The Daily Star

SPORT

Magura soccer

OUR CORRESPONDENT

A H Khan Smriti Sangsad trounced Udayan Sporting Club 9-1 in the Econo First Division Football League match at the local stadium yesterday. Utpal slammed six goals while Shahid completed another hattrick for the winners.

Sagar netted a consolation goal. Shaheed Murad Smriti Sangsad take on Shafik Smriti Sangsad today.

Koreans stun Germans

AFP, Perth

South Korea's women hockey players shrugged off a virus that has swept through their camp to send Germany crashing to a 3-1 World Cup defeat here Tuesday.

Several of the Korean team had been battling cold symptoms in the build-up to the Pool A encounter, but it didn't show as the Germans were outplayed.

Lee Jin-Hee opened the scoring with a 21st minute pushed shot that beat German keeper Lousia Walter at the right-hand post, before Lee Seon-Ok doubled the Korean lead on 55 minutes.

Germany had looked out of sorts up to that point, and had already seen defender Denise Klecker and striker Natascha Keller sent off in separate incidents.

Lee Jin-Nam wrapped up victory for Korea with a soft 62nd-minute effort to make the game safe.

Germany's Fanny Rinne, who had left the field for treatment after being struck on the head by the ball earlier on, netted the consolation for the Europeans.

Korean coach Kim Sang-Ryul revealed Korea's virus-stricken players had been told to pace themselves before the match.

"We have 7 players with sore throats and some with a fever so told the girls to slow the game and play defensively to conserve energy," Kim said.

"I was pleased with the three goals by the young players but the finishing was not as good as Australia, Argentina or Netherlands," Kim added.

Brave Hayden FROM PAGE 13

by Mark Waugh, Australia's third highest ever run scorer, despite the mountain of runs Lehmann was scoring at first-class level.

Lehmann's consistent performances finally paid off when he got the nod ahead of Waugh for the Ashes series, prompting the Australia captain's twin brother to announce his retirement from international cricket.

Lehmann has extensive knowledge of England's cricketers after captaining Yorkshire and an unusual connection in that he is married to the sister of Test allrounder Craig White



Bangladesh captain Khaled Mashud leads his players into the hotel in Chittagong yesterday.

Third ODI today

PCB to preserve Shoaib for WC

Cricket

REUTERS, Karachi

Pakistan's Shoaib Akhtar has been rested for the final three matches of the one-day international series in Zimbabwe. The third match is to be held today

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) officials said on Tuesday that fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar would be nursed through to the World Cup by the Pakistan cricket authorities. "We want to ensure that all our

bowlers including Shoaib Akhtar are not burnt out from fatigue or injuries," PCB chairman Tauqir Zia told Reuters

"The World Cup is a major and long tournament and we want our best players to be available in top physical condition for it."

Zia said Akhtar and pacemen Waqar Younis and Wasim Akram should play in selected matches and st hetween mat

problem. "The problem is not a serious "Akhtar is a key component in the team these days. And we expect one, the team manager has him to play a influential role in the World Cup," Zia said. "Which is why informed us. But Akhtar is being rested for a few matches so that he he will be given rest between matches till the World Cup and the can make a complete recovery, team management also agrees with this policy.

Akhtar known as the "Rawalpindi Express" has picked up 88 wickets in 25 Tests and 116 wickets in 71 one-day internationals. He was unofficially clocked at more than 100 miles an hour (160 kms) during a one-day international against New Zealand in Pakistan last April.

Zia said the team management had agreed that by giving all the bowlers a chance to rest between matches, it would also allow them to try out the rotation policy.

"The basic purpose of rotating players is that it gives rest periods to the seniors and allows exposure to some of the younger bowlers," he

PCB media manager Samiul Hasan Pakistan are due to announce a shortlist of 30 probables for the Pakistan will also play five one-World Cup this Friday and the squad for the South African tour at the weekend.

CDBL golfers shine in Kolkata SPORTS REPORTER

The CDBL (Bangladesh) team comprising Towhid Samad, Mujibur Rahman and Shawkat-uz Zaman finished runner-up in the Kolkata Invitational Golf Tournament at the Tollygunge Golf Club on November

MH Samad captained the Bangladesh golfers in the event that began on November 8.

The highlight of the meet and the best-recorded score (best ball) was achieved by the pair of Mujibur Rahman and Shawkat-uz Zaman.

They had a gross score of 65 and helped themselves to six birdies in total.

After shooting one under for the card on the front nine, the pair blazed the course to card in five more birdies on the back nine. M H Samad and Towhid Samad

shot a very commendable 70 net. The Bata India team won the tour-

A prize distribution ceremony took place at the Taj Bengal Hotel.

Queensland quash WA

AFP, Brisbane

Champions Queensland cruised to a 10-wicket victory over Western Australia in their Sheffield Shield cricket match at the Gabba here on

Tuesdav. Queensland openers Jimmy Maher and Brendan Nash made short work of a 24-run target to secure the outright points in four overs prior to lunch on the third day of the four-day game.

The outright victory took Queensland to third on the standings with 16 points and they have a match in hand over leaders Victoria (20) and NSW (18). WA are on six points.

WA resumed at 62 for five and any hope of a fightback was snuffed out on the fourth ball of the morning when Ashley Noffke bowled Brad

Hogg. WA was bowled out for 126 in their second innings

Metro chess

points each.

today at 3 pm.

PHOTO: STAF



Legendary Kashmir figure Faruk Abdullah (3rd from L), hands over the runners-up trophy to MH Samad, the captain of the CDBL (Bangladesh)

Russians don't bother

Tennis

AFP, Paris

Russian Davis Cup duo Marat Safin and Yevgeny Kafelnikov said Tuesday it did not matter who France selected for their final here Friday to Sunday.

French captain Guy Forget has left some doubt over his choice of the second singles slot for the tie between the experienced Arnaud Clement and the up-and-coming Paul-Henri Mathieu. Sebastien Grosjean is assured of playing.

But his Russian counterpart Shamil Tarpishev said it would make no difference to how the Russians would approach the final.

our opponents will be," he said after the Russians had completed their first practice session at the indoors Bercy Sports Stadium which has been bedecked with a claycourt for the final.

"Everyone knows that all the players in the French squad are excellent."

Safin and Kafelnikov are certain to play singles for Russia and world No 3 Safin agreed with Tarpishev. "The names of our opponents has little importance. No matter who they pick, they will get great support from the public and will no doubt play better than had it been in

just hope that it can continue this week," he said. Kafelnikov said that he felt the benefit of a week's training on the

PHOTO: COURTESY



YEVGENY KAFELNIKOV

claycourts of Monte Carlo. Asked about reports that he

would retire from competitive tennis should Russia win the Davis Cup for the first time, Kafelnikov as evasive.

"As concerns any retirement decision, let's just win the cup and then we can talk about it again," he He did confirm, however, that he

MARAT SAFIN Moscow," he said. Safin lost all three of his matches at the Masters finals in Shanghai earlier this month, but just prior to that he played his best tennis of the year in defeating world No 1 Lleyton Hewitt in straight sets

in the final of the Paris Masters which was also held at Bercy, but this time on an artificial surface

"I like France and I always feel would undergo an operation to remove a damaged vein in his left good in this stadium where I have had some great results in the past. I leg on Monday.

FROM PAGE 13

On the other hand Amir Hossain Nazrana Khan Iva, Hanif Mollah Alamgir Hossain, Shamim Khan and Zahid Chowdhury shared third

position with 5.5 points each. The eighth round game will star

WACA expects FROM PAGE 13

here two years ago

"It really doesn't matter a lot who



"I'm almost 33 and realise that I have to make runs to stay in the side and secure my spot," Lehmann added.

"If I don't, it's probably the end because that's the way it works. You have to make runs at some stage and the sooner the better."

ACB officials FROM PAGE 13

Arafat Rahman. They discussed various aspects of the game in Bangladesh.

During the visit, they met officials of educational boards and requested them to include cricket in the curriculum. They also visited Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protishthan.

Security ICC's

FROM PAGE 13 that might affect their safety.'

The British Foreign Office recommends that visitors to the country: "Exercise caution and seek upto-date local advice.

REUTERS/AFP, Perth

Paul Collingwood joined the England cricket team on Tuesday still none the wiser whether he'll play in the third Ashes Test starting on Friday.

He is however ready for a possible Test debut against the mighty Australians. Whether the 26-year-old all-

rounder plays has not yet been decided, but the fact he will train Wednesday with the England squad at the WACA Ground is already a

shock for him The England team has been plagued by injuries since arriving in

day internationals and two Tests in Akhtar, 27, is being rested for the South Africa from December 2 last three matches in Zimbabwe before the World Cup. after complaining of a niggling knee

said

"With a rush of sales in recent weeks, prospects of record first. second and third day attendances are mounting," she said

> "Pre-sales of tickets exceed those for all 29 previous Tests in Perth.

"We expect most seating for the first three days could be sold before the match starts.'

A 12-million-dollar (seven million US) ground refurbishment had heightened interest, White said. The records for second and third

days in Perth are 22,680 and 24,151 respectively, both against England in 1974 Perth's all-time total attendance

at a Test is the 84,142 people who crammed in when Australia met England in 1970, the first time the Western Australian capital had appeared on the international Test circuit.

Australia need only to draw this five-day match to retain the Ashes. and a win here would guarantee the home country victory in an Ashes campaign for a record eighth successive time.

saves China

Gymnastics

Debrecen is just one stop on the way to Athens," said Li.

"That is what we are working towards. Of course, I want to bring some changes to my routine until the Olympics in both, get the gold medal in 2002! Even two gold medals.'

But as China and Romania took four of the six men's gold medals on offer former giants Russia flopped to a record low for the second consecutive year.

The competiton this week sets the stage for next year's worlds in Anaheim, California which will serve as qualifiers for the 2004 Athens Olympics.

And by all accounts Russia's men are in big trouble just two years after their medal haul at the Sydney Games.

Alexei Nemov, who won six medals in Sydney to bring to his Olympic medal count to 11, returns home empty-handed again after failing even to medal on his forte, the floor routine.

Teamates Yevgeny Krylov, former world all-around champion Nikolai Krukov, Yevgeny Podgorni

better.

star Svetlana Khorkina seems to be having an identity crisis. "Think of me as a gymnast and

an actress," declared the 23-yearold after two falls during the finals ended her reign as the undisputed Queen of uneven bars. She also placed just fourth on the vault.

Theatre Moscow where she has

"This can happen to anyone,

As Khorkina decides on her future the new kids on the block were usurping the old guard with the United States women's team of rookies making up for the failures of their men by taking two of the four

Ashley Postell, also 16, ended the Romanian reign on the balance beam, as did Elena Gomez on the floor routine on her way to Spain's first world gold medal in women's gymnastics.

Last to perform, the 17-year-old from Mallorca wiped out the opposition with a flamboyant routine which earned her 9.487 points to snatch gold from the Netherlands' Verona van der Leur who had been leading with 9.350

Samantha Sheehan of the United States took bronze with 9.325.

"I was hoping for a medal, but the gold, 'Dios mio' (my God) this is something unbelieveable!" exclaimed Gomez, who had not performed particularly well during her first world championship in Ghent, Belgium last year and placed just fourth at European level this year.

Floor is my favourite apparatus and my goal is to do well next year and go to Athens in 2004," she added.

It was a bad championships for Romania's women with their star Andreea Raducan failing to qualify for any final at her last worlds.

uneven bars title while teammate

The heroics of Olympic champion Li Xiao-Peng saved the day for favour-

"You come out to bat and they

you don't belong in the middle. "They're all the same, from the

it's good to do well.

the middle.'

Booters' near

for the SAFF Championship, which will begin in Dhaka on January 10.

home from a meal in Melbourne Sunday night when he received a phone call telling him to join the England squad because of a hip injury to batsman John Crawley.

Collingwood had been playing Melbourne club cricket with Richmond.

"Last week I was playing against North Melbourne -- now I've got a chance to be playing against Australia.

"I'm really looking forward to the challenge, and if the opportunity arises, well, so be it."

Collingwood has played 25 oneday internationals, including two against Australia, but otherwise his experience against Australians is restricted to two seasons with Richmond

While Collingwood has never faced the likes of Glenn McGrath. Shane Warne and Steve Waugh in the Test arena, he said he had been given an early taste of what to expect by his experiences in Melbourne.

This means he is at least familiar with the Australian practice of "sledging" -- verbally abusing opponents in a bid to unsettle them. "Every Australian was getting into me when I first arrived in Melbourne," he said.

"It just seems that if you're a Pom they get straight down your throat, and that's the way it is.

"That's why it's so good to do well in Australia.

make sure you don't belong there.

grass roots right the way to the top, and they try to intimidate you, and

'You feel like you've really earned your dollar if you do well in

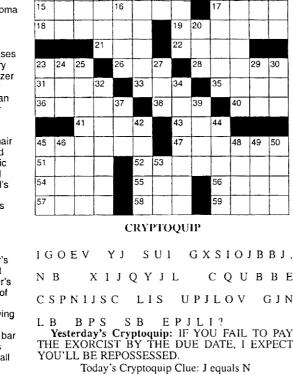
FROM PAGE 13

He admitted that the players were unhappy about the decision but he added, "It was done for the best of their preparation."

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for The national team is preparing another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.



PAUL COLLINGWOOD

Australia in October but no one was

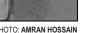
more surprised at Collingwood's call

Collingwood was on the way

up than himself

Paul relishes the prospect

SHOAIB AKHTAR



ites China at the world artistic gymnastics championships which ended Sunday. The back-to-back gold medals

AFP, Debrecen

by 21-year-old Li on the vault and parallel bars ensured that the Asian giants were second to Romania

after the championships, which had no all around competition, ended. Both achieved four medals, with the colour of one the only difference

between the two countries. Marian Dragulescu and Marius Urzica's wins on the floor and pommel horse respectively gave

Romania two gold, with Ioana Petrovschi taking silver on uneven bars and Oana Ban the balance

beam China's Xiao Qin finished second to Urzica on the pommel horse, while Yang Wei was third behind Li and Poland's Leszek Blanik on the

vault. China's medal hope on the women's side Zhang Nan, however, failed to live up to her star billing

SECRET OF CHANDERPAUL'S SUCCESS! West Indies batsman Shivnarine Chanderpaul chats with his wife Amy at

the VIP lounge of the Zia International Airport yesterday.

despite leading the qualifiers, but the 16-year-old is being tipped as a

winner at the Athens Olympics. "The world championships in

and Alexei Bondarenko fared no On the women's side Russian

After bagging a total of five medals - three gold, a silver and a bronze - at last year's worlds, Khorkina insists that she wants to continue to her third Olympics but can hardly wait to get back to the

been appearing for the last two years.

why should it not happen to me?" said the 23-year-old of her failure. "I'm not suffering bitterly. The important thing for me is the future, from 2003 on.

titles. Courtney Kupets, 16, took the

Cricket