

Sport

# Aslam isn't going anywhere

Sports Reporter

The country's most gifted striker Sheikh Mohammed Aslam put an end to all the week-long rumours when he decided to stay with the reigning league champions Abahani Krira Chakra for, at least, another season.

The ace Abahani and national striker came to the Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA) office yesterday to collect his token which he then gave to the Abahani officials.

The waiting Abahani fans turned ecstatic as soon as they saw their favourite forward, accompanied by the smiling Abahani officials, entering the Senior Division league office.

It was reported that both the rivals of Abahani, Dhaka league giants Mohammedan Sporting and Brothers Union, had been frantically trying to lure the prized striker into their camps.

Abahani, who had earlier lost their defender Kazi Kamal to Brothers Union and their right back Aman, who also plays in the national under-23 side, to Bangladesh PWD, made some amends when they managed to sign up Brothers Union's leftback Nira and PWD's former national stopper back Haroon.

Meanwhile, title aspirants Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club bolstered their already formidable squad by signing up the speedy winger Joshi from Brothers Union yesterday. Joshi, once considered one of the most dangerous wingers in



Gifted Abahani striker Sheikh Md. Aslam, who collected his token yesterday but gave it to the Abahani officials. — Star photo

When contacted yesterday, Joshi told this correspondent that he had now fully recovered from his nagging injury. Mohammedans' national goalkeeper Syeed Hasan Kanan, whose services were also sought by a number of clubs, collected his token and handed it over to Salam Mursheidi, Mohammedan's football manager.

Salam Mursheidi, who still has the distinction of being the highest goal scorer in a season, told the Daily Star yesterday that he was very happy with Kanan, who according to him, was the only player who did not haggle over money.

The Mohammedan manager said that he was fully satisfied with his team's signing so far. He also added that PWD Club will be the dark horses in the coming season.

Mustakim and Salaudin of Mohammedan Sporting joined Dhaka Wanderers Club and Farashgani Club respectively.

Another Abahani, defender Rajat sought transfer in favour of the newly-promoted Eskaton Sabuj Sangha.

As many as 225 footballers have so far changed their colours while 303 players have collected their tokens.

Today is the last day of this year's soccer transfers.

## Anderson faces a four-year ban

OSLO, Sept 10: Norwegian shot putter Georg Andersen, silver medalist at the Tokyo World Championships, faces a four-year ban from athletics if allegations of drug taking are substantiated later on Tuesday, reports AFP.

Norwegian Federation President Lars Lartin Kaupung said he would comment today.

# England can't do without Botham

LONDON, Sept 10: England have decided they cannot do without Ian Botham — even if he is late for their winter cricket tour of New Zealand, reports AFP.

The Test and County Cricket Board is allowing Botham to arrive three weeks late for a tour where his all-round abilities will be crucial in the World Cup.

This means the 35-year-old will be able to finish his pantomime season in Bournemouth and round up his TV panel game before flying out in time for the second of three Tests against New Zealand — which would be his 100th.

Botham is not the only player missing the opening weeks of England's campaign which also includes the World Cup in Australia.

Worcestershire colleague Richard Illingworth will also be travelling with Botham because, say the TCCB, the slowleft-arm spinner will not have enough opportunity to play in the early weeks.

The main surprise in the 17-man senior squad is the inclusion of both Mike Atherton and Agus Fraser.

Atherton faces a four-month battle for fitness after recent back surgery while fast bowler Fraser has bowled only 40 first class overs this summer.

Fraser, who last bowled in June, sees a specialist later this month for the latest verdict on a chronic hip complaint for which he was told rest is the only cure.

If Atherton is unfit for the New Zealand tour, there would be no replacement for him — and he could still then go on the 'A' team tour of the West Indies which starts in mid-February.

But if Fraser is unable to prove his fitness by the time Graham Gooch's team leaves England on December 27, then Warwickshire's Dermot Reeve will step up from the 'A' team squad into the senior party.

Reeve's Warwickshire colleague, Tim Munton, would then join the 'A' tour.

Atherton's doubtful fitness means England's selections have taken a huge gamble for the New Zealand Test series — which shows in itself just how much priority Gooch, Micky Stewart and Ted Dexter are giving to the World Cup.

If Atherton pulls out of the New Zealand tour, it will leave Gooch as the only specialist opener, with Alec Stewart presumably the man who would partner him in the Tests.

And if Atherton is then fit enough for the tour, he could find himself the fourth recognised opener in the West Indies alongside the tour captain Martyn Moxon, last winter's 'A' team captain Hugh Morris, and Surrey's Darren Bidkneel.

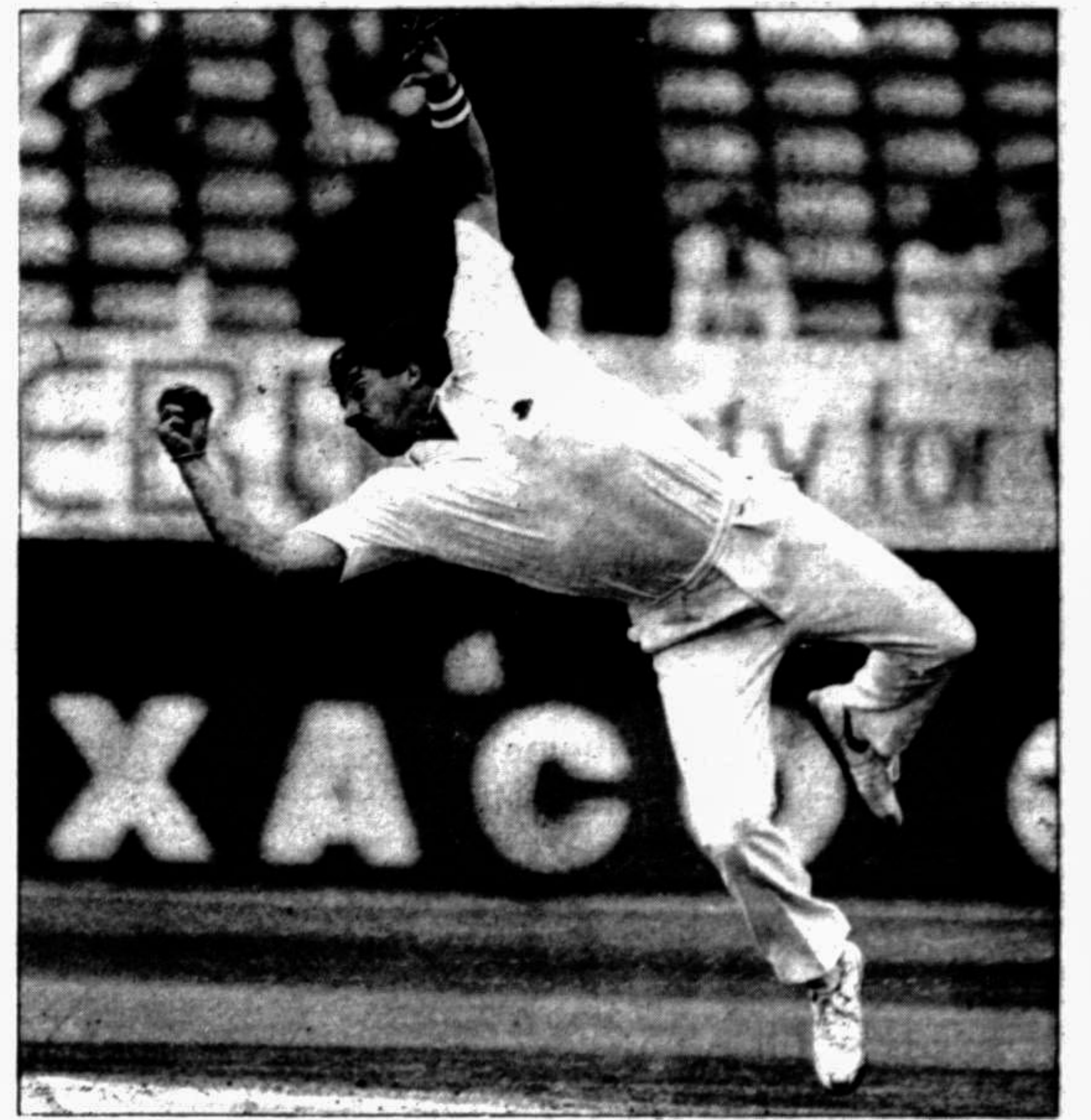
If Atherton cannot play England would face the first three weeks in New Zealand — including the first Test — with only 14 players because of the absence of Botham and Illingworth.

Glamorgan's Morris is the only member of England's last two Test sides to miss out on the senior trip.

Caribbean if he is not needed for the World Cup.

But team manager Micky Stewart added: "To be honest, Ian was specifically selected for the World Cup—but it's also probable that he will make his a very high criteria on this trip.

In the World Cup, when only two fielders can be outside the circle during the first



IAN BOTHAM — the brilliant all rounder once again proves indispensable for English selectors.

will name a replacement batsman for the 'A' party.

England chairman of selectors Ted Exter explained why Botham was being allowed to arrive late.

"We looked at the itinerary and decided there was a cut-off date by which time a player had to be in New Zealand if the was to compete effectively in the World Cup," Exter said.

"Ian Botham had not been put on a winter contract in advance, so was quite free to make other arrangements. But he has now been able to meet the criteria that we set out for him.

"Ian Botham, along with everyone else, will undergo all the pre-tour training preparations. These are extensive and he will be as fit as anybody when he joins the tour."

100th Test appearance in New Zealand.

Dexter and Stewart stressed that they felt both Atherton and Frase should be given every chance of proving their fitness.

On the lack of a second specialist opening batsman should Atherton not make New Zealand, Dexter said: "The opening batting is not seen as

15 overs, traditional opening batsmanship will not be at a premium."

## New deal for Gooch & Co

LONDON, Sept 10: Graham Gooch and the rest of England's top cricketers will benefit from a million pound coaching scheme announced on Tuesday, reports AFP.

The seven-figure deal, sponsored by city investment managers Whittingdale, will help to provide Gooch and co with the best specialist help available over the next four years.

"We are investing in England's future, trying to make sure it is as healthy as it possibly can be," said company chairman Patrick Whittingdale.

The firm will underwrite the cost of preparing the senior England team, the England 'A' squad and other leading players for their winter tours and for the international series at home up to 1994-5.

"We are building on the experience gained from the practice and training programme said Micky Stewart.

**ITINERARY**  
England's winter itinerary:  
Dec. 27 Depart UK  
Jan 2 V Auckland  
Jan 4 V NZ emerging players, Maramba (3 day)  
Jan 8 V NZ U-19 XI, Napier (3 day)  
Jan 11 V NZ 1st one day intern'l, Auckland  
Jan 14 V NZ XI, Auckland, Nelson (3 day)  
Jan 20 V New Zealand, First Test, Christchurch  
Jan 25 V Central District, New Plymouth (3 day)  
Jan 31 V New Zealand, 2nd Test, Auckland  
Feb 8 V New Zealand, 3rd Test, Wellington  
Feb 12 V NZ 2nd one day intern'l, Dunedin  
Feb 15 V NZ 3rd one day intern'l, Christchurch  
World Cup  
Feb 17 travel to Australia for World Cup  
Feb 23 V Sri Lanka, Peth  
Mar 1 V New Zealand, Wellington  
Mar 4 V West Indies, Sydney  
Mar 8 V Pakistan, Melbourne  
Mar 11 V Zimbabwe, Canberra  
Mar 14 V India, Sydney  
Mar 18 V Australia, Melbourne  
Mar 21-22 World Cup sem semifinals  
Mar 25 World Cup final, Melbourne

## English squad named

LONDON, Sept 10: England's cricket selectors on Tuesday named the following squad for the 1991-92 tour of New Zealand, to be followed by the World Cup in Australia and New Zealand, reports Reuter.

Graham Gooch (Captain), Michael Atherton, Ian Botham, Phillip DeFreitas, Neil Fairbrother, Angus Fraser or Dermot Reeve, Graeme Hick, Richard Illingworth, Allan Lamb, David Lawrence, Chris Lewis, Derek Pringle, Mark Ramprakash, Jack Russell, Robin Smith, Alec Stewart, Phil Tufnell.

# Cricket comes to Wembley

LONDON, Sept 10: Cricket comes to Wembley Stadium for the first time on September 28 when a European XI, led by David Gower, meets a Rest-of-the-World side captained by Australia's Allan Border, reports AFP.

The match is part of Crickathon '91, a charity fund raising programme which has the backing of cricket-loving Prime Minister John Major.

Also expected to play in the day-night 50 overs per side game are Graham Gooch and several other members of the current England side.

from Hove says: Peter Moores cracked a superb 66 as Sussex beat Gloucestershire on a faster scoring rate to clinch the Seaboard Trophy for the second time in three years at Hove on Monday.

The scores were tied at 222 and both teams lost nine wickets.

There was nothing to separate the teams in a countback to 30 overs, but Sussex were declared the winners on the score after 20 overs, having made 70 compared to Gloucestershire's 63.

Moores slammed seven fours and two sixes off 56 balls and his masterly innings rivaled Sussex's fortunes after they slumped to 119 for seven.

"Man-of-the-match" Moores added 86 in only 13 overs with Bradleigh Donelan, who cracked 24.

Sussex needed three from the final over by paceman Martin Gerrard, and after Moores was caught at mid-off Ian Salisbury and last man Rodney Bunting, managed a run each in the last five balls as the scores finished level.

England wicket-keeper Jack Russell earlier struck 74 and put on 104 with Tim Hancock (59) as Gloucestershire recovered from a bad start.

Russell hit three fours and a six, while Hancock showed more aggression with five fours and two sixes in his innings.

## SOCCER SCENARIO

### Reuter to Replace Klinsmann

FRANKFURT, Sept 10: German coach Bertl Vogts on Monday named Stefan Reuter of Juventus as sweeper and left out World Cup striker Juergen Klinsmann from his team to face England in a soccer friendly on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

Vogts had problems with the key libero role after an injury to Borussia Dortmund's Thomas Helmer and a five-month suspension on Bayern Munich's Thomas Berthold, the natural replacement for retired World Cup player Klaus Augenthaler.

Reuter, who often played as a sweeper for his former club Bayern when Augenthaler was injured, has a superb chance to make the role his own in Berthold's absence.

Klinsmann will start on the substitutes' bench with Lazio teammates Karlheinz Riedle and Thomas Doll teaming up in attack, Vogts said before the Germans flew to London.

The selection is an experiment to try out the striking partnership at international level. Vogts also gave a second cap to in-form Bayern midfielder Stefan Effenberg.

**Team:** Bodo Illgner, Stefan Reuter, Juergen Kohler, Guido Buchwald, Thomas Haessler, Stefan Effenberg, Lothar Matthaus, Andy Moeller, Andreas Brehme, Thomas Doll, Karlheinz Riedle.

### Charges against Gascoigne reduced

NEWCASTLE, England, Sept 10: Assault charges against England international footballer Paul Gascoigne have been reduced, reports Reuter.

Tony Glover, prosecuting, told Newcastle upon Tyne magistrates on Monday that the two charges of assault occasioning actual bodily harm "were being changed to 'common assault'."

As these were lesser charges, they could be dealt with only before magistrates, he added.

The injured Tottenham Hotspur player, who is due to join the Italian club Lazio next year, was not in court to answer the charges.

Tyneside-born Gascoigne, 24, of Clyde Road, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, was charged after a brawl outside an Italian restaurant in Collingwood Street, Newcastle, on July 13.

He allegedly assaulted John Beach, 34, of Vicars Way, Longbenton, Newcastle, and Gian Fulgenzi, 23, a waiter at the restaurant.

Gascoigne's solicitor Mike Smith, who said he was acting as an agent for a London firm, applied for a three-week adjournment.

The magistrates agreed to adjourn the case until September 30 and granted unconditional bail.

### Wale's hopes dented

BERGAVENTY, Wales, Sept 10: Wales' hopes of qualifying for the European youth football championship finals vanished here on Monday night when they could only draw 1-1 with Iceland, reports AFP.

Helgi Sigurdsson scored for Iceland after seven minutes.

Bury midfielder Ian Hughes salvaged some Welsh pride with a 28th minute equaliser.

Iceland travel to Selhurst Park on Thursday to face England, who need just one point to qualify for next year's finals.

## Woods succeeds Shilton

LONDON, Sept 10: Chris Woods, for, so long the understudy to Peter Shilton as England's first-choice goalkeeper, has finally been named his successor, reports AFP.

The 31-year-old, who moved from Glasgow Rangers to Sheffield Wednesday last month, won the vote over Arsenal's David Seaman for the friendly international with world champions Germany on Wednesday.

England manager Graham Taylor said it was now up to the others to dislodge Woods who saw Seaman take over at the end of last season.

With several first-choice players unavailable through injuries and suspensions Taylor decided there could be no new caps for such a prestige occasion.

So the most Manchester city's Keith Curle, Paul Merson of Arsenal, Paul Stewart of Tottenham, David Burrows of Liverpool and Aston Villa's Tony Dalcy can hope for is a place among the substitutes.

Australian-born Tony Dorigo, who scored his first goal for Leeds against Manchester city on Saturday, steps up for Nottingham Forest's suspended Stuart Pearce in a defence where Manchester United colleagues Garry Pallister and Paul Parker are patred for the first time.

It is Pallister's first start since his late call-up to the European championship qualifier with Turkey in Azmir in May as deputy for injured Mark Wright.

The pair get their chance because Wright and usual partner Des Walker are both injured.

Taylor is delighted to again have Trevor Steven available. The former Everton and Glasgow Rangers midfielder, who joined Marseille for five million pounds in August, is a favourite of Taylor's.

The England chief was dismayed by the tendon injury which kept Steven out of contention after his last appearance in the Wembley victory over Cameroon in February "It's good to have Trevor available again," he said.

With Geoff Thomas struggling to overcome injury the selection of Steven alongside David Platt and David Batty in an interesting midfield was virtually automatic.

## Bangladesh booters to take part in Qatar tourney

The Bangladesh national football team will take part in the International Friendship Football Tournament, scheduled to be held in Qatar from November 12 to 25, it was decided yesterday in a BFF meeting.

The team which will represent Bangladesh in the SAF Games will be sent to take part in the tourney, alongwith four other teams — Iran, the UAE, India and hosts Qatar.

All the participating teams will be provided with air passage, accommodation and all other local hospitality by the organisers. Each team will also be given 4000 US dollars while the champions will receive an additional cash bonus of 6,000 dollars.

The BFF meeting also disclosed that the Egyptian national team will soon come to Bangladesh on a goodwill visit.

BFF will also organise an under 14 and an under 16 tournament to spot talent with a view to developing the standard of football in Bangladesh.

## Seven lead nat'l chess qualifiers

Sports Reporter

Seven players were jointly leading the points table after completion of the third round qualifying matches of the seventeenth national chess championship yesterday at the National Sports Council's chess room.

Fide master Riffat-bin-Sattar of Biman, Almasur Rahman of Ansars, Fide Master Jamilur Rahman of Ansars, Rafiqul Islam of Chittagong, Shahinoor Hossain, Shabana Parveen Nipa of Faridpur and Shahabuddin Ahmed Quarashi—all of whom were leading with each three points from three games each.

Rani Hamid of Biman, Khandokar Kayes Ilassan of Ansars, Nayamul Iloq Niru of Dhaka Metropolis, Syed Ruhul Kabir, Kalam of Metropolis, Khaled Shawkat of Metropolis, Ahmed Hossain Mojumder, Aminul Islam and SM Millat Hossain of Sirajganj followed them with each two and a half points.

In the third round Riffat-bin-Sattar of Biman defeated Ziaul Kader Toohin, Fide Master Jamilur Rahman of Ansars defeated Malnuddin Momoon, Rafiqul Islam of Chittagong defeated Syed Moniruzzaman.

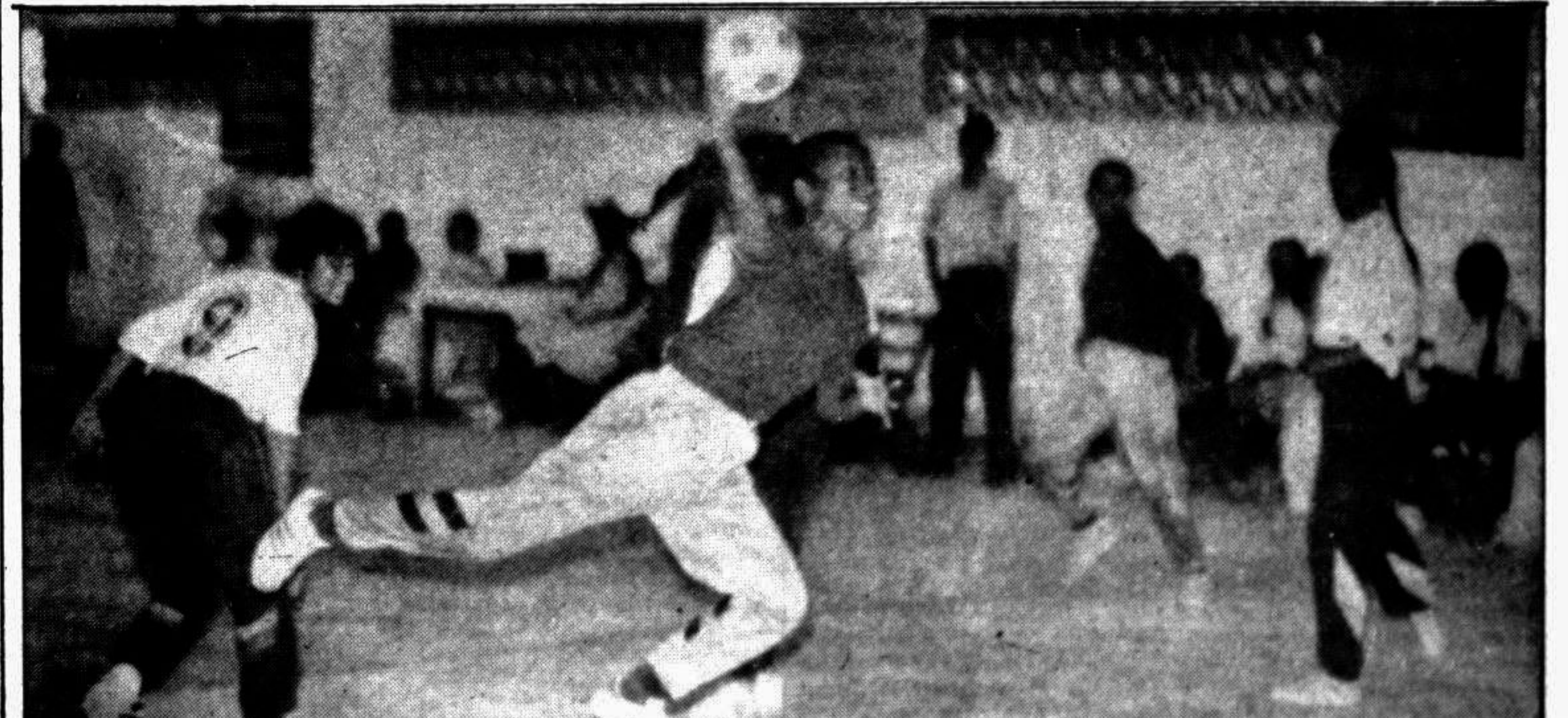
On the other hand, Afroza Khanam was defeated by Shahinoor Hossain, Sharifuzzaman was defeated by Shabana Parveen Nipa of Faridpur.

Meanwhile, Shahabuddin Ahmed Quarashi earned full points against Nazrul Islam Delu and Rani Hamid defeated Amir Hossain.

Kalam of Metropolis defeated Khorshed Alam but failed to join the leaders due to his early loss of half a point. He and international woman master Rani Hamid were chasing the leaders with two and a half points.



The 17th National chess qualifiers in progress yesterday of the National Sports Council. Seven players were leading the points table after the completion of the third round matches yesterday. — Star photo



The Karnaphuli women's handball match between Dhaka DSA and Bangladesh Ansars in progress yesterday at Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex. — Star photo