

Velappan arrives tomorrow

Peter Velappan, Secretary General of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC), will arrive in Dhaka tomorrow, reports BSS.

The AFC Secretary General will attend the opening ceremony of the 10th Asian Cup football championship on July 19 at the Dhaka Stadium.

Mr Velappan, after having meeting with the football officials of Bangladesh, will leave here on July 20 for Kathmandu, on a short visit.

Before his return here to attend the closing function of the championship on July 29, he will visit Hyderabad, India.

Pakistan to tour 4 countries before World Cup cricket

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan, July 16: The Pakistani cricket team will tour Sharjah, India, Australia and Sri Lanka in preparation for the cricket World Cup, it was announced here Monday, reports AFP.

The team will participate in the international competition at Sharjah October 15-25, the Secretary-General of Pakistan Cricket Control Board, Shahid Raffi, told a news conference.

India tour will be from October 25 to November 10, he said, adding that the team will be back in Pakistan to play against West Indies, who are to tour here from November 15-25.

The official said Pakistan will tour Sri Lanka in December, but did not say how long for.

The Pakistan team will leave for Australia on February 1 next year to participate in the World Cup.

Windies whip Wales

BRECON, Wales, July 16: Carl Hooper and his captain Viv Richards shared a whirlwind partnership of 103 in 10 overs as West Indies battered Wales in a one-day cricket match on Monday, reports AFP.

West Indies piled up 362 for six in their 55 overs and restricted Wales to 158 for nine to complete a resounding win by 204 runs.

The fourth wicket stand between Hooper and Richards was the high point of a swashbuckling performance in which opener Phil Simmons (64) and Brian Lara (82) played entertaining supporting roles.

Hooper clubbed 88 from 43 deliveries, including eight sixes and five fours, while Richards hit five sixes during his 68 from 53 balls. They hammered 25 in one over — 22 to Hooper.

Wales lost their openers for nine runs in seven overs to Patrick Patterson, who took a third wicket before tea when the home side were 72 for four from 28 overs.

Jamie Bishop, a Glamorgan colt, defiantly made exactly 50 from 100 balls but the Welsh were never able even to threaten a serious challenge.

New law to curb the Caribbean reign, says Carew

PORTE OF SPAIN, Trinidad, July 16: The new cricket law limiting bowlers to one bouncer per over was designed to curb the Caribbean domination of test cricket, according to former West Indies Test batsman/selector Joey Carew, reports Reuters.

Carew criticised the law passed in London last Thursday by the International Cricket Conference (ICC) in remarks published by the Trinidad Guardian newspaper on Monday.

The problem has been the incompetence of batsmen handling fast rising deliveries, said Carew.

"We took our blows from Lindwall to Lillee and nobody kicked up a big thing about it," said the former Trinidad captain who made three English tours with West Indies.

"What they can't stand is the constant stream of class fastbowlers who have been coming out of the West Indies since 1976," he was quoted as saying.

Carew pointed out that the fast-rising delivery has not stopped players of the calibre of Graham Gooch, the England captain, and Australians Mark Waugh, Mark Taylor and David Boon from making runs against the West Indies.

"It is just that too many of the others are unable to play," said Carew.

On the readmission of South Africa last Wednesday into international cricket, Carew said it was the right thing.

"It would be ideal to have them tour the West Indies next year. I am certain every ground in the Caribbean will be sold out," he said.

Tenth Asian Club Cup Championship

Thais, Indonesians arrive



The PS Pelita Jaya Club of Indonesia and Bangkok Bank Club of Thailand.

will represent Bangladesh in the competition.

Besides, three AFC nominated referees — Binhazim Saeed Salam of the UAE, Yousef Mohammed Yousef of Bahrain and Sri Lankan referee Yapabeywansa arrived yesterday to conduct the matches.

The other three AFC nominated referees, who will also conduct the matches, are expected to arrive later today.

AR Khaleel of India, chairman of the disciplinary committee, also arrives today.

Datuk Hamza, President of the Asian Football Confederation, is expected to witness the final match of the meet on July 29.

The eight participating teams have been split into two groups.

The group champions and runners-up will play in the semi-finals.

The champions and runner-up teams will earn the right to represent Asia in the next World Club Cup championship.

Meanwhile, the organising committee has finally found a sponsor. It is reported that Tabant Beverage Company, one of the licensed bottlers of Coca Cola in Bangladesh, and a unit of the Mukti Joddha Kallyan Trust, has been convinced to dish out a sum of Taka ten lakh towards sponsoring the meet.

However, it could not be gathered till the time of going to press whether the AFC would grant its permission for the trophy to be called the Coca Cola Cup.

Group A — Ramtha Club (Oman), Al-Nasr Club (Oman), PS Pelita Jaya (Indonesia) and Liaoing team (China).

Group B-Esteghlal Club (Iran), Mohammadian SC (Bangladesh), Bangkok Bank Club (Thailand) and April 25 Club (DPR Korea).

Six more players seek transfers

Sports Reporter

Six more players were on the fray to change cloths on Tuesday — the third day of the hockey transfers before the start of the Green Delta first Division League.

So far 24 stickwingers have changed allegiance while eighty others have collected their tokens.

The last date of this year's transfers is July 22.

Secretive Seles to end seclusion



MAWAH, N. J., July 16: Monica Seles, the Greta Garbo of tennis, is about to end her self-imposed silence and seclusion, reports AP.

Seles, whose whereabouts and health have been a mystery since she withdrew from Wimbledon last month, will re-emerge this week at an exhibition event in northern New Jersey.

Her brother and manager, Zoltan, confirmed Monday that the world's top-ranked player will play in the Pathmark Tennis Classic at Ramapo College.

Although Seles was scheduled to play in the hard-court event, tournament director John Korf was uncertain she was coming until he got the word from Zoltan in a phone call from Seles' home in Sarasota, Fla.

"He said Monica is fine, that she's practicing and playing great," Korf said. "He said she's looking forward to playing here."

Seles, who has never spoken publicly about her withdrawal from Wimbledon, will hold a news conference at Ramapo on Wednesday, the day before she plays her opening match in the tournament.

"I don't know what she'll say, but the press can ask any question it wants," said tournament publicist Robin Gellman. "Of course, if Monica doesn't want to answer, she doesn't have to."

Seles, 17, hasn't played a match since beating Arantxa Sanchez Vicario in the French Open final on June 8. Citing an unspecified injury caused by a "minor accident," she withdrew from Wimbledon three days before the tournament started on June 24 and then dropped out of sight.

Since then, there have been Seles sightings in Colorado and Florida and rampant rumours about her physical status, including reports that she is pregnant, suffering from shin splints and recovering from an auto accident.

Because of the mystery surrounding Seles, her appearance in Mahwah could turn into a media circus. The tournament has issued 141 press credentials, three times more than last year when Steffi Graf and Jennifer Capriati were the main attractions.

Reporters, however, aren't the only ones who want to speak with Seles.

Gerard Smith, executive director of the Women's Tennis



MONICA SELES

Association, has been trying to get in touch with her since she pulled out of Wimbledon and was fined \$6,000. Smith would like to know why she skipped the most important tournament in the world and ruined her chances for a rare sweep of the four Grand Slam titles.

Smith doesn't plan to attend the Mahwah tournament, but said he hopes to reach Seles on the phone sometime this week.

"I'm anxious to speak with her and I think she's anxious

to speak with us," Smith said. "There's obviously been a communication problem and we'd like to clear that up."

Officials at the Federation Cup also would like to hear from Seles.

Seles is expected to represent her native Yugoslavia in the 32-nation tournament next week in Nottingham, England, but Federation Cup officials haven't spoken to her since Wimbledon.

"We're still hoping she's going to come," said Ian Barnes of the International Tennis Federation, which runs the event. "If she doesn't appear, she will have to produce a medical document."

Seles will hold a press conference on Wednesday and will play her first match in the 28-player tournament on Thursday night.

Korf said 150,000 dollars was available in prize money at his tournament and indicated another 300,000 dollars was being paid to guarantee that certain players, presumably Seles and Jennifer Capriati, who begins play on Wednesday, would appear.

Seles was treated by a doctor in Vail, Colorado, who specialises in sports injuries, but he said she had sworn him to secrecy about her ailment.

Lin swims to new record



SHEFFIELD, England, July 16: World champion Lin Li set a World Student Games record in the women's 400 metres individual medley as China displayed their swimming dominance on the first night of finals on Monday, reports Reuters.

Lin, also world champion at 200 metres individual medley, clocked four minutes 42.58 seconds to clip 0.37 of a second off Romanian Noemi Lung's record set four years ago. She was 1.13 seconds outside her world title-winning time in Perth in January.

Lin finished 15 metres and almost 10 seconds ahead of her nearest rival, American Sheila Taormina, who relegated Canada's Patricia Noall to the bronze by 0.07.

Another Chinese, Zhuang Yong, was the first to mount the winner's podium after victory in the women's 100 metres freestyle by 0.01. She collected bronze over the distance at the World Championships. Compatriot Wang Xiaohong, a world butterfly silver medallist, was 0.6

seconds behind in second place.

Zhuang, world champion at 50 metres freestyle, was 1.55 outside the world record held by East German Kristin Otto.

Brian Pajer was the first to strike gold for the United States, the largest team at the Games, with victory in the men's 100 metres breaststroke in 1:03.21.

Pajer, only seventh in the US indoor championships this year, was almost half a second ahead of China's Chen Jianhong.

There was an administrative foul-up when he collected his medal as officials failed to produce flags for the three medalists.

Former 400 metres freestyle world record holder and Olympic medallist Artur Wojdat of Poland was beaten into second place in the men's 200 metres freestyle by Frenchman Stephan Caron.

Polish fencer Agnie Seuchnicka fought with a suspected dislocated jaw earlier in the day after being hit in the face and knocked over by Soviet opponent Tatian Napalova's elbow.

She resumed after medical

treatment and despite tremendous pain she won the bout before losing to China's Xiao Aihua.

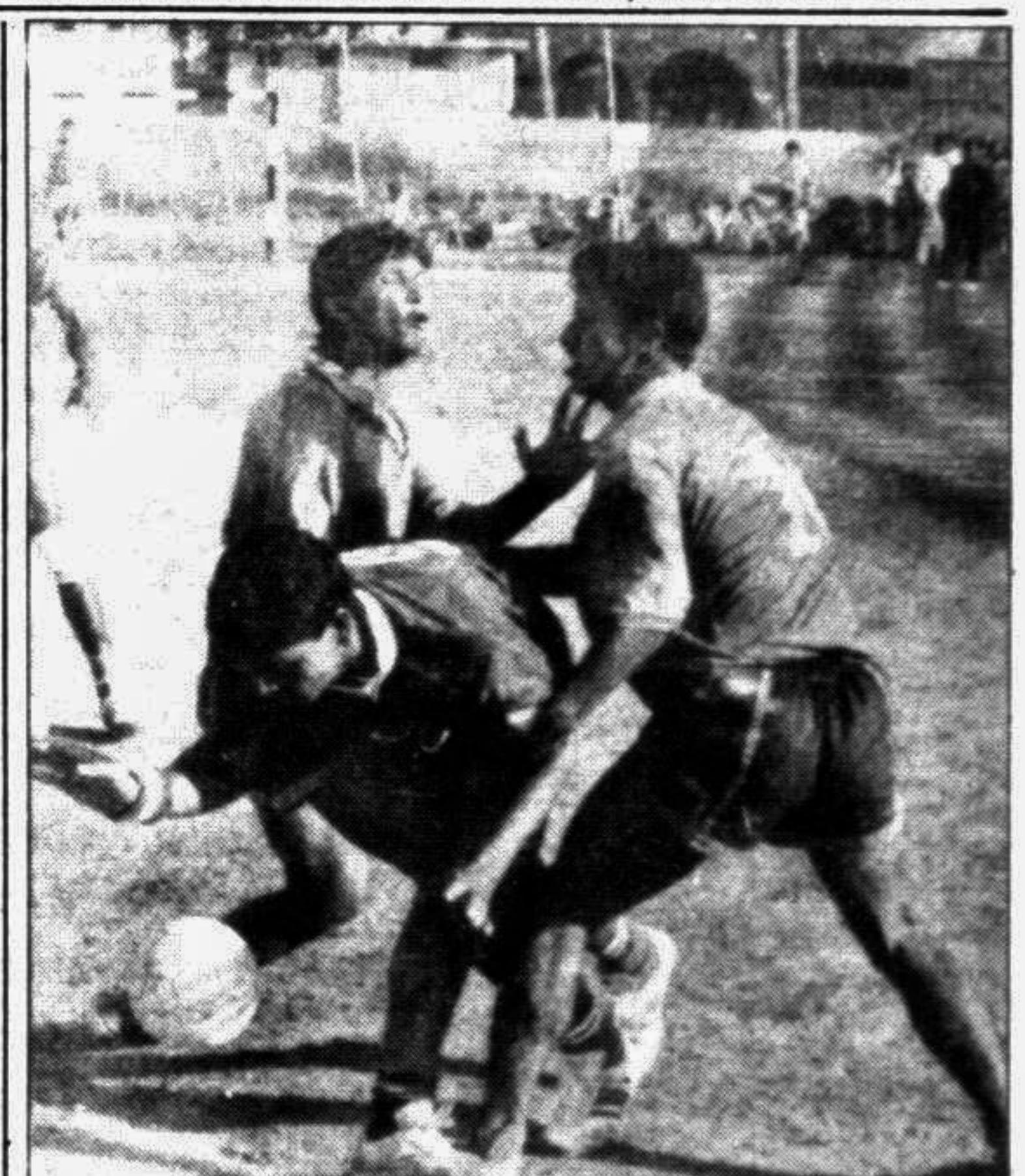
ORGANISERS APOLOGISE

Meanwhile, organisers of the Games have apologised to Yugoslavia after their 16-strong delegation missed Sunday night's opening ceremony because of a misunderstanding.

The Yugoslavs were waiting their turn to enter the arena only to be told they were not expected and there was no flag or banner for them to march behind.

Officials urged them to parade around the stadium anyway, but they refused to march without a flag and after a brief period the unhappy squad left for the athletes' village as the ceremony reached its climax in front of a 25,000 capacity crowd.

Last week it was confirmed Yugoslavia had pulled out of all the team events although individuals would be taking part. But officials responsible for the opening ceremony understood no Yugoslavs at all would be arriving.



Bangladesh Police versus Sabuj Sangha Monsoon handball match in progress yesterday at Outer Stadium's handball court. — Star photo

Handball results

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Police and Victoria SC won their respective matches in the 7th Monsoon handball tournament yesterday at the handball ground of the Outer Stadium.

Bangladesh Police defeated Sabuj Sangha by 30-13 goals after dominating the first half 15-3 in day's first match.

Victoria SC beat Matikata CSA by 28-21 goals in the other match of the day. The winners led the first half 13-6.

Argentina and Chile had already qualified from Group-A.

Group-B results : Uruguay 1 (Mendez 20) Colombia 0 (h-t 1-1).

Colombia in Copa America finals

VINA DEL MAR, Chile, July 16: Colombia completed the line-up for the Copa America finals even though they lost their last Group-B match 1-0 to Uruguay here, reports AFP.

Earlier, Brazil beat Ecuador 3-1 and it was enough to put them through to the last four as they scored more goals than Uruguay — who were the group's only unbeaten side.

Argentina and Chile had already qualified from Group-A.

Group-B results : Uruguay 1 (Mendez 20) Colombia 0 (h-t 1-1).

SOCCKET SCENARIO

Further changes in Liverpool likely



Mark Wright

LIVERPOOL, England, July 16 : Multi-million-dollar signings Dean Saunders and Mark Wright knuckled down to the serious business of life with Liverpool on Monday, leaving a clutch of other players wondering about their Anfield futures, reports Reuter.

Manager Graeme Souness has not ruled out the possibility of further transfers as he plots to reclaim the English championship from Arsenal. Souness said: "We have spent a lot of money and we'll have to be looking to recoup some if we are to go again".

Welsh striker Saunders became the most expensive player in Britain when he agreed to the 2.9 million-pounds sterling (4.8 million-dollars) move from Derby on Sunday. The deal was agreed only 48 hours after Souness had paid 2.2 million pounds (3.5 million-dollars) for Saunders' teammate and England centre-half Wright. Wright replaced Swedish international Glenn Hysen, likely to be among the first to go.

A big question mark also remains over the future of England striker Peter Beardsley, following the arrival of Saunders. Winger Jimmy Carter and midfielder David Speedie, both surprise buys by former Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish, could also be open to offers, and the same is likely to apply to Israeli striker Ronny Rosenthal.

Yuran to play for Benfica

LISBON, July 16 : Striker Sergei Yuran will become the first Soviet player in Portugal next season after signing for Benfica, reports AFP.

Yuran, 22, moves from Dynamo Kiev and has signed a three year contract with the Portuguese league champions.

Cameroon beat Sierra Leone

AOUNDE, July 16 : Cameroon beat Sierra Leone 1-0 (halftime 0-0) in their African Nations Cup qualifier on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Scorer: Eugene Ekeke (80th minutes), attendance: 60,000.

Copa America standings

VINA DEL MAR, Chile, July 16 : South American nations soccer championship Group B standings at the end of preliminary round matches on Monday (tabulate under played