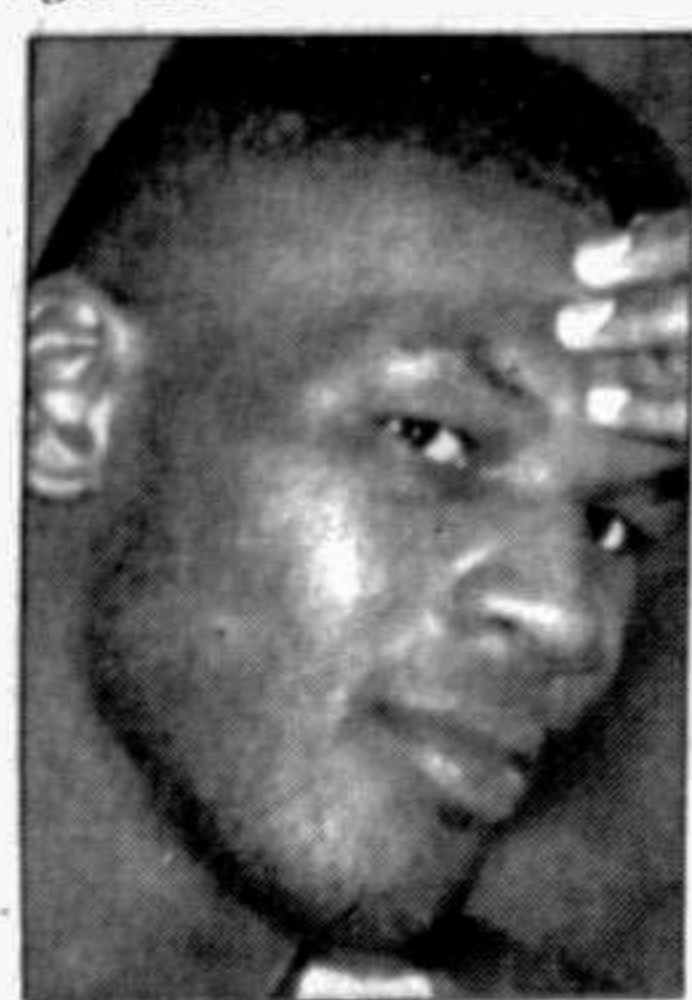


Sport

Sobered Tyson

LONDON, Feb 20: Deposed world heavyweight champion Mike Tyson has given up girls and late nights as he trains to fight Canada's Donovan 'Razor'...



MIKE TYSON

Ruddock in Las Vegas on March 18, reports Reuter.

"Leave the girls alone, cut out the late nights, concentrate on what you do," Tyson said of his preparations.

"I'm a fighter not a night club dancer or gigolo," he added in an interview to be broadcast by the BBC today.

Tyson has recorded first-round wins over Henry Tillman and Alex Stewart since losing his title to James 'Buster' Douglas a year ago.

He hopes a convincing win over Ruddock will set him up for an early challenge for the world title now held by Evander Holyfield.

"Right now, I feel better than I have felt in my career, and myself a better fighter," he said.

Top seeds sail

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 20: The top four men's seeds cruised through the first round of the 28,000 U. S. dollars Asian Badminton Confederation championships here today, reports AFP.

Number one Wu Wengkat of China disposed off Filipino Jesse Alonzo 15-4, 15-1 while second seeded Eddy Kurniawan of Indonesia went through by the same score at the expense of Bangladesh's Shaikat Ali.

Joint third seeds Rashid Sidek of Malaysia and compatriot Poo Kok Keong barely broke sweat. Sidek waited through 15-0, 15-1 against qualifier Fahang Saeed of Iran while Poo scored a 15-0, 15-3 win over another Malaysian Leong Pui Lin.

It's a canter for Krabbe

STOCKHOLM, Feb 20: Triple European champion Katrin Krabbe followed up her 1991 world best 7.06 seconds at the weekend with a winning 7.22 over 60 metres at an indoor athletics meeting in Stockholm on Tuesday, reports Reuter.



KATRIN KRABBE

"I failed at the start, but considering my touch schedule I'm satisfied," Krabbe said.

The German said she would run the distance at next month's world indoor championship in Seville, Spain and then go for the 100 metres world title in Tokyo in August.

"I believe I have a greater chance to win the 100 than the 200 metres in Tokyo," she said.

Noureddine Morceli of Algeria clocked three minutes 37.96 seconds in a comfortable 1,500 metres victory.

"Indoors there is nobody who can beat me, outdoors there might be a few who can challenge me," he said.

European high jump champion Dragutin Topić of Yugoslavia defeated world champion Patrik Sjöberg of Sweden and Romanian Sorin Matei, best in the world last year.

Topic cleared 2.34 metres and said: "It is both a personal indoor best and a national record, so, am very pleased."

It's easy for Lalmatia

Sports Reporter



Lalmatia Club's second win of the Navana Premier Division cricket league was completed with very little fuss yesterday at the Dhanmadi Cricket Stadium when their opponents Kalabagan Krita Chakra folded their innings on 182 in 58.2 overs. This was a massive 127 runs short of Lalmatia's 309 for seven wickets in their 75 stipulated overs.

This could prove a convenient win for Lalmatia when the relegation candidates are decided. Kalabagan have won only one of their four games while Rupali Bank are winless after as many games.

A win for Lalmatia had been more or less a foregone conclusion by the close of the first day's play Tuesday when Kalabagan, after a hard day in

field, had been forced to part with three of their early wickets in 16 overs of batting that yielded 64 runs.

Resuming at that overnight score, the remaining Kalabagan batsmen with the exceptions of Tamim, who made a defiant 40, and Pappu, who made 27, found the Lalmatia attack more than a handful. Four of their batsmen failed to open their accounts as Shaon, Ateeq, Sanjeeva and Raja bowled consistently to allow the batsmen any liberties.

Medium-pace Raja, who had dealt the early blows Tuesday, finished with two wickets for 39, while spinners Ateeq, Shaon and Sanjeeva picked up two wickets each for 26, 16, and 19 runs respectively. Skipper Ashish Malik got one for 35.

Other notable scorers in the Kalabagan innings were open-

ers Alam and Pilot who made 27 and 24 respectively, while Ishlaque, a former Bangladesh opener who was forced to retire hurt Tuesday, came back to be ninth man out for 24.

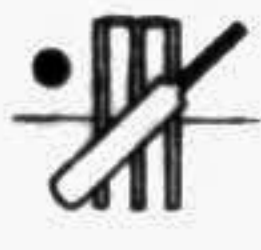
Lalmatia's hero was unquestionably their Sri Lankan recruit Sanjeeva who blasted his way to a brilliant 154 off 153 balls with the help of nine fours and half a dozen sixes before being run out. Pika made a patient 55 off 141 balls while Shaon's quick 44 off 48 balls included four boundaries and a six. Sanjeeva and Shaon also came good with the ball to make it a fine team effort for Lalmatia.

Pappu was Kalabagan's most successful bowler with two for 24 while Ajay Verma, Ishlaque and Rumi got one apiece.

There will be no Navana league matches today on the occasion of Ekushey February.

Eastern's exciting win

Sports Reporter



Eastern Sporting Club and Rayer Bazar Sporting Club registered victories in their respective matches of the Rank-Xerox Second Division cricket league at different city venues yesterday.

At the Mohakhali T&T Board ground, Eastern Sporting of Narayanganj recorded an exciting ten-run victory over East End Club in a match curtailed to 26 overs a side due to a late start. Eastern, who scored 129 for eight wickets in their 26 overs, restricted East End to 119 for nine in theirs for a thrilling win.

Arif with 20, Liton with 14, the veteran yet evergreen Dulu Affendi and Shyamol with 14 each were Eastern's batting successes.

Tonu took two Eastern

wickets for nine runs while Roquibul, Noman and Shawkat claimed one each.

Although Tito made a gallant 53 off 65 balls for East End, his side failed to capitalise on the good work. Selim made 21 and Raja 11 while Dulu Affendi spun his magic around the Eastenders to finish with figures of four for 13 while Shyamol got two for 38.

Rayer Bazar win

In the other fixture of the day, at the Dhanmadi Club ground, Rayer Bazar SC, despite being bowled out for 143 in 30.4 of their allotted 35 overs, managed to register a 28-run win over DOHS.

Titu made 31, Zaheer an unbeaten 20, Pintu 14 and Tuhin and Kamal 13 each for Rayer Bazar while Faisal was DOHS most successful bowler

taking three for 29. Bappi and Shantoo got two each for six and 22 runs respectively.

In reply, DOHS could muster only 115 before being all out in 31.4 overs.

Rinku topscored with 24, Shuva and Pitu made 14 each, the latter remaining not out, while Munna made 17 for DOHS.

Pintu claimed three for 19 runs and Zia two for 16 for Rayer Bazar.

The league remains suspended today for Shaheed Dibash.

FRIDAY'S MATCHES

Ajax Club vs United Heroes (DCS)

Victoria SC vs Kakrail Boys (T&T)

D.Friends Union vs Three Star Boys (D.Club)

Nasser's ton put England 'A' on top

COLOMBO, Feb 20: Right-hand bat Nasser Hussein stroked a solid 161 as England 'A' struck back to win the upper hand on the fourth day of their second five-day international against Sri Lanka 'A' here Tuesday, reports AFP.

The visitors, who were at one stage precariously placed at 12 for 2, piled a mammoth 411 for nine declared to surpass by two runs the Sri Lanka 'A' first innings total.

Opening bowlers Andy Pick and Marki Iltot then struck quickly to send the home side reeling to 23 for 3 at stumps to put England 'A' in the driving seat with one more day to go.

The first international between the two sides ended in a draw.

Essex batting sensation Hussein continued where he left off on the third day to post two century stands before being brilliantly caught by Ruwan Kalpage in the covers, off paceman Saliya Ahangama.

Hussein first put up a 114 run fifth wicket partnership with Graham Thorpe, who was 42 not out on the third day. Thorpe added only 11 runs before falling to the bowling of spinner Kalpage for 53.

After the stand with Thorpe, the 22-year-old Hussein shared a 138 run partnership with fast bowler Phil Newport who was run out for 35. Hussein followed next to a head-high catch taken by Kalpage off the tireless Ahangama.

Hussein batted for 456 minutes to reach his 161 which included 20 boundaries. Ahangama was the most successful of the home bowlers, returning figures of five for 81.

Aussies draw

BASSETTERE (St. Kitts), Feb 20: The four-day cricket match between the West Indies President's XI and Australia ended in a draw on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

Scores: President's XI 332 and 147, Australia 233 and 204 for seven.

Maradona now talks about frame up

LUCCA (Italy), Feb 20: Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona suggested on Tuesday his investigation for possible links with a vice ring could be part of a vendetta within the sporting world, reports Reuter.

"I immediately thought of a vendetta by someone, perhaps for some match which we should not have won, perhaps a match in the World Cup or the Italian championship," Maradona said.

"Naturally, this is only a hypothesis about a spiteful act within sport, nothing more. I think maybe someone wants to get me," he told reporters during a training break.

Asked if he was referring to the fateful match between Italy and Argentina during last summer's World Cup finals, he said "maybe."

Argentina won on penalties to knock hosts Italy out of the World Cup final. The defeat was a national trauma for Italy.

Magistrates have warned Maradona he is being investigated for possible links with a drugs and prostitution racket run by the Naples mafia.

Maradona, who captains Italian First Division Club Napoli, has denied any wrongdoing and claims he has never used drugs.

He said earlier on Tuesday he intended to retire from soccer at the end of the season.

"I'm going to go back to Argentina at the end of the season and I won't play again, ever, at least at a professional level."

Lupu ordered Jailed

ATHENS, Feb 20: Romanian soccer player Ranut Lupu, who plays for Greek First Division champions Panathinaikos, was ordered jailed pending trial on charges of theft, receiving and selling stolen goods and unlawful entry, court sources said on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

A total of nine events starting from Lilliput to feather weight division will be held during the four day meet.

All the affiliated associations are requested to report to the federation office by March 3rd.

C'wealth basketball to go ahead

EDINBURGH, Feb 20: The third Commonwealth basketball championships are certain to go ahead in Edinburgh from June 29 to July 7—thanks to a major funding operation announced on Tuesday, reports AFP.

Over 100,000 pounds has been guaranteed to enable the championships to take place for the first time since 1983. It will be the biggest basketball event to be held in Britain for 15 years.

Edinburgh district council is donating a package worth 50,000 pounds, including the provision of all the major facilities, the Scottish Sports Council has offered 30,000

pounds, and the Scottish Development Agency 22,000 pounds.

"I'm confident this will be a major sporting event for Edinburgh and Scotland," said Bill McInnes, chairman of the Scottish Basketball Association, at the official launch in Meadow Bank.

A 12-team men's tournament and an eight-team women's event will take place, with matches to be played at Grace Mount Sports Centre, Ainslie Park and Meadow Bank.

England will defend the men's title they won in New Zealand in 1983 and New Zealand have confirmed they

Lewis-Johnson monopoly under serious threat



LONDON, Feb 20: The much-hyped rematch between Carl Lewis and Ben Johnson could be relegated to the status of an irrelevant sideshow by a confident, articulate young American, reports Reuter.

Leroy Burrell, a training partner of Lewis at the Santa Monica Track Club, breezed into Europe last week in search of fast times and dol-



CARL LEWIS

lars.

In Madrid last week he broke the world indoor 60 metres record then flew to Britain where he reduced Europe's top sprinter Linford Christie to impotent rage with a contemptuous victory over the same distance four days later.

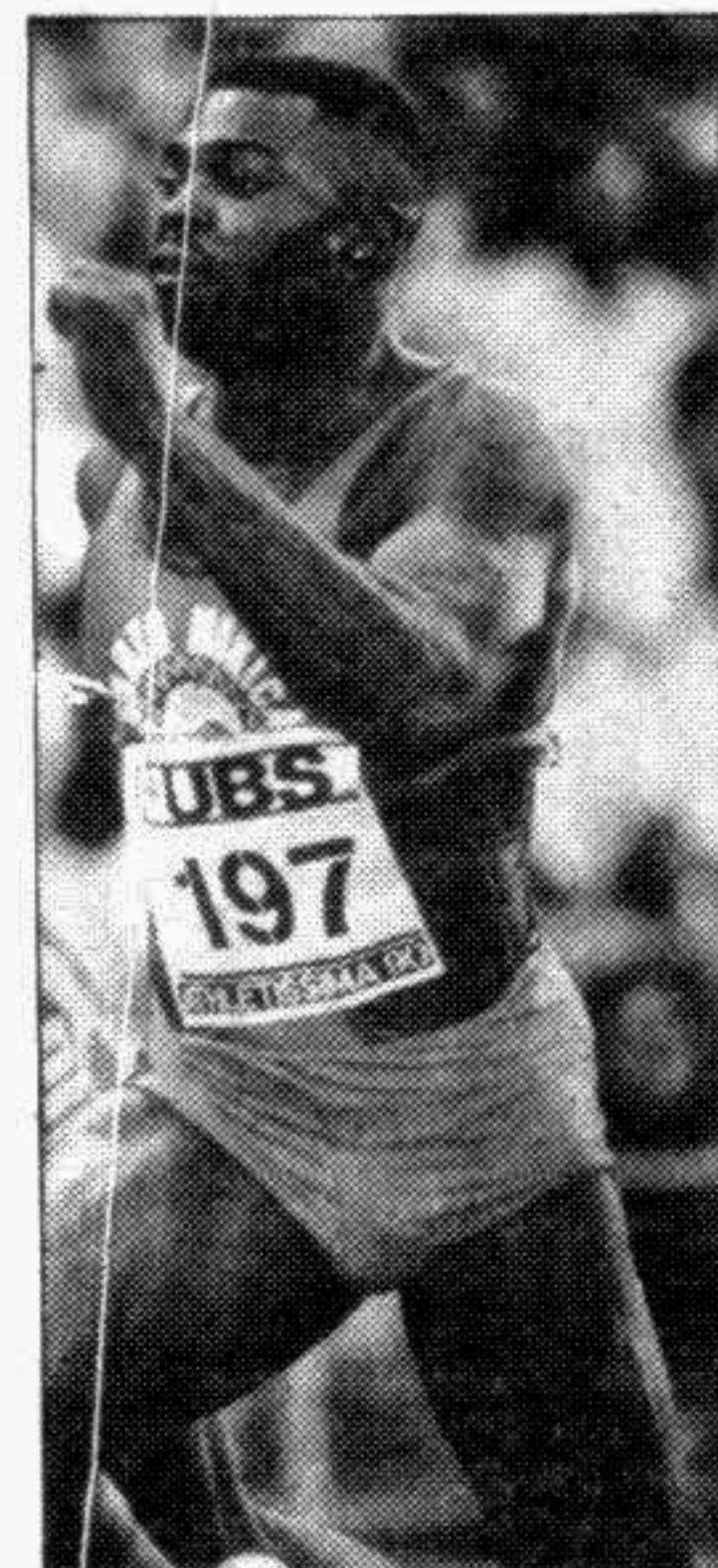
An off-track confrontation with Christie, furious with Burrell after the American turned to his right in the middle of the race to glare at his opponent, could not obscure the obvious. Burrell is now the hottest property in world sprinting.

Lewis and Johnson will meet somewhere in Europe this year in a replay of the notorious 1988 Seoul Olympic 100 metres final, after which Johnson was banned for two years following a positive dope test for an anabolic steroid.

The prospect of the race taking place in Seville on May 30 hardened last week when Joe Douglas, manager to both Lewis and Burrell, confirmed that both men would run in the Spanish city.

Organisers in Seville also hope to attract Johnson, now running on the North American indoor circuit, for a million-dollar clash with Lewis, the man who inherited the Olympic title and world record after the Canadian's spectacular fall from grace.

However, if Burrell trans-



LEROY BURRELL

lates his indoor form to the outdoors, the Seville race for Lewis and Johnson could turn into a battle for second place.

Burrell, the third fastest man in history, emerged as the world number one over 100 metres last year, beating Lewis in two of three races and setting the year's fastest time of 9.86 seconds.

As with all members of the Santa Monica Club, the pair are at pains to play down any talk of rivalry.

But Burrell won the race that mattered last year, beating Lewis in the final of the Goodwill Games, and his indoor performances in Europe show he is ready to produce the best from his short career.

In Madrid he clocked 6.40 over 60 metres, faster than any mark set by Johnson over that distance.

After television replays showed an obvious false start, the race was rerun and this time Burrell clocked 6.48, two hundredths of a second under Lee Mc Rae's mark which has been recognised as the world record since Johnson's times were expunged from the record books.

Britain's European 200 metres champion John Regis reacted with awe when he heard about Burrell's performances.

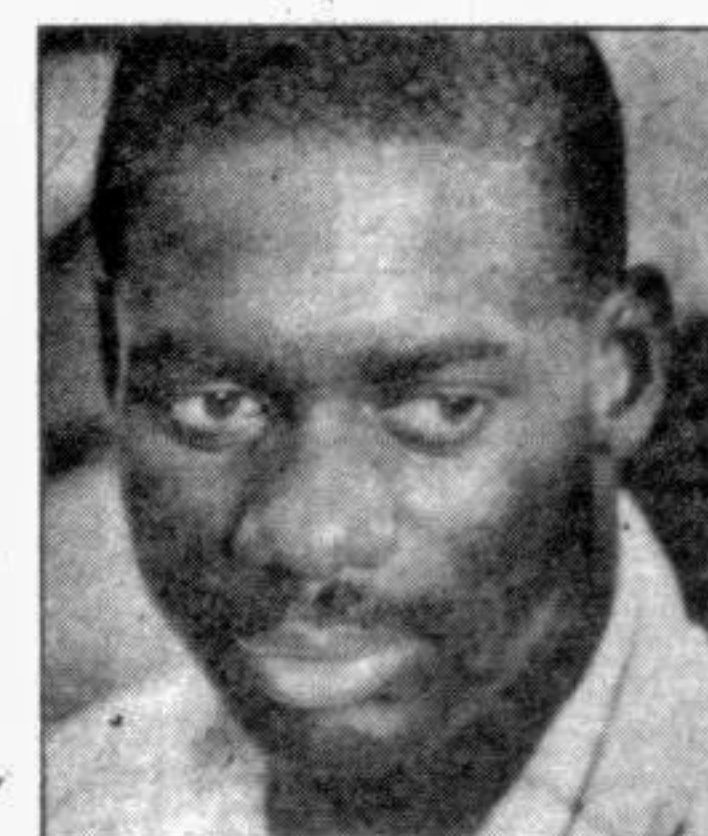
"I'm amazed he ran so fast," Regis said. "He must have had

a great start—but he can't start.

"If he learns to start I think I'll take up hockey."

At a news conference in London last week, Burrell acknowledged that his current starting technique was probably the best of his career.

Attributing his improved start in part to his long jump training—an event he is taking seriously this year—Burrell said he felt he could break Lewis's world 100 metres



BEN JOHNSON

records.

"Last year I thought I had run fast enough a couple of times to beat the record," he said.

"But I think it's definitely possible to all intents and purposes, I think a few athletes can have a good shot at it."

Burrell insists he is not aiming specifically to supplant his boyhood hero Lewis as the world's premier sprinter and long jumper.

"I just picture myself doing the things I need to win and as far as beating Carl—it's much like winning another race," he said.

"If I master my start, if I master acceleration and if I overcome deceleration then I will compete well."

What about Johnson?

Burrell shrugs: "He runs the same events as I do. He's going to show up at a meet one of these days."

Despite his successes indoors, Burrell does not plan to run in the world indoor championships in Seville next month.

Instead, he is focusing on the world outdoor championships in Tokyo in August, where he may aim for four gold medals.

"When all is said and done, people are not going to talk about Seville. People are going to talk about who won the world championships," he said.

Chang, Wilander both struggle



MEMPHIS (Tennessee), Feb 20: Michael Chang, the fifth-seeded American in the 750,000-Dollar indoor tennis championships, needed three sets to win his first match against Frenchman Jean-Philippe Fleurian on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

Chang, who received a first round bye, defeated Fleurian in a second round match 6-4, 3-6, 6-2.

Mats Wilander of Sweden, unseeded and ranked 70th in the world, also struggled against 18-year-old qualifier Marcos Ondruska of South Africa before overcoming his 243rd-ranked opponent 7-6, 5-7, 6-2 in a first round match.

The tournament suffered a setback when fourth-seeded American Brad Gilbert withdrew before his opening match, suffering from an injury to his left shin sustained last week in a match against Ivan Lendl.

Chang dominated in the first set as the hard-hitting Fleurian got off to a slow start, missing his ground strokes with wild errors. Chang broke in the third game and held on for the set 6-4.

The Frenchman, an aggressive baseliner, turned things around in the second set, despite dropping his opening service game.

He broke Chang right back with a high forehand volley winner and scored a second break at 3-2 with a crosscourt

forehand winner. Fleurian served out the set 6-3 when Chang missed a backhand.

Fleurian continued to attack in the third set with powerful ground strokes, but found Chang ready to retrieve everything with winners. Chang scored a quick break for 3-1, then went ahead 5-1 when Fleurian miss-hit a backhand.

But the American failed to serve out the match as Fleurian broke for 5-2 and it was left to Chang to break again for the match 6-2 when Fleurian miss-hit a forehand deep.

The whole match was really close," Chang said. "In the third set I stood a little further back on his serve and that gave me the opportunity to break."

Pioneer soccer

Makim Bazar Krita Chakra became the Group 'A' champion when the match ended in a goalless draw against Lalbagh Tarun Sangha in the round robin match of the Pioneer football league yesterday at the Outer stadium.

In another match, Gulbagh Krita Chakra beat Karwan Bazar Pragati Sangha 2-0. Arif and Shah Alam scored for Gulbagh.

Makim Bazar with six points from four matches clinched the top position in the group while Lalbagh Tarun and Gulbagh K. C. will meet each other in a play-off match to decide Group 'A' runner up spot. Both teams have collected four points from equal number of outings.

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