

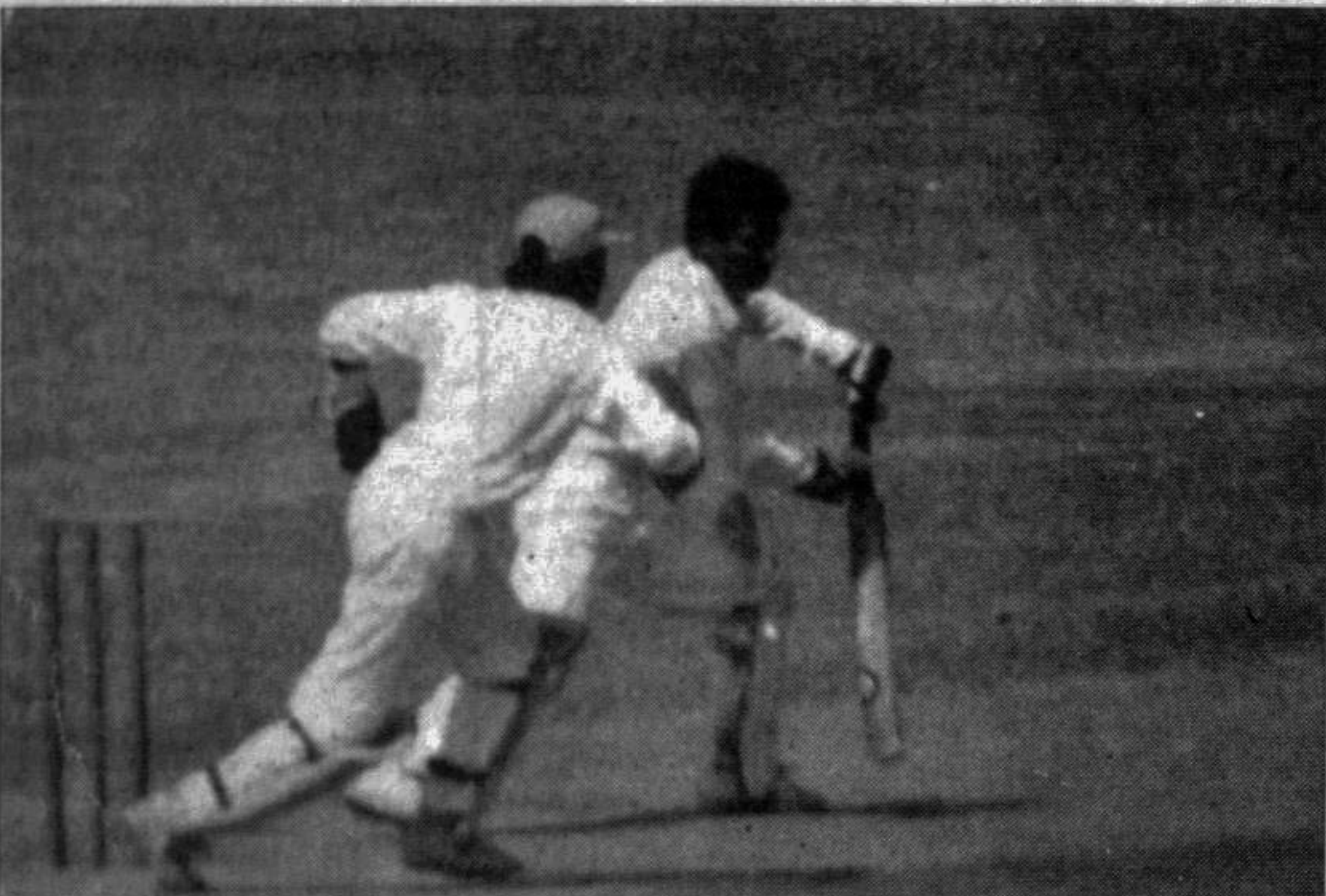
Abahani halts Biman's flight

Sports Reporter

Reigning league champions Abahani Krishna Chakra became the first team to tame the formidable Bangladesh Biman after recording a dramatic one run victory in the Navana Premier division cricket league match yesterday at the Dhaka Stadium.

Even the fanatic Abahani fan could smell a certain defeat in the air. The plans for the celebration was already being talked in Biman's dressing room. But ironically that was not to happen as they suffered a dramatic

collapse, losing their last seven wickets for only 19 runs. Biman resumed their innings at 52 for one, needing another 156 runs for victory with nine wickets in hand. Jahangir (JR) and Sumon batted soundly to take the score to 124 runs. Sumon was out for 36 followed by Jahangir (JR) with yet another five knock of 73 runs coming off 141 balls which including seven hits to the defence. Bulbul and Piyal batted cautiously to take the score to 188 for the loss of three wickets. Bulbul was out for 28 triggering the dramatic collapse.



Abahani's keeper Pappu jubilant after catching Piyal off Effe is the Navana Premier league yesterday. — Photo Kiron

Abahani's players, looking for an upset victory, geared up their fielding and tightened their bowling to create pressure on the remaining Biman batsmen. Wicket-keeper Jahangir (JR), was the last man out for Biman with only one run needed for the victory. He was trying to heave the ball out of the ground off Nadir Shah but was brilliantly caught by substitute fielder. Effe with mesmerising off spin bowling claimed four wickets for 27 off 13 overs while Nadir Shah bowled equally well to capture three wickets for 28 runs off 15 overs. Asif also returned with two for 41 runs. Earlier, on Friday, Abahani batting first scored 207 for the loss of seven wickets in their allotted 75 overs, thanks to a superb unbeaten 73 by skipper Rafiq. Nishatan 28, Effe 27, Ehsan 25 were the other leading Abahani scorers. Piyal and Moni took two wickets each for Biman.

Today's matches
Mohammedans vs GMCC (D Stadium)
Rupali Bank vs Brothers (Dharmondi)

Wari, batting first, scored 202 for seven wickets in 35 overs. In reply, Bangladesh Boys managed 178 for the loss of six wicket in 35 overs. In another match, at the Dhanmondi Club ground; Eskaton Sabuj scored an exciting 15 runs victory over Shantinagar 'B'. Eskaton taking the strike scored 167 and in reply, Shantinagar 'B' were bowled out for 152 in 33.5 overs.

Milnars cricket

Sports Reporter

PWD kept their championship hopes alive with a convincing six wickets win over Uddy Club in the super league match of the Milnar First Division cricket league yesterday at the Mirpur Pallabi ground. PWD have now collected 14 points from 11 matches while Uddy remained at 12 points also from 11 outings. Uddy, asked to bat first, scored 141 run for the loss of eight wickets in their stipulated 40 overs. Fahim 38, Rahul 22, and Durjoy 20 were the leading Uddy batsmen. Shamim was the most successful PWD bowler with three wickets for 25 runs. In reply, PWD scored 142 for the loss only four wickets in 37.5 overs. Abr 43, Babul 23 not out, Towhid 21, Bhutto 14 and Khoka 13 were the prominent PWD batsmen.

Div II cricket

Sports Reporter

Lalbagh Anwar SC, Wart KC and Eskaton Sabuj posted wins in their respective matches of the Rank-Xerox Second Division cricket league match yesterday at different venues in the city. Lalbagh Anwar defeated Rainbow Club by five wickets at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium. Rainbow batting first scored 153 for nine wickets in their allotted 35 overs. In reply, Lalbagh Anwar scored 154 for five wickets in 33 overs. Wart KC Chakra registered a comfortable 24 runs victory over Bangladesh Boys at the Mohakhali T and T ground.

First Division basketball

Sports Reporter

Josephites frighten their super league prospects with an easy sailing over Hornets Club by 90-70 points in the Partex First Division basketball league yesterday at the wooden floor basket ball gymnasium. Eddie Smith, led the Josephites scoring spree with 34 points while Kamel Siddiquy and Bob with 20 points each were the other Josephites' shooters. In another match, Eagles came from behind to beat Dhuketu 69-64. Eagles trailed 29-39 at the breather.

BFF committee announced

Sports Reporter

A twenty member Bangladesh Football Federation ad-hoc committee was announced by the National Sports Council in a press release yesterday. The names of the members of the ad-hoc committee are — President: Mohammed Siddiqur Rahaman; Vice Presidents: Alamgir Farouq Chowdhury, Sadeq Hossain Khoka, General Secretary: Haroonur Rashid; Joint Secretaries: Anwarul Haque Helal, Serajul Islam Bacchu; Treasurer: DR. Aminul Islam; Members: S. A. Sultan, Nurunabi Chowdhury, Md. Zakaria Pintoo, Shaheeb Ali, K Anwar Piyar, Abbasuddin Khan, Nazrul Islam representative Dhaka DSA, Zafar Iman representative Rajshahi DSA, Abu Taher representative Chittagong DSA, Abdur Rahman representative Khulan DSA, Ferdous Alam, Shamsuddin Khan, Ezzar Rahman Babul and representative of Army Sports Control Board.

Rumesh Ratnayake rips through Kiwi innings

Seamers dominate second day's play



HAMILTON (New Zealand), Feb 23: Sri Lanka dismissed New Zealand's last six batsmen for 75 runs but then lost their own top order cheaply and were struggling at 180 for five wickets at the close on the second day of the second Test today, reports Reuter. Eleven wickets fell for 255 runs giving the small crowd at the picturesque ground plenty of entertainment on a perfect day. Sri Lanka's senior batsman Asanka Gurusinha, who was dropped on nought and at 50 by Ken Rutherford, helped steer Sri Lanka out of desperate trouble. He was not out 81 at the close with Champaka Ramanayake on 13. Sri Lankan pace bowler Rumesh Ratnayake, who went wicketless on Friday, earlier ripped the remainder of the New Zealand innings apart to have them out for 296. They had started the day at 221 for four after the umpires added four overthrows to Andrew Jones's score they had disallowed on Friday. Jones, on 109 overnight, never found his touch of the first day and was the first of Ratnayake's victims, caught behind by Hashan Tillekeratne for 122. He hit eight fours in his innings of nearly five hours. Earlier, Champaka Ramanayake had split the troublesome fifth wicket partnership after 113 runs had been scored when he bowled Shane Thomson for 36. Ratnayake bowled unchanged in the morning, taking three for 20 and then continued in the hour after lunch to take an additional two for six. He ended with five for 77 and when he had Chris Pringle caught behind by Tillekeratne for nine, became Sri Lanka's leading wicket taker with 60, overtaking Asantha De Mel. The pitch helped all the pace bowlers get sharp seam movement. An indication of this was that Tillekeratne took five catches for Sri Lanka and New Zealand keeper Ian Smith took four catches to dismiss the first four Sri Lankan batsman. Sri Lanka began their innings more aggressively but were soon in trouble. Charith Senanayake, on five, flicked a ball down the leg to Smith off Pringle and with the score on 38 Chansika Hathurusinghe on 23 played a similar stroke of Danny Morrison. Aravinda De Silva, hero of the first Test with his 267, tried to hook Willie Watson but only got a top edge to Smith and was out for one. Gurusinha hit some flowing drives but was lucky to survive several snicks through the slips. He cashed in on some attacking field placements. Morrison hit him on the helmet with a bouncer but he replied three balls later by pulling the paceman straight for six. Pringle, the best of the Kiwi pacemen, picked up his second wicket when he had Tillekeratne flashing outside the off stump on 12. He finished with two for 52. Late in the day the New Zealand captain badly twisted his ankle when fielding the ball and had to be carried from the field. Crowe went to hospital for a precautionary X-ray but nothing was found to be broken.

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Scoreboard on the second day of the second cricket Test between New Zealand and Sri Lanka today:
NEW ZEALAND first innings (221 for four overnight after umpires reinstated four overthrows disallowed on Friday)
Franklin c Aravinda De Silva b Gurusinha 15
Wright c Hathurusinghe b Labrooy 21
Jones c Tillekeratne b Ratnayake 122
Crowe c Tillekeratne b Ranatunga 36
Rutherford c Tillekeratne b Ramanayake 0
Thomson b Ramanayake 36
Patel not out 26
Smith c Senanayake b Ratnayake 7
Morrison c Tillekeratne 0

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b Ratnayake 0
Pringle b Ratnayake 9
Watson c Tillekeratne b Ratnayake 4
Extras (lb-16, nb-4) 20
Total 296
Fall of wickets: 1-40; 2-40; 3-125; 4-126; 5-239; 6-239; 7-258; 8-270; 9-288.

Bowling:
O M R W
Ratnayake 29.4 10 77 5
Labrooy 22 6 46 1
Ramanayake 27 9 52 2
Gurusinha 14.2 3 36 1
Asoka De Silva 14 2 35 0
Ranatunga 13.4 1 34 1

Scoreboard
SRI LANKA
Sananayake c Smith 5
Hathurusinghe c Smith b Morrison 23
Gurusinha not out 81
Aravinda De Silva c Smith b Watson 1
Tillekeratne c Smith b Pringle 12
Jayasuriya lbw Patel 35
Ramanayake not out 13
Extras (nb-7, lb-3) 10
Total (for five wickets) 180
Fall of wickets: 1-8; 2-38; 3-41; 4-83; 5-163.
To bat: A. Ranatunga, R. Ratnayake, G. Labrooy, Asoka De Silva.

Bowling:
O M R W
Morrison 16 1 67 1
Pringle 16 4 52 2
Watson 14 4 38 2
Patel 10 3 20 1

Karpov meets Anand in world championship

LINARES (Spain), Feb 23: Defeated world chess title aspirant Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union was optimistic as the draw was made on Friday for August's world championship. Kasparov in a 24-game series last year, faces India's Visunathan Anand in the first round of the championships starting on August 11. "This gives me a good start because Anand has the lowest rating of the eight players," Karpov said. International Chess Federation president Florencio Campomanes was present at the draw for the world champions, in which eight Grand Masters will be playing for the right to challenge World Champion Kasparov of the Soviet Union in 1993. Kasparov is in Linares to compete in the 9th international chess tournament, the first at the top category 17 level, which starts today. Karpov and Kasparov have a chance to renew their rivalry in the Linares contest, where nine of the players are Soviet Grand Masters and seven are from the current 10 top world players.

The draw for the World championships in Brussels was: Anatoly Karpov (Soviet Union) vs Visunathan Anand (India); Boris Gelfand (Soviet Union) vs Arthur Yusupov

Today's matches
Mohammedans vs GMCC (D Stadium)
Rupali Bank vs Brothers (Dharmondi)

Morceli settles for meet mark

NEW YORK, Feb 23: Noureddine Morceli, the sensational 20-year-old Algerian, made another serious run at the world indoor mile record, but settled for meet and track marks in winning at the Mobil Indoor Track and Field Championships Friday night, reports AP. Morceli, running without the aid of a pacemaker, ran out front throughout and was on pace to break Eamonn Coghlan's world record of 3 minutes, 49.78 seconds going into the final quarter-mile. But without anyone to push him around Madison square garden's slow 11-laps-to-the-mile track, Morceli slowed and finished in 3:52.99, easily breaking the meet mark of 3:54.98 set by Sydney Maree in 1965 and the track record of 3:53.0 set by Coghlan in 1981. Morceli had a small, but loud cheering section among the crowd of 11,483. When he was introduced, the group chanted his name and held up banners. The chanting continued and was accompanied by hand-clapping when the race began. Morceli's unofficial times were 58.8 for the first quarter, 1:55.5 at the half-mile and 2:52.9 for three quarters. But the fast early pace finally took its toll on Morceli, winner of all three of his mile races in the United States this season. His previous victories were 3:53.50 in the Millrose games at the garden Feb. 1 and 3:50.81, the third-fastest mile ever, in the Meadowlands Invitational at East Rutherford, New Jersey, on Feb. 8. Ireland's Marcus O'Sullivan, who trailed Morceli in both those races, again was a distant second, in 3:56.62. Meanwhile, Lance Deal shattered the world indoor record in the 35-pound (15.9 kilogram) weight throw and produced the three-longest throws in history, while Diane Dixon won a record 10th national title. Deal, 29, uncorked his best throw on his sixth and final attempt, reaching 79 feet, 3 3/4 inches (24.17 meters). That was 9 1/4 inches (23 centimeters) farther than the previous mark of 78-6 1/2 feet (23.94 meters), set by Tore Johnsen of Norway at Colorado Springs, Colorado, on Feb. 25, 1984.

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Ispahani cricket

CHITTAGONG, Feb 23: Friends Club beat Rifa cricket club by six wickets in the CJKP Ispahani First Division cricket league at the Chittagong Stadium here today, reports BSS. Rifa batted first and were all out for 111 runs in 38.3 overs. In reply, Friends Club scored 112 for four in 30.1 overs. — Score: Rifa 111 (Atiq 35, Russel 18, Collins 11, Sumon 10, Subrata 2/17, Afzal 2/18) Friends: 112/4 (Afzal not out 37, Anwar 23, Babu 18 and Sajjad 10).

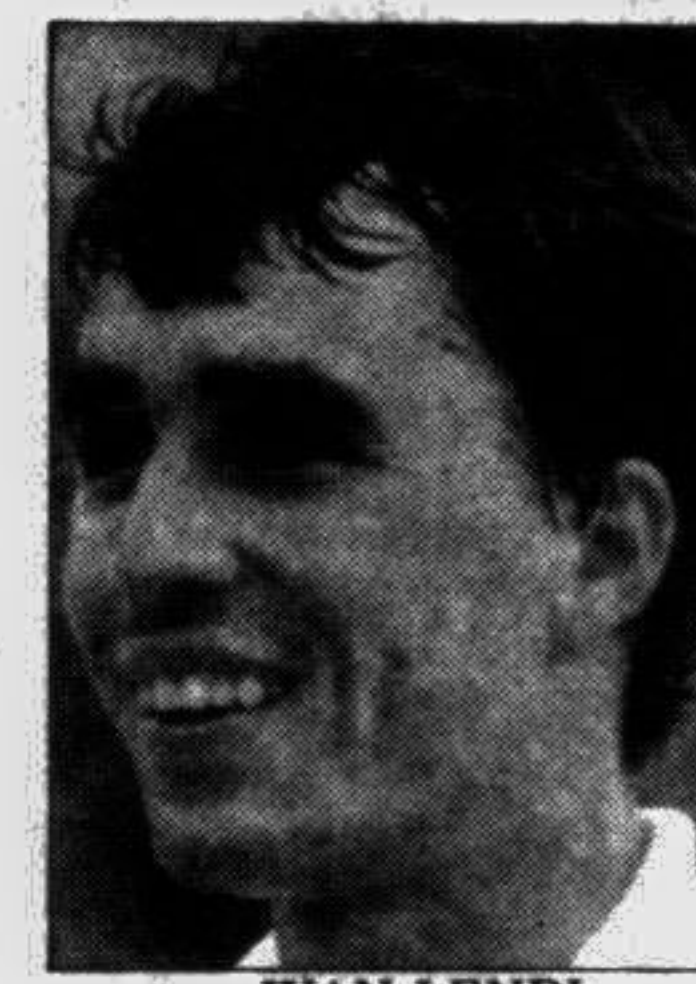
Ansari cricket

PABNA, Feb 23: Ekata Sporting Club retained the Ansari Cricket championship title defeating Nimitla Crazy Club by only five runs in the final match of the tournament played at the Government Edward College ground Friday. Distinguished radio and television sports commentator Toufiq Aziz Khan and former captain of Bangladesh Cricket team A S M Roquibul Hasan were present at the final match as special guests. They jointly distributed the trophies among the winners.

Lendl cruises to semifinals

MEMPHIS (Tennessee), Feb 23: Top-seed Ivan Lendl used a big serve and solid groundstrokes to defeat Australian Darren Cahill 7-6, 6-3 on Friday to reach the semifinals of the 750,000-Dollar indoor men's tennis championships, reports Reuter. American Derrick Rostagno, the 11th seed, will face Lendl in today's semifinals. Rostagno defeated 13th-seeded Cristiano Caratti of Italy 6-7, 6-2, 6-0. In another quarter final match, fifth-seeded Michael Chang defeated unseeded American Jeff Tarango 6-3, 7-5. Tarango, a lucky loser from the qualifying round and ranked 138th, had replaced fourth-seeded Brad Gilbert who withdrew on Wednesday. Defending champion Michael Stich of Germany earned the right to face Michael Chang with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over Mark Koevermans of the Netherlands. Lendl and Cahill fought a close first set. Both players

served hard and rallied from the baseline without breaking serve as games reached 6-6 and the tiebreak. Lendl took advantage of a Cahill double-fault to surge ahead 4-1, then unleashed a series of groundstroke winners to take the set and the tie break 7-2. Cahill, usually a serve and volleyer, was frequently kept at the backcourt by Lendl's dominating groundstrokes, and often beaten by the passing shot when he ventured to net. Another stream of winners from Lendl cost Cahill the break to fall behind 3-1 in the second set and Lendl stayed ahead to take the match 6-3 when Cahill netted a forehand return. "I felt half-way through the tie break I had the tie break under control," Lendl said. "But it doesn't mean you're going to win. Darren is too good a player to give many second chances." Caratti said he suffered a mental lapse against Rostagno after playing 13 tough matches in three weeks. "After the first set, my light just turned out," the Italian



IVAN LENDL

qualifying, when Gilbert withdrew and took advantage of his lucky break. He forged a brief comeback in the second set 2-2 and broke change when the fifth seed, celebrating his 19th birthday that day, failed to serve out the match at 5-4. But the respite was short-lived as change broke again for 6-5, then served out the match 7-5 when Tarango netted a backhand. "It was a relief to win in the second set," Chang said after nearly squandering the second set. "May be I'm waiting for the other guy to lose it instead of going out there to win it." Tarango, who upset a seed the previous round, was pleased to have reached the quarter-finals. "I wanted to definitely seize the opportunity I got," Tarango said. "I felt I should push myself harder to do better." Stich's big serve was too much for Koevermans who reached the quarter finals when second-seeded Pete Sampras defaulted during their third-round match on Thursday.

Napoli still banks on Maradona

NAPLES, Feb 23: Italian champions Napoli are banking on commitment and sacrifice from Diego Maradona for the rest of the championship, despite his intention to quit soccer at the end of the seasons, reports Reuter. Coach Alberto Bigon is relying heavily on Maradona, who has trained with unexpected application since being questioned by magistrates last week over involvement in a drugs and prostitution racket in Naples. "Maradona is keeping all his promises, commitment and sacrifice until the end of the championship," Bigon said after the Argentine guided Napoli to the Italian Cup semifinals with a 3-1 victory at Bologna on Wednesday. Napoli captain Maradona

promised to repay his team mates' solidarity over the vice case by not missing any more practices or matches, club sources said. The sources said on Friday that Bigon could get the sack if Napoli end the season empty-handed. Though their championship hopes have lull but vanished Napoli still have plenty to play for. Even if they fall at the next hurdle in the Italian Cup, Napoli can still secure a place in next season's UEFA Cup. The change in Maradona, whose tantrums have plagued Napoli all season, included shocking fans by turning out in his last two matches wearing the number nine shirt instead of the 10 he has worn during a decade at the top of the game. Minutes before last Sunday's 1-1 draw at Pisa, Maradona asked for the number nine



Diego Maradona

Gianfranco Zola the number 10, saying "here's the 10. It's yours". But the sources Zola is unlikely to become the successor at Napoli to 30-year-old Maradona. They said England's World Cup midfielder Paul Gascoigne was leading candidate. Maradona gave his approval in an interview earlier this week, saying. "I like Gascoigne a lot. It won't be easy for anyone after me. He's also a (difficult) lad, but you've got to judge him by what he does on the pitch. And with the national team and Tottenham, he's shown, he's a great player."

Revamping refs

ZURICH, Feb 23: The upper age limit for referees taking charge of international matches will be reduced from 50 to 45 by 1994, the refereeing commission of world football's governing body, FIFA, decided here on Friday, reports AFP. And as part of a plan to modernise and adapt refereeing standards to the present day game, national football associations will be asked to run training courses for linesmen, in order to create a FIFA roster of linesmen. Each national FA will be able to nominate seven referees and seven linesmen. In addition to specialised linesmen, FIFA plan to add a fourth official to the team for each match—a substitute referee, operating on the touchline, and ready to replace the referee in case of injury, as has been the case for the World Cup final. But their is no question that the substitute would have access to video recordings to enable him to intervene and overturn the referee's decision, FIFA spokesman Guido Tognoni said. "International matches will, in future, be conducted by a referee—as at the World Cup final competition—with the substitute referee providing supervisory back-up on the side-lines," he said.

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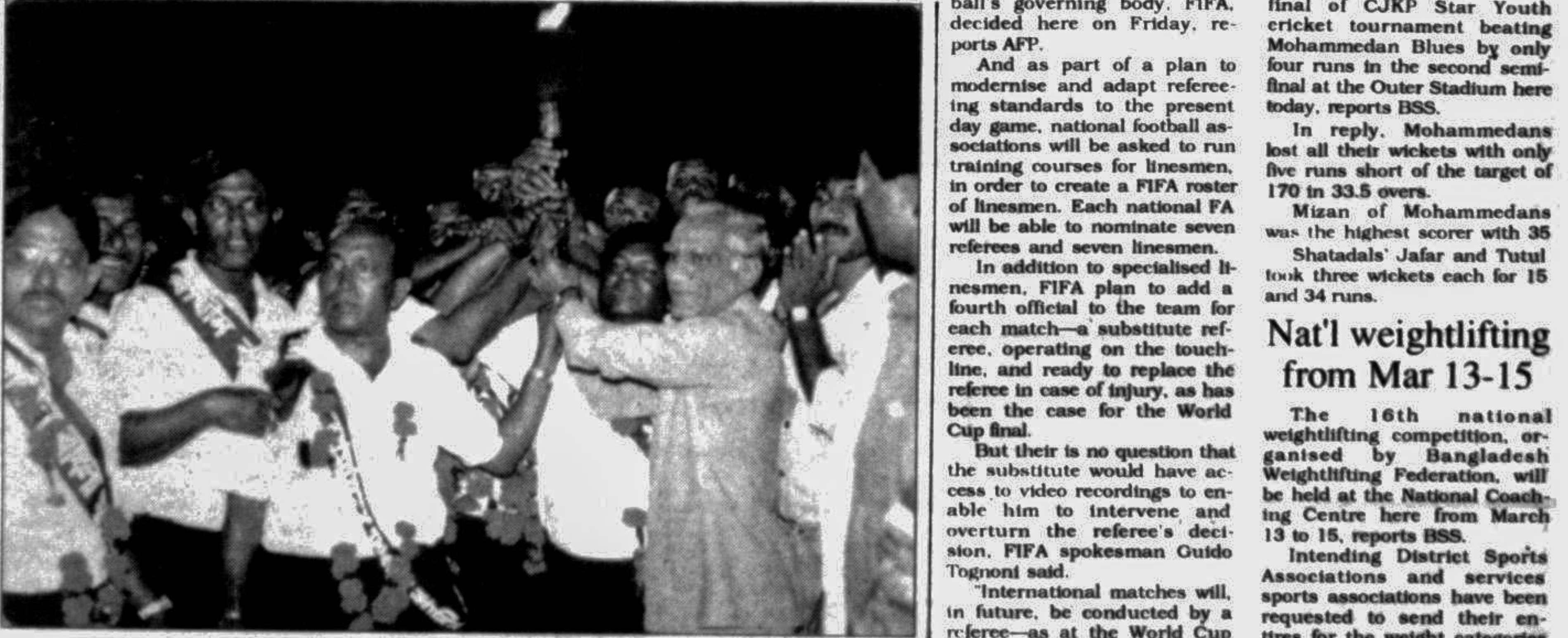
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Shatadal in Star cricket final

CHITTAGONG, Feb 23: Shatadal Club moved into the final of CJKP Star Youth cricket tournament beating Mohammedan Blues by only four runs in the second semifinal at the Outer Stadium here today, reports BSS. In reply, Mohammedans lost all their wickets with only five runs short of the target of 170 in 33.5 overs. Mizan of Mohammedans was the highest scorer with 35. Shatadals' Jafar and Tutul took three wickets each for 15 and 34 runs.

Nat'l weightlifting from Mar 13-15

The 16th national weightlifting competition, organised by Bangladesh Weightlifting Federation, will be held at the National Coaching Centre here from March 13 to 15, reports BSS. Intending District Sports Associations and services sports associations have been requested to send their entries for the weight categories of 52, 56, 60, 67.5, 75, 82.5, 90, 100, 110 and over 110 KGs to the federation office by March 9.



The torch — carried by the Swadhin Bangla football team from Mujibnagar to Dhaka — formally being handed over to Prof Maniruzzaman Miah, Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University by Zakaria Pintu at the Dhaka Stadium, Friday.