

Sport

Lipu slams another ton

Geji Ashraf Lipu's magnificent 132 not out enabled Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club (GMCC) to post an impressive total of 267 for the loss of seven wickets on the inaugural day of two-day 75 over-a-side match of the Navana Premier Division cricket league yesterday at the Dhaka Stadium.

Sports Reporter

Lipu stayed on like a rock of Gibraltar, at one end, while wickets tumbled at the other in regular intervals. He watched teammates—Selim 11, Dominda 3, Shabbir 12, Nasir 10, Zakir with 23—leave only to realise a cool calculated head was the call of the day. Sanwar who remained unbeaten with 11 runs supported his captain to accumulate a valuable 51 off 51 deliveries for

five matches have won three of them. Easy for BU Brothers Union scored a cakewalk victory over bottom placed Rupali Bank by seven wickets in the other Navana Premier Division cricket league match yesterday at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium. Brothers Union scored 138 for three in 34.1 overs, in re-



GMCC's Lipu sweeps and Mohammedan wicket-keeper Selim Shahed instantly takes evasive action, in yesterday's Navana Premier league match. —Photo Kiron

Mohammedans, in reply to GMCC's total scored fifty one without loss in 19 overs till draw of the stumps. Lipu who, only in his previous match, against Gulshan Youth scored 115 runs once again became a pain in neck for Mohammedan bowlers. He came to the wicket with nine runs on the board and batted the whole day dimming the Mohammedan bowlers spirit in the process. Lipu's ton came off only 210 balls, studded with seven glorious boundaries and one towering six. He added 48 runs for the second wicket with opened Lton who scored 31 runs.

Vita Rich final today

The final match of the Vita Rich victory cup tournament, organised jointly by Dhaka Football Players Welfare Association and Sonali Ott will be held today between White XI — players comprising of Mohammedan Sporting Club team — and Red XI — players comprising of Mukti Joddha, Fakirpool and PWD — at the national stadium.

The match is scheduled to begin this evening at 6.45. White team came into the final beating Orange team 3-0 in the semi final. Earlier they beat Yellow team 4-3 and drew with Red team 0-0 in the group matches. Red team moved into the final in style beating fancied Blue team — players from Abahabi Krira Chakar — 3-0, earlier they beat Yellow team 3-0 and drew goalless with Red team in the group matches.

The tickets for the finals have been fixed at Taka 15 for the galleries. The probable players for the final match are as follows: Red XI Panir, Shamim, Tapan, Jamrul, Lohman, Sujit, Uttam, Riyaz, Mosh, Mushtaq and Raquib. White XI: Karon, Abul Jewel, Salauddin, Johnny, Titu, Ayaz, Shabbir, Ilias, Nakhb and Zakir. Prof Yeazuddin Ahmed, adviser to Cultural and Food Ministry will witness the match as the chief guest. Siddiqur Rahman, President of the Bangladesh Football Federation will also be present as a special guest.

Liverpool lead cut short by Luton

LONDON, Feb 24: English champions Liverpool, still reeling from the shock resignation of manager Kenny Dalglish, suffered another body blow on Saturday when they lost 3-1 at Luton and surrendered the First Division leadership to Arsenal, reports Reuter. Arsenal crushed third-placed Crystal Palace 4-0 to take over at the top on goal difference and turn the title battle into a two-horse race. Dalglish stunned Liverpool when he resigned on Friday, ending a six-year managerial reign in which he led the club to three League championships and two Football Association (F.A.) Cup wins. Caretaker manager Ronnie Moran saw his charges take a 16th-minute lead through a Jan Mobbly penalty on Luton's plastic pitch, where Liverpool have not won since October 1987. But goals early in the second half from Northern Ireland internationals Kingsley Black and Iain Dowie put relegation-threatened Luton ahead.

the unbeaten eight wicket partnership. Mohammedans, due to their poor fielding gave away 34 extra runs. Mohammedan's Sri Lankan recruit Gamage was the most successful bowler with two wickets for 57 runs. Selim Shahed, Mohammed Ali, Nannu, Rubel and Wahid took one wicket each for 12, 17, 33, 49 and 53 runs respectively. Mohammedans, facing a target of 268 to win, started spiritedly to post 51 runs without loss in 19 overs. Nobel 28 and Shantoo 16 were at the crease when stumps were drawn for the day. They face an uphill task to score 217 runs in the remaining 56 overs and with a star studded batting line-up it would not be an impossible one. GMCC have won only one match in their four encounters while Mohammedans in their

ply to Rupali Bank's 134 all out in 54.3 overs. Brothers skipper Atahar Ali hit a fine 58 not out with seven fours. He was followed by Akram with an unbeaten 30 and Faruq 27. Rupali Bank's Partha, Prince and Babu took one wicket each for eight, 11 and 27 runs respectively. Ilyas (30), Dulu (25), Nripen(25) and Nadim (19) were the main scorers for the Rupali Bank. Brothers' Sri Lankan recruit Fernando captured four wickets for 39. Masum took two for 10 while Arup Bhattacharya and Salahuddin captured one wicket each for 12 and 16. Brothers Union earned 10 points from six matches. Bangladesh Biman and Abahani Krira Chakra also have collected 10 points from the equal number of encounters. Rupali Bank have lost all their six matches.

Pegasus 'B', Cantonian win in Div II

Young Pegasus 'B', Cantonian SC and City Club won their respective matches in the Crick Xerox Second Division cricket league yesterday at different venues. Young Pegasus 'B' posted a comfortable seven wicket win over Azad SC at the Dhanmondi Club ground. Azad SC batting first were shot out for a poor 105 runs in 33.4 overs. Rezaul 46, Prasanjeet 16 and Nobel with 13 runs were the leading Azad batsmen. Ujjal and Zubair bagged two wickets each for 23 and 24 runs respectively. Young Pegasus 'B' in reply, raced to victory scoring 117 runs for the loss of three wickets in only 29.2 overs, thanks to fine first wicket partnership of 90 runs between Ujjal and Bappi. Ujjal scored 50 off 63 balls and Bappi hit 33 runs followed by Poltu with an unbeaten 14.

In the other match, at Mohakhali T and T ground, Cantonian shot down Spread Eagles by 46 runs. Cantonian put into bat struggled to score 143 runs for the loss of nine wickets in their stipulated 35 overs. Kamrul 41, Kamal 24, Pappu and Monowar each with 14 not out were prominent Cantonian batsmen. Saiful with four wickets for 21 and Sohel with three

wickets for 26 runs were the leading wicket takers for Spread Eagles. In reply, Spread Eagles were bundled out for a paltry 97 runs in 27 overs. Sakhawat 23, Saiful 16, Fahim also 16 and Tipu with 12 were the Spread Eagles batsmen to reach double figures. Kamal with a devastating spell claimed four Eagles' scalps for only three runs. Atiq supported him well with three wickets for 20 runs. In another match, at the Dhanmondi ground, City Club lead Gandaria cricketers by 37 runs. City Club, batting first, scored 159 for the loss of nine wickets in their allotted 35 overs. Zakir 47, Gautam 44, Tinku 16 and Shipon with 14 were the successful City batsmen. Titu took four wickets for 48 runs. Gandaria, in reply were all out for 122 runs in 33 overs. Kamal 17, Ataur 15, Mofiz 14 and Biplob with 12 runs were the principle scorers for Gandaria. Pappo took three wickets for 22 and Salauddin captured two wickets for 24 runs.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Laibagh US vs Eagles (D Club) Mill Barrack vs East End (Mohakhali) Dhanmondi vs Eastern SC (DCS)



Pro Vice Chancellor Prof Wakil Ahmed handing over the prize to Tashida Khanam Tasmina, winner in the dress as you like' competition of the Dhaka University Laboratory School annual sports meet, yesterday.

Josephites in super league

Josephites Club qualified for the super league after coming from behind to beat Eagles Club 88-75 in the last match of the first round of the Partex First Division basketball league yesterday at the wooden floor basketball gymnasium. Eagles led 52-44 at the breather. This was Eagles' third match in the last three days and quite naturally they ran out of fuel in the second half, thus enabling Josephites, led by their American recruit Eddie Smith with 39 points, to haul the first half deficit. Mustaq with 17 was the other notable Josephites' scorer. Imon 20 and Kamal with 17 points were fought bravely for Eagles. Josephites with this win comfortably moved into the super league with 16 points from 12 matches while Eagles in the same number of outings remained at 12. The other five teams to make the super league are — Angels, 24 points; Vega Sports, 22 points; Winners, 18 points; Greys and Dhaka Wanderers with 14 points each. Five Stars also secured 14 points but could not qualify due to their poor scoring rate. Hornets Club was placed at the bottom and was relegated to Second Division. The super league matches will begin from March 4 at the same venue.

Pioneer soccer

Bashaboo Tarun Sangha became Group 'B' champion after registering a narrow 1-0 victory over Gandaria Famous in the play-off match of the round robin league of the Pioneer football yesterday at the Outer Stadium. Bashaboo T.S and Gandaria Famous both qualified for the semifinals from the Group 'B' as champion and runner-up respectively. In another play-off match, of Group 'A', Gulbagh K.C beat Laibagh T.S 1-0 and moved into the semifinals from Group 'A' as the runners-up team. The other semifinal spot from Group 'A' was already filled-up by Makim Bazar as being the champion of Group 'A'.

Zia clinches Canon title

Biman's Fide Master Ziaur Rahman became the unbeaten champion with eight points in the Canon Active chess championship which concluded yesterday at NSC's chess room. The championship, sponsored by Universal Trader Ltd and organised by Dhaka Chess Foundation, began last Tuesday, February 19. International Master Zillur Rahman Champak finished runners-up also with seven and a half points. Rifkat Bin Sattar and Shabana Parveen finished in the third and fourth position respectively with seven points each. Maroof, Niamul, Kabir, Bokul and Jimmu were placed from fifth to ninth places respectively. Labloo, Amjad, Hanif, Tito, Kajal, Gulshan, Khaleque, Kalam, Mont and Shoab were placed in order from 10th to 19th spot respectively. The champion received Taka 2500, runner-up Taka 1500, third and fourth Taka 750 each, fifth to ninth Taka 500 each, tenth to nineteenth Taka 200 each.

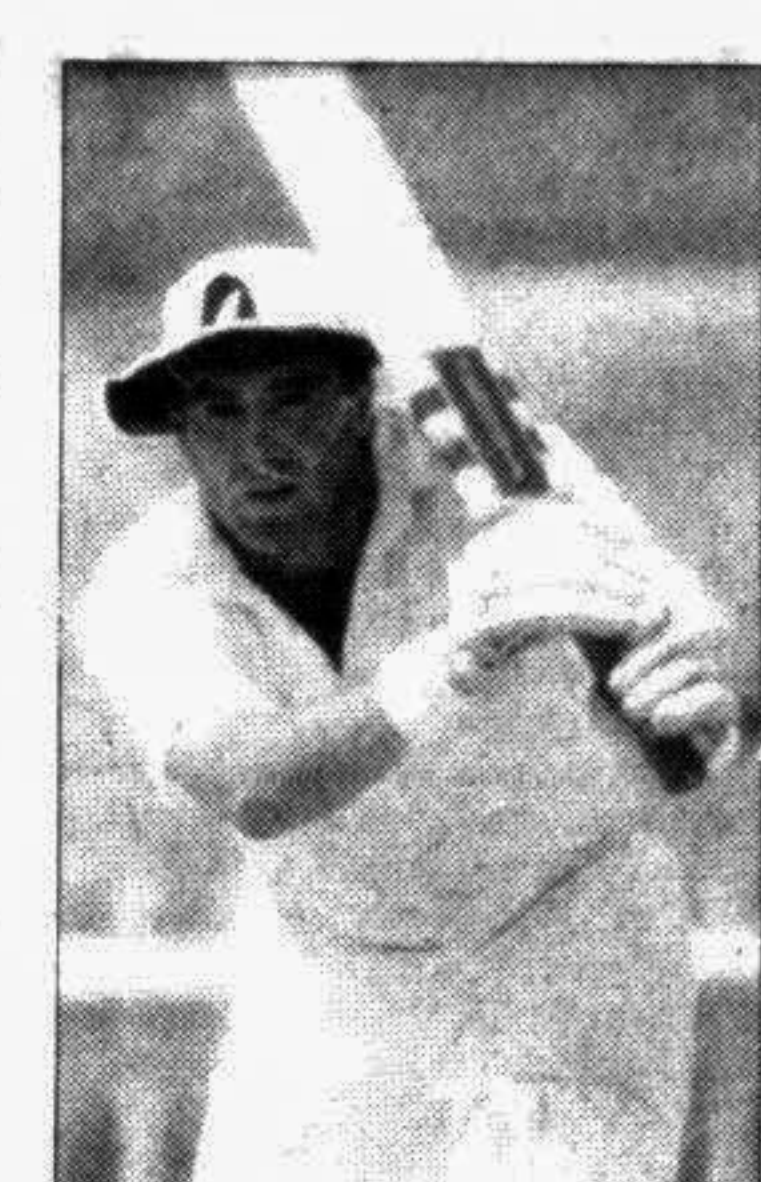
Whitaker retains world title

LAS VEGAS, Feb 24: Per-nell Whitaker easily retained his undisputed world lightweight championship over fellow-American Anthony Jones on a unanimous points decision after 12 rounds on Saturday, reports Reuter. Whitaker, 27, had little difficulty with Jones who took the fight just last week, after two other opponents were injured and unable to fight. The quick Whitaker, a 16-1 favourite, used his superior hand and foot speed to pepper the head any body of the out-classed Jones throughout the fight. Whitaker, apparently looking for a knockout, changed tactics in the final round, going to the head. He staggered Jones with a right hook in the closing moments of the fight. But Jones, 24, retreated and held on until the bell. Whitaker, who received 500,000 dollars for the fight, is now 26-1. Jones picked up 125,000 dollars and is 26-3-1. Whitaker's trainer, Lou Duva, said his fighter injured his right hand in the fight. "This is not the first time I have fought with my hand hurt, Whitaker said after the fight. "I'm a professional when things like this happen I have to adjust. Whitaker originally was to have fought Poli Diaz who pulled out of the fight due to a injury.

Wright's ton put Kiwis on top

HAMILTON (New Zealand), Feb 24: A blazing century by opener John Wright put New Zealand into winning position by the close of the third day of the second cricket Test against Sri Lanka today, reports Reuter. The day was also highlighted by Kiwi wicketkeeper Ian Smith equalling the world record of seven test dismissals in an innings and the completion of a century by Sri Lanka's Asanka Gurusinha. Wright, out for 101 shortly before the close, and a more subdued Trevor Franklin, not out 56, pushed New Zealand to 170 for two, an overall lead of 213. Wright began more slowly than Franklin, but after tea he unleashed a series of drives and cuts against a toothless Sri Lankan attack. His 11th century in Tests came off just 138 balls up and included 14 fours. He was out flicking a catch to wicketkeeper Hashan Tillekeratne off Champaka Ramanayake. The paceman gave Sri Lanka further consolation when Sanath Jayasuriya took a sharp chance to dismiss nightwatchman Danny Morrison for his second duck of the game. The 161 run opening partnership was all the more valuable because captain Martin Crowe, who badly twisted his ankle on Saturday, is unlikely to be able to bat in this innings and Ken Rutherford, who split a finger while dropping his third chance, is also doubtful.

Earlier, New Zealand's bowlers, helped by Smith's seven catches, had given them a first innings lead of 43 when they dismissed the visitors for 253, 40 minutes after lunch. Sri Lanka, 180 for five overnight, were held together by Gurusinha who scored 119, his second Test century. But Gurusinha, beginning the day at 81, failed to find the form he had on Saturday. Only rarely was he able to attack the bowlers on a pitch which had lost the venom it had on the first two days. Sri Lanka scored just 48 before lunch for the loss of nightwatchman Ramanayake, run out in a dreadful mix-up. Shortly after, the delighted left-hander brought up his century. The Kiwi bowlers toiled without success on a pitch which has lost its freshness and Sri Lanka had the chance to get on top. But when New Zealand took the new ball after lunch they were able to wrap up the innings quickly. Morrison, bowling with fire, began the slide when he had captain Arjuna Ranatunga caught by Smith. In his next over he had Gurusinha brilliantly caught by Shane Thomson at gully for 119. Gurusinha hit one six and 17 fours in his six-hour innings. Willie Watson cleaned up the tail to end with three for 65, while Morrison ended with three for 77. Graeme Labrooy gave a dolly catch for Smith to take his seventh catch and equal the record set by Pakistan's Wasim



JOHN WRIGHT

Barri against New Zealand at Auckland and England's Bob Taylor against India at Bombay in 1980. The 33 year-old Smith gave his usual impeccable performance behind the stumps, in contrast to the slip fielders who dropped. "I must confess to calling a loud mine when it went up in the air, Smith told reporters in discussing the last catch."

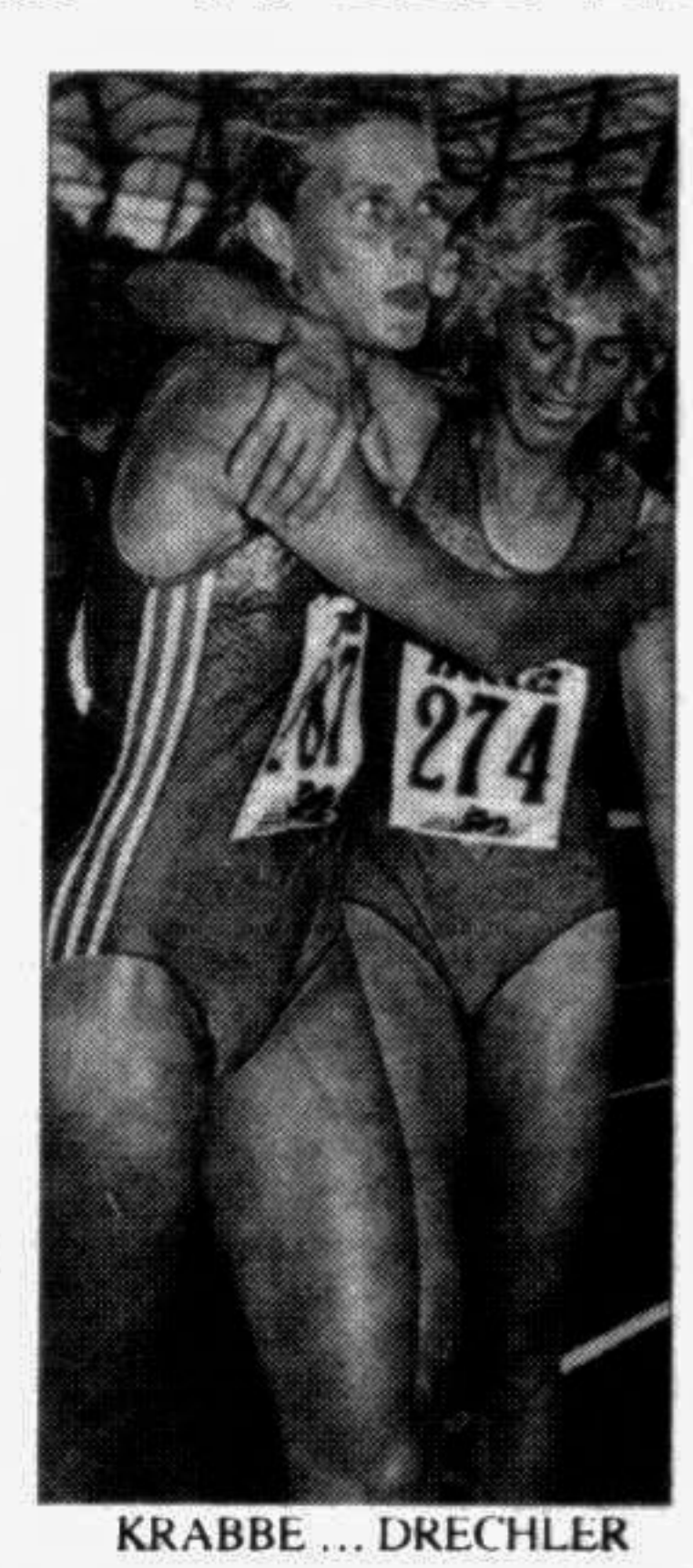
SCOREBOARD Table with columns for New Zealand and Sri Lanka, including batting and bowling statistics.

Table listing the batting order for Sri Lanka, including names like Smith b Morrison, Gurusinha c Thomson, Aravinda De Silva c Smith, etc.

German stars win in style

PARIS, Feb 24: Germany, led by their stars from the former communist east, Heike Drechsler and Katrin Krabbe, won their first athletics international as a reunited country on Saturday, reports Reuter. The stylish Drechsler won the women's long jump almost effortlessly and the graceful Krabbe took the women's 60 metres comfortably as Germany beat a powerful Soviet team by just two points. But the Soviet Union pulled off the feat of the day when their women's 4x400 metres relay team shattered a 10-year-old indoor world record by more than five seconds. The Soviet quartet of Marina Shmointina, Margarita Ponomaryeva, Ludmilla Zhigalova and Aelita Iurchenko clocked three minutes 28.80 seconds to beat the previous record of 3:34.38 set by Germany in 1981 in an event which is not often run indoors. Italy pulled off a surprise by

winning the men's competition by three and a half points from the Soviet Union while Germany, to no surprise, captured the women's contest. Many of the unified German team may have felt strange competing in the white and red vests of the Federal Republic after years of donning the Blue of East Germany, but it did nothing to upset their confidence. The long-legged Krabbe set the ball rolling by becoming the first winner from an all-German team when she clocked 7.22 seconds to take the 60 metres. Drechsler, captain of the women's team, soon followed with an impressive 6.85 metres in the long jump and showed her mastery of the event by recording the five best leaps of the day, leaving Fiona May of Britain second 33 centimetres behind. World and Olympic champion Sigrun Grau-Wodars took the women's 800 metres as expected but the meeting was not just a Tour De Force



KRABBE... DRECHLER

for former East German stars. Heike Henkel and Joachim Dohmel won the women's high jump and men's 800 metres respectively to show that athletes from the old Western part of the country can still prove victorious. The strength of the united German looks certain to be felt at the forthcoming World indoor championships in Seville, Spain, from March 8 to 10. Though Italy won the men's competition, only one Italian was able to win a race — Sandro Floris in the men's 200 metres. Among the other outstanding performances of the day were world bests for the season from European champion Monique Ewanje-Epee of France with 7.82 seconds in the women's 60 metres hurdles, from Irina Sergeeva of the Soviet Union with 22.59 seconds in the women's 200 metres and from Spain's Sandra Myers with 51.82 seconds in the women's 400 metres.

Lendl, Stich clash in final

MEMPHIS (Tennessee), Feb 24: Defending champion Michael Stich of Germany used a punishing service game to overpower American Michael Chang 6-2, 6-2 Saturday night and earn a berth opposite Ivan Lendl in the final of the 750,000-dollar Volvo indoor tennis tournament, reports AP. Stich, the No. 7 seed bounced the fifth-seeded Chang from the tournament in 66 minutes, six less than Lendl needed in downing No. 11-seed American Derrick Rostagno 6-3, 6-2. Lendl, ranked third in the world and seeded No. 1 in this tournament, is 3-0 lifetime against Stich, ranked 25th. Lendl defeated the German in straight sets in the quarterfinal round of the U.S. Pro Indoor at Philadelphia two weeks ago. "I'm looking forward to playing Lendl again. This is a different, surface and a different tournament," Stich said. "I think he's the favorite, but I want to defend my championship. Every time I

play him, it's getting closer." Stich had six aces against Chang and has yet to lose his serve during the tournament. Lendl gave Rostagno a brief but thorough lesson in tennis. "I played all right, but I didn't play great. I guess you could say I played tidy," said Lendl, who is seeking his 90th career tournament title. "By tidy I mean I made him work for every point. He's flashy and he's going to make some good shots, but he's going to miss some shots, too." The Lendl-Rostagno match pivoted on the fifth game of the opening set. Rostagno won the first two points of the game off Lendl's serve before the Czechoslovak awoke with two service winners to reach deuce. Lendl then unleashed a cross-court forehand winner followed by a service winner to keep the match on serve. Lendl achieved the only break of the first set in the eighth game when Rostagno rushed the net to reach a soft backhand and blocked the ball into the net.

Lendl put the set away with an ace in the next game. Leading 40-15 in the first game of the second set, Rostagno's game fell apart. A double fault and backhand winner by Lendl put the game at deuce before Rostagno hit an overhead wide and then double-faulted to hand the break to Lendl. "I don't think I let down or anything," Rostagno said of his poor start in the second set. "I stuck with it, but he hit the service winners. Today, Lendl played about as well as I have seen anyone play against me. I guess you could say it was

vintage Ivan Lendl. He brought out his best when he needed it." Lendl maintained his serve and added a second service break in the seventh game when Rostagno hit a backhand wide of the line. Stich kept Chang pinned to the baseline with serves that ranged from 105 to 123mph (168 to 197 kmph). "I wanted for chances to come in with my forehand," Stich said. "I think it confused Michael and, also, he was not happy about the way he was playing."



Ln. Humayun Zahir, Lft. Governor Lions Club International Dist- 315 A Bangladesh and Ln. Mazibur Rahman, Zone Chairman, are seen distributing prizes amongst the winners of the 19th Annuals Sports of Lion Model School held Feb 22.

Hadlee faces open heart surgery

HAMILTON (New Zealand), Feb 24: New Zealand cricket star Sir Richard Hadlee, holder of the record for taking most Test wickets, said today he faced open heart surgery or a life on therapeutic drugs, reports Reuter. "The position is that I'm faced with a couple of options — to stay on drugs which I take three times a day which do have side effects, and it's difficult to get through the day chirpy to say the least." "The other option is open heart surgery, which sounds very dramatic and a little bit scary," he told a news conference during the second New Zealand-Sri Lankan cricket Test. The 39-year-old New Zealand paceman said there was no urgency. "It could be years away but then again I might decide to get it done after the cricket season is finished and then get back to having a better quality of life than what I'm having at the moment." Hadlee was rushed to hospital on February 6 during a one-day game between Sri Lanka and New Zealand in Dunedin

and his racing heart had to be stopped and restarted to get the beat going more rhythmically. Hadlee said he was suffering from Wolff-Parkinson white syndrome, an erratic heart beat which was a congenital problem. He said it was first noticed during a medical check before he went to India in 1989 to try to get the world Test record, although it never affected him when he played. "I have a short circuit in the electrical system of the heart which upsets the rhythm and a few weeks ago it was very serious. Very serious." Hadlee said he will have more tests on Wednesday but was still working, although only at three-quarter efficiency. He said his heart beat got up to 300 a minute compared with the normal 60-70 when he was in hospital. Hadlee said if he stayed on drugs then the side effects would cause him kidney and liver problems. Hadlee retired last year after taking 431 Test wickets. He is still the only man to have taken 400 wickets.