

Iran to stage Eves' Islamic Games

BSS, Dhaka
A six-member Bangladesh team, comprising four athletes will take part in the Fourth Women Islamic Games in Iran next September.

Murali might

FROM PAGE 13
was unlikely to be fit in time to play the two Test matches in Napier (April 4-8) and Wellington (April 11-15), Clarke said.



Players and officials of Muktiyoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra pose prior to departure for Kolkata yesterday to play Indian giants East Bengal in a first round away leg AFC Cup match.

Sami raring to go



AFP, Mohali

Pakistan's Mohammad Sami said Monday he is relishing bowling in the first Test against India on a seaming pitch -- conditions he believes will help him atone for last year's series loss.

"At the back of the mind there is a realisation that I did not do well against India when we lost at home. So I want to atone for that," said Sami, who managed just seven wickets in three Tests last year.

Independence

FROM PAGE 13
Next day, Abahani will launch their campaign against Youngmen's Club Fakirpool and Brothers Union play their first match against Farashganj Sporting Club.

The unresolved

FROM PAGE 13
He has already claimed 189 wickets in 43 Tests and is improving with every match.

Emphatic win for Ctg

FROM PAGE 13
The visitors, facing a 197-run first-innings deficit, resumed the final day comfortably placed at 127-3 and stretched that to 437-8.

Barisal used as many as eight bowlers to break the partnership and finally, wicketkeeper Shahin Hossain removed the two centurions when he took the cherry.



Phil Simmons

(Zimbabwe cricket coach)
"There was no talk about taking them out of Test cricket. It happens, teams get bowled out. If I didn't believe this team had the potential to improve I wouldn't be in this job."

Home away from home

FROM PAGE 13
Indian city of Ambala," said Ruqqaya, 65, who migrated to Pakistan with her parents at the time of partition.

my relatives," added Ruqqaya, who was travelling from her home in the eastern Pakistani city of Lahore.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer
ACROSS
1 Upper limit
4 Exchange
8 Walton and "so few"

DOWN
1 Spring wind?
3 Babe, I love you
5 Count counter-part
6 Jam ingredient?

CRYPTOQUIP
TZPH IWJXLYPO CJXIZE
WPNVLXWEP VJHPC JTPO, N
EXRRJEP IZJEP SWP
OPYNHDXPHI RSCVPHIE.

Sania climbs

INTERNET SOURCE, undated

Teenage sensation Sania Mirza has jumped up by 20 places to move to a career-best 77 in the latest WTA Tour tennis rankings following her quarterfinal appearance in the Dubai Open and is set to become only the fourth tennis player to have a signature line of her own.

SERIE A

Adriano breaks duck



AP, Rome

Inter Milan beat Lecce 2-1 on a late penalty kick by Brazilian Adriano, and Sampdoria downed Chievo 1-0 on a lucky deflection by Andrea Gasbarroni on Sunday to stay near the top of the Serie A standings.

needed an 89th-minute penalty to sink Lecce. Adriano, bandaged but still bleeding from a head injury, netted Inter's winner from the penalty



Inter Milan ace Adriano points to the heavens after scoring the winning goal against Lecce at the San Siro Stadium in Milan on March 6.

spot, his 15th goal this season, ending a scoring drought of nearly three months.

On Saturday, AC Milan beat last-place Atalanta 2-1 on an injury-time goal by playmaker Andrea Pirlo, and Juventus won 2-1 at AS Roma on disputed goals by Fabio Cannavaro and Alessandro Del Piero.

TOP SIX
Italian league table after Sunday's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points):

SL seek to hold SAF Games in April 2006

BSS, Dhaka

Sri Lanka wants to stage the 10th South Asian Games, the biggest sports extravaganza in South Asia, from April 18-28 next year.

PREVIEW: FIRST KNOCKOUT ROUND LEG 2

England against Europe



REUTERS, London

A week of misery lies in store for English football if AC Milan, Barcelona and Bayern Munich have their way in this week's Champions League first knockout round.

Bremen. Real Madrid's pursuit of a 10th European crown continues at the Delle Alpi stadium in Turin, where the Spaniards' 1-0 first-leg lead faces a demanding test from Juventus.

Six years after a famous United semi-final victory at Juventus paved the way to their 1999 Champions League title, Rooney and Van Nistelrooy know what is expected of them.

Milan's defence kept United striker Wayne Rooney and substitute Ruud van Nistelrooy firmly under wraps in a 1-0 victory at Old Trafford, while Barcelona ran out 2-1 winners over 10-man Chelsea at the Nou Camp.

Carlo Ancelotti's side were impressive at Old Trafford and Argentine striker Hernan Crespo, on loan from Premier League leaders Chelsea, rounded off a great night for the visitors by scoring after a bad fumble by United goalkeeper Roy Carroll.

Chelsea, whose Russian owner Roman Abramovich has lavished 220 million pounds (\$420 million) on players since July 2003, would settle for a 1-0 victory at Stamford Bridge and a place in the last eight on away goals.

Ronaldinho predicts English doom



AFP, London

Barcelona striker Ronaldinho claims all four English clubs will be eliminated from the Champions League this week.

think any of the English sides will do it. Barca will look to protect their 2-1 lead from the first leg at the Nou Camp, in which they trailed until the game turned after Didier Drogba's dismissal.

Ronaldo is the best, says coach

AFP, Madrid

Ronaldo earned himself a pat on the back from coach Wanderley Luxemburgo after the Brazilian World Cup winner spectacularly ended his two-month goal drought for Real Madrid.

BFF goes

FROM PAGE 13

the BFF was embarking on an ambitious plan even though they have to arrange the bulk of the expenses from local sources for the two coaches and the fitness trainer.



Chief Executive Officer of Standard Chartered, Bangladesh, Osman Morad (C) is seen with four athletes of Bangladesh Army (wearing track suits) who took part alternately in a four-leg marathon competition titled Greatest Race on Earth, which was sponsored by the internationally-reputed bank. The race was held in four cities -- Nairobi, Singapore, Mumbai and Hong Kong.