

Zulekha, Shamima retain women's doubles crown

Zulekha and Shamima of Bangladesh Ansans retained the women's doubles crown by winning the final match of the event at the sixteenth national table tennis championships yesterday at the National Coaching Centre.

Fine start by BKSP

The reigning champions Bangladesh Kriya Shikshya Protishthan (BKSP) sent early warnings when they routed newcomers Munshiganj District Sports Association 5-1 in the inaugural match of the Basundhara fourteenth national hockey championship yesterday at the Hockey Stadium.

last five minutes of the proceedings BKSP alighted home three more goals. Mahfuz, Noor and Akhter were the scorers.

Participating teams are: Group 'A': BKSP, Bangladesh Army, Faridpur, Chittagong DSA, Dhaka Education Board, Narayanganj, Bangladesh Railway, Bangladesh Police, Patuakhali, Bogra and Munshiganj DSA.



The BKSP and the Mymensingh DSA stickwinders clash for control of the ball in yesterday's inaugural match of the national hockey championship at the Hockey Stadium. BKSP won 5-1.

Bangladeshi girls pip England, boys go down to India

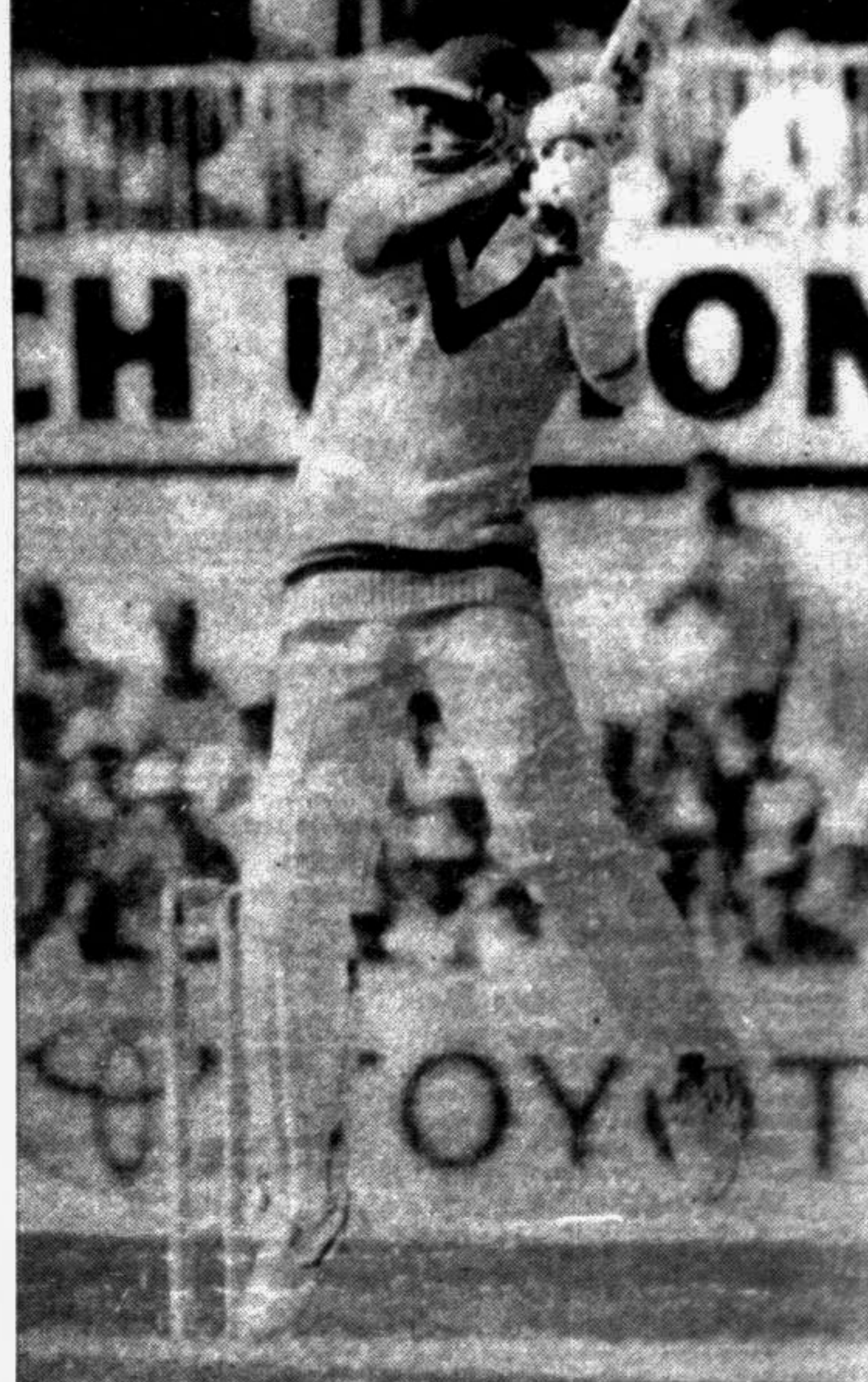
NEW DELHI, Aug 10: Favourites Nigeria and hosts India brushed aside their rivals with stunning ease in the fourth Commonwealth handball championship here today, setting up a title clash with each other on Tuesday, reports PTI.

The girls' section presents a similar picture, with India and Nigeria well ahead of their opponents, tallying four points each off three and four matches respectively.

Windies forced to follow-on

LONDON, Aug 10: West Indies, replying to England's first innings total of 419, were all out for 176 on the third day of the fifth and final cricket Test at the Oval today, reports Reuters.

West Indies were forced to follow-on after 243 runs behind. Earlier report said, West Indies quickly posted a challenging reply after Robin Smith's second century of the series boosted England to a first innings 419 on Friday, reports Reuters.



Desmond Haynes of West Indies, who carried the bat, seen square cuts on second day of the fifth Test against England on August 9

Table with cricket scores: Ramprakash c Lambert b Hooper 25, Stewart c Richardson b Botham 31, Lewis not out 47, Defreitas c Dujon b Walsh 7, Lawrence c Richards b Walsh 9, Tufnell c Haynes b Patterson 2, Extras (b-8 lb-10 nb-35) 54.

Sabantini, Capriati to clash in semis

TORONTO, Aug 10: Top-seeded Gabriela Sabatini and third-seeded Jennifer Capriati advanced to a semifinal showdown with easy victories on Friday at the \$500,000-dollar Canadian Open women's tennis championship, reports Reuters.

Earlier in the week, Katerina Maleeva defeated the youngest of the three tennis-playing Mileeva siblings, Magdalena. Sabatini dominated Sukova, controlling all aspects of the match with her customary deep-topspin groundstrokes and pinpoint passing shots.

Zvereva offered little resistance against last month's Wimbledon semifinalist and admitted so afterwards. "You can try anything but I don't think it will work," Zvereva said. "I just thought it would be quite useless to run every ball down so I tried to hit hard."

Capriati camp pleads to quell rowdy Gaby fans

waving huge Argentine flags, singing songs, blasting a large horn and banging a large drum. Beddington said the person from the Capriati camp asked what the rules were about such noise.

The world title-winning Australian won the first two games but Jahangir stages a tremendous recovery to triumph 11-15, 9-15, 15-13, 15-8, 15-12.

Batistuta to join Fiorentina

ARGENTINA'S latest star soccer striker Gabriel Batistuta will join Fiorentina from Boca Juniors this month, the Italian Club's general manager Paolo de Crescenzo said on Friday, reports Reuters.

The drawn game by the only two unbeaten teams in the five-nation contest was marked by wrought tackles and heated exchanges between the rival players.

Syrian linkman Sibai Yasser was shown the red card in the 22nd minute for felling Kuwaiti forward Fawwas al-Ahmed, leaving his team with just 10 players for the remainder of the match.

Kabaddi results

Azad Sporting Club and Anirban Sangshad registered victories in their respective matches of the Dhaka Kabaddi league yesterday at the Outer Stadium kabaddi court.

Azad Sporting cruised to a comfortable 17-11 victory over Iamat Nirman Sramik Union after leading 13-4 at the breather.

In the other match, Anirban Sangshad survived a late rally by Dikusha Sporting Club to score a 15-14 points victory.

Today's matches: Railway vs Police (8 am), Patuakhali vs Narayanganj (2.30 pm), Air Force vs Mymensingh (4.00pm).

Sweet revenge for Jahangir

MELBOURNE, Aug 10: Jahangir Khan gained a measure of revenge against his World Open conqueror Rodney Martin by beating him in the Australian Open squash semifinals on Saturday, reports Reuters.

The world title-winning Australian won the first two games but Jahangir stages a tremendous recovery to triumph 11-15, 9-15, 15-13, 15-8, 15-12.

Wiranata shocked

MACAU, Aug 10: Indonesian ace Ardy Wiranata suffered a shock defeat at the hands of Malaysia's Rashid Sidek but still qualified for the semifinals in the 145,000 dollar 556 World Cup here Friday, reports AFP.

But the All-England champion topped the group to earn a semifinal berth against defending champion Wu Wenkai of China, winner of Group C.

Women's volleyball

Four matches were held on the inaugural day of the Beximco women's volleyball tournament, organised by the Bangladesh Women's Sports Federation, yesterday at the wooden-floor gymnasium.

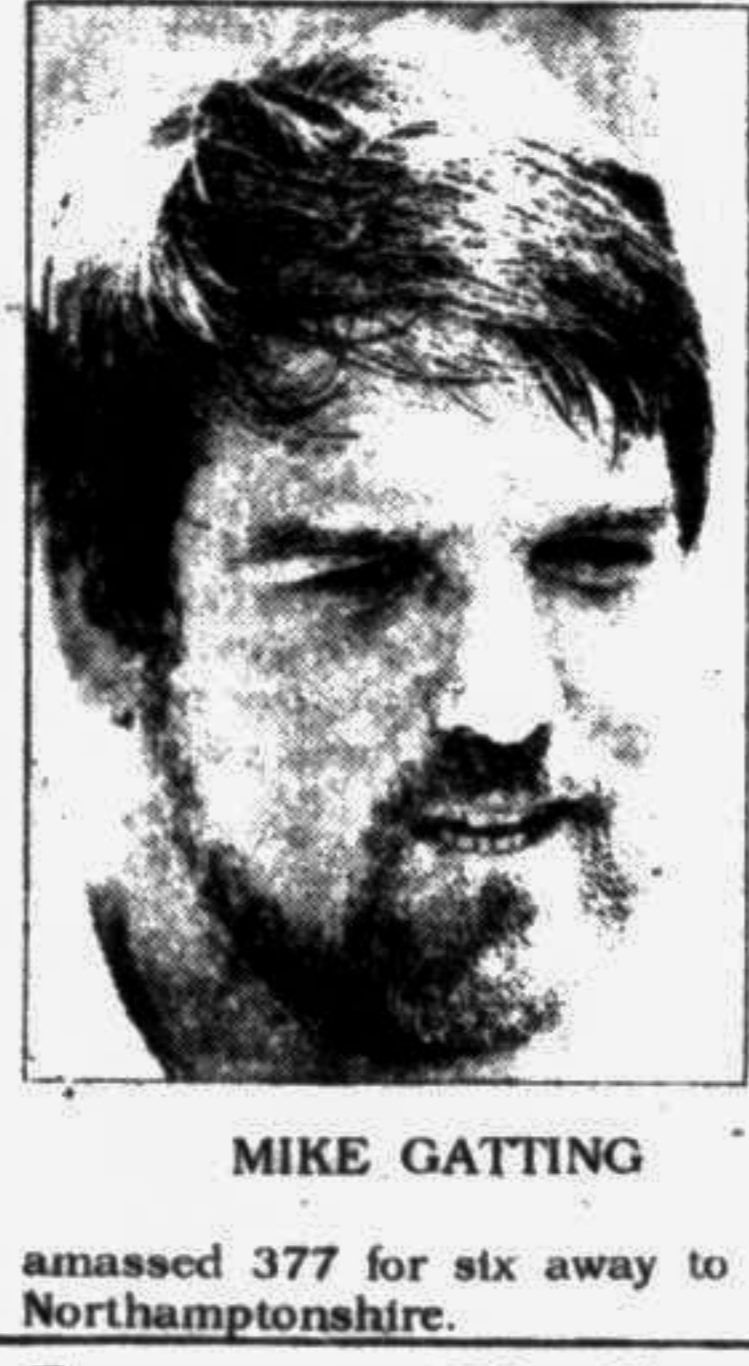
In the afternoon, Rangpur crushed Narayanganj 15-1, 15-0 while Khuina tamed Tangail 15-7, 15-2.

Fernandez, Halard in semifinals

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico, Aug 10: Top-seeded Julie Halard of France and second-seeded American Gigi Fernandez won on Friday to gain the semifinals of the 150,000-dollar Virginia Slims of Albuquerque women's tennis tournament, reports Reuters.

Getting hits double ton

LONDON, Aug 10: England rebel Mike Gatting showed his countrymen just what they are missing with a superb double century for Middlesex at Lord's on Friday, reports Reuters.



MIKE GATTING

Ugandan-born Asif (92) and Reeve (65) shared in a sixth-wicket stand of 134 to help erase the memory of successive defeats by Worcestershire and Surrey.

Div II cricket qualifiers

Three teams won their respective matches in the qualifying round of the Second Division cricket league yesterday at different venues of the city.

Maghbazur Kishalay Sangha scored an easy 44-run victory over Secure Torun Sangha at the City Club ground at Mirpur.

Badshah's father dead

Mr Abdul Majid Shah, a retired civil surgeon in the then East Pakistan, and also Superintendent and Principal of Sir Salmullah Medical College Dhaka, died yesterday of old age complications. He was 80.

E Bengal beat Calcutta MSC

CALCUTTA, Aug 10: East Bengal took a giant leap towards regaining the title when they humbled Mohammedan Sporting by 3-0 in their crucial second leg match of the Calcutta Super Division soccer league here today, reports PTI.

recruit, Kuljit Singh, added two more to complete the rout of Mohammedan Sporting.

Sheikh Aslam and Golam Gaus played for East Bengal.

Syria, Kuwait split points

HYDERABAD, India, Aug 10: Syria and Kuwait played out a crucial 1-1 draw Friday to keep their hopes alive of winning the Asian Group B pre-Olympic football tournament here, reports AFP.

The drawn game by the only two unbeaten teams in the five-nation contest was marked by wrought tackles and heated exchanges between the rival players.

Syrian linkman Sibai Yasser was shown the red card in the 22nd minute for felling Kuwaiti forward Fawwas al-Ahmed, leaving his team with just 10 players for the remainder of the match.



Zulekha and Shamima of Bangladesh Ansans seen in action in yesterday's women's doubles final at the national TT championships at National Coaching Centre - Star photo