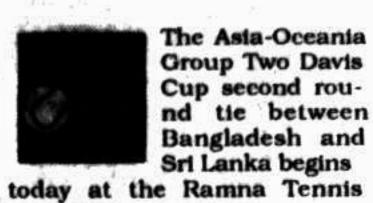
Davis Cup Asia-Oceania Group Two meet

Sarder faces Fernando in opener



Complex. State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeq Hossain Khoka will inaugurate the meet at

nine in the morning. The opening day's fare involves two singles matches. one in the morning and an-

other in the afternoon. According to the draw held yesterday at the Bangladesh Tennis Federation premises by the chairman of the National Sports Council Maj Gen Mahbubur Rahman, the first match will pit the Sri Lankan number one and skipper Arjun Fernando against the

E Bengal signs up Abahani stars

Three star players of Abahani Krira Chakra stopper back Munna, forwards Aslam and Rumi are likely to play for East Bengal Club in the Calcutta Super Division football league for the current season.

The three players will get the clearance from their club, and also from Bangladesh Football Federation in a day or two, an Abahani official told BSS here on Thursday.

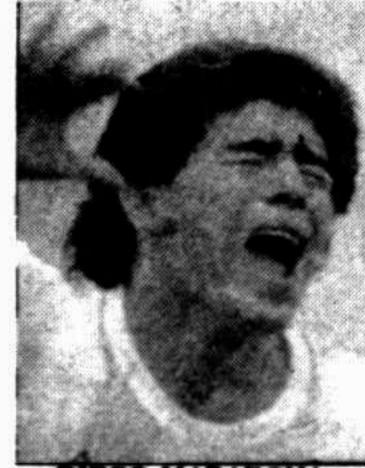
The Abahani official said everything was finalised and they were waiting for the decision of their director Saber Hossain Chowdhury who is not in Dhaka at the moment.

An official of the East Bengal Club will arrive here today to accompany the Abahani trio to Calcutta.

Earlier, the officials of East Bengal invited the three Abahani players to play in the Calcutta league for the club when they had come here to playing the BTC Club Cup football tournament organised to raise funds for the cyclone victims last week.

Napoli awaits Diego return

NAPLES, Italy, June 13 Diego Maradona was still a hero to Napoli fans, the Italian club's president said on



DIEGO MARADONA Wednesday and he hoped the Argentine would eventually return to play for them, reports Reuter.

We hold Maradona in high esteem. We haven't asked for the cancellation of his contract, which expires in 1993," president Corrado Ferlaino told reporters.

"We hope that Maradona can play again with us. He's still and idol for Naples fans. We hope he can solve his problems soon and start playing again. We'd be happy to have him with us."

Maradona, who skipped training sessions and matches last season, was banned from soccer for 15 months after testing positive for cocaine in March.

Also under investigation for possible involvement with a Naples vice ring, he flew home to Argentina in April where he was later arrested during a

drugs raid. Maradona's manager Marco Franchi, testifying at the vice ring trial on Wednesday, said the midfielder was disgusted by the accusations he faced and was ready to travel to Italy

to derend himself in court. "But only on condition that the doctors giving him psychiatric treatment say he can travel.

Basketball refs' clinic

Sports Reporter

A week-long referee's clinic, organised by Bangladesh Basketball Federation will begin in the last week of June at the wooden floor gymnasiun.

Two Indian basketball referees, one of them holding FIBA badge will conduct the clinic.

All the interested referees belonging to different clubs, services and districts sports associations have been requested to send their names along with entry fee of Taka 300 by June 20 at the Basketball Federation office.

No travelling allowance or daily allowance will be borne by the Federation.

Bangladesh number two Sarder Iftekhar. In the afternoon, national number one Shovon Jamaly will face the Sri Lankan number two Rohan De Silva.

Tomorrow, Shovon and Sarder are to play the doubles against the top Lankan pairing. The reverse singles, scheduled for Sunday, will match Sarder against De Silva and Shovon against Fernando.

The winners of the clash will meet the winners of the Singapore-versus-Hong Kong tie in the group semifinals scheduled for July 19.

The other players in the Sri Lankan squad are Sanjay Wejemanne and Jayandera Wecjesekara. P S Kumara is the team manager.

The Bangladesh squad, headed by non-playing captaincum-coach Sandru Salam, also or Shovon are sidelined through injury of indisposition. According to Sandru Salam,

includes Maroof Rahman and

Hira Lal. Dr Rashiduddin is the

Although Maroof and Hira

are included in the squad they

may not get to play in the cur-

rent meet unless either Sarder

Bangladesh are likely to persist with the Shovon-Sarder pairing for the crucial doubles encounter. He said there is good understanding between the two and Bangladesh cannot afford to take any chances by experimenting with any new combination.

The timings for the matches may have to be rescheduled in case of inclement weather because Bangladesh, rather Dhaka,

does not possess any indoor covered facility.

According to Davis Cup rules, the reverse singles may be shortened to best-of-three sets encounters in the event of any one side wrapping up the tie after the first two singles and the doubles.

Tickets for the event will cost Taka 200 for VIP season. and Taka 20 for gallery (scason). Daily gallery tickets will cost Taka 10.

Peter Malik, an Indian, who will be the referee, arrived in the city yesterday.

The Sri Lankans reached Dhaka Tuesday, hoping to get acclimatised to both the weather and the playing surface. Unfortunately for them, the weather of the past few days hasn't afforded much opportunity for either.

Martina won't give up



MARTINA NAVRATILOVA American insisted she would not still be playing at 40.

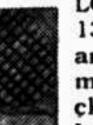
"I won't be playing in 10 years time - definitely not. said I would play until I was 30 and then see - and I am still secing. I honestly don't know when it will be time to quit. If the body holds up as it is right now, it could be another three

"But I don't know if I will have the desire to put myself on the line-day-in day-out. Playing matches is hard enough but travelling is impossible.'

Navratilova completed a comfortable victory over Basuki by shrugging off a one-hour rain disruption when she was leading 5-2 in the first set.

Navratilova faces Maya Kidowaki in the last 16 following the Japanese girls's straight sets victory over 13th seed Anne Minter of Australia.

Keil crushes Sampras



LONDON, June 13: US Open champion Pete Sampras was knocked out of the

London grass court tennis tournament in his opening match on Wednesday by a qualifier playing in only his second senior tournament, reports Reuter.

ought to win and I guess expe-

rience ought to count for

something. I am excited about

still being in the hunt. Last

year I didn't know if I could

play because I had trouble with

my knees but I had them fixed

American Mark Ketl, who has played only satellite and challenger series tournaments in the last three years, beat his fourth-seeded compatriot 6-2,7-6.

Keil, ranked 224th in the world, earned 3,789 pounds sterling (6,215 dollars) for the victory - more than a third of his entire earnings for the whole of last year. Sampras, who like the other seeds had a first-round bye, experienced trouble with his serve in the windy conditions at Queen's Club and finished off the second set tiebreak by double

Cash strikes form

Former Wimbledon champion Pat Cash, back on his best form after years of injury, knocked out ninth-seeded American Kevin Curren with an impressive 6-4, 6-1 win to reach the third round.

Cash, who also beat Curren at Queen's in 1987 before winning Wimbledon, has a home near Queen's Club.

The Australian is refusing to worry about Wimbledon, which starts on June 24, despite his success in reaching the final against Ivan Lendl at the Beckenham grass court tournament last weekend.

"Wimbledon is a long way away," he insisted. "I am just worrying about playing the next match here."

Edberg warms up

Stefan Edberg began the warm-up to defending his Wimbledon title well, beating Frenchman Arnaud Boetsch 6-4, 6.3 despite a couple of slight hiccups in the second

In the sixth game, the topseeded Swede had to fight off six breakpoints by the determined Boetsch, who reached the last 16 of the French Open last week. Boetsch then succeeded in breaking Edberg as the world number one served for the second-round match at

But Edberg, who also had a first-round bye, broke straight back, taking victory on his second matchpoint when Boetsch hit a forehand into the

seeded to meet Sampras in the | Nurul Amin, Munirul Islam. last four before the American's defeat, will play Australian Jason Stoltenberg in the third round.

Fifth seed Derrick Rostagno, who beat John McEnroe in the opening round at Wimbledon last year, failed to get through his first match

Mac lashes youngsters



NEWPORT. Rhode Island, June 13: An angry John McEnroe blasted younger US stars on

Wednesday as having "horrible" attitudes for not playing in this week's Davis Cup quarterfinal match against Spain, reports Reuter.

McEnroe, 32, was referring to the absence of American stars Pete Sampras, Andre Agassi and Michael Chang, all of whom have declined to help US team defend its championship in the quarterfinals which begin on Friday.

"It shocks me that they wouldn't jump at the chance,' McEnore said after an afternoon practice on the Newport Casino grass courts. "It's dis-

Budget revises exemption for sports sponsors

Only sponsors of first class national and international games and sports will get the benefit of tax exemption on donations up to Taka five lakh, according to the national budget placed before the Jatiya Sangsad by the Finance Minister M. Saifur Rahman Wednesday, reports BSS.

The present exemption applies on donations up to Taka five lakh to the sports federations and clubs.

The Finance Minister said, this blanket exemption on donations was being abused as a means to avoid tax as many mushroom clubs and associations in far corners of the country came under this facility. The main objective of the development of games and sports was not being achieved, he added.

He said, the present government has restricted this exemption of tax with a view to bringing about real improvement in the over-all sports activities of the country.

appointing, especially since these guys have had everything handed to them on a silver platter. All on a sudden, the young players feel like they're doing everyone a favour if they

play. Their attitude is horri-

ble," said McEnroe, ranked

14th in the world. Sampras, the US Open champion, Agassi, the French open runnersup, and Chang, last year's Cup star, are off preparing for the June 24 start

of Wimbledon. McEnroe, the winningest player in US Cup play, is here with singles player Brad Gilbert and the undefeated Cup doubles partners Jim Pugh and Brand Gilbert.

"It's an honour and shouldn't be that big of a difficult decision to play, McEnore said. "I'm here to play because I wanted to play country. m y McEnroe holds five American records, including most sin-

Chinese coaches to arrive soon

China will extend Bangladesh training facilities to help groom its team for the 5th SAF Games, reports UNB.

Chinese instructors are expected to arrive soon to train the Bangladeshi participants in swimming, shooting and table tennis, sources at the National Sports Council (NSC) said yesterday adding that trainers for some other disciplines may

The SAF Games will be held the Sri Lankan capital Colombo from December 22

Bangladesh will participate in all the ten disciplines of the games. They are: Athletics, Swimming, Shooting, Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Boxing,

Weightlifting, Tennis and Table Tennis. The NSC has arranged the Chinese trainers for the SAF bound teams free of cost.

gles wins with 39 and most doubles and singles wins with 54. When he plays in this year's edition, McEnroe will equal the American record of Bill Tilden and Stan Smithfor

the most years played at 11. McEnroe has not been in a grand slam final since losing the 1985 US Open to Ivan Lendi.

Lendl's Wimbledon chances dampen

LONDON, June 13: Ivan Lendl has never won Wimbledon and he never will if he continues to play as he did at the Queen's Club championships here on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Leading Grant Connell, the 25-year-old Canadian left-hander, by a set and 3-1, the 31year-old Czech, who won here last year, lost all his fire and rhythm to slump to a sensational defeat.

Connell, ranked only 81st in the world, won their second round clash 5-7, 6-3, 6-4 in a match that was held up for 17 minutes by rain when the score had reached 3-3 in the final set.

Lendl made no excuses. " just played a terrible service game when I was leading 3-1 in the second set," he said.

ROK stickwinders shock Aussie girls

MELBOURNE, June 13: South Korea beat Australia 2-1 in the fourth Test in a sixmatch women's hockey series here today, reports AFP. South Korea now lead the

series by two wins to one with

one Test drawn. The remaining a matches are to be played here on Saturday and Sunday. In today's match, Young Mi-Ro and Gae Sook-Lim scored for South Korea and Lianne Tooth put away Australia's one

Sunny wants to attend SA Board inauguration

BOMBAY, June 13: Former India skipper Sunil Gavaskar has sought permission from the union government to attend the inauguration of the reconstituted United South African Cricket Board on June 29, reports PTI.

Gavaskar is one of the spe-



SUNIL GAVASKAR cial invitees for the function to unify the South African Cricket Union and the South African Cricket Board and has received an official invitation from the managing director of the newly formed body, Dr Ali Bacher.

"I have sent the papers to the government for its approval" Gavaskar said here when contacted.

Test cricketer's leading run-getter is hopeful of getting the green signal in about a week after which he intends to leave for South Africa around June 26.

Two other cricketing greats, Sir Garsield Sobers and Imran Khan, are among the other invitees, it was learnt.

MSC forms new cricket body

Sports Reporter

Mohammedan Sporting Club, one of the leading sports club of Bangladesh, in a bid to form a strong cricket team formed a new cricket commit tee last week.

The new committee will concentrate on building up a balanced, star-studded side that is scheduled to play in a tournament in Meerut, India.

Mr Shahjahan Kabir and Mr Tanveer Haider have been nominated as the chairman and secretary respectively of the committee.

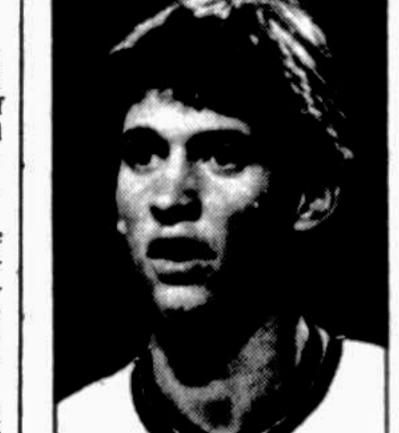
The following are the officebearers and members of the committee:

Chairman - Shahjahan Kabir, Chief Patron - Khan Mohammed Igbal, Chief Adviser — Abdul Awal, Patrons — Kamal Uddin Khan, Mohammed Zakaria, Abdul Motaleb, Abdul Malek, Ahmed Ali, Mirza Ali Bairzu Isphani, Advisers - Mustafa Maksudur Edberg, who had been Rahman, Kuth Uddin Ahmed, Wahidul Islam, S A Samad Badrul Amin, Shahed Asghar Chowdhury, Secretary - Tanveer Haider, Members -Khalid Hasan, Daulatuzzaman, Ehsanul Kabir Jamal, Habibur Rahman Habib, Enamul Haque, Delwar Hossain Dtlu and Sanjoy Kumar Roy.

Lineker puts 4 past Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, June 13: Gary Lineker grabbed all four goals in England's 4-2 thrashing of Malaysia in a friendly soccer international on Wednesday to put him close to becoming his country's highest

ever scorer, reports Reuter. Lineker's haul moved him into second place in England's list of all-time scorers ahead of Jimmy Greaves and within four goals of Bobby Charlton' record 49.



The England captain grabbed the fastest goal of his 68-match international career after 42 seconds and went on to ravage the Asian parttimers

The 30-year-old Tottenham striker added his second from a Stuart Pearce corner in the 23rd minute and completed his fifth international hat-trick from David Platt's cross after half an hour Malaysia reduced the deficit

to 3-1 before losing their goalkeeper Hassan who hurt his back falling awakwardly catching a corner in the 64th Lineker, who left the squad to play for his club in Japan at

the weekened, scored his

fourth goal six minutes later. Maltan scored both Malaysias goals as England began to show sings of tiredness in the intense heat and hu-

Botham Worcs' hero

weeks ago, helped to tumble 13: lan Botham out Essex for 104. defied a lingering hamstring injury on Wednesday to

thrust Worcester shire into a repeat Benson and Hedges Cup final against Lancashire at Lord's next month, reports Reuter. All-rounder Botham took three wickets for 11 runs in

11 overs as Worcestershire beat Essex by nine wickets in the 55 overs cricket competition at Chelmsford. Holders Lancashire, who beat Worcestershire by 69 runs in last scason's final, beat arch-

rivals Yorkshire by 68 runs in their semifinal at Old Trafford. Botham, who tore a hamstring during England's first one-day international against West Indies almost three

DERBY, England,

June 13: Richie

Richardson, at

last looking a

world class player

in English con-

ditions, struck his second tour

century on Wednesday but

Clayton Lambert and Brian Lara

missed their chance to press

for a West Indies Test place,

West Indies from the uncer-

tainty of 84 for three to 261

for five declared at the close of

the rain-interrupted first day

of the three-day cricket match

don Greenidge was ruled out of

the rest of the tour after knee

surgery, Lambert and Lara

railed to take timely opportu-

Scamer Simon Base, bowl-

ing a steady line, had Lamert

leg before for five and Lara

trapped the same way for a

single when both left handers

needed to make an impression

ahead of next week's second

Test against England at Lord's .

Instead, Richardson took

the honours, aided by a little

luck against the moving ball, as

he struck two sixes and 14

fours in his 223-ball innings. It

stretched his aggregate to 500

in six tour innings.

nity to make their mark.

But on the day opener Gor-

Richardson hit 114 to haul

reports Reuter.

against Derbushire.

His telling spell of medium

IAN BOTHAM

pace ended any hope of an

Essex revival once fast bowler

Graham Dflley had dismissed

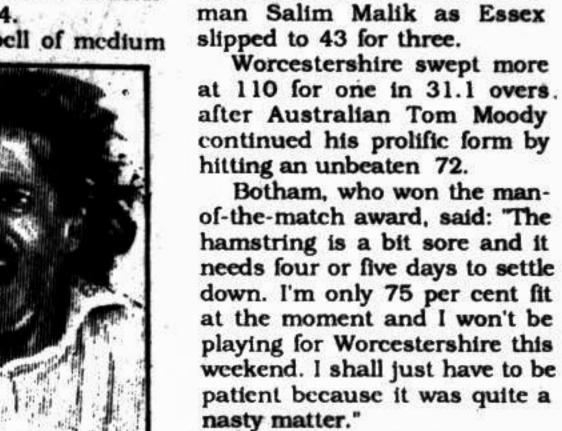
England captain Graham

had suggested that his tech-

nique was suspect in English

conditions, but this time

Richardson has confirmed his



Lancs win coMfortably

Lancashire ultimately won by a comfortable margin despite an outstanding 114 in 132 balls by opener Ashley Metcalfe, who hit seven boundaries.

Metcalfe and Richard Blakey (38) led a revival from 53 for three with a stand of 109 as Yorkshire pursued their opponents' total of 268 all out.

Richardson cracks ton The Antiguan's record on his two previous tours here

at Lord's LONDON, June 13: lan Botham has ruled himself out of England's squad for the sec-

Will be missing

ond cricket Test against West Indies starting at Lord's on June 20, reports Reuter. All-rounder Botham, who tore a hamstring nearly three weeks ago, advised England to count him out of contention for a Test place after helping his county Worcestershire reach the Benson and Hedges

Botham said: "I shall not be playing this weekend because the hamstring is a bit sore and, in all honesty, I cannot say I will be fit for a five-day game by (next) Thursday. "I discussed the situation

Cup final on Wednesday.

with England manager Micky Stewart today and we've reached the same conclusion." Botham was injured during

the first one-day international against West Indies at Edgbaston on May 24 and subsequently missed the first Test at Hedgingley where England won by 115 runs on Monday.

Britain backs return of SA

RICHIE RICHARDSON

current status among the

portunity to play himself back

into form with 82 in 130 balls

during a fourth wicket stand of

163 in 43 overs with Richard-

son which gradually increased

in quality and dominance.

Carl Hooper took the op-

world's leading batsmen.

13: Britain on Wednesday backed the return of South Africa to international cricket in response to reforms to

apartheid, reports Reuter. Foreign secretary Douglas Hurd said that after talks with the African National Congress (ANC) and the South African Cricket Board, Britain would back South Africa's readmission to the world cricketing fraternity.

Hurd, in a written reply to a parliamentary question, said Britain was influenced by the

Greenidge ruled out of remaining tour matches

DERBY, June 13: West Indies opener Gordon Greenidege, who recently had an operation for a knee injury, is out of the rest of the tour of England, manager Lance Gibbs said on Wednesday, reports

Reuter. Greenidge, who underwent surgery on May 28 to repair a chipped knee bone damaged in the second one-day international at Old Trafford, was ruled out on the verdict of a Harley Street surgeon after 10 days of therapy.

Gibbs said: "The surgeon reported that Gordon would not be fit enough to play for the West Indies for another four weeks. By then we will be nearly into the fourth Test.

"Gordon is out of the tour. but he will still see the surgeon again on June 21 and arrange for further therapy. "The report was faxed to

the West Indies Board in Barbados and they had to come up with a decision. It will be a great loss to us."

Guyana opener Clayton Lambert has already been called up from English league cricket as cover for 40-yearold Greenidge, whose Test career of 108 appearances may now be over.

Eire beat Spain in hockey

PARIS, June 13: Ireland

produced a major upset on the opening day of the European Cup men's hockey tournament with a 3-1 victory over Spain on Wednesday, reports Reuter. It was Ireland's first victory in 19 years against the Spanish side, who finished eighth four places above Ireland in the 1990 World Cup.

England, runners-up in the last European Cup in Moscow four years ago, came back after conceding an early goal against Wales to win their Group B match 3-1.

Holders and world champions Netherlands totally outclassed Swizerland

formation this month of the this country but that he was Board of South Africa.

A decision on resuming cricketing ties with South Africa is on the agenda for a meeting of the governing body of the sport, the International Cricket Council, in London from July 10 to 12.

Hurd said he had explained to the ANC that the government did not control sport in

Cricketer gets marching order

LONDON, June 13: Former England cricketer Bob Woollier was dismissed by a tennis umpire after disturbing players with his loud conversation on a mobile telephone on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

The 43-year-old cricket coach was ordered off the balconv of an executive box after his telephone conversation repeatedly punctuated the Centre Court hush and distracted last year's Wimbledon finalist Zina Garrison.

The American world number nine fired repeated looks of exasperation and the umpire called for stlence three times before a red-faced Woolmer finally left to cheers from the frustrated crowd.

Garrison went on to win her second round match against Pascal Paradis-Mangon of France at the Birmingham women's grass court championship 6-4, 6-3.

non-racial united Cricket "Sure that the ICC would wish to take account of this development."

South Africa has not taken part in Test cricket since 1970 after a vigorous worldwide campaign against the Pretoria government's race policies.

Cricket is among the most racially-integrated sport in South Africa and the campaign to end the international ban on cricket contact has been shared by the ANC and by the South African cricketing au-

thorities. The 50-nation Commonwealth comprising Britain and its former colonies has yet to lift its 1977 Gleneagles agreement against sports ties with South Africa but is not standing in the way of sports bodies resuming links in sports which are non-

A spokesman for the ICC was not immediately available.

Prime Minister John Major, a keen cricket supporter, also raised the issue of South Africa's return with Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley at a meeting in London on Wednesday, government of-

ficials said. They said Manley, one of the strongest voices for maintaining pressure on South Africa, favoured a step-by-step approach towards allowing it international into back

Conditions of US athletics venue termed ridiculous

sports.



Jackie Joyner lashed out on

"I'd give this meeting a subzero rating," said BOB Kersee, Joyner-Kersee's coach and

He complained bitterly about the long jump runway and the high jump pit at 55year-old Downing stadium, which was last used for a major athletics competition in 1966. Repairs were still being made on the long jump runway on Wednesday, the first day of competition.

board (for the long jump)," he said. "And the high jump pit is very slippery. An athlete could slip at any moment and that could end their career.

force athletes to compete here with these conditions," Kersee said of the four-day competi-

tion which serves as the quali-

Championships team.

metre hurdles.

fying event for the US World

Dan O'Brien lost chances at

records when officials ne-

glected to have a wind guage

present at the decathlon 100

metres and heptathlon 100-

have been the fastest 100 me-

tres ever in a decathlon when

he closed 10.23 seconds in the

first of Wednesday's five

events. His result bettered Bri-

ton Dalely Thompson's clock-

ing of 10.26 in 1986 but can-

not be accepted for record

purposes because of the ab-

Joyner-Kersee's time of

12.77 seconds was not the

fastest ever 100-metre hurdles

in a heptathlon, but the lack of

the wind guage negated world-

sence of a wind guage.

O'Brien ran what would

Later, Joyner-Kersee and

NEW YORK, June World heptathlon record-holder

Wednesday at what he called "ridiculous" conditions at the US national athletics championships, reports Reuter.

husband.

"They're just laying the

"It is totally ridiculous to

record possibilities for her as "I'm embarrassed on behalf everyone involved," said Tracy Sundlun, meeting codirector. He said two sponsors both thought the other was responsible for supplying wind

gauges, which were later acquired.