No problem for Mark

AIP, New Dellai

India's Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Tuesday quashed speculation that batsman Mark Waugh will be questioned during Australia's upcoming tour over his alleged involvement with bookmakers.

"There is no move to speak to Waugh," a CBI spokesman said. "We were looking only at the In-

dian players in our investigation. "The case of foreign players was handed to the International Cricket Council's (ICC) Anti-Corruption Unit (ACU)."

Waugh told ICC investigators last weekend he had never met Gupta, but Australians were apprehensive the player may b hauled up before the CBI once he stepped on Indian soil on Wednesday.

Waugh departed with the Australian team on Tuesday aware of a report that foreign affairs officials are on alert to help if Indian police seek to interview him in connection with Gupta's allega-

tions. Australian captain Steve Waugh said his brother Mark would be "a little apprehensive" but he expected him to be well informed on what he could face before the tour.

Magura cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Shaheed Mintu Sangha moved into the final of the Continental Courier cricket tournament beating Ajeyo Cricket Club by two wickets in the first semifinal match at the district stadium yesterday.

Batting first, Ajeyo scored 135 for all out in 38.2 overs. In reply, Shaheed Mintu man-

aged 139 losing eight wickets in 33.1 overs.

BRIEF SCORES

Ajeyo Cricket Club: 135 all out in 38.2 overs (Doris 42, Rubel 14. Masum 10; Pintu 3/19, Rakil 3/17. Palash 1/17)

Shaheed Mintu Sangha: 139 for eight in 33.1 overs (Sumon 40, Haradhon 13, Pintu 12; Rubel 2/14, Utpal 2/27, Pavel 1/5).

Result: Shaheed Mintu Sangha won by 2 wickets.

Schools cricket FROM PAGE 13 seven boundaries in his 88-ball

Among others, middle-orders

Roni and Masum scored 26 and 24 respectively.

Niketan were bowled out for 154 in 31.4 overs with Rakibul notching highest 31. At the Dhanmondi Club

ground, New Model High School registered an exciting two-wicket win over Monipur High School. Middle-order Ashique scored

an unbeaten 60 off 75 balls as the winners, chasing a commanding Monipur total of 201 in 35 overs, rattled up 203 with seven balls and two wickets to spare.

Away at the Uttara Police Lines ground. Siddeshwari Boys High School registered an identical twowicket win over Motijheel Government Boys High School.

Batting first. Motijheel High School scored 143 for eight in 30.1 overs. Funnily though, they could not field the other two batsmen as they never turned up for the

match. In reply, Siddeshwari High School reached home in 29.2 overs

with two wickets in hand. At the nearby Friends Club ground, Sourav Smriti High School recorded a six-wicket win over

Student's Computerised School. Electing to bat first, Comput crised School were shot out for only 87.

In reply, Sourav Smriti School scored 88 for four in 18.1 overs opener Bahu topscoring with 35.

SCORES IN BRIEF

Student's Computerised School: 87 all out in 22.2 overs (Extras 32, Alamgir 14; Sohel 5/15)

Sourav Smriti High School: 88 for four in 18.1 overs (Babu 35 Parag 29 no; Hanif 2/25)

Result: Sourav Smriti High School won by six wickets.

Motifheel Govt High School: 143 for eight in 30.1 overs (Kabir 43. Jim 21; Dipak 2/26, Tapash 2/26, Jewel 2/26)

Siddheswari Boys High School 147 for eight in 29.2 overs (Sunns

24, Tutul 23, Tapash 23 no; Kabir

Result: Siddheswari Boys High School won by two wickets. Monipur High School: 201 all out in 35 overs (Al-Shahriar 51.

Nafiz 37, Tareque 34; Reza 3/37) New Model High School: 203 for eight in 33.5 overs (Asiqul 60, Zahidul 34; Pappu 2/24) Result: New Model High

School won by two wickets. AK High School: 204 for nine in 35 overs (Saiful 64, Extras 46, Rony

26. Masum 24; Haider 4/24) Adarsha Shikkha Niketan: 154 all out in 31.4 overs (Rakibul 31, Haider 21; Saiful 3/25, Mostafa 3/27)

Result: AK High School won by 50 runs.

Premiership

Dailly Coventry's saviour

Football

AFP, London

A last minute own goal from West Ham defender Christian Dailly helped English Premiership strugglers Coventry secure a 1-1 draw at Upton Park here Monday.

The ball was launched into the box and Dailly, aware of the nearby John Eustace, could only guide the ball past goalkeeper Craig Forrest.

The visitors then saw an injury time penalty appeal rejected by referee Dermot Gallagher when Sky Blues debutant and West Ham old boy John Hartson went down

Coventry are still second from bottom but the result could have been worse for Gordon Strachan's strugglers.

Seven minutes from time fine work from veteran full-back Nigel Winterburn down the left ended with a sharp low cross that evaded the Coventry defence before midfielder Joe Cole calmly slotted home from inside the six-yard box.

Hartson thought he had made a dream start to his Coventry career when he fired the ball into the back of the West Ham net after 12 minutes.

Unfortunately for Hartson and Coventry, there was only one player between him and the goal and so his effort was ruled out for

Hartson - wearing the number five shirt - was a West Ham hero four years ago. His new club were nearly 1-0

down inside two minutes. Paolo di Canio played a magical ball over the defence after just 90 seconds to set up Frederic Kanoute with a good scoring chance on the edge of the City box. But Magnus Hedman was smartly off his line and blocked the Frenchman's shot with his legs.

Influential Coventry captain Mustapha Hadji created a chance out of nothing after four minutes when he found space on the left and delivered a fierce drive which Forrest did well to push round his behind on Sebastien Schemmel. far post.

Then Cole - becoming the shot just wide.

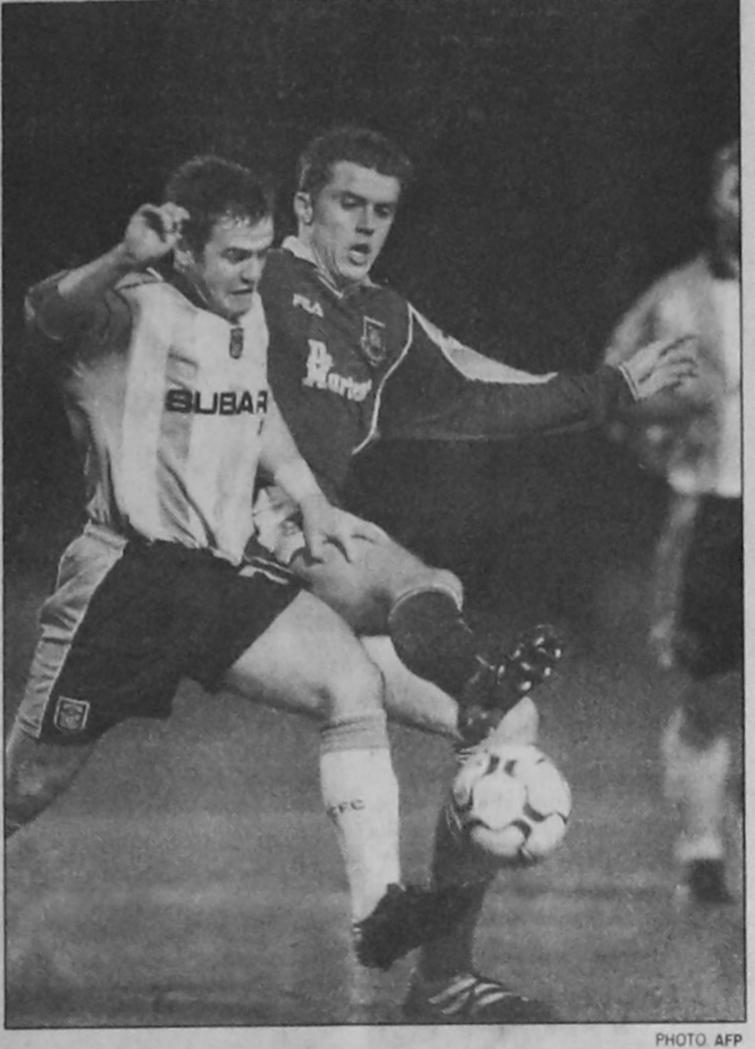
West Ham should have scored

making his 200th appearance for fore shooting high and wide. Coventry. But the young midfielder slotted his shot wide from eight yards.

magical moment three minutes shooting chance by Dailly's saving into the second half when he went tackle. on a mazy run that took him inside the box. His skill deserved some reward, but he saw his shot crash managed an attack of their own. against the bar.

Hartson was enjoying his debut and proving to be a handful. When he made a good turn in the box Di Canio produced another after 62 minutes he was denied a

West Ham struggled to clear two Coventry corners but then Gary Breen hooked away Schem-



West Ham's Michael Carrick (R) and David Thompson of Coventry City duelling for the ball during their Premiership fixture at Upton Park, London on February 12.

Hartson's over-enthusiasm cost him a booking after 53 minutes thanks to a rash tackle from

youngest player to make his 50th the early stages, and from a Ka-minutes. caught easily.

a mistake by Richard Shaw - good skill to lose Winterburn be- cost both sides victory.

ger events at Indian Wells and

Sampras's coach, Paul Anna-

cone, said that when his pupil is

there," Annacone said. "Will he

produce that tennis 12 months out

mel's cross, and from the corner Tihinen's header was cleared off the line by Lee Carsley. Tihinen stayed up for another

Schemmel cross and this time sent Cole was particularly lively in a header just over the bar after 66

appearance for the club - had a noute cross his shot was deflected More good work from Schemmel Makhdum High defeated Shiroil for a corner which Hedman saw him centre to Cole after 75 minutes but from 12 yards out the two minutes before the break . Coventry went on the attack. midfielder volleyed high, one of when Frank Lampard pounced on and David Thompson showed numerous wasted chances that

In reply, Adarsha Shikkha ketan were bowled out for 154 He fears nobody He fears nobody

Tennis

REUTERS, California

Pete Sampras has not won a Grand wild card entry into next week's where he has failed to get past the Slam off grass since 1997 and no longer has the burning desire for sharp ahead of next month's big-semifinals in 1996. the top ranking he once had, but at 29 he still believes he has the Miami. goods and mental fortitude to keep up with tennis' young guns.

"I'm not scared of anyone," challenge," he added. "I still have win. Sampras told the news agency in a the tools." recent telephone interview from his Los Angeles home.

"it's a question of how much I on, he still has no peers. "When want to compete. I'm not going to Pete plays his best tennis, he's play 20 to 25 events like I used to. I unequivocally the best player out need to play enough to stay sharp, but with my ability, I think I can still play with anyone," he insisted. of the year? That's up to Pete.

In his last three major events the 2000 US Open, the 2000 Tennis Masters Cup and the 2001 Australian Open - Sampras failed to produce the firepower and willpower that brought him a record 13 Grand Slam titles and the number one ranking a record six years

He was streamrolled by young Russian Marat Safin in the US Open final, was left wide-eyed by the wizardry of Brazilian Gustavo Kuerten at the Masters Cup and fell to his longtime whipping boy Todd Martin last month in Austra-

But the aging former world number one bristles at suggestions that it is time for him to step aside and let the next generation battle

for Grand Slam glory. "There's a lot of good young players but no one who really scares me." he said. "Andre Agassi is the one guy who can beat me when I'm playing well, but with Safin and Kuerten, even though they've beaten me, I feel like the

match is on my racket. "The majority of guys now are baseliners. It's not like I'm a huge

WTA rankings

AFP, Florida

Coetzer

Latest WTA women's world tennis rankings, issued here on Monday:		"It was a sto my parents were played, the sun g
Hingis	6105	break the record,
Davenport	4892	recalled Sampra
Venus	4094	spite playing wit
Seles	3521	that kept him
Martinez	2404	courts.
Capriati	2274	"It's as good
Serena	2238	maybe as good
Pierce	2126	Even if I win it as
Kournikova	2087	bly never approa
	1000	

guy with just a huge serve and feeling again and will keep trying nothing else. Week in and week to see if I can get it again." out it does get tougher, but when

There remains one glaring I'm on, it's tough for guys to beat omission from Sampras's Grand me," said Sampras, who will take a Slam resume - the French Open, Memphis tournament to keep third round since reaching the

"Winning the French Open, that would be a perfect career "I just need to stay inspired ender," Sampras admitted. "It's and motivated and that's my the one place I'm not supposed to

"Of course I'd like to win more Wimbledons because that's always been my place. And I haven't won a US Open in a while," added Sampras, whose fourth and last US Open crown came in 1996, before

"But the French Open is my biggest challenge. I've won everything I wanted to win and then

"I'm still trying to figure the French out.



PETE SAMPRAS

"He still has room for small improvements and I think he's motivated to make them."

After winning his seventh Wimbledon title and record 13" Grand Slam last summer in a dramatic five-set victory over Patrick Rafter, Sampras could retire tomorrow and be considered by many the greatest ever.

When he reflects back on his most recent Wimbledon victory, Sampras still gets a little choked

perfect way to is, who won de- win the Davis Cup," Tarpishchev th an injured shin told Russian press. off the practice

ich that. "But I want to have that special future."

the new stadium was opened.

some," he said.

Yevgeny's desire AFP, Moscow

Olympic tennis champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov has said he will retire from the sport if he can lead Russia to victory in the Davis Cup this year, local media reported Tuesday. "I will do my best to win the

Davis Cup this season," Kafelnikov was quoted as saying in press reports following Russia's Davis Cup win against Slovakia on Sunday. "This is the only trophy I have

failed to win during my career and I will probably quit in the event of our winning this season,"

Kafelnikov said he was confident Russia's Davis Cup team which also includes reigning US Open champion Marat Safin - was capable of going all the way this

But his retirement pledge was played down by team captain Shamil Tarpishchev. Tarpischev said Kafelnikov's

statement was completely unexorybook ending - pected - and doubted the 2000 there how well I Sydney Olympics gold medalist oing down just as was serious about quitting. "I do not expect Yevgeny a perfect match," (Kafelnikov) will really quit if we

"I hope he will bring us pride and joy with his tennis at least in as it ever got and the next two or three years. The as it will ever be. Russian tennis federation has its gain, it will proba- own plans and we would hardly be able to release him in the near

Beware of Kournikova!

AFP, Washington

A new computer virus that tricks users into thinking they have received a picture of tennis star Anna Kournikova is spreading rapidly by e-mail, security firms warned Monday. *

"Early propagation reports indicate that this virus is spreading faster than many of the biggest viruses we saw last year," comments Mikko Hypponen of the Finnish-based software firm F-Secure.

"It seems to be spreading almost as fast as LoveLetter." LoveLetter is regarded as the biggestever virus case, with estimated 15 million infected computers.

"This is a destructive Internet worm that has the potential to create e-mail storms leading to network performance slowdowns," said the McAfee Anti-Virus Emergency Response Team, a division of Network Associates.

The virus "arrives pretending to be an image of professional tennis player Anna Kournikova, McAfee said. "The worm, originally discovered in August 2000, has been found in more than 50 enterprise companies, including Fortune 500s." When users click on the e-mail

attachment, the virus sends itself via e-mail to all addresses found from the Microsoft Outlook address book.

"Because of the big number of e-mails being generated by the virus, it can overload and crash email servers," F-Secure said.

Rajshahi cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Alide Club recorded a eight-wicker victory over Town Club in a match of the Rajshahi Premier Division Cricket League at the local district stadium yesterday.

Sent in to bat, Town Club were all out for 82 runs in 34.5 overs. In reply, Alide Club reached the target of 83 runs for two wickets in

NAT'L SCHOOL CRICKET

live as easily as I can. I like to ac-Bholanath BB Hindu Academy beat Agram High School and College by live wickets and Shah Govt High by 11 runs in the National School Cricket tournament at the Rajshahi Govt, College playground vesterday.

BAAF polls March 1

BSS, Dhaka

14.2 overs.

National Sports Council (NSC) yesterday announced the election schedule for different posts of Bangladesh Amateur Athletics Federation (BAAF) executive committee.

The election will be held on March 1 at the gymnasium of the council. The posts are: vicepresidents (five posts), general secretary, joint secretaries (two posts), treasurer and members (21 including two females).

Steve's

FROM PAGE 13 prohibited.

wicket'

"There wasn't any dissent about it. I brought it up and they (the captains) thought it was a pretty good idea." Waugh said.

"It's not in the code of conduct, but I think it will be next year. "It will stop that temptation to say to the groundsman 'I'd like a turning pitch' or 'a bouncy

"The groundsman's job is to produce the best wicket he can and then the players go out there and play on it.

"If you're not good enough to cope with different conditions then you shouldn't be there." Waugh said the Australians

would try to get on top of the Indians on the first day of the Tests to deflate the opposition and silence the potentially rowdy crowd. "They're a very confident side when they get on a roll, the crowd gets behind them and they can get

motivated by crowd support, Waugh said. "We've got to stay calm and relaxed in pressure situations, last time we got rushed into it.

"It's easy to get dragged along with the emotion of the crowd and rush your game and then you're playing at the Indians' pace. He said he'd be satisfied with a

1-0 or 2-1 series win and was not

fussed with trying to extend the

winning streak. "I really believe we're going to play our best cricket in India and following that in England - we've done really well but the best part is about to come.' SQUAD

parts

32 - Little

Spanish

Town"

35 Stagehand

36 Mimicked

37 Borscht

base

33 Vendor

Steve Waugh (captain), Adam Gilchrist (vice-captain), Damien Fleming, Jason Gillespie, Matthew Hayden, Michael Kasprowicz, Justin Langer, Damien Martyn, Glenn McGrath, Colin Miller, Ricky Ponting, Michael Slater, Shane Warne, Mark Waugh.

Their final frontier

Cricket

AGENCIES, Melbourne

Steve Waugh's all-conquering Tuesday for a tour of India and a chance to cement their claim as other eras." one of the greatest teams in the sport's history.

Waugh's triumphant side have 70. already climbed the twin peaks of Test and one-day cricket during their unbeaten Australian sum-They won all 15 matches dur-

ing the 2000-01 domestic season, including an historic 5-0 clean sweep of their Test series against West Indies and all 10 of their matches in the triangular Carlton limited-overs tournament with West Indies and Zimbabwe. They extended their world rec-

ord of consecutive Tests wins to 15 and are just four matches away from equalising the one-day record of 14 games without defeat they set this time last year. But Waugh, who achieved a personal milestone on Monday

when he was named as Australia's player-of-the-year, has made no secret that he views the Indian series as the ultimate challenge of his side's Test of greatness. He said that the award and his

team's record-breaking spell

would count for little if they lost in

"The Indian series will be the big one and the one we'll be bowling duties with Glenn judged on." Waugh said.

cricketers flew out of Australia on then possibly we're not as good as West Indies this summer with other sides that have won there in neck and finger injuries, and Jason

in a Test series there since 1969-

"India is where we are all going to be judged and we know that and we want to make sure that is a good tour," he said. "The Australian season was

fantastic but to me I have been looking forward to the Indian tour for a long time and, to be honest, if we don't win in India, much of what happened in Australia won't mean a lot to me and a lot of the "We are going full steam ahead

for the Indian tour and I'm hoping that's where we are going to play our best cricket." The Australians arrive in India on Wednesday and kick off their

against India "A" in Nagpur. Bombay on February 27 with the stints at Victoria and South Aussecond and third Tests to be tralia when struggling as a meplayed back to back in Calcutta dium pace bowler.

and Madras. by five limited-overs matches.

Australia suffered a major blow Tests for Australia. just before the tour when pace-Australia in recent years have man Brett Lee was ruled out with cited for Miller. beaten every major cricket-playing an elbow injury but he was renation in the world both home placed in the 14-man squad with and away but have not won a se- tireless swing bowler Michael dreams can come true."

Kasprowicz will share the fast McGrath, Damien Fleming, who "If we don't perform over there missed the Test series against Gillespie, who passed a late fitness Australia have not beaten India test for a hamstring injury.

Australia chose champion legspinner Shane Warne and the versatile Colin Miller as their slow bowlers, leaving out the unlucky Stuart MacGill who had a successful Test series against West Indies while Warne recovered

from a finger injury. One of the key members of the squad will be off-spinner Miller, surprise winner of the Test Playerof-the-Year award.

The 37-year-old, who played in six of Australia's eight Tests for the season, taking 32 wickets at 21, did not make his international debut until the age of 33 on Australia's tour to Pakistan in 1998.

That came following his decision to revert to off-spin in 1997campaign with a three-day match 98, when he broke the record for most wickets at state level for The first Test gets underway in Tasmania, after having also had

"To have it voted for by your The Test series will be followed peers makes it extra special," said Miller who has now played 17 Steve Waugh was just as ex-

> "It's one of those great stories," he said of the spinner. "It shows

> > Freeman a two-time world

champion in 1997 and 1998, said

last week she will miss the Austra-

she was exhausted by her per-

medal, I probably wouldn't have

"If I hadn't won the gold

formances in 2000.

Freeman ready to gear up

"But my motivation certainly

isn't lacking. I was a bit worried

cuperate.

Athletics

AFP, New York

Olympic super star Cathy Freeman said Monday she is looking forward to different types of challenges this year with a planned return to competition at the Japan Grand Prix in May. "I always try to move through

challenge after winning the gold", Freeman told AFP in a phone interview from Las Vegas. The Olympic 400 meters champion, who lit the Olympic cauldron at the opening ceremony, said her life has been forever changed and that she was afraid that her motivation might

of a gold medal. "Life is never going to be the same again. I'm certainly a lot more content within myself since winning an Olympic gold medal. Because It's finally achieving something I wanted so badly, said Freeman, who took three months off after the games to re- now. I'm ready relaxed and having



CATHY FREEMAN many years, and you see your long dream has come true. It will be interesting to see how focused I can become But the way I feel



within the next 8 years or so. We'll just see what happens." Freeman 28 this month, will train most of the time in Melbourne, Australia, this year but did not rule out the possibility of working out at John Smith's "Handling Speed Intelligently" powerhouse of champions in Los Angeles. "I don't rule it out entirely but at the same time I'm happy to stay in Australia as long as I can. My

plans as they are at the moment aren't definite", she said. "I have a good relationship

with HIS. But there was never any formal or official agreement," she added. "I just have so much respect for that group and for John Smith. I certainly hope that the door is still open for me."

Qatar Open Tamarine advance

REUTERS, Doha

Fifth seed Tamarine Tanasugarn of Thailand moved into the second round of the Qatar Open on Monday beating Pavlina Nola of Bulgaria 6-2, 6-3.

In the only other singles match of the day Christie Boogert of the Netherlands beat Sandra Nacuk of Yugoslavia 6-2, 6-4.

26 27 45 46 47

FZDFOX HZ GHLRBOLRG SRB-DOZORX

another If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe

Thailand's Tamarine Tanasugam hits a return against Nola Pavlina of Belarus during their Qatar Open clash on February 12. CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer ACROSS 38 City 2 Pub 21 Tranquil 22 Medicinal 5 Go after 40 Any day 23 Breaches

of faith 9 Conk on 42 Pitching 4 "Waiting 24 "Meet 43 Engage-10 noggin Black* 5 Coaster 12 Author 6 That's a 48 Tin Man's Haley 26 Pleased laugh 13 - Flynn need 27 Scooled 7 Exist Boyle 49 Tend 8 Patronizes 28 Monad 14 Ram's texts 29 Enervates 50 Moth ma'am 9 Object of 31 Ice-15 Steel variety dread 51 Past of cream city alterna 7-Down 10 Has bills 17 X rating? 52 "Daktari" 11 Nerd-18 Rice/ 34 Navy John producer pack content rank show (Abbr.) 16 Perjure 19 Sanctify 53 Vortex 35 Mild yourself 21 Telegram 20 Restroom, 37 Halloween DOWN 24 Blueprint 1 Poke shout 38 Cat 25 Sheltered 26 Arousing Solution time: 25 mins. 39 Sills SOITOW 30 Realty solo 40 Mix unit FQOLFNG 41 Doggie-31 Bedframe

44 Conductor

45 Paul

movie

46 Besides

47 Do

de Waart

Newman

brickwork

CRYPTOQUIP O MIIQXRD MIRBIRD SRHSNR

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A REPORTER MIGHT GO TO AN ICE-CREAM SHOP SO HE CAN GET THE SCOOP. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals W

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter signds for give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.