

Biman overcome defiant PWD

Sports Reporter

It was a close for title contenders Bangladesh Biman in the 13th Damal Summer cricket tournament against lowly PWD SC at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Despite having reduced their opponents to two down for nought, Biman allowed PWD to muster 168 for the loss of nine wickets in the 43 overs that their bowlers managed to send down within the time stipulated for the scheduled 45 overs. In reply, the airlines batsmen made heavy weather of reaching their target of 169 for the loss of six wickets with only three balls to spare.

Tension mounted as Biman had to play the last of their own 43 overs quota for the winning hit and they can thank their lucky stars for not having crashed in their maiden outing in the 1991-92 season.

In the end, the win ensured Biman's passage to the Group D final on Nov 18 where they will meet the winners of the

Abahani Kriya Chakra versus Dhaka Wanderers Club.

Winning the toss Biman put PWD in to bat and their decision soon appeared to have been justified when both PWD openers Abir and Tutul were back in the pavilion without a run on the board.

But PWD refused to surrender so early and so easily. Partha and Shaheen produced two defiant knocks to thwart the Biman bowlers in their bid to slice through the PWD innings and when the last over was bowled the underdogs had salvaged the situation and their pride to a great extent by refusing to be bowled out, finishing on 168 for nine.

Partha played a gallant knock of 47, punctuated with four hits across the fence and two over it. Shaheen's was a more laboured, patient effort, his forty consisting of just a solitary boundary hit.

Ehsan and Kamrul, who made 17 and 16 not out respectively, also contributed their mite to the rebuilding efforts of Partha and Shaheen. A generous dose of 30 extras also

added to the health of the PWD total.

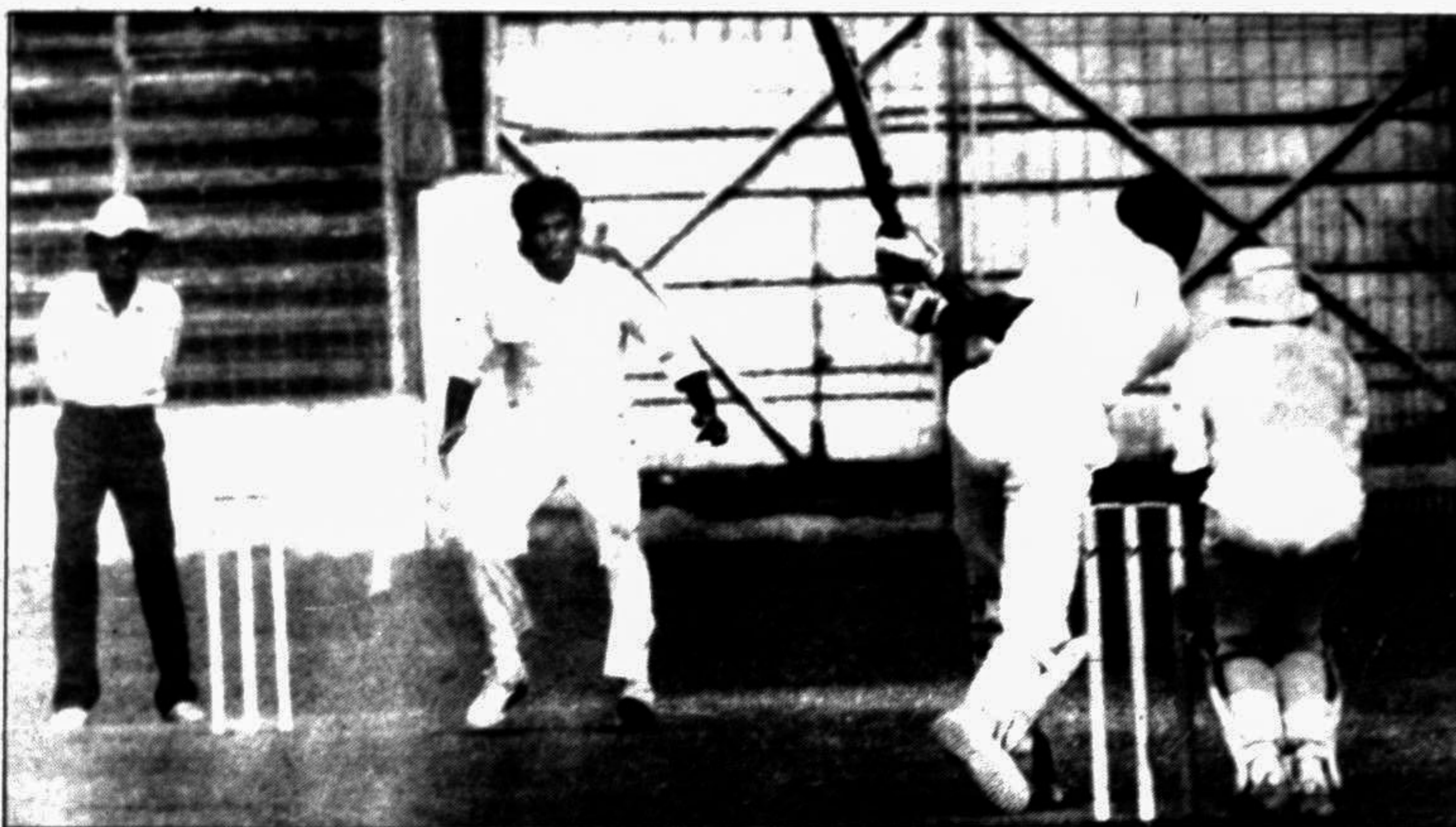
Biman's bowling honours were shared by both their spinners and medium-pacers. While medium-pacer Piyal returned the best figures of two for 25, Ahmed Iqbal Bachechu's off-spin fetched him two for 32, Iqbal collected two for 34 and veteran medium-pacer Alike Chakrabarty one for eleven.

Bangladesh Biman, thanks mainly to a fine knock of 62 by Selim Shahed on his debut for his new side after moving over from reigning Damal champions Dhaka Mohammedans, reached 169 for the loss of six off 42.3 overs.

Selim Shahed's knock included two boundaries. Munir also made a fine start in the new season with the bat by making 56 runs. Saifu made 16.

Towhid, Tutul Fazlu, Ehsan and Shaheen picked up a wicket apiece for PWD.

TODAY'S MATCH
Mohammedan Sporting vs Sarjo Tarun (Dhaka Stadium)



Action from yesterday's Damal summer cricket tournament match between Bangladesh Biman and PWD SC at the Dhaka Stadium. —Star photo

38-run win gives India series

GWALIOR, Nov 12: South Africa's taste of their first victory after readmission to world cricket was kept in hold Tuesday when India beat the republic by 38 runs in the second one-day international here, reports AFP.

India wrapped up the watershed series 2-0 with the win, which followed their three-wicket triumph in the Calcutta inaugural Sunday marking the end of 21 years of international sporting isolation for South Africa.

The 30,000-strong home crowd at the Roop Singh Stadium celebrated with fireworks as the match ended with darkness falling.

Chasing a target of 224 runs after putting India in to bat on a wicket reputed to be a batsman's paradise, South Africa managed just 185 for the loss of eight wickets.

Kepler Wessels, the only player in the side with previous international experience from playing for Australia, hit a patient 71 in a sheet-anchor role after opener Jimmy Cook fell for a duck with no runs on the board.

Kapil Dev snared Cook, a prolific scorer in English county cricket, into edging a catch to wicketkeeper Kiran More.

Wessels, named man-of-the-match along with Indian Sanjay Manjrekar, added 94 runs for the second wicket with Mandy Yachad who scored 31. Adrian Kuiper (21) and skipper Clive Rice (12) were the only other batsmen to enter double digits.

Left-arm spinner Venkatapathy Raju scalped three wickets for an expensive 43 runs. Kapil and fellow medium-pacers Manoj Prabhakar and Javagal Srinath kept the South Africans on a tight leash, giving nothing away, and shared five wickets.

India's total of 223 for six was built around a 130-run partnership for the first wicket between recalled open-

er Krishnamachari Srikanth and Navot Sidhu.

Srikanth, who replaced Ravi Shastri in the squad, struck 68 and Sidhu 61. Manjrekar weighed in with a typically elegant unbeaten 52.

Fast bowler Allan Donald was again the pick of the South African bowlers, removing skipper Mohammad Azharuddin for 19 to a catch by Peter Kirsten in the covers and clean bowling Kapil for three and Pravin Amre for four.

The Indian win reduced the third and final international at New Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium Thursday to mere academic interest.



Kepler Wessels (L) and Sanjay Manjrekar shared the man-of-the-match award yesterday.

AP adds: Fog, overnight drizzle and an overcast sky delayed the start of the match for one hour, with play finally starting at 10 am (0430 GMT).

About 30,000 fans cheered and clapped as they waited for the match at the Captain Roop Singh Stadium in this 500-year-old city named for the Hindu saint Gwala.

The Indian military's Scottish band, replete with bagpipes and kilts, circled the field periodically to entertain the fans.

"We had a nervous start. It has been a strenuous trip, but again the result is not important as the occasion is," said Chris Day, the South African team's spokesman. "This is our ambassadorial event. This tour goes beyond cricket."

Day said the three-match tour will improve the reconciliation process in South Africa,

whose steps toward dismantling racial separation policies prompted the Commonwealth summit to lift its cricket ban.

South Africa was banished from international cricket in 1970 for its apartheid policies of racial discrimination.

"We already feel a part of India, a part of the world. The players feel they were performing much below their level on Sunday. Now they can only rise."

The South Africans brought in Mandy Yachad, Craig Matthews and Clive Eksteen, in place of Andrew Hudson, Tim Saw and Brian McMillan who played Sunday.



Portrait of a player.

Tuesday's time loss forced organizers to reduce the overs to 45.

Gwalior, a city of 1.2 million people in central India, had seen only three international cricket matches before Tuesday. The last one was in 1986 when Australia played against a national team championship club.

Indian newspapers blamed the South African defeat in the first match on lack of international exposure and absence of support to bowler Allan Donald.

"Lack of competitive cricket at international levels, rather than talent, seems to be the major handicap for South Africa," the Hindustan Times said. "Hence it was not surprising that cohesion and temperament were not up to the mark in their opening match."

The Tribune, published in

Punjab state north of New Delhi, said the South Africans exposed the Indian team's thin bowling attack.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the one-day cricket match between India and South Africa today:

INDIA

Srikanth c Yachad b Snell	68
Sidhu c Eksteen b Rice	61
Manjrekar not out	52
Tendulkar c Richardson b Matthews	4
Azharuddin c Kirsten b Donald	19
Kapil Dev b Donald	3
Amre b Donald	4
Extras (b-1 nb-1 w-10)	12
Total (for six wickets, 45 overs)	223
Fall of wickets: 1-130; 2-144; 3-159; 4-202; 5-218; 6-223.	
Did not bat: K More, M Prabhakar, V Raju, S Srinath.	
Bowling: O M R W	
Donald	9 1 36 3
Snell	9 0 43 1
Matthews	9 0 41 1
Eksteen	2 0 18 0
Rice	9 0 46 1
Kuiper	7 0 38 0

SOUTH AFRICA

Cook c More b Kapil Dev	0
Yachad lbw b Raju	31
Wessels c More b Srinath	71
Kirsten lbw b Prabhakar	2
Kuiper c Azharuddin b Kapil Dev	21
Rice c Sub (Pandit) b Raju	12
Richardson c Kapil Dev b Raju	5
Snell c Manjrekar b Srinath	2
Matthews not out	10
Eksteen not out	6
Extras (b-3, lb-14, nb-3, w-5)25	
Total (for eight wickets, 45 overs)	185
Fall of wickets: 1-0; 2-94; 3-97; 4-144; 5-145; 6-162; 7-164; 8-167.	
Did not bat: A Donald	
Bowling: O M R W	
Kapil Dev	9 3 27 2
Prabhakar	9 1 19 1
Tendulkar	7 0 31 0
Srinath	9 0 34 2
Raju	9 0 43 3
Srikanth	2 0 14 0
Result: India won by 38 runs.	

Jone's ton earns Victoria draw

SYDNEY, Nov 12: Australian Test batsman Dean Jones buoyed his remarkable early season average with a second-innings 144 to guide Victoria to a draw against New South Wales in the Sheffield Shield on Monday, reports Reuter.

The score, following 68 in his first innings, boosted the 31-year-old right-hander's total to 455 runs at an average of 227.5.

Victoria, who scored 260 in their first innings finished the fourth and final day on 394 for six in their second innings, turning the match round after following on in face of New South Wales.

The South Australia-Tasmania match in Adelaide was also drawn after the team's first innings took more than 21 hours, or three and a half days, to complete.

Tasmania 314 for five overnight, were dismissed for 426 just over an hour after lunch after beating South Australia's first innings of 414. The Tasmanians spent 730 minutes at the crease and faced 201.3 overs after South Australia had been in occupation 534 minutes and 142.5 overs on the first two days.

The season's first five Shield matches have been drawn, but Test players have shown good form with Jones, Mark and Steve Waugh, Allan Border and David Boon making centuries.

Baltic states get IOC invitation

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, Nov 12: The International Olympic Committee (IOC) invited the three Baltic states to next year's Winter and Summer Games on Monday after IOC members formally voted to bring them back into the Olympic fold, reports Reuter.

The IOC's 94 members vote to readmit the three states in a postal ballot, the result of which was announced on Monday. Some members did not vote but none opposed the Baltics' re-entry.

The IOC said its president, Juan Antonio Samaranch immediately dispatched invitations to the three states to next year's Games in Albertville, France, and Barcelona.

The decision to recognise the Baltics' National Olympic Committees was taken in principle at an IOC executive board meeting in Berlin in September, shortly after the states were granted their independence by Moscow.

Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania were all members of the Olympic movement before their annexation by the Soviet Union in 1940. They never had their Olympic states formally withdrawn.

Their readmission takes the number of National Olympic Committee recognised by the IOC to 170.

According to IOC director-general Francois Carrard one group of Baltic athletes might still compete for the Soviet team at Albertville.

Some of their cross-country relay skiers are still training with their Soviet colleagues and would be allowed under Olympic rules to compete for either team.

Carrard said he would be attending a meeting in Moscow later this month of the 12 remaining Soviet republics. The 12 are to choose a flag and anthem for the Winter and Summer Games.

Jahangir, Martin miss world team championship

HELSINKI, Nov 12: World team squash championship favourites Australia and Pakistan start their campaigns today without key players Rodney Martin and Jahangir Khan respectively, reports Reuter.

Australia, the holders, have called up world number nine Rodney Eyles to replace world champion Martin, who failed a late fitness test on his injured foot.

Pakistan, champions from 1981 to 1987 and finalists in the biennial tournament two years ago, could be relegated to also-rans without world number two Jahangir.

The Pakistanis said on Monday he had withdrawn after aggravating damaged ankle ligaments.

Jahangir and Martin suffered injuries on successive days in the Canadian Open two weeks ago. Jahangir has since played in the Kiel Open while Martin has just come off crutches.

Supporting world number one Jansher Khan now are Pakistani veteran Maqsood Ahmed, ranked 110 in the world, and two newcomers — Ehsanullah Khan and Umar Zaman.

Overlooked were two players who have hovered around the top 10 mark recently, Mir Zaman Gul and Zarak Jahan.

Pakistan play Pool B second seeds England in their first match while Australia face Egypt in Pool A.

Pakistanis resent Carr's appointment as referee

KARACHI, Nov 12: A storm has erupted in Pakistan over the appointment of Donald Carr, the former England captain, as referee for Sri Lanka's cricket tour of Pakistan next month, reports AFP.

Carr has never been forgotten since he and some teammates allegedly assaulted Pakistan Test umpire Idrees Baig at Peshawar when he led the MCC side on a tour here in 1956.

Carr was appointed as referee for the Sri Lanka tour by the International Cricket Council (ICC).

But Nasimul Ghani, the first Pakistani Test player to score a century at Lord's, expressed dismay at the acceptance by the Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan (BCCP). He said: "Pakistan should not have given its consent for such a controversial person."

"Would England agree to Pakistan Test umpire Shakoor Rana's appointment as a referee after the controversial incident at Faisalabad in which another England captain, Mike

Gatting, was involved," said Ghani, who scored 101 at Lord's in 1962.

The incident at Peshawar 35 years ago almost caused the England tour to be halted. It was saved by Lord Alexander of Tunis, then president of the MCC, who offered to recall the team.

England cricketers on the tour said Idrees Baig was either thrown in a hotel swimming pool by players or had a bucket of water thrown over his head.

Carr denied any assault to an English disciplinary committee.

He was reported as saying "It was a joke that misfired." Arif Abbasi, treasurer of the BCCP, shared Carr's view of the incident.

The umpire at the centre of the controversy died three years ago, but according to Pakistan press reports told friends he was assaulted by Carr and his teammates for giving four England men out lbw.

Former Pakistan Test captain Abdul Hafeez Kardar, now Pakistan's ambassador in

Switzerland, said in a book "Test Status on Trial" it was an attempt to malign the Pakistani umpire.

Riaz Ahmed Mansoori, publisher of the Cricketer Monthly said, "Persons like Carr, who have been at the centre of any controversy, should be banned from being assigned such a position to remove the element of doubt."

Hasseeb Ahsan, a former chief of the Pakistan selection committee and a cricket columnist, said he too was "amazed" at the appointment.

He said there were others more acceptable but added: "In fact, there was no need for a referee for the Sri Lankan tour of Pakistan."

This is the first time the ICC has appointed an international referee to minimise and resolve controversial decisions during a Test series.

Carr will handle the Sri Lanka tour and Doug Insole, another former England and Essex player, has been named referee for the Australia-India series from November 29.

The Sri Lankans open their Pakistan tour with a three-day match here on December 8.

Timman denies Kasparov title

PARIS, Nov 12: Dutch Grandmaster Jan Timman beat Garry Kasparov of the Soviet Union in the final of the Paris Speed-Chess Masters tournament on Monday, handing the world champions his third defeat in four tournaments this year, reports Reuter.

"I did not play very well today," said Kasparov, who won the Tilburg tournament last week but came third in Amsterdam in June and Second in Linares in February.

Soccer trials

The football trials under the auspices of the Rampura Natun Kuri Sangshad for the formation of a team for the Pioneer football league will be held on November 14 and 15 at the Banant Chairman Bari playground, reports BSS.

Intending players have been requested to contact Natun Kuri's coach Khokan along with necessary gears.

years, said: "It has been a very hard match indeed."

By defeating the world champion in the first game and betting a draw at Kasparov's request in the second one, Timman pocketed 4,000,000 Francs (71,500 dollars). Kasparov had to be content with half as much.

Each player had a time limit of 25 minutes to complete his moves in the match.

Kasparov, playing white in a King's Indian set up, started to attack the black king's side. But Timman repelled him and went on the offensive.

Kasparov was eight minutes behind his opponent when at move 45 he was his queen and rook pinned. He shook his head several times and gave up.

Timman played very well in this tournament," the 28-year-old world champion said afterwards.

On his way to the final, Timman beat young American Gata Kamsky, former world champion Anatoly Karpov and India's Viswanathan Anand.

Anand, the fastest player in the circuit, admitted he lost

his semifinal earlier on Monday through over-confidence. "I was very excited and I got carried away," he said.

Kasparov previously defeated Alexander Kahlifan, Boris Geleland and Evgeny Barycev, all of the Soviet Union.

Indian SAF trials

NEW DELHI, Nov 12: The selection trials to choose the Indian athletics team for the South Asian Federation (SAF) Games will now be held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi on November 19 and 20, reports PTI.

The trials were earlier scheduled to be held at Salt Lake Stadium in Calcutta.

According to the Secretary, Amateur Athletic Federation of India, Mr Lalit K Bhanot, the coaching camp for the selected athletes also will be organised at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium from November 21 till the departure of the team.

The SAF Games will be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from December 22 to 31.

Indians to tour S Africa first

GWALIOR, India, Nov 12: India will be the first side to tour South Africa, probably next year, since bringing the republic back from 21 years of cricket isolation, top officials of the two countries said on Monday, reports Reuter.

"We will be moving towards more durable ties with a reciprocal visit to South Africa.

Tentatively, we have accepted their invitation to visit in November-December next year," Indian Cricket chief Madhavrao Scindia told Reuter.

Ali Bacher, manager of the South African side now playing three one-day matches in India, said the two countries would probably play a full Test series.

"At least, that's what we have in mind," he said after visiting the Taj Mahal in Agra with his squad.

"We have always said India will be the first team to tour South Africa," Bacher added when asked whether Pakistan could tour ahead of the proposed Indian series.

India was the first nation to impose sanctions on South Africa, in 1948, over its apartheid policies of racial separation and the two countries had never played each other until Sunday.

Scindia and Bacher spoke as the South Africans arrived in the central Indian city of Gwalior for the second one-day match of the series that opened in Calcutta on Sunday and brought South Africa back to the world cricket arena.

The South Africans lost the first limited-overs game by three wickets in front of at least 90,000 Indian fans who added to the cauldron of Calcutta's Eden Gardens, one of the world's biggest cricket stadiums, with constant barrages of firecrackers.

Bacher admitted his team, playing their first official cricket international since 1970 and their first abroad for 26 years, was overawed by the occasion.

"The biggest crowd I had ever played for was 29,000. In Calcutta, we were watched by 90,000 avid fans. I would have

been terrified to play there, it was all so emotional," he said.

That would not happen again, he added. "We are going to win the match tomorrow."

The ground in Gwalior, of which the Scindias were the Maharajahs until India abolished royalty in the 1970s, is nowhere near as big, but local cricket officials said it would

still be crammed to its 25,000 capacity.

The Eden Gardens pitch, slow with a low bounce, favoured the bowlers, but Gwalior groundsman Sita Ram said that would not be true of Tuesday's surface.

"It's a batsman's wicket, but let's see how it all goes tomorrow," he said.

Pakistanis remain hopeful

ISLAMABAD, Nov 12: Pakistani cricket officials said on Tuesday they remained hopeful that Pakistan would be the first side for 21 years to play in South Africa — despite comments to the contrary by Springboks manager Ali Bacher, reports Reuter.

Bacher said on Monday that South Africa had always proposed India being the first touring team.

But Shahid Rafi, secretary of the Board of Cricket Control in Pakistan (BCCP) said in an interview that South Africa had confirmed their offer of a one-day series in January.

"We were recently told by the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA) that our offer has been confirmed," he said. "We have expectations that they will live up to their words."

Rafi said Pakistan expected a positive response from South Africa as it was in their inter-

est to get exposure to one of the best one-day sides before the World Cup in February.

Pakistan had offered South Africa the option of playing a triangular series during Sri Lanka's Test tour of Pakistan next month, but they had other commitments, he said.

South Africa are playing three one-day games in India that were hurriedly arranged when Pakistan pulled out of a five-match series following threats by Hindu militants.

Deaf chess

Sports Reporter

The five-day third deaf chess tournament, under the auspices of the Dhaka Deaf Chess Club, began at the club's 62, Bijoy Nagar premises on Sunday last.

The meet was formally inaugurated by Shahidul Haq Jamal, MP, Chairman of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society.

Thirty deaf players are competing in the meet which is scheduled to conclude Nov 14, Thursday.

The chief guest made a grant of Taka 5000 for the tournament from his personal account.

Sonargaon squash

Sports Reporter

The final of the Sonargaon Hotel squash tournament will be held at the hotel's court at 4.30 this afternoon.

The prize-giving ceremony will follow at 5.30 pm, says a press release.



Satu Pusila of Finland seems to be pointing at Soviet Elena Thach during the double Le Trap event at the World Shotgun Championships in Perth on Nov 11. Pusila took gold and Thach claimed silver. — AFP photo