England agreed in March last year

to tour Zimbabwe in return for

Zimbabwe touring England in 2003.

"Having given a guarantee to tour, the ZCU finds it deeply offensive that

the ECB are now considering reneg-

courtesy of being given notice or

consulted in any way whatsoever," Chingoka wrote in his message to the

ECB chief executive Tim Lamb has

"There is an exchange of letters

An internal ECB report designed to

lay down the basis for the ECB to make

its decision on whether to tour con-

cluded that withdrawal on moral or

on 'moral' grounds would only serve

to restrict the development of cricket among Zimbabwe's black commu-

Butcher's West

with the guys waiting to play in the World Cup," said Butcher.

"With a bit of luck we can go off and

The drawn-out process last winter

where players were consulted before

the final decision not to play the

World Cup match possibly affected

England's challenge and Butcher is hopeful that his employers will take a

firm line which the players can abide

"I'd like to think I keep myself

aware of pretty much what is going on

in the world and it's plainly obvious to

everyone that things are not right in

Zimbabwe," stressed Butcher, a

"But it's one thing to say what I'd

"It's not an individual decision to

do, but in a team game it's not about

what you want, it's what everyone

be taken and with a bit of luck there

will not be a decision for us to make

anyway. Our employers, the ECB, and

the Government at the moment are

talking about what should happen

where we go on these tours, we don't

organise the fixtures, we don't do any

of it. That's all taken care of, that's

what our employers do it's in their

hands and until it comes back to us

Hardenne's serve in the next game

but missed consecutive backhand

returns and then hit a forehand

some of those out, and I just wasn't

stretching for a backhand volley Sunday against Alicia Molik, with-

drew 90 minutes before her match

was scheduled to start. A 10-

minute practice session ended in

and have a little hit and see how I felt," she said. "When I hit some

shots, I can feel really strong pain.

The other thing is it could get worse

if I play. The best thing to do is to

Mauresmo insisted on preparing

for the match despite scans show

ing a slight muscle tear in her back.

FROM PAGE 13

Jahangir not out

Elias b Sabbir

Muballil

Sabbir

Hasan

Raihan

(Chittagong)

Mosaddeq not out

Halim c Azam b Raihan

Kadir c Azam b Raihan

Extras: (lb-1, nb-1, w-2)

Result: Match drawn.

KHULNA V SYLHET

Total: (For 8 wkts in 114 overs)

11 2

48 12 81

36 16 56

19

Man-of-the-match: Sabbir Khan

9

Neevamu c Faisal b Raihan

Her coach, Loic Courteau, said

"I wanted to try this morning

'You've got to be able to pull

Mauresmo, injured while

"We don't make the decision on

and what is going to happen.

veteran of 61 Tests.

wants to do.

Hardenne said.

that floated long.

able to,'' Davenport said

concentrate on playing a series in the West Indies and it will be taken care of

Chingoka warned that a boycott

political grounds could be justified.

admitted that England are more than

just honour-bound to proceed with

which I think a lawyer would certainly

say is a legally binding commitment,

county chiefs.

he said on Monday.

FROM PAGE 13

back here.

Ctg TT

CU CORRESPONDENT

The CJKS-Sinmin Mineral Water Table Tennis League begins at the Chittagong Jila Krira Sangstha (CJKS) gymnasium today.

A total of 10 teams are taking part in the league. The are: Nabin Mela, Bakalia Ekadash Junior, Shatadal Club, Nimtala Lions Club, City Club, Quality Sports Club, Young Star Club, Madarbari Udyan Sangha, Railway Rangers and Noapara Lions

The CJKS will arrange the league with the financial assistance of Shree Kundeshwary Pharmaceuticals Limited.

The champion and runner-up will receive Tk 5,000 and Tk 3,000 respectively.

Kahn in doubt

Bayern Munich's German international goalkeeper Oliver Kahn is a doubt for the restart of the Bundesliga on Saturday after sustaining a thigh injury.

Kahn, 34, pulled out of the friendly match at St Mary's Stadium complaining of a thigh injury during the pre-match warm-up and admits his chances of facing Eintracht Frankfurt on Saturday hang in the balance.

"At this moment in time I can not say whether I will play or not, confessed Kahn.

Michael Rensing, 19, deputised for Kahn against Southampton and the untested teenager may be thrown in at the deep end once again if Kahn fails to recover in

Abahani leave

FROM PAGE 13

"This has certainly brought us back in the race and hopefully we will play better in the return leg to make up for the losses of the first round," said Joy. Yellow cards: Nijam, Sila, Pranotosh, Alessandro, Khokon (Abahani), Basala, Olinga and Etigo (Moham-

TEAMS

Abahani KC: Nizam, Osamanu, Nikolai, Sila, Mahmudul Hasan, Masood Rana, Joy (Pranotosh), Parvez, Alessandro (Nayan), Khokon

Mohammedan SC: Nadeem, Basala, Jewel Rana, Faisal, Bakhtiar (Rony), Olinga, Kaiser, Etigo, Dillan. Pappu (Amin Rana), and Farhad (Monju). Referee: Mansoor Azad.

Goodbye Hookesy

FROM PAGE 13

'Well mate, it's just another game of cricket, a half-volley is a halfvolley, you've got to whack it'."

Academy Award-winning actor Russell Crowe was among other celebrities at the funeral. Hookes was one of Australia's

most popular and charismatic players. He appeared in 23 Tests from 1976-77 to 1985-86 and worked as a media commentator and as coach of Victoria after his retirement.

His death received massive coverage across Australia and his funeral was shown live on national television.

A single red rose from Hookes' wife Robyn and two yellow roses from his children lay at the foot of three stumps placed at one end of the pitch where Hookes scored many of his 12,671 first-class runs and 20 of his 32 centuries.

A bat was left resting against the stumps, as the swashbuckling lefthander had done during breaks in play, along with a red South Australia team cap.

Hookes' son Kristofer told mourners: "He was a completely selfless person whose generosity often bordered on the ridiculous.

Australia batsman Darren Lehmann placed one of Hookes' old bats on the coffin before the crowd-pleaser received his final

ZCU changes tactics

Cricket

AFP, London

Zimbabwean cricket chief Peter Chingoka has warned England's counties they will be left with a multimillion pound bill if the national team pulls out of a planned tour of the troubled African state.

In the latest salvo in an increasingly bitter row over whether or not the November tour should go ahead, Chingoka unleashed the financial equivalent of a bouncer to the throat of the 18 cash-strapped counties.

In an e-mail addressed to their chief executives, the Zimbabwean Cricket Union (ZCU) chairman warned that English cricket would face a damages claim of "several millions of pounds," if the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) decide to pull out of the tour.

"The ECB has made no secret of the delicate nature of its finances," Chingokawrote.

Cricket

64 in three matches.

 $Discarded\,England\,batsman\,Ed\,Smith$

is aiming to use the forthcoming A

tour of Malaysia and India as a

springboard for regaining his Test

debut in last season's home series

against South Africa where the

Kent player managed a top score of

back century at The Oval effectively

ended Smith's hopes of going on the full squad's tours of Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and the

Smith, who averaged 61 in

England's county championship

last season, now finds himself

something of a 'senior pro' admist an otherwise largely youthful A squad, but did his best Monday as

the squad departed for Malaysia to

about it all," he said. "I loved play-

ing the three games for England

Agassi extended his win streak to 26 matches at the Australian Open,

spanning championships in 2000,

01 and last season. He sat out 2002

The 33-year-old Agassi noticed Grosjean, a semifinalist in 2001,

was going for low-percentage shots late in the first set but didn't know

Agassi took the first four games, won the set 6-2 and pulled ahead 2-

0 in the second when Grosjean,

the Frenchman was injured.

after wrist surgery.

"I'm very positive and upbeat

put a brave face on his demotion.

But Graham Thorpe's come-

Smith, 26, made his England

AFP, London

Test place on

Smith's mind

"As beneficiaries of substantial ECB grants you and your colleagues must judge whether the risk of further major financial penalties is an acceptable consequence," Chingoka wrote.

The ECB on Monday put off until the end of next month a decision on whether the tour will go ahead, although a meeting of its Management Board is due to discuss the issue on Thursday.

The delay follows discussions with the British government, which has strongly advised against touring Zimbabwe in light of the abuses perpetrated by President Robert

Crucially however, the government stopped short of ordering the ECB to cancel the tour in the way that India banned bilateral tours of Pakistan for over a decade.

Under the rules of cricket's governing body, the International Cricket Council (ICC), the only other grounds on which the ECB could withdraw without paying compensation is security, which is not a particular

"I was very disappointed, as any

human being would be, when I found out I wasn't in the tour

"But I also feel that having had a taste of international cricket it's

amazingly moreish and it makes

"It makes you want to play at that

level of intensity and that level of

attention and scrutiny. I really enjoyed that side of it and I enjoyed

the whole thing surrounding the

games as well as the sense of isola-

tion and pressure. I want to get back

there I will give a go. The first thing I need to do is get as many runs as

possible and be part of a winning

and successful tour in India with

England A. If that doesn't get me

there then I'll go back and do the

After a week of preparation in Malaysia, England A will go to India

where they will compete in the

first-class domestic competition,

and play three one-day matches

``That's not a good way for anything to end,'' Agassi told the

Duleep Trophy, the country's main

"Anything I can do to get back

you want to be there all the time.

Sumathipala's ouster sought

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's government has called for the removal of the head of the country's biggest telecom carrier, Sri Lanka Telecom (SLT), who has been charged with breaking immigration laws to help a gangster.

Telecommunications Secretary Tilak Ranavirajah said he had asked the treasury, as the main share-holder of SLT, to remove Colombo businessman Thilanga Sumathipala as chairman.

"I have asked for the removal of Sumathipala on the basis of the legal proceedings against him and the fact that he is now in remand custody," Ranavirajah said.

However, the process of removing Sumathipala from SLT, which is partly owned and fully managed by Japan's NTT, could be a lengthy process in line with company law, officials said.

Last week, a magistrate remanded Sumathipala, who is also the chairman of Sri Lanka Cricket, the main governing body of the sport in the island, on a charge of breaking immigration laws to help a gangster leave the

Heskey out of Merseyside derby

AFP, London

Liverpool striker Emile Heskey may be out for three weeks after damaging a hamstring in the FA Cup win against Newcastle.

He is out of Saturday's derby with Everton and is a doubt for England's friendly in Portugal on

"Emile suffered a slight pull to his hamstring and he will miss the derby," Liverpool manager Gerard Houllier said.

"I think he will be out for two to three weeks at least. We will just see how he responds to treatment.' Heskey's injury could not

come at a worst time for Liverpool who face a strikeı shortage. Milan Baros has not yet played

a game after five months out with a broken leg, Florent Sinama-Pongolle is another week away from a comeback after a groin injury, Vladmir Smicer is struggling with an Achilles tendon problem while El-Hadji Diouf is on African Nations Cup duty with Senegal.

Ton-up Nayan

FROM PAGE 13
BHASA PRODIP HIGH SCHOOL: 110/9 in 20 overs (Sakib 36, Rubel 21, Ruman 5-21)

NATUN KURI HIGH SCHOOL: 112/2 in 16.5 overs (Maruf 27, Mamun 23, Rashed 21)

Result: Natun Kuri High School KNOWLEDGE KING CHILD: 135/4 in 18 overs (Ali 51, Nabil 49, Ishtiaq

CHILDREN EDUCATION: 116/10

4-15, Sajib 2-9) Result: Knowledge King Child

Tigers leave FROM PAGE 13

Saleh (vice-captain), Hannan Sarkar, Shahriar Hossain, Al-Shahriar, Alok Kapali, Mushfiqur Rahman, Khaled Mashud, Monjurul Islam, Tapas Baishya, Mohammad Rafique, Manzarul Islam, Alamgir Kabir, Tareq Aziz Khan, Anwar Hossain and Mohammad Ashraful.

(coach), Lt Col (retired) A Latif (manager), Dean Woodford Nasir Ahmed (computer analyst)

`As soon as she went up to the (trainer), John Gloster (physio) and net to volley, it was like a knife thrust in her back," he said.

kilometres (180 miles) north of Lisbon, as doctors tried to save an The autopsy on Hungarian interapparently unconscious Feher as he lay on the muddy field. national striker Miklos Feher who His Benfica teammates, includcollapsed and died playing for ing coach Jose Antonio Camacho, Benfica on Sunday has proved to

Football

final minutes.

general's department.

and for drugs.

wept or prayed as they paced the be inconclusive according to the pitch in the driving rain before an Portuguese prosecutor-general on ambulance arrived nine minutes after Feher collapsed to take the The 24-year-old, who became player to hospital where he was the second international footballer declared dead at 11:10 p.m. (2310 in the last seven months to die during a game, had come on as a

Benfica and Guimaraes said in a substitute after 60 minutes of the joint statement Feher was treated league match against Vitoria for a heart attack for about 90 Guimaraes and collapsed in the minutes before he died. Once the autopsy was com-

Miklos Feher's Benfica teammates mourn near the coffin of the Hungarian player in the Luz Stadium at Lisbon on

Football fans watched on televi-

sion and at the stadium in

Guimaraes, located some 320

'Inconclusive' autopsy

He was stretchered off the field pleted, Feher's body was taken to in Guimaraes and taken to hospital isbon and will lie in a chapel at but died shortly afterwards. Benfica's new 65,000-seat Stadium However after a four-and-a-half of Light where fans have been hour autopsy the causes of his laying candles and flowers since death were still not known. his death.

"Tissue was taken from him for Feher's parents, brother and fiance arrived in Portugal on additional examinations," read a statement from the prosecutor Monday and will accompany his body back to Hungary where the "These will involve the anatomy

player's funeral will take place on Wednesday. The player was reportedly set to Feher had just been booked in injury-time for time-wasting after Benfica had taken a late 1-0 lead.

was done to save his life.

moment indicates everything was done, and I mean everything, at the

Kanoute unlocks Kenya

Sengal held

,Tottenham Hotspur striker Freddie Kanoute stole the headlines on Monday as he scored twice to give Mali an opening 3-1 African Nations Cup over Kenya while cofavourites Senegal could only draw 0-0 with Burkina Faso in the other Group B match.

troversial switch of allegiance from France to Mali by scoring twice in the clash at Bizerte and then proclaimed the day marked a new

side against a brave Kenyan outfit who had fought back to level at 1-1 in the second half before Kanoute turned on the magic

something special for me. I am very happy but it's only the start. I have to keep going like this and keep it's very important for me," said

goals and even when they came back to level we didn't panic. We kept our shape and kept our game. Valencia's Mohamed Lamine

Sissoko, who also switched to Mali despite having played also for the French Under-21s, had given Mali the lead in the first half after a disastrous mix-up between two Kenyan defenders before Titus Mulama equalised after the inter-But that paved the way for

Kanoute, Spurs' top scorer this season with 12 goals, to make his dramatic impact and to kill off any hope the Kenyans had of an upset victory. In Tunis, 2002 World Cup quar-

terfinalists Senegal created a host of chances but had to settle for a 0-0 draw with 1998 Nations Cup semifinalists Burkina Faso. "They were very impressive but

we managed to contain them. With luck we could have won but we have a point in the table. "But make no mistake, Senegal

will be there or there abouts at the

end of the group stage."

Senegal skipper Aliou Cisse said he was frustrated that they couldn't break down the Burkina defence. "Teams like us all want to win.

We have been working hard and we had one or two chances to kill the game but we didn't take them. That's football." Senegal would not have been flattered by a three-goal lead at

half-time after controlling the first half, but Henri Camara and Mamadou Niang let Burkina Faso off the hook. Liverpool striker El Hadji Diouf did threaten on one occasion

inside the penalty area only to overdo the twists and turns and the ball was cleared. The second half started with the

Lions continuing to press forward and Wolves' Camara was unlucky in the 54th minute as his snapshot rattled a post.

Burkina Faso hit back and Abdoulaye Cisse almost caught out Senegal when he broke clear only to be let down by poor ball control inside the box and the group favourites scrambled the ball away

FOOTBALL BRIEFS

AFP, London

32

11

35

23

Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson was expected to sign a rolling contract worth around four million pounds a year this week after the English champions gave in to pressure from Irish racing tycoon John Magnier to

Manchester have also announced they will conduct an internal investigation into Sir Alex's transfer dealings in an attempt to appease Magnier and his business partner JP McManus who own 25 per cent of the club.

locked in a legal battle with his former friend, Ferguson, over a share of the stud fees in the champion racehorse Rock of Gibraltar.

In 2001, Magnier gave Ferguson joint ownership of the horse without charging him a penny but Ferguson assumed he was being given a half share of stud fees which could be worth up to 200 million pounds and is

LEEDS WIN STAY

OF EXECUTION

AFP, London

Leeds United agreed a four-day stay of execution with creditors on Monday after it emerged that a group of local businessmen were ready to buy the English Premiership club for 25 million pounds (45.6 million dollars).

In a brief statement issued to the London Stock Exchange, Leeds said: "The board of Leeds United plc announces that the standstill period with the company's principal finance creditors has today been extended to 5pm (1700GMT) on January 30 2004.

"As previously announced, the standstill agreement also provides for a further extension to February 6 2004, conditional on achievement of certain financial and other covenants. Leeds, who are bottom of the Premiership, have debts total-ling 105 million pounds (191 million dollars) and cash assets of only 12 million pounds (22 million

BYE BYE TO

Nigerian star Jay-Jay Okocha could have to leave Premiership side

Bolton because he may prove to be too expensive to sign to a new contract admitted the team's manager Sam Allardyce on Monday The 30-year-old's present contract runs out at the end of the season and Allardyce, who has made a habit of signing so-called past it foreign players and re-energising their careers while preserving his side's Premiership status, admits it could be hard to keen him

their 5-2 trouncing of Aston Villa in their League Cup semi-final first leg victory last week before leaving for the African Nations Cup, has been linked with both Spurs and "We will start with Jay-Jay but he

keep him.

may be too expensive," said Allardyce.

Okocha, who was the inspira-tion behind Bolton staying up last

season and scored two goals in

"The board of directors will decide that not me. They are in charge of the spending.

The Portuguese Football Federation said there would be a minute's silence at the start of next weekend's league games in honour of the player, who had lived in Portugal since he was 18. His sudden death dominated

take the entire squad to Hungary

polite," Feher's manager Jose Veiga

"He had absolutely no malice."

told Portuguese radio TSF.

"He was very well-liked, very

for the funeral.

newspaper headlines in Portugal on Monday, with all three sports draped in black.

dailies featuring front pages "Death on live television," the daily Diario de Noticias said above

a photo of Feher as he fell, while sports daily A Bola featured a photo of the player smiling just seconds before he collapsed above the headline: "The last smile of Miklos Feher." Asked by reporters about the amount of time it took for the ambulance to arrive to take the player off the pitch, Portuguese secretary of state for sport Herminio Loureiro said everything

"The information I have at the

get married in June. Benfica said in a statement it would rent a plane to

Trunisia 2004 "We scored three very good

Kanoute, 26, justified his con-

The Spurs striker rescued his

"Today is the beginning of

fighting for this country because

scrap plans for a four-year deal.

The Irish multi-millionaire is

sueing Magnier.

Result: Match abandoned.

Venue: Rangpur Cricket Garden. BARISAL: First innings 175 for 6 wkts in 85.2 overs (Uzzal 12, Nahidul 29, Proshenjit 51, Mustadir 38 n.o, Shahjada 3-37, Saifullah 1-41, Imran 1-35, Rezwanul 1-24)

Officials: Dav Whatmore

South Australia captain and Russia's Marat Safin raises his arms after defeating world number one Andy Roddick in the quarterfinals of the Australian Open yesterday. CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 38 Second-57 Wood-11 Urban learning 19 "People" 39 Golfer's tool 5 Coffee 58 Campus problem rival 40 Solo of shop 8 Tampa Wars' DOWN 42 Ague 1 Flats Bay 25 "Go. 2 Italy's short 12 Milne 45 Left team! silhouette 3 Body of bruin 13 Excesaltar 49 Visibility 4 Boutique sively 14 Fermi's drance perfect 15 "So much 50 Mouths world you'd find (Lat.) 16 Possess 52 "Novus

18 Increase 8 Maine 20 Creamy 54 Shriner's quaff 22 Omega 9 Silverchapeau 55 German ware precede 10 Long-23 Neg. 56 Takes a popular crooner negator 24 Rock music's Solution time: 25 mins Motley 27 Lincoln, cally 32 Feedbag 33 Eccentric 34 Caustic 35 Kola Penin-

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ideally (Abbr.) 24 Întimi-26 Worked 28 "-- Sera Sera" 29 Salt Lake squad 30 Scotty's affirma-31 "Waking Devine" 36 Mosaic 37 Sushi-bar request 38 Dump

41 Unau's cousin 43 Possess 44 Parlor 46 Verifiable 47 Icelandic

dragon

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I BELIEVE MY BROTHER ONCE SAID THAT SALES RESISTANCE IS SIMPLY MIND OVER PATTER Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals P 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 give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error

``I played every point as best I could. I came back in the set and that gives me confidence.'' ``It's been a great week for Sebastien, it's unfortunate. He'd Davenport lost only one point in appreciate everyone's understandher first two service games, but ended with 33 unforced errors as Henin-Hardenne, the French her forehand failed in the long rallies. The loss left Lisa Raymond and US Open champion, lost the opening four games before winas the only American woman remaining in singles.

ning seven of the next eight to take the first set in 52 minutes ``That wasn't easy. Lindsay was playing unbelievable at the start. I serving for the first set at 5-3 and had triple set-point against Heninwasn't ready for that," Henin-



US collision avoided

PHOTO: AP

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12					13				14			
15	1		\vdash		16		Γ		17			
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	L		22					23				
24	25	26			27	28	29				30	31
32	\vdash				33		T			34		\vdash
35	T		36	37	_		\vdash		38			T
		39	T	T			40	41				
42	43		T	T	44		45	T	1	46	47	48
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53	\dagger	\dagger	<u> </u>		54	T	\vdash	1	55	\vdash	+-	1
56	+-	+-	+		57	+-	+-		58	1	+	+

CRYPTOQUIP NDRFXIW GI LJZK

GROKLWGFKFW, GI

WPJI ZGIOUXDGFN X SUGOOXFW XWWGWJZK?

27, Bashir 2-36) KHULNA: First innings 245 all out in 93.1 overs (Hasibul 24, Nizamuddin 36, Salahuddin 64, Shafiul 28, Asadullah 34;

Asdak 1-51, Nabil 5-55, Imtiaz 2-56, Mowla 1-19) SYLHET: Second innings (overnight 35 no loss in 14 overs)

Rana c Asadullah b Bashir Ejaz c Salahuddin b Razzak Asdak c Salahuddin b Bashir Jakwan c Nizam b Razzak Nabil not out Extras: (b-5, lb-7, w-4) Total: (All out in 112.1 overs) Fall of wkts: 1-92, 2-110, 3-111, 4-151, 5 $218, 6\hbox{-}230, 7\hbox{-}245, 8\hbox{-}256, 9\hbox{-}266, 10\hbox{-}266$

Shafiul Venue: Shamsul Huda Stadium, Jessore Nizam 3 **SYLHET**: First innings 181 all out in 91 31.3 Bashir 7 overs (Mabud 20, Nabil 18, Parvez 12, Hasanuzzaman 3.3 0 Nasirul 47, Rana 55; Russell 1-35, Al-Result: Match drawn. Amin 3-23, Razzak 3-45, Nizamuddin 1-

Mabud c and b Bashir

Jahangir saves Dhaka

51

203

3

2

Imtiaz b Nizam

Parvez c Hasibul b Bashir

Mowla c Hasibul b Bashir

Nasirul lbw b Razzak

Atiqur run out

0 M 10 45 2 Al-Amin 18 73 Razzak 14 42 56 6 Man-of-the-match: Tamim Bashin RAISHAHI V BARISAL

in 17.4 overs (Musharaf 24, Kamal SQUAD Habibul Bashar (captain), Rajin