



From left: Coach Sandru Salam, Faisal Haque, Hira Lal, Nawaz Amin and manager Syed Wahed. — Star photo

Davis Cuppers off to Colombo

Sports Reporter A five-member Bangladesh tennis team left Dhaka for Colombo yesterday to take part in the Asia-Oceania Group Two Davis Cup first round tie against Sri Lanka. The three-day encounter begins in the Sri Lankan capital Jan 31. The team, comprising three players, a manager and a coach-cum-non-playing captain, is headed by Syed Wahed. Sandru Salam is the coach-cum-non-playing captain. The players, all youngsters, are Hira Lal, Faisal S Haque and N M Nawaz Amin. The tie, to be played on clay courts, begins next Friday with the opening singles followed by the doubles on Saturday and the reverse singles on Sunday next. Bangladesh, playing in the Davis Cup competition since 1986, has never progressed beyond the group semifinals. That happened in 1990 when they lost to Pakistan 0-5 in Dhaka. Last year Bangladesh, after winning their first round tie against Bahrain away from home, suffered a 5-0 whitewash against the Sri Lankans in Dhaka. The selection of this year's team has again raised apprehensions among knowledgeable circles of a similar humiliation this time around. The team, without the services of any of the established, more experienced players of the country, consists entirely of raw, totally untried hands. Hira Lal, the senior-most in the squad, has never been known to stand up to pressure even in domestic tournaments while the other two — Faisal Haque and Nawaz Amin — are teenagers who have never been able to beat the defending national junior champion Shibu Lal. BT had approached Shovon Jamaly to attend the selection trials but the reigning national number one who is away in the United States chose to give his studies the preference. Even national number two and several-times Bangladesh champion Sardar Iftakhar, who is perhaps the best doubles player in the country, was unavailable. Riad Rahman, another former Davis Cupper, is also in the United States. BT, yet they cannot quite comprehend why a senior, experienced player like Mahabur Rahman Maruf was not picked for the squad. Another sore point with the critics has been the player-official ratio of the team. According to those who claim to know their tennis, the ideal Davis Cup squad should consist of at least four players and two officials. The next best proposition is four players and one official. In such a situation, if it at all becomes imperative to have a manager for the side then at least one of the more senior players can be nominated as the manager or coach-cum-non-playing captain. Limiting the number of players to three — and that, too, to such rookies — leaves the wisdom of the selectors open to question.

Lawyers agree on five jurors

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana, Jan 28: Lawyers on both sides of the Mike Tyson rape trial agreed on Monday on five of the 12 jurors who will decide if the former world heavyweight boxing champion raped a beauty pageant contestant last July, reports Reuter. Chief prosecutor Greg Garrison, speaking on the trial's first day, stressed that political jurors must understand the meaning of rape and that they not be swayed by Tyson's celebrity. The case has drawn more than 100 reporters from around the world to cover the trial expected to last at least two weeks. The defence, led by Vincent Fuller, one of the highest-paid defence lawyers in the United States at about 5,000 dollars a day, wanted jurors to understand that Tyson's violence in the ring was not tied to his behaviour outside it. Fuller, who opted to use a podium between the defence and prosecution tables instead of sitting, as Garrison had, also wanted jurors to agree not to hold Tyson to a higher standard than others. One black juror, a public school behavioural specialist, was selected. The racial mix of the pool from which jurors were selected has emerged as an issue for the defence, which says the voter rolls used to comprise the pool of potential jurors does not include enough blacks. Tyson is black. Marion Superior Court Judge Patricia Gifford has denied defence motions for her to rule in its favour on the issue. The other jurors, all white, were a part manager for an auto shop, a truck driver, a housewife and a man who prints T-shirts. Tyson, 25, sat slightly to the right and behind his 60-year-old lead attorney. The fighter, dressed in a black suit, white shirt and red tie, occasionally leaned forward to listen to Fuller or to whisper into his ear. Tyson could be sent to prison for up to 63 years if found guilty on all four counts. Garrison, 44, a former prosecutor now in private practice, was brought in by the state of Indiana to help its highly publicised case. Garrison repeatedly asked



Former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson follows attorney Kathleen Beggs into the Marion County Court in Indianapolis on Jan 27. Tyson is accused of rape and criminal confinement. — AFP photo

He might lose forever the chance to regain his title by fighting champion Evander Holyfield in a fight that had been expected to gross 100 million dollars, the richest in history. Holyfield said recently that he would not fight Tyson if he were freed pending appeal of a conviction. A Tyson-Holyfield title fight had been scheduled for last November. But Tyson, a favourite to regain his title, suffered a rib injury which forced the fight postponement. A new date could not be agreed before the trial began. Gifford concentrated her questions to potential jurors on their knowledge of the Tyson case, as well as what they knew of the William Kennedy Smith rape trial. Smith, in a sensational trial last year, was acquitted of charges that he raped a woman in Palm Beach, Florida.

PWD rally to earn a point

Sports Reporter when he blocked a powerful shot by PWD's Munna. Saifu, the Dhanmondi skipper, was again in action when he stymied a goal-bound header by Mushtaq. Dhanmondi's lead intact in this half when he just managed to grip a Shamim (Jr) header. The busy Dhanmondi custodian dived to steer away a Munna's shot for a corner shortly before the short whistle. Dhanmondi appeared to have wrapped up the match six minutes into the second half when Javed headed home a centre by Kaiser 2-0. But PWD then launched an all-out attack after conceding the second goal and earned a penalty in the 20th minute. Skipper Jamrul missed the

god-send to reduce the margin. Munna somewhat relieved his demoralised skipper by scoring in the 28th minute with a header from close. Jewel ensured a point for his trailing side nine minutes from the final whistle when he nodded a cross by Shamim (Jr) to make it 2-2. Yellow Card: Tayeb of Dhanmondi. PWD SC : Saidur, Jamrul, Shamim Sr, Aman, Sujit, Jewel, Shamim Jr, Rakib, Towhid, Mushtaq and Munna. DHANMONDI CLUB : Tayeb, Saifu, Ata, Iqbal, Mohammad Ali, Monayem, Biplob, Faisal, Aziz Babu, Javed and Tito. Referee: Rafiqul Islam.

Bima run Muktijoddha close

Sports Reporter with a beautiful header (2-1). But Chapal once again increased the margin for Muktijoddha ten minutes from the lemon break. Masud sent a ball near the Bima goalmouth which found a perfect Chapal header (3-1). To the dismay of the Bima fans, Masud consolidated Muktijoddha's position just after the break when, with a spectacular drive from outside the Bima box (4-1). When all looked over, a tenacious Bima refused to give up and kept pressing for goals to reduce the margin. And as just reward Labu scored for them in the 60th minute, once again heading home a Badal cross (4-2). Mansoor further reduced the margin for the insurancemen in the 67th minute with a rasping drive from outside the Muktijoddha box (4-3). Two goals in seven minutes really revived the Bima players, inspiring them to carry out more raids near the Muktijoddha citadel but they just could not breach their op-

ponents' defence any more. Rinku of Bima, who had earlier in the match invited the yellow card for rough play, received a second caution near the flag end of the match for disturbing referee Abdul Aziz by asking about the time, thereby making himself liable for expulsion. Muktijoddha, still unbeaten, have now earned six points while Bima have three from four outings each. Yellow cards — Pinchu and Faiz Babu of Muktijoddha. Muktijoddha Sangsad: Selim, Pinchu, Razzak, Reza, Pappu, Zia Babu, Mizan, Chapal, Riaz (Hero), Masud (Zahid) and Rana (Faiz Babu). Sadharan Bima: Ziauddin, Babu (Rafiqul), Mansoor, Ayub, Laltu, Swapan, Badal, Rinku, Labu, Milan (Nasir) and Jahangir (Basu). Referee: Abdul Aziz. TODAY'S MATCHES BRIC SC vs Parashganj SC (3 pm) Fakirerpool Youngmen's Club vs Adamjee CO (5 pm).

Ivoriens epitomise Africa's new style

DAKAR, Senegal, Jan 28: Ivory Coast's victory in the African Nations' Cup final against Ghana on Sunday reflected not only the strengths of their own talented team, but also the newly-adopted style of African soccer, reports Reuter. By winning 1-0 in a penalty shoot-out, following a 0-0 draw after extra time, the elephants proved that resolute defensive tactics can pay off even if the spectacle is unlikely to gain admirers for the African Game. "We decided to use a defensive system before the tournament," admitted their coach Yeo Martialias his team's colourful supporters celebrated in Dakar on Sunday night. "It paid off for us — we did not concede any goals in normal play in the whole tournament." "It was more important for us to win this tournament for the first time than to worry about anything else." The nature of the Ivorian triumph in their first final appearance was typical of a tournament in which goals were scarce and attacking play stilted and of variable quality. Poor refereeing and difficult pitches, in addition to high temperatures, further diminished the entertainment value. To neutrals, far too much attention was paid to defensive organisation at the expense of attacking moves, as Italian national team manager Arrigo Sacchi pointed out before the final. He said: "The most striking thing is the great progress overall in African soccer of defensive organisation. It has made the games less open and there has not been any team with an attack to win games." Sacchi, however, would have been the first to admit that the absence on Sunday of Ghanaian captain and African Footballer-of-the-year Abedi Pele deprived the tournament of its star at the showpiece event and severely reduced Ghana's chances of victory. It might have been different if Moussa Traore had not hit

the bar, if Joel Tiehi had scored when he had the goalkeeper floundering in front of him, or if Nil Lamptey's final effort had not rebounded off a post. These, however, were isolated examples of goal attempts during 120 minutes filled mostly by midfield attrition, stoppages and clever possession play, all evident throughout a tournament which also reflected many of the worst aspects of the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy. Ghana, it had been hoped, would rise above the general defensive attitudes which seem to have taken a grip on the freespirted style of African soccer. But only when Pele, whose three goals provided the outstanding moments of the tournament, was in action did Ghana look capable of rising to the task. He was sorely missed in the final when, for all their high level of technical skill in midfield and defence, Ghana were unable to break down Ivory Coast's defence and beat goal-



Action from yesterday's First Division league match between Mohammedan Sporting and Police at the Hockey Stadium. MSC won 3-0. — Star photo

Henkel voted '91's top female athlete

MOUNTAIN VIEW, California, Jan 28: World high jump champion Hetke Henkel is an overwhelming choice of Track and Field News as woman athlete-of-the-year, the magazine said on Monday, reports Reuter. The German won 30 out of 32 competitions in 1991, claiming both the indoor and outdoor world titles. In voting by an international panel, Henkel outpooled world 100 and 200-metre champion Katrin Krabbe, also of Germany, and Scotland's Liz McColgan, the world 10,000 metres gold medalist. Top pole vaulter Sergei Bubka of Ukraine earlier was selected the publication's male athlete-of-the-year.

Ctg soccer

CHITTAGONG, Jan 28: Today was a day of draws in the CJKP Elite First Division football league when both the scheduled matches ended in 1-1 draws at the Chittagong Stadium here, reports BSS.

China, ROK qualify for Barcelona Olympics

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 28: China and pre-tournament favourites South Korea notched up valuable wins in the seventh day's play of the Asia Olympic football qualifying tournament at the Merdeka Stadium here Monday, reports AFP. South Korea snatched a lucky 1-0 win over Japan with a goal one minute before the final whistle, while China gave a strong second-half display to secure a 3-0 win over bottom of the table Bahrain. China's win puts them in joint top position with Qatar, both on six points. Qatar have two games still to play, China only have one. Kuwait defeated Qatar 3-0 Tuesday night in final round Asian Zone qualifying for the Olympic soccer tournament. South Korea, the early favourites, have failed to im-

press so far, but their fortunate win over Japan has put them in a strong position to finish among the top three teams and so qualify for Barcelona. Japan, with three points, stand an outside chance of qualifying, while Kuwait will know their fate after taking on Qatar in today's only fixture. The tournament ends Thursday when all the teams play their final matches. Wednesday is a rest day. STANDINGS Monday's standings after the seventh day's play in the Asia football qualifying tournament: the top three teams qualify: (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points) China 4 3 0 1 6 2 6 Qatar 3 3 0 0 3 0 6 South Korea 4 2 1 1 3 2 5 Japan 4 1 1 2 8 5 3 Kuwait 3 0 2 1 2 3 2 Bahrain 4 0 0 4 1 11 0

Pioneer soccer

Sports Reporter Three matches of the Janata Bank Pioneer football league were held yesterday at two different city venues. At the Mohakhali T&T ground, Govt Printing Press outplayed Dipali Juba Sangha by three goals to nil. Farhad, Mahmood and Saki scored for the winners. In the other match at the venue, Rampura Natun Kuri Sangha beat Beraid XI by two goals (Iqbal, Masud) to one (Nazrul). At the Khilgaon ground, Khilgaon Smritjony Sangsad shared points with Mir-Kadim KC in a 1-1 draw. Ray, Shaheeb Bazar Tarun Sangha got a walk-over against Sonargang Issa Khan XI at the Outer Stadium. Meanwhile, all fixtures of South Zone will remain suspended from today, January 29 until further notice, says a DMFA press release.

Obituary

Khondaker Anwarul Islam, a retired Deputy Controller of the Dhaka Education Board, died yesterday in the city following a massive cardiac arrest. He was 65. Late Anwarul Islam, who was also a sports columnist, was buried at the Mirpur graveyard after janaza at Mohammadpur in the afternoon. His qul khwan will be held on Friday, January 31.

JU hall sports

JU Correspondent The annual sports meets of Nawab Fazlunnessa NF Hall and Maulana Bhashani Hall of Jahangirnagar University were held Tuesday at the Al-Berunt Hall playground of the University. Fauzia Sultana, a third-year student of Economics, bagged the champion ship trophy of the NF hall sports tournament while the runner-up trophy went to Shamima Sarker of Bengali Department. In the Bhashani Hall sports meet, Md Waliullah snatched the championship trophy securing total of 20 pts. This young man from Government and Politics Department got the top places in four events. Alamgir Kabir, a first year student of Physics, followed Waliullah with a total score of 15 to get the runner-up trophy. Earlier, Vice-Chancellor Prof Kazi Saleh Ahmed inaugurated the meet. The VC also distributed prizes among the winners. The annual sports competitions of Kamaluddin Hall and Shaheed Salam-Barkat Hall will be held today (Wednesday).

Gazza ruled out

LONDON, Jan 28: England's Paul Gascoigne was effectively ruled out of the European Soccer Championship finals by his club Tottenham on Monday, reports Reuter.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a solution time of 25 min and a solution key for the crossword.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with a 7-29 clue: 'DIRECTOR, BEGINNING A FILM ABOUT FAMOUS SUFFRAGIST LUCY, HAD TO CAST THE FIRST STONE.'

7-29 CRYPTOQUIP URQDY ATEETQS - WQEELZ EQUUYZTYD BYZY RYEW TSURY WZLBTSF ZQQA. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DIRECTOR, BEGINNING A FILM ABOUT FAMOUS SUFFRAGIST LUCY, HAD TO CAST THE FIRST STONE. Today's Cryptoquip clue: S equals N The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.