# for first time

AFP, Wellington

New Zealand's Marshall brothers were named as the first identical twins to ever play Test cricket Wednesday after Black Caps selectors lost patience with the struggling opening partnership of captain Stephen Fleming and Craig

Fleming was moved down the order to bat at number four for the third Test against a dominant Australia, while McMillan was dropped in favour of debut batman James Marshall.

James will join his identical twin Hamish, already an established Test batsman, in a first for the fiveday game. Previous Test-playing twins, such as Australia's Waugh brothers, have been fraternal, not

"I'm feeling good mentally at the moment," James said. "I've been hitting the ball well and scoring runs and the selectors have rewarded

The brothers played together in the one-day international series that ended earlier this month with a 5-0 whitewash for Australia. **SQUAD** 

Stephen Fleming (captain), Nathan Astle, Craig Cumming, James Franklin, Hamish Marshall, James Marshall. Chris Martin. Brendon McCullum, Iain O'Brien, Daniel Vettori, Lou Vincent, Paul Wiseman,

### Independence Day Cup kabadi on

**SPORTS REPORTER** 

Bangladesh Army defeated Bangladesh Navy 42-16 in the opening match of the Independence Day Cup kabadi tournament at the Outer Stadium yesterday.

The other match between Bangladesh Rifles and Bangladesh Air Force was abandoned due to heavy rain.

Earlier, State Minister for Liberation War Affairs Rezaul Karim inaugurated the six-team event.

### Barnak beat BAF

**SPORTS REPORTER** 

A hattrick by Sohel helped Barnak Samaj snatch a 4-3 win over Bangladesh Air Force in the Independence Day hockey tournament at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday. Two early goals by Sohel put

Barnak 2-1 ahead in the first half and the striker completed his treble two minutes after the break

Arif added the other for the winners while Russell. Dinse Ali and Mamun scored one goal each for Air

Inter-office v'ball SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka Operation and Maintenance Circle lifted the inter-office volleyball title of Bangladesh Water Development Board defeating Directorate of Accounts by 2-1 sets in the final at Sagardi, Barisal yes-

Mostak Hossain of Dhaka Operation and Maintenance Circle was adjudged player of the 28-team annual event tournament.

Water Resources Minister Hafiz Uddin Ahmed distributed prizes

### Munna's chehlum tomorrow

**SPORTS REPORTER** 

The chehlum of former national football captain Monem Munna, who died on February 12, will be held at the Abahani club premises tomorrow after the Jumma prayers.

A Qurankhwani will be held in the morning while food will be distributed among the poor in the after-

Similar programmes will be held at Munna's Narayanganj residence on Saturday.

Wright makes FROM PAGE 12

The 50-year-old, who became India's first foreign coach in 2000, strung together impressive performances by Sourav Ganguly's men.

This season, India lost the return

series against Australia at home in

October before defeating South

Africa and minnows Bangladesh in

the ongoing Test series, having won

the second Test in Kolkata by 195

coach before another one-day

series in Sri Lanka in July also

batsman, played 82 Tests for New

Zealand between 1977 and 1993

and scored 5,334 runs at an aver-

internationals, making 3,891 runs at

He also featured in 149 one-day

India are leading Pakistan 1-0 in

India will have to find a new

Wright, a left-handed opening

November-December.

featuring the West Indies.

runs on Sunday.

age of 37.82

last year.

India beat Steve Waugh's Australians 2-1 in a home Test series in 2001, qualified for the 2003 World Cup final in South Africa, drew the four-Test series in Australia in 2004 and posted a maiden Test series win in Pakistan in March-April

was really touched."

unknown Inzamam for the 1992 World Cup in Australia.

Inzamam, then 22, justified the

Inzamam, who has so far amassed 7,238 runs in 99 Tests with 20 centuries and 10,631 runs in 336 one-dayers with 10 hundreds replaced Rashid Latif as Pakistan's

captain in 2003. Under Inzamam, Pakistan have won three Tests, lost five and drawn

# Identical twins Chin up Mourinho

Football

AFP, Lisbon

Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho said Tuesday his focus on his job has not been hurt by UEFA's decision to open disciplinary proceedings against him and the London-based club on charges of bringing the game into disrepute.

"My job is to coach, to play, and to try and obtain the best possible results," he told Portuguese television SIC from his home in England.

"At this moment I have to be exactly at this point which is to ignore completely what is going on around me," the Portuguese coach added.

European football's governing body UEFA said Monday in a statement that the action follows comments and statements made by Mourinho and Chelsea after the Champions League game against Barcelona at the Nou Camp on February 23

The last 16 round game was won

Australia's bid to join the Asian

Football Confederation has won the

organisation's backing, president

Mohamed Bin Hamman announced

"The executive committee unani-

mously endorsed the wishes of

Australia to join the AFC," Hamman

said after a committee meeting in

the Oceania Football Confederation

(OFC) to join the AFC in the hope of

making World Cup qualifying easier.

news that the Asian Football

Confederation has endorsed our

wishes to join them," said Football

Federation of Australia chairman

Cricket officials in the Indian capital

are hoping Pakistan President

Pervez Musharraf will bail them out

after municipal authorities refused

permission to stage a high-profile

match at a stadium still under con-

the Indian government, is due to

attend the sixth and final one-day

Pakistan on April 17 at the partially

completed Ferozeshah Kotla sta-

The historic Kotla, one of the

oldest Test venues in India, was

razed to the ground two years ago to

build a state-of-the-art 50.000-

capacity stadium, but delays in

construction and laying a new pitch

in India (BCCI) selected the Kotla as

The Board of Control for Cricket

have frustrated local officials.

Musharraf, on an invitation from

"It is a very positive step and we

"We are very heartened by the

Australia have sought to leave

Football

AFP, Kuala Lumpur

the Malaysian capital.

Cricket

by Barcelona 2-1, and afterwards Mourinho called into question the refereeing and integrity of Swedish official Anders Frisk.

Frisk subsequently said he had received death threats from Chelsea fans and announced he was retiring from refereeing interna-

The UEFA statement said that disciplinary proceedings had been opened against Chelsea, Mourinho, assistant manager Steven Clarke and club security official Les Miles "for making false declarations, notably in the complaint sent by Chelsea FC following the UEFA Champions League match played against FC Barcelona at the Camp

Nou on 23 February 2005.1 The statement added Chelsea had deliberately created "a poisoned and negative ambience amongst the teams and to put pressure on the refereeing officials."

Mourinho said in his interview with SIC that he had been advised by Chelsea's lawyers not to speak about the case to the media until it is

**AFC** welcomes Australia

look forward to meeting with the

AFC president Mohamed bin

Hammam who arrives in Sydney on

Saturday to discuss with us the next

At present, Oceania winners

have to face a South American team

in a two-leg playoff while Asia have

four automatic qualifying berths and

Hamman told reporters. "For the

AFC. Australia has world football

standards and it is an economic

said there had been no objections

from countries such as Japan or

Saudi Arabia, which are among the

more powerful teams in the AFC.

In response to a question, he

"We had representatives from

Japan and Saudi and they are all

welcoming. The arrival of Australia

will increase the image of Asian

football standards and competition.

Delhi on a sticky wicket

"It is beneficial to both of us,"

steps required for our transfer,

Lowy said in a statement.

"I have many thoughts about this issue but at this moment I can't talk,"

Meanwhile, Barcelona coach Frank Rijkaard wants Uefa to punish Mourinho but does not want the Blues thrown out of the Champions

Chelsea could face ejection if Uefa find them guilty of making "unfounded allegations" against Rijkaard and referee Frisk at the Nou Camp. But Rijkaard said: "They should-

n't be forced out as Mourinho's

attitude and that of the club are separate issues. "My objective is that in the future these types of comments are

The UEFA statement said that the disciplinary case would be dealt with by the UEFA Control and Disciplinary Body on March 31.

Chelsea went on to win the second leg 4-2 and qualified for the Champions League quarter-finals where they were drawn against **Bayern Munich** 

AFC secretary-general Peter

"Australia has to resign from the

Velappan added: "After this, there

OFC. Then they have to inform

(world governing body) FIFA and

"All these procedures will take

time. In principal Asia is happy to

have them. Now we just await the

timeframe in order to realise

Australia's national team coach

Frank Farina has said an Asian

solution was needed if the

Australian team was to make it into

the World Cup finals after FIFA

backflipped in 2003 on Oceania

For Australia to play in next

year's World Cup finals in Germany

they must beat the Solomon Islands

and then the vet-to-be-determined

fifth-placed South American team.

having direct entry into the finals.

are a lot of statutory procedures".

then they apply to the AFC."

Australia's wish.'

### Platini thinks he has edge over Kaiser

AFP, Berlin

France legend Michel Platini has spiced up the race for the 2006 UEFA presidency claiming his main rival, West Germany's 1974 World Cup winner Franz Beckenbauer, would have been better going for the post a decade ago.

"Beckenbauer is occupied with the World Cup until 2006 and after that he can do what he likes," Platini told magazine SportBild.

"But it would be a shame if he decided to run in the same year I am standing. He could have put himself forward for the post ten years ago."

France's 1984 European championship hero Platini is ten years younger than the 59-year-old Beckenbauer and hopes his UEFA connections - he is already a member of the executive panel - can help him replace Swede Lennart Johansson in 2006.

Beckenbauer, head of the organising committee for the 2006 World Cup, has long been touted as the next UEFA president and FIFA president Sepp Blatter has already backed the German for the post.

### MCC honours for Stewart, Hussain

AFP, London

Former England cricket captains Alec Stewart and Nasser Hussain have both become honorary life members of Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), the owners of London's Lord's Cricket Ground announced here Tuesday.

Stewart is England's mostcapped cricketer; he played 133 Test matches and 170 one-day internationals before retiring after the final Test of the 2003 series against South Africa.

Hussain represented England in 96 Test matches and 88 one-day internationals: he retired from cricket after hitting a match-winning century against New Zealand at Lord's last May.

Commenting on the news, Stewart said: "It is an honour to be given this recognition by MCC. The Club is the most historic in the world, with a very proud tradition. I am delighted to have been given lifetime membership of MCC."

Hussain said: "I was thrilled to be made an Honorary Life Member. It is the greatest cricketing accolade I could receive.

### Rani runner-up

SPORTS REPORTER

Outgoing champion Rani Hamid finished runner-up in the 26th National Women's Chess Championship which concluded yester-

Rani, a 14-time winner, lost to Nazrana Khan Eva in the 12th and final round at the Chess Federation hall-room. With 7.5 points, the International Woman Master finished behind Shamima Akhter Liza. who had ensured the title in the previous round with 9.5 points.

Play-off matches will be held today to decide the third and fourth positions between Eva and Afroza Khanam Bablee, who are locked on 6.5 points, and for the 5th-7th places among Zakia Sultana, Masuda Begum and Sharmin Sultana Shirin who have earned 4.5 points each.

In other final round games, Zakia beat Shirin. Masuda drew with Saima and Shimmi drew with Anny.

FROM PAGE 12

before tea. Bashar, overnight 20, shared 125 runs for the fourth wicket with Tushar Imran (68). But by the time Bashar completed his century, the game as a contest turned into a mere formality Chittagong, set to score 360 for

win, could bat for only 20 over and scored 44-1 before bad light stopped play.

## A defiant 71 by Towhid Hossain and

stubborn resistance from the Barisal lower-order frustrated Sylhet on the Resuming the day on 187-6, the

ended at 263 with their last wicket pair batting for nearly an hour. Although Sylhet, who scored a massive first-inning total of 478, got

the chance to enforce the follow-on but decided against it in the final Rather the home side did batting

hitting a breezy 55 off 42 balls.

## Dinajpur BDR h'ball champs

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Dinajpur clinched the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) inter-sector handball ournament title beating Mvmensingh 14-10 at Netrakona BĎR training ground on Tuesday.



I'M LISTENING! Brazilian superstar Ronaldo (L) gestures as coach Carlos Alberto Parreira makes a point during a training session in Teresopolis on March 22. Brazil face Peru on March 27 in a World Cup qualifier.

# Parreira backing Ronaldo

REUTERS, Tresopolis



Brazil coach Carlos Alberto Parreira is confident that star striker Ronaldo will soon be back to his best. Ronaldo is having a difficult time

with his Spanish club Real Madrid, but Parreira said: "He just needs time to train and have a few good games." Parreira, speaking as the world

champions began training for Sunday's World Cup qualifier at home to Peru, added: "In a short time, he'll once again be the Ronaldo that everyone knows." Ronaldo has suffered a goal

drought in the last two months, his

loss of form coming amid media reports that he has fallen out with Real coach Vanderlei Luxemburgo. He apologized on Monday for

Ronaldo was being substituted five

throwing a plastic water bottle into the crowd after being verbally abused by fans during Real's 1-0 home win over Malaga the day before. The incident occurred when

minutes from time and had to endure a barrage of whistles as he walked off Parreira said it was natural that Ronaldo, the only Brazil player who

refused to talk to the media on Tuesday, was attracting attention. "He's a celebrity and one of the best-known faces on the planet,"

football, everything he does will have repercussions. He will always be naking news. "I'm going to talk to him. I'm certain

ne will be very important for us." Ronaldinho also gave fellow striker Ronaldo a vote of confidence. "They criticize him but he's still playing well," the Barcelona forward

"As far as I'm concerned, he's still the best in the world. I'm going to try and help him score goals to boost his

Brazil are second in the 10-nation South American qualifying group with 20 points from 11 games. The world champions are also away to Uruguay

# Fischer's journey continues

Parreira said. "While he's playing

Chess

AFP, Tokyo

Former US world chess champion Bobby Fischer, who is set to move to Iceland after eight months' detention in Japan, is widely considered one of the sport's most brilliant

with the greatest Soviet chess In 1972 in Iceland he broke 24

defeating Boris Spassky and tool home a World Championship. Born March 9, 1943, in Chicago the son of a German physicist Robert James Fischer was brought up in Brooklyn, New York, by his

mother after his parents divorced. At the age of six his elder sister introduced him to chess and it swiftly became his one and only

school, deeming it a waste of time, to turn professional. His IQ reportedly was higher than that of Albert Einstein.

and his impressive earnings helped After a poor showing in 1962, he

accused the Soviets of conspiring against him and soon thereafter joined a sect called the Worldwide

49 From

DOWN

1 Mop

square

half time-out to prepare to take on Soviet rivals who had dominated the chess world since 1948. His comeback was triumphant

and his showdown with Spassky at the 1972 World Championships marked the height of his career. After that win, a moment ripe with Cold War symbolism, he disappeared from the chess scene



**BOBBY FISCHER** In 1975 he contested federation rules for the game, and lost his title to the Soviet Anatoly Karpov. For almost 20 years, nothing could lure him back -- neither top-dollar offers nor tough economic times after the sect left him in dire financial straits.

Unpredictable and taciturn, he steered clear of reporters and media and grew increasingly vocal in his denunciations of the United States and of Jews.

In 1992 he jumped back into chess with a "revenge match"

23 Joke

26 Flop

27 Scepter

topper

24 Judge

Lance

against Spassky. The match, that would earn him more than three million dollars, was held in Montenegro, in the former Yugoslavia, despite the UN

After he bagged the prize, US authorities charged him with a transaction in violation of US sanc-

embargo in effect over the Balkan

Fischer travelled often between Europe and Asia, particularly to the Philippines and Japan where he

The one-time American hero grew increasingly vehement in his denunciations of the United States going on Filipino radio on September 11, 2001 to hail the

tried to fly out of Narita airport near Tokyo for Manila on his revoked US

The United States had called on

In detention, his supporters said he became haggard, growing a long beard and losing weight. He was put in solitary confinement for four days earlier this month over a brawl with

guards about an egg. He also became engaged in detention to Miyoko Watai, the head of the Japan Chess Association who said she would move to Iceland

After eight months in limbo and calls from the United States for his

extradition, Iceland on Monday made him a citizen -- setting the stage for him to start a new life.

CRYPTOQUIP

UNLJ RPMXPEXB

J R H N Z E D P X W N J Z L

R UNXJJ EYXL CXVX WP EYX CDMXZXPUEY

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals S 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

# Accolades rain

the start of the match on Thursday to shake hands with Inzamam and Pakistan Cricket Board chairman Shaharyar Khan will present him with a crystal trophy.

Shaharvar. Pakistan's former skipper Imran Khan told Inzamam by telephone from Islamabad that he

batsmen in the world. luck on my 100th Test," Inzamam

"Imran said 'you deserve this and I have always rated you as one of the top three batsmen in the world'. I

captain's faith and gained international fame after scoring a matchwinning 60 off just 37 balls in his team's victory over New Zealand in the semifinal.

Pakistan," said Wagar, who is here

Indian coach John Wright said Inzamam was always a big asset to the game.

try," said Wright.

to score big here and I will do my best," he said. India have a chance to jump to second place behind Australia in the international cricket rankings if they

"I know I am not getting runs. I need

the team, a great thing for Indian cricket. It will be very satisfying," said Ganguly.

Gambhir, Rahul Dravid, Sachin Tendulkar, Venkatsai Laxman Dinesh Karthik, Irfan Pathan, Anil Kumble, Laxmipathy Balaji, Harbhajan Singh. PAKISTAN: Inzamamul Haq (captain), Yasir Hameed, Shahid Afridi,

Younis Khan, Yousuf Youhana, Asim Kamal, Abdul Razzaq, Kamran Akmal, Mohammad Sami, Danish Kaneria, Arshad Khan. Umpires: Billy Bowden (New Zealand) and Simon Taufel (Austra-

### newly-laid turf good enough for international cricket. When the fresh wicket was tested in early-March during a friendly match between lawyers, the

Even if they do, the BCCI pitch

bounce was so low that organisers hurriedly laid out matting so that the game could be played. The pitch inspectors, who carried out a third inspection on Monday, said they were impressed by the

but stopped short of clearing the pitch for the match. "We hope to take a decision by next week," chief pitch inspector

Venkat Sunderam said. India invited Musharraf for one of the matches on Pakistan's first full tour of India in six years after he himself publicly announced his desire to watch cricket in

## a provisional venue for next month's charge of hosting the Pakistan

making the most Test appearance with 124 matches, followed by Wasim Akram (104) and Salim Malik The rival teams will line up before

"Inzamam is a great player who has served the country to the best of his ability. We will honour him on completing 100 Tests," said

had always rated the current captain among the top three "He (Imran) wished me best of

Imran is credited with picking an

Former teammate Waqar Younis described Inzamam as a "great

ambassador of the game" "Inzamam has always been a great teammate and a good friend. wish him luck and hope he plays more Tests than anyone in

as a TV commentator.

'I have always enjoyed Inzamam's batting. He is a big asset to the game and his coun-

## Inzy's 100th

LIKELY TEAMS

clinch the series by a 2-0 margin. "It will be a big achievement for

INDIA: Sourav Ganguly (captain), Virender Sehwag, Gautam

to react after Ujjal's shot came of Farashganj goalie Piru.

one-dayer as the Delhi and District President and we plan to do a very Cricket Association (DDCA) worked good job of it." overtime to finish the stadium in nspectors have not yet declared the The DDCA reduced the capacity

only the lower half of the two-tiered galleries, but municipal authorities efused to budge "Public safety has to be the top priority," Municipal Corporation of

to 30.000 for the match, saving

spectators will be allowed to occupy

Delhi (MCD) chairmam Rakesh Mehta said Wednesday. "No temporary occupancy certifiunder our laws.'

Without the certificate, the DDCA

clearance, a pre-requisite for hosting the match But DDCA officials were confident the one-dayer will go ahead as scheduled.

will not get police and fire safety

"There are ways to get municipal clearance," a DDCA official said without elaborating. "After all, we have been given

# Pollock out of

first WI Test REUTERS, Durban

Shaun Pollock's ankle injury has ruled him out of the first Test against West Indies which starts in Georgetown, Guyana on March 31 The United Cricket Board (UCB) said in a statement that seam bowler Pollock would remain at

The UCB did not name a replace-South Africa leave for the

Caribbean on Wednesday.

Big boys thru

home in Durhan to undergo treat-

ment and a rehabilitation

Liton was tripped in the Youngmen's ABAHANI-FARASHGANJ A pool of water near the western

corner of the ground delayed the

start of the Abahani-Farashganj

match by 90 minutes. When the game finally kicked off, Abahani wasted a golden opportunity to take the lead when Farhad sent a spotkick wide in the 26th minute after he was fouled by rival defender Apu inside the danger

Farashganj, who had held Brothers 2-2 in the group opener

and beat Youngmen's 3-2, had their

chances. But Nigerian striker Felix could not take advantage of a oneto-one situation with Abahani custodian Nizam. The goalkeeper was again in action when he denied Abahani midfielder Zahed failed to pounce on a rebound in the 40th minute but made no mistakes minutes later when he was the first

# Bashar signs off

SYLHET-BARISAL

visitors batted for another 41.3 overs before their first innings

practice in the remaining 34 overs. They scored 119-3 with Alok Kapali

the 21-day tournament.

Twelve sector teams took part in

In 1968 he began a year-and-a-

minds of all time. Known for his strong character, he was a symbol in the United States of the Cold War-era struggle against communism, battling it out

years of Soviet dominance by

passion. At 14. he won junior and senior US Championships before becoming the following year the youngest contender for a world championship. In 1959, he dropped out of

His success as a child prodigy earn him star status

ACROSS

1 Leftovers

recipe

8 Different-

12 Bleacher

raphy

13 Branch

14 "Diff'rent

star

15 Figure-

Strokes

Conrad

skating

compan-

jump

20 Staffers

22 Hostel

23 Light-

device

heartedly

26 "Consarr

it all!

30 Dined

31 Enjoy-

32 Deterio

33 Turned,

ration

as milk

36 Charmer's

snake

38 Clark or

Rogers

**16** Con

choreog-

ites'

5 Biz deg

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer 39 In favor 3 Inces santly 40 Plankton, acetylene 25 Hideaway in part 43 Fast torch traveler? Main Bygone course o study house 6 Boast offering 7 Parisian

In

recession

50 Dandling posited locale 51 "Of 10 Paddock 35 Dutch course papa 52 Singer team-18 Hunter's 53 Straight mates 17 Singer flush. e.a. 54 Prior to 19 Rotation 55 Vortex 21 Listening

Solution time: 21 mins.

duration 22 Saturn 39 Perjuriauto ous 40 Egyptian model 41 Horne or Olin 42 Stefani of 43 "Cheers' supply 44 Oklahoma

city

45 Make

48 Keep

28 Neithe 29 Greek 31 Actress Wray erated South African 36 Massachusetts 37 Highly

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A DOCTOR WAS A GENIUS AT BANDAGING, HE COULD BE CALLED "THE WIZARD OF GAUZE

one's way 46 Vacillate

tions and issued an arrest warrant. often lived for extended periods.

news" and launch an anti-Jewish He was detained in July as he

Japan to hand over Fischer and urged Iceland not to accept him.

with him.