

Club Cup charity tournament

# Fixture, grouping announced

Sports Reporter

East Bengal Club will play Brothers Union while Mohun Bagan will face Calcutta Mohammedans in the two matches scheduled to be held on the inaugural day of the Club Cup charity football tournament.

The tournament which was scheduled to start from May 30, has been put further back by one day. It will now begin on May 31. Six teams including three from Calcutta are taking part in the eight-day charity tournament, organised by Dhaka Metropolitan Football Club Association to raise funds for the April 29 cyclone victims.

All the gate money from the tourney will be donated to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund.

The three leading Calcutta teams, Mohun Bagan, East Bengal and Calcutta Mohammedans will arrive in the capital on May 29. The organisers will bear the costs of air passage and local hospitality of the participating Calcutta teams.

## Boost for Becker

EDE, Netherlands, May 25: World number two Boris Becker completed his preparations for next week's French Open by beating American Pete Sampras 6-4, 1-6, 7-5 in the final of a clay-court invitation tournament on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Becker, who withdrew from last week's Italian Open with a back injury, looked comfortable enough as he won the first set. He promptly lost the second and was 4-2 down in



the third before recovering. The result should give Becker some encouragement before his tough first round match in Paris against Spanish clay court specialist Jordi Arrese.

"It couldn't be more difficult," Becker was reported as saying after learning of the French Open first round draw. If he succeeds in Paris, it will be Becker's first major title on clay.

Two matches will be held every day, one at 4.30 pm and the other at 6.30 pm at the Dhaka National Stadium. The tournament committee in the meantime has finalised the grouping and fixture of the tournament.

Group A - Mohanbagan, Calcutta Mohammedans and Abahani KC.

Group B - East Bengal, Dhaka Mohammedans and Brothers Union.

On the opening day, East Bengal Club will take on Brothers Union at 4.30 pm while Mohanbagan Club will meet Calcutta Mohammedans at 6.30 pm.

Dhaka Mohammedans will face Brothers Union at 4.30 pm while Calcutta Mohammedans will take on Abahani KC at 6.30 pm on June 1.

On June 2 Mohanbagan will meet Abahani KC at 4.30 pm while East Bengal will play with Dhaka Mohammedans at 6.30 pm.

The semi-final matches will be held on June 4 and 5 at 6.30 pm while the final match will be played on June 7 at 5.30 pm.

Rate of gallery tickets has been fixed at Tk 20 each, VIP Gate no-2 Tk 70, gate no 3/A Tk 50 and gate no 3/B at Tk 30 each.

For the final the rate of gallery ticket will however, be Taka 25 each while that of other tickets will remain unchanged.

An organising committee headed by State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain Khoka was formed earlier with seven other sub-committees for smooth holding of the tournament.



Bangladesh Sports Writers Association President Ziaul Haque handing over the crest of the association to the State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain yesterday. — Star photo

## Coach Naim tops merit list at Patiala

Lt Naim of Bangladesh Army stood first class first in the combined merit list in the coaches examinations under the National Institute of Sports (NIS) Patiala, India, according to a message received in Dhaka last night, reports BSS.

Lt Naim also got the first position in athletics with distinction.

Besides, Flight Lt. Rafiqul Islam of Bangladesh Army and coach Pranab Kumar Dey Bhanu of Comilla stood first class first in swimming and football respectively.

It was the first time that coaches from Bangladesh secured the first position in the coaches examinations under NIS since 1973.

Bangladesh had sent ten coaches in different disciplines under the scholarships provided by the Indian government this year. The coaches returned home yesterday.

Of them, five coaches got second class. They are: Nasrullah Labloo (handball), Anwar Hossain (hockey), Anwarul Islam (football), Asaduzzaman (swimming) and Abdul Hadi Ratan (cricket).

Another swimming coach, Sajedur Rahman, got third class while the remaining coach Mohammad Billal (athletics) became unsuccessful.

NIS has invited the athletics coach Naim and swimming coach Rafiq for higher study in the Institute for another two years at the cost of the institute.

## Gower joins John Major

LONDON, May 25: England's David Gower joined forces on Friday with Britain's most senior cricket fan, Prime Minister John Major, to launch a 10 million pound appeal for the memorial fund for disaster relief, reports AFP.

The former England captain and the Premier signed a cricket bat on the steps of No. 10 Downing Street.

The commemorative strip of willow will now be sent to the other Test-playing countries — West Indies, Australia, Sri Lanka, New Zealand, Pakistan and India — for signing by respective captains and Prime Ministers.

The bat will be auctioned at the end of the year and, with other fund-raising activities, the target should be reached in 1993.

## Khoka visits BSWA office

Sports Reporter The State Minister for Youth and Sports, Sadek Hossain Khoka yesterday visited the office of Bangladesh Sports Writers Association (BSWA).

Mr Hossain exchanged views with the members of the Association on development of sports in Bangladesh.

The State Minister was given a crest of the Association by the BSWA President Ziaul Haque.

## Soviet cagers keep winning

CANBERRA, May 25: The Soviet Union clinched a 70-68 victory against Australia in the final seconds of a women's basketball international challenge match here, reports AFP.

Earlier China never looked like losing against rivals South Korea with a convincing 98-70 win.

The Soviets, with 43 seconds on the clock, took the lead by one point for the first time in the Friday night match.

A point on a foul with one second to go resulted in the two-point triumph.

It had been Australia's game throughout the first half when the local women played strongly.

With some great steals and rebounding in defence from Michele Timms and excellent shooting from Robyn Maher and Martina Pearce, they took their first-half lead to 50-40.

The Soviets steadied in the second half to use their tall Natalia Zafoulakia for attack and Elena Khoudachova in defence to whittle down Australia's lead.

The South Koreans were rattled in their attack in the first half their characteristic quick passes failing to open.

# England wrap up one-day series

Sports Reporter

England wrapped up their three-match one-day series against the visiting West Indians at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday by scoring a dramatic nine-run victory in the second match, according to BBC monitored in Dhaka last night.

England won the first one-day by one wicket on Friday. The third one-day is at the Lord's on Monday.

**Scores:** England- 270 for four in stipulated 55 overs West Indies- 261 for eight in 55 overs.

AP said in an earlier report, an opening stand of 156 by captain Graham Gooch and Mike Atherton and a fast half-century from Allan Lamb steered England to a total of 270 for four off its 55 overs in a one-day, cricket international against the West Indies Saturday.

Atherton, who top scored with an unbeaten 69 in the first game at Edgbaston, again was leading scorer at Old Trafford with 74. Gooch, who failed to score in the first game, hit 54.

Lamb hit out for 62, reaching his half century off only 40 balls.

Already one ahead from the one-wicket victory at Edgbaston, England looked set to win the three-match series after just two games. The third game is at Lord's on Monday.

The 270 was England's highest ever one-day score against the West Indies, who are regarded as the world's best side.

Both openers departed with the score on 156. Gooch was bowled by Carl Hooper trying an extravagant cut from outside his leg stump and Atherton was caught on the boundary by substitute fielder

Brian Lara off Curtley Ambrose. Lara replaced Gordon Greenidge who limped off with a leg injury.

Zimbabwe-born Graeme Hick, who scored 14 in his first England appearance at Edgbaston, hit 29 while Lamb tore into the West Indies bowling with cuts, pulls and drives. He eventually got out when he was caught by wicketkeeper Jeffrey Dujon off Patrick Patterson's bowling.

## SCOREBOARD

**England**  
Gooch b Hooper 54  
Atherton c sub (Lara) b Ambrose 74  
Hick b Ambrose 29  
Lamb c Dujon b Patterson 62  
Fairbrother not out 6  
Ramprakash not out 5  
Extras (b-4 lb 16 w-14 nb-6) 40  
Total (for four wickets-55 overs) 270  
Fall of wickets: 1-156, 2-156, 3-258, 4-260.

Did not bat: C Lewis, D Pringle, J Russell, P Defreitas, R Illingworth.

**Bowling:** O M R W  
Ambrose 11 3 36 2  
Patterson 10 1 39 1  
Walsh 11 0 56 0  
Marshall 10 0 45 0  
Simmons 4 0 30 0  
Hooper 9 0 44 1  
Incomplete

hite at Chelmsford on Friday and replaced them as leaders of the county cricket championship, reports Reuter.

John Stephenson flying 40 off 38 balls, with five fours and a six, to hurry Essex to the target with 14 balls to spare.

Earlier, Warwickshire had been bowled out for a modest 162 with wicketkeeper Mike Garnham having a field day with six catches and paceman Steve Andrew claiming four for 38.

Somerset fell an agonising 13 runs short of victory in a thrilling finish as their game against Derbyshire ended in a draw at Derby.

John Morris hit a brisk 91

in Derbyshire's innings, before David Graveney induced a collapse with a fine spell of left-arm spin to snare five for 68 from 44.3 overs, 21 of them maidens.

Chris Tavare hit a brisk 26 and Graham Rose kept the pace going with 32 but the required run rate of more than seven an over proved too much to Somerset in the end.

Middlesex settled for a draw with Sussex at Hove, closing on 191 for six after being set 244 to win in what became 45 overs.

Middlesex's victory chances were effectively ended after Mike Gatting had been run out for 31, following a robust opening partnership of 73 between Mike Roseberry and Ian Hutchinson.

Earlier Sussex, resuming on 50 without loss, tumbled to 203 all out as off-spinner John Emburey took seven for 71.

John Morris hit a brisk 91

in Derbyshire's innings, before David Graveney induced a collapse with a fine spell of left-arm spin to snare five for 68 from 44.3 overs, 21 of them maidens.

Chris Tavare hit a brisk 26 and Graham Rose kept the pace going with 32 but the required run rate of more than seven an over proved too much to Somerset in the end.

Middlesex settled for a draw with Sussex at Hove, closing on 191 for six after being set 244 to win in what became 45 overs.

Middlesex's victory chances were effectively ended after Mike Gatting had been run out for 31, following a robust opening partnership of 73 between Mike Roseberry and Ian Hutchinson.

Earlier Sussex, resuming on 50 without loss, tumbled to 203 all out as off-spinner John Emburey took seven for 71.

John Morris hit a brisk 91

in Derbyshire's innings, before David Graveney induced a collapse with a fine spell of left-arm spin to snare five for 68 from 44.3 overs, 21 of them maidens.

Chris Tavare hit a brisk 26 and Graham Rose kept the pace going with 32 but the required run rate of more than seven an over proved too much to Somerset in the end.

Middlesex settled for a draw with Sussex at Hove, closing on 191 for six after being set 244 to win in what became 45 overs.

Middlesex's victory chances were effectively ended after Mike Gatting had been run out for 31, following a robust opening partnership of 73 between Mike Roseberry and Ian Hutchinson.

Earlier Sussex, resuming on 50 without loss, tumbled to 203 all out as off-spinner John Emburey took seven for 71.

John Morris hit a brisk 91

# Essex on top

LONDON, May 25: Essex, chasing 93 runs in 15 overs, sped to a nine-wicket victory over Warwickshire at Chelmsford on Friday and replaced them as leaders of the county cricket championship, reports Reuter.

John Stephenson flying 40 off 38 balls, with five fours and a six, to hurry Essex to the target with 14 balls to spare.

Earlier, Warwickshire had been bowled out for a modest 162 with wicketkeeper Mike Garnham having a field day with six catches and paceman Steve Andrew claiming four for 38.

Somerset fell an agonising 13 runs short of victory in a thrilling finish as their game against Derbyshire ended in a draw at Derby.

John Morris hit a brisk 91

in Derbyshire's innings, before David Graveney induced a collapse with a fine spell of left-arm spin to snare five for 68 from 44.3 overs, 21 of them maidens.

Chris Tavare hit a brisk 26 and Graham Rose kept the pace going with 32 but the required run rate of more than seven an over proved too much to Somerset in the end.

Middlesex settled for a draw with Sussex at Hove, closing on 191 for six after being set 244 to win in what became 45 overs.

Middlesex's victory chances were effectively ended after Mike Gatting had been run out for 31, following a robust opening partnership of 73 between Mike Roseberry and Ian Hutchinson.

Earlier Sussex, resuming on 50 without loss, tumbled to 203 all out as off-spinner John Emburey took seven for 71.

John Morris hit a brisk 91

in Derbyshire's innings, before David Graveney induced a collapse with a fine spell of left-arm spin to snare five for 68 from 44.3 overs, 21 of them maidens.

Chris Tavare hit a brisk 26 and Graham Rose kept the pace going with 32 but the required run rate of more than seven an over proved too much to Somerset in the end.

Middlesex settled for a draw with Sussex at Hove, closing on 191 for six after being set 244 to win in what became 45 overs.

Middlesex's victory chances were effectively ended after Mike Gatting had been run out for 31, following a robust opening partnership of 73 between Mike Roseberry and Ian Hutchinson.

Earlier Sussex, resuming on 50 without loss, tumbled to 203 all out as off-spinner John Emburey took seven for 71.

John Morris hit a brisk 91

in Derbyshire's innings, before David Graveney induced a collapse with a fine spell of left-arm spin to snare five for 68 from 44.3 overs, 21 of them maidens.

Chris Tavare hit a brisk 26 and Graham Rose kept the pace going with 32 but the required run rate of more than seven an over proved too much to Somerset in the end.

# Tall order for top seed Seles

PARIS, May 25: Defending champion Monica Seles would undoubtedly have liked to change places with Steffi Graf when the draw for next week's 100th French Open tennis championships was made here on Friday, reports AFP.

For when Spain's International Olympic Committee President Juan Antonio Samaranch drew the names out of the challenge cup inside the Roland Garros stadium — two of the Yugoslav player's most dangerous title challengers ended up in her half of the draw.

Consequently Seles, who took over as world number-one from Graf earlier this year but who has yet to win a clay-court



Steffi Graf, winner in Berlin on Monday when she defeated Arantxa Sanchez in a thrilling quarter-final and then the in-form Gabriela Sabatini in the semis.

Twice-champion Graf, on the other hand, looks more comfortable with a probable quarter-final against Wimbledon finalist Zina Garrison and a possible semi-final against either Arantxa Sanchez of Spain or a Mary-Joe Fernandez of the United States.

Capriati, seeded tenth, and a semi-finalist when she made her French Open debut last year, looks to have a clear run at a fourth-round berth where she should face seventh seed Spaniard Conchita Martinez.

Graf, winner in Berlin on Monday when she defeated Arantxa Sanchez in a thrilling quarter-final and then the in-form Gabriela Sabatini in the semis.

as the draw was about to be made.

She was particularly impressive and had the former Czech Davis Cup player stretching and lunging as she boomed back blistering returns.

That will be bad news for first-round Bulgarian opponent Magdalena Maleeva and ninth seeded Swiss-based sister Manuela Maleeva, who is seeded to face the German in the fourth-round.

Sanchez, who beat Graf in the 1989 final, appears to have a tougher first-round clash. She faces the talented Lori McNeil of the United States. She could well also face dangerous sixteenth seed Natalia Zverva of the Soviet Union, the 1988 finalist, for a place in the last eight.

# ACB announces W Cup venues

ADELAIDE, May 25: Eight cricketing nations will play 11 matches in New Zealand and 20 in Victoria and the South Australian Riverland town of Berri.

"It'll be great for country cricket," said ACB chairman Colin Egar after the Australian World Cup committee met

provincial cities have been selected as venues.

They are Mackay, in central Queensland, Albury in southern New South Wales, Ballarat in Victoria and the South Australian Riverland town of Berri.

"It'll be great for country cricket," said ACB chairman Colin Egar after the Australian World Cup committee met

here Friday.

"Normally touring sides travel to the Bush to play county teams in what you could say was a picnic atmosphere."

"But these will be serious matches with World Cup points at stake."

Mr Egar said the four regional centres all had "good venues and good pitches."

The World Cup starts on

February 22 next year when current champion Australia takes on co-host New Zealand in Auckland. Melbourne will host the final on March 25.

Five other Test-playing countries will take part: England, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the West Indies with Zimbabwe the eighth competitor.

# Top seeds face tough draw

PARIS, May 25: Andre Agassi, who has always predicted that 1991 was going to be his year, will have to do it the hard way if he's going to win this year's French Open which starts here on Monday, reports AFP.

The controversial American, who reached last year's final after shocking the famous Roland Garros stadium with his fluorescent clothes and flamboyant tennis, could hardly have been given a tougher first round draw.

The 21-year-old fourth-seed from Las Vegas learned Friday that he will be facing Mark Rosset — a powerful 6 ft 5 in (1.96 m) Swiss Davis Cup player who has climbed into the top 30 from near obscurity over the past two seasons.

The fair-haired Rosset, also 21, who won his home Geneva tournament in 1990 and who reached the finals at Madrid and Gologna, is no respecter of reputations and on his day has the ability to beat anyone in the world.

But if Agassi manages to weather the early storm, he should not have too many problems reaching the quarter finals where he will probably face the winner of an all-Spanish fourth-round clash between 11th-seed Emilio Sanchez and fifth-seed Sergi Bruguera.

Another player who must have winced when he saw the draw for the centenary tournament, made by IOC President Juan A Samaranch, was three-times champion Ivan

Lendl.

The third-seeded Czech will open his campaign against dangerous clay-court specialist Martin Jaitte of Argentina.

And if he survives, Lendl will then probably find himself playing 13th seeded Jonas Svensson of Sweden for a place in the last eight. Svensson is the man who ended Lendl's hopes of a consecutive hat-trick of wins here in 1988.

The top seeds, Stefan Edberg and Boris Becker, will both be particularly anxious to do well after their humiliation of last year, when they crashed out of the world's supreme clay-court event in the first round.

Edberg was bundled out by Brugera and Becker failed against Goran Ivanisevic of Yugoslavia.

Edberg will face a qualifier, but Becker, a recent finalist at Monte Carlo and still bidding for a first clay-court tourna-

ment title, will need to be particularly vigilant.

The German player's first round opponent will be Jorge Arrese of Spain — the man who spoiled Bjorn Borg's comeback hopes in Monte Carlo.

Edberg, who could have a tough encounter with David Wheaton of the United States or Horst Skoof of Austria in the second round, is seeded to play John McEnroe in the fourth round.

But the moody New Yorker, aged 32 and seeded 15, will have to tread a minefield if he is to reach that showdown with the world number one.

In the first round, McEnroe comes out against the competent Soviet player Andrei Cherkasov, and if he reaches the second round, could well find himself facing former Wimbledon champion, Pat Cash of Australia.

The 38-year-old Evergreen Jimmy Connors, who was given

a wild card into the tournament, can expect plenty of support from the Paris crowds.

Always a great favourite in the French capital for his "blood-and-thunder" style of tennis, Connors faces compatriot Todd Witsken in the first round.

He could also reach a third round match with the 1989 champion Michael Chang.

Chang seeded 10th, opens against Jan Siemerink of the Netherlands and is seeded to face Guy Forget of France for a place in the quarter-finals.

Becker's fourth round opponent should be 16th seed American Brad Gilbert.

Also facing a tough first-round tie is another American, sixth-seed Pete Sampras, who plays hard-hitting Austrian Thomas Muster in his opening match. The winner could well play three-times champion Mats Wilander of Sweden in the third round.

# ICC likely to readmit SA

LONDON, May 25: Leading South African republic will be readmitted to international cricket this year, reports Reuter.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) will consider the South African application at their annual meeting here in July.

South Africa have not been a member of the ICC since pulling out of the Commonwealth in 1961 and they have not played official Test cricket since 1970.

"We are quietly confident," Bacher, the last person to captain South African in an of-

icial Test, told a news conference.

"On what basis would they reject it? I think it would be totally illogical."

Bacher, a member of the newly-formed United Cricket Board of South Africa, and Steve Tshwete, the sports spokesman for the African National Congress (ANC), have been talking to cricket officials and politicians here this week.

Bacher said they had met the high commissioners (ambassadors) from the West Indies nations as well as those of New Zealand and Sri Lanka.

"Every high commissioner, particularly the West Indians, were so keen to hear what was happening in South Africa."

Bacher said by the time of the ICC meeting from July 10-12 South African cricket would have a non-racial controlling body for the first time in 100 years and all apartheid laws would have been removed from the statute books.

Tshwete, who spent 15 years in Robben Island jail with ANC Deputy President Nelson Mandela, urged the international community to support the application.

"We are supporting the application because we are fully behind the UCB he said.

# Gascoigne may soon move to Lazio

ROME, May 25: Lazio have agreed a deal with Tottenham Hotspur over Paul Gascoigne and he will probably move to Italy soon, the Italian news agency ANSA said on Friday, reports Reuter.

Gascoigne's projected world record 14.5 million-dollar move to Lazio seemed to have fallen through after he suffered severe knee ligament damage in Saturday's F A Cup final

against Nottingham Forest. He underwent surgery on Sunday.

But in a report from London, where Lazio officials ended a four-day visit to discuss the transfer, ANSA said the Italian soccer club had agreed to oversee Gascoigne's recovery.

ANSA said the England midfielder would formally remain the property of the English club until next season but would probably move to Rome this summer and Lazio

would be responsible for his recovery until he could play for