Waqar priorities tasks

New Pakistan coach Wagar Younis (R) imparts some tips to

Mohammad Aamer during a practice session at the Gaddafi

"During the camp we will

stress on the fielding because

in a Twenty20 match, 15-20

runs can make the difference

and this you can save through

on the day can win a Twenty20

match, it's tough to predict

who will win but in my opin-

ion Australia, India and South

for me Afridi, Saeed Ajmal and

Mohammad Hafeez will be

on the list and will be much

better for the experience he

cism from the likes of Sir Ian

Botham and Shane Warne that

he should have gone on the tour.

opinion but I don't share their

opinion. It doesn't concern

me really -- certainly in

Warne's case I'm quite used to

ferent to what's been done

before there's always going to

strongly now that the bene-

fits of me resting will be seen

at a later point for the

England team either during

the Ashes or at the World Cup

"As the season's first match, I

am satisfied the way the boys

played but not happy and I

think they will improve much

as the tournament pro-

gresses," said Chapal after the

been bigger had the

Mohammedan strikers not

squandered a few open net

chances and the coach was

not disappointed with his

way they missed the open net

because they played as per my

strategy and I am pleased that

they followed my instruction

throughout the game," said

the former national striker.

Goals galore in second

"I am not thinking of the

The score-line could have

MSC maul

"If you do something dif-

"I do believe just as

being sledged by him.

be criticism.

or beyond that."

FROM PAGE 17

charges.

Strauss also rejected criti-

He added: "That's their

"Our bowling is good and

Africa are playing well.

key bowlers."

has had now."

Strauss impressed

by captain Cook

"Any team which plays well

good fielding," said Waqar.

Cricket Stadium in Lahore yesterday.

praised the leadership quali-

ties of Twenty20 captain

"Afridi is an all-rounder

"So I am confident that

Waqar, who also led his

both of us will work together to

country as a player, singled

out fielding as the key area of

deliver the desired results."

Cricket

England captain Andrew

Strauss believes Alastair

Cook's performance as stand-

in skipper during the recent

Test series in Bangladesh

proved he has the potential to

do the job on a permanent

tour of Bangladesh in order to

rest ahead of a busy year which

will culminate with the Ashes

regrets because Essex opener

Cook led the team to a 2-0

series win and gained valuable

experience which will benefit

Cook averaged 114 in

Bangladesh to demonstrate he

could cope with leading the

team and opening the batting

and Strauss told BBC Radio

Five: "If I got injured this

season then he would take

over definitely -- I think he's

"It's not easy when you

have not had much experi-

ence captaining sides before

to come in and captain

England with all the attention

that goes alongside it, and I

think he dealt with that side of

game, he batted exceptionally

well and it further enhances his

faulted for anything. No one

knows how long I'm going to

go on for but certainly Alastair

is going to be one of the names

KS's Alfaz Ahmed, Nicodemus Anunda, Sheikh

Russel's Moroccan Samir Omari and

Chittagong Mohammedan's Akbar Hossain

scorers list with 11 goals, one goal ahead of Omari.

fate of the match striking the team's fourth and

his league's seventh goal in the 76th minute

that made sure of both home and away wins

over Beanibazar, whom they defeated 3-1 in the

Our correspondent from Feni adds: On the

back of a 4-1 triumph over Chittagong

Mohammedan in the last match of the first leg,

Dhaka Mohammedan took to the field against

Feni Soccer Club and produced an identical

result to thump the hosts 4-1 in front of a

in the starting eleven in place of off-form striker

Zahid Hasan Emily, immediately paid off the

gamble and put Mohammedan ahead in the

15th minute before Emeka Christian doubled

the margin eight minutes later. His compatriot

Alamu Bukola then made it 3-0 in the 30th

minute before Anwar pulled one goal back four

Abdul Baten Komol, who was given a place

Feni Soccer v Mohammedan SC

The treble also took Sheriff to the top of the

National striker Enamul Haque sealed the

respect within the group.

"It obviously didn't affect his

"I don't think he can be

done an excellent job.

it very well.

FROM PAGE 17

Ridon and Alamu Bukola.

corresponding fixture.

packed stadium.

England in the long-term.

But the batsman has no

Strauss missed England's

basis in the future.

series in Australia.

AFP, London

Shahid Afridi.

among the players.

one-day internationals, improvement.

Cricket

AFP, Lahore

New Pakistan coach Waqar Younis hopes to invigorate his troubled team ahead of next month's World Twenty20, saying his top priority will be to restore faith among the players.

Pakistan are still reeling from the aftermath of their disastrous tour of Australia where they lost all three Tests, five one-day and a Twenty20 match and will defend their World Twenty20 title in the West Indies next month.

"I think the team lacked faith," Wagar told reporters at the start of a three-week training camp in Lahore.

"They were not able to perform in crunch situations, so my first task will be to mix with the players and raise their morale.'

The dismal performance of Pakistan during the Australian tour, which ended last month, resulted in bans and fines on seven leading players including former captains Mohammad Yousuf and Younus Khan over charges of indiscipline.

Shoaib Malik and Rana Navedul Hasan were banned for one year and heavily fined. Twenty20 captain Shahid

Afridi, Kamran Akmal and Umer Akmal were also fined heavily and put on a sixwith a positive frame of mind month probation. Coach who has been bowling excel-Intikhab Alam was replaced by lently in the last two years. His Wagar earlier this month. mere presence on the field Pakistan, who won the generates a fighting spirit

second edition of the World Twenty20 in England last year, are placed in Group A alongside Australia and Bangladesh in the 12-team event which runs from April 30 to May 16.

Waqar, who took 373 wickets in 87 Tests and 416 in 262

can be assured when BCB can

appoint a permanent CEO, a

post which has been vacant

for almost three years.

Recently two professionals

employed in the marketing

committee have resigned,

only to fuel the notion that

professionals are not feeling

comfortable to work in a

place once regarded as a very

Robben blow

"It was an emphatic win in

the circumstances, with

Chelsea winning earlier in

the day," Ferguson said after

seeing striker Dimitar

was standing in for Rooney,

but both the former Everton

man and his England col-

league Ferdinand will feature

The English champions

will be at full strength as Ryan

Giggs has made a successful

comeback from a month-long

lay-off, playing a part in two of

ence of these types of situa-

tions. It's great to have him

back," said midfielder Darren

Meanwhile, Bayern look set

to welcome back Germany

international Mario Gomez

after he returned from three

weeks out with a ruptured calf

muscle in training on Sunday.

bench against United, but

may be an option for the start-

after staying out for extra

for Bayern in the Champions

League fixture away to

the teams that contested the

1999 Champions League final,

in which United prevailed 2-1

thanks to two injury-time

goals to record their only win

over Bayern in Europe's pre-

mier club competition.

FROM PAGE 17

Yousuf bids

was 1,788 Test runs in 2006

with nine hundreds -- the

world record for most runs

scored and hundreds in a

calendar year, beating Viv

Richards's 1976 record of

Cricket Council (ICC) Test

news conference if he could

rescind his decision, Yousuf

said: "At the moment my

playing in the team is harmful

play first class cricket and

private leagues," he later

"If I get time, I would love to

so I am quitting".

added.

player-of-the-year in 2007.

He also won International

Asked during Monday's

1,710 for the West Indies.

He is likely to begin on the

"I'm ready," said Gomez,

The 24-year-old last played

Tuesday's match re-unites

"Ryan has so much experi-

United's goals at Bolton.

The Bulgaria international

Berbatov score twice.

lucrative place for them.

FROM PAGE 17

in Munich.

Fletcher.

ing eleven.

shooting practice.

Fiorentina on March 9.

BCB's poor

FROM PAGE 17

WORLD TWENTY20

'Sachin absence a blessing in disguise'

CRICINFO, undated

Shahid Afridi, Pakistan's captain for the upcoming World Twenty20, has said that Sachin Tendulkar's absence from the Indian team for the tournament will be a blessing in disguise for the other sides.

"The way he has blossomed in the last few years, he is only getting better and better as a batsman. If he is not playing for India in the Twenty20 World Cup, it is certainly a big advantage for other teams," Afridi was quoted in the Times of India. "If Tendulkar had played in this World Cup, I am sure he would made big impact for India."

Tendulkar voluntarily ruled himself out of international Twenty20 matches in 2007, before the inaugural World Twenty20, in order to preserve himself for the longer formats. He has been in fine form in the IPL, having scored 303 runs in the first six matches, seven runs shy of Jacques Kallis who tops the run charts. Tendulkar's purple patch led to suggestions that he reconsider his decision, but Tendulkar has ruled out such a possibility.

Afridi feels that age has not had any effect on Tendulkar's powers. "With every match he seems to be growing as a batsman and getting better. He is playing like a teenager. There is no sign of age affecting his game at all," Afridi said.

"The biggest thing that he still enjoys playing the sport and he is hunger for runs has not died at all," he said. I think even in Twenty20 cricket you need to bat properly and at times even playing out 20 overs is a big challenge for a team. You need to play orthodox cricket," Afridi said.

LOCAL SNIPPETS FROM PAGE 17

In the day's other matches, Dhaka (117-3) defeated Sherpur (113-10) by seven wickets, Faridpur (176-7) beat Manikganj (175-10) by three wickets, Rangpur (99-2) routed Kurigram (95-10) by eight wickets, Barisal (74-2) posted an eight-wicket victory against Patuakhali (72-10),

The first round will be

played in a knock-out format

with eight teams qualifying for

the second stage where they'll

be divided into two groups. The

top two teams from each group will play in the semifinals.

Juger Alo Samity posted a

seven-wicket victory over

Pouli Bulbul Club in the Khan

Real Estate Second Division

Cricket League at the

Government Boys' High

School playground in

out for only 61 runs in 24.3

overs. Shawkat picked up four

wickets while Saddam took

62 losing three wickets in 10.4

overs. Alek made 20 runs while

Association (112-7) beat

Manikganj Super King (108-

The Independence Day Eaton

Open Table Tennis

Tournament ended at the

wooden-floor gymnasium

yesterday. Manosh of Biman

became champion in the

men's group while Rahima of

Abahani became champion in

the women's group. Himel

became champion in the

under-18 age group and Sarjil

of Narail became champion in

the under-12 age group.

After resumption, national striker Komol

struck his second goal to give Mohammedan

Sheikh Russel, who beat Shuktara 2-0 on home

soil, went ahead in the 25th minute through a

goal from Rajon Mia and midfielder Maruf

Ahmed doubled the lead in the 29th minute.

Then, Rony made it 3-0 in the 38th minute and

Muktijoddha Sangsad vs Brothers

completed the rout nine minutes from time.

minutes from the breather.

Union in their first meeting.

lead four minutes from the break.

on 14 points each from 13 outings.

Union

their 10th triumph in 13 matches.

Shuktara Jubo vs Sheikh Russel

In another match, Garpara

Sharif hit an unbeaten 14.

10) by three wickets.

Eaton Open TT

In reply, Juger Alo raced to

Pouli Bulbul Club were all

Manikganj yesterday.

two wickets.

Manikganj Cricket

Sylhet (179-8) beat Moulavibazar (178-10) by two second round. wickets and Kushtia (230-10) secured a 33-run victory over Meherpur (197-10).

FROM PAGE 17

College ground.

briefing.

Nadal's next opponent will

-7-6(7/5), 6-3.

Belgium 6-3, 6-4. Nadal, who won his last

title last May in Rome, is not fussed about his lack of recent trophy success. Instead, he's looking for small improvements as he gets back in the groove in the wake of the knee injury suffered at the Australian Open.

"I'm in the fourth round for me," he said, refusing to consider the potential organiser's dream Federer-Nadal title match. "It's far away from that moment.'

Tamim flays

Enamul Haque and Sri Lankan Milinda. Enamul, Milinda and pacer Kamrul Islam took two wickets each to stifle the runs Sirajul Islam in his address

Nafees Iqbal's 25 and Tushar Imran's 18 gave them some momentum before a few lusty blows from Mohammad Rafique and Ziaur Rahman ensured Brothers finished with a decent score of 137 for nine. Ziaur finished unbeaten on 35

joined the championship this six against Enamul, which wise dull display of batting.

> **BROTHERS UNION: 137 for 9** in 20 overs (Ziaur 35 not out, Nafees 25, Tushar 18)

CHITTAGONG TIGERS: 138 for 3 in 18.5 overs (Tamim 44, Mithun 29, Manjur 24)

21 22

52

55

out, Collingwood 53; Langeveldt 2-35)

KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS: 137 for 9 in 20 overs (Gayle 30,

Result: Delhi Daredevils won

Man-of-the-match: David

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	36	Allay	56	Elusive	11	Blacken
1 Pt. of	37	Opposed			20	Raccoon
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club		hurdle		compo-		ster
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counter-		de- —	7	Heebie-		say?"
part	52	Counter-		jeebies		Prior to
17 Bake-	10000	feit	8	Witness		Chess
sale org.	53	More	9	Benedict		piece

unhappy 19 Doctor's 54 Aviate 55 Dazzle

due 20 Scoff It was a sweet revenge for Muktijoddha 21 Altar affir-Sangsad, who went one goal down to Brothers mative

The freedom fighters' side, who tasted their 23 Expert first triumph in the first leg after five straight 25 Panacea defeats, put up a spirited show against falling 28 Boil giants Brothers and Raphael, who joined the All 32 Rainout Reds from Rahmatganj MSF in the second leg, justified his inclusion having put Muktijoddha spreads

ahead in the 35th minute before doubling the 33 Clean the cookware Jalal made it 3-0 in the 61st minute while 34 Anti-Toru reduced the margin one minute later for aircraft Brothers, who are now equal with Muktijoddha fire

NZ V AUS, 2ND TEST

Tourists in driver's seat

Cricket

SPORT

CRICINFO, undated

After two days of frenetic activity, Simon Katich returned the game to Test pace and his important, grafting century led to a commanding lead of 300 against New Zealand on the third day of the second and final Test in Hamilton yesterday. Australia batted poorly in the first innings but Katich virtually eliminated risk during a gutsy 106 that put his side on track for a total of 333 for 4.

The total might already be enough for Australia, who are chasing a 2-0 cleansweep, but Ricky Ponting will be in no rush to declare given there is so much time left and the forecast is for more sunshine. A pitch offering less spin and tricks than expected will also delay the closure and New Zealand will pray for a massive innings to save or level the contest. There were two periods when the hosts were in with a chance,

but once Tim Southee broke through twice in the morning Katich and Michael Hussey crept ahead during a 155-run partnership. Both men fell to Brent Arnel after tea, when the lead was just over 200, before Michael Clarke (42) and Marcus North (42) lifted the pace to power further ahead. Katich held the innings together over the first two-thirds of the

day to ensure there were no terminal wobbles during the most crucial segment of the Test. Australia began the morning with a two-run advantage and Katich really wanted to bat till stumps. He was rarely put off as he played within himself during his 279-ball occupation, which included 12 fours, but when he exited Clarke and North quickly pressed forward.

Clarke was strong off the back foot and he also played some strong drives during an upbeat conclusion, while North, who hit seven fours and a six, was happy to attack Daniel Vettori. It was a bright conclusion to a day in which most of the runs came slowly. After a cautious and considered opening, Katich found his first boundary from his 138th delivery, when he drove an overpitched offering from Vettori through cover. Katich brought up his half-century in the over after lunch

with a clip behind square off Southee and backed up with another boundary through gully. There were more lulls and then a couple of crashing shots, including two lofted fours over the off-spinner Jeetan Patel, while two strong strikes off Chris Martin with the new ball took Katich into the 90s. A French cut for four off Martin moved him to 99 and the

hundred was sealed in the second-last over before tea with a strong cover drive. He allowed himself a satisfied smile for his second century of a consistent summer, which has also contained a string of scores between 79 and 99.

The tea interval disrupted Katich's concentration and he followed Hussey in an almost carbon copy of his dismissal. Both batsmen nibbled at Arnel, who was coming around the wicket, and their fine edges went to Brendon McCullum. Hussey hasn't had a great series, but he improved with a

hard-fought 66 that was committed, purposeful and patient. Like Katich, he wasn't bothered by maidens or mistakes until his nicking curse returned when he had trouble re-starting in the third session. The spinners operated for large chunks of the day, but neither

Vettori, who delivered 33 overs, nor Patel (27) were able to break through despite building regular bouts of pressure. Southee and Arnel were difficult in patches while Martin was looking more like a medium pacer than an attack spearhead. Southee had Australia 91 for 2 and slowed them down follow-

ing an 85-run opening stand. The dismissal of Ponting (6) was

expertly planned, with Southee delivering a short ball which the captain managed to top-edge pull over the slips for six. Southee's next effort was straighter, trying to get Ponting to hit in the air to the cluttered onside field, and he pushed it hard to BJ Watling at short leg. The sharp catch followed Southee's revenge on Shane Watson, who hit him for a six and three fours in his first three

overs of the morning. Watson (65) became too aggressive again and Southee picked him up to a mistimed pull for the second time in the Test. New Zealand's early-morning breakthroughs and the ones after tea provided some hope of an achievable chase, but Australia regained the ascendancy each time.

SCORES IN BRIEF AUSTRALIA: First innings 231 all out (Katich 88, Clarke 28;

Vettori 4-36, Southee 4-61) NEW ZEALAND: First innings 264 all out (Taylor 138, Watling 46;

Johnson 4-59, Harris 3-50, Bollinger 3-57) AUSTRALIA: Second innings 333 for 4 (Watson 65, Katich 106,

Hussey 67, Clarke 42 batting, North 42 batting; Southee 2-74,

Nadal rolls into Rd 4 conqueror Olivier Rochus of Roddick kept the home



AFP, Miami

Rafael Nadal joined Roger Federer as a seeded survivor at the upset-plagued Miami Masters as the Spaniard defeated David Nalbandian 6-7 (8/10), 6-2, 6-2 Sunday for a fourth-round berth.

Top seed Federer and number four Nadal are all that are left of the top four seeds after exits by number two Novak Djokovic and number three Andy Murray in the

Bengali and English medium

schools, are pitted in four

groups who will play in league

system before the semis on

April 7 and the final on the 8th.

All the matches will be held in

two different grounds of the

city -- the Sultana Kamal

Women's Complex and

Azimpur Girls' School and

tion with the championship

was arranged at Bangladesh

Football Federation's (BFF)

conference room yesterday.

Sirajul Islam Bachchu, mem-

ber of the BFF and chairman of

the women's football wing of

the federation, Al Musabbir

Sadi, the BFF general secre-

tary, and Mahfuza Akhter

Kiron, convenor of the tourna-

ment committee, spoke at the

A press briefing in connec-

Women's school

crowd happy with his 6-2, 6-1 defeat of Sergiy Stakhovsky of the Ukraine, while resurgent Spanish veteran Juan Carlos Ferrero eliminated John Isner of the United States 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.

be 15th seeded compatriot David Ferrer, who tamed the huge serve of Ivo Karlovic -only ten aces for the Croatian -

American sixth seed Andy ended the run of Djokivic's

women's football in the

metropolis as well as outside.

Bringing one more student to

the field will mean they can

bring a family, which will raise

interest and status of the game.

time while Aga Khan failed to

appear. Siddeswari School

remain suspended for the

tournament. A total of 9 lakh

taka has been allocated to bear

the costs of the tournament.

The champions will receive Tk

20 thousand while the run-

amount of Tk 6,000 as appear-

ance fee. Apart from that there

will also be awards for the best

Each team will be given an

ners-up will get Tk 10,000.

player and top scorer.

Four new teams have

Fellow Spaniard Nicolas Almagro beat Frenchman Jeremy Chardy 6-2, 6-7 (9/11), 6-3 to set up a match with Brazil's Tomaz Bellicci, who

FROM PAGE 17

for most part of the innings. said that the championship would work as the root of

from just 20 deliveries with two sixes in the last two balls. Nazimuddin's mammoth

occasioned for a change of ball was the high point of an other-**SCORES IN BRIEF**

Result: Chittagong Tigers won by 7 wickets.

Hussey 29; Yadav 2-27, McDonald 2-37)

by 40 runs

Warner

J	nuur	33	i iaii a	- 10	AIIIVE		wear
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	cookie	48	Eggs		blue-	25	Greel
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	mate	50	Pre-	5	Request	27	Anno
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16	Elbow	51	Fleur-		nent	30	"Wha
	counter-		de- —	7	Heebie-		say?"
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10 Election Day verb

Solution time: 27 mins.

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STERN FADE

PEWS

PETERPANANEW HIESORGAN WORE PANORAMA AGOROTORREF MARZIPANCBER ABELPHOTO

EURO

WOOFSSEAR PANATELA

46 Man-

trophy 49 Fool

wingding 45 Wheelbase

39 CNN's

Blitzer

specialty

40 Satan's

41 Simple

43 Waikiki

terminus handle

47 TV

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE LONGTIME ROWING

During Suman's dismissal,' Raman's twitter-feed read. Harbhajan was in his element in the match, smashing an 18-ball 49 to lift Mumbai to a good score, and then snaring three wickets to help them defend 172. Suman was dismissed caught and bowled by Harbhajan, after which the bowler gave him an invective-

ridden send-off.

FROM PAGE 17

Bhaji fined

Raman, through his twitter

update shortly after the

match. "Harbhajan fined USD

15K by the referee. Found

guilty -- level one offence.

Delhi ride FROM PAGE 17 He got perfect support from

Paul Collingwood (53), whose innings came straight out of the Paul Collingwood school of batting - practically without a back lift. Out of their 128-run stand in 16.2 overs, Warner scored 74 off 54.

On a slow, turning pitch, the visitors' innings never took off after Chris Gayle was out for 30 and Australian David Hussey dismissed on 29.

BRIEF SCORES DELHI DAREDEVILS: 177 for

4 in 20 overs (Warner 107 not

24 23

53

56

30 31 33 46 47 50 49

CRYPTOQUIP ISUZDQS N WZBS Z QANFWP

DHTSCQPZHTNHF ZIJDP

PWZP ZH NHGNHF NHGANHF.

FNBNHF PZPPJJQ, N'T UZAA

BOAT RACER WANTS TO FIND A NEW CAREER. HE MUST BE BORED OUT OF HIS SCULL. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals D