

Wari prosper at Wanderers' cost

Sports Reporter

Wari Club did their chances of winning promotion to the Navana Premier Division league a world of good by posting a four-wicket win over luckless Dhaka Wanderers Club in the only match of the Milnars First Division cricket league played at the Mirpur Pallabi ground yesterday.

It was Wari's fifth win in seven games while Wanderers are still to record their second win as many outings. Unseasonal rainfall Saturday night had left the ground rather wet and it wasn't until nearly noon that the umpires and the contending captains deemed the ground playable. Consequently, the 45-overs-a-side encounter was reduced to the bare minimum permissible -- 25.

Winning the toss Wari put Wanderers in, a move immensely justified not only by the conditions but also by the doings of the Wanderers batsmen who once again betrayed their inadequacies for this level of competition. They used up their 25 overs to reach a modest 107 runs for the loss of nine wickets. Only Chahal with 20, Joydev an unbeaten 15 and Ismail with 14 offered some resistance. Ripon with four four 16 was instrumental

in ripping the heart out of the Wanderers' batting with able support from Kajal who took two for 17 and Dipu who got one for 29.

Two twenty-plus knocks from Jongi (23) and Sumon (21) and another couple of 16s by the two Rafiqs -- Senior and Junior -- saw Wari comfortably past their target with four wickets 2.2 overs to spare. Wari made 109 for six.

Talyab and Kaiser toiled hard for Wanderers to claim two Wari wickets each for 28 and 19 runs respectively while Wahid picked up one for 18.

Wari and Bangladesh Railway have now each won five games, with the latter having played one less. Wanderers are at the bottom of the ten-team

England A beat Hyderabad

HYDERABAD, Pakistan, Jan 13: England A beat a Hyderabad Divisional Cricket Association team by three runs in a 40-overs one-day match on Saturday, reports Reuter. Scores: England A 223 for five (Richard Blakey 69); Hyderabad Divisional Cricket Association 220 for four (Mark Ramprakash four for 33).

league table with just a solitary win to show against their name. Amarjyoti have also won only once, but they have played a game less.

Yesterday's Navana Premier Division league fixture, the jinxed match between Damal Summer champions Mohammedan Sporting Club and Gulshan Youth, fell through for the third time with the Daka Stadium pitch being deemed unfit for play. This two day game, which was originally scheduled for Nov 27, 28, had to be called off after the first day's play following the imposition of emergency. The fresh date for starting the game Dec 11 also had to be cancelled due to rain. It is now hoped the match will begin today.

Following is the Milnars First Division league table after Sunday's match (last updated on Played, Won, Lost, Points):

Club	P	W	L	Pts
B. Railway	6	5	1	10
Wari Club	7	5	2	10
S. Bina	6	4	2	8
Udity Club	6	4	2	8
Agrani Bank	6	4	2	8
PWD	6	3	3	6
Y. Paganus	6	3	3	6
Nirman Schools	6	3	3	6
Amarjyoti	6	1	5	2
Wanderers	7	1	6	2

TODAY'S MATCH
Nirman Schools XI vs Agrani Bank (Mirpur)

Australians beat NZ in WSC

SYDNEY, Jan 13: Australia defeated New Zealand by six wickets with five balls to spare Sunday in the first World Series Cup one-day final at the Sydney Cricket Ground, reports AP.

Australia scored 202-4 from 49.1 overs in reply to New Zealand's 199-7 from its allotted 50 overs, with David Boon not out 14 and Steve Waugh on 16.

Stand-in captain Geoff Marsh top-scored for Australia with 70 and received strong support from Dean Jones with 49 and opener Mark Taylor, who made 40.

Australia was cruising to victory at 170-1 until three wickets fell in the space of 13 balls for six runs before Boon and Waugh saw the home side through.

Danny Morrison took 4-3-2 from 10 overs for New Zealand while Chris Pringle took 3-1-1 from his 10.

Australian captain Allan Border is having treatment for a thigh strain and is still in doubt for Tuesday's second day-night final in Melbourne.

England struggle against NSW

ALBURY, Australia, Jan 13: England's Phil DeFreitas scored 54 runs in an otherwise disappointing performance by the team's batsmen on the opening day Sunday of a tour cricket match against New South Wales state, reports AP.

World Championships end with 4 world records Americans stay on top



PERTH, Australia, Jan 13: The United States suffered its first big disappointment in men's races at the

World Swimming Championships Sunday when world record-holder David Wharton failed to qualify in the 200-meter individual medley, reports AP.

Wharton, whose world-best of 2 minutes, 0.11 seconds has stood for almost two years, missed the final field by one spot. His time of 2:03.85 was ninth-best in morning heats, .09 seconds behind Peter Bermel of Germany, the slowest finalist.

It was a strikingly familiar scenario for Wharton, who has been among the world's best in the event for six years. As the American record-holder in 1988, he missed the final eight for the event at the Olympics.

Tamas Darnyi of Hungary, who won the 400 individual medley in world-record time on Tuesday, was fastest in the 200 medley, qualifying at 2:01.82. Eric Namesnik of the United States qualified third in 2:02.84.

U.S. swimming officials said Wharton might have been affected by the long layoff since the 400 individual medley, where he finished sixth.

On Saturday, Melvin Stewart of the United States, inspired by the success of roommate Mike Barrowman the previous day, broke the world record in the men's 200-meter butterfly. The accomplishment ended the eight-year reign of Michael Gross atop the event.

Stewart, who set the U.S. record last summer, overcame the German's early lead with a burst in the final 50 meters and finished in 1 minute, 55.69 seconds.

The 11-day championships wrapped up Sunday, with four world records in swimming going into the final day and plenty of other fast performances, especially in men's events.

In the morning heats, top-ranked summer Sanders of the United States qualified fifth in the women's 200 butterfly at 2:13.93, 2:11.05. Trina Radke of the United States and Chinese swimmers Wang Xiaohong and Qian Hong, the 100 butterfly winner, failed to qualify.

Olympic champion Krisztina Egerszegi of Hungary led qualifying in the women's 200 backstroke at 2:12.59, ahead of American Janie Wagstaff in 2:14.13. Beth Barr of the United States also qualified, at 2:16.23.

Canada's 400 medley relay team qualified first in 3:42.86, ahead of the U.S. men's team, who clocked 3:43.51.

The last set of heats, in the women's 100 butterfly and 100 freestyle, where she took a bronze and a silver, respectively.

World record-holder Yang Wenyi of China qualified seventh, in 26.16.

Saturday night was the highlight of the meet for the American team. U.S.



Maureen Mendoza (l) of the United States blocks a Hungarian player during the women's bronze medal water polo game in the World Swimming Championships in Perth Jan 12. The Americans won 11-9. — AFP photo

Swimmers won five of six gold medals, with Tom Jager in the men's 50 freestyle, Janet Evans in the women's 800 freestyle, Jeff Rouse in the men's 100 backstroke and the women's 400 medley relay team taking the other titles.

Jager, Evans and Rouse all set meet records and the medley relay squad, anchored by Nicole Haislett in a remarkable 54.76, set an American record.

Jager beat teammate Matt Biondi by .10 seconds in a meet-record 22.16 to retain his title in the 50 freestyle.

The night's sixth gold went to Lin Li of China, who beat Sanders in the women's 200 individual medley. Lin won the 400 IM on Monday and because the first swimmer to take two individual golds, quickly joined by Evans.

The performances put the United States solidly in front of both men's and women's team standings and boosted the American gold-medal count in swimming to 11.

Also winning gold was the U.S. synchronized swim team, which received a round of perfect marks for artistic impression and beat Canada for the title.

The Netherlands won the women's water polo gold with a 13-6 victory over Canada. The United States took the bronze, beating Hungary 11-9.

Yugoslavia will play Spain Sunday for the water polo championship. The Yugoslavs beat the United States 7-6 Saturday, with a goal by Vaso Subotic with 37 seconds remaining providing the winning margin.

Sun Shuwel of China led qualifiers for Sunda's men's platform diving final. Matt Scoggins and Patrick Evans of the United States qualified 34.

Evans won the 800 freestyle, her first world championships after three golds from the Olympics. Her time of 8:24.05 trimmed .90 seconds off the meet mark of Australia's Tracey Wickham in

1978 and beat runner-up Grit Mueller of Germany by almost six seconds.

AFP adds: American Melvin Stewart Saturday gatecrashed Michael Gross farewell party with a world-record win in the 200 metres butterfly final.

Stewart swept from behind to deprive Gross of a third world butterfly title and seized his world record with a magnificent 1:55.69 swim.

It was the fourth world record set at the championships - Hungarians Norbert Rozsa (100 M breaststroke) and Tamas Darnyi (400m medley) and American Mike Barrowman (200m breaststroke) also set records.

Gross, the self-confessed "grand old man" of swimming, was presented with his 12th world championship medal, which he won in a silver-medal time of 1:56.78. Darnyi was third in 1:58.25.

Gross temporarily retired

after the 1988 Seoul Olympics, but made a comeback for the world titles.

"I'm pretty happy with my silver and also that someone has cracked the 1:56 barrier," said Gross. "I can't do it, but this is a new generation and I swam the best time I could

"I kept looking at Gross on my right and, basically, I just kept trying to keep up with him," said Stewart.

"I was fifth at Seoul and was very disappointed," he said. "I saw Michael on the dais and thought 'I want that'."

Gross reiterated that he was not changing his mind about retirement even though his time in the final was his fastest in five years.

"Not bad for an old man," he quipped.

American Tom Jager took his head-to-head duel with compatriot Matt Biondi to 14-7 with a fingertip win in the 50m freestyle dash for gold.

Darnyi's double

PERTH, Jan 13: Tamas Darnyi of Hungary became the first swimmer to break the two-minute mark in the men's 200-meter individual medley Sunday at the World Swimming Championships, reports AP.

Darnyi, already the owner of the world record in the 400 IM, shattered the old mark of David Wharton of the United States with a gold-medal time of 1 minute, 59.36 seconds.

Wharton's old record was 2:00.11, set in 1989. Wharton did not reach the finals, turning in only the ninth fastest time in morning heats.

Second was Eric Namesnik of the United States in 2:01.87. Namesnik had chased Darnyi home in world-record time of 4:12.36 in the 400 IM.

Third was Christian Gessner of Germany in 2:02.36.

Darnyi became the first male swimmer to win two gold



TAMAS DARNYI medals at the championships. Janet Evans and Lin Li won two apiece in women's individual races.

Niaz shares lead in Calcutta

CALCUTTA, Jan 13: Grandmaster Niaz Murshid of Bangladesh scored a hard-fought victory over Grandmaster Julien Hodgson of England to emerge joint leader, along with Polish Grandmaster Wojtkiewicz, with six points each at the end of the 8th round in the second Goodricke International chess championship here yesterday, reports PTI.

Wojtkiewicz, who has been in the lead, yesterday drew against International Master Sorokin of the USSR in a Catalan opening to consolidate his position.

Closely behind the two leaders were Indian GM norm aspirant, Dibyendu Barua, Chinese GM Ye Rong Guang, GM Yakovich of the USSR and International Master Neverov of the Soviet Union with 5.5 points each.

Handball super league begins today

Sports Reporter

Nicecop Club and Farashganj Sporting Club will play today in the inaugural encounter of the Ad-Empire handball super league.

Christian Youth Club and Junior Mohisundi United will meet in the second match at 3.30 pm. The first match starts at 2.30 pm.

Eight teams are taking part in the super league -- Nicecop, West Jatrabari K.C., Arunayatan, Farashganj Sporting Club, Jagoron Sanskriti Sangha, Kurmitola Appollo Club and Christian Youth Club.

Farashganj drub Agrani 7-0

Sports Reporter

Farashganj Sporting Club crushed Agrani Bank 7-0 in the super league match of the Delta Life Second Division hockey league yesterday at the hockey stadium.

Enayet slammed three goals for Farashganj. Salauddin, Alam, Wajed and Monir with one each were the other scorers for the winners.

In another match on the day, Barnak Samaj scored a solitary goal victory over Combined Sporting Club.

Shahin Khan scored the all-important goal for the winners.

Junior wrestling postponed

Sports Reporter

The tenth national mini and cadet wrestling championships under the auspices of the Bangladesh Amateur Wrestling Federation, scheduled to start on Jan 26, have been put back indefinitely in view of the proposed elections to the federation, says a press release.

Last week the National Sports Council set Jan 31 as the date for polling for the first democratically-elected executive committee of the wrestling federation since independence.

Fresh dates for the championships will be decided by the newly-elected committee.

Maradona's salary slashed



MILAN, Italy, Jan 13: The Italian soccer league disciplinary commission has fined Argentine starforward Diego Maradona 70,000 dollars for recent absences from his club team Napoli during the past several months, reports AP.

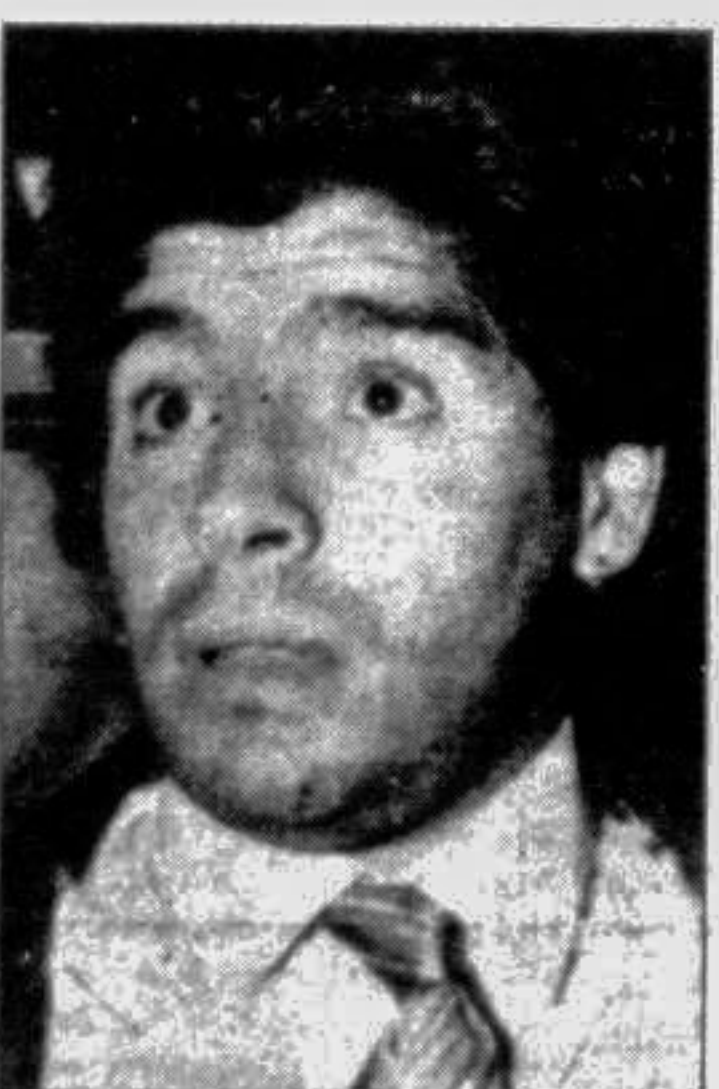
The punishment was levied Friday night by the Italian soccer tribunal at the request of Fiorentina and for initially refusing and then joining his teammates late for a European champions Cup match against Spartak Moscow in November.

Napoli, which has had increasingly tense relation with its moody Argentine star, also is suing Maradona, accusing him of damaging the club's image by his behaviour.

The case, which will be argued in a Naples court shortly, may cost Maradona more than Friday's fine. Napoli lawyers estimate the club may seek 1.5 million dollars in compensation.

Maradona, one of the highest paid and most popular world players, has often missed team practices during the season which began in September and has openly criticized club president Corrado Ferlaino, General manager Luciano Moggi and coach Alberto Bigon.

Italian soccer commentators have said that Maradona's



DIEGO MARADONA

actions may be aimed at breaching his contract with Napoli.

The captain of the Argentine national team has signed Napoli through 1992-93 season. However, in December, Maradona said in a television interview he wants to play elsewhere next season rather than stay in Italy, where he claims the off-field attention is too overwhelming.

Maradona is known to have received rich bids from French and Japanese clubs.

Within the next two weeks the disciplinary commission will judge Maradona again for his critical comments against Napoli officials and for ignor-

ing a summons by investigators of the Italian Soccer Federation.

AFP adds: Maradona has now had his basic wage slashed by an astounding 40 per cent for the rest of the season over his refusal to travel to Moscow with Napoli teammates for a European cup tie.

The Argentine captain, who is suspended for Sunday's game against AS Roma and was travelling home to Buenos Aires to see his ailing father, will lose 82,000 dollars.

Italian league officials have endorsed a request from Napoli to slap an exemplary fine on Maradona.

The fine reduces by 40 per cent his basic salary from November 5, the date of the match against Spartak Moscow which Napoli lost, until June 30, the end of the season.

Lawyers for the club told league officials that Maradona "had compromised the future of the team in the (European) competition by his attitude." Spartak knocked them out.

An exasperated Maradona said on Friday: "As soon as I open my mouth I am attacked from all sides."

"If I defend my club president, the federation suspend me, if I talk about the coach, the president punishes me, and if I talk about the president, I am penalised by the general manager."

"In Italy you cannot speak the truth."

Withdrawals leave the Big Three clear



MELBOURNE, Jan 13: The big three of men's tennis, Stefan Edberg, Boris Becker and Ivan Lendl, have a clear battleground to fight for the first Grand Slam title of 1991 with the withdrawal of top Americans from the Australian Open, reports Reuter.

The late pull-out of US Open champion Pete Sampras

now has fewer excuses not to reach his first Australian Open final in six attempts.

The German second seed already had an easy run through to a semifinal duel with Sampras. Only eighth seed Jonas Svensson of Sweden and France's Guy Forget, who was in great form in the New South Wales Open, are liable to give him problems.

If the seedings work out as planned, Becker should face

Another American, John McEnroe, withdrew from the Open with a shoulder injury while world number four Andre Agassi has yet to play in Australia.

Lendl and Sweden's Edberg lost just one set each on their way to last year's final, but the American-based Czechoslovak won when Edberg retired with a muscle injury in the third set.

They are seeded to meet in the last four next week.



STEFAN EDBERG

means the men's players ranked four to seven in the world, including French Open champion Andre Gomez of Ecuador, will miss the two-week tournament starting on Monday.

Sampras's decision because of a shin injury was particularly advantageous for Becker, who



BORIS BECKER

the much less dangerous Emilio Sanchez of Spain in the semifinals.

Becker, who is not at his best in the Melbourne heat, arrived early to acclimatise this year and hopes finally to show his true form on the medium fast rubberised Rebound Ace surface.



IVAN LENDL

Lendl is suffering from a stomach muscle injury which has prevented him from serving at full pace in practice since it forced him to retire in the first round of the New South Wales Open.

He should have no difficulty reaching the quarter-finals where he should meet the man

they call the new Boris Becker, Yugoslavia's Goran Ivanisevic, a left-hander with "future Grand Slam champion" written all over him.

Ivanisevic first showed his potential by reaching the 1989 Australian Open quarter-finals. He took Becker to four sets in the Wimbledon semifinals last year, serving around 90 aces in the two-week tournament.

Anything less than a fully-fit Lendl could be blown off court if his much younger opponent launches a similar barrage.

Edberg, the 1990 Wimbledon champion, faces a more arduous campaign than his two rivals at the National Tennis Centre.

Either former Wimbledon champion Pat Cash of Australia or South Africa's Christo van Rensburg await him in the third round and Andrei Chennokov of the Soviet Union, the ninth seed, is further down the line.

Edberg's quarter of the draw also includes three time Open champion Mats Wilander of Sweden and American Brad Gilbert.

At present Gilbert, the seventh seed, has more portentous matters than a possible clash with Edberg on his mind, namely his first round match against compatriot David Wheaton.

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