Cricket

AL-AMIN, from Harare

Wednesday.

over contest.

o spare.

ground.

in bowling.

langladesh began their Zimbabwe

tour exactly the way they wanted.

winning the lone practice match

ahead of their one-day series con-

vincingly. The tourists thrashed

the CFX Academy by seven wickets

at the Alexandra Sports Club on

It was also a dream start for

young pacer Sharif, who captured

five wickets to send the aspiring

Zimbabwe caps packing for 183

with seven balls to go in the 50-

After the splendid work of

Sharif, one-down Habibul Bashar

played a typically aggressive 79 as

only 32.2 overs with seven wickets

Shahriar gave the visitors a flying

start with 28 off 24 balls. Bangla-

desh batsmen did never hesitated

to play their shots all around the

inspiring spell, stole the spotlight

from a team that lacked firepower

But it was Sharif who, with an

Bashar clubbed nine fours in

Hossian and young Ashraful are

Skipper Naimur Rahman was

of his teammates. "It's a good start

and we have won the match com-

fortably," said Naimur, who was in

full praise of Sharif. "He (Sharif)

assurance from the bowling."

weakest aspect of Bangladesh.

SCOREBOARD

rare, on Wednesday:

Butterworth c Mushfiq

Duffin run out (Sharif)

Rogers c Mushfiq b Sharif

Ervine c Aminul b Sharif

Siziba b Naimur

McMillan b Sharif

Dabengwa not out

Mahwire lbw b Naimur

Extras:(lb-5, w-6, nb-2)

Total:(all out, 48.5 overs)

Croxford & Akram b Rafique

Townshend st Masood b Naimur 0

Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-18, 3-102.

10 1 28

SEE PAGE 15

4-128, 5-168, 6-178, 7-180, 8-184.

Neethling b Sharif

ACADEMY XI

b Sharif

9-185

Bowler

Sharif

Manjurul

Naimur

Rafique

BANGLADESH

b Townshend

Aminul not out

Naimur not out

Javed c Butterworth

Al-Sahariar b McMillan

Bashar c Croxford b Rogers

has given us the much-needed

The bowling department is the

Scorecards of the lonited overs

tour match between Bangladesh

and Zimbabwe Cricket Academy

XI at Alexandra Sports Club, Ha-

Dell Latitude

"When I woke up in the morn-

"I'm thankful to the Almighty

that everything is going exactly the

ing. I thought that I would be



Just before tea a me via mickshire Oxford University cricket match Norman Horner played at a ball that went for four runs, but the umpire signalled as byes. During the meal the umpire had afterthoughts and credited Horner with four runs - perhaps the first time that a batsmar had scored a boundary at the tea table!



Cricket Classics Boycott's Best England vs Australia Third ODI-1977 11:30 am

Lazio vs AC Milan

3:00 pm (Friday)

Star Sports

Australian Domestic Cricket

Day Three Highlights

at 11:00pm &

Day Four Highlights

at 11:00 pm (Friday)

Primera Liga

Espanyol vs Valencia

at 8:30 am

Futbol Mundial

at 5:30 pm

Elber

(Bayern

that he's nothing special."

About David Beckham

Competition 146

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

April 6, 2001 and draw

shortly afterwards

1. Who clinched the SAARC

India | Sri Lanka | Nepal

2. Who won the Masters Series in

Agassi Sampras Kafelnikov

What position did Bangladesh

capture in the Prime Minister

Gold Cuphockey tournament?

Fifth Sixth Seventh

Who became Prime Minister

Gold Cup hockey champions?

Malaysia

Shane VSSLaxman

Pakistan

betweenIndiaandAustralia?

Name

Class..... Roll No.....

School Address

Who won the man-of-the-series

award in the Pepsi Test series

Warne

basketball crown?

Indian Wells?

striker)

England vs West Indies First Test-1980 7:00pm Harsha Online Cricket Talk Show

The 17-year-old right-armer 5:00 pm (Friday) struck early in the innings, removing both openers with the South Africa vs West Indies scoreboard reading only 18. He Fourth Test Day One had Butterworth caught at point Live at 8:00 pm (Friday) for five before knocking off the Football Focus middle-stump of Neethling, who 8:30 am

Deportivo vs Leeds United made six. UEFA Champions' League his captain Naimur Rahman to Repeat at 9 am make a breakthrough after Duffin Valencia vs Arsenal and Rogers put on 84 runs for the UEFA Champions League third wicket. He had Rogers Repeat at 9 pm English Premier League caught at cover by Mushfiqur Rahman for 56. He then dismissed Highlights at 12:00am Duffin, the highest scorer for CFX & 1:00 pm (Friday) with 55, with a direct throw from Serie A

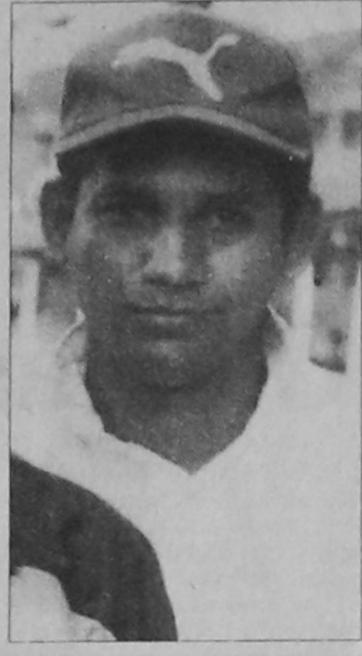
> backward point. Sharif also captured the wicket of CFX captain Ervine, who had a little luck in the match except for winning the toss in the morning.

Sharif completed his five-wicket Hasibul Hossain, slow left-armer haul when he deceived MacMilan Enamul Hoque, opener Mehrab with swinging delivery for a duck.

Bangladesh begin well

Skipper Naimur Rahman also the four players who stayed in the bowled well in the last five overs, dressing room. About Ashraful, during which time CFX lost five Trevor said that he was a talented wickets for only 15 runs. The off- cricketer and would play matches spinner took three wickets for 45 in the process.

"It is good to win. Obviously, also pleased with the performance we expected a win against the Academy side. We will have to improve further our fielding and running between the wickets. The bowlers also need to maintain a



BASHAR...79

tight line," said the Australian Sharif was again summoned by coach of Bangladesh, Trevor Chappell, after the match. "We have hit a lot of boundaries. But against Zimbabwe it would not be so easy. We need to take a lot of singles which is very important."

Trevor also hinted at retaining the winning combination for the first of their three-match one-day series against Zimbabwe, starting at the Harare Sports Club ground on April 7.

Experienced right-arm seamer

Cricket misses its fans

SPORTS REPORTER, Harare

The family of an expatriate Bangladeshi was the only source of inspiration for cricket at the Alexandra Sports Club, Harare, on Wednesday.

Afroza Khatun, whose husband Iftekher Ahfned is an architect, has been living in Zimbabwe for the last 16 years. She was at the ground to cheer up the Bangladeshi cricketers along with his son Mitul and 69-year-old mother-inlaw Alo, who came to this part of the world only last year but decided to stay back with his son for the rest of her life.

"I have come to see our cricketers and it is really something special for us," said Afroza.

The Ifthker family was sitting amongst about a hundred local supporters on the tiny stand made of wood. There were also some students present from the nearby

Velentine, an eight-year-old student, said that he loves the game and plays a lot in his school. But John Word, who is working for the CricInfo, a popular cricket news host on the net, observed the passion for the game was disappointingly low here.

"This is a much bigger crowd than you would see in any provincial matches of Zimbabwe," he said, lamenting that the media also does not promote the game. "The newspapers here show little interest in cricket. Cricket still surviving here only because of international media coverage and the money coming from it."

SAFF tourney from Oct 31

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has decided to host the third South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship from October 31 to November 12.

The decision was taken in BFF's meeting at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Tuesday night with Federation president and Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation Mohammad Hanif in the chair.

Seven nations of the region-India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Bhutan, Nepal and hosts Bangladesh-- will take part in the championship.

The country's football's ruling body also asked the Dhaka Mahanagari Football League Committee (DMFLC) to take necessary steps to start the Premier Division Football League from the middle of May. The meeting also instructed the DMFLC to hold the inter-club booters transfer from the 22nd of this month. They however, failed to decide on a possible date to start the National League.

The BFF meeting accepted an offer from Soccer Australia to join SEE PAGE 15

Niaz starts with a win

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Niaz Murshed got off to a winning start in the Professor Abdur Razzak 27th National Chess Championship with a hard fought victory over International

Women Master (IWM) Rani Hamid in the opening round at the NSC on Wednesday. Playing with black pieces, Niaz, the lone Grand Master of the

after 53 moves. Niaz apart, last year's runnerup IM Ziaur Rahman beat Abdul Malek of Chittagong, IM Abdullah Al-Rakib beat Aminul Islam while

Holder IM Reefat-bin-Sattar

The second round will start at Today's matches: Nasir



Tomorrow's event Abahani v Brothers Union Kalabagan KC v Surjo Tarun

Sharif on song

Cricket

AL-AMIN, Harare

Mohammed Sharif got straight into action with a fantastic fivewicket haul in the limited-overs tour opener against CFX Academy at the Alexandra Sports Club in Harare on Wednesday.

> With this dream burst the young right-armer not only justified his inclusion into the Zimbabwe tour party, but also gave his captain some confidence in his

rather weak pace bowling depart-

Following his impressive beginning in the National League last year, Sharif is now all set to prove his mettle in the highest level of cricket. It was like a fairy-tale run for the 17-year-old from Narayanganj, who won the country's cap after claiming 49 wickets in the National League.

His first day in business in Zimbabwe was exactly the same of his debut for Bangladesh Biman against Chittagong.

happy if I get two or three wickets. But when I entered this beautiful ground and got my first ball right on the spot, I had feeling that this might be my day," said Sharif at the lunch-break.

way I wanted it to go. The wicket was a bit hard but not much pace in it. I have tried to bowl up and the odd slower ones did the trick," said

> run out with a direct hit from backward point. "I'm extremely satisfied with my performance and also for being able to quickly adjust myself with the conditions here."

Sharif, who also effected a brilliant

Sharif got a blow on his leftknee while fielding but he however said that it was not serious. He received a serious knee injury when he was touring with the Undet-17 team in Pakistan a couple of years back.

The soft-spoken pacer is currently bowling much quicker than anyone else in the Bangladesh team. He is also capable of maintaining a consistent line and not afraid of bowling against the vastly experienced Zimbabwe seniors.

"If I have to be afraid of bowling against Andy Flower, then I should not bowl at all. I'm ready to take up any challenge. My job as a bowler is to get wickets and win matches for my team," said Sharif.

Although Sharif shared the new ball with left-arm pacer Monjurul Islam, he looked more comfortable with the old ball. "The old ball suits me well because it becomes smaller than the new ball. I can grip an old ball properly and work on it at my own will." A product of former national

leg-spinner Wahidul Ghani, Sharif said that he owes a lot to his teacher. "I'm doing exactly what my teacher asked me to do. It is because of his effort I could reach at this stage".

MSC tick with Tikolo

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Steve Tikolo smashed a masterful hundred to inspire Mohammedan Sporting Club inflict a 54-run deheat on eternal foes Abahani in the top of the table clash of the Premier Division cricket league at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Tuesday The Kenyan star right-hander

cracked 148 as Mohammedan survived an early hiccup to pile up a huge 301 for nine in the stipulated 50 overs after being sent in. Mohammedan's young me-

dium pacer Taposh Baishya then captured four wickets for 39 runs to restrict Abahani to 247 for eight. Pakistani recruit Tareq Javed fought a losing battle for Abahani

with a patient unbeaten 102. Mohammedan were off to a shaky start when they lost three vickets for 55 runs in 9.5 overs.

However, their inform pair Tikolo and Sanwar Hossain struck Brazilian back with vigor by sharing a 183run fourth wicket stand that came "To my eyes he is no way a in 31.4 overs.

The partnership finally came to world class player. Okay, he can an end when Sanwar was caught cross the ball well, but apart from at long off by Morshed Ali Khan off lest arm spinner Ahsanullah Hasan. Sanwar's timely 73 came off 86 balls. He hit six boundaries.

After Sanwar's departure with his team on 238 for 4 in 41.3 overs, Tikolo single-handedly guided Mohammedan to the three hun-

Tikolo was the last Moham-



Mohammedan's Kenyan recruit Steve Tikolo follows through on a cover drive during his scintillating knock of 148 against archrivals Abahani at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Wednesday.

PHOTO ANISUR RAHMAN

he pulled the fifth ball of the final overs. over from Hasan to the safe hands of Azam Igbal at mid wicket. Tikolo's 138-ball knock contained maintained respectability. two sixes and 15 fours.

Abahani bowler and finished with the 12-team elite league table with four for 64 from 10 overs.

really got going as Taposh Baisva after six victories on the trot. grabbed three wickets in successive overs in his opening spell to

medan batsman to get out when reduce them to 41 for three in 6.1.

Tareg Javed's 102 not out off 120 balls ensured that Abahani

It was Mohammedan's seventh Hasan was the most successful win in a row that puts them atop full 14 points. On the other hand, Abahani in their chase never Abahani suffered their first defeat

SEE PAGE 15

International Master Ziaur Rahman (R) and Abdul Malek of Chittagong during their opening round engagement of the Professor Abdur Razzak 27th National Chess Championship at the NSC on Wednesday.

City openers run riot

Bangladesh's Mohammad Sharif (2nd from R), who captured five CFX

Academy wickets, being congratulated by teammate Akram Khan after

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Club to their first victory in the inclusive of eight fours. Premier Division Cricket League-a comprehensive 60-run win over Agrani Bank -- at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium on Wednesday. The duo put on a massive 238

taking a wicket at Harare on Wednesday.

Rajshahi cricket OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

country, took modern defence against Rani and won the board

Abu Sufian Sakil beat Syed Mahfuzur Rahman Emon.

was held to a draw by FIDE Master Enamul Hossain Rajib while the other match between Taibur Rahman Sumon and Sheikh Nasir Ahmed was going on.

the same venue today at 2:30 pm. Emon, Zia v Sakil, Niaz v Malek, Rajib v Raní Hamid, Rakib v Recfat and Sumon v Amin.



Premier Division Cricket League (Bangabandhu National Stadium) (Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium) Biman v Young Cricketers (BKSP)

runs in 41.5 overs as City Club piled up 311 in 50 overs for the loss of just one wicket.

PHOTO BANGLADESH CRICKET BOARD

Wasim, the Pakistani hard hitter, smashed 139 off 125 balls with A double century partnership four sixes and 13 boundaries. between openers Wasim Nayeem Monir who played the anchor role, and Moniruzzaman propelled City was unbeaten on 112 off 146 balls

One down Rehan Rafique remained not out on 47. In reply, the Bankers could

reach 251 for nine. Middle order Sajjad Kadir with

a 65 (76 balls) top-scored followed by Ziauddin who added 41.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard of the Premier Divi-

CITY CLUB

sion Cricket League match between City Club and Agrani Bank at the Dhanmondi Cricket Sta-Sepoypara Sporting Club and Radium on Wednesday: jpara Cricket Club won their re-

spective matches of the fourth Wasim st Sajjad b Russell Hasan Imam Ali Imam Pintu 112 Monir not out Smriti Cricket tournament at the R Rafique not out Rajshahi Medical College Hostel Extras: (b-1, lb-1, nb-1, w-10) Total (For 1 wkt in 50 overs) 311 Winning the toss, Sepoypara Fall of wicket: 1/238 O M P In reply, Sagarpara were all out

Bowlet	U	IVI	u	
Narayan	2	0	12	
Imran	10	1	40	
Sohel	3	0	26	
Russell	10	0	75	
Sentu	7	0	28	
S Malik	9	0	63	
S Shahed	7	0	46	
Moni	2	0	19	

AGRANI BANK Imran b Khair Hijal run out

S Shahed e Sitanath b Palash Sohel c Tutul b Khair S Malik c Ujjal b R Rafique Sajjad Ibw b Rashed Ziauddin c Sitanath b Rashed 41 Moni c R Rafique b Rashed Narayan not out Sentu st Sitanath b Ujial Russell not out

Total: (For 9 wkts in 50 overs) 231 Fall of wickets: 1/0, 2/47, 3/52, 4/62, 5/86, 6/182, 7/188, 8/202, 9/221. Bowler OMRW

Extras: (b-5, lb-4, nb-1, w-10) 20

	_	27.00		-
Khair	10	1	36	
Palash	10	0	44	
Rashed	10	0	49	
R Rafique	8	0	40	
Wasim	4	0	31	(
Ujjal .	7	0	31	
Tutul	1	0	11	(
Result: City	Club	wo	n by	60

Young Cricketers beat Bima

SPORTS REPORTER

Promotees Young Cricketers registered their third win in the Premier Division Cricket League with a six-wicket defeat of Sadharan Bima at the BKSP ground in Savar SEE PAGE 15

Steve salutes 'em

Cricket

playground yesterday.

the day.

allotted 23 overs.

made 124 all out in 23.3 overs.

for 111 in stipulated 25 overs.

Rajpara defeated Kalabagan by

Rajpara scored 138 for eight in

In reply, Kalabagan managed

134 for eight in allotted 23 overs.

five runs in the second match of

REUTERS, Vishakhapatnam

Australian captain Steve Waugh praised centurions Matthew Hayden and Ricky Ponting after Australia beat India by 93 runs on Tuesday to level the five-match fight. one day series at 2-2.

acter after his recent run of low scores," Waugh said of the man who came in at number three to make 101. "He's a class player. I knew he was going to come through. Once

"Ponting showed great char-

he started middling the ball, he played some excellent shots." Waugh added. Hayden made 111, his maiden one-day century. The left-handed opener, who top-scored in the terni Test series, hit half centuries in the first two one-

He was rested for the third match at Indore, which Australia lost by 118 runs.

dayers.

Hayden batted superbly again. Today we put up an excellent performance. It was a good

professional effort," Waugh said. "In international cricket you'll by down at times but as long as you support the players, you'll come back and do well," Waugh

The series decider takes place in Goa on Friday and Waugh said Australia would put up a good

"We won the (1999) World Cup. We don't give up a title easily," he

Indian skipper Saurav Ganguly



STEVE WAUGH

said allowing Australia to set a huge total was his team's undoing. Australia amassed 338 for four, their highest score against India in a one day international, before

dismissing the home side for 245. "They had a very big total, after that we had very little chance. There are no excuses, they played much better today," Ganguly said.

"We are not playing an ordinary team. Playing a side that had not lost in about 10 one-dayers and won 15 Tests before coming here is not easy," he added.

India's coach New Zealander John Wright said Australia had run away with the game in the morning itself. "They made too many runs. We

need to bowl a lot better and contain them in the last game if we are to win." he said. Ganguly admitted Hayden had been a thorn in India's side for the

entire tour. "He's in dream touch. We try hard to get him out but he keeps

coming back at us," he said. But Ganguly warned India would hit back in the decider.

"It's a crunch game, we hope to come back and play good cricket," he said.