Kiwi wins at Adelaide!

AFP, Adelaide

New Zealand finally broke through for a win at Australia's expense at Adelaide Oval on Tuesday, but it wasn't at cricket - it was a foot race.

New Zealand opener Mark Richardson restored some battered Kiwi pride by outpacing fellow 'slowcoach' Darren Lehmann in a 110metre post-match race for charity.

They wore aerodynamic lycra body-suits - Richardson's in the beige and brown of NZ's 1980s oneday uniforms and Lehmann's in green and gold.

Richardson proved quicker than his nickname Rig, as in rigor mortis, and held a clear lead by the halfway

hurdle, a keg of beer. Once I got to the keg and got over that I was pretty happy," he said.

I thought at that stage he (Lehmann) might actually stop and sit down and have a drink from the keg but he kept running," Richard-

It was his only personal success of the tour after failing with the bat with innings of 19, four, nine and 16 against Australia

"On a personal low note, the only thing I'll be remembered for in Aust-ralia is stupidity," he joked.

Prize money went to Richardson's charity of choice, Intellectually Handicapped Children (IHC) and to Lehmann's, the Shane Warne Foundation.

Gatlin, Hayes win top US awards

AFP. Portland

Triple Olympic medalist Justin Gatlin and Olympic record-holding hurdler Joanna Hayes are this year's winners of US athletics highest honour - the Jesse Owens Awards.

Gatlin won the most competitive 100m hurdles in Olympic history in Athens, the 22-year-old timing 9.85sec to take gold from Portugal's Francis Obikwelu and Maurice

He added bronze in the 200m and silver in the 4x100m relay. "It is such a great honour," Gatlin

said ahead of Wednesday's award presentation here at US Track and Field's annual meeting.

Hayes owes her award for the gold medal she won in the women's 100m hurdles when she timed 12.37sec to break the 16-year-old

Olympic record of 12.38. The 27-year-old was only the second American to win the event.

The awards, first established in 1981, were selected in balloting of members of the US track and field

Serena, Venus to play at HK challenge

AFP, Hong Kong

Six-time Grand Slam winner Serena Williams has confirmed she will join sister Venus to complete an impressive line-up at an annual invitational tournament in Hong Kong next year, organisers said Monday.

Williams was among four names yesterday confirmed for the sixth Watson's Water Champions Challenge in January. The others were former world number one Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, French and US Open runner-up Elena Dementieva from Russia and 15year-old rising Czech star Nicole

Vaidisova They will join reigning Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova, world number two Amelie Mauresmo, US Open winner Svetlana Kuznetsova and Venus Williams, who has four-time grand slam career titles.

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Action from the Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League clash between Mohammedan and Azad Sporting at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday.

Million dollar question

Cricket

Australia's crushing 213-run defeat of New Zealand to claim a comprehensive Test series sweep over New Zealand here Tuesday has raised the burning question in world cricket: just who will challenge the rampant Aussies?

The Kiwis were no match for Ricky Ponting's world-beaters, succumbing to an innings and 156run defeat in Brisbane inside four days and were never a show here after Australia's batsmen dominated from the opening ball of the

Australia have now won 21 of their last 26 Test series home and away since 1997-98, drawing three and only losing away to Sri Lanka in 2000 and India in 2001.

The Australians have three home Tests next against Pakistan and three more Tests against the shellshocked Kiwis in New Zealand next

February-March before the anticipated five-Test Ashes series in England next year.

New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming acclaimed Australia as "by far the most superior cricket team around" after his team were snuffed out just after lunch on the final day of the second Test Tuesday.

Teams are going to have their days, teams are going to challenge at certain times, they're going to have opportunities to win matches, but day-in and day-out this Australian team is by far the most superior cricket team around," Fleming said. "Their displays over these two

Tests have been as we expected but you can just see that there's more development to come and that's scary. 'Some of their bowling in the Test series was superb, it was like having three (former NZ great) Richard Hadlees and the greatest leg-

spinner (Shane Warne) of all." Ponting, asked if Australia was being challenged in the Test arena, said: "It's up to the individual players, we must have a lot of pride in our performance every time we take the field, that's very important to us, as individuals and as a team.

"We were challenged in India, that was a very hard tour for us and that was only a few weeks ago.

'We were certainly challenged in the first two days of the Brisbane Test match but we fought through that and turned that game around really quickly and won well there."

Fleming is unnerved by what he sees in the constantly-evolving state of Australian cricket.

"Every time they play this well it sends tremors around the world. I think teams are still measuring themselves against how well Australia are playing and improving their games, and that is a good thing, but at some stage there has to be a group of players out there that can match these guys," he said.

"Or the age and attrition of this (Australian) team, which does happen, will fall by the wayside.

But then again it's the quality of their young players coming through, which is quite daunting."

Ponting awaits Akhtar

Cricket

AFP, Adelaide

Skipper Ricky Ponting said Tuesday Australia were ready for the "antics" of Pakistan's express bowler Shoaib Akhtar in next month's home three-Test series.

Ponting turned his sights on the Pakistani tourists after Australia mopped up an emphatic 213-run Adelaide Test victory to sweep a two-match series over mis-

matched New Zealand here. The Pakistanis arrived in Perth on Monday armed with the 'Rawalpindi Express', who along with Australian Brett Lee, ranks as the fastest bowler in world cricket.

Ponting said the Australian batsmen were looking forward to the tougher assignment of facing the searing pace of Akhtar on the fast bouncy WACA pitch in the first Test at Perth, starting on Dece-

"Akhtar tries to get under your skin a little bit, as he did in the last tour of Australia but the good thing is that we've had some good success against him, so we don't need to build it up too much or say too much back to him," Ponting said

"He can do whatever he wants to put us off but it will be a challenge for us to be as strong as we can and to make sure we're doing the job with the bat.

continue on in this next series and I'm sure we'll enjoy it as well." Ponting said his team were excited at the prospect of facing

the young Pakistan team, which has never won a Test series in "They have got a very good pace

attack, they've got a young, unpredictable side," he said. 'We've played on two pretty

good batting surfaces over the last couple of weeks in these Test matches (against New Zealand) and we're going to have a fast bouncy one in Perth against two of the fastest bowlers in the world, said Ponting referring to Akhtar and his pace partner Mohammad

"They are dangerous, in more ways than one, and it's up to all the batsmen to make sure they are nice and sharp and ready for that challenge.

"But we've had a lot of success against Pakistan over the last few years, particularly our batting, so it will be a great challenge.

"It's really exciting Test cricket when you go to Perth and you see fast bowlers coming in off their long runs and there will be plenty of bouncers flying around, there

will be lots of shots played as well, so it should be some good cricket." In the last series here against 'I'm sure all those antics will Pakistan in 1999, Australia won the

first Test in Brisbane by 10 wickets, the second Test in Hobart by four wickets and the third Test in Perth by an innings and 20 runs.

Akhtar took just six wickets in that series at an expensive 67.66.

Victoria play like

102 runs but Akram's departure ended any semblence of hope. Hasibul's hit a quickfire 26 off 29

Nazmul Hossain (3-47) used the new ball on a green top wicket intelligently to make inroads. Struggling at 50-4 after 12 overs, Fahadullah and Mashud salvaged Victoria and took them past the 200 mark without any further damage. Fahad made a cautious 63 off 108 balls with one four and a six.

stroke, played 103 balls for his 72. Alok Kapali came up with a cameo unbeaten 20 (12 balls) towards the

Ronaldo fancies Bundesliga!

INTERNET SOURCE

Real Madrid striker Ronaldo has declared he'd consider a move in the future to the Bundesliga.

Until now I do not have any offers and my contract with Real expires in 2007. The Bundesliga later? Why not? I am interested and I know the league very well. I have many Brazilian friends there," said

The Brazilian also weighed into the controversial debate over who is the best German goalkeeper, Bayern Munich legend Oliver Kahn or Arsenal's Jens Lehmann.

"Without a doubt: Kahn. Both are good, but Oliver is the best.'

Tevez Brazil bound?

Carlos Tevez, one of the key architects in Argentina's Olympic gold medal success in Athens, is on the move from Boca Juniors to Brazilian first division side Corinthians in a deal worth 20 million dollars.

The 20-year-old played a major role in guiding Argentina to success in Greece, scoring eight goals including the matchwinner in the final against Paraguay.

Another Sharif

succession as City suffered another

collapse in the tail, losing five wickets in the space of 26 runs. Sharif, who was adjudged manof-the-match for the second consecutive time, finished with 2-22 from 6.1 overs while left-arm pacer Syed Russel (2-11 from seven

overs) and left-arm spinner

Mosharraf Rubel (2-12 from ten

overs) were as impressive as the

last game. **AGRANI-ORIENT**

Shahnewaz Kabir Shuvra grabbed five wickets to help newcomers Agrani Bank collect their second win when the right-arm seamer restricted Orient to 186-9 in 50 overs at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium in Narayanganj.

The inserted Orient were off to a flying start when Tamim Iqbal (47 off 86 balls) and captain Masumuddowlah (50 off 82 balls) added 103 runs for the first wicket.

But man-of-the-match Shuvra took all five wickets in his second spell to end with 5-35 from ten overs and set an easy target for his teammates, who stunned holders Victoria in the league opener.

Opener Rakib Hassan anchored the Agrani essay with a 100-ball 51 while Kuntal Chandra (37) and Najmus Sadat (24) shared 44 runs for the unbroken sixth wicket to guide Agrani home with 15 balls to

O'land move

on Tuesday.

Having earlier put on a 45-run tenth-wicket partnership that guided the hosts to a first innings total of 384, Bichel and Dawes backed up with a superb display of pace bowling as Tasmania slumped to 190 for eight in reply.

and Dawes had 2-33.

Only a fighting half-century by Tasmanian paceman Damien Wright halted the Queensland onslaught.

as Tasmania edged closer to the follow-on target of 235.

Dravid gives India

FROM PAGE 13 the line of leg stump.

Ganguly was earlier dropped in the covers by Jacques Rudolph off leg-spinner Justing Ontong when

Venkatsai Laxman also fell when he looked set for a big score but Karthik and Pathan added 51 runs for the unbroken seventh wicket stand.

Earlier in the morning session, Virender Sehwag (88) missed out on what could have been his ninth century in 29 Tests.

The big-hitting batsman hit only the fourth delivery he faced Tuesday morning for a six, reading a slower one from paceman Shaun Pollock, but they were the only runs he got after resuming on 82. Makhaya Ntini surprised him

with a bouncer that Sehwag tried to fend off. But the ball carried from his gloves towards Graeme Smith at slip, who took the catch running in.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the second and final Test between India and South Africa at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Tuesday: SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 305

64, Pathan 3-72) INDIA: First innings (overnight Sehwag c Smith b Ntini

Gambhir Ibw b Pollock Dravid b Hall Tendulkar b de Bruyn Ganguly Ibw b de Bruyn Laxman c Ontong b Ntini Karthik not out Pathan not out Extras: (lb-18, nb-7, w-5) Total: (For 6 wkts in 125 overs) 359

Fall of wickets: 1-17, 2-144, 3-189, 4-238, 5-267, 6-308 To bat: Kumble, Harbhajan, Zaheer. Bowler OMRW

10 81 Pollock 33 New Zealand's last victory over 32 Ntini 7 85 their trans-Tasman rivals was by five 79 Ontong 18 26 5 64 De Bruyn 16 4 32

BFF introduces

FROM PAGE 13

permission by the BFF to take part in the Himalayan Bank Football Tournament that begins on December 13 at the Dasharath Stadium in Kathmandu.

The Motijheel outfit also confirmed South Korean coach Man Young Kang ahead of the tournament and the league. Kang, who is no stranger to

Dhaka football as he coached the (Kallis 121, Rudolph 61; Zaheer 3national side and Muktijoddha in the nineties, is expected to arrive in the capital today along with two Korean players Tae Young Kim and HungYoungThin.

English League Cup

Biggies to test reserve power

Football

AFP. London

Arsenal return to Old Trafford for the first time since last month's infamous "Battle of the Buffet" when they face arch-rivals Manchester United in the quarter-finals of the League Cup on Wednesday.

But this latest encounter is set to feature a host of reserve players with both clubs resting their stars for more important tournaments

Last month United's 2-0 win ended champions Arsenal's English top-flight record of 49 unbeaten ague matches. But the game itself was soon

overshadowed by a series of disciplinary incidents, including allegations that soup and pizza thrown from the Arsenal dressing room had hit United manager Sir Alex Ferguson.

Meanwhile United striker Ruud van Nistelrooy was banned for three games following a dangerous chal-lenge on England full-back Ashley

So incensed was Arsenal boss ArseneWenger, he labelled the Dutch forward a "cheat", a comment for which he will have to answer before an FA discipinary panel next month. Since the United defeat, Arsenal

have lost twice in their last six games

and are now five points adrift of leaders Chelsea Ferguson tried to add to the pres-

sure on Wenger's shoulders by suggesting at the weekend that the Gunners were "scared" of United.

But the fact remains Arsenal have been playing a reserve team throughout this season's League Cup and are set to do so again on Wednesday.

It was a measure of the north Londonders' strength in depth that their second-string side beat a near full-strength Everton 3-1 earlier this month in the previous round of the League Cup.

Ferguson too is likely to give some of his fledgling a go although his side is set to feature several experienced players - the likes of Phil Neville, Eric Djemba-Djemba, Kleberson and Louis Saha all featured in their previous League Cup game against Crystal

However Saha is out of Wednesday's game which could mean a full debut for 17-year-old American-Italian striker Guiseppe Rossi.

"I have one decision to make. I don't know whether I bring in someone from Saturday's squad or play Rossi, because we have Saha out," Ferguson said Sunday.

"I have a good group of players and I think the best way is to play them in competitions like the League Cup, where it doesn't matter who you

play. It is a still a step up."

Not that Arsenal are likely to be overawed, whoever they are up against. Jermaine Pennant, Arsenal's 21-year-old captain against Everton, insisted the junior Gunners were ready for anything.

"We feel we can challenge any team," he said. "That is how high the

confidence is. "If you are at Arsenal you must be a good player and no matter who we play, we go out and perform to the

bestofourabilities Wenger will be even more keen than usual for victory after last weekend's 2-1 defeat by Liverpool left

them trailing Chelsea by five points. "It's hard to explain why results have not been going our way recently and it is difficult to identify one part of our game that particularly needs to improve,"Wengersaid.

Meanwhile United chief executive David Gill was confident Wednesday's game would pass off without incident and rejected FA calls for a peace summit' between the two

"Both ourselves and Arsenal

understand their responsibilities and I think it will be fine on Wednesday night," Gill told the Manchester Evening News. "We don't see the need for a so-called peace summit because of a football match."

Wednesday's other quarter-final sees another all Premiership clash when Tottenham, buoyed by last weekend's win over Middlesbrough, face Liverpool.

On Tuesday, Chelsea face west London rivals Fulham with Portsmouth's trip away to Championship side Watford the other last eight clash.

Flemo rates Eng highly

Cricket

AFP, Adelaide

New Zealand skipper Stephen Fleming says England will have to play extremely well to beat Australia in next year's Ashes series, but they have the players to do it.

Fleming was speaking as the Kiwis were demoralised for a second time in as many weeks by Australia, this time a 213-run defeat in the Adelaide Test for a two-nil series Fleming has recent experience to

relative strengths of the two teams, having led the Kiwis to a 3-0 series defeat in England last May-June. The Black Caps were defeated by seven wickets at Lord's, nine wickets

gauge an accurate opinion on the

at Headingley and four wickets at Trent Bridge.
"England have individuals who are developing, I think Andrew Flintoff and Steve Harmison are really emerging to leading world

cricketers who can turn a match,

Flintoff in particular," Fleming said. "I know Australia will target Flintoff and have already sown the seeds for that.

"Michael Vaughan is a different style of captain to the one they've had previously and they've got some good young players, so I think after playing England and having disappointing results there and the series here, England will have to play extremely well if they are going to

But they do have the personnel who can do that.

More pressing for Fleming is how to get New Zealand competitive for their three Test matches against Australia at home next February-March. "I am absolutely concerned

we've put in. We deserve the criticism - there's been times when essions have been exasperating for "We knew we had to compete in

every session in this series if we were

going to be competitive and the first

two days in Brisbane were fine and

about some of the performances

then the ante got lifted and we didn't turn up for the next seven (days).

'It's been a very tough series

from a personal point of view and once again a very tough learning curve for the team." Fleming said the only thing that could be taken out of the series

mauling was to try and learn something from the Australian players. "If we don't do that then we've missed an opportunity and I guess the challenge for the team management and me is to make sure that information doesn't slip by," he

Mohammedan

FROM PAGE 13 Sadharan Bima after a 1-1 draw at

the same venue. After the barren first half, the insurance men came from behind to hold the spirited bankers.

Imran Ahmed scored a field goal to put Sonali Bank ahead in the 53rd minute while Abdus Samad equa-

lised it in the 66th minute.



The sixth round of the Dutch-Bangla First Division Chess League is in progress at the federation hall room yesterday.

Aussies do it in style

In contrast, Australia have won eight of the last 12 Tests with three drawn and their only loss to India in Mumbailast month.

wickets in Auckland in March 1993 some 14 Tests ago. Jacob Oram only lasted until the second over of the day before he tickled one from McGrath to wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist with

no addition to his overnight score of His batting partner Brendon McCullum followed five overs later painfully wrapped on the pads by Gillespie and sent limping on his way by English umpire David

Shepherd leg before wicket for 36. Paceman James Franklin, who put on 46 runs for the eighth wicket with Vettori, was out for 13 to a spectacular catch from Gilchrist diving across first-slipper Warne off the bowling of Michael Kasprowicz to leave the Black Caps at 206 for

Vettori played with commend-

able spirit but threw away his wicket nearing lunch when he should have been more circumspect.

Australia will now play New Zealand in three one-day matches for the newly-struck Chappell-Hadlee Trophy, starting in Melbourne on Sunday.

Australia will then play three Tests against the touring Pakistanis in Perth, Melbourne and Sydney and a triangular one-day series with Pakistan and West Indies before heading to New Zealand for a three-Test and one-day series in February-March.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the fifth day of the second Test between Australia and New Zealand at the Adelaide Oval on Tuesday: AUSTRALIA: First innings 575 for 8

declared (Langer 215, Lehmann 81,

Hayden 70; Vettori 5-152, Wiseman

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 251 (Fleming 83, Astle 52; McGrath 4-66, Gillespie 3-37) AUSTRALIA: Second innings 139 for 2 declared (Hayden 54, Langer 46) NEW ZEALAND: Second innings (overnight 149-5) Richardson c Langer b Kasprowicz Sinclair lbwb Gillespie Fleming b McGrath

Styris c Clarke b Warne

Astle c Langer b Lehmann

Oram c Gilchrist b McGrath McCullum lbwb Gillespie Vettori c Gillespie b Lehmann Franklin c Gilchrist b Kasprowicz 13 Wiseman not out Martin c Ponting b Warne Extras: (b-1, lb-12, nb-5) Total: (All out in 82.3 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-11, 2-18, 3-34, 4-34, 5-97, 6-150, 7-160, 8-206, 9-243 Bowler

12

32

41

39

79

46

Gillespie 16 Kasprowicz 14 Warne 27.3 13 Lehmann Result: Australia won by 213 runs to win the series 2-0.

McGrath

Man-of-the-match: Justin Langer. Man-of-the-series: Glenn McGrath.

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4 Slap

stream 43 Barry Humphries' 44 Campus bigwig 45 Easy as 46 Back

BERNGZJGM BZEGMWR GMWGW XL TLGMEMF QEF KOM TB VTZJR

KNOSSEMF QXS

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I'M PLANNING ON STEALING SOMETHING VERY HEAVY, I REALLY HOPE I CAN CARRY IT OFF. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals T

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 puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

balls to delay the inevitable. Earlier, Hasibul (3-33) and

FROM PAGE 13 In the last ten overs, DOHS needed

Man-of-the-match Mashud, who sent the ball to the ropes five times including one reverse-sweeped

FROM PAGE 13

Bichel finished the day with 2-23

Wright remained unbeaten on 52