BFF seeks state

Bangladesh Football

Federation (BFF) has sought

cooperation from the State

Minister for Youth and Sports

for the development of coun-

"BFF president Kazi

Mohammad Salahuddin asked

me for financial help for the

District Football Association

(DFA)," State Minister Ahad Ali

Sarker told the reporters after

the BFF boss made a courtesy

call on him at the NSC Tower

mentary standing committee

for Youth and Sports Zahid

Ahsan Russell was present

The State Minister said

that the BFF president also

requested him to lease the

Sylhet BKSP to BFF as a resi-

dential football training

Asked about his immedi-

ate reaction, he said they

would think over the BFF

request and inform BFF in

State Minister Ahad Ali Sarker

reiterated that only the open-

ing ceremony of the 2011

Cricket World Cup would be

held at the Bangabandhu

one or two World Cup 2011

matches in Chittagong," he

"We are trying to arrange

He added: "We sent an

plaints against the present

National Stadium (BNS).

Replying to a question,

during the meeting.

Chairman of the parlia-

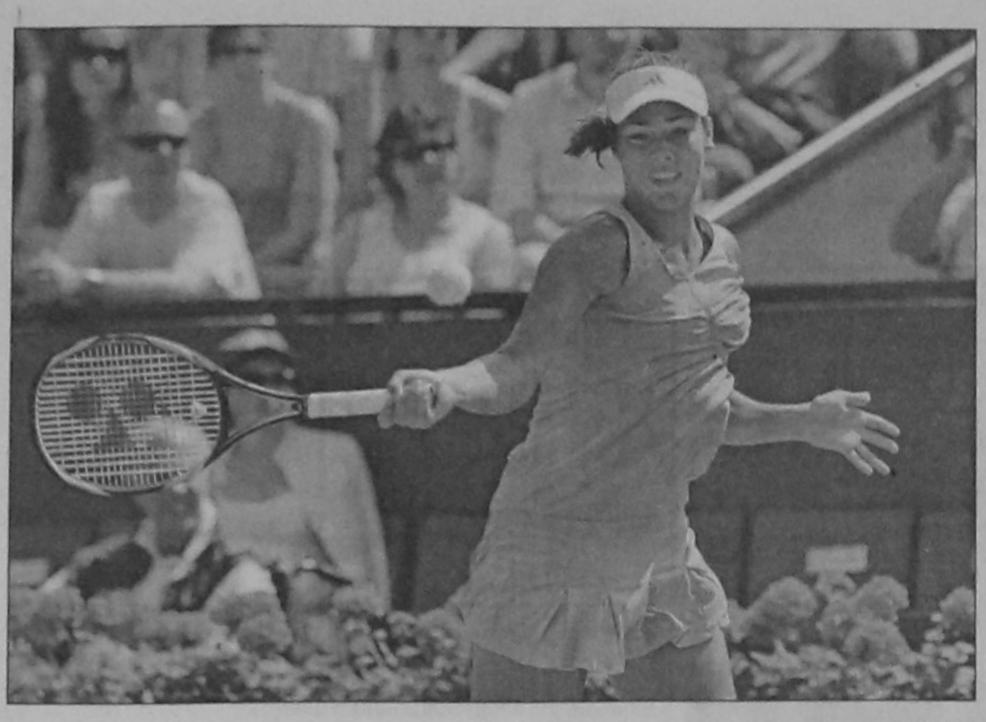
UNB, Dhaka

try's football.

yesterday.

camp.

due course.



Johansson at Wimbledon in 2005, a match the

hip surgery in August last year, will face Andrey

Golubev of Kazakhstan for a place in the third

round where four-time champion Rafael Nadal

11th and last French Open before retiring,

eased past French wildcard Alexandre

lier had the honour of becoming the first player

to reach the second round thanks to a 6-4, 6-2

win over Poland's Marta Domachowska.

Romania's Ioana Raluca Olaru 6-3, 6-2.

Safin, a semifinalist in 2002 and playing his

China's Li Na, the women's 25th seed, ear-

The 26-year-old Li now meets Switzerland's

Li was quickly joined in the next round by

promising Russian 17-year-old Anastasia

Pavlyuchenkova, the 27th seed, who eased past

Diatchenko, the world 151, reduced Mathilde

Johansson, one of a record 19 Frenchwomen in

the draw, to a tearful wreck after a three-hour 2-

of which were squandered on double faults.

Eighteen-year-old Russian qualifier Vitalia

Johansson wasted eight match points, four

Diatchenko, making her Grand Slam debut,

Later Sunday, men's third seed Andy Murray

match of the tournament.

Somehow they both ended up

around for Deccan after end

ing at the bottom of last year's

Bangalore, but it's far better

than their own performance

in the first edition who fin-

DECCAN CHARGERS: 143-6

in 20 overs (Gibbs 53*

Symonds 33, Sharma 24;

ROYAL CHALLENGERS

BANGALORE: 137-9 in 20

overs (Merwe 32, Taylor 27;

Ojha 3-28, Symonds 2-18,

Result: Deccan Chargers won

Man-of-the-final: Anil

ished just above Deccan.

BRIEFSCORES

Kumble 4-16)

Singh 2-23)

by six runs.

Kumble.

Tendulkar, in more trying Orange Cap: Matthew

It was a brilliant turn-

will face either world number one Dinara

Safina or Britain's Anne Keothavong for a place

faces Argentina's Juan Ignacio Chela, a former

quarter-finalist, while 2004 champion Gaston

Gaudio takes on Czech 18th seed Radek Stepanek.

winning.

It was easy to not spare a IPL and the defeat would hurt

Hewitt, now ranked 50 and who underwent

Swedish player also lost.

is a likely opponent.

Sidorenko 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

Timea Bacsinszky.

6, 6-2, 10-8 win.

in the third round.

Deccan charge

Serbia's Ana Ivanovic plays a forehand against Italy's Sara Errani during the French Open first round match at Roland Garros in Paris yesterday.

Ivanovic battles thru'

Tennis

AFP, Paris

Defending champion Ana Ivanovic was made to sweat before reaching the French Open second round on Sunday with a gruelling 7-6 (7/3), 6-3 win over Italy's Sara Errani as Roland Garros temperatures hit a sweltering 30 degrees.Ivanovic, who skipped the Madrid Open because of a knee injury, had the problem area taped when she walked onto a sundrenched Philippe Chatrier Court, but it didn't hinder her in the early exchanges as she edged to a 3-1 advantage.

The 44th-ranked Italian then stormed back to lead 5-4, but once she had squandered an opportunity to serve for the first set in the 10th game, her fight steadily melted away.

The 21-year-old Serbian will play either Thai veteran Tamarine Tanasugarn or Camille Pin of France for a place in the third round.

Meanwhile, Lleyton Hewitt and Marat Safin, both former world number ones and with two Grand Slam titles each, began their campaigns with victories.

Hewitt survived a world record 55-ace barrage from giant Croatian Ivo Karlovic to claim a 6-7 (1/7), 6-7 (4/7), 7-6 (7/4), 6-4, 6-3 win which lasted almost four hours and left his opponent needing treatment for dehydration.

It was the fifth time in his career that the 28year-old Australian, twice a quarterfinalist in Paris, had come back from a two-set deficit.

Tigers fly

orderly," added Rasel.

"I remember that we were

the first team to land in the

West Indies for the 2007 World

Cup and it is the same here. I

like the look of the team. It is

now the responsibility of the

guys who had been in that

World Cup to spread the vibe

and revive the spirit that saw

us beat India and South

Africa. We have India here too

and it would be so good to

repeat the Trinidad perfor-

Belfry is a Tudor style man-

sion set in the countryside of

Oxfordshire and took about

45 minutes to reach from the

airport. It is just beside the

M40 motorway and is located

far from the hustle and bustle

practice games against New

Zealand on May 26 and

Scotland on May 29at the

travel to neighboring Kent on

May 28 for a match with the

Netherlands. These three

games are outside the official

practice-match schedule for

the tournament and have

and England Cricket Board.

In-between, Bangladesh

Wormsley Cricket Ground.

The Tigers will play two

The team hotel, the Oxford

mance," said Shakib.

of city life.

FROM PAGE 17

Karlovic's ace-count was a world record,

FROM PAGE 17

back Vinay Kumar. A dot ball,

and a wicket, and the batsmen

crossed, which meant

Uthappa would be away from

thought for Anil Kumble, who

spent most of the last over at

the non-striker's end and saw

his dream crash. Kumble

celebrated like a teenager but

bowled like the veteran cham-

pion he is, and kept Deccan

He dismissed Gilchrist, then

came back in the ninth to take

Symonds. That wicket was

crucial because he had been

the 17th over to break a dan-

gerous 52-run partnership

between Rohit Sharma and

Playing a bizarre innings,

overs for 53, much like Sachin Singh.

conditions, had in the first Hayden.

Kumble again came on in

dropped on five by Dravid.

down to a manageable target.

Brothers SPORTS REPORTER

10-star Pabna

Pabna Brothers Union racked up the biggest victory in the Basundhara Champions Club Cup football so far with a 10-0 demolition of Alor Dishari at the Rajshahi Stadium yester-

The ten include a hattrick scored by Ravi within 27 minutes in the second half, two goals from Abul and Riyad, and one each by Saikat, Sagar and Subrata.

Across the country, Young Star (Moualavi Bazar), Young Tigers (Habiganj), Chittagong Mohammedan, Ghagra Sporting (Sherpur), Funtosh Sporting (Rangpur), BBS (Narail), Shariatpur Upazila, Bhai-Bhai Sporting (Chandpur), Biplab Sangha (Gazipur), Moral Sangha (Nilphamari) and Banga Moni (Chuadanga) won their respective matches while Jamalpur Mohammedan drew 2-2 with Ukilpara Sporting Club of Kishoreganj.

The game between Kirtan beating the previous best of 51 set by Joachim | Khola of Barisal and Jhalakathi's Titas Club did not end as the Jhalakathi side refused to play upon the referee's decision to award Kirtan Khola a penalty in the 14th minute. The referees waited for another 15 minutes and left the Barguna Stadium.

Expat booters for B. League

SPORTS REPORTER

British-Bangladeshi footballers are set to try out for next season's B. League teams, according to the founder chief executive of Britain-based London Tigers organisation.

Mesba Ahmed, who is part of a British-Muslim delegation visiting the country, informed this at a discussion meeting with Abahani players and officials at their clubhouse yesterday. Mesba is accompanied by writer Rabina Khan, television personalities Konnie Huq and Tasnim Lucia Khan, Mohammad Bilal Abdullah and Abdul Quayam Khalique.

He informed that the footballers would be sent ahead of the country's only professional competition.

Mesba also informed that he is ready to help clubs in Bangladesh develop a youth

"The youth are not respected. It's important that they get to play matches. Just give them a ground and they'll develop themselves without even technical help," said Mesba, who developed the first Bangladeshi-run semiprofessional football club in West London.

Tasnim, a BBC Three news presenter, pitched the idea of televising football talent hunts. "I worked with Aston Villa four years ago and they showed the trial on television. It's something like Pop Idol, it can be called Football Idol," she said.

Abahani captain Arif Khan Joy, Biplob Bhattacharya and Shahajuddin Tipu were present among others.

from today

National School Football Championship will kick off today with two matches on the opening day at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Narayanganj's Laxminarayan Cotton Mill School take on Netrakona's Dutta High School the first game at 4:00 pm while Nasirabad School face Gobindaganj High School at 6:00 pm in the inaugural day's

The preliminary round was

Abahani and Brothers Union grounds are the two other

place on June 1 and the final is scheduled for June 3 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. Education Minister Nurul

Islam Nahid will inaugurate the final round competition as

Carlo keeps FROM PAGE 20

"If I had to express myself in terms of a percentage, I'd say 100 percent I'll stay at Milan next season as well.

"There has been a great feeling between myself and the team over the last eight years and here we're still talking, especially with the club.

coach wouldn't survive for so long in Italy." Ancelotti joined Milan as

and a Serie A title.

Openers worry Sachin BFF seeks state minister's help

CRICINFO, undated



Sachin Tendulkar has stressed the need for adequate rest for Indian Twenty20 in June, particularly so for the openers

Virender Sehwag and Gautam Gambhir, who failed to fire in the IPL. Tendulkar was by and large satisfied with the way Indian players performed in the IPL but pointed out that Sehwag and Gambhir had not been consistent. The pair only managed two half-century partnerships in nine innings together, and struggled with their form. Both batsmen were among the top ten run-getters last season, but Gambhir finished with a disappointing average of 22 from 15 games this year, and Sehwag with

"I think individually the boys are doing well," Tendulkar said upon arrival in India. "Look at Rohit Sharma, Yuvraj Singh, Suresh Raina, MS [Dhoni]... In the bowling department, Zaheer was doing well before he got injured and RP Singh has come up in leaps and bounds.

"Only our opening combination of Gautam Gambhir and Virender Sehwag hasn't fired,"

Tendulkar said. "I think the key would be how soon they can shed the fatigue factor. They have been playing back to back for a long time now

and it would be difficult to keep up the tempo." The World Twenty20 is scheduled to begin on players ahead of the World June 5 and India face Bangladesh in their first league game the next day. Asked if the IPL served as an ideal preparation for the tournament, Tendulkar said: "... It is. You are playing the same format and you are playing against the best bowlers and also not in home conditions. So, I think this is a good preparation except that the players should take adequate rest between the IPL and the ICC World Twenty 20."

Tendulkar was also sure he didn't intend to represent India in the Twenty20 format. "I never thought that I would play the ICC World Twenty20. MS Dhoni and his Twenty20 team have done wonderfully well and I just hope they continue to do so. I have no plans to play T20 for India," he said.

Tendulkar led an unsuccessful campaign as captain of Mumbai Indians, losing eight out of 14 games, and failing to make it to the semifinals. "We blew hot and cold," he said about his team's performance. "There were times when we could have done better than we did. I think it is a batsman's format and in our case it was the batsmen who let us down."

England thrash WI Akhtar addicted

FROM PAGE 17 nipped back.

He then had Denesh Ramdin lbw and, after Jerome Taylor was run out, bowled Kieron Pollard middle stump.

Broad came back to end the innings by dismissing tailenders Sulieman Benn and Ravi Rampaul.

The series concludes at Edgbaston on Tuesday. **SCOREBOARD**

Scoreboard of the second oneday international between West Indies and England at County Ground in Bristol on Sunday

WESTINDIES Gayle b Swann Simmons lbw b Broad Sarwan c Prior b Broad Chanderpaul c Strauss b Bresnan 27 Bravo b Collingwood Ramdin lbw b Collingwood 8 Pollard b Collingwood Taylor run out Sammynotout Benn c Bopara b Broad Rampaul c Swann b Broad Extras: (b-2, lb-7, w-5) Total: (All out in 38.3 overs) 160

Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-7, 3-44, 4-107, 5-128, 6-131, 7-134, 8-150, 9-153, 10-160. 19 26

O M RW Bowler 46 4 Broad Swann 0 24 Mascarenhas 0 20 Collingwood 6 0 16 3

ENGLAND Strauss c Sammy b Taylor Bopara Ibw b Bravo Prior c Gayle b Sammy Shah run out Collingwood not out

Morgan not out Extras: (lb-9, w-6, nb-1) Total: (For 4 wkts in 36 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-31, 2-61, 3-81, 4-157.

Did not bat: Mascarenhas, Bresnan, Broad, Swann Anderson.

Bowler Taylor 29 Rampaul 15 Sammy 17 0 Pollard Result: England won by six

series 1-0. Man-of-the-match: Paul Collingwood. Toss: England Umpires: Asoka de Silva (SRI)

and Peter Hartley (ENG) TV umpire: Ian Gould (ENG) Match referee: Andy Pycroft (ZIM)

BFF training

FROM PAGE 17 act as a manager of the team

from next month as Imtiaz Sultan Jhonny requested to release himself from the post.

to pain-killers?

INTERNET, undated

Controversial fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar's prolonged fitness problems maybe primarily due to his addiction to strong pain-killers.

According to the sources privy to the Pakistan cricket camp, Akhtar is so addicted to pain-killing injections that it seems he cannot live without it.

"He (Akhtar) is addicted to strong pain-killers and it seems he can't live without them," The News quoted the

source, as saying. He also revealed that Akhtar virtually begged for a particular pain killer during the recent one-day series against Australia in the UAE.

wickets and lead three-match for a particular pain-killing injection during the tour of UAE that he almost begged a local doctor for it. The doctor, however, told him that he would risk being thrown out of UAE if he is administered that injection," he said.

during the whole series and failed to bowl his quota of ten overs in any of the five games of the series.

PCB had initially selected Akhtar for the World Twenty20 championship, but later axed him from the 15-man squad after the pacer developed a 'mysterious' skin disease.

official letter to Bangladesh Cricket Board conveying our decision so that the BCB can communicate the matter with International Cricket

Council (ICC)." Replying to a question on the dissolution of the present Hockey Federation commit-"Akhtar was so desperate tee, the Sports Minister said: "We received some com-

committee, but we are yet to reach a decision." Twenty20 Akhtar looked out of sorts meet begins

It may be noted that the

The Igloo Summer Twenty20 Cricket Challenge will begin today at the Dhanmondi Club ground in the city. Eight teams including

today

SPORTS REPORTER

three clubs, four universities and an academy team will take part in the tournament. The opening ceremony will

be held before the opening game today.

Imran back

FROM PAGE 17

clear if they have recovered from their ailments. Dollar Mahmud and Enamul Haque were also recalled. Not picking Imran for so

long illustrates the mindset of different selection panels over the years, but the incumbent selectors' faith in the senior players of the cricketing circle is certainly a welcome move. The message is plain and simple: Performers are always in the reckoning.

12 23 24 26

CRYPTOQUIP

ZWSSEZX PAGP

ESAPAGKDEKENFZP'Z

SBXQXBBXV UBXGCQGZP MXBXGK

DENAP UX MEBHXG QKGCXZ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN DADS FINANCE ALL OF THEIR DAUGHTERS' WEDDINGS, COULD YOU SAY THEY'RE FUNDING FATHERS?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals Y

Barca lift title

been mutually arranged by both Recreativo Huelva and the Bangladesh Cricket Board Numancia have been rele-

BCB calls up FROM PAGE 17 Mirpur on May 27 at 3:00 pm.

SQUAD Amit Mazumder, Mohammad Rubel, Saikat Ali, Soumya Sarkar, Asif Ahmed, Tasamul Haque, Mahmudul Hasan, Sabbir Rahman, Nasir Hossain, Imamul Hossain, Mominul Haque, Abul Hasan, Kamrul Islam Rabbi, Dewan Sabbir, Abu Zayed, Arman Badshah, Alauddin Babu, Sohag Reza, Shaker Ahmed, Mahfuz Arif, Noor Hossain, Anamul Haque, Nurul Hasan, Irfan Shukkur.

Knight Magath

FROM PAGE 20

sively as Wolfsburg have done in the second half of the season, when they took Bayern and Werder Bremen apart 5-1, and play with such consistency and proven their strength at home, then it is fine," he told Premiere televi-

"They have won 16 from 17 home matches. They have become German champions at home and that is honourable."

FROM PAGE 20 At the other end of the table

gated. Bottom side Recreativo's hopes of a miracle faded in a 1-0 defeat against Racing Santander, with Nicola Zigic Soldado strike for Getafe gave season already have their topthem a 1-0 win over Numancia.

Sporting Gijon remain outside the relegation zone on goal difference after their 2-1 win over Valladolid.

Diego Camacho and Mate Bilic scored the goals for Sporting with Jonathan Sesma finding the back of the net in between for the home side. Espanyol have completed a remarkable end to the season where little more than a month ago they appeared relegation certainties.

Importantly the return of Ivan de la Pena has helped the team to produce a fine run which has led to their survival which came with 3-0 win thanks to a brace from Ivan Alonso and another from Ferran Corominas Real Betis go into their final match of the season looking nervously over their shoulders after their 1-1 draw with Malaga leaves them one point off the drop zone.

A goal from Brazilian Edu appeared to be enough to give Betis the win before Albert Luque struck ten minutes dreadful," the News of The from the end with a powerful WorldquotedWaugh, as saying.

shot from outside the area.

On Sunday, Real Madrid face Mallorca in their last home game of a season to forget with the dismissal of coach Bernd Schuster and also the resignation of president Ramon Calderon. They play a Mallorca side who thanks to a scoring, while a Roberto strong second half of the

'Flintoff's

INTERNET, undated

All-rounder Freddie was inspirational as Michael Vaughan's men won the old urn back in 2005.

Flintoff firing if they are to have a winning chance against the Aussies. England has done well in their recent two Tests but I don't think the West Indies could beat a club side. Their batting and attitude were

flight future ssured.

Former Australian batting great Mark Waugh has warned England that only Andrew Flintoff can prevent them from an embarrassing Ashes thumping.

"England don't have a bad squad but they really need

School soccer

SPORTS REPORTER Gibbs batted the whole 20 Purple Cap: Rudra Pratap

The final round of the Citycell

held across the country in nine different zones from where a total of eighteen teams qualified to play the final round splitting into four groups.

venues for the tournament. The semifinals will take

a chief guest.

"If that wasn't the case, a

coach from Juventus in 2001 and has led them to two Champions League crowns

Abahani director Kazi Nabil (C) discusses with members of a British-Muslim delegation at the club's headquarters yesterday.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

3 Clarify

4 Drum

28 Flight

compo-

ACROSS

1 Roman

Seine

France

need

21 "Goose-

bumps'

author

pursuer

23 Home

25 Moby's

26 Suitable

27 Support-

ing

20 Tour de

19 Teensy "Aloha" type nent 4 Scrooge's 30 Irate 5 Uneasitale 20 Tarzan's 33 See 13outcry ness 7 Pinnacle 6 Rodgers Across son 8 Regional 36 Asian collabora- 21 Piglet 10 Rx, capital tor 7 Farm 37 Throwing paste for fraction short game 8 Galvaniz- 23 Related 11 French ring (to) 38 Jockey's painter ing 13 With handful agents 39 — Major 9 Nikita's style 40 Pop Across, succesaphorism 41 — 10 Despon-

17 Neckwear dent living 12 Cobra of a DOWN or sort 18 Aye 1 Chef's coppergarb head undoer 2 Bridal 14 Capri, 19 Son, on the e.g. cover

> Solution time: 21 mins. BAHAMASOREAD MESSY HAMBURG GRISHAM SAMBA

HAMRADIO the BECKHAM time 35 Gloom

22 Toothtarget 24 Embellished 25 Kabul's (Abbr.) 26 Refuge 28 Old photo tint 29 Pollster's

15 Storm

center

find 30 Deer kin 31 Largest of

> seven 32 "Spring ahead' hrs. 34 Wasted no .