) and slip fielder Daniels (L) appeal in unison for a leg before decision against an Indian batsman during the World Youth Cricket final in - AFP photo Colombo yesterday.

Flamengo tracking Ronaldo



RIO DE JANEIRO. Jan 28 (AFP): Tcp Brazilian outfit Flamengo are closing in on Inter Milan star Ronaldo follow

ing talks between the club and the player's representatives over the past few days in Rio, it emerged here on Friday.

Ronaldo is on record as saying he would love to play for Flamengo before the end of his sparkling career and the Jornal do Brasil daily said behind the scenes talks on a move, possibly with the help of Flamenge's Swiss sponsors ISL - who spy a possible marketing coup. "It's just a project," said a

cautious Flamengo president Edmundo Santos Silva.

Ronaldo is under contract at Inter until 2006 and prising him away from Milan would cost 120 million dollars. But even that would not necessarily deter ISL, who hold broadcasting rights to the next two World Cups and who are selling publicity for the events to big multinationals.

One of Ronaldo's associates, Reinaldo Pitta, boldly declared earlier in the week before jet-



RONALDO

ting off to Switzerland that "nothing is impossible" while recognising that pulling off a transfer for the former world player-of-the-year would be hugely difficult. In Italy, Rodrigo Paiva, who

deals with Ronaldo's relations with the press, was sceptical about the claims in the Brazilian media.

"These stories are inopportune and can only hurt Ronaldo. Anyone wanting to sign him should talk to Inter Milan's president," said Paiva.

Ronaldo has still to return to his best form after two injuryblighted seasons and had major surgery on his right knee last month.

He is hoping to return to action in April.

Ronaldo, whose new wife Milene is expecting their first child in May, has set himself two goals for 2000: to appear in the Olympics with Brazil in ·Sydney in September and also confirm his status as one of the best players in the world.

Last month he pleaded with Inter fans to be patient as he looks to recover his fitness. saying, "I am not a robot."

He also said his dreadful run of injuries had meant having to "live through hell" in recent months.

Blatter boost for Germany



LEIPZIG, Germany, Jan 28 (Reuters): FIFA President Sepp Blatter said on Friday Germany was a strong can

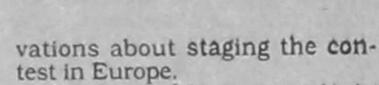
didate to stage the 2006 World Cup finals, praising the organisation skills of the German Football Association (DFB) as being without equal. "I would nearly have to say

Germany is favourite," the German sports news agency SID quoted Blatter saying of Germany's bid to stage the World Cup finals in 2006.

The DFB is the best organised football association in the world. The bar is 2.2 metres high and it's not everyone that can jump that height," Blatter said during celebrations to mark the centenary of the DFB in Leipzig. Germany is one of five coun-

tries bidding to stage the finals. alongside England, Morocco, South Africa and Brazil. Blatter had continually

stated until recently that he wanted the 2006 World Cup to be staged in Africa -- as long as it could cope with FIFA's demands on infrastructure, security, telecommunications and stadia -- and had expressed his reser-



However, his comments in Germany seem to confirm the views increasingly felt by FIFA observers that FIFA, whose Executive Committee will decide the venue for the 2006 on the



SEPP BLATTER

weekend of July 5-6, is distancing itself from an African bid. Franz Beckenbauer, legendary libero and chief ambassador for Germany to host the 2006 World Cup was upbeat.

"We're doing well in the race and we are in constant contact with the people who make the The DFB was set up by a

decisions," Beckenbauer said. handful of football enthusiasts in a restaurant in the East German city of Leipzig in 1900. With 6.3 million members, it is one of the world's largest sporting organisations.

DFB President Egidius Braun said FIFA might choose to mark the DFB's centenary year by opting for Germany when it makes its decision in Maybe FIFA will use the op

portunity in July to give its faithful member the DFB a super present," Braun was quoted as saying in the Leipziger Volkszeitung newspaper. "In my view it will ulti-

mately be a duel between South Africa and Germany. There is a political dimension about who stages the finals and South Africa has good arguments on that score," Braun said.

German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder and President Johannes Rau will be among the notables who will lay the foundation stone for a new 240-million-mark (\$120 million) stadium in Leipzig as part of the centenary celebrations.



Brazilian Olympic booter Athirson (L) gets the better of a teammate in training on January 27. - AFP photo

Italian Cup

Baggio inspires Inter Milan

MILAN, Jan 28: A Roberto Baggio strike secured Inter Milan a place in the semifinals of the Italian Cup after they drew 1-1 at home to city rivals AC Milan on Thursday to secure a 4-3 aggregate win, reports

Inter now face Cagliari, conquerers on Tuesday of AS

After a frenetic opening, Inter, 3-2 up from the first leg, went closest to opening the scoring when Baggio shot narrowly wide with a spectacular overhead kick.

But it was an error from Baggio which handed Milan the lead in the 36th minute when he gave the ball away to Zvonimir Boban. The Croat fed Andriy Shevchenko who cooly chipped the advancing Inter 'keeper Fabrizio Ferron.

But a minute later Baggio redeemed himself as he brought Inter level, squeezing home a low Clarence Seedorf cross at the near post.

The game continued at a relentless pace and Milan twice came close to regaining their lead before the break as Shevchenko forced a good save out of Ferron and then Jose Chamot saw his header cleared off the line.

Inter coach Marcello Lippi replaced Baggio with Christian Vieri at the break and Inter were much less of a threat as a result.

Milan surged forward in search of the two goals they needed to secure an aggregate win but were unable to take their chances.

Substitute Jose Mari saw a close range shot blocked by Ferron after he had been put into a scoring position by Diego De Ascentis and then, unchallenged, the Spaniard headed

over a Boban cross. Shevchenko should have done better seven minutes from time when Federico Giunti put him clear on goal but the Ukranian shot straight at Ferron. In the other semifinal, Lazio

meet Venezia. Cox cracks double ton

SYDNEY, Jan 28 (Reuters) Jamie Cox smashed a careerbest 245 to lead Tasmania to a commanding position against New South Wales on the second day of their Australian interstate match at Bellerive Oval in Hobart on Friday.

Cox's 245 surpassed his highest first-class score of 216 for Somerset against Hampshire last year and helped Tasmania pile on 510-5 declared in their first innings in reply to New South Wales's 84 all out.

Michael Di Venuto hit 136 as he and Cox put on 294 in 290 minutes for the second wicket after Tasmania started the second day at 228-1.

Their partnership was the highest second wicket stand against New South Wales in the competition formerly known as the Sheffield Shield, eclipsing the 271 Mery Harvey and Keith Miller made for Victoria at the Melbourne Cricket Ground in 1946-47.

At stumps, New South Wales were 66 without loss in their second innings, still 360 behind with two days remaining.

Competition leaders Queensland took a major step towards hosting this year's final when they grabbed first innings points agaunst Victoria at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Queensland cleaned up the Victorians for 222 in their first innings after they had started the day at 203-8 with Michael Kasprowicz and Ashley Noffke finishing with four wickets

Queensland in reply finished the day at 290-5 after four of their top-order batsman made

half-centuries. Opener Matthew Hayden top scored with 83 and Martin Love made 52. Wayne Seccombe also finished unbeaten on 52 while Geoff Foley was 51 not out.

M'singh cricket

MYMENSINGH, Jan 28: County Club earned a massive 124-run victory over Asit Memorial Club in the Beg Rim Premier Division cricket league here today, reports UNB.

Batting first, County scored 190 for all in 43.1 overs with Sinthi making 53 at the Circuit House ground.

Muntasim and Rinku were the other notable scorers making 29 and 27 runs respectively. Plabon claimed three wickets for 26 and Uttam took two

for 20 runs.

In reply, Asit Memorial were dismissed for 76 in 27.2 overs with Mithu scoring 15 runs. Munna wrecked the Asit Memorial innings picking up five wickets conceding only 16 runs while Rinku took three wickets for 15 runs.

Savio out for two months

MADRID, Jan 28 (Reuters): Real Madrid's Brazilian international Savio said on Thursday he expected to be sidelined for two months by a knee in-Savio was the victim of a

Betis defender Jorge Otero near the end of Wednesday's lea-ue match which Real won 2-1. Club doctor Alfonso Del Corral said the lightweight midfielder suffered a partial break of an interior ligament and a minor fracture of the femur.

"criminal" flying tackle by Real

the game and I've forgiven him," Savio said. "I hope this serves as a lesson to him so that he doesn't do this again because these types of fouls could end a player's ca-

"Otero apologised to me after

Otero was contrite after the game, saying: "Yes, it was a criminal tackle.



South Africa's Mark Fish (L) slips past a Congo defender in an African Nations Cup - AFP photo encounter on January 27.

African Nations' Cup

Bafana Bafana enter qtrs



ACCRA, Jan 28: South Africa became the first team to reach the quarterfinals. Ghana moved big step closer

while Nigeria and Togo argued among themselves at the African Nations Cup on Thursday, reports Reuters. Shaun Bartlett's third goal

in two games gave the Bafana Bafana a 1-0 win over Democratic Republic of Congo to send them into the last eight with a game to spare in Group B. Ghana overcame smaller

neighbours Togo 2-0 with first half goals by Kwame Ayew and Otto Addo to go top of Group A. Two other countries threatened to shoot themselves in their collective feet, an old problem among African teams.

Nigeria coach Jo Bonfrere said his players, already angry over unpaid bonuses, risked being kicked out of their hotel over unpaid bills and suggested they might have to sleep on the team bus. In Accra, officials blamed a

bout of malaria on Togo coach

Gottlieb Goeller's absence from

the bench against Ghana but other evidence suggested he had stormed out after yet another row over organisation. Bonfrere said his players had been locked out of their hotel rooms on Wednesday because bills had not been settled by the organisers. "Maybe we'll sleep in the team bus," said the

gos on Friday in Group D. The coach and his captain Sunday Oliseh also complained that the players had not been

Dutchman, whose team face a

tough match with Congo in La-

over Tunisia. Tournament organisers in-

paid bonuses for the 4-2 win

sisted that part of the hotel bill had been paid and Nigeria would not be troubled by hotel management again.

A Nigerian official said players bonuses would be paid "when the time is right."

Meanwhile, receptionists at Togo's hotel said that Goeller, who publicly criticised Togolese officials as being "useless" on Wednesday and accused them of treating the players as their slaves, had checked out looking fit and well shortly after his team had left to play Ghana.

They said the German coach looked furious, rather than ill with malaria, as he hailed a taxi and headed for an unknown destination. Without Goeller, who has

been in charge on all four occasions that the tiny West African country has qualified for the finals, Togo crashed 2-0 to a team against whom they had produced the biggest upset of the previous cup two years ago. On that occasion. Togo's

last-gasp 2-1 win led to fourtimes champions Ghana going out at the group stage. This time, the Black Stars

made no mistake. Sporting Lisbon striker Ayew, younger brother of former captain Abedi Pele, opened the scoring in the 28th minute when his low, powerful shot was fumbled by goalkeeper Kossi Agassa, and Borussia Dortmund's Addo scored another nine minutes

Ghana, who have four points from two games in Group One, had Eben Dugbarty's sent off in the second half for kicking an

opponent, the first red card of the tournament.

Togo have one point from two games while Cameroon and Ivory Coast, who meet on Friday in Accra, both have one point from one game. FC Zurich striker Bartlett

scored in first half injury time in the Ghanaian city of Kumasi as South Africa repeated their semifinal victory over Democratic Republic of Congo two years ago. The Simbas nearly

equalised in the second half. but Watford striker Felix-Michel Ngonge saw his shot deflected wide by Oxford United's Andre Arendse. The Bafana Bafana have a

maximum six points from two games and Congo one. Algeria. who have one point from one match, meet bottom-placed Gabon, who have no points, on Saturday.

STANDINGS African Nations' Cup standings after Thursday's games

Group A 2 1 1 0 3 1 4 Cameroon 1 0 1 0 1 1 1 Ivory Coast 1 0 1 0 1 1 1 2011131 Group B South Africa 2 2 0 0 4 1 6 Algeria 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 DR Congo 2 0 1 1 0 1 1 1001130 Group C 1 1 0 0 3 1 3 Senegal 1 1 0 0 2 0 3 Burkina Faso 1 0 0 1 1 3 0 1001020

1 1 0 0 4 2 3

1 1 0 0 1 0 3

1001010

1 0 0 1 2 4 0

Zambia

Group D

Nigeria

Congo

Могоссо

Tunisia

Hoddle goes to Saints



SOUTHAMPTON. England, Jan 28 (Reuters): Former England manager Glenn Hoddle took over as coach of premier league

strugglers Southampton on Friday. David Jones, the present Southampton manager, will stand trial in November on 17 charges of offences against children and has been given a 12-month leave of absence, the

club said. Hoddle, 42, has been out of football since being fired by England in February 1999 after a furore over remarks he made about the disabled. He was quoted in the Times newspaper as saying disabled people were paying for sins in a previous life.

"I am delighted. It's a big

39 Flower

44 Shed

46 Pillow

50 Lucas

53 Shoe-

tool

55 Burg

glasses

43 Corpulent

stuffing

knights

maker's

56 Opposite

57 Conk out

58 Fashion

e.g.

61 Away

60 Freudian

from

NNE

concept

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of "sans"

CROSSWORD

1 "Platoon" 41 Dark

ACROSS

leader's

7 Type of

race

11 Grand-

13 Candle

15 Hcle

14 Waterloo

in the

16 Extinct

New

17 Experts

denizen

measure

expletive

24 "Tsk, tsk"

theolo-

the --

bread?

chutzpah

gian

32 "Mack

33 Italian

34 Pay-

36 Show

37 Torte

28 Dutch

18 Brook

20 Metric

22 Emeril's

ground

is there

challenge and I'm looking forward to it. I've got no worries at all at returning as a high profile manager," Hoddle told a news

Jones has not been dis-

missed, Southampton chairman Rupert Lowe said, and will be paid fully during his leave of absence. The club said it was disappointed with the legal delays surrounding Jones's case. Hoddle, a former international midfielder, made his de-

conference.

By Eugene Sheffer

DOWN

1 Former

2 Mirnic

3 Venus

4 Aries

5 Quite

eager

6 "Damn

song

8 Fabulous

emotion

we have

12 Big lunch

19 Lid for a

lad

no

bird

magazine 10 Petrol

Solution time: 28 mins.

MAU HOMEN VOW

DNES NUS MEN

NASAL DEVUSED

GAB DIA

TRUEDON POSSE

TUND MUS WER

OPA OBITS CRO

NERUDA REMAIN

DWUSD WALDZ

Yesterday's answer

Yankees"

7 Delaware 35 Polar

21 "Houston, 45 House:

problem" 47 Ward

de -

Speaker

Gingrich

23 Slander

27 Consider

Haven

colle-

gians

calorie

rendition

30 Pavarotti

31 U-boat

38 "Wow!"

42 "Just

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heelers

48 Creatures

of the

night

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51 Gabor or

Peron

52 Moines

49 Recog-

50 Predic-

e.g.

29 High-

28 New

in 1991 before moving to Chelsea. He took over from Terry Venables as England manager after the European championship in 1996 and led England

but as a manager with Swindon

to the 1998 World Cup finals in France. Southampton are 17th in the 20-team Premier League. Al-

though they have often strug-

gled to avoid relegation, they have been in the top flight since

Rumours were rife last week

that Jones would stand down because of the side's poor results. At a meeting with supporters, he was told he was out of his

depth, had lost the players' respect and ought to resign. Jones briefly answered his critics by leading the team to a 2-0 win over Everton at the weekend. His trial, expected to last three weeks, will start at Liverpool Crown Court on

November 27. The charges cover a period in the late 1980s when Jones was a

social worker at a children's home in the Liverpool area. Jones, a father of four, will plead not guilty, his lawyer said

earlier this week.

25 Prejudice 26 Frizzy do 28 29 30 employee 9 Idolater's 40 Erstwhile CRYPTOQUIP

VJEU MUUZM

EJCPKMVUO WCNZ MKBVH. Saturday's Cryptoquip: AFTER TOILING IN FIELDS ALL DAY, MANY FARMERS WERE APT TO GET GROWING PAINS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals H The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for

preceder another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the 54 Writer puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe Buscaglia give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

