

# PWD deny Wari full points

Sports Reporter

Wari Club were unlucky not to troop back with full points yesterday from the Mirpur Stadium when PWD's Jewel scored an equaliser in the dying minutes of the second Star First Division league match of the day.

Abdullah Lahul when Mahmudul Haq Liton fired a low shot from a freekick outside the box in the 27th minute but Lahul did well to collect it in the first attempt. Towhid cut in from the left five minutes later but his shot dropped on the cross-piece to go out, much to the dismay of the PWD supporters.

stranded goalie (1-0). PWD, despite this best wishes, failed to put their act together after this goal and it looked like they would have to go home empty-handed, but just when the sparse crowd were about to get up and leave the ground, Jewel of PWD headed the ball home when the Wari defence failed to clear a ball from the right.



Midfield action from yesterday's Star soccer league match between Adamjee and Mukti Jodha Sangsad at Mirpur Stadium. —Star photo

of Wari's first outing in the football league against Fakirpool in which the traditional team in scarlet also failed to cling to a first half lead and were forced to share points. PWD, however, started in a roaring fashion when Munna supplied the ball from the right and Towhid, the outside-left, had a shy at the goal from close which bounced off custodian Bijon's chest to Raquib but the unmarked striker hit it feebly back to the goalkeeper, desperately to get back to his position.

combination, held an edge over Wari and midway through the second half Shamsu nodded poorly from a Sujit minus, to spoil a chance. Tutul of Wari sallied out, but the agile striker hit a powerful shot straight to Lahul. But Tutul's goal in 30th for Wari came as relief for the parched, bored and annoyed on-lookers. Liton, now only a shadow of his former self when he used to don the Brothers jersey some years ago, pushed a freekick to the tall forward who outpaced his marker and slipped in a grounder past the

Tutul of Wari received the yellow card for tripping a PWD player from behind. TEAMS WARI: Bijon, Ripon, Partha, Choton, Harun, Manik, Kabir, Bobby, Liton, Tutul, Sudhir (Maqbul). PWD: Lahul, Jamrul, Paacker, Aman, Shamim, Jewel, Sujit, Shamsu (Shamim Jr), Towhid, Munna, Raquib, Ref: Muzaffar Hossain. TODAY'S MATCHES BRTC vs Dhanmondi (3:00 pm) Fakirpool vs Arambagh (5:00 pm)

# Pioneer soccer

Sports Reporter

Maniknagar Unnayan Samity swamped Nawabpur Sporting Club 4-0 in the Janata Bank Pioneer football league yesterday at the Jagannath University College ground.

Badal Lal netted two goals while Shahadat and Helu got one goal each for the winners. The other match at the venue, between Red Sun KC and Mukti Khelagar ended in a 1-1 draw.

Kamalpur Samaj Kalyan-0-Krira Sangha got the better of Matusil Udayan Sangsad 3-0 at the Bhabho ground.

Azad scored twice while Fazlu netted the other for Kamalpur.

Sunrise Sporting Club outplayed Manda Sangsad by two goals (Safid, Shahnewaz) to nil in the other match at the ground.

At the Banani ground, Eastern SC beat Islampur Uttaran KC by three goals to nil.

Jahangir, Shahjahan and Masud scored for the winners.

Mugdipara Samaj Kalyan-0-Krira Sangha beat Anirban Pathagar by two goals (Pintu Das, Abdur Rahman) to one (Arif) at the Dhooophka ground.

At the Dhanmondi ground, Golam Mostafa Lane edged past Dhaka Dynamo Club 1-0.

The other match at the venue, Lalbagh Krira Chakra and Azampur Heroes, ended goalless.

# Barren, boring tie

Sports Reporter

Muktijodha Sangsad and Adamjee SCC presented the less than hundred spectators a goalless draw in the Star First Division football league match yesterday at the Mirpur Stadium.

Barring the late flourish by Adamjee, attired in green, at the lag and of the match, the tie was a pain in the neck with the reporter scratching their hands in frustration over the nondescript show which contained hardly anything more than the mindless mingling and parting of the red and green before their eyes.

Not a single player from either side came up with anything to catch notice and it was only the professional obligation that forced the helpless journalists to bother to look at their watches to keep time of the sparse, stray forays.

Rama of Muktijodha beat on Adamjee off-side trap to race clear, in the 11th minute but Narayan, the Adamjee custodian, bravely come out of the penalty box to save his side from a possible downfall.

Stung by this close shave, Akhtar of Adamjee swung a corner in the next minute; Maruf, feeble header bounced off the goalkeeper for a corner.

In the 13th minute Abul

took a long-distance dipping shot but Muktijodha custodian Selim Sultan, who had a thoroughly nervous match, palmed it over the bar. Adamjee skipper Babul, who received the yellow card, volleyed powerfully from outside the box in the 25th minute but a Mukti defender headed it away.

Adamjee's Akhtar almost got the match winner in the 44th minute of the second session he raced down the middle after Mithu had freed him, with the Mukti defence caught unawares; but the speedy winger's angular gram-cutter beat the driving goal keeper only to hit the bottom of the far post, depriving Adamjee of a win which would have not been to unjustified following their second-half performance.

Babul and Yusuf of Adamjee were shown the yellow card.

TEAMS ADAMJEE: Narayan, Abul, Dilip, Rakhal, Rahim, Maruf, (Avjit), Yusuf, Babul (Ripon), Badshah, Akhtar, Mithu.

MUKTIJODHA: Selim, Sultan, Reza, Pappu, Razzak, Imadul, Ziaul, Fayez, Rama, Arif, Hana, Ritaz.

Ref: A. Aziz.

# Ghana in qtrs

DAKAR, Jan 18: Favourites Ghana claimed their expected place in the last eight of the African Nations Cup soccer finals on Friday when they beat Egypt 1-0 on a last-minute goal after a bruising, bad-tempered clash in Ziguinchor, reports Reuters.

Two players were sent off and five cautioned by Japanese referee Kim Tachi before Anthony Yeboah scored the decisive goal in the final opening round Group D game.

Latching onto a long clearance, the interact Frankfurt striker escaped the attentions of Aymen Ragib to hit a low 20-yard shot in off the post.

# Qatar win 1-0

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 18: Qatar defeated Bahrain 1-0 in the opening match Saturday of the final Asian region qualifying round for the Barcelona Olympics, reports AP.

The teams appeared fairly evenly matched in the game at Independence Stadium, with Qatar getting a lucky break with an eight minute goal by Jumah Johar.

Other teams participating in the qualifying round, which ends Jan 30, are Kuwait, South Korea, China and Japan.

# Ctg soccer

CHITTAGONG, Jan 18: Chittagong Abahani Krira Chakra routed Hafiz Jute Mills Club 7-0 in the CJKP Elite Paint First Division football league at the Chittagong Stadium her this afternoon, reports BSS.

In the other match of the day, Kollol Sangha and Brothers Union split points in a one-all draw. Abahani led the first half 4-0. Tipu and Basu scored twice each and Ashkar, Mintu and Ali scored one each for Abahani.

In the other match, Asif scored for Brothers in the first half while Niazi of Kollol equalised in the second half.

# McEnroe conjures magic of yore

MELBOURNE, Jan 18: The midnight hour belonged to a man who had believed time had already passed him by.

The clock showed four minutes past midnight on Saturday morning as Jogo McEnroe completed one of the most remarkable triumphs of an extraordinary career.

McEnroe beat defending champion Boris Becker 6-4, 6-3, 7-5 in the third round of the Australian Open, combining artistry and determination as he outplayed his younger, stronger rival.

Two years after being thrown out of the Australian Open for a series of outbursts, the 32-year-old American kept his notorious temper in check in a match as tense as any he has played.

McEnroe recaptured the form that kept him atop the men's tennis circuit from 1981 and 1984 and earned him seven Grand Slam titles. He surprised himself with his discipline and commitment.

McEnroe admitted he couldn't even recall the last time he beat a top-ranked player in an elite-field tournament.

"In the locker room I was trying to remember the last big win I had," McEnroe said walking off to a standing ovation by a sellout centre-court crowd of 15,000. "It is a monkey off my back."

McEnroe said he had begun to wonder if he would ever revive a career that was fast sinking toward middle-aged mediocrity.

"The longer it goes on, the more the doubt creeps in," he said. "As time goes by, you start to wonder..."

"It's been a long time coming, but I felt like I could do it. I've done it in the past."



John McEnroe yesterday sent defending champion Boris Becker packing at the Australian Open. —Star file photo

Not only did McEnroe play like a man possessed, he never once raised his voice. Mac the Mouth became Johnny B. Goode.

"My father always told me I'd be a better player if I concentrated and didn't query calls," he joked.

McEnroe said he was pleased with the discipline that has not always been part of his makeup.

"In the past, I started getting involved with blaming other people, and that hurt me," he said.

He said playing when in control of his emotions was "more enjoyable." "It is impor-

tant to feel in control," he said.

McEnroe said he had played exactly as he planned to. He out-fought and out-thought Becker.

"I played great. No question about it," said the brash New York left-hander. "I did what I wanted to do. I think I surprised him getting some balls back, and he made some mistakes he shouldn't have made."

# Becker philosophical in defeat

MELBOURNE, Jan 18: Twelve months after one of the greatest triumphs of his career, Boris Becker crumpled against a man who was able to turn back the clock, reports AP.

John McEnroe, 32, and without a major win for as long as he could remember, beat Becker 6-4, 6-3, 7-5 in the third round of the Australian Open in a match that finished in the early minutes of Saturday morning.

McEnroe raised his fists in triumph and walked off court to a standing ovation from the capacity 15,000 centre-court crowd.

Becker waved once, but headed for the players' tunnel as a lonely, disconsolate figure.

The German earned the No. 1 ranking in the World with his victory at the National Tennis Center 12 months ago, against McEnroe he was never able to rediscover that form.

With his speed hampered by a hamstring injury, he paddled control the course of the match.

He controlled his emotions afterward, however, coolly analyzing the reasons for his failure against a man who was finally able to recapture the genius that has eluded him for seven years.

"He played for 2 1/2 hours at a very high level, and that caught me by surprise," Becker said. "He didn't give me much room to breathe."

"I didn't play great, but from the first point to the last, he played his old way. I had to

work hard for points and didn't make many."

Becker was philosophical about a defeat that officials said could see him drop from third to seventh in the world rankings.

"Sometimes the dice doesn't roll for you," he said.

Becker even found some good in a devastating defeat.

"From the people's point of view, it's great to see the old John McEnroe playing," he said. "For tennis it is great. His game was like when I watched him in 1984."

Becker said the loss to a 32-year old player now ranked 29th in the world was in character for him.

"My career has never been steady," he said. "I have high ups and low downs. I'm either very good or very bad, and tonight I wasn't very good."

# Tang takes a tumble in Tokyo

TOKYO, Jan 18: World champion Tang Juhong of China was knocked out of the women's singles event at the 110,000-dollar Japan Open badminton championship, while her rival, Indonesian star Susi Susanti, brushed aside Lim Xiao Qing of Sweden here Friday, reports AFP.

The top seeded Indonesian coasted to a straightforward

11-6, 11-1 win over the Chinese-Swede in the quarter-finals and then watched Tang struggle against South Korean Lee Heung-Soon from the players' seats.

The Chinese, who had humiliated Susanti by a lopsided score on her way to becoming the world champion last year in Denmark, showed no sign of a defeat when she raced to take the first game 11-4.

But the Korean came back strongly to win the second 11-

4 and the two women fought point for point until the score went to an 8-all in the decider.

The other semi-final match will be played between Susanti's compatriot and second seed Sarwendah Kusumawardani and Ye Zhaoying of China.

Kusumawardani smashed aside Japan's last hope in the singles, beating Harumi Kohara 11-6, 11-4, while the Chinese outclassed third-seeded Bang Soo-Hyun of South Korea 5-11, 11-7, 11-5.

# European Championship finals draw Defending champs draw world champs

GOTHENBURG, Sweden, Jan 18: The Netherlands are to start their defence of the European Championship against the might of World Cup holders Germany while England have drawn favourites France, reports AFP.

The first round draw left hosts Sweden, France, Yugoslavia and England in Group One and the Netherlands, Germany, Scotland and the Commonwealth of Independent States in Group Two.

The Dutch can expect a rough ride from Bertie Vogts' side, who beat them in a stormy tie in the 1990 World Cup.

Frank Rijkaard and German Striker Rudi Voller were sent off after a spitting incident which nearly ended the Dutchman's international career.

But it was the Dutch who won their semifinal in the 1988 tournament and with their star trio of Rijkaard, Marco Van Basten and Ruud Geulit back on form, they have everything to play for.

The Dutch will also face the Commonwealth of Independent States, who they beat as the Soviet Union in the 1988 final, and newcomers Scotland.

Dutch coach Rinus Michiel rated all of the teams in his group, before saying that "Our greatest adversary is a lack of preparation."

"We have three of our best players at AC Milan and others at Barcelona. The Spanish side

could have hoped for."

"You have to take what you receive, but overall I'm pleased with it. We have avoided Germany, Holland and Scotland and I'm pleased about that. I don't think anyone could grumble."

The French have had a tremendous run and they've got to take that on into this competition, but that is their problem."

Platini said, "It's not an easy group, there is no clear favourite."

"However, it does seem fairly well balanced and, given the teams involved, will certainly produce some good matches."

He also hoped there will be no moves to cancel France's friendly against England at Wembley on February 19 "It would be idiotic."

As for France being favourites, the former playing star said, "I really couldn't care less about being described like that. It's never produced an extra goal or one less."

"The tributes are for what we have done, not what we will do. It's in June that we have to be strong."

Hosts Sweden, who haven't played a competitive match for two years, are the weakest of the four, while Stifle ridden Yugoslavia provide the unknown quantity.

Swedish coach Tommy Svensson said, "It's a very difficult group," but tipped France, who they play in the tournament opener on June 10, for the honours.

"We are proud to have such opponents for the opening game. It will be a real celebration for all our supporters and the best way to start the championship," Svensson said.

The side start their preparations next week with a tour of Australia.

By contrast to the other managers, Yugoslavia's Ivica Osim was somewhat gloomy.

"The group will be a difficult one for us, but we expected it... We're glad even to be here. It was hard to qualify and since then people have tried to get us out."

"And you know that we are not short of problems. There are political problems which we can do nothing about but which deprive us of some good players."

"There are also the injured top ranking players like (Robert) Prosinecki and (dragan) Stojkovic who we will miss greatly if they are not fit in time. Then there's the fact that our national championship doesn't finish until May 25, and means we won't be able to prepare properly."

The winners from each group play the other group's runners-up, with the final scheduled here on June 26.

Services B' ball CHITTAGONG, Jan 18: Bangladesh Army beat Bangladesh Air Force 57-44 in the second match of the inter-services basketball championship-92 at BNS Isha Khan here this afternoon, says an ISPR release.

# Foreman still can't forget all those Ali punches

NEW YORK, Jan 18: The mere mention of Muhammad Ali stirs memories of the "Rumble in the Jungle" for George Foreman, reports AP.

"On his 50th birthday, I'll still be remembering those 50 punches he gave me," said Foreman, who turned 43 last Friday. "He tricked me that day, tricked me both in and out of the ring. But he was the toughest, strongest man I ever fought."

"It was a surprise, because I thought I was just going to clean him up real easy."

During the early morning hours of Oct. 30, 1974, Ali, who turned 50 on Friday, wrestled the heavyweight championship title from Foreman in Kinshasa, Zaire.

Foreman, 70-3 with 66 knockouts, continues a quest to regain the heavyweight title. None, however, of his 73 fights will remain as indelibly etched in his mind as the fight with Ali, who sent Foreman reeling to the canvas in the eighth round.

"Just when I thought I had a little energy," he said. "Sucker, is that all you've got?" Foreman said during an interview in Houston. "I could hardly breathe, and he hit me again. 'Pow, pow, pow,' and it was over."

"Will I ever forget that No. 1 never will. He was smart. He was the toughest guy I ever fought, and the smartest."

Foreman was shocked to learn that Friday was Ali's 50th birthday.

birthday. "Fifty years old? He's gonna be 50 years old Friday?" Foreman asked. "Man, that's unbelievable."

"I'm going to have to call him on his birthday, wish him a happy birthday and many, many more."

Born Cassius Marcellus Clay Jr. in Louisville, Ky., Ali gained prominence and a nickname - the Louisville Lip - on a run that resulted in a light-heavyweight gold medal at the 1960 Olympics.

In his 20th pro fight, on Feb. 25 1964, Ali stunned the boxing world by dethroning Sonny Liston.

All won his re-match with the "big, ugly bear" a year later, knocking out Liston with what became known as "the phantom punch."

All waged epic battles with the likes of Foreman and former champion Joe Frazier. All ducked no one, fighting nine men who at one time were designated as heavyweight champions.

A promoter-extroinaire, Ali mixed poetry with training, frequently predicting with uncanny accuracy the outcome of his fights. He scornfully nicknamed his foes and labelled his fights.

Perhaps the most famous were "The Thrilla in Manila," the final of his three battles with Frazier, in which Ali retained his crown in 1975; and the "Rumble in the Jungle."

# CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes a solution time of 22 mins and a list of yesterday's answers.

Cryptoquip puzzle with a grid and a list of words to be deciphered. Includes a clue: "Today's Cryptoquip clue: B equals W".

# Stich, Sabatini stay on course

MELBOURNE, Jan 18: Wimbledon champion Michael Stich kept his frayed nerves in check to defeat Martin Jaitte in four sets Saturday and advance to the fourth round of the Australian Open, but No 14 seed Michael Chang fell victim to powerful young Dutchman, Reports AP.

Wimbledon champion Stich questioned calls and threw his racket on his way to a 6-0, 2-6, 7-5, 6-2 win over clay court specialist Jaitte.

Richard Krajicek, who has one of the biggest serves in the game, defeated Chang 6-4, 6-1, 5-7, 1-6, 6-3 in a sec-saw struggle.

The tall 20-year-old reached the fourth round for the second straight year.

American teenager Jennifer Capriati scored her third successive straight sets victory, defeating compatriot Katrina Adams 6-0, 6-0 in awesome style. The win took Capriati just 35 minutes and Adams won only 18 points.

Gabriela Sabatini, also of Argentina, the No 3 seed, also had an easy path to the last 16. She beat Jenny Byrne of Australia 6-1, 6-0.

Mary Joe Fernandez of the United States, seeded No 7, advanced with a 6-1, 2-6, 6-1 win over Australian Rochel McGuillan.

Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria, the No 10 seed, beat Australian Kirrily Sharpe 6-0, 6-4, while experienced American Patty Fendick defeated Alexia Dechaume of France 5-7, 7-5, 6-4.

Fendick made the quarter-finals of the Australian Open in 1990.