SPÖRT

Federer

finishes Agassi

Roger Federer overwhelmed Andre

Victoria stay in the hunt

AFP, Melbourne

Victoria defeated Tasmania by 114 runs on Sunday to keep their Sheffield Shield cricket season alive ahead of this week's match with

Victoria grabbed the last four Tasmanian wickets for 13 runs to bowl the visitors out for 198 halfway through Sunday's final session and post the victory.

Victoria remain fourth in the standings, but they can make the final by beating Queensland and New South Wales outright in the remaining two matches and hoping both rivals are kept pointless in other matches

It was Victoria's 14th outright victory at the Melbourne Cricket Ground from their past 18 matches

They earned their win the hard way and only broke the back of the Tasmanian resistance by removing former one-day international Michael Bevan, who was headed for a fourth successive century until Shane Warne had him caught at

Bevan's dismissal for 86 -- after 144 in the first innings -- prompted a swift close, as paceman Shane Harwood (3-47) cleaned up the tail with 3-8 in 15 balls.

Gazipur soccer

PRESS RELEASE

Ramchandrapur Eleven of Kaligani defeated Kamra Masak Krira Chakra 3-0 in the final of the Jubo Football TV Cup tournament at the Moishair Kalibari ground in Gazipur on Saturday

Haridevpur Samaj Kalyan Jubo Sangha organised the meet

'Let's work

FROM PAGE 13 sport should offer an olive branch," added Mobasshar.

"The victory is not only for the directors but also for BCB, NSC and the ministry because they all were respondents of the petition," he

Ahmed Sajjadul Alam, Mahmudul Haque Manu, Dewan Shafiul Arefin, Tanjeeb Ahsan Saad, SM Mortaza Rashidi Dara, Enayet Kabir Chanchal, GS Hassan Tamim and Enayet Hussain Siraj were also present at the briefing.

Nobody

FROM PAGE 13 that many good things had happened to the team.

He said that John Wright's decision to leave was entirely his own, and that it may have been prompted by a longing to return home. "I reckon he has been away from his family for a long time. That's what may have prompted the decision. We worked well together but obviiow Jonn nas to go back which I fully understand. We need to move on, and he too needs to move

Who is your

FROM PAGE 13 Pakistan's batting revolves around

ACROSS

1 Upper-

crust

newbie

4 Mexican

8 Binges

often

following

"once"

14 Pennsyl-

15 Muezzins'

towers

17 Exhaust

18 Hoodoo

19 Church

20 Inaugu-

22 Nail tech-

need

24 Baserun

25 The small

29 Blackbird

(grouchy)

script stat

stuff

30 Out of -

31 Coll. tran-

32 Medieval

music-

maker

uals

nician's

ner's goal

rendition

13 Word

12 Pub order

peninsula,

for short

skipper Inzamamul Haq, Yousuf Youhana and Younis Khan.

In Akhtar's absence, the pace attack will be led by Mohammad Sami, Navedul Hasan, Mohammad Khalil and Abdul Razzag are other fast bowlers in the squad.

Sami will be under pressure to deliver as he has been regarded as an under-achiever with just 48 wickets in 18 Tests.

"I hope Sami delivers. He needs to live up to his potential, but others also should contribute," said

by Arshad Khan and Shahid Afridi.

Inzamam. Danish Kaneria is the key spinner in the side and will be supported

35 Baton

36 Author

37 Saunter

40 Hoose-

41 Not up

42 Theseus

46 Paddock

"Blue

Eagle

49 Ollie's

DOWN

1 TVA

structure

Solution time: 25 mins.

47 MPs'

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Cleveland

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5 Pinnacle

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(Abbr.)

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period

Little, e.g.

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banker in

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Dogg's

45 Snoop

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to Rover

26 Unknow-

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer



Action from the Federation Cup football clash between Agrani Bank and Dhanmondi at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

'India in for a big shock'

Cricket

AFP, Karachi

Pakistan captain Inzamamul Haq has fired the first salvo ahead of an away cricket series against India, saying his young team could spring a big surprise on the hosts.

The Inzamam-led side was at the receiving end a year ago when India clinched both the Test and one-day series on their first full tour of Pakistan in nearly 15 years.

"India will be under pressure at home," Inzamam told AFP ahead of the team's departure for India on Monday for three Test matches and six one-day internationals.

"We lost the home series last ear, now it could be India's turn to ose a home series," he said.

The much-anticipated series, Pakistan's first in India since 1999, is also a personal challenge for Inzamam who has often been criticised for being too soft and passive as captain.

As the tourists were thrashed by formidable Australia in all three Tests earlier this season, Inzamam came under fire for missing two of the Tests due to injury

But if he regains his fitness, the Pakistani skipper is set to achieve a nilestone in the third and final Test in Bangalore where he will make his 100th Test appearance.

"We can beat India in India provided we remain mentally strong and play as a team, because team spirit will be a deciding factor," he said.

Inzamam, who turns 35 on March 3, five days before the first Test starts in Mohali on March 8, also has a chance to prolong his international career with an impressive show in India. "It's a huge challenge for the

team as well as me." said Inzaman.

reminded of Pakistan's victories in two of the three Tests on the last tour of India in 1999. "I remember what those wins did

for Wasim Akram, who was under pressure before that 1999 tour. The victories did a world of good to him. "Hopefully it will be the same for

But Inzamam knows his current team is not as strong as Akram's

but the current players have learnt a lot in the past year, especially in Australia," said Inzamam, who took over as captain in 2003. "Despite being young, they are

"We then had a very mature team

talented and if they keep a professional approach and stick to the basics they can achieve glory. Playing India is always a challenge, but it's a challenge for India too."

Regarded as one of the world's leading batsmen with 7,052 Test and 10.631 one-day runs, Inzamam knows he needs to lead from the front. "I know I have a duty as a bats-

man also. I know how important it is to score big in India," said Inzamam, who managed just 93 in two Tests in He hoped his bowlers would

make up for the absence of paceman Shoaib Akhtar, who pulled out of the series with a hamstring injury. "It would have been nice to have Akhtar, but since he is injured it's the responsibility of back-up bowlers to

deliver the goods," he said. "Cricket is a team game, so all 11 players have to contribute.'

gipura-ppu Laxman should bat at

first drop despite struggling for

well when he has gone as number

three." he said.

at number three."

Azharuddin added.

starting on Thursday.

Azharuddin opined.

strong now."

receive life bans.

centuries.

FROM PAGE 13

SOUTHAFRICA

Kingsmead on Sunday:

Morkel c Taibu b Mpofu

Gibbs c and b Rogers

Kemp not out

Boucher not out

Extras: (lb-8, w-16)

201.5-256.6-288

Panyangara 3.4

Masakadza 7.2

Matsikenyeri

Bowler

Mpofu

Ewing

Utseya

Prince c Williams b Mpofu

"Laxman has always played

"Lower down the order, a lot of

As well as spinners Harbhajan

pressure is on him and if I were the

captain, I would have played him

four pacemen to choose from after

naming Ashish Nehra,

Lakshmipathy Balaji, Irfan Pathan

"All the four pace bowlers

Pakistan, minus injured pace-

man Shoaib Akhtar, are due to

arrive in India on Monday ahead of

their first warm-up match against

the Indian Board President's XI

"Shoaib Akhtar's absence in

"He may get a wicket or two but

the Pakistani side is not going to

make much of a difference,"

he has to be more consistent.

Also, the Indian batting is very

Pakistani Salim Malik and the late

Hansie Cronje of South Africa also

In 99 Tests for India from 1984

to 2000. Azharuddin scored 6.215

runs at an average of 45 with 22

international against Zimbabwe at

Smith c Masakadza b Rogers 117

Rudolph c Utseya b Masakadza 7

Total: (For 6 wkts in 50 overs) 329

Did not bat: Boje, Hall, Langeveldt.

6

ZIMBABWE: Taibu, Matsikenyeri,

Rogers, Masakadza, Maregwede,

Taylor, Ewing, Williams,

Umpires: Billy Doctrove (West

Indies) and Brian Jerling (South

Panyangara, Utseya, Mpofu.

0

39

Fall of wickets: 1-49, 2-57, 3-67, 4-

53

24

0

Bacher c sub (Mupariwa) b Mpofu18

Smith sets SA

Azharuddin maintains his

and Zaheer Khan in the 14-mar

deserve to get into the team,

Azhar bats for Kaif

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

India were wrong to leave Mohammad Kaif out of their squad for the first Test against Pakistan, according to former captain Mohammad Azharuddin. Azharuddin, serving a life ban for

batsman deserves another chance. "Kaif batted very well against Australia on a tough wicket." Azharuddin told BBC Sport.

"He's got a lot of talent and I am sure he cannot be held back. His omission is not good for his confi-

Kaif scored two fifties in last year's home series loss to the Aussies, while Yuvraj Singh failed badly against the same opponents yet was given a squad berth for

Azharuddin reckons Van-



innocence despite his central involvement in the match-fixing scandal of 2000 which saw

Mohammedan Sporting Club general secretary Lokman Hossain (C) takes questions from reporters during a press conference at the club pavilion

GLAQKZHHOA

AOWOPNOMW JDMWLZMOP DM WGO IGOKQ

ID Z WYPMOA WGO WZAO Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF I PURCHASED A COW AT MARKEŤ, I SÚPPOSE I WOULD MILK IT FOR ALL IT'S WORTH. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals E

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

ing 25 off two overs.

Kang captures **Horlics** golf title

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Trophy Golf Tournament at the Bhatiary Golf and Country Club (BGCC) on Saturday.

GOC of the 24th Infantry Division Major General Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan inaugurated the tournament, which featured 120 players from home and abroad, including nine lady golfers.

BGCC president and Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury gave away prizes among the winners in the evening. Azimuddin Ahmed, chairman of tournament sponsors Mutual Food Products Linited, also addressed

Tapan Mitra Chowdhury

Bowl beamers, get sued

Cricket

Agassi in only 52 minutes as he AFP, Wellington extended his record to 19 wins out of 20 this year and remained on course New Zealand cricket coach John for his third title of the year at the Bracewell warned Sunday that Dubai Open. Federer also hit some-Australian speedster Brett Lee thing like his best form for the first risked being taken to court if he time this week, winning 6-3, 6-1, a continued to fire down beamers. semifinal beating which had Agassi, Bracewell was irked by Lee's the former winner of all four Grand

waist-high full toss to Brendon Slam titles, cooing in admiration. McCullum in the third one-day inter-In Sunday's final, he will take on national in Auckland on Sunday. Croatia's Ivan Ljubicic, the man he A furious McCullum confronted beat to take the Rotterdam title last Lee mid-pitch after being struck on

the arm, and while the incident was "I could have made a few more later resolved with an apology, second serve returns and a few less Bracewell was not happy. errors, but this was more about him, "It is the fourth time this season not me, out there tonight," said that he's beamed one of our guys.

Tuffey shown

cricket this summer, taking 18 wickets at an average of 17.55 and 3.59 runs per over.

Tuffey was omitted after he delivered a 14-ball first over -- it included four wides and four no balls -- and wasn't required after conced-

Andre Adams was ruled out with the after effects of a virus while allrounder Scott Styris was again sidelined with a knee injury.

SQUAD

Stephen Fleming (captain), Nathan Astle, Craig Cumming, Hamish Marshall, James Marshall, Craig McMillan, Chris Cairns, Brendon McCullum, Daniel Vettori, Jeff Wilson, Kyle Mills, Lance Hamilton.

JK Kang won the Horlics 15th CAS

BGCC senior vice-president and

OTHER RESULTS

Runner-up: CH Moon, Second Runner-up: Mohsin Ahmed, Ladies' Winner: Shirin Ispahani, Senior Winner: SJ Nizam, Ladies' Runner-up: Dr Caroline Bower, Best Front Nine: Liagat Ali Chowdhury, Best Back Nine: Captain Intighab Ahmed Chowdhury, Longest Drive: Yasar Rahman, Nine Hole Winner: MA Salam and Nearest to Pin: Lt Col a precedent for cricket if he seriously injured someone with a beamer on Australian soil.

He cited the recent case involving rugby league star Jarrod McCracken, who successfully sued



BRETT LEE

the Melbourne Storm club and players Steve Kearney and Marcus Bai for damages after his career was ended by a spear tackle.

"I think it's going to be more

the Jarrod McCracken call, if it does hit somebody," Bracewell

"That's Australia law, the precedent's been set there which is pretty dangerous for your country not mine," Bracewell said, noting New Zealand has an accident compensation system in place to cover

sports injuries. Lee, who took two for 24 off seven overs on Saturday and cracked Michael Papps on the head with a bouncer, forcing him to retire hurt, was contrite afterwards. He said the heavy dew caused

his feet to shift on delivery stride and he lost control against McCullum. "Unfortunately the ball came out

and it hit him, thank God it didn't hurt him," Lee said. "I know when I was beamed accidentally by Razzaq (during the

recent tri-series) your first impres-

"He (McCullum) lost it there for 15-20 seconds and I went up and apologised and said 'I would never

sion is to go crazy.

Qatar Open Sharapova's

Tennis

he's done it," Bracewell said.

That's a lot of apologies.'

Chris Harris, and Paul Wiseman,

and he's apologised twice to

Brendon. I'm not sure if he apolo-

gised to (Pakistan's Abdur) Razzaq.

AFP, Doha

Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova fought back in style to beat Alicia Molik and clinch the WTA Qatar Open crown here on Saturday.

The Russian second seed prevailed over the Australian fourth seed 4-6, 6-1, 6-4 in an intense final to claim the 94,000 dollar top prize and jump to number three in the WTA rankings.

The reigning Wimbledon champion thus extended her domination over Molik to three wins from four encounters

However, it was the first time that Sharapova had beaten Molik in a final, the Australian having won the title when they met for the title in Zurich in 2004. Molik, who had shocked the top seeded Amelie Mauresmo of France

in the semifinals on Friday,

appeared to have carried her form

into the final when she broke the

Siberia-born Sharapova in the third

game of the first set and went on to But Sharapova hit back with such ferocity that Molik's game fell apart as the Russian raced to an unassail-

able 5-0 lead in the second set Molik, whose power had proven decisive against Mauresmo, found herself at the receiving end of things as Sharapova broke her with an array of powerful groundstrokes in the second game and never looked back.

Sharapova, who had won the Pan Pacific Open in Japan earlier this month before missing the Paris Indoor Open, broke through in the fifth game of the third set and then held her serve to lead 4-2.

Molik then retained her serve to close the gap at 3-4 but Sharapova held on to her serve and then finished off the match with an ace after saving a break point in the 10th

was always positive," said Sharapova

"In the first set I was not playing my own game, but in the second I decided to put some pace on the ball and put pressure on her serve and



Russian Maria Sharapova plays forehand against Australian Alicia Molik at the Qatar Open final on Saturday.

Sharapova said the key to her that worked." victory was her positive approach after losing the first set.

"She (Alicia) was dictating terms

to me in the first set but in my mind I

Ezaz c Samimul

Sharapova said she will head to Los Angeles to be with her mother and take some rest after her hectic recent schedule.

Shahin, Mehrab star on draw day

fours and a six. He and fellow opener Hasibul Haque (54) put on 114 runs as Svlhet were off to a flier after Raishahi had declared their second innings for 257 for 9 setting the visitors an improbable 304-run target.

But Sylhet's middle order could not carry on the good work. Only defiant knocks from Bangladesh paceman Tapash Baishva (40). Sadigur Rahman and Rezaul Haque enabled them to hold on. Sadiq and Rezaul were both

unbeaten with 34 and added 69 runs for the seventh wicket. Rajshahi's Anisur Rahman picked up three wickets for 64.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboards on the fourth and final day of the four-day matches of the National Cricket League

yesterday: RAJSHAHI-SYLHET RAJSHAHI: First innings 299 SYLHET: First innings 253 RAJSHAHI: Second innings (overnight 217-5) Jahurul c Forhad c Rahman b а р а S 11 Anisur 47 out Naeem r u n 50 out Hasanuzzaman c abil b Mashud c Babel b а S b u 13 26 out а Nabil Extras: (b-9, nb-1, w-Total: (For 9 wkts in 96 overs,

257 Fall of wkts: 1-17, 2-108, 3-188, 4-196, 5-199, 6-224, 7-237, 8-252, 9-257 **Bowlers** Tapash Rezaul 23 8 Hasibul 40 18 25

Nabil 60 Parvez 18 Şadikur **SYLHET**: Second innings Rezaul Extras: (b-1, lb-2, w-1, penal-12

32

Şumon

Shuvo

Anisur Mashud 10 0 Result: Match drawn.

KHULNA: First innings 153 DHAKA: First innings 307 KHULNA: Second innings 415 DHAKA: Second innings Mehrab Jr b Monjurul Anwar c Asadullah b Mashrafee Mehrab Sr c Mashrafee b Monjurul

Jahangir Ibw b Mashrafeg Sazzad c Salim b Sadat Mahmud c Jamaluddin b Monjurul Sunny n o t Niamur c Salim b Mashrafee

Shah



Winners of the Horlicks 15th CAS Trophy golf tournament are seen with Chief of Army Staff Lt. Gen. Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury at the Bhatiary Golf Club in Chittagong on Saturday.