

Australian left-arm paceman Mike Whitney leaves the Waca ground in Perth carrying a stump as a souvenir after destroying the Indians in the final Test with a career-best seven for 27 yesterday. - AFP photo

Ajax get the better of S Bima

Sports Reporter

Ajax Sports Club chalked up a creditable 29-run victory over powerful Sadharan Bima in the Milnars First Division Cricket league at the Pallabi cricket ground yesterday Sadharan Bima captain Rizvi

won the toss and invited his counterpart Dodul to bat first.

On a rather chilly morning, Bima openers Babu and Dodul himself were in no mood to allow the chill pass through the spines of their teammates with some sensible batting. Not only the shine of the new ball was taken off, runs came also as the pair put on 61 for the first wicket in 20.4 overs.

Dodul was first to go, giving a catch to none other than Rizvi, his counterpart, off Babu after making 19.

The dismissal of the other opener Babu began a brief collapse in the Ajax batting with two other batsmen following him in the space of 20 runs and the scoreboard showing an unpromising 94 for four. But wicketkeeper Moti, ar-

riving at the wicket as the number five batsman, could not put up with the sight of

the initiative fizzling away like that. Mixing caution with aggression he gave his side the platform to challenge the might of the insurancemen. He was finally run out for a sparkling 72 off only 61 balls. His pivotal knock had the seasonings of nine fours and one delightful sixer.

Moti was ably supported by Nipu who made 32 off 43 balls with two hits to the fence as Ajax reached 206 for seven wickets from their stipulated

Bima's pace attack, led by the experienced Nakib, was blunted and a lately deployed Litu returned the best figures, taking two for 34. David and Babu got one wicket apiece, giving away 40 and 33 runs respectively.

When Bima began their innings, there was every indication that they would get to their not-so-easy target. One of their openers got a fifty. Obayed scoring 52 with the help of four boundaries from 73 balls. His partner Towab batted well, too, making 25, albeit a little slowly. Their partnership realised 81 runs from 20.3 overs.

That was all for the silver

lining of the Bima innings and what followed afterwards can be best described as storm clouds brought by Dodul and Azim, the Ajax duo who, wrought havoc with the

Dodul triggered it off-by first dismissing Obayed and then clean bowling Ripon for 11. Azim sent back Erfan and Shaheen quickly as Rizvi settled down to play a captain's knock to revive the Bima hopes. But that was not to be Azim shattered his stumps for

Jewel tried to imitate his captain with 21 but the overs were running out and the Bima bowlers' tails were right up. Dodul had him taken behind by stumper Moti and Azim removed dangerman Nakib. caught and bowled for eight.

When Babu bowled his namesake, the Bima Babu, Bima were 175 for nine and Azim gave the finishing touch by bowling Litu for nought.

Azim's returned matchwinning figures of five for 36. Skipper Dodul took three wickets for 36 runs which included the prize scalp of

Farashganj's first victory



helped his side victory in the Star First Division football league as Farashgani Sporting Club

defeated Fakirerpool Youngmen's Club by the barest of margins in the second match of the day at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

The club, which has its name after a traditional and old locality of the capital displayed better brand of soccer and thoroughly deserved the two points. With a bit of luck they in fact could have gone home with a bigger win but poor marksmanship quashed that possibility.

The match, played at a brisk pace with both the sides of more or less equal strength carrying out offensives. Fakirerpool stopper Govinda made a faulty clearance in a bid to foil a Farashganj raid and an agile Ratan got the possession

Vital Navana tie for Biman today

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Biman will be involved in an intriguing encounter with Public Works Department (PWD) in a crucial tie of the Navana Premier Division cricket league at the Dhanmondi cricket stadium today.

Biman's super league chances rely heavily on today's outcome. If they lose today's match against PWD, who have already made it to the six-team super league, the airlines team, last year's runners-up. has to win the last match against Brothers Union willy

Meanwhile, there is no Milnars tie today. Tomorrow. title-chasers Udity Club and Victoria Sporting Club will clash in a vaunted encounter at the Dhanmondi Cricket

Stadium. The match, apart from its importance as the fight between two title-chasers who are yet to lose any match, has an added interest for the followers of the game. Former national skipper Roqibul Hassan will lead Victoria while his young son Sajid stand up against him as the regular opening man for Udity to give it an epic flavour, like the legendary clash of Sohrab and

Rustam.

Sports Reporter

Striker Ratan of the ball; he controlled it well and then placed the ball the helpless custodian Dhanu 1-0, in the 30th minute of the first half.

Farashgani did not fall back immediately to defend the slender lead and continued to build up attacks.

Fakirerpool, spearheaded by experienced Masih, pressed hard for the equaliser but it never came. Instead, Farashganj came close to dou-

bling the margin. Badal Das, back in his old club after a stint with Brothers Union, muffed an easy chance 27 minutes into the second half when his feeble shot went straight into the lap of the

Fakirerpool custodian. With yesterday's win Farashganj's collection rose to five points from as many matches. Losers Fakirerpool remain at four from five out-

Yellow cards - Shimu and Badal Das of Farashgant SC.

FARASHGANJ SC : Dilu. Litu, Salahuddin Sr. Dilip, Raj. Shimu, Nurul Islam (Masum), Hira (Tipu), Ratan, Badal Das and Shimul (Salahuddin Jr).

FAKIRERPOOL YC: Dhanu, Rakib, Gobinda, Shamim (Bhutto), Montu, Shahabuddin (Matu), Apu, Akram, Babu, Firoj (Bhola) and Moshi. Referee: M R Mukul.

In the other match of the day, played under a mellow late winter sun, two office

teams Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha and Bangladesh Road celebrate the first into the net giving no chance Transport Corporation (BRTC) drew one-all to split points dull, all-too-samiliar match.

Bima shot into the lead early when the referee awarded them a spot kick after BRTC defender Shaheen had fouled Jahangir in the prohibited zone. Badal converted the penalty in the sixth minute of the match 1-0.

Stung by this setback, BRTC mounted pressure on the Bima defence which finally wilted at the fag end of the first half.

Midfielder Gautam restored parity when his rasping shot from inside the box found the net after Motaleb had sent in a cross from the flank in the

44th minute 1-1. Yellow cards - Ayub and Basu (Sadharan Bima), Gautam and Motaleb (BRTC)

SADHARAN BIMA - Zia (Tota), Mansur, Ayub, Jasim, Laltu, Swapan (Tipu), Badal, Basu, Jahangir, Lablu and Milon (Nasir).

BRTC - Nazu, Humayun, Shaheen, Jasim, Noman, Gautam (Chanchal), Masud, Motaleb, Wahid, Mahbub (Prasanta) and Tipu. Referee -Subhash Roy.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Wari Club vs Eskaton Sabuj Sangha (3 pm) Abahani KC vs Arambagh KS

(5 pm)

Mohammedans win again

Sports Reporter



Mohammedan Sporting Club recorded their fifth consecutive victory in the Green Delta First

Division hockey league by beating Azad Sporting Club 2-0 in a rather one-sided affair yesterday at the Hockey Stadium.

Mohammedans now have ten points while Azad have two points from five outings each. After a barren first session, Zahid and Mitul scored for the winners.

Earlier in the afternoon. Dhaka Ansars achieved their maiden win in this year's league beating Bachelors SC 2-

1 in another dull game. The victory helped open Ansar's account after five encounters while Bachelors have

three points from an identical number of games. Bachelors, however, led 1-0 at the breather.

Ishaque put Bachelors ahead in the 21st minute (1-

Lal Mia equalised for Ansars a couple of minutes after the lemon-break while Solaiman slammed home the decider in the 49th minute (1-2).

Ansars earned one penalty corner while Bachelors forced

Atiq and Lebu Molla of Ansars were shown the green

TODAY'S MATCHES Sonali Bank vs Bangladesh

sc: (1:45 pm) Ajax SC vs Wari Club (3:15

Whitney's careeer best leaves Indians shattered

PERTH, Australia Feb 5: A visibly distressed Mohammad Azharuddin slammed

India's batting after an extraordinary collapse left Australia the winner of the fifth and final Test here Wednesday by 300 runs. reports AFP. "Our batting was crap," the

declared in a emotional interview after India plunged to a 0-4 defeat in the series. After reaching a promising 82 without loss in their second innings 56 minutes into the day, India lost all their wickets

Indian captain, 29 on Saturday,

for the addition of only 59 runs in 22.5 overs in one of the most remarkable collapses in Test history With left-arm fast bowler Mike Whitney weighing in with a career-best 7-27 from 12.1 overs and Test debutante Paul

tough victory target of 442 runs in 429 minutes. Apart from openers Navjot Sidhu (35) and Krish Srikkanth (38), the only player

Retffel spatching 2-34, India

totalled 131 after being set a

to reach double figures was Azharudin, who made 24. Azharuddin was a lonely figure as champagne corks popped in the Australian

dressing room. "I cannot explain anything." he said disconsolately. "I am probably more disappointed

Boycott's

faux pas

Zealand, Feb 5 : Former

England opening batsman

GEOFF BOYCOTT

Geoff Boycott on Tuesday

denied a British newspaper

report that he had sexually

harassed a female television

sound technician, reports

in the London Daily Mirror.

Boycott works as a cricket columnist for another

British tabloid newspaper,

Zealand, for whom Boycott

is working as a commenta-

tor during the current

England-New Zealand se-

ries, and the former player

said the issue had been

Beycott said his com-

ment to the technician—"I'd

rather spend a week with

you than a day"- was a

piece of northern English

away, humorous line. It's a

He said he felt indignant

about the sexual harassment

allegations' because his

credibility had been

"I say it's totally untrue;

the girl's not complained,

says there's no case to an-

swer, and TVNZ...said

they're happy there's no

case to answer. So way is

A spokeswoman for

TVNZ, who spoke on condi-

tion of anonymity, said

Boycott made "some com-

ments" to the woman, but

she did not take offence

and made no complaint.

The story resulted from

bystanders overhearing the

exchange and misconstru-

ing it, the spokeswoman

ployment opportunities

manager investigate what

the bystanders alleged hap-

pened, and she was satis-

fled that there are no

grounds for any further ac-

Jr nat'l athletics

now in March

Sports Reporter

athletics championship '92.

scheduled for February 10 and

11, '92, will now be held on

March 5 and 6, according to a

Bangladesh Amateur Athletics

Federation (BAAF) press re-

stances' as the cause, BAAF ex-

tended the entry date till

national athletics cham-

pionships will be held on

February 12, 13 and 14 at the

Entries close on February 9.

Bangladesh Army Stadium,

February 29.

Citing unavoidable circum-

Meanwhile, the 20th

The 10th national junior

tion," Boycott said.

"TVNZ had its equal em-

there a story? Boycott said.

the equal opportunities lady

compliment."

smeared.

"It was meant as a throw-

blown out of proportion.

Both Television New

The Sun.

The allegations appeared

New

WELLINGTON.

with this than with any other

Indian performance." "I would imagine the Indian batting (line-up) will look very different the next time India plays in a test match. We just

have to work harder." Azharuddin said one of the most positive aspects of the tour had been the batting of 18-year-old prodigy Sachin Tendulkar, who hit two cen-

"Our bowling was also very good, but our fielding was not up to standard."

If the Indian skipper was deflated. Australia's man-ofthe-moment, Whitney, was elated as he savoured his triumph of a 11-95 match haul. the best of his career and good enough to win him the manof-the-match award. "I have never had 10 wick

ets in a match before - and then I get 11 in a Test," said the 32-year-old veteran of 12 years in first class ranks. "It is enormous - a real thrill. I am probably bowling

better than at any stage of my career. Whitney said he had a bet with his New Sout Wales teammate, former Test all-

rounder Steve Waugh, about

getting career-best figures this

"In the last Test in Adelaide, I made 12 in the second innings, a Test best for me with the bat. Now I have

also achieved a career-best

with the ball, so I'll be collect-

ing twice." For once, Whitney - who captured a modest six wicket sin his two other Tests of the series - overshadowed Australia's Craig McDermott

and Mery Hughes. But it was McDermott who



cricketer-of-the year award for taking 31 wickets in the series

at an average of 21.61. Despite this performance. McDermott said he would like to improve another 20-30 per

McDermott, 26, who will play for Yorkshire in the English County competition this (northern) summer, said: I just want to keep on getting

He revealed he had hurt his neck while bowling at the nets in Perth before the start of the fifth Test, but said the injury

was not an ongoing problem. Australian captain a Allan Border said McDermott's achievement in winning the award was icing on the cake for all the effort he had put in. "He is a tremendous strike

bowler," he said Border said the first hour of the last day, in which Sidhu and Srikkanth handled the

Australian bowlers with great character, was frustrating. "But we always had the feeling the floodgates were going

to open. He described Whitney's performance as "just fantastic." Asked about Australia's difficulty in making runs during much of the series, he said his

We did not really hit our straps all summer with the bat," he said.

timated the Indian bowlers.

players had probably under-es-

'Kapil Dev's performance was outstanding, and Manoj Prabhakar and Jwagal Srinath

bowled well, too." "Srinath had been unlucky because he had good pace and had beaten the bat on numer-

"It will be interesting to see how his career goes from here. believe he will go into his

ous occasions," Border said

next series and get a bagful." SCORBOARD

Scoreboard of the fifth and final cricket Test match between Australia and India on the fifth and final day on Wednesday.

INDIA: Second innings (overnight 55 for none) Srikkanth c Jones b Whitney Sidhu c Jones b Reiffel Mantrekar c Healy b Whitney Tendulkar c Moody b Reiffel 5 Vengsarkar c Moody Whitney Azharuddin lbw Whitney Kapti Dev lbw Whitney Prabhakar c Healy McDermott More c Taylor b Whitney Raju c Healy b Whitney Srinath not out Extras: (lb-11, nb-3) Total: (all out)

Fall of wickets: 1-82, 2-90.

McDermott Hughes 25 0 Reiffel 3 27 7

runs. Australia win the series 4-0. First Test (Brisbane) -Australia won by 10 wickets. Second Test (Melbourne) -Australia won by eight wickets. Third Test (Sydney) - drawn. Fourth Test (Adelaide) -Australia won by 38 runs.

Houghton is Zimbabwe's main hope

HARARE, Feb 5: Zimbabwe, 200-1 outsiders in the cricket World Cup, are banking on captain Dave Houghton playing the

the Test giants, reports Reuter. Houghton heads a quarter whose performances are ex pected to be key elements in the fortunes of Zimbabwe, the only non-Test playing country

influential role in their tilt at

among the nine teams. Middle-order batsmen Houghton and Andy Pycroft. off-spinner John Traicos, who played Test cricket for South Africa briefly, and strike bowler Eddo Brandes represent Zimbabwe's best chance of at least making a favourable

The 32-year-old Houghton.

India and Pakistan, Houghton nearly snatched victory for Zimbabwe in their opening

In the 1987 World Cup in

impression.

a superb improviser with a keen eye for the ball, is well suited to limited overs cricket and has scored more than 3,600 runs in 130 one-day

DAVE HOUGHTON

match against New Zealand with an outstanding 141 from 138 balls. His team were chasing a target of 243 and lost by just three runs.

Pycroft, 37, offers a contrast to his skipper. A stylish right-hander, he is the most technically accomplished batsman in the side who can accumulate runs methodically. Traicos, captain of the

Zimbabwe team in 1987 and at 44 likely to have the dubious distinction of being the oldest player at the World Cup, remains a force with his economical off-spin and sharpreflex gully fielding. He played three times for

South Africa in the 1970 home Test series against Australia, the republic's last before being isolated from the international arena because of their apartheid policies. Zimbabwe will look to the

only real fire power, especially on the faster, bouncier Australian pitches. Apart from he and Traicos, their attack looks rather thin and devoid of penetration.

burly Brandes to provide their

However, that could be compensated by a relatively Kevin Arnott, the pugnacious Andy Waller and Arnott's opening partner. Andy Flower, the country's best young find in the last five years. Zimbabwe's fielding, ar guably the best in the 1987 World Cup, may help to lift

Pycroft, includes the resilient

wicket and effective in the

Moreover, they continue to suffer from lack of reserve strength due to the dwindling population of white players, on whom the team is based, and the unsuccessful attempt of the local authorities to nurture black cricketers to the highest

Lucky Ijaz revives Pakistan

BENDIGO, Australia. Feb 5: State team Victoria held an overall lead of

172 runs with seven wickets in had at stumps Wednesday, second day of its three-day cricket match against Pakistan, reports AP.

Victoria were 89 for three in their second innings after Pakistan declared at 194 for nine, 23 runs in arrears on the first innings.

Opener Darrin Ramshaw was not out on 20 while nightwatchman Darren Berry had quickly moved to 14. Wastm Akram was the best

of the Pakistani bowlers with two for 18 from eight overs. Akram bowled Paul Nobes for a first ball duck and then

dismissed Simon O'Donnell for The other wicket to fall was that of Darren Lehmann, who was lbw to Mushtag Ahmed for

Earlier, Pakistan's 194 for nine was built around 67 from Ijaz Ahmed, who was drooped

four times by Victorian fields-

with a one-day cricket match

attended by thousands of

between the southern Africa

neighbours since black-ruled

Zimbabwe gained indepen-

dence in 1980 following a

seven-year war against a while

. A virtually all-white crowd

of more than 8,000 people

crammed the Harare Sports

Club grounds in a carnival-

like atmosphere. Under um-

brellas and marguees, people

grilled steaks on outdoor bar-

becues and occasionally

former white-ruled British

colony of Rhodesia had most of

its sporting contacts with

Smith rebelled against the

British crown to entrench

white control in 1965, the

United Nations imposed puni-

tive sanctions against Rhodesia

ties were restored after inde-

Zimbabwe's global sports

that included a sports ban.

When Prime Minister lan

Before independence, the

popped champagne corks.

South Africa.

It was the first international

spectators, reports AP.

minority government.

HARARE, Feb 5:

Zimbabwe's 12-

year-old sports

boycott against

South Africa en-

ded Wednesday

Shahid Saeed chipped in with 40 not out at the end of the innings and was particularly severe on spinner Paul



SIMON O'DONNELL

The tourists did well to recover from their disastrous

overnight score of 45 for five. O' Donnell's misery

Meanwhile, a Reuter report adds: All-rounder Simon O' Donnell's World Cup aspirations suffered another setback

pendence, but President

Robert Mugabe, a leading op-

ponent of apartheid joined a

UN-proposed sports boycott

Aussies prefer

tennis

Feb 5: Australians no longer

dominate internationally,

but they'd rather play tennis

than any other participant

Australians are registered as

members of tennis clubs,

according to figures re-

leased Wednesday by the

Australian Sports

Tennis Australia opera-

tions manager Mike Daws

said more than one million

Australians — one in every

17- plays tennis on a regu-

Tennis edges out cricket

and Australian Rules football

as the sport most

lar cricketers and 478,000

Australian Rules footballers,

according to the latest

There are 550,000 regu-

Australians enjoy playing.

More than 560,000

sport, reports AP.

Commission.

lar basis.

statistics.

'CANBERRA, Australia,

of South Africa.

the three-day match against Dismissed for nine in the first innings. O' Donnell fell to Wasim Akram for 13.

on Wednesday when the

Victorian skipper failed with

the bat for a second time in

O' Donnell has not played for Australia since he damaged his shoulder before the December 12 World Series game against West Indies. He has managed just 124

summer and is running out of time to prove he is worth a World Cup place. ljaz Ahmed, who rode his luck to revitalise Pakistan's first innings in this World Cup

runs at an average of 12.40 this

warm-up match after they had resumed at 45 for five was dropped five times -three times off the luckless O' Donnell — before reaching 50. eventually making 67 of

Pakistan's 194 for nine declared. Scores: Victoria 217 for six declared and 89 for three; Pakistan 194 for nine de-

clared.

four matches. Zimbabwe end boycott of SA

Last October, the 50-nation Commonwealth of former British colonies scrapped some of its sanctions, including, the sports boycott, in recognition of President FW

Zimbabweans toasted the match against South Africa in pubs, clubs and private houses as a new era for local cricketing- a game imported to both countries by British settlers a

de Klerk's political reform.

century ago. There is nothing better than beating the South Africans, Zimbabwe captain Dave Houghton said before the match. It is one of my highest

priorities. Both nations will compete in the World Cup in Australia and New Zealand later this

month. Apart from hot dog and beverage vendors, few blacks

attended the match. Mugabe is cricket fan, having learned the sport during

his 10 years of detention as a political prisoner before independence. He often strolls the short distance from his official residence to the sports club to match matches.

But he is in mourning for the death of his wife last week and it was no clear if he would attend Wednesday's match.

141 3-97. 4-103. 5-111. 6-111. 7-126, 8-129, 9-134, Bowling:

Whitney Result: Australia won by 300

strong bating line-up which. apart from Houghton and

their bowlers. The team has consistently produced players who are sharp close to the

Crucially, the Zimbabweans' prospects are hampered by not having the quality and volume of competition enjoyed by the Test nations.

Windies announce World Cup squad

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Feb 5: The West Indies Cricket Board named the following team for the World Cup tournament starting in Australia and New Zealand later this month, re-

ports AFP. The team comprises: Richie Richardson (captain). Desmond Haynes, Phil Simmons. Keith Arthurton, Brian Lara, Augustine Logie, Malcolm Marshall, Curtly Ambrose, Anderson Cummins, Carl Booper, Winston Benjamin, Roger Happer, David Williams

Sports Reporter Nirman Schools Eleven recorded an exciting eight-run victory over DOHS Club in the Rank-Xerox Second Division

cricket league yesterday at the Dhanmondi Club ground. Nirman Schools now have six points from three outings while DOHS have four from

Sent into bat, Nirman Schools made a reasonable 157 for nine wickets from their quota of 35 overs with Jewel scoring 42 not out, Kazi Asad 27 and Sinjon 26.

Mithu took three wickets

while Faisal got two for DOHS. Chasing the target, DOHS were all out in 34.3 overs for

Mithu, who took three wickets, top scored with 39, that included two over boundaries and four boundaries. Shantoo and Shaadat made

20 each for DOHS. Suman bagged four while Zahid claimed three wickets for Nirman Schools.

In the other match of the day, Shantinagar Club-A beat East End Club by three wickets at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadtum.

Both Shantinagar A and East End now have two points from three encounters each.

Put into bat East End were

In their turn, Shantinagar overtook East End's score for the loss of seven wickets in 33.4 overs.

all out for 178 in 34.3 overs.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Western Club vs Lalbagh VSC (DCS) Azad SC vs Dhaka Friends Union (DCG).

and Patrick Patterson. Exciting win for Nirman Schools