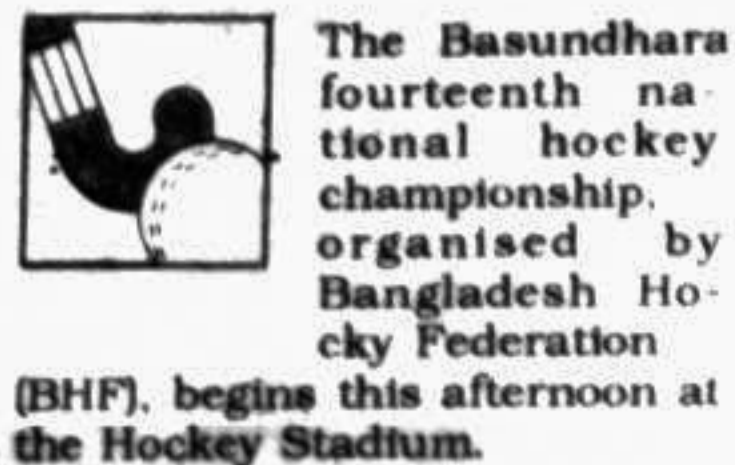


National meet from today

Sports Reporter



The Basundhara fourteenth national hockey championship, organised by Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF), begins this afternoon at the Hockey Stadium.

The participating teams have been divided into two groups 'A' and 'B'. The Group 'A' consists of BKSP, Bangladesh Army, Dhaka Education Board, Faridpur, Chittagong, Narayanganj, Patuakhali, Bogra and Munshiganj DSAs, Bangladesh Police and Bangladesh Railway while Dhaka University, Engineering University, Dhaka, Sylhet, Mymensingh, Jessore, and Chuadanga DSAs, Bangladesh Air Force, Bangladesh Navy and Bangladesh Ansar are making up Group 'B'.

onship will be Taka 3.50 lakh of which this year's sponsors Basundhara Abasik Prakaipa will provide Tk 2.50 lakh. Shah Sports - sports goods wholesalers - will provide the trophy for the winners. They will also give fair play trophy and best player's and highest scorer's trophies.

Kabaddi league gets underway

Sports Reporter

Mirpur Ekadash and Jurain Janata Club recorded comfortable victories in their respective matches on the inaugural day of the Dhaka Kabaddi League yesterday at the Outer Stadium kabaddi court.

Eighteen teams, divided into four groups, are taking part in this year's league, organised by Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation.

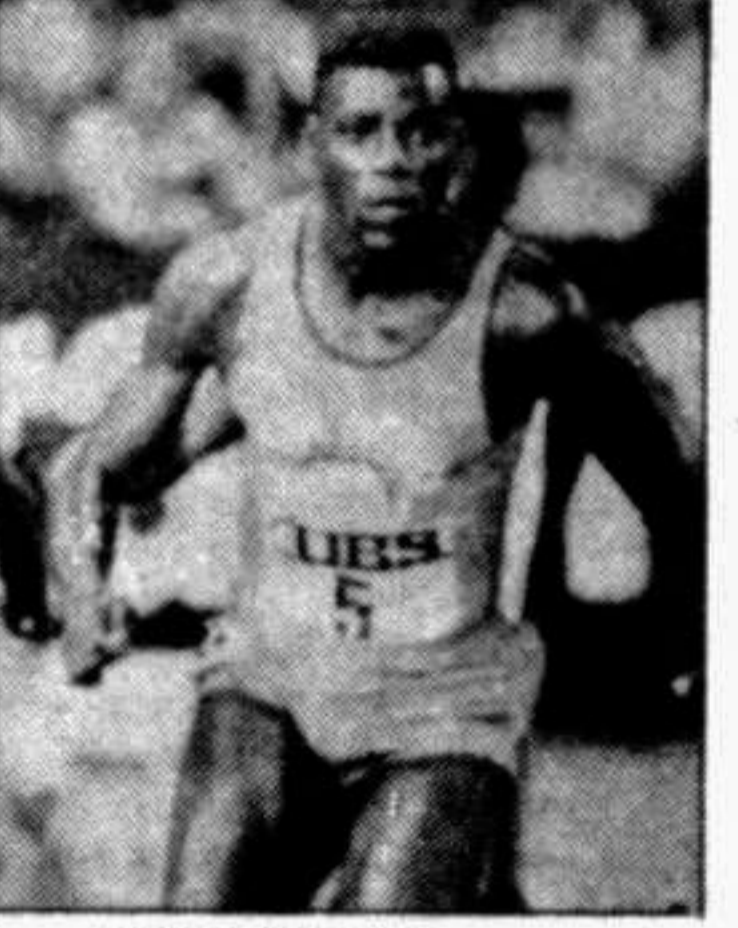
The teams in Group D are: Azad Sporting, Imarat Nirman, Sramik Unnayan, Anirban Sangshad and Dilkusha Sporting Club.

New goals keep Lewis going



ZURICH, Aug 9: Six-times Olympic champion Carl Lewis, struggling to dominate the 100 metres as he used to, has kept his motivation by fixing new goals - like Wednesday's 4 x 100 metres relay record, reports Reuter.

relay record. When he has something to focus on, he gets the motivation.



But he has the potential to break the long jump record and he can win (over 100) in Tokyo. When he has the goal he will be ready for it.

The American quarter took advantage of the warm conditions and Zurich's traditionally enthusiastic crowd at Europe's richest meeting.

Tom Tellez, Lewis's coach at the Santa Monica Track Club, believes such world record attempts are helping keep Lewis's concentration as the years go by.

Carl faced a bit of a mental downer this year when he was unable to go for the world long jump record at altitude in Italy because of bad weather.

Lewis has relished this season's battle for supremacy. "It was good that the French got the record because it made it all the more competitive," he said.

Jahangir, Martin in semis



MELBOURNE, Australia, Aug 9: Australian Rodney Martin and Pakistan's Jahangir Khan set up a world squash title rematch when each qualified for the semifinals of the Australian Open here Friday, reports AFP.

Nancarrow had earlier been banned from tournament squash for six months by a committee of the Players' Association including Jahangir, but his behaviour on-court Friday was exemplary.

In the semis, the older Martin will meet second seed Chris Dittmar, who dropped only 21 points in a sizzling demolition of Pakistan's Mir Zaman Gul.

E Bengal, Calcutta MSC clash today

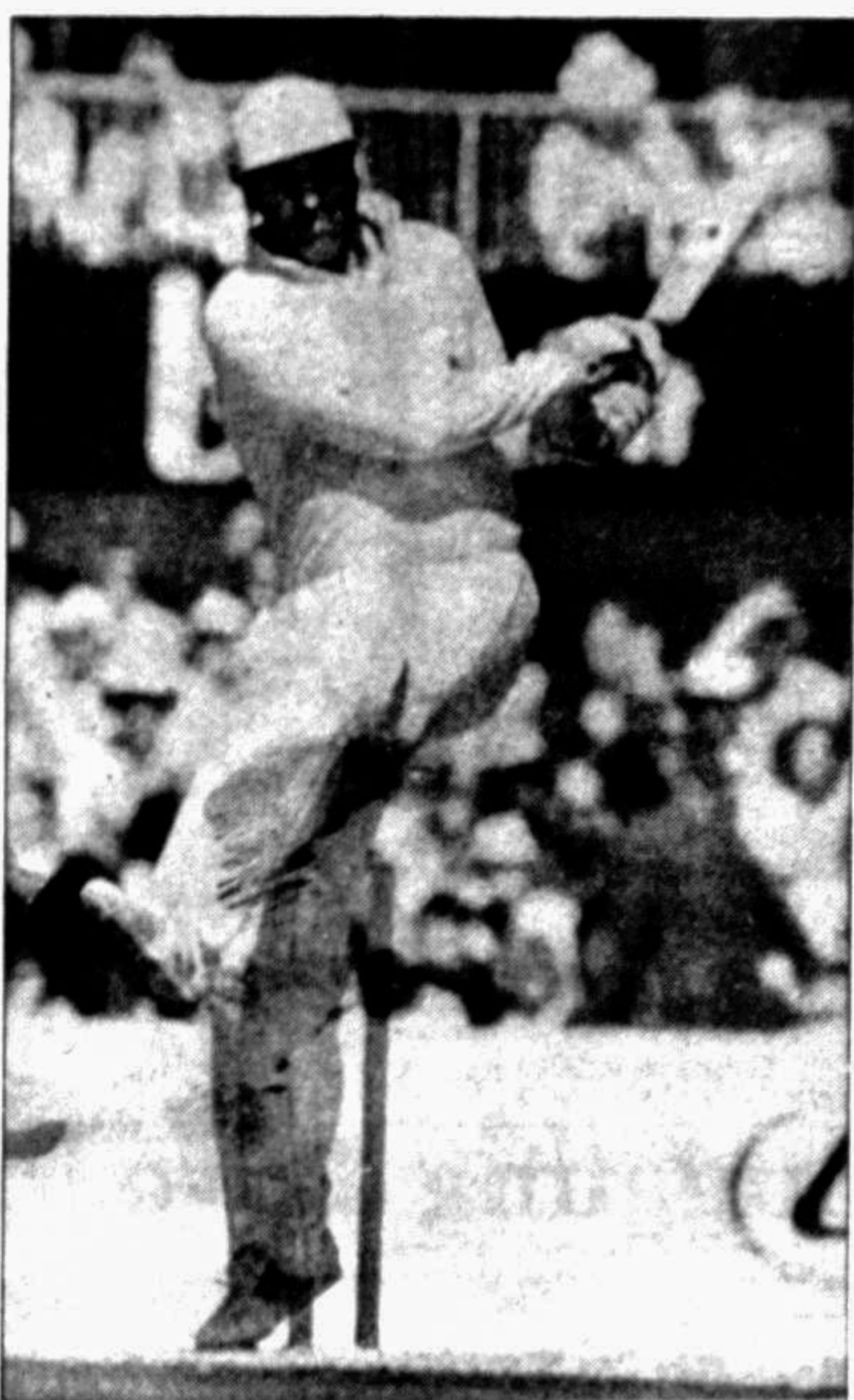
Sports Reporter East Bengal Club and Calcutta Mohammedan Sporting will clash today in the crucial second round match of the Calcutta Super Division football league at the Salt Lake Stadium.

Liverpool sign up Mark Walters

LIVERPOOL, Aug 9: Liverpool signed winger Mark Walters from Glasgow Rangers for 1.2 million pounds sterling (2.04 million dollars) on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Sanderson opts out of Tokyo team

LONDON, Aug 9: Former Olympic javelin champion Tessa Sanderson withdrew from Britain's World Championship athletics team on Thursday because of back injury, reports Reuter.



England captain Graham Gooch plays off Courtney Walsh on the first day of the fifth cricket Test against West Indies at the Oval on August 8.

Smith hits defiant ton



West Indies were 90 for the loss of one wicket at close on the second day of the fifth and final cricket Test match against England at the Oval Friday, according to BBC monitored in Dhaka late last night.

That stroke took him past 2,000 runs in Test cricket in only his 50th innings for England.

West Indies' slow over rate again reduced the tempo of play but England will have been satisfied with the 79 runs scored from the 24 overs bowled in the two hour session.



ROBIN SMITH On Thursday, Robin Smith again rescued England after they were on the verge of collapse.

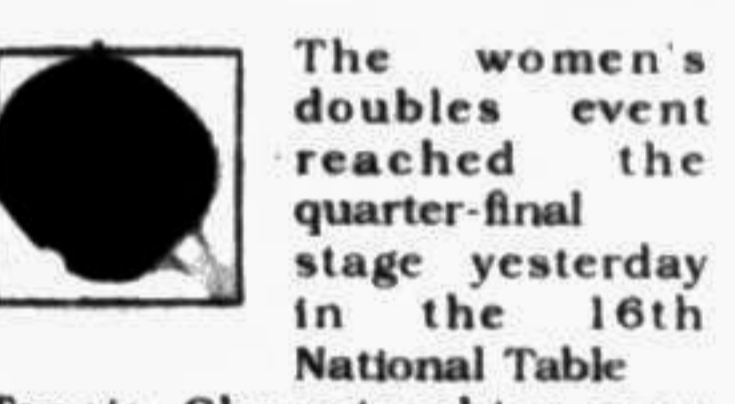
The left hander's helmet with a vicious rearing ball which hit him on the side of the face.

Both Ambrose and fellow fast bowler Courtney Walsh increased the tempo and for half an hour England's batsmen faced a ferocious barrage.

Smith, back after injury, batted superbly with a mixture of defence and occasional aggression after the loss of three quick wickets had threatened to toss away the advantage of England's best opening stand of the series.

Women's doubles in quarters

Sports Reporter



The women's doubles event reached the quarter-final stage yesterday in the 16th National Table Tennis Championships now being held at the National Coaching Centre.

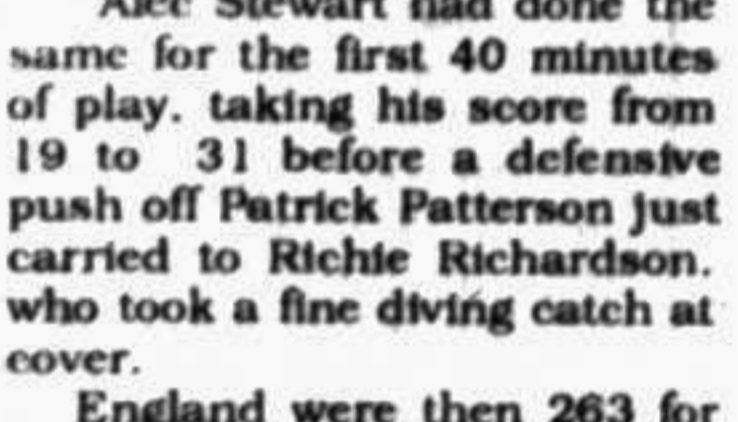
they registered comfortable victories against Salma and Dipa of Patuakhali. Favourites Linu and Shabana made it to the quarters without much fuss disposing of Nila and Eeli of Gaibandha.



Trisha of Narail seen in action during a women's singles match in the 16th national TT championships at the National Coaching Centre yesterday.

Smith looked less comfortable than on Thursday, obviously troubled by the finger injury which sidelined him for the fourth Test.

Springboks doubtful for Tokyo



JOHANNESBURG, Aug 9: South African athletes linked to a rebel bid to take part in the World Athletic Championships in Tokyo this month said on Wednesday they had nothing to do with application, reports Reuter.

metres this year. Pieterse has also distanced himself from the letter. The IAAF on Tuesday turned down Van Zyl's request, saying the body could not accept individual applications and that a decision to attend must be taken by the South African Amateur Athletics Association (SAAAA).

National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela asking him to intervene in the dispute, an IAAF spokeswoman in London said.

BCCI collapse hits Imran



LAHORE, Pakistan, Aug 9: Pakistan cricket star Imran Khan's multi-million dollar cancer hospital project narrowly escaped a setback with the collapse of Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI), reports AFP.

Some SAAAA officials who voted against Tokyo indicate they could be persuaded to change their minds, but with only a week before the August 14 deadline for accepting a place in the Championships, it seems unlikely the Springboks will be there.

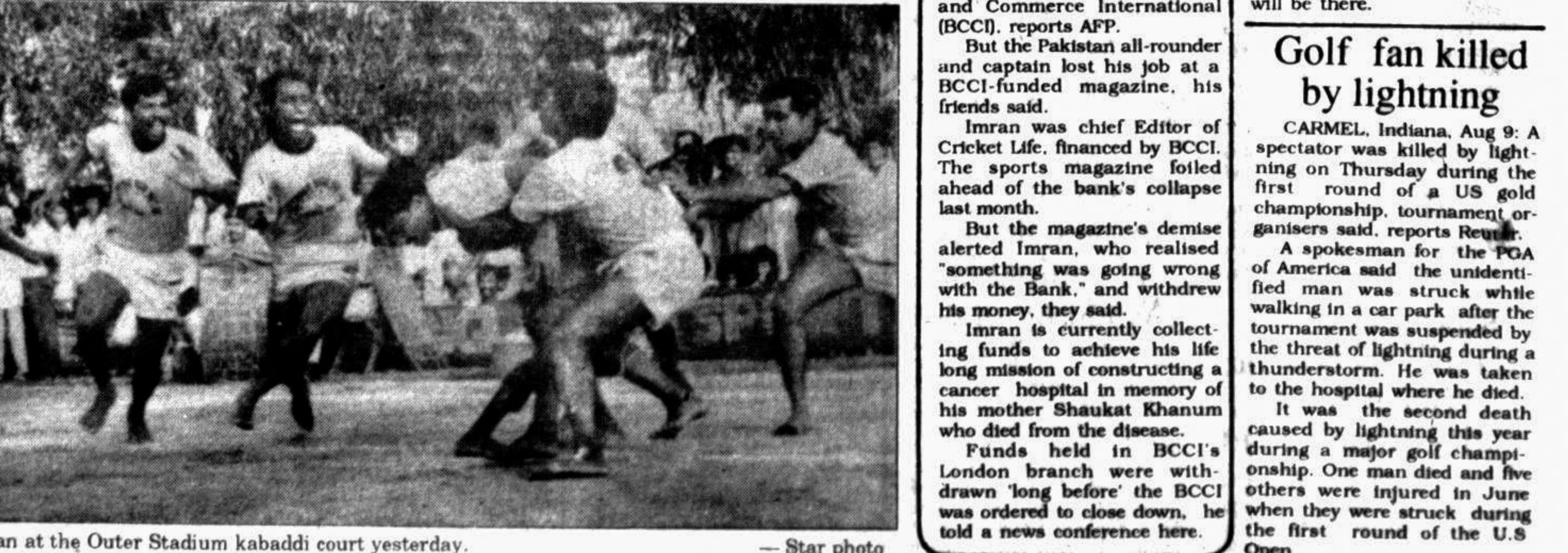
Imran was chief Editor of Cricket Life, financed by BCCI. The sports magazine foiled ahead of the bank's collapse last month.

Golf fan killed by lightning

CARMEL, Indiana, Aug 9: A spectator was killed by lightning on Thursday during the first round of a US gold championship, tournament organisers said, reports Reuter.

Imran is currently collecting funds to achieve his life long mission of constructing a cancer hospital in memory of his mother Shaukat Khanum who died from the disease.

Imran was chief Editor of Cricket Life, financed by BCCI. The sports magazine foiled ahead of the bank's collapse last month.



The Dhaka kabaddi league began at the Outer Stadium kabaddi court yesterday.