Div I cricket

UNB, Dhaka

Young Pegasus beat Gopibagh Friends Association by three wickets in the First Division Cricket League at the City Club ground yesterday.

Sent in to bat first, Gopibagh scored 187 runs for all in 31.3 overs with one down Babel making 62 off 68 balls and opener Koton 49 off 60 balls.

Johnny bagged four wickets for 26 while Majid captured three wickets for 26 runs.

In reply, Young Pegasus reached the target making 191 runs for seven wickets in 32.1 overs with opener Humayun making highest 67 runs off 80 balls. Russel added 34 off 27 balls and Majid made run-a-ball 32.

Sohag and Dalim took two wickets each for Gopibagh.

Sheffield Shield final Queensland rule Day One

AFP, Brisbane

Young paceman Ashley Noffke upstaged his senior Queensland fast bowlers when he wrecked Victoria on the opening day of the Sheffield Shield cricket final at the Gabba Friday.

Noffke only just missed out being named 12th man for the season decider. But he went on to record his best day in cricket with figures of 5-41 as Queensland took the first day honours in the fiveday final.

Queensland dismissed Victoria for 176 and then went to stumps at 35 for one, with Noffke chipping in with an unbeaten four as nightwatchman.

The 23-year-old did not figure in pre-match discussions but he became the man most talked about on a great day's cricket for Oueensland.

Queensland has relied on pace trio Andrew Bichel, Adam Dale and Joe Dawes for most of the season and that continued early Friday when Bichel (3-42) left the visitors dangling at 16 for two after they decided to bat.

But Noffke took over after lunch, crunching through the flowering partnership of Brad Hodge (47) and Jason Arnberger (63) in a spell of 3-0 which floored Victoria.

Victoria crashed to 89 for five and only resistance from former Test fast bowler Paul Reiffel (23) and Arnberger helped Victoria past 150.

Noffke was delighted at his career-best haul after battling injury throughout the season but he still had to beat off-spinner Scott O'Leary to the last place in the Queensland team.

"(The figures) mean a hell of a lot to me. You don't dream about days like this but we have to settle down for another four days of cricket."

Russia names Davis Cup squad

AFP, Moscow

Russia's squad for the Davis Cup World Group quarterfinal tie against Sweden in Malmo on April 6-8 was announced by squad manager Kirill Kostyrko on Thurs-

The squad is: Marat Safin, Yevgeny Kafelnikov, Mikhail Yuzhny and Andrei Stolvarov.

Bhajji

FROM PAGE 13

most fanatic cricket enthusiasts, crowded around televisions and radios to see and hear the nailbiting finish.

"I just shut down my shop so that I could watch the end. Any way, no one was stirring out for those crucial two hours," said Alok Garg, a grocery store owner in New Delhi's Saket Suburb.

"I told the children, now pray for Bhajji. Pray to win," said his wife, Suniti, who helps out at the

Cricket columnist Saad Bin Jung said Australian skipper Steve Waugh "must be wondering what has hit his best Australian side

Australia won a world record

15 consecutive Tests and was overwhelming favourite to win the series against India after extending their winning sequence to 16 with a 10-wicket victory in the series opener at Bombay.

India fought back to grab an | 135 all out in 17 overs. against-the-odds win in the second test last week in Calcutta to

send the series into a decider. But Jung also raised a solemn note when he referred to the reinstatement of the finest traditions of test cricket, tarnished last year when cricket was rocked by a

match-fixing scandal. "We should thank Steve Waugh | Rajkumar Eleven beat Nil Kamal and his Australians for playing | Krira Chakra by 81 runs in the positive cricket and helping bring | Pepsi First Division Cricket League back the glory of Test cricket in at the local Circuit House ground

India," said Jung. "A series won and a fost faith regained," reported The Hindustan Times, summing up the sense of relief that most Indians felt after a game well played.

Tour match

Pakistan in trouble

Cricket

AP, Wellington

Pakistan will have to bat out most of Saturday to avoid their second cricket tour match loss in three weeks on the final day against Wellington at the Basin Reserve.

The tourists, resting six of their frontline players, were 49 for one in their second innings at stumps, still trailing by 119 runs.

Wellington claimed a first- on Friday: innings lead of 168 Friday when they declared on 343 for eight in reply to Pakistan's 175.

Pakistan leads 1-0 in the three-Test series against New Zealand with the final Test starting in Hamilton on Tuesday. Pakistan earlier lost by an innings and 54 runs to New Zealand A in the Test Walker c sub b Mushtag series leadup.

from the first session, adding 96 lefferson c Misbah-ul-Haq b Fazl-e-Akbar runs to take the first-innings ad- Penn not out

vantage for the loss of just two Extras: (b-5, lb-4, nb-13)

Opener Selwyn Blackmore led the home side, batting 232 minutes for 74 including six fours and three sixes. He and No. 3 Grant Donaldson put on 121 in 146 minutes for the second wicket before Donaldson was run out just before lunch for 60.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard after the second day of the three-day tour match between Pakistan and Wellington

PAKISTAN: First innings 175 all out in 62.2 overs. WELLINGTON: First innings Extras: (lb-2, w-1)

(overnight 94 for one in 25 overs) Blackmore c Farhat b M Akram 74 Jones b M Akram Donaldson run out Morgan run out Franklin lbw b Fazl-e-Akbar Wellington took command Nevin b Fazl-e-Akbar

Total: (8 wickets dec in 101.3 overs.) 343 Did not bat: O'Brien, Patel.

Fall of wickets: 1-64, 2-185; 3-191; 4-228; 5-252; 6-283; 7-334; 8-Akram

Akbar 24.3 Mushtag Arshad

PAKISTAN: Second innings Farhat not out

Elahi c Nevin b Franklin Humayun not out

Younis Khan

Total: (For 1 wicket in 11 overs) 49 To bat: Younis Khan, Ijaz Ahmed, Misbah-ul-Haq, Faisal Iqbal, Mushtag Ahmed, Arshad Khan, Mohammad Akram, Fazl-e-Akbar,

Fall of v	Fall of wkt: 1-37;						
Bowler	0	M	R	1			
Penn	6	0	29				
Franklin	5	0	18				

Sweat subdued Shane?

Cricket

Shane Warne had struggled in India because his size made him sweat too much and he could not grip the ball, Australian leg-spin guru Peter Philpott said Friday.

"I just wonder whether sheer sweat came into it." Philpott said when asked why Warne had struggled against the Indians, who secured a famous 2-1 Test series victory in Madras on Thursday.

"In those conditions, sometimes you sweat so much it's very very difficult to hold the ball.

"And for a leg-spinner, if you are having difficulty gripping the ball, it makes it very difficult to "Anybody sweats in those con-

ditions and the bigger man you are, the more you're likely to sweat. But Philpott, a former Test

spinner who has coached Warne's rival for a Test berth, New South Wales tweaker Stuart MacGill, said the selectors had made the right decision in naming Warne once they had decided to name just one leg-spinner in the tour squad.

The Warne-MacGill debate generated much comment when the tour squad was named after MacGill's successful series against the West Indies and Warne's lack

Cricket

REUTERS, Port of Spain

West Indies have lost nine of their

last 11 Tests with Wednesday's

defeat to South Africa but captain

Carl Hooper is still optimistic

in the second Test of the five-

match rubber, Hooper observed

that at least West Indies were once

again looking like a serious cricket

Test matches we were losing in

three of four days, now we are

cricket and just fell down on the

last day. But we can take a lot of

heart by the fact that we were

competitive. There was just not

enough application in the bat-

Rajshahi cricket

Ekadosh on their respective

160 for eight wickets in allotted 22

shot out for 50 in 10 overs.

Chakra by four wickets.

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

runs all out in 36.2 overs.

122 runs all out in 27.2 overs.

Mymensingh

yesterday.

In reply, Lutfor Smriti were

In the other match of the day,

Winning the toss, Mars made

In reply, Bijoy reached the tar-

M'singh cricket

Winning the toss, Rajkumar

In reply, Nil Kamal managed

Eleven batted first and made 203

get losing six wickets in 29 overs.

Bijoy Ekadosh beat Mars Krira

Friends Ideal Ekadosh and Bijoy ago.

Rajshahi College Hostel play- qualities.

matches of the 4th Hasan Imam usually quiet Hooper, described by

and Ali Imam Pintu Smriti Sangha Sir Vivian Richards as an under-

cricket tournament yesterday at achiever, had enough leadership

feated Lutfor Smriti Sangha by 110 excellent captain, a man capable

Winning the toss, Ideal scored younger players.

In the first match, Ideal de- agree that Hooper has been an

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

getting games finished," he said.

"At least, whereas in previous

"We played four days of good

Despite going down by 69 runs

about the rest of the series.

of first class action following surgery on his spinning finger. played, in his early games he's probably outperformed even

I would take them both as the English side has shown a lot of trouble playing the leg-spinners. "Look at the last (Ashes) Test in

Sydney; they couldn't cope with

SHANE WARNE

Stuart. And look at the times Warne has been there, he's given them trouble.

and Sir Garfield Sobers were lians"

among the critics, the former

claiming that Hooper was being

rewarded after turning his back on

the team when he announced his

CARL HOOPER

international retirement two years

Others wondered whether the

The team, whose off-the-field

methods were ridiculed during the us to get better."

"If it were possible to take the two leggies. I certainly would. But if they come down to select just one, I have a feeling it will be Shane Warne.

Hopeful Hooper

cricket circles.

We were in a situation where both deserved to go," Philpott said. "But given that only one legspinner was selected, I feel Warne was the right one to go.

"Shane Warne was bowling very well before the Indian series and deserved his selection. "He's a great bowler and you

can't overlook that; you can't go

past him. But while Warne was disappointing for Australia in India, MacGill pushed his claim for an

Ashes berth last week while playing for New South Wales in the Sheffield Shield in Brisbane. Playing against Queensland in front of national selector Trevor Hohns at the Gabba, MacGill showed great control and gener-

match figures of 6-91 against the title favourites. Philpott, however, said he believed the Australian selectors would again name just one legspinner for the Ashes and believed

ated turn and bounce to claim

Warne had the inside running. "I have great doubts for Stuart MacGill, for whom I feel very sorry as I'm very close to him," he said. "I would not like to guarantee his chances.

"I would take them both, but what the selectors do in the long run remains to be seen.

"Stuart MacGill's record is outstanding and in' he games he's

turning the players into "English-

dians and they are going to have to

deal with the unique culture the

cricket," said team manager Ricky

West Indian team is a bunch of

party goers who drink alcohol and

morning," he said.

two tours."

So far, however, commentators expect him to get a big score

of passing on confidence to the the young players experience the

produce the goods.

somewhere along the line.

highs and lows of Test cricket.

stay out until five o'clock in the

the past but it certainly isn't true

run-a military camp, we do not

have sentries patrolling the halls of

the hotels, we do not intervene or

delve deeply into the private lives

of our players, which the foreign

media tried hard to do on our last

Brian Lara, who scored 12 and

nought in the second Test to the

frustration of his fellow Trinidadi

ans in the crowd, would eventually

looking good in the nets and I

Hooper said he was convinced

"Brian is a class batsman, he is

"I never give up hope. I expect

"Some people think that the

"I don't know if that was true in

"On the other hand, we don't

West Indies has brought to

Skerritt before the second Test.

"They are going to be West In-

Hooper was named as captain 2000-01 tour of Australia where

just eight days before the start of they suffered a 5-0 series drub-

the drawn first Test in his native bing, are striving for a more seri-

Guyana and his appointment ous approach behind the scenes

caused a storm in West Indies without, as their manager claims,

Former greats Michael Holding men, South Africans or Austra-

Emirates Cup golf held

SPORTS REPORTER

The fourth Emirates Cup golf tournament was held at the Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday.

About 300 golfers and a good number of ladies took part in the amateur event.

The tournament was sponsored by Emirates Airlines.

Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen Harun-Ar-Rashid and president of KGC inaugurated the prestigious meet and later distributed prizes among the winners.

Following are the results:

Mrs S N Lee - Winner of Hole-inone at Hole No. 10; Winner: Maj Gen M Kamal Uddin; Ladies Winner: Mrs S W Lee; Senior Winner: Cdre M Mujibur Rahman; Junior Winner: Imran Chowdhury; Best Gross: Sadiq Quddus; Runner-up: Faisal Khan; Ladies Runner-up: MS Farzana Islam; Front Nine Winner: Brig Najceb Hassan; Back Nine Winner: Hissam Ahmed; Nearest to Pin: Mrs S N Lee; Longest Drive: Raivan Rab.

Biman Cup U-14 soccer

UNB, Dhaka

Hosts Rangpur, BKSP, Laxmipur, Narail, Pirojpur and Narayanganj emerged zonal champions to reach the final round of the Biman Cup Under-14 National Football championship eliminating their respective rivals in the finals vesterday.

At Rangpur, hosts beat Gaibandha 4-0 riding on a hattrick by Sumanta Kumar.

At BKSP, the hosts crushed Tangail 10-0 to lift the zonal title.

At Narail, the hosts beat Jessore by a solitary goal to reach the final round. At Narayanganj, Mahbub

scored a hattrick for the locals to earn a 3-0 victory over Dhaka. At Pirojpur, the home side moved into the final round beating Khulna by 2-0.

At Laxmipur, the hosts booked their seat in the final round beating Chittagong by a solitary goal.

With these six teams, a total of eight teams reached the 10-team final round to be played at Moulvibazar in the first week of next month. Defending champions Joy-

purhat and hosts Moulvibazar will take part in the final round directly. Earlier, Natore and Chandpur DSAs confirmed their final round berth.

Cox Sheffield

Tasmanian captain Jamie Cox won the Sheffield Shield player of the series award, the Australian Cricket Board announced Friday.

ern Australia's Simon Katich second on 23 votes. Victorian Brad Hodge finished third with 20. Playing all 10 games of the Shield season, Cox scored his sec-

an average of 66.88. The right-hander hit five centuries, including a highest score of 160 against New South Wales at

February. The 31-year-old became the leading run-scorer for Tasmania in first-class cricket when he overtook former Australian top-order batsman David Boon (9,096 runs)

Good Luck Bat all signed up

SPORTS REPORTER

inspire the Zimbabwe-bound national cricket team rounded off on Friday afternoon in front of Raj-Laxmi Shopping Complex at Uttara Model Town in the capital.

sored by Coca-Cola Far East Ltd, "The important thing is that | travelled throughout Dhaka on top of a pick-up van from March 20 onwards stopping at different important city points to collect signatures from cricket fans. The four day journey of the specially decorated vehicle started from Mirpur Stadium on Tuesday morning and drove through areas including Dhanmondi, Nilkhet crossing and Dhaka University. Bangabandhu National Stadium, Baily road and Gulshan Circle No 2 before ending up at Uttara. A large group of enthusiastic fans, both young and old, gathered at the final stoppage of the campaign to pen down their names. A similar three-day programme was also arranged at Chittagong from March 16 to 18.

On March 27, the 'Good Luck Bat' will be handed over to the



Greg Rusedski of Great Britain executing a backhand return against Nicolas Massu of Chile in the Ericsson Open Masters Series tennis tournament in Key Biscayne on Thursday.

Rusedski moves on

Tennis

AFP, Florida Greg Rusedski's storming victory over Nicolas Massu -- including a streak of 25 unanswered points --

Thursday, The big-serving Briton, eager to reestablish his place among the tennis elite, overcame Massu 6-4,

highlighted the second day of play

at the Tennis Masters Series on

With Massu serving to even the first set at 5-5, Rusedski launched a stream of 25 straight points to take the first set and take a 5-0 lead in the second.

"I was a little bit surprised in the second set," Rusedski admitted. "He must have been frustrated. The first nine games were of really good quality. He was returning very well, hitting fantastic passing shots. He had more chances than I had.

"And then at 5-4, 40-love on his serve I just got on a roll, played five solid points and he made two unforced errors, the first of the whole match. From there on it seemed to flow my way.

"It's nice to get a win," Rusedski added. "He is a very difficult player, competes very well, is one vanced to a second-round match of the quickest guys on the court.

Rusdeski, once ranked as high

as fourth in the world now fallen to 43rd in the ATP champions race after a season battling injuries, next faces German David Prinosil, a player he has dominated in their three previous encounters.

If he gets past Prinosil, he could face Australian Open champion Andre Agassi. "I don't mind whoever I play,"

Rusedski said, "If I am in the third round that means I'm playing well. I play Prinosil next, who I beat the last three times." The two are mates from the

injury rehabilitation trenches. "We spent a long time together in the rehab clinic," Rusedski said. "We had different surgeons, but

the same doctor looking after us. We've had quite a laugh together. "We're looking forward to our meeting since the rehab clinic. Whoever wins will probably give the other guy a pretty hard time afterwards.

Croatian Goran Ivanisevic, a three-time Wimbledon finalist now languishing in 115th place in the champions race, defeated Czech Jiri Novak 6-3, 6-4.

Ivanisevic next faces former French Open champion Carlos Moya of Spain. Another former Roland Garros champion, Michael Chang, ad-

against Australian Mark Philip-

as second round action begins and the top seeds begin to take the court. Pete Sampras, the 13-time Grand Slam champion and threetime winner of this tournament

in the night session.

Spain 6-2, 6-3.

Chang beat Alberto Portas of

The action heats up on Friday,

Before that, reigning US Open champion Marat Safin takes on Spain's Juan Balcells. Australian Lleyton Hewitt, the seventh seed, begins his quest for

will face Germany's Nicolas Kiefer

a first Tennis Masters Series title against Spain's Jacobo Diaz. For the women, Americans Lindsay Davenport, Jennifer Capriati and Serena Williams learned who they'll face in the second-

round. Davenport, the second seed. will take on Czech Daja Bedanova, a 6-4, 6-4 winner over Paraguay's Rossana de los Rios.

Capriati, the Australian Open champion and a resident of Florida, is seeded fourth and will meet compatriot Jennifer Hopkins, who defeated Argentina's Gisella Dulko

6-3, 6-3. Williams, fresh off capturing the Indian Wells title on Sunday, is the fifth seed and will face Bulgarian Pavlina Nola, 7-5, 6-0 winner over France's Sarah Pitkowski.

Next mission Ahses

AFP, Brisbane Cox polled 24 votes, with Westsquad for the mid-year Ashes tour

> selector Trevor Hohns said Friday. Hohns confirmed selectors were likely to send only 15 players to England and were not considering a reserve wicketkeeper to ease the workload for vice-captain

to England was chosen, national

Adam Gilchrist. The extra gloveman and any replacement players will be picked from Australians playing in English competitions as selectors deal with the shortened Ashes tour. Hohns and his panel have

something to ponder after Australia threw away a first Test victory to lose the gripping Indian Test series, throwing some doubt over the team to play England in the first Test at Edgbaston on July 5.

Ricky Ponting, Michael Slater. Justin Langer and Shane Warne delivered below-par performances but Hohns said the sub-continent

40 Dress

42 Shake-

river

last lota

moving

Python"

alumnus

the land-

49 Adulterate

scape

acute

mishap

member

Solution time: 23 mins.

MAR HERE

TEPID NIP TAN

ZEN ANT SEMIS

53 Black suit

51 More

52 Ironing

47 "Monty

43 Every

speare's

39 Engaged 54 Red suit

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

6 Beeped

11 Fisher-

man's

12 Dickens-

based

musical

pattern

Olympics

14 Fancy

15 1998

16 Under-

stand

17 Gridiron

stats

19 Average

name?

petent

22 Larry's

23 Seeger

24 Swank's

*Boys

Don't

greatly

26 Feared

28 Yalie

30 "Mayday!"

31 Unyielding

35 Ignominy

Cry" role

Sampras

20 Com-

sock

1 Turf

provided much different condi- in a 17-man squad for England but tions to England.

formances and some ordinary county teams. performances from our blokes and some of them would be quite disappointed," Hohns said.

played in India and they can be after," Hohns said. quite unlike anything around the "The heat must wear you down and the pitches are certainly dif-

ferent to here and we have to take

those things into account when we're assessing performances leading up to the selection of the Ashes tour." Hohns indicated selectors might only send seven batsmen, meaning there could be no room for fringe candidates, such as

strong cases for selection this sea-There were seven batsmen on the Indian tour, including man-inwaiting Damien Martyn who did

not play a Test. Selectors would normally arm themselves with another batsmen the likely deputy to Gilchrist.

By Eugene Sheffer

1 Journalist 23 Bygone

3 - Khan 25 Wing

member

2 Move side

to side

4 Hinge

5 Night

job

from

counter-

10 Signify

part

11 Begin

vision?

6 Mulls over

re Yorick

7 Reaction 31 By

8 Musician's 32 D.C.

9 Got away 33 Dormant

DOWN

13 Went

18 Staff

by boat

21 Adversary

Turkish

goddess

place to

hang?

surprise

airport

- Kiss"

fication

34 "Prelude

36 Personi-

37 Bother

41 Narrow

ravine

44 Second-

hand

bread?

45 Italian

48 Bambi's

aunt

jetsam

50 1776

title

27 Dawn

29 One

the Australians won't play the "There were some good per- usual barrage of matches against

"The whole tour structure has changed substantially. There is no need to send 17 because you have "But you've also got to take too many people in the dressing into mind the conditions we room and too many people to look

> "We'll probably be looking at 15 and I understand there is plenty of Australians who won't be in that squad but they will be playing county cricket or league cricket and we can call on them if an in-

> > "There would probably be

seven batsmen and maybe a couple of spinners but I don't think we would take two wicketkeepers even though it will be important that Adam Gilchrist gets a break.

Simon Katich, who have prepared "We're hopeful and we're fairly certain there will be first-class wicketkeepers playing in England

that we can use. Brad Haddin of New South Wales is expected to play league cricket in England, making him

SERVICE SERVIC				1		0.00						
11				1			12		1			13
14		1	1				15	1	1	1	1	
16				17		18		+		19	1	
20		1	21	100	22		1		23		1	-
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			28		29		30	-	1			
31	32	33				34		35		36	37	38
39					40		41		42			
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51							52			-	-	
-	53	-			-		54	-	-	-	-	-

EJXZZ Boulogne R O X EXYXONJZ

> TRJVB Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DID YOU KNOW THAT THE FIRST LIBRARY IN ALL OF THE WORLD

WAS BUILT IN BOOKLYN? Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals S

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,



A tiny tot signing the Coca Cola 'Good Luck Bat' at Uttara yesterday. The giant bat is collecting good luck wishes for the Zimbabwe bound national cricket team.

Shield's best AFP, Sydney

ond-highest domestic first-class season aggregate of 1,070 runs at

the Sydney Cricket Ground in

during the year.

A public signature campaign to

A giant 'Good Luck Bat', spon-

Bangladesh team at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. It would then be flown along with the Bangladesh cricketers to Zimbabwe where they are scheduled to play their maiden overseas Tests, two in total and three ODIs.

Cricket The demanding Indian tour would be a factor when the Australian