

Rajshahi cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi
Al Rashid Club emerged champions in the AB Bank 3rd Siraj Memorial Cricket Tournament on Wednesday.
They defeated Bir Shrestha Shaheed Captain Mohiuddin Jahangir Smriti Cricket Club by six wickets in the final at the Medical College ground. Batting first, Mohiuddin Jahangir Smriti scored 104 all out in 35.5 overs.
In their turn, Al Rashid made 143 in 18 overs for the loss of only four wickets.

Trevor raring

FROM PAGE 13
Although Trevor is known as a fielding coach, he thinks that it would not be a problem for him to show his expertise in bowling and batting.
"I was a fielding coach of Sri Lanka but prior to that and after I have been coach the whole batting, bowling and fielding in Australia. Fielding as a player was probably my strongest attribute."
"It's probably the area where one can improve fast. But it is not necessarily the most important (thing)... Obviously the batting and bowling... You need to score a lot of runs and you need to get ten wickets to win a match. Fielding certainly contributes a lot to that, and, I think, it is the easiest thing to improve in. Batting and bowling takes a bit longer."
"Experience plays a big part in batting and bowling at the level where Bangladesh are now playing. Bangladesh are at the moment very inexperienced in terms of that they have played one Test match. So, there is no reason why the fielding should not be the equal or even better than the other international teams," he said.
When asked whether he regrets his bowling 'underarm' in a limited-overs match against New Zealand Trevor said: "At that time, I thought it was a good decision but looking back at that it was not a very good decision though. It was certainly not with the spirit of the game." He however disagreed with the idea that his 'underarm act' eventually cut short his career. In his short international career, he played only three Tests and 12 one-dayers.
When asked what was the secret of Australia's success, Trevor said it was their mental strength that made them world-beaters.
"I think, the mental side at this level plays a very important role. The Australians are doing so well because they have a lot of talented players and they are mentally very strong."
Now a single, Trevor is a vegetarian. He feels that it is the best way one can live longer with a good health.
"I feel it is better for my health. You do not need meat. I do not know what people have in Bangladesh but in Australia people eat animal products too much. I don't like it."

Laxman, Dravid

FROM PAGE 13
India went to lunch on 376-4 and soon after resumption, Dravid brought up the 200 of the partnership by driving Gillespie for a boundary.
Laxman then drove Mark Waugh through the covers for his 35th boundary to bring up his individual double-century.
SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard at stumps on the fourth day of the second Test between India and Australia at the Eden Gardens on Wednesday:
AUSTRALIA: First innings 445 (M Hayden 97, S. Waugh 110, J Langer 58, J Gillespie 46, H Singh 7-123)
INDIA: First innings 171 (V Laxman 59, G McGrath 4-18)
INDIA: Second innings (over-night 254-4)
Das (wkt b Gillespie) 39
Ramesh c M Waugh b Warne 30
Laxman not out 275
Tendulkar c Gilchrist b Gillespie 10
Ganguly c Gilchrist b McGrath 48
Dravid not out 155
Extras: (b-6, lb-12, nb-12, w2) 32
Total: (for 4 wks, 165 overs) 589
Fall of wickets: 1-52, 2-97, 3-115, 4-232
Bowler O M R W
McGrath 33 12 81 1
Gillespie 31 6 115 2
Warne 34 3 152 1
M Waugh 18 1 58 0
Kasprowicz 28 6 93 0
Ponting 12 1 41 0
Hayden 6 0 24 0
Slater 2 1 4 0
Langer 1 0 3 0

UEFA Cup

Barca eyeing semis berth

AFP, Paris
Spanish giants Barcelona shift their attention to the UEFA Cup on Thursday as they attempt to put domestic disappointments aside by clinching a semi-final berth in the competition.
Barca lost further ground on *Primera Liga* leaders Real Madrid at the weekend after drawing 1-1 at home with Real Mallorca and their hopes of a 17th title are fading fast.
They trail their bitter rivals by 11 points and barring a spectacular collapse by Madrid must now look to the UEFA Cup as their best chance of salvaging a disappointing season.
But Lorenc Serra Ferrer's team face a tricky test against familiar opposition.
They lead compatriots Celta Vigo 2-1 after the first leg at the



AC Milan midfielder Demetrio Albertini sitting dejected on the pitch at the end of his side's Champions' League second phase Group B clash against Deportivo La Coruna at the San Siro Stadium in Milan on March 13.

Milan, Italy no more



AFP, Paris
Deportivo La Coruna sent AC Milan tumbling out of the Champions League Tuesday as Manchester United finally bagged their place in the quarter-finals with a 3-0 win over Sturm Graz.
Deportivo's hard-earned 1-1 draw at the San Siro spelt disaster for the footballing aristocrats of Serie A.
AC Milan's failure to progress from Group B means no Italian team has been able to reach the quarter-finals of either European club competition this season an embarrassing failure for a league which prides itself on being the world's strongest.
Deportivo's Brazilian playmaker Djalminha put the Spaniards ahead from a 73rd-minute penalty after Scottish referee Hugh Dallas penalised Milan's Danish defender Thomas Helveg for a foul on the edge of his own area - a decision furiously contested by Milan's players and fans.
Ukrainian Andriy Shevchenko equalised - also from the spot - after 85 minutes but the goal that Milan needed to win and qualify for the quarter-finals did not come.
Dallas further incensed the fury of the San Siro by disallowing what would have been two goals from Shevchenko and German substitute Oliver Bierhoff.
But regardless it consigned the five-times European Champions - who had to win this match - to a trophy-less season while Deportivo march on.
The result could also have put the writing on the wall for beleaguered Milan coach Alberto Zaccheroni.
Zaccheroni, who now faces the sack, said he had not spoken to club president Silvio Berlusconi, who is currently running for Prime Minister in Italy's elections, but added: "For three years the president has made it clear he has not agreed with the choices made by the coach."
"Today we did the maximum. I cannot reproach the team."
Asked if he still felt he was still

coach of Milan he replied: "Ask (Milan vice-president Adriano) Galliani."
Berlusconi, speaking on TV, said 'Zac' would not be sacked on Tuesday. "This evening is not the time to talk about it - we will see tomorrow."
Deportivo coach Javier Irureta said: "We were surprised that Milan did not come at us more in the first half. We were in control but until we scored there were very few chances and it was a very tactical game."
In the other Group B match, Paris St Germain scored a 2-0 win over Turkish giants Galatasaray, who had already clinched qualification for the quarter-finals.
But the match was overshadowed by an eruption of violence on the terraces, which saw the players called off the pitch for 25 minutes as police moved in to restore order.
Officials said 64 people were treated for injuries. UEFA were due to make a statement on Wednesday.
PSG secured victory thanks to two first-half goals from Christian. At Old Trafford, Alex Ferguson's Manchester United finally got the comfortable sort of victory their manager had been craving with an easy win over Sturm Graz.
United were virtually assured of a place in the last eight even before kick-off with Sturm needing an unlikely victory by a three-goal margin to advance.
Within minutes that prospect was effectively put of their reach, Nicky Butt scoring after five minutes to put his team 1-0 ahead.
Teddy Sheringham made it 2-0 on 20 minutes before captain Roy Keane completed the scoring with a goal late in the second half.

STANDINGS

AFP, Paris
European Champions League tables after second round matches played Tuesday (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points):

Group A	Valencia	Manchester United	Sturm Graz	Panathinaikos
	6	3	3	0
	10	2	12	
	6	3	3	0
	10	3	12	
	6	2	0	4
	13	6	0	2
	4	4	10	2

***Valencia, Manchester United qualify for quarter-finals**

Group B	Deportivo La Coruna	Galatasaray	AC Milan	Paris St Germain
	6	3	1	2
	10	7	10	
	6	3	1	2
	6	6	6	10
	6	1	4	1
	6	7	7	
	6	1	2	3
	8	10	5	

***Deportivo La Coruna, Galatasaray qualify for quarter-finals**

Barca eyeing semis berth

AFP, Paris
Spanish giants Barcelona shift their attention to the UEFA Cup on Thursday as they attempt to put domestic disappointments aside by clinching a semi-final berth in the competition.
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Nou Camp last week and will have to be at their best if they are to defend their lead and secure a place in the last four.
The Catalans' preparations for the tie will not have been helped by news that defender Abelardo, who had been nursing a knee injury, is now likely to miss the remainder of the season.
Abelardo's injury leaves Barcelona with just one recognised centre-half in Dutch international Frank de Boer.
Full-back Michael Reiziger and midfielders Phillip Cocu and Emmanuel Petit are expected to deputise for the remainder of the season and are likely to fill in on Thursday.
Elsewhere Thursday, Liverpool will be seeking to keep their dreams of a unique Cup treble intact.
Gerard Houllier's men face Porto at Anfield with the tie delicately balanced after the first leg ended 0-0.
Liverpool (Eng) v Porto (Por)

Maldini takes over Zaccheroni gets the boot

AFP, Milan
AC Milan coach Alberto Zaccheroni paid an immediate price for his side's elimination from the European Champions League when he was sacked and replaced by Cesare Maldini Wednesday.
"AC Milan announce that Mr. Alberto Zaccheroni has been relieved of technical responsibility for his team," the club said in a statement.
The 69-year-old Maldini, who coached Italy in the last world cup finals in France, will have Mauro Tassotti as his assistant coach.
The Italian side went out of the competition when they could only draw 1-1 with Deportivo La Coruna of Spain at home on Tuesday. They were the last Italian side left in either of the two European club competitions.
They were also eliminated from the Italian Cup and are a lowly eighth in the Italian league championship and have failed to record a win since February 4 with four losses and six draws.

RESULTS AT A GLANCE

AFP, Paris
European Champions League second phase results on Tuesday:

GROUP A
At Manchester
Manchester United (Eng) 3 (Butt 5, Sheringham 20, Keane 87) Sturm Graz (Aut) 0
At Valencia
Valencia (Spa) 2 (Sanchez 39, Angulo 75) Panathinaikos 1 (Gre) (Basinas 28-pen)
GROUP B
At Milan
AC Milan (Ita) 1 (Shevchenko 85-pen) Deportivo La Coruna (Spa) 1 (Djalminha 73-pen)
At Paris
Paris Saint Germain (Fra) 2 (Christian 3, 27) Galatasaray (Tur) 0

Varsity Games from Mar 21

UNB, Dhaka
The first-ever University Games, organised by Dhaka University (DU), will begin on March 21. The five-day meet will be held at the DU Central Playground.
Organisers said around 800 athletes from nine public universities of the country were expected to participate in the 10 events which are football, hockey, athletics, volleyball, basketball, handball, table tennis, badminton, swimming and polo.
The participating institutions are Rajshahi University, Chittagong University, Bangladesh Agriculture University, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Islamic University, Sylhet Shahjalal Science and Technology University and Khulna University.
A 101-member organising committee, headed by JU Vice-Chancellor Prof Abdul Bayes, has been formed to smoothly hold the competition of which DU VC Prof AK Azad Chowdhury is the chief patron.

Gaibandha TT

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha
The four-day Naheed Cotton Table Tennis League, organised by the Gaibandha District Sports Association, began at the Public Library Hall here on Wednesday.
A total of 50 male and female players in 10 teams are vying for four titles - singles, doubles, mixed doubles and team event.

Sami on hatrick

REUTERS, Christchurch
Mohammad Sami, a virtual unknown a week ago, will be a marked man in the second Test against New Zealand starting on Thursday.
Of all the big names to roll off Pakistan's prolific production line of pace bowlers in recent years, few have made as immediate an impact as the inexperienced 20-year-old.
After taking three wickets in the first innings of his Test debut this week, he produced an extraordinary seven-over spell of high pace and later reverse swing on the final day which included five wickets for six runs.
Pakistan manager Fakir Aizuddin said: "No-one could have done better this morning. He was unplayable."
Physically, Sami has been likened to former Pakistan pace bowler Aaqib Javed. His figures in Auckland, though, echoed past performances by the likes of Imran Khan, Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis and Shoaib Akhtar.
Sami's opening burst in Christchurch will be awaited keenly.
He will start with a hatrick ball after his last two deliveries of the first test clean bowled James Franklin and Daryl Tuffey.

Inzy, Ijaz back in Pak fold NZ out to salvage pride

Cricket
AFP, Christchurch
New Zealand's struggle to get back into their Test series against Pakistan will get harder on Thursday with the tourists set to welcome back two batsmen boasting 128 Tests and 24 centuries between them.
Inzamamul Haq and Ijaz Ahmed are expected to return to the fold when the second Test gets underway here, strengthening a side that won the first match in the series in Auckland by 299 runs.
New Zealand were weighing up whether to omit new all-rounder Jacob Oram or paceman Chris Martin from their 11.
Inzamam and Ijaz both missed the rout at Eden Park when New Zealand folded for 131 in their second innings.
Inzamam has not played since injuring his groin here nearly three weeks ago while Ijaz arrived last week as a late replacement.
Pakistan captain Moin Khan said it was difficult to change a winning side. But he could not ignore the credentials of his top batsmen.
"Inzy's fully fit now but we'll have to take a last look tomorrow, Ijaz, of course, he's here to play," Moin said.
"It was such a great victory it's a bit difficult. But we've got some good experienced batsmen so it's not going to be a hard decision."
It means opener Salim Elahi and Misbahul Haq could drop out

while new paceman Fazle Akbar, with four wickets from two Tests, could come in for leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed on a pitch likely to favour quicker bowling.
Inzamam's Test record speaks for itself. He has scored 4807 runs in 70 matches at an average of 46.22, while Ijaz has 3282 runs from 58 matches at 38.61.
Both have scored 12 centuries, and Ijaz scored a century on his last visit to the Christchurch ground during the 161-run win in 1995-96.
Ijaz, who has been out of favour with the Pakistani selectors, last played a Test a year ago against Sri Lanka but is still likely to open with Imran Farhat.
New Zealand have had just two days to get over their black Monday in Auckland when their last nine wickets fell for 26 runs.
They have called up paceman Chris Drum and all-rounders Oram and Grant Bradburn brought in to provide batting depth.
New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming looks likely to play three pacemen in Martin, Drum and Daryl Tuffey.
"We still have to take 20 wickets and we have to be covered for everything," Fleming said.
"It's a luxury having those guys to bat, and the bulk of the runs have to come from the top order."
"In the past we've covered it with (the injured) Dion Nash and Daniel Vettori so it's a lot tougher to get it right."

TEAMS
New Zealand (from): Stephen Fleming (captain), Matthew Bell, Mark Richardson, Matthew Sinclair, Nathan Astle, Craig McMillan, Adam Parore, Grant Bradburn, Daryl Tuffey, Chris Drum, Chris Martin, Jacob Oram
Pakistan (from): Moin Khan (captain), Imran Farhat, Ijaz Ahmed, Faisal Iqbal, Younis Khan, Saqlain Mushtaq, Waqar Younis, Mohammad Sami, Fazle Akbar, Mushtaq Ahmed, Salim Elahi, Misbah-ul-Haq
Umpires: Daryl Harper (Aus), Dave Quested (Nzl).

Mercury goes up in Colombo Rivals set for last battle

Cricket
AFP, Colombo
England is no longer whinging. Recovering from a woeful start, skipper Nasser Hussain is pinning hopes on the deciding third and final Test against Sri Lanka Thursday to make their winter wonderful.
After bitter complaints over poor rulings in the first Test lost to Sri Lanka by an innings and 28 runs, it was the home side's turn to sulk when they lost by three wickets in the second Test that saw umpiring hit new lows.
"Our attitudes won't change, we will play the game hard and play to win. I will try my hardest to make sure we play the game right," said Hussain as they prepared for Thursday's Test at the Sinhalese Sports Club grounds here.
"If we win or lose the toss tomorrow we've got to get the basics right. We had a pretty good winter. The winter will be decided on this Test match. We don't want to ruin it by a loss."
"It is nice to go into this Test with the series one-all and with the prospect of making 2-1 up for the winter in conditions we are not used to," Hussain said.
"Sri Lanka will come back at us. This is their main ground and they've got some good players. We'll have to be wary of them. This probably is the hottest ground we are going to play this winter."
He believes it will be challenging for the team to adopt to the hot and humid conditions here in contrast to the cooler weather in Kandy where they won by three wickets amid complaints of decisions going against Sri Lanka.
But, the team will have a morale boosting presence in the dressing room.
England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) chairman Lord

MacLaurin will be there to witness the final Test. MacLaurin is expected to speak to Hussain about the acrimony between the two teams.
Bad umpiring has been the main cause of a war of words amongst players on the field giving the series a bad taste.
Hussain is also fighting to get fit against a troubled groin injury.
He is confident that he will make it and has left the option of who is going to play in the number six position open to his fitness.
With Graeme Hick showing poor form with scores of 5, 6, 0 and 16, Michael Vaughan is expected to get his first Test of the series.
There is also the fitness of left-arm spinner Ashley Giles to contend with. Giles is carrying an Achilles injury for a while and Hussain said they are keeping a close eye on him.
Sri Lanka are likely to blond 21-year-old left-arm spinner Dinuk Hetiaraarachchi. He is expected to replace all-rounder Kumar Dharmasena who has had a poor series so far as an off-spinner with his three wickets costing 57 runs apiece.
Hetiaraarachchi although not a big turner of the ball took five wickets for 84 runs for a Board President's XI against England last month.
Sri Lanka captain Sanath Jayasuriya said his batsmen need to go and make big scores to put England under pressure.
"We lost in Kandy because we didn't have enough runs on the board. Had we scored another 75 runs on the first innings it would have been a different game despite all the controversies," said Jayasuriya.
He was fined 60 per cent of his match fee and received a suspended sentence for four matches from ICC match referee Hanumant Singh for showing dissent

Kenyan cricketers accept new deal

AFP, Nairobi
Eleven Kenyan cricket players sacked last month over a pay dispute have accepted new contracts offered by the Kenya Cricket Association (KCA), officials said here Tuesday.
The new contracts offer players a huge monthly salary hike of between 40 and 100 per cent, which was one of the key demands by the players, who claimed salaries had been increased by only one per cent over a period of three years.
"We are fully satisfied about the terms and conditions we have agreed with the players, which are of course much better than they were previously," KCA chairman Jimmy Ranyani said.
Ranyani said Kenya's tour of India would go ahead in November after a scheduled visit to the sub-continent last month was called off following the sackings.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
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1 Chum
4 Snare
8 Barbecue
entree
12 Historic
period
13 Waikiki
locale
14 Opera
song
15 Highland
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gums
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24 Gold,
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perform-
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32 Tabula
33 Sawyer
or
Seaver
34 Donkeys
36 Greek
conso-
nants
37 Saharan

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22 Colonial
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23 Checks
for finger-
prints
25 Urban
transport
26 Unrepaired
27 Cilium
28 Numerical
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31 Blue hue
35 Speaks
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38 Ale
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42 Cap
45 Snaker
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48 Emanation
49 Requisite
50 Health
resort
51 A compul-
sory
payment
52 Candle
count
53 Prior to
54 Itsy-bitsy

Solution time: 25 mins.

ACROSS: 1. CHUM, 2. SNARE, 3. BARBECUE, 4. OPERA, 5. HIGHLAND, 6. SICK TO YOUR GUMS, 7. MONASTERY, 8. MAKE LACE, 9. HOSPITAL, 10. GOLD, SILVER OR BRONZE, 11. SUPERIOR, 12. HISTORIC, 13. WAIKIKI, 14. OPERA, 15. HIGHLAND, 16. SICK TO YOUR GUMS, 17. MONASTERY, 18. MAKE LACE, 19. HOSPITAL, 20. GOLD, SILVER OR BRONZE, 21. SUPERIOR, 22. COLONIAL SEAMSTRESS, 23. CHECKS FOR FINGERPRINTS, 24. CILIUM, 25. URBAN TRANSPORT, 26. UNREPAIRED, 27. CILIUM, 28. NUMERICAL DATUM, 29. CANADIAN CONSERVATIVE, 30. EASTERN POTENTIATE, 31. BLUE HUE, 32. TABULA, 33. SAWYER OR SEAVER, 34. DONKEYS, 35. SPEAKS SHARPLY TO, 36. GREEK CONSONANTS, 37. SAHARAN

DOWN: 1. CHUM, 2. COLONIAL SEAMSTRESS, 3. CHECKS FOR FINGERPRINTS, 4. OPERA, 5. HIGHLAND, 6. SICK TO YOUR GUMS, 7. MONASTERY, 8. MAKE LACE, 9. HOSPITAL, 10. GOLD, SILVER OR BRONZE, 11. SUPERIOR, 12. HISTORIC, 13. WAIKIKI, 14. OPERA, 15. HIGHLAND, 16. SICK TO YOUR GUMS, 17. MONASTERY, 18. MAKE LACE, 19. HOSPITAL, 20. GOLD, SILVER OR BRONZE, 21. SUPERIOR, 22. COLONIAL SEAMSTRESS, 23. CHECKS FOR FINGERPRINTS, 24. CILIUM, 25. URBAN TRANSPORT, 26. UNREPAIRED, 27. CILIUM, 28. NUMERICAL DATUM, 29. CANADIAN CONSERVATIVE, 30. EASTERN POTENTIATE, 31. BLUE HUE, 32. TABULA, 33. SAWYER OR SEAVER, 34. DONKEYS, 35. SPEAKS SHARPLY TO, 36. GREEK CONSONANTS, 37. SAHARAN

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CRYPTOQUIP

G A D V X C B B C K W G
G K L T B D - J A H F F X H F X C D G H X
G X C D U K W H B U
J K B D J G X C L T X D V L K C G J
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I'M SO GLAD THAT MY TRENDY NEW HAIRSTYLE IS REALLY GROWING ON ME.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals R
The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.