The Baily Star

Lindsay in last four

AFP, Munich

American second seed Lindsav Davenport retains a slim chance of depriving Jennifer Capriati of the year end women's number one ranking after she made it six wins in six attempts against Jelena Dokic to reach the semifinals at the WTA

Tour Championships on Thursday. But looking to spoil her dream is third-seeded Belgian teenager Kim Clijsters, who overcame stiff early resistance from Spain's Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario to advance 7-5, 6-1 and set up a semifinal meeting Saturday.

Rajshahi soccer

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Rajshahi Krira Sangskritik Sangha defeated Alif Lam Mim Sangha 2-0 in the First Division Football League at the local stadium vesterday

Babul and Sagar slammed home one goal each for the winners.

In the other match of the day, Tiger Sporting Club and Simla Sporting shared points after the match ended in a 1-1 draw.

India's FROM PAGE 13

The South Africans have the advantage of playing in familiar circumstances, and with their strength in fast bowling and would have preferred to tackle the Indians on a more lively pitch than is the norm in Bloemfontein.

The Springbok Park pitch is usually slow-paced and batsmanfriendly, although recent heavy rains may ensure that the bowlers have a greater influence on events than usual.

Fast bowler Mornantau Hayward could be a key performer for South Africa.

He has not played at Test level for more than a year after suffering a loss of form.

At one stage last season he could not make the starting line-up of his Eastern Province provincial team. End of 'White Lightning' ? But he has been bowling well during the current season and is South Africa's only bowler of express pace in the absence through injury of Allan Donald and

Mfuneko Ngam. The Indians look shaky at the top of their batting but have a strong middle-order in which Dravid, Sachin Tendulkar, Venkatsai Laxman and skipper Saurav Ganguly all have the ability to make big scores.

India will look to their spin bowlers, off-spinner Harbhajan Singh and leg-spinner Anil Kumble, to give them an advantage over a South African team which has strength in depth in batting.

South Africa originally named 12 players for the Test but the squad was cut to 11 when fast

AFP, Colombo

due to a hamstring injury, was declared fit only at the last West Indies captain Carl Hooper on Thursday allayed security fears moment. ahead of a rare Test series against The West Indies' preparations suffered a blow when Wavell Sri Lanka, saying his team was

Hooper talks cricket

who missed the Zimbabwean tour

Hinds, who replaced an injured Shivnarine Chanderpaul, had his

nose broken by former paceman

and current selector, Joel Garner,

games, but is expected to join the

Hinds will miss the warm-up

in a festival game last week.

focussed on playing good cricket. "If we start worrying about what is going to happen off the field, then we will be starting the tour on a wrong note," Hooper said after his team's arrival amid tight security for the first three-Test series against the hosts.

The two teams have played just three matches since Sri Lanka gained Test status in 1982. Sri Lanka hosted the one-off Test in 1993-94 and then toured the West Indies for two Tests three seasons later.

The tourists will play two threeday games against a Sri Lanka-A squad at Colombo (November 3-5) and Matara (November 8-10) before the first Test, starting at Galle from November 13.

They will then clash with the hosts and Zimbabwe in a triangular one-day series beginning next month.

Doubts were initially raised over this tour following the September 11 terrorist attacks in New York and Washington and the subsequent US reprisals in Afghanistan.

The recent suicide bomb attacks which killed several people in Sri Lanka, preparing for the December 5 general elections, exacerbated the security fears. It was only when Sri Lanka had

promised to beef up security for the visitors that the West Indies agreed to go ahead with the tour.

Hooper conceded that his inexperienced team would not find it easy against Sri Lanka. "This tour is going to be tougher than that of Zimbabwe, but I think we have the players to rise to the occasion," he

The West Indies, who have won just two of their eight Tests this year, hope to solve a series of fit-

Cricket

INTERNET, Johannesburg

lenge.

Hope springs eternal, but South

African cricket is living between

hope and fear for the future of their

most respected bowler, Allan

Donald, is hanging in the balance.

Donald is fighting a battle in which

he will have to dig ever deeper

within himself to face the chal-

It is precisely seven years ago

that 'White Lightning,' who missed

ness problems was hopeful that both Lara and Batting superstar Brian Lara, Jacob would be able to live up to

just recovered from a finger injury d is short of match practice. Coach Roger Harper, however,

bowler.

Manager: Ricky Skerritt. Coach:

Schalken here on Thursday.

don't play at all, citing injury.

in October," said the Brazilian after Schalken's shock 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 win. "Everybody gets tired. We

November, practise in December and then be ready to play again in January," Kuerten added.

game in the space of three and a half weeks. This may be wonderful for a fit young batsman keen on getting and maintaining momentum, but it would be pure punishment for a brittle 35-year old pace call

> Llevton Hewitt, the number two seed here, was beaten on Tuesday in his first match.

The fifth seed, Marat Safin of Russia, the defending champion, joined the casualty list Thursday,

Vinciguerra who now meets

Waugh's chance to weigh himself All eyes on Shahbaz Champions Trophy starts today

Hockey

player of the last decade.

Nothing will engender more inter-

est at the 23rd Champions Trophy

event which starts here on

Saturday than the return to inter-

national hockey of the Pakistani

Shahbaz Ahmad, the outstanding

Out of the international game

for three years, the former Pakistan

captain, now 33, claims to be fit but

admits that he might take advan-

tage of the substitution rule which

would allow him the odd break

Shahbaz would have been

The change of venue became

The countries that filled the six

necessary when several countries

accepted the advice of their gov-

ernments not to travel to Pakistan.

top places at the Sydney Olympics,

MARTYN BALL

chosen after three days of discus-

sion among the selectors

Cricket

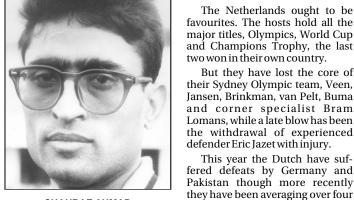
AFP, London

concerns

AFP, Rotterdam

during games.

champions Netherlands, silver Olympics. medalists South Korea, Australia, Pakistan, Germany and England (who take over from Great Britain), have all agreed to the change of venue.



SHAHBAZ AHMAD

than seven artificial pitches.

opportunity for the sides to test their progress just four months before next year's World Cup in Kuala Lumpur, most having rebuilt their teams following the Sydney event seven times.

DHAKA SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3, 2001

There was a time when coun-

This year the Dutch have suf-

goals a game. They have a new

corner expert in Taeke Taekama.

50 appearances to their name.

England's chairman of selec-

tors, David Graveney, said: "It was

"But we opted for Richard because he has the ability to swing

the ball at pace, hits the deck hard and can bowl long spells. He has

also taken wickets on one of the best batting pitches in the country

at Taunton and is likely to face similar conditions in India.

(England's physiotherapist) and taken advice from medical special-

ists, we believe that Ashley Giles' (like Tufnell, a left-arm spinner) recovery from his Achilles injury is very much on track.

cricket fitness, we are confident from a medical point of view that

he will pass a fitness test next week and be available for selection in

the squad during this season's

Johnson, formerly of Middlesex,

"While he still has to regain his

"Having talked to Dean Conway

tries were cagey about winning the

trophy because for a long time no winning team managed to triumph in the next major event (Olympics They will play on an amazing or World Cup) but that jinx has been lifted.



new complex which has no less

Australia, the Olympic bronze medallists, have been the most The event provides a great successful country in the Trophy over the years with 18 medals in 22 attempts, one more than Germany. Like Germany, they have won the

Two new faces in England captain Nasser Hussain and Graham Thorpe -- have more than

Ball was picked ahead of county teammate Jeremy Snape and the more experienced Phil Tufnell, while Johnson was called up despite competition from Yorkshire's Chris Silverwood.

a close call as to who was going to replace Andrew Caddick. We Their selections mean England considered Chris Silverwood and will travel to India for their first tour in eight years with one of their most Martin Bicknell as well as Richard inexperienced attacks ever -- the Johnson



RICHARD JOHNSON

India. three-strong spin attack have just eight Test appearances between them while the three seamers have Caddick and Robert Croft not to make the trip because of security has been close to England selection in the past and was called up into featured just three times between Gloucestershire off-spinner Martyn Ball and Somerset seamer Richard Johnson were the men

home Test campaign Only five members of the 16-man squad have played more than 20 Tests and just two players --He admitted that this might be his last chance to shine at international level.

Colin Stuart, Mervyn Dillon, Marlon Black, Reon King, Pedro Collins

Roger Harper.

The tour of Australia is only a

month away and the series will include three Tests and a four-day

The second Test against India, in two weeks' time, would also ring

in the toughest part of the

undoubtedly like a decent stint in the middle before tackling New Zealand.

Sport

AFP, Sydney

Bankstown.

Brisbane.

Australian cricket skipper Steve Waugh makes his return here

Saturday in an unfamiliar role with

his long-time Sydney club team

domestic cricket season was delayed by a bout of deep vein

thrombosis, will play for his local

The game represents Waugh's

only opportunity for match prac-tice prior to next Thursday's first Test against New Zealand in

"Where we normally have 50-100 people, there will be 500-1000

people and the moment he gets

out, they will all go home," Bankstown president Brian FreedmansaidFriday.

club in a two-day match.

Waugh, whose start to the

"I've done a lot of work this week and I feel confident," said Waugh. "I've got a club game to play this weekend and I'm ready for the Test

Schalken shocks

Kuerten

World number one Gustavo Kuerten suffered his sixth defeat in his last seven matches when he was knocked out of the Paris Masters by

England selected two uncapped unheralded Dutchman Sjeng players on Friday to make up the 16-man party for the tour to India The 25-year-old triple French following the decisions of Andrew

Open champion then demanded that a shorter season be introduced so that the autumn tournaments do not become non-events where the world's leading players, exhausted after a long year on the circuit, are either defeated early or

"I think the season should stop

should stop in October, rest in Kuerten, who has not reached

the later stages of a tournament since getting to the US Open quarterfinals, used the stark facts and figures of Paris to support his

2001/2002 season. It will mark the beginning of 33 days of unforgiving and hard first-class cricket over 52 days to follow for Shaun Pollock losing 6-4, 6-4 to Sweden's Andreas

tion.

West Indies superstar Brian Lara (R) and wicketkeeper Ridley Jacob practise catching at Colombo's NCC ground yesterday. Samuels, Leon Garrick, Neil McGarrell, Dinanath Ramnarine, team before the first Test. Wicketkeeper Ridley Jacob has

PHOTO: AF

expectations.

SOUAD

"I feel that Lara will be able to

don't think the injury will affect

perform close to his best," he said.

Ridley's performance. I am sure he

will give his best once he has com-

Carl Hooper (captain), Ridley

Jacobs (vice-captain), Chris Gayle,

Daren Ganga, Brian Lara,

Ramnaresh Sarwan, Marlor

mitted himself to the tour.'

AFP, Paris

match.

In two club appearances last summer, Waugh notched a half-century and a first-ball duck. playing before his own countrymen but for the September 11 While few, if any, doubts remain over Waugh's health, the 36-yearterrorist act which has led to the annual event between the world's old stalwart of 139 Tests would top six nations, being hastily switched from Lahore to Rotterdam.

bowler Charl Langeveldt was released to play provincial cricket.

India have yet to win a Test match in South Africa, losing a four-match series 1-0 in 1992/93 and a three-match series 2-0 in 1996/97

In their most recent Test clash, South Africa pulled off a rare series win by a team touring India, winning both matches between the sides in 1999/2000.

TEAMS

INDIA (from): Saurav Ganguly (captain), Rahul Dravid, Shiv Das, Connor Williams, Sachin Tendulkar, Venkatsai Laxman, Virender Sehwag, Sameer Dighe, Deep Dasgupta, Harbhajan Singh, Anil Kumble, Ajit Agarkar, Venkatesh Prasad, Zaheer Khan, Ashish Nehra, Javagal Srinath.

SOUTH AFRICA: Shaun Pollock (captain), Gary Kirsten, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Neil McKenzie, Boeta Dippenaar, Lance Klusener, Mark Boucher, Nicky Boje, Mornantau Hayward, Makhaya Ntini.

Umpires: Ashoka de Silva (Sri Lanka), Dave Orchard (South Africa).

half of South Africa's last 14 Tests first had to withdraw from a Test due to injury. His foot injury at the time had the opposing captain, Ken Rutherford of New Zealand,

talking of a 'pleasant relief". When the first Test commences in Bloemfontein on Saturday, it will mark the only 18th time in 87 Tests since readmission that Donald would not be playing for South Africa. He played in the first 17

Tests after the isolation ended. The big question is whether it is still worthwhile for Donald to once again climb the rocky road to the top of his formidable form, because an injury-free tour has



ALLAN DONALD

Donald is a team man.

become the exception rather than

the rule for him. The pain of injury is nothing compared to the pain he

feels each time he has to disappoint

his team when he has to withdraw.

Former UCB chairperson Ray White summed it up when he said only Donald would know whether he can still play Test cricket. White is worried that South

Africa has seen the last of the great fast bowler.

Test against Australia in Adelaide in less than six weeks' time. White holds out little hope for Donald, a rhythm bowler who needs time out in the middle to find his top form. "If we have seen the last of him as I fear, we missed the opportunity

to say goodbye to him in a manner befitting the occasion. But we will always have the memory of the pace bowler with the broad shoul ders sailing in to bowl with almost perfect rhythm, whose pride in playing for his country was immea surable.

Schalken for a place in the semifi-It remains a question whether nals Donald will be ready for the first In Thursday's final match, third-seeded Juan Carlos Ferrero of Spain was also knocked out, losing

> Arazi. Tim Henman, Alex Corretja, Goran Ivanisevic, Andy Roddick and Roger Federer have also packed their bags and left - all of which leaves just four seeded players remaining in the competi-

6-2, 4-6, 6-3 to Morocco's Hicham

Zimbabwe come FROM PAG E 13

However, analysts here are hopeful of a keenly-contested series this time since the visitors are appreciably weakened by the absence of experienced players like Alistair Campbell and Guy Whittall. Both have been dropped because of a row with the Board on selection process.

Akram helps

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Man-of-the-match: Grant Flower.

Green cruise FROM PAGE 13

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Cricket **REUTERS,** Brisbane

Friday but suffered a groin strain in the final warm-up match before next

Nathan Astle scored a fine 223 for New Zealand against Queensland on

the injury was not serious. Astle was finally out as New Zealand declared on 444 for nine on the second day of the four-day tour match.

The hosts were 140 for one in reply

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# at the close, with Australia opening batsman Matthew Hayden unbeater

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day tour match between Queensland and New Zealand Friday:

# **Astle's double ton** week's first Test against Australia New Zealand manager Jeff Crowe said Astle had been taken to hospital

SCOREBOARD for ultrasound treatment but believed

# NEW ZEALAND: First innings (over night332-6)

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