SPORT

Gaibandha cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Munshipara Krira Sangstha beat Gaibandha Abahani Krira Chakra by 27 runs in the First Division Cricket League at the local stadium here vesterday.

Munshipara scored 171 after deciding to bat.

In reply, Abahani were bundled

Oram sidelined

AFP, Hamilton

New Zealand cricket allrounder Jacob Oram has been sidelined for the immediate future after a scan revealed a bone injury in his back, New Zealand Cricket said Wednesday.

Oram, 26, had the bone scan in Hamilton on Tuesday. He has been sidelined since January 9 with persistent back pain, feared to be a stress

New Zealand Cricket (NZC) said in a statement further tests would be needed for a conclusive diagnosis.

"The extent of the injury is yet to be determined but will become clearer in a few days after he has a CT (computed tomography) scan," NZCsaid.

If the injury is confirmed to be a stress fracture, Oram will almost certainly miss the tour by Australia in February and March, and two tests against Sri Lanka in April.

Oram is a key member of the New Zealand side with 35 Test wickets and a batting average of 40.8. His loss would be a heavy blow for the home side in the series against the world champi-

The news comes two days after New Zealand left arm spinner Daniel Vettori left the field with back pain in the second charity one-day match against a World XI. Vettori was ruled out of Wednesday's final match against the World XI in Hamilton and is expected to have tests this week if the pain does not subside.

Vettori suffered stress fractures to his back during a series against Australia in 2000 and later the same yearin Zimbabwe.

GP Pacer Hunt

FROM PAGE 13

A total of 25 pacemen took part in "We will now submit a final

report to the Bangladesh Cricket Board. Eight bowlers impressed us today but we will submit our observation on all the 25who participated," said coach Sarwar Imran, who conducted the programme in eleven zones across the country.

The former national coach also informed that they will conduct a similar programme next year to unearth more quick bowlers.

BCCI in complete

The sharp divisions within the BCCI have also delayed finalising Pakistan's schedule a month before they land here.

two-member PCB team, including security expert Sohail Khan, is currently in India inspecting proposed venues. One Test venue suggested by India is Ahmedabad, the main city in the western state of Gujarat where at least 2,000 people, mostly Muslims, were killed in communal riots in

It remains to be seen if Pakistan agree to play in Ahmedabad.

If that is not enough, various cities are battling each other for the right to host the tourists and enrich their coffers.

The final itinerary is unlikely to be known before the first week of February, giving the chosen venues less than a month to make arrange-

'All in good time," a BCCI official told AFP. "Deadlines don't worry us. As long as we make good money everything will be fine.'

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Captain's best moment

Although there was never much chance of a rain-hit match producing an outright result, South Africa had a tilt at pulling off a miracle win, with AB de Villiers and Jacques Kallis hitting centuries to enable Smith to

De Villiers, 20, was named manof-the-match after following up his first innings of 92 with a polished

Kallis, South Africa's top scorer in the series, finished unbeaten on 136 before Smith declared on 296 for six. Kallis finished the series with 625

runs at an average of 69.44, just behind England's Strauss, who was named man of the series after making 656 runs at an average of 72.88.

South Africa added 237 runs in 54 overs Tuesday to back up Smith's claim that his team would "give it our all" in an effort to force a result in a match affected by rain.

South African hopes flickered when Makhaya Ntini dismissed Andrew Strauss without scoring in the second over. Two more wickets fell by the end of the 15th over, with Shaun Pollock trapping Robert Key leg before wicket and Ntini bowling Marcus Trescothick.

Vaughan and Graham Thorpe opted for extreme caution, scoring just five runs in their first ten overs together as Smith tried a variety of bowlers with some enthusiastic appeals and a few near misses. The pair stayed together until the 32nd over when Thorpe was caught at third slip off Ntini for eight, made off 56 balls. Ntini finished with three for 12 off 11 overs.

Andrew Flintoff gave a bat-pad chance to Jacques Rudolph at short leg off Nel before he had scored but staved until the end with Vaughan, scoring an unbeaten 14. Vaughan faced 86 balls for his 26 not out.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the fifth and final day of the fifth and final Test between South Africa and England at Centurion Park on Tuesday: SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 247 (DeVilliers 92, Rudolph 33, Smith 25,



A proud England captain Michael Vaughan shows off the Test series trophy after the fifth and final Test against South Africa at the Super Sports Park in Centurion on January 25.

47)
ENGLAND: First innings 359
(Thorpe 86, Flintoff 77, G Jones 50,
Strauss 44, Giles 39; Nel 6-81)
SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings
296 for 6 declared (Kallis 136, De
Villiers 109; Flintoff 2-46, Harmison
2-59)
ENGLAND: Second innings

Trescothick b Ntini Strauss c Kallis b Ntini Keylbwb Pollock Vaughan not out Thorpec Gibbs b Ntini Boucher 25; Flintoff 4-44, S Jones 4Extras: (lb-7, nb-2) Total: (For 4 wkts in 41.2 overs) 73 Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-16, 3-20, 4-45 OMRW 5 24 6 12 3 9 Smith Hall 5.2 clinch the 5-Test series 2-1.

Result: Match drawn and England Man-of-the-match: AB de Villiers.

Kiwis wallop World XI

Cricket

New Zealand beat a World XI by four wickets here Wednesday in a oneday match which turned to farce on a sub-standard pitch with just 164 runs scored as 16 wickets fell.

New Zealand lost six wickets in their struggle to overhaul a paltry World XI total of 81. The victory clinched a 2-1 margin for the home side in the three-match series to raise funds for victims of the Asian

World XI captain and Australian spin sensation Shane Warne described the pitch as "terrible" and called for a one-day international between New Zealand and Australia scheduled for March 2 to be moved to another venue.

"I think the authorities will probably move the game knowing the way the pitch played today. I wouldn't be surprised if it gets moved, I think it was sub-standard," Warne

"No one had any confidence of trying to get forward, it was just pot luck whether you played and missed, you had to just try and slog."

Veteran all-rounder Chris Cairns took full advantage of the variable bounce and excessive seam movement on the Westpac Park pitch to take 6-12 for New Zealand from 5.5

The World XI tumbled from a comfortable 59-1 just past the 10 over mark to lose their remaining

By Eugene Sheffer

19 Support-

20 "Sleepy

21 One's

22 Witty

23 Vintage

24 Match

25 French

26 "Lather.

28 Fancy

29 Usa

30 Self-

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Solution time: 21 mins.

nine wickets for only 22 runs in the next 10 overs. New Zealand may have thought

their run chase would be a formality and that appeared to be the case until Australia's Ian Harvey entered the attack and grabbed 4-17 from 4.2 The Kiwis slumped from a com-

fortable 55-2 to lose five wickets in the space of 10 runs before Hamish Marshall (16 not out) halted the slide to ensure New Zealand got home. Opener Nathan Astle topscored with 23 from 27 balls at the top of the innings to lay the foundation for Earlier Cairns and former All

Black rugby winger Jeff Wilson joined forces to bundle the Federation of International Cricketers' Associations (FICA) World XI out in just 20.5 overs.

Wilson, marking his return in this series to the New Zealand side after a 12-year absence during which he established a stellar rugby career, was devastating in support with 3-6 from four overs.

The seaming conditions provided five catches for wicketkeeper Brendon McCullum. One saw the departure for a duck of former Australian batsman Greg Blewett, who appeared to be unlucky with replays suggesting the ball brushed his pad rather than the bat.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the third one-day match between a World XI and New Zealand to raise money for tsunami relief at Westpac Park on

Wednesday: WORLDXI Knight b Cairns Elliott c McCullum b Mills Javasuriya cWilson b Cairns Harvey c McCullum b Cairns Blewett c McCullum b Wilson Hicke McCullum bWilson Sangakkara c McCullum b Wilson 0 Rhodes lbwb Cairns Bichel c Astle b Cairns Streaknotout Warne b Cairns Extras: (lb-2, w-1, nb-2) Total: (All out in 20.5 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-37, 2-59, 3-67, 4-69, 5-69, 6-71, 7-71, 8-78, 9-81 O M Cairns 5.5 0 Wilson 0

NEW ZEALAND Fleming c Sangakkara b Bichel Astle b Harvey Sinclair b Harvey Styris lbw b Harvey Marshall not out McMillan b Harvey Cairns c Jayasuriya b Blewett McCullum not out Extras: (b-1, lb-1, w-2, nb-1) Total: (For 6 wkts in 15.2 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-29, 2-44, 3-55, 4-64,

5-64, 6-65 Did not bat: Wilson, Mills, Tuffey Bowler OMR Bichel 5 0 34 0 23 Streak 4.2 0 17

Result: New Zealand won by 4 wickets to lift the series 2-1.

US Open to have

electronic eyes

AFP, Melbourne

The US Open is set to become the first Grand Slam tennis tournament to introduce computer-generated video replays to help umpires rule on contentious line-calls, officials saidWednesday.

A United States Tennis Association (USTA) spokesman said the body was "very bullish" about providing umpires with electronic replay aids at the 2005 champion-ships following the uproar at last year's tournament.

The controversial quarterfinal between Jennifer Capriati and Serena Williams was marred by a series of rulings against Williams that replays later showed were

Capriati advanced but US Open officials removed umpire Mariana Alves before later apologising to Williams for the blunders. Now USTA officials are anxious to avoid any chance of a repeat by making use of advances in technology.

"We are bullish in our desire to have some form of electronic linecalling technology in use at the 2005 US Open," USTA spokesman Chris Widmaier told AFP.

"The Jennifer Capriati-Serena Williams match really brought the desire to provide technological aids to officials to the forefront."

Widmaier said a special task force had been formed to look at the various options, emphasising that no decisions had been taken yet.

Various technologies were available, with the 3D 'Hawkeye' and 'Auto-Ref' systems already used with success by television broadcasters among the options.

"We are taking a look at all the existing systems," said Widmaier. "There are two main issues we need to determine -- which will be the most accurate and the most consis-

Fed Cup Football

FROM PAGE 13 But the organisers have decided to break the trend by allowing Brothers Union, who crashed out of the qualifiers last season, to play in the 'We have decided to honour Bro-

thers' record in the last season. They won both the Premier and National League titles, so it would be ideal to see the top teams in the final phase," said Azfaruddin Sohrab, a member of the tournament committee. Brothers will now join Mukti-

joddha Sangsad, Mohammedan Sporting Club, Abahani Krira Chakra and Sheikh Russel Krira Chakra the other automatic qualifiers as semifinalists.

The decision will see the number of qualifiers cut down to three.

3RD BD-ZIM ODI FROM PAGE 13

Matsikenyeri 0 15 FROM PAGE 13 Chigumbura 23 ZIMBABWE Matsikenyeri st Mashud b Manzarul his innings.

Rogers lbw b Mahmud Ebrahim c Aftab b Nazmul Masakadza c Enamul b Manzarul Taylor c Iqbal b Mahmud ing at point. Taibu c Manzarul b Mashrafee Chigumbura lbwb Manzarul Panyangara b Nazmul Utseya st Mashud b Manzarul Hondo b Mashrafee Mpofunotout Extras: (lb-3, w-5, nb-1) Total: (All out in 47.5 overs) 29 after top-edging him skywards Fall of wickets: 1-45, 2-50, 3-76, 4-93, 5-133, 6-177, 7-181, 8-185, 9-198 0 M 8.5 0 38 9 0 34 10

Bowler Mashrafee Nazmul Manzarul 0 34 Mahmud 10 0 42 Enamul 10 1 53 Result: Bangladesh won by 40 runs. Man-of-the-match: Manzarul

Fourth ODI: Jan 29, Dhaka (D/N).

career Grand Slam title, looked to have squandered victory when she had her serve broken by Molik after holding match point at 5-4 in the final set. The next four games went with

and then recovered from 15-40 "I don't know how I did that, I away from me in the final set," said

Davenport. "Idon'tknowhowIgotit back. It was a match with a lot of ups Molik, dreaming of becoming the first Australian winner of the

women's title since Chris O'Neil 27 years ago, refused to be downcast at the end of a campaign that has helped propel her into the top 10.

The bottom line is I probably had a chance out there to win today. guess I can be comforted by the fact that I feel like I'm going to put myself in more positions like today to beat the top five players in the world," she

Dechy advanced to the first Grand Slam semifinal of her career after shading a tight encounter with

12th seed Patty Schnyder of Switzerland, winning 5-7, 6-1, 7-5 after an energy-sapping 2hr 33min

ment that the match was relegated to the Margaret Court Arena, the third-choice showcourt, at the same time as Molik's clash with

because you just think that nobody cared too much about this match, and it's still a quarterfinal Grand Slam," said Dechy. Dechy has not beaten Lindsay

Davenport in five attempts but believes she can make it sixth time lucky when she meets the world number one in the Australian Open semifinals Thursday.

born right-hander is adamant that she won't just be making up the numbers against Davenport, who defeated the Frenchwoman in straight sets in Sydney a fortnight

Serena's point to prove

Australian 3 Open

Serena Williams insists she has nothing to prove to anyone. But defeating Maria Sharapova in their Australian Open semifinal Thursday should silence those who say she is

Williams has a losing record against 17-year-old Sharapova, with painful defeats coming last season in the Wimbledon final and the WTA Tour Championships in Los Angeles. Those losses to the precocious

Russian starlet gave life to the theory that the former world number one is a fading force after an injuryplagued 2004 where she failed to win a Grand Slam. But suggestions that Williams' career is on a downward trajectory

have annoyed the big-hitting 23year-old, who was seeded seventh for Melbourne yet has been the bookmakers' favourite from the "I don't appreciate that language, to be honest with you,"

Williams replied when it was put to her that prevailing talk had been of a decline in fortunes. "I mean, I've had surgery. And after surgery, I got to the final of

Wimbledon. I don't know too many

people that have done that.

"I don't have to win this tournament to prove anything. I know that

I'm one of the best players out here." Yet though the six-time Grand Slam winner has nothing to prove, there would be no better way to confirm her return than with victory over Sharapova, even if she says

revenge is not on the agenda. "Revenge? No, I look at it as a chance to be in the finals here again, "Williams said.

After a quarterfinal where she demolished world number two Amelie Mauresmo, making light of furnace-like conditions in the process, beating Sharapova looks a distinct possibility.

Even allowing for the fact that the

notoriously-brittle Mauresmo

claimed to have been injured throughout a one-sided contest, Williams produced some of her best form to win 6-2, 6-2. The weather conditions, and more hot weather is forecast, may

turn out to be crucial. The Florida based Williams is used to tropical heat and humidity and positively bounded through her match with By contrast the Siberian-born

Sharapova, who is also based in Florida, has found the heat much harder to deal with than Williams. She has spent her off-season training in heat in order to prepare herself for the conditions at

Melbourne.

Kuznetsova in the quarterfinals it was sheer force of character that

came to the rescue. Her gritty 4-6, 6-2, 6-2 victory owed as much to her extraordinary

mental resilience as her physical condition. Sharapova admitted afterwards

she had been struggling. "I need a wheelchair right now," she said. "I was just trying to tell myself mentally just to get through it," she said, adding that gruelling winter conditioning work had paid

"I kept thinking back in my offseason, you know, how hard it was when I was training physically, and I thought I couldn't go any more, but I knew that I had some more even though my body thought I didn't.

"I remember those moments, and I just kept fighting, just trying to take as much time as I can and

HEAD TO HEAD

Maria Sharapova (RUS x4) v Serena Williams (USAx7) Sharapova leads 2-1 2004 Miami Hard Rd16 Williams 6-4, 6-3 2004 Wimbledon Grass F Sharapova 6-1

2004 Tour Championships Hard F Sharapova 4-6, 6-2, 6-4 NB: x denotes seeding



18

15

THE FUTURE OF PACE: Qualifiers from the GrameenPhone Pacer Hunt are seen with Bangladesh Cricket Board's fast bowling coach Sarwar Imran (9th from L, standing) and Moeen Tariq (7th from L, standing), GP's deputy media manager, after the final round at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

No Leeway for Windies

Chanderpaul was run out in the 29th over, after calling for a runner late in

The runner, Wavell Hinds, was trapped well short of his ground by a direct hit from Michael Clarke field-

Darren Lehmann, leaving the Windies at 147 for 5 in the 36th over and all their hopes resting on skipper Brian Lara. But Lara, trying to boost the run-rate, fell foul of Lee while on

Marlon Samuels then fell to

to be caught and bowled. Lee then trapped Courtney Browne leg before with a yorker and his golden duck left the Windies in deep trouble at 153 for 7 and Lee with another hattrick

opportunity. Again, he came close, striking Ian Bradshaw on the pads with a full delivery, which umpire Steve Davis ruled was missing leg stump.

The win means Australia stays undefeated in the series while the West Indies, yet to record a victory, now face Pakistan in Adelaide on

Both teams are vying for the right to play Australia in the best of three

DFP-966-10/1

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard of the triangular VB Series one-day international between Australia and West Indies at

the Adelaide Oval on Wednesday: AUSTRALIA Clarke b Collins Hayden c Browne b Collins Ponting c Bravo b Collins Symonds c Browne b Hinds Lehmann c Browne b Collins Katich lbw b Collins Haddin b Bravo Hogg c Browne b Bravo

Leenotout Gillespie not out Extras: (lb-3, w-8, nb-6) Total: (For 8 wkts in 50 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-24, 2-24, 3-34, 4-38, 5-85, 6-167, 7-182, 8-196 Did not bat: McGrath

M R W Bowler 0 43 5 Collins 10 Bradshaw 10 45 Dillon 37 6 Hinds 0 25 71 Bravo 10 0 Samuels 10 0 45 WESTINDIES Gayle c Haddin b Lee Hinds c Haddin b Lee

Bravo b McGrath Browne lbw b Lee Bradshaw b Gillespie Dillon b Gillespie Collins not out Extras: (lb-7, w-6, nb-5) Total: (All out in 44.5 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-3, 3-95, 4-110, 5-147, 6-153, 7-153, 8-185, 9-195 Bowler 0 M 10 38 18 McGrath 25 Gillespie Symonds 33 Hogg 25 Lehmann Result: Australia won by 73 runs. Man-of-the-match: Brett Lee.

Umpires: Billy Bowden (New Zealand) and Steve Davis (Australia).

Toss: Australia.

STANDINGS Standings in the limited-overs international VB Series between Australia, West Indies and Pakistan after Australia beat West Indies by 73 runs at

the Adelaide Oval on Wednesday: P W L NR Pts Australia 5 4 0 1 26 Pakistan 2 0 6 4 0 3 1 4 Note: Five points for win, three for a no result, one for a bonus point.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Samuels c Ponting b Lehmann

Office of the Executive Engineer Local Government Engineering Directorate

District: Joypurhat

Sarwan c Haddin b Hogg

Lara candb Lee

Dated: 06/01/2005

Memo No. LGED/EE/Joypur/05/60 Tender Amendment Notice

It is hereby notified for information of all concerned that, under unavoidable circumstances, the following amendment is brought to the tender notice for construction work of (ninety-eight) group under the scheme "Repair of Rural Road and Culvert" invited vide Tender Notice No.-11/2004-2005 Dated: 06/12/2004 of this office.

Serial No	Date, time and place specified in the original notice	Amended date, time and place
01	02	03
01)	Date and time of pre-tender meeting: 16th January/2005, 12.00 Noon, office of the Executive Engineer, Joypurhat	Date and time of pre-tender meeting: 2nd February/2005, 12.00 Noon, office of the Executive Engineer, Joypurhat.
- 02)	Last date and time of selling tender document: 30-01-2005 up to office hours	Last date and time of selling tender document: 14-02-2005 up to office hours.
03)	Last date and time of receiving tender document: 31-01-2005 up to 12.00 Noon	Last date and time of receiving tender document: 15-02-2005 up to 12.00 Noon.
04)	Date and time of opening tender document: 31-01-2005 at 2.00 PM	Date and time of opening tender document: 15-02-2005 at 2.00 PM.

Narayan Chandra Biswas Executive Engineer

Local Government Engineering Directorate District: Joypurhat

UAUF MEFFZ RHUXX W

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I HEARD OF A FINE CARPENTER WHO PROUDLY SAID "ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MY SHELF! Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals R

PG

XEZ

MVEYRU

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.

Last Australian

Davenport, chasing her fourth

serve, but Davenport scored the all-

important break to take an 8-7 lead

down to hold serve and seal victory with a forehand volley. really thought I'd let the match get

But Dechy voiced disappoint-

Davenport, meaning only a smattering of fans bothered to watch. "I feel really disappointed

The 25-year-old Guadeloupe-

"I played her in Sydney and I played really well, even though I lost against her," Dechy said. "I think I can (beat her) because I'm playing much, much better than two weeks