

Sajjad fails to save Railway

Sports Reporter

A fine all-round performance by Sajjad of Bangladesh Railway went in vain as City Club recorded a narrow 14-run win in the Milnars First Division cricket league, played at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Batting first, City Club were dismissed for 162 in 44.4 overs.

Opener Zakir top scored with 45 with the help of three fours.

Sajjad ran through the tail of the City batting with figures of four for 31.

In their reply, Railway recovered well after early set backs with useful knocks from Apu, Azam and Sajjad but fell short of the target by 14 runs due to lack of application by the lower batsmen.

Sajjad went one better with the bat to become the highest

scorer for his side with 34 made with the help of two fours.

Sohel wrought havoc with the ball claiming four Railway wickets for only fifteen runs.

SCOREBOARD

City Club		Railway	
Zakir at Alam b Titu	45	Titu b Pappa	1
Moni run out	7	Alam b Soheli	0
Shipon b Babu	14	Ripon at Kumu b Soheli	2
Tinku c Selim b Azam	10	Selimi b Bappi	17
Ganiam run out	15	Sumon (jr) run out	6
Sohel b Ripon	15	Extras	16
Babbi at Alam b Sajjad	13	Total	148
Nahid lb Sajjad	2	Bowling: O M R W	
Salahuddin b Sajjad	0	Salahuddin	8.4 1 26 2
Pappa c b Sajjad	14	Bappi	9 2 36 1
Kumu not out	0	Nahid	8 1 29 0
Extras	27	Soheli	9 3 15 4
Total	162	Pappa	7 2 22 2
Bowling: O M R W		Shipon	2 0 14 0
Sumon (jr)	3 0 12 0		
Selimi	5 1 20 0		
Ripon	8 0 34 1		
Titu	9 4 15 1		
Babu	6 0 25 1		

Azam	5	0	15	1
Sajjad	8.4	0	31	4

B Railway

Shahir c Kumu b Salahuddin	8
Babu c Kumu b Salahuddin	0
Apu c Pappa b Soheli	32
Azam at Kumu b Soheli	26
Pallab c Nahid b Pappa	6
Sajjad not out	34
Titu b Pappa	1
Alam b Soheli	0
Ripon at Kumu b Soheli	2
Selimi b Bappi	17
Sumon (jr) run out	6
Extras	16
Total	148
Bowling: O M R W	
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Bappi	9 2 36 1
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Soheli	9 3 15 4
Pappa	7 2 22 2
Shipon	2 0 14 0

TODAY'S MATCH

Udity Club vs Ajax

BFF yet to pick final 18 for SAF Games

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) was yet to select the final names for the 18-member football team for the upcoming fifth South Asian Federation SAF Games in Colombo until late yesterday.

The delay over the finalisation of selection is believed to have been caused by the injury problem of Rumanan bin-Wah Shabbir, a key player of the Bangladesh football team.

Shabbir is reported to have suffered injury during the recent Asian Club Cup football championship in Doha, Qatar while playing for his club Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club last week.

According to the medical reports based on the tests conducted by the National Sports Council Shabbir is fit enough to accompany the side. But apparently Shabbir did not look fit.

The BFF is likely to declare the side today from among the list of 22 players who have been provisionally selected and imparted intensive training over the past month.

E Bengal in IFA Shield final

CALCUTTA, Dec 18: Holders East Bengal romped into the final of the IFA Shield football tournament brushing aside local challengers Railway Football Club 3-0 in the semi-final match at the Salt Lake Stadium here yesterday.

The Calcutta giants dominated the proceedings right from the beginning finding the target in the 12th minute of the opening scason. In the 33rd minute they were gifted a self goal by the Railways and mid way through the second half they scored again to send the Railway men packing.

Ranjit Saha began the scoring spree when he basted home from close range off a floater from the right flank by Steven Prindeville. Neil Edmonds produced the other goal for the winners in the second half.

East Bengal will now take on Army XI in the final slated for Thursday.

UEFA raises Euro Cup entries

WIENNEF, Germany, Dec 18: The number of teams in the finals of the European Championship should be raised from eight to 16 from 1996, Hermann Neuberger, Germany's leading soccer official, said on Tuesday, reports, Reuters.

Neuberger, president of the German Soccer Federation (DFB), said he had put a detailed plan for expanding the tournament to the European Football Union (UEFA) at the recent World Cup draw in the York.

"When the finals with eight teams were introduced in 1980, we had only 32 federations," Neuberger told reporters at the German national team's training camp.

"Now we have 38 and I am sure that it will be 42 in a year's time. A 16-strong tournament would last only three days longer."

Numbers are set to increase following the independence of the Baltic states and the strong likelihood of many Soviet republics wanting to compete as separate teams in the future.

Changes in Indian SAF Games squad

NEW DELHI, Dec 18: The government today withdrew clearance granted to three athletes who tested positive in the dope test conducted by the Sports Authority of India, reports PTI.

Meanwhile, it added four more to the boxing squad for the SAF Games, besides the 12 cagers and five officials cleared yesterday.

The government also agreed to include long-jumper Shyam Kumar in the team after the SAI certified that he was in the training camp for the Games.

The names of Amrit Bose for deputy chief-de-mission, R Ranwar as treasurer and Guljar Singh (Basketball Manager), G.S Ojha (table tennis manager) were too cleared today.

The athletes who have tested positive are Manjit Singh (shot put), Vinod Kumar (Javelin) and a promising 100 metres runner Kulwinder Singh.

The urine samples of Manjit and Vinod Kumar contained Nandrolone, while that of Kulwinder, a junior champion, tested for both Nandrolone and Testosterone.

The government has not cleared so far Praveen Jolly (1500 m) and Sheopat Singh (400 m hurdles) who are yet to make the dope test.

Khoka meets SAF Games contingent

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeq Hossain Khoka yesterday met the sportsmen and officials of the Bangladesh contingent for the South Asian Federation (SAF) Games at the National Sports Council conference room, reports UNB.

The 195-member contingent will leave Dhaka for Colombo Friday, Dec 20 afternoon to participate in the Games to be held in the Sri Lankan capital December 22-31.

The Minister, in his speech said that Bangladesh expects good results from the teams because sufficient time, adequate facilities and a number of foreign trainers to have been provided prepare the athletes this year.

He further advised the sports persons to uphold the national honour and prestige abroad through sportsmen-like spirit and discipline in their behaviour.

The minister also requested all members of the contingent

Wins for DWC, Army

Dhaka Wanderers' Club and Bangladesh Army won their respective matches on the second day of the 1991 Victory Day Shah Sports Hockey Cup, held yesterday at the Dhaka Hockey Stadium.

In the first match of the day, Wanderers had no real difficulty in beating Bachelors Club, recording a facile 3-0 victory.

Hassan scored in the very second minute of play for Wanderers. Hassan scored once again in the fourth minute. Rashid netted the last one for the winners.

Bachelors earned two penalty corners but failed to convert any.

The yellow card was shown to Siam of Wanderers and Manaf of Bachelors.

In the other match of the day, Bangladesh Army beat Police Athletic Club by three goals to one in the tie-breaker after the game ended goalless.

It was indeed a poor show by the Army men, once national hockey champions,

JU cricket

Government and Politics Department outclassed Zoology Department by eight wickets in the quarter-final of the inter-department cricket tournament of the Jahangirnagar University held yesterday at the Mir Mosharraf Hossain hall playground.

against their weaker opponents. Army earned six penalty corners but failed to convert even one.

The crowd admired the determined resistance showed by the police men against their powerful opponents.

Bangladesh Army will meet the winners of the match between Mariner Youngs Club and Sonali Bank on December 24 while Wanderers will take on Mohammedan Sporting Club on December 24.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Bangladesh Ansars vs PWD (1.45 pm)

Sadharan Bima vs Azad SC (3.15 pm)

Soviet breakup not to increase numbers

BARCELONA, Dec 18: Olympic officials say the breakup of the Soviet Union would not result in a flood of extra athletes at the 1992 Summer Olympics, reports AP.

"For now, the Soviets have agreed to send one team of 643 athletes. But whether it's one team or 10 teams, the number of athletes stays the same," Barcelona Olympics operations chief Pedro Fontana told foreign correspondents Tuesday.

"If Ukraine, for instance, decides to send a separate team, their numbers will be deducted from the Soviet total," said Fontana, director of operations for the Barcelona Olympic Organizing Committee (COOB). The only disruption might be in terms of new flags and new Olympic committees."

Said COOB press chief Pedro Palacios: "We have a limit of 10,000 athletes for these Games, and that number is final."

The two men spoke at the unveiling of the Vall d'Ilebron Olympic Area, which is to host the tennis, volleyball, cycling, archery and equestrian competitions.

With Vall d'Ilebron completed, the COOB has finished all venues except the shooting range and Olympic village.

Vall d'Ilebron, one of four Olympic areas within Barcelona's city limits, has housed cycling at the municipal velodrome since 1984. But the archery fields, the Palau d'Esports for volleyball, the pelota center and tennis center were built at a cost of about \$190 million and completed in just over two years.

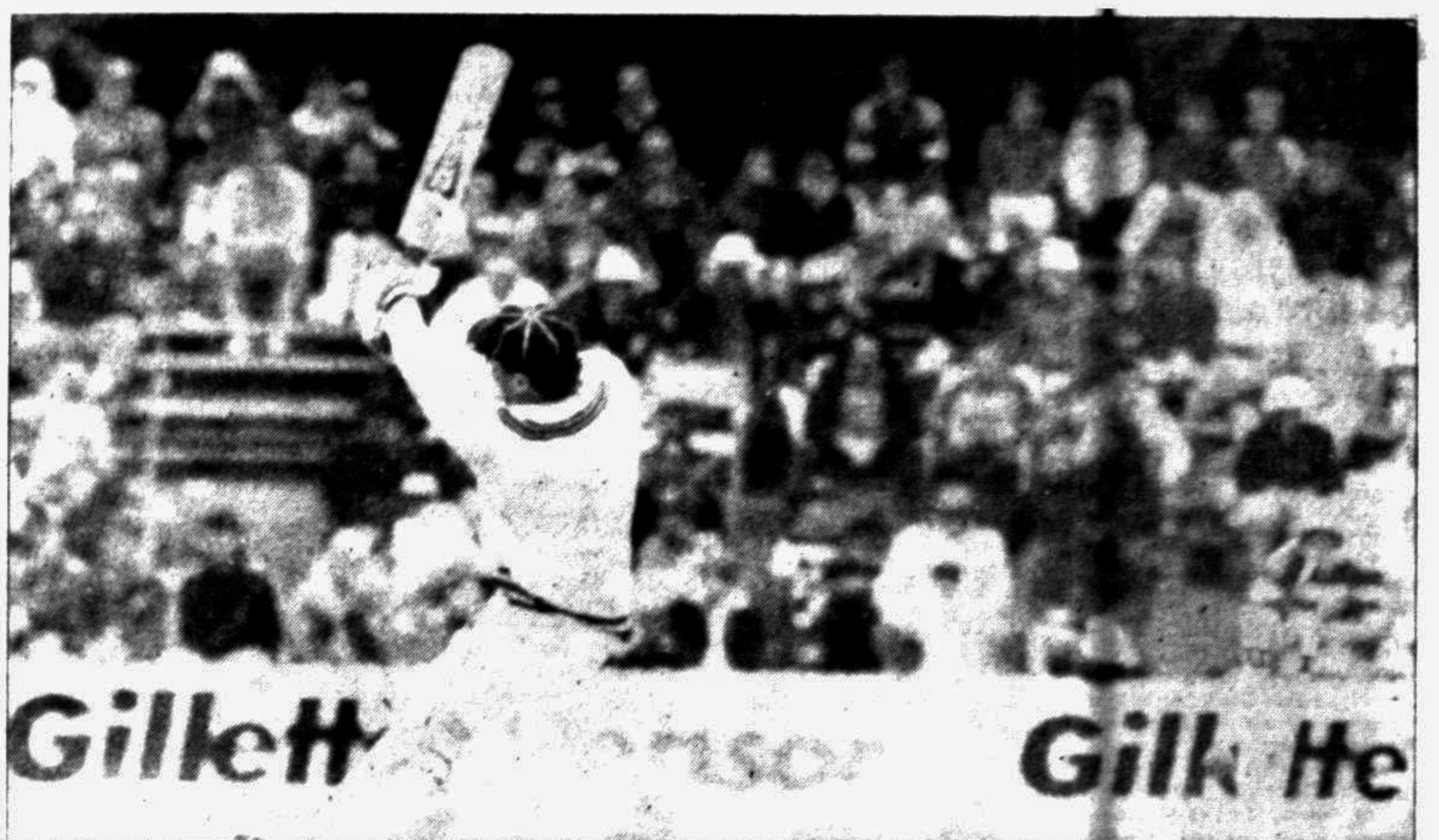
In addition, plans call for a state-of-the-art press center. Only 11,000 journalists are expected, fewer than at the 1988 Seoul Olympics. But the center is to include everything from gigantic TV screens on the walls to individual monitors for each sport to touch-screen information banks.

PDB soccer

The fourth annual inter-of-see football competition of the Bangladesh Power Development Board (PDB) ended yesterday at the Rajshahi BIT playground, reports UNB.

Chief Engineer's team, Chittagong won the championship trophy defeating Chief Engineer's team, Rajshahi four nil.

Eighteen teams from different offices of the PDB participated in the 13-day long competition that opened on December 6.



Stumps fly as Australian captain Allan Border is clean bowled for 21 runs by Indian captain Shastri at the India versus the Prime Minister's Eleven one-day match in Canberra on Dec 17.

Edberg, Seles world champs

LONDON, Dec 18: Stefan Edberg of Sweden and Monica Seles of Yugoslavia are the 1991 International Tennis Federation world champions, reports AFP.

Edberg, the United States panel of Fred Perry, Frank Sedgman and Tony Trabert, while Seles won her title by virtue of finishing top of the points standings.

In addition to winning the United States Open title, Edberg won five other tournaments during the year, more than any other player. He was also a semi-finalist at the Australian Open and Wimbledon as well as a quarter-finalist at the French Open.

A major factor in the panel's decision was Edberg's improved consistency over 1990, when he lost twice in the first round of Grand Slam events and the first round of the Grand Slam Cup.

Edberg, 25, made a slow start in 1991 but the second half of his year was most impressive. He reached a peak at the US Open and sustained it for the next two months before injury intervened.

The choice of Seles was virtually automatic. She reached the finals of all the 16 tournaments she played in 1991 and won 10 of them, including the Australian, French and US



STEFAN EDBERG Open champion, was the unanimous choice of the ITF



MONICA SELES French Open championships in Paris next May.

BTPA tennis

Sports Reporter

Dilip Passia clinched the under-19 age group title and Omar Farhaj Rahman the under-12 title in the inaugural national junior tennis competition held at the Ramna Tennis Complex on Monday last under the auspices of the Bangladesh Tennis Players' Association.

In the under-19 final, Dilip beat Newaz Amir Ruman in 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 sets. The champion had beaten Shihabuddin Fayyaz 6-2, 6-2 in the semi-final.

Faizur Rahman Choudhury, former secretary of the Bangladesh Tennis Players' Association, gave away the awards among the winners.

The BTPA organised this tournament in celebration of the 1991 Victory Day.

Unchanged US Davis Cup side

NEW YORK, Dec 18: Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras have been named to the US Davis Cup squad for the 1992 World Group first round tie against Argentina, the United States Tennis Association announced on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

The United States will host the first round matches on January 31 through February 2 at the Muanani Lant Racquet Club in Kohala Coast, Hawaii.

Agassi won two singles matches in a 4-1 US victory when the two nations last met in the 1988 American zone final in Buenos Aires.

Agassi and Sampras played singles for the US in the final round loss to France in Lyon earlier this month.

Sampras, who finished the year ranked sixth in the world, lost to both Guy Forget and Henri Leconte in a disappointing Davis Cup debut.

The 10th-ranked Agassi, who helped the US win the Cup in 1990, has a 12-4 Davis Cup record.

US Davis Cup captain Tom Gorman has not yet selected the doubles team for the Argentine tie.

The reunited doubles team of Ken Flach and Robert Seguso suffered only their second Davis Cup loss in the final to Leconte and Forget.

Non-leaguers steal show

LONDON, Dec 18: Six minutes later Brian Broome led Simon Read and he tucked the second under goalkeeper Gareth Howells.

Torquay again dominated the opening stages of the second-half but were again caught on the break in the 70th minute when Read fastened on to Coney's flick to cross for Doherty to dive and head home.

Three minutes after Broome looped a header over Howells and the conference side were incredibility 4-0 up.

Demoralised Torquay pulled themselves together for Micky Darby blazed a glorious chance over the bar from eight yards.

Farnborough now meet First Division West Ham in a glamorous third-round encounter.

The Hampshire side were under the cost for most of the first-half but scored from their first attack of then match when Mick Doherty's shot was deflected and former QPR and Norwich striker Dean Coney fired home.

They had been writing about him and reacted like a "Prima Donna" to a pretty ordinary Rugby scrapp.

He knocked the English winger out and this great rugby entainer went out under a cloud instead of on it.

David Campese's Australia won the World Cup with some scintillating rugby although the final itself against England produced only one messy try.

Campese's flipped pass over his shoulder for Tim Horan's try which killed off New Zealand in the semi-finals will shine through the years.

Petra Kronberger became the first woman to win every type of race in the World Cup alpine skiing series but the Australian's Olympic hopes next February may be hurt by the death of her coach in a road accident.

Hungary's Norbert Rozsa and Kristina Egerszegi emerged as swimming's newest stars in a year which saw Michael "The Albatross" gross fold his wings.

One of the most exhilarating moments of the swimming year came in Perth when the first three in the 1,500 metres finished in under 15 minutes.

Jorg Hoffmann, who won in a world best 14 min 50.36 sec, Australia's Kieren Perkins and Hoffman's fellow German Stefan Pfeiffer all bettered Soviet great Vladimir Salnikov's eight year old record.

Magic Johnson, forced to quit basketball because he has the AIDS virus, was the sad-

1991: Despite brilliant feats it was no one's year, really

PARIS, Dec 18: Carl Lewis had one of those did and didn't years. He did become the fastest man on earth but he didn't break Bob Beamon's legendary long jump record, reports AFP.

Mike Powell denied Lewis even greater glory by 4 cm, or one and a half inches — the width of a world champion's gold medal.

At least the American had the satisfaction of winning the greatest men's 100 metre races ever in which he set a new world record time of 9.86 sec.

Bernhard Langer had no consolation when he missed a six feet putt on the final hole at Kiawah Island allowed the United States to beat Europe in the Ryder Cup golf match.

The difference between winning and losing seemed to shrink even further in tennis where no one man could say he was without doubt the best.

Boris Becker started the year by winning the Australian Open but lost the Wimbledon final to fellow German Michael Stich.

Jim Courier outhit Andre Agassi in Paris for the French Open but collapsed against Stefan Edberg's fluent stroke-play in the US Open final.

Jimmy Connors was the perfect example of how to win without being the best. The 39-year-old hustled his way to the US Open semi-finals before

A court-side impersonation of Svengali transformed Henri Beconte and Guy Forget. The forlorn Sampras was forgotten as the Ecstasie French danced a conga.

Bela Karolyi is another miracle maker. He turned Nadia Comaneci into an Olympic gymnast star way back in 1976 and did the same for Mary-Lou Retton at Los Angeles in 1984.

The exiled Romanian produced another world-beater in 15-year-old Kim Zmeskal from Texas at this year's championships in Indianapolis.

Ayrton Senna says winning is all about believing in yourself. Alain Prost says the difference between himself and Senna is that the Brazilian does not believe in god. He believes he is god.

Prost was sacked by Ferrari for talking too much. Senna won his third world motor racing championship.

If a Williams Mechanic had tightened Nigel Mansell's rear wheel bolts properly in the Portuguese Grand Prix the Bolshy Brit might have won his first world title though.

Francois Delcourt knows what it feels like. The same thing happened to him when he was leading the Monte Carlo rally on the very last stage. Victory spun away when a wheel came off.

That's how Serge Blanco must have felt when Nigel Hlesop crashed into him in the Rugby World Cup quarter final. He had obviously believed all the rave notices the French

Press had been writing about him and reacted like a "Prima Donna" to a pretty ordinary Rugby scrapp.

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But he could upstage William Kennedy Smith with his trial on charges of raping a black beauty queen next month.

Diego Maradona has already been tried and sentenced.

Argentina's World Cup captain was suspended from international football for his cocaine habit. He left Naples to return to Buenos Aires but after treatment has been talking about playing in the United States or Japan.

Drug-taking has bedevilled weightlifting for years but the sport hopes to present a new, honest face after the Barcelona Olympics.

All the chemically-enhanced world records will be written off and categories revised in a new start.

China, who won 27 out of 30 gold medal in the women's competitions and 15 men's medals, may find their breakthrough through short-lived.

The dismantling of the Soviet empire means that the limit of two competitors per category will be multiplied by 15 for every republic. It may prevent anybody else getting a look-in.

One competitor who does have a chance is Zola Budd.

Eight years after her controversial appearance for Great Britain in Los Angeles the bare-footed runner will be in Barcelona.

1991 was very much a year South Africa did it. They are back in from the cold.

Basketball results

RICHFIELD, Ohio, Dec 18: The Cleveland Cavaliers won by the largest victory margin in National Basketball Association history on Tuesday night when they humiliated the Miami Heat 148-80 at the Richfield Coliseum, reports Reuter.

The 68-point victory in front of their home fans shattered the previous mark of 63 points set by the Los Angeles Lakers in a 162-99 win over the Golden State Warriors in 1972.

The Cavaliers led by 10 points at the end of the first quarter and were ahead 73-53 at the half. Cleveland outscored Miami 42-13 in the fourth quarter.

John Battle and Mark Price were high scorers for Cleveland with 18 points each, but eight Cavaliers scored more than 10 points.

Ctg soccer

CHITTAGONG, Dec 18: Mohammedan Sporting Blues beat Itafiz Jute Mills Club 2-1 in the CJKP Elite Paint First Division football league at the Chittagong Stadium here this afternoon, reports BSS.

Mohammedans led the first half 2-0.

Striker Shaif scored the first goal for the winners in the sixth minute and doubled the margin in the 28th minute. Selim reduced the margin in the 62nd minute off a pass from Manju (2-1).



Lewis...fastest man



Powell...historic leap