

Women were first allowed to participate in 1900 at the second modern Olympic



TEN Sports

Gillette World Sports Special Int'l Sports News Repeat at 8:00 am French Open Day Four Live at 3:00 pm Golden Moments of Olympic Games Repeat at 10:00 pm

ESPN

UEFA Champions League Monaco vs FC Porto (Final) Repeat at 8:00 am Sportscentre Sport News Live at 8:30 am

STAR Sports

Sportsline Sport News Live at 8:00 pm Futbol Mundial Repeat at 8:30 pm





Roberto Carlos

(Real Madrid's Brazilian super star) "I want to stay in Real Madrid and I think my situation will be sorted out in the next 20 days."



Who won the GP Corporate Cricket League Plate title? Ispahani 2. Who lifted the United Insurance IM chess crown? Reefat Niaz Zia 3. What was result of the Bangladesh-West Indies ODI 2-0 3-0 2-1

4. Who will host the 2010 FIFA World Cup? England Class..... Roll No.....

Phone: (If any)

Noakhali face Army in semifinals

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Noakhali set up a semifinal clash against Bangladesh Army in the Sher-e-Bangla 22nd National Football Championship when the defending champions came from a goal down to record a hard fought 2-1 win over Dhaka at the Natore Stadium yesterday.

Dhaka, who required a win to book the semifinal berth from Group A, went ahead six minutes after start through their prolific striker Surat.

The holders, 1-0 behind at the breather, toiled to break the tight rival defence but finally, veteran winger Rakib levelled the score in

the 56th minute. Buoyed by the equaliser, Nazmul Kabir slammed the match winner for Noakhali nine minutes later. He was also adjudged man of the match. Captain Arman Mia was among the three Noakhali footballers to receive yellow cards.

Noakhali emerged group champions with maximum six points.

Their opponents of the May 28 semifinal Bangladesh Army defeated Chittagong 4-2 in the other match of the day. Sunny shot Army into lead after

19 minutes while Didarul made it 2-0 in the 43rd minute. In the remaining three minutes before break Sunny scored his second goal of the match while Kawser reduced the arrears for Chittagong.

Army sealed the victory when

man-of-the-match Nasiruddin found the mark one minute into the second half. Kawser added another consolation goal for Chittagong seconds before the final whistle

Army topped Group C with four

The final slot for the semis will be decided today, the last day of the group phase, when Dhaka University take on Narayanganj in Group D decider. Both teams are on three points but Narayangani have an edge by virtue of a better goal difference. The winners of the group will be pitted against Bhola in the second semifinal on May 29.

The other match today between Natore and Nilphamari is only of academic interest.

The final is slated for June 1.

Henin sent packing



Defending champion and top seed Justine Henin-Hardenne of Belgium was sensationally dumped out of the French Open on Wednesday losing 7-5, 6-4 to Italy's Tathiana Garbin in the second round. The world number one, the holder of three Grand Slam titles and who had come into the tournament not having played for six weeks because of a virus, went down to defeat against the world number 86 in 1hr 58min leaving the 26-year-old Italian to progress to a third round clash against Jie Zheng of China.

It was the earliest defeat at Roland Garros for a defending women's champion since Spain's Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario also

perished in the second round in

She also became the first top seed to lose before the third round in the 79-year history of the women's singles at Roland Garros. "I am just so happy," said Garbin

whose modest career had realised a highest ranking of 38 four years ago with just 884,000 dollars in the bank compared to the Belgian's cool 7.5 "I can't believe I have just beaten

the defending champion. It was very tough because she is the world number one. "I have lots of problems in the

past with my thyroid gland and then back and shoulder injuries so it's great to be back playing. "My philosophy was to go onto court and play easily. At the start she

missed a lot and I got some easy

balls. I was playing well and then

Henin-Hardenne hit 10 double

faults in the match and a woeful 30 unforced errors. Garbin said she was determined

to make the most of her opponent's lacklustre performance. "I like to be aggressive and play at the net. All Italians are aggressive

"I knew she hadn't played for two months and that makes it hard to come back here because all the best players are in the tournament."

Henin-Hardenne's defeat was the second biggest shock in the first three days of the championship following Andre Agassi's shock first round exit on Monday at the hands of France's 271-world ranked Jerome Haehnal.

With former world number one Kim Clijsters not playing here SEE PAGE 14 COL 6



Amelie Mauresmo of France serves to Spaniard Anabel Medina Garrigues in the second round of the French Open tennis tournament at Roland Garros in Paris yesterday.

Ganguly, Becker in same team

SHAKYSEN MITRA. Kolkata

What is common between Souray Ganguly, Daley Thomson, Nadia Commaneci and Boris Becker? Probably nothing. But the four will team up together to do a promotional film for Ambi Valley which a seven-star housing facility built by

The shooting will take during the first week of the next month at Ambi Valley itself. It is indeed a rare honour for Ganguly to team up with so many eminent sports personalities.

Thomson has been a world famous decathlon champion. Commaneci was the first woman gymnast to achieve a perfect score of 10 in the Olympics and Becker a former world number one in the professional tennis circuit. Probably this is the only occasion when Sachin Tendulkar would be envying his captain. More so because Tendulkar has always been a fan of Becker.

Ganguly, himself is elated at the whole development. While speaking about it yesterday he said, "It is indeed an honour to mingle with so many greats.

"However, except for Becker, I do not know anything about the other two. I have watched Becker on television and even at Wimbledon He was a true champion. Definitely, I will try to learn about their attitude and what helped them become such great champions. A spokesperson for Sahara

informed here on Wednesday, that all the four have already been allotted posh apartments at Ambi

Schools kabadi

UNB. Dhaka

Nawabpur Government High School overwhelmed Upashahar Government Primary School 94-29 in the 12th school kabadi tournament at the Outer Stadium yester-

In the day's other matches Shahid Nabi School outplayed Islami Adarsha School and JB Memorial Academy beat Bramnchiron Govt. Primary School.

Rakib on verge of 2nd GM norm



SPORTS REPORTER

Abdullah Al Rakib will desperately look to beat the country's first Grand Master Niaz Murshed this morning in the 11th and final round of the Leonine second Grand Masters chess tournament to gain his sec-

ond Grand Master norm.

The Bangladeshi International Master, one point behind the 8-point mark that will earn him his second GM norm, forced Vietnamese Grand Master Nguyen Anh Dung to share points in the tenth round yesterday.

The two reached a mutual understanding to leave the board after seven moves at the National Sports Council (NSC) conference room.

Despite dropping points, the Vietnamese GM maintained the top

slot with eight points and needs a draw against Bangladesh IM ⊨namul Hossain Rajib today clinch the title.

Rakib, who became an IM in 1998 and got his first GM norm from the Asian Championship in Kolkata in 2001, was confident to beat his predecessor in the final round. "I am hopeful to win the last round

game because I am now in good touch. I will also have the advantage of starting with White," said an excited Rakib after his tenth round game.

The spotlight, however, was on IM Reefat-bin-Sattar prior to the tournament, as he needed the final norm to become the third GM in the country after Niaz and Ziaur Rahman

Reefat, who earned the IM tag in 1993, made a forlorn start losing first four games against IM Enamul SEE PAGE 14 COL 2



Vietnamese Grand Master Nguyen Anh Dung makes a move against Bangladesh International Master Abdullah Al Rakib in the tenth round of the Leonine second Grand Master chess tournament at the NSC yesterday.

EURO 2004 FIXTURE

The full schedule for the Euro 2004 soccer finals which will take place in Portugal from June 12-July 4:

FIRST ROUND	,	
PoolA		
Date	Match	Venue
June 12	Portugal vs Greece	Porto
	Spain vs Russia	Faro
June 16	Greece vs Spain	Porto
	Russie vs Portugal	Lisbon
June 20	Spain vs Portugal	Lisbon
	Russia vs Greece	Faro
Pool B		
June 13	Switzerland vs Croatia	Leiria
	France vs England	Lisbo
June 17	England vs Switzerland	Coimbra
	Croatia vs France	Leiria
June 21	Croatia vs England	Lisbon
	Switzerland vs France	Coimbra
Pool C		
June 14	Denmark vs Italy	Guimaraes
	Sweden vs Bulgariaat	Lisbon
June 18	Bulgaria vs Denmark	Braga
	Italy vs Sweden	Porto
June 22	Italy vs Bulgaria	Guimaraes
	Denmark vs Sweden	Porto
Pool D		
June 15	Czech Republic vs Latvia	Aveiro
	Germany vs Netherlands	Porto
June 19	Latvia vs Germany	Porto
	Netherlands vs Czech Republic	
June 23	Netherlands vs Latvia	Braga
l	Germany vs Czech Republic	Lisbon

The top two from each pool qualify for the quarterfinals.

une 24: Winners of Pool Avs Runners-up Pool Bat Lisbor June 25: Winners of Pool B vs Runners-up Pool Aat Lisbon. June 26: Winners of Pool C vs Runners-up Pool D at Faro. June 27: Winners of Pool D vs Runners-up Pool C at Porto.

June 30: Winners of quarterfinal 1 vs Winners of quarterfinal 3 at

July 1: Winners of quarterfinal 2 vs Winners of quarterfinal 4 at Porto:

FINA

July 4: At Lisbon

(There will be no match for third place).

Bond backache for NZ

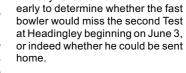
Cricket

REUTERS, London Fast bowler Shane Bond has undergone a scan on his troublesome back and is in danger of missing

the second Test in Leeds, New

Zealand Cricket has said. Bond, who missed the sevenwicket first Test loss at Lord's because he was not considered fit enough after suffering a stress fracture in his back 12 months ago, had been troubled by soreness since playing against Kent 10 days

The 28-year-old had a scan in London and was ruled out of the four-day match against Leicestershire starting on Friday. That would have been his last chance to get New Zealand team manager





SHANE BOND

Lindsay Crocker said it was too "We don't want to speculate until there is a definite answer," said Crocker. "There is no thought of replacements yet.

"We want to be very careful with him, hopefully he'll get through tomorrow and we can work on getting him right.'

Bond's absence from the second Test would be a huge blow to New Zealand's chances of levelling the three-match series.

The bowling attack at Lord's lacked the penetration Bond's extra pace would have given them and England coasted to victory on the final day.

All rounder Jacob Oram will also miss the match against Leicestershire after sustaining a side strain on the final day at Lord's, though he is expected to be fit for the second

The third Test begins at Trent Bridge in Nottingham on June 10.

Disorder everywhere

Cricket

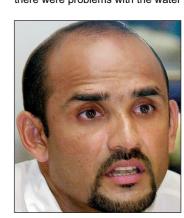
AFP, New Delhi

Sri Lanka's cricket captain Marvan Atapattu on Wednesday warned international teams visiting Zimbabwe to expect the worst, saying his team's recent visit to the troubled African nation was "fairly chaotic."

"The facilities and organisation were probably the worst I have experienced in my playing career," Atapattu was quoted as saying in an interview with the sport's leading portal 'Wisden Cricinfo.

"To be honest, the tour was fairly chaotic. There were a whole lot of things that kept going wrong," he

"When we arrived, the hotels did not have air conditioning, and then there were problems with the water



MARVAN ATAPATTU

supply as well.

"We had to go without a shower until about 10pm after one game, and there was no water in the toilets for an entire night "On the cricket side, there was no

communication. When it came to things like net practice, no one took any responsibility. There were no net bowlers and

sometimes there weren't even any nets ready. Even the lunch during the last day of the Test match was 15 minutes late.

"One morning when we were batting, the fourth umpire, who is supposed to ask us which roller we want, used the heavy roller without asking," Atapattu said.

Zimbabwe is in danger of being suspended from Test cricket after a

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