

Shahana's gold salvages pride

COLOMBO, Dec 26: Bangladesh struck her first gold in the fifth SAF Games when Kazi Shahana Parveen scored the highest 548 individual points in the women's 3X20 standard rifle of the shooting event of the Games at the Wilsara shooting range here today, reports BSS.



SHAHANA PARVEEN... gold
Khaleda Mansoor bagged

the bronze in the individual event scoring 543 points. Sri Lanka's KDM Wickremasinghe got the silver scoring just one point more than Khaleda. Bangladesh also collected the silver in the team event with 1614 points. The other member of the Bangladesh team was Khaleda Firdous, younger sister of Shahana, who scored the lowest 523 points. Sri Lanka and India earned the gold and bronze in the team event respectively, scoring 1627 and 1612 points. Shahana, 29, who has qualified for the Barcelona Olympics in the women's air rifle scoring 375, told BSS that she was "very very happy". She said, "I won the gold

due to the blessings of Almighty Allah and the best wishes of my countrymen and guardians." Shahana, mother of a child, started her shooting career in 1978 at the Narayanganj Rifles Club under the guidance of Jalaluddin Ahmed, former general secretary of the Bangladesh Shooting Federation. She finished 13th in the Seoul Asiad in 1989, which was her best international shooting performance. Chef-de-mission Major (Retd) Qamrul Islam, MP, congratulated the shooters for upholding the prestige of the country.

Dalia's bronze on another dry day in the pool



DALIA...bronze

COLOMBO, Dec 26: Monira Rahman Dalia won a bronze in the women's 200m butterfly clocking 3 mins 20.11 seconds in the SAF Games swimming at the Sugathadasa indoor stadium swimming pool here, reports BSS.

In the men's 100m freestyle, Bangladesh's Shamsul Islam, who won the bronze medal in the last SAF Games in Islamabad, finished fifth in 57.34 seconds. In the men's 4x200m freestyle relay, Sri Lanka, India and Pakistan won the gold, silver and bronze medals respectively. Bangladesh finished fourth in a time of eight minutes 44.9 seconds. The Lankans took 8 mins 19.03 seconds, India clocked 8 mins 23.03 seconds and Pakistan timed 8 mins 26.31 seconds.

Six swimming records set

COLOMBO, Dec 26: Six Games swimming records were set on the third day of competition at the South Asian Federation Games today, reports BSS.

Local favourite Dipika Channugam of Sri Lanka set her fourth record and won her fifth gold medal when she clocked two minutes 32.60 seconds in the women's 200 metres backstroke, shattering Indian Persis Madan's time of 2:40.65.

Sri Lanka also bagged a record in the men's 4X200 metres freestyle when the team finished in eight minutes 19.03 seconds against the 1989 Islamabad Games record.



BULA CHOWDHURY

of 8:38.64. But the Indians took the biggest haul with Sangita Rao swimming the women's 400 metres freestyle in four minutes 55.79 seconds, beating the 4:56.37 set by compatriot Anita Sood.

In the men's 100 metres freestyle, India's Sebastian Xavier set a time of 54.23 seconds against the old record of 55.34 seconds set by compatriot Khazam Singh, set in the first Games in Kathmandu in 1984.

Sri Lanka's Intikab Sekkander got the silver in 55.58 secs while Pakistan's Muhammad Maroof earned the bronze with 55.79 seconds. Wilson Cheria of India clocked 1:02.68 in the men's 100 metres backstroke to clip 1.66 seconds off the record he himself set in 1987.

India's Bula Choudhury broke her women's 200 metres butterfly record with a time of two minutes 25.55 seconds against her 1984 time of 2:31.60 secs.

17 members of Indian SAF team return home

COLOMBO, Dec 26: A batch of seventeen members of the Indian team will return home by Air Lanka flight late tonight, reports PTI.

This includes 12 athletes, three shooters, tennis player Gaurav Natekar and swimmer Sasendran. They all have completed their events in the fifth SAF Games in progress here.

The athletes going back are Razia Sheikh, Susama Behera, K Meena, Tapasi Baur, Amardeer Kaur and Mukti Das, Nazimuddin, Satnam Singh, Rajbir Singh, Chander Pal, Bahadur Singh and Suresh Babu. The shooters' list includes Ahtkadi, Jaykumar Das and Raj Kumar.

Booters beat India 2-1

COLOMBO, Dec 26: A determined Bangladesh side beat India 2-1 in the last Group 'A' match of the football competition of the SAF Games at the Sugathadasa Stadium here today, reports BSS.

Bangladesh, who defeated India for the first time in the SAF Games since they began in Nepal in 1984, led the first half 1-0.

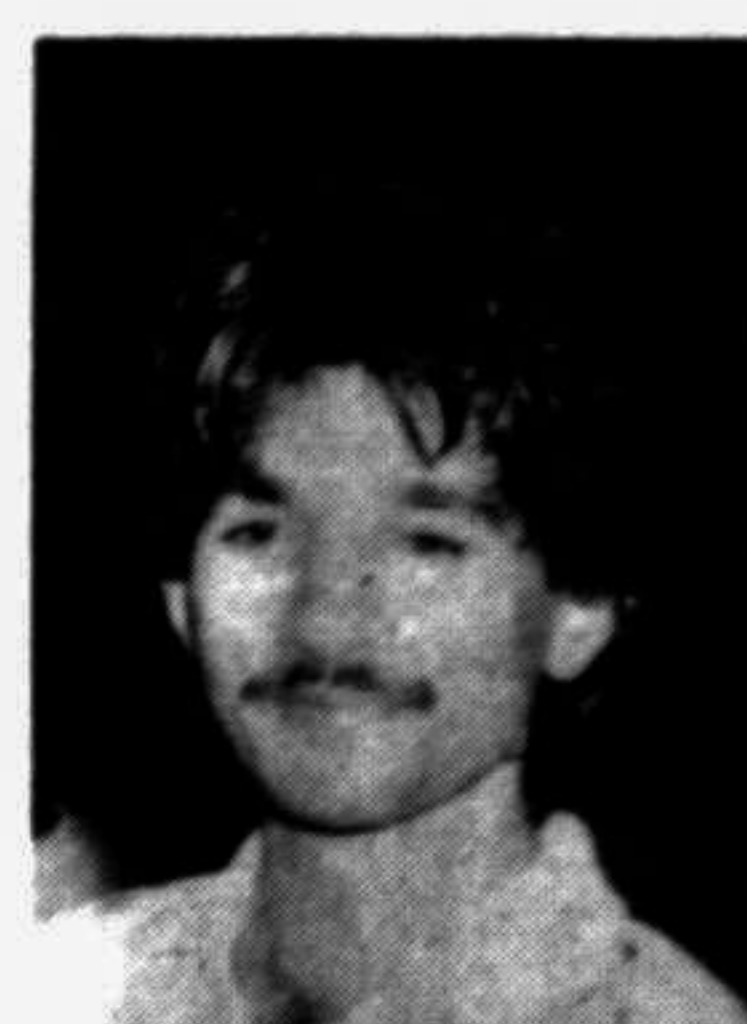
Hard-working Ritvi Karim Rumi scored both the goals for Bangladesh while the Indian goal came from the boots of winger Godfred Pereira.

Bangladesh will now play either Nepal or hosts Sri Lanka for the bronze on December 28.

The Bangladesh side played very well to the cheers from the large crowd, particularly the local spectators. Their all-out football drew the attention of the spectators.

Stopper-back Kaiser, Jewel Rana, Pijush, medio Shabbir and Tito and forwards Rumi and Aslam were superb.

Skipper Mohsin also per-



RUMI... both goals

formed well under the bar, toiling some dangerous moves very well to the Indian forwards.

Bangladesh opened the account in the 20th minute when Rumi beat the Indian custodian Tanumoy Bose with a sudden volley (1-0). He got the ball from an Aslam cross off Shabbir.

Rumi doubled the score in the 79th minute through a spectacular shot (2-0). Shabbir

gave a ball to an unmarked Rumi from just outside the box and the latter, dodging past the Indian custodian, sent the ball home.

The Indians tried their best to score and succeeded in reducing the margin two minutes before the long-whistle when Pereira found the mark from a goalmouth melee (2-1).

Coach Selim, who was criticised for fielding off-form Manik and Rupa against defending champions Pakistan on December 24, today fielded the best eleven, bringing in Rehan, Ataur, Tito and Ghaus, who all justified their inclusion.

THE TEAMS

BANGLADESH: Mohsin, Pijush, Rehan, Kaiser, Jewel Rana, Ataur, Tito, Shabbir, Aslam, Rumi and Ghaus (Mamun Joardar).

INDIA: Tanumoy Bose, Ilias Pasha, Achinta Beel (Vijayan), Amit Bhadra, Rehmatullah Khan, V P Satyan, Satyajit Chatterjee, Thobias, Godfred Pereira, L K Kiron And Bruno Coutinho.

Ambia, Firoza make 100m finals

COLOMBO, Dec 26: Bangladesh's Golan Ambia and Shaharuddin Chowdhury qualified for the finals of the men's sprint in the athletics competition of the SAF Games at the Sugathadasa Stadium here today, reports BSS.

Golan Ambia finished second with a time of 10.75 secs in the first heat. Sri Lanka's Sriyanth Dissanayake and Ananda Natarajan became first and third with times of 10.75 and 10.81 seconds respectively.

Shaharuddin Chowdhury finished third in the second heat clocking 10.96 seconds. In the women's 100m

sprint, Firoza Khatun qualified for the finals when she became third in heat number one taking 12.55 seconds. I M Cooray of Sri Lanka and Rachita Panada got the first and second positions with 12.13 and 12.30 seconds.

Giasuddin and Milzar Hossain of Bangladesh also qualified for the final round of the men's 400m clocking 48.34 and 48.60 seconds respectively.

Sri Lanka's Dhammika Menike won the gold in the women's 1500 metres in 4 mins 54.80 seconds. Molly Chako and Aparna Bhojwar, both from India, took the silver and bronze with times of 4 mins 55.73 seconds and 4 mins

58.29 seconds respectively. Promila Bharali and Rajit Kaur of India claimed the gold and silver in the women's discus, hurling the metal disc to a distance of 44.40 metres and 42.44 metres respectively.

The bronze was won by Sri Lanka's Deepika Rodrigo with a throw of 37.24 metres. Bangladesh's Joytsna Afroze finished fifth throwing the discus to a distance of 35.58 metres.

Nadir Khan of Pakistan clinched the gold in the men's 1500 metres in 3 mins 47.25 seconds. Ranjith Subasinghe took the silver in 3 mins 47.99 seconds. The bronze went to India's Rajkir Singh in 3 mins 50.15 seconds.

Carl Lewis tops world poll

BEIJING, Dec 26: Following are the 1991 world top 10 athletes voted by Xinhua news agency sports writers:

1. Carl Lewis of the United States, 30, who set a new world record of 9.86 seconds in the men's 100-meter dash and anchored a new world record of 37.50 seconds in the 4X100 meters relay to win two gold medals at the third world athletics championships in Tokyo in the autumn of this year.

2. Sergei Bubka of the Soviet Union, 28, who rewrote the men's pole vault indoor and outdoor world records eight times this year, and now keeps the world outdoor record of 6.10 meters and indoor record of 6.12 meters. He has broken the world records of the event 28 times so far.

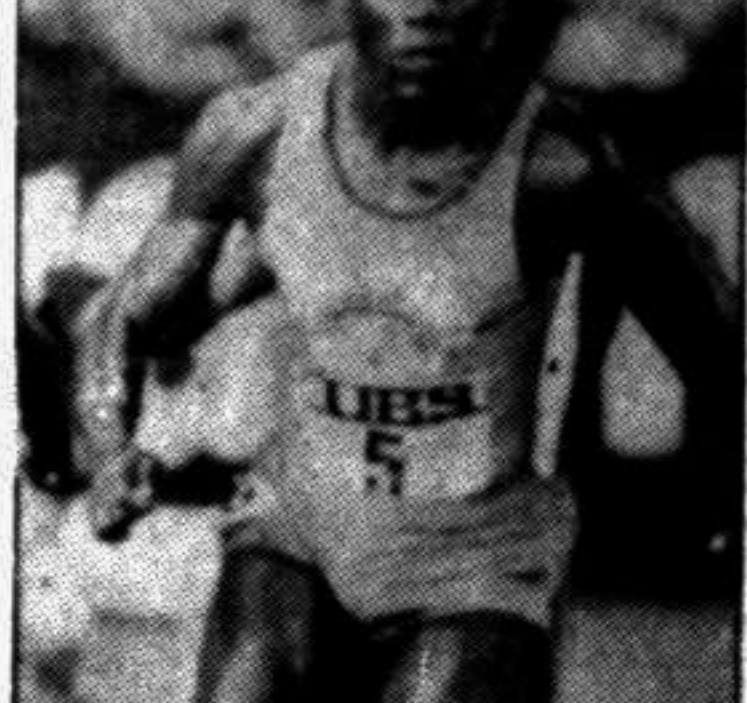
3. Mike Powell of the United States, 27, who shattered the 23-year-old men's long jump world record of 8.90 meters set by compatriot Bob Beamon in 1968 with a jump of 8.95 meters at the third World Athletics Championship.

4. Monica Seles, 18-year-old Yugoslav tennis player, who won the women's singles titles in the Australian, French and US Open tournaments. She

also won the 1991 women's tennis grand finale after beating American Martina Navratilova at the Virginia international women's tennis tournament in November.

5. Katrin Krabbe of Germany, 21, who won the women's 100- and 200-meter golds in the third World Athletics Championships in Tokyo.

6. Michael Jordan of the United States, 28, has been the most successful professional basketball player in the United States in recent years. He led the Chicago Bulls to the first-ever NBA league title in 25 years and was named the NBA top scorer and best player for the fifth time. He has been chosen a member of the US national Basketball team for the 1992 Olympic Games.



CARL LEWIS... best of '91

7. Ayrton Senna of Brazil, 31, who defended his world F-1 title. He won the title in 1988 and in 1990.

8. Kristina Egeresegi of Hungary, 17 who clocked one minute 0.31 seconds to break the women's 100-meter backstroke world record and posted a new world record in the 200 meters with a time of 2:06.62 secs at the European swimming championships in Athens, Greece, in August.

9. Michael Jordan of the United States, 28, has been the most successful professional basketball player in the United States in recent years. He led the Chicago Bulls to the first-ever NBA league title in 25 years and was named the NBA top scorer and best player for the fifth time. He has been chosen a member of the US national Basketball team for the 1992 Olympic Games.

10. Ivan Ivanov of Bulgaria, who lifted 155.5 kilograms to break the snatch world record of the men's 52-kilogram category and won the title with a total of 272.5 kilograms at the 64th world weight-lifting championships in Donaueschingen, Germany, in September, 1991.

Graf, Becker boost Hopman Cup

PERTH, Dec 26: A decision by world number two Boris Becker and Steffi Graf to team up for Germany in this year's Hopman Cup tennis tournament has given the mixed teams event a big boost in status, reports Reuter.

Now in its fourth year, the eight-day, 12-nation competition starting in Perth on Friday has evolved from little more than a warm-up for the Australian Open into a significant event in the world tennis calendar.

Maldives booters in gold race

COLOMBO, Dec 26: The Maldives emerged as Group "B" champions with four points in the football competition of the fifth SAF Games when they beat Sri Lanka by a solitary goal in the last match of the group at the Sugathadasa Stadium here this evening, reports BSS.

Earlier, the Maldives beat Nepal 1-0 on December 24. The second position of the group will be decided through a toss since both Nepal and the hosts have collected one point each from two matches and their goal-average was also equal.

Bangladesh, who became Group "A" runners-up with two points, will play either Sri Lanka or Nepal for the bronze on December 28. Pakistan will fight against the Maldives to retain the gold on December 29.

The inclusion of Becker and Graf this year is a major coup for the organisers of the 600,000 dollar (462,000 US) event being played at the Burswood Superdome.

It will be the first time the pair have played as a mixed doubles team in serious competition and the seedings committee quickly made them favourites to win the title. With a bye to the second round, the Germans' first match will be against either France or Sweden.

Last year's winner Yugoslavia, in the shape of Monica Seles and Goran Prpic, will not be defending the title due to political turmoil in their homeland.

The Germans' main challenge seems likely to come from the United States and Spain.

But the United States are not the team they were a week ago, with both David Wharton and Mary-Joe Fernandez withdrawing due to injuries, prompting frantic phone calls across the Pacific.

Not for the first time, tournament chairman Paul McNamee came up trumps by signing Derrick Rostagno (ranked 13 in the world) and Amy Frazier (27). Both players are noted giant-killers.

The only other withdrawal this year was Frenchman Guy Forget but again a more than adequate substitute was found in crowd favourite Henri Laconte (161).

Spain are represented for the third year by brother and sister duo Emilio (12) and Arantxa Sanchez (five). The pair won the event in 1989 but

last year bowed out to France in the first round.

Their opener this year will be against the winner of the Australia versus the Netherlands clash.

The Australians are unseeded for the first time this year and Todd Woodbridge (ranked 77) and Rachel McQuillan (33) could struggle to overcome the Dutch pairing of Richard Krajcek (30) and Brenda Schultz (34).

The Swiss team of Jakob Hlasek (17) and Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere (10), fourth seeds in the tournament, also have a bye to the second round and will play either the Soviet Union or Britain.

Despite the disintegration of the Soviet Union, Andrei Cherkasov (20) and Natalia Zvereva (19) will play under the Soviet banner—primarily, it seems, because they do not know what else to call themselves.

The tournament is played on a knockout basis with three-set matches of women's singles, men's singles and mixed doubles.

BUET hockey trials

The Inter-University hockey championship 1992 is going to begin from January 28 at the BUET ground. Players keen to represent the BUET in the meet should report to the games teacher Maqsoodur Rahman for selection with their kits at 3 pm on January 4, says a BUET Athletic Club press release.

Spikers in semis despite defeat

COLOMBO, Dec 26: The Bangladesh men's volleyball team became runners-up of Group B in the 5th SAF Games after suffering a straight 0-3 sets defeat against hosts Sri Lanka at the Sugathadasa Stadium here today, reports UNB.

Bangladesh who earlier reached the semifinals beating the Maldives will now meet India in the first semifinal to be held at the same venue on December 28.

With this victory, the Sri Lankans, bronze medalists of the last Games, emerged champions from Group B and will face Pakistan in the other semis on the same day.

In the day's first match, Sri Lanka outplayed Bangladesh 15-10, 15-6, 15-11 points.

The Bangladesh team, which trained under a Swedish

coach for about one and half years, lost to the hosts in 20, 20, 20 minutes in the first set, 16, 54 minutes in the second and 23, 25 minutes in the third set.

Bangladesh boys tried their best to make a match of it but failed to beat the well-organized Lankans mainly due to their poor receiving, blocking and lack of understanding.

Zakir, Kabir and Afzal, however, played better among the Bangladeshis.

BANGLADESH: Zakir, Sohrab, Takbir, Kabir, Akram, Afzal, Salam, Shafi, Farhad and Farooq.

SRI LANKA: Channa Jayasckera, Kalika Wasanthapriya, Palitha Nalagoda, Lal Arunashantha, TDRP Nishantha, Rohitha de Silva, MTM Shafi, Priyantha Balasuriya, Samansiri Seneviratne, HA Vickremaratna, JA Ravindra Kumara and Neil Oscar Fernando.

In the other match of the day, India beat Pakistan 15-7, 15-9, 10-15, 10-15 and 15-13 in the crucial match that lasted about two and a half hours.

BSS adds: The young and energetic Lankan boys, who were trained by a Chinese coach for about six months, took only 66 minutes to out-class the Bangladesh boys.

Bangladesh succeeded in taking the lead once in the first set (10-9) and once in the third set (10-8). But they could not hold on to it till the end.

In the third set the Bangladesh players gave away two important points to the Lankans through faulty service that inspired the local boys to outplay the Bangladeshis.

Also, some wrong decisions by a Sri Lankan referee and linesman went against Bangladesh to sap the morale of the Bangladesh players.

Reid sends Indians reeling

MELBOURNE, Australia, Dec 26: A record partnership between Indian tallenders Kiran More and Venkatapathy Raju averted their team's rout on day one of the second cricket Test against Australia here today, reports AFP.

Coming together with India in disarray at 151 for eight, the pair defied the rampaging Australian bowlers with a 77-run stand for the ninth wicket.

India ended the day at a better-looking 243 for nine after electing to bat first on the slow wicket at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Victorian paceman Merv Hughes, cheered by a home crowd of 42,494, broke the stand shortly before stumps by having Raju caught at third slip by Allan Border.

Raju, a left-arm spinner who bats right-handed made 31, his highest Test score.

More remained unbeaten on 50, his sixth Test half century, while last man Javagal Srinath was on 12.

More and Raju bettered India's previous best ninth wicket stands against Australia — 57 each by Syed Kirmani and Karsan Ghavri in Sydney in 1981 and Kapil Dev and Shivlal Yadav during the tied Test in Madras in 1986.

Their heroic effort put to shade a fine performance from left-arm seamer Bruce Reid who sliced through the Indian top order earlier in the day.

The tall Western Australian, who missed the first Test in Brisbane because of a nagging back trouble, finished with figures of 56 for five and took his Test tally to 99.

Playing his 25th Test, Reid was unlucky not to reach the coveted three-figure mark on the first day.

Umpire Terry Prue turned down his confident leg before appeal against More and then saw wicket-keeper Ian Healy miss a difficult chance off Raju.

Reid began the slide in his third over, removing Krish Srikkanth and Manoj Prabhakar off successive deliveries.

Srikkanth (5), top-edged an intended hook high above him and David Boon at short-leg judged the skier nicely to take

a comfortable catch. Prabhakar, promoted in the order from number eight, was bowled round his legs first ball to make India 11 for two.

Ravi Shastri and Sanjay Manjrekar put on a half-century stand to take the score to 61 when Shastri fell in Reid's last over before lunch.

The Indian vice-captain, who flicked Hughes to the fine leg fence for India's lone boundary in the morning session, was caught behind for 23.

Manjrekar became Reid's fourth victim when he was

angered the Australian close-in fielders, especially skipper Border.

Border spoke to Azharuddin who indicated he had not followed the ball, but was willing to go if Waugh had taken the catch cleanly.

Seeing his captain take a few steps towards the pavilion, non-striker Dillip Vengsarkar rushed down the wicket to ask Azharuddin to carry on (all the umpire gave him out).

Azharuddin returned to the crease, but did not add to his score of 22 when he slashed to Dean Jones at point in McDermott's next over.

Television replays vindicated umpire King's decision, for the ball appeared to touch the ground before Waugh picked it up on second attempt.

Waugh, however, had the last laugh when he dived to his right at third slip to remove Sachin Tendulkar off Reid for 15.

India were 147 for seven at tea and lost their eighth wicket soon after the break as Kapil Dev hooked McDermott down Hughes' throat at fine leg after making 19.

But India were spared further embarrassment by Raju and More who took the score past the 200-run mark.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close of play on the first day of the second cricket Test between India and Australia here Thursday:

INDIA 1st innings:

Shastri c Healy b Reid	23
Srikkanth c Boon b Reid	5
Prabhakar b Reid	0
Manjrekar c Waugh b Reid	25
Vengsarkar c Reid b Hughes	23
Azharuddin c Jones b McDermott	22
Tendulkar c Waugh b Reid	15
K. Dev c Hughes b McDermott	19

More not out 50
Raju c Border b Hughes 31
Srinath not out 12
Extras: (fb, lb, w, nb 4) 18
Total: (for 9 wks in 90 overs) 243

Fall of wickets: 1-11; 2-11; 3-61; 4-64; 5-109; 6-109; 7-128; 8-151; 9-228.

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
McDermott	28	6	90	2
Reid	25	7	56	5
Hughes	23	6	52	2
Waugh	8	1	16	0
Taylor	6	0	20	0

Hooper's ton in Windies win

CAIRNS, Australia, Dec 26: Middle-order batsman Carl Hooper scored 110 runs to lead the West Indies to a three-wicket victory over a Queensland state XI in a one-day cricket match Thursday at Barlow Park, reports AP.

With two sixes and seven boundaries, Hooper's century came from 100 deliveries in the West Indies total of 260-7. Hooper was denied the chance of posting the winning runs when he was caught at point with just four balls left in the innings.

West Indies tailender Robert Haynes scored the winning runs with three to square leg to take his team past the Queensland XI total of 258-5.

"A lot has been expected of Carl Hooper over the years but he hasn't always lived up to those expectations," West Indies captain Richie Richardson said. "I've got the feeling he'll be a late maturer."

Queensland bowler Scott Prestwidge had an opening spell of 6-2 off five overs with final figures of 37-3 off 9.4 overs. The Queensland XI target looked secure until midway

through the innings when the West Indians began to press the run rate. Queensland's innings was highlighted by two century partnerships and the return to form of Stuart Law, its leading run scorer last season. Law posted 79 off just 66 deliveries and figured in a 133-run partnership with middle order batsman Peter Goggin.

Goggin made 73 off 84 deliveries before he was caught out of his ground by a direct hit on the stumps from Curtly Ambrose.

Scores:
QUEENSLAND XI: West Indies 258-5 (Stuart Law 79, Peter Goggin 73; Curtly Ambrose 53-2; West Indies 260-7 (Carl Hooper 110, Keith Arthurton 47; Scott Prestwidge 37-3). West Indies won by three wickets.

Shumi, Shovon move up in tennis

COLOMBO, Dec 26: Bangladesh's S Siddique Shumi reached the second round of the women's singles tennis competition of the fifth SAF Games at the National Tennis Complex here today, reports BSS.

Shumi beat Pakistan's S Jan 7-5, 4-6 and 6-4 in the first round.

Host Sri Lanka's V Premaratne also qualified for the second round getting a walk-over against her Nepali opponent.

In the men's singles, Shovon Jamaly and Faisal H Rahman moved into the second round, also receiving walk-overs against their Nepalese opponents, who did not turn up at the last moment.

M Khaliq of Pakistan and J Wijesekera of Sri Lanka reached the second round crushing S Ahmed and I Fareeh of the Maldives 6-0, 6-0 in both the cases.

In the men's doubles, Bangladesh pairs Shovon-Faisal and Hira Lal-Maruf moved into the second round eliminating their Maldives opponents.

Shovon and Faisal trounced A Mansoor and H Shaam 6-2, 6-2 while Hira Lal and Maruf defeated S Ahmed and I Rareeh 6-1, 6-2 in the