#### Abahani trounce Dhanmondi 6-0

Sports Reporter

Reigning champions Abahani Krira Chakra ran up their biggest winning margin in the current Star First Division foothall league Wednesday by trouncing neighbours Dhanmondi Club by half a dozen goals at the Mirpur Stadium. The winners led 3-0 at the

breather.

In a match that saw total domination of one side by the other, the champions launched incessant sorties inside the Dhanmondi zone , running all over their weaker opponents. But for the several misses by



The two goals Wednesday took Aslam's tally this season in the league to six.

Abahani now have fourteen

day, played earlier in the afternoon. Arambagh played out a goalless draw with newcomers Eskaton Sabuj Sangha. SATURDAY'S MATCHES

vs Wanderers Wari (3:00pm)

(5:00pm) Baggio on target

CESENA, Italy, Feb 20 Roberto Baggio underlined his return to form this season with two of Italy's goals in the comprehensive 4-0 win over little

In a match which was little more than a stroll for Arrigo Sacchi's side, Baggio started and finished the scoring, the first goal coming in the 36th minute and the last in the

after 42 minutes and Baggio's Juventus club-mate Pierluigi Castraght hit the third in the 47th minute

#### Div II cricket Sports Reporter

Sporting Club won their respective matches of the Rank Xerox Second Division cricket league on Wednesday last. At the Mohakhali T&T

ground, DOHS Club beat Azad Sporting Club by five wickets.

Batting first, Azad were all out for a poor 108 in 29.5 overs. Rasul got the highest 28 with the help of four boundaries while Anis and Manu scored 20 and ten respec-

Faisal claimed three wickets while Biplob got two for In reply, DOHS sailed safely

of five wickets. with 22, hitting three bound-

aries while Coco remained notout on 21

Anis and Rasul got two wickets apiece for Azad

In the other match of the

Electing to bat. Eastern were all out in 33.2 overs for a handsome 219.

deliveries hitting a couple of over-boundaries and four fours while Satal scored 28.

Pop, the most successful Nabin Sangha bowler, claimed four wickets for 44 while Sujan got two for 38.

Facing the target, Nabin Sangha were booked for 192 in 27 overs, thanks to Liton and Mukta who ran through the Nabin Sangha batting claiming three wickets each.

Kamran top scored with 76 off 64 deliveries with the aid of a dozen of fours.

Artf and Sujan got 26 and 16 respectively for Nabin

Sangha. Besides Liton and Mukia. Swapan took two wickets for Eastern Sporting Club.

# Close call for Biman

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Biman just managed to keep their super league chances alive when they were declared winners for having lost fewer wicket in their tied play-off match against Surja Tarun Club at the Dhaka

Stadium Wednesday. Sent in to bat by Tarun's Sri Lankan skipper Priya Lal Rodrigo. Biman collected 190 for five wickets from their allotted 45 overs. Tarun, in their turn, levelled the score losing all ten wickets in their 45 overs. With both teams standing at the same score. Biman's score of 190 for five held them in good side as the airlines scraped through for losing fewer wickets.

Tariquzzaman Munir seemed to be pirouetting on one spot as he was dismissed for six, exactly the score he made in the earlier match against Brothers Union. Longserving Ahmed Iqbal Bachchu. the other opener now approaching the twilight of his career, set about taking Biman out of the air-pocket.

Zakaria, of whom Ashik Malhotra, the captain of the West Bengal side that was here recently spoke highly, gave Bachchu fine support. Bachchu was the second batsman to go when he was run out for a sedate 36 made with the held of two boundaries. Zakaria was stumped for a well-made 30.

Enamul Huq Moni scored a guick-fire 46, studded with a superb sixer and a four before holding out to a substitute fielder off left-arm spinner Saileat. Pial remained unbeaten on 47, inclusive of two fours, as Biman reached 190 for five.

Saikat was the pick of the Tarun bowlers claiming two for 31. Left-arm medium pacer Suppi also bowled well to fin-

ish with figures of one for 29. Hadi and Titu gave Tarun a

stepped in to play a captain's knock but failed to cauterize the putrefaction that had reached to the Tarun bones by that time. While Biman spinners Anwarul Amin Azhar, the seasoned office and left-arm spinner Moni kept on removing Tarun batsmen at regular interval's Rodrigo held one end up, maintaining a delicate balance between attack and defence. He was still there, unconquered on 65, a knock that contained five hits to the fence, when Saikat, the last Tarun batsman, running as if his shirt was on fire for the 191st run of their innings found himself stranded out of the ground.

Moni once again gave an excellent demonstration of his match winning qualities by rounding off his five batting with a commendable bowling analysis of three for 46 from nine overs. Azhar rose to the occasion in keeping the batsman quiet as well as taking wickets. He took two for 20 from his quota of nine overs.

Meanwhile, the super league phase of the Navana Premier Division cricket league will begin from February

to emerge from the play-off matches, to be held till February 23.

## Win for Bangladesh SC

Sports Reporter

Coming from behind, newcomers Bangladesh Sporting Club recorded an impressive two-one victory over good old Victoria Sporting Club in the Green Delta First Division hockey league at the Hockey Stadium on Wednesday last.

All three goals of this enter taining tie were scored in the second session.

Bangladesh Though Sporting, who inflicted a shocking 3-1 defeat on Bachelors Sporting Club in their previous league encounter, from the outset ap peared a spirited side, a side with a mission, but it was the ordinary-looking Victoria who scored the first goal quite against the wind of the game.

A couple of minutes after the breather. Victoria were awarded a penalty stroke and Mukhter Hossatn made no mistake in placing the ball into the Bangladesh Sporting net

afterwards, Soon Bangladesh Sporting were also provided with a penalty stroke by the umptre; Mitu equalised for his side by converting it [1-

To the delight of their fans.

## Nirman cricket

Sports Reporter

Morning Sun School and Bagan Bart High School won their respective matches of the Dhaka zonal championship of the Nirman Schools Cricket competition on Wednesday last at the Dhanmondt Club Ground

(DCG) At the DCG (East), Morning Sun beat Abdullah Mollah High School by eight wickets.

At the DCG (West). Bagan Bari High School recorded an impressive 70-run victory over Islamia Govt High School.

Sent into bat, Bagan Bari School made 199 all out in 30.4 overs with Mr Extras contributing the highest 54 and skipper Shaheen and Badal scoring 30 each.

## Econo jr TT

Sports Reporter

Eight more matches of the 1992 Econo junior table tennis were held at the National Coaching Centre on Wednesday

Bangladesh Biman. Azimpur Young Star, Armanitola Sabul, Bangladesh Ansars, Azimpur Young Boys and Officers' Club recorded straight-sets victory over Victoria Sporting Club. Azimpur Vintage, Swamibagh TTS, Ajax Sports Club and Armanitola Boys while Kalpataru Club and Armanitola Juniors beat Armanitola Kishore and Swamibagh Boys by an identical 3-1 set.

## England spoil

French record LONDON, Feb 20: Michel Platinf's all-conquering France

were finally put to the sword as youth and experience combined to give England a 2-0 win at Wembley on Wednesday. reports Reuter.

A goal on the stroke of half time from debutante Alan Shearer and a second in the 72nd minute from Gary Bangladesh Sporting three minutes from the buzzer by converting a penalty corner (1-

Sporting and Mukhter Hossain of Victoria invited the green card while Ehtesham of the

### Majumder snooker from tomorrow

Sports Reporter

The inaugural F H Majumder memorial snooker championship, an invitational meet under the auspices of the Narayanganj Club, begins at the club pavilion tomorrow, February 22.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain wil formally inaugurate the meet at 9:30 in the morning.

Organised by the Narayanganj Club in memory of one of its late lamented members and former General Secretary Fazlul Haq Majumder who was a keen snooker and billiards player and several times club champion, the meet will be participated by twentyeight players from seven clubs of the country.

The Clubs taking part are Comilla Club, Comilla Station Club, Chittagong Club, Dhaka Club, Engineers' Club, Gulshan Club and hosts Narayanganj

Competition will be held according to the following format: The players, split into eight groups of three and four players each, will play a best of five frames preliminary round league. This will be followed by a the prequarterfinals knockout round of best of seven frames. The quarter finals will be best of nine frames contests followed by the best of 11 frames semifinals. The final, to be held in two sessions, will be a best of 13 frames affair.

The thirteen-day competition will be played under the general rules of snooker as approved by the Bangladesh Billiards and Snooker Federation.

The championship is being sponsored by the Majumder Group of Companies, of which late F H Majumder was the founder chairman.

Pioneer soccer

Spandan Club registered a solitary-goal victory over Gulbagh Krira Chakra in the Janata Bank Pioneer round robin league at the Outer Stadium on Wednesday last. Rezaul Karim Liton netted the all-important goal for the win-

Liton of Spandan and Kabir and Mazharul of Gulbagh were shown the green card. The other match between

Aganagar PMS and Nawabkatra Juba Sangha at the same venue ended in a goalless draw.



-AFP photo etition in Albertville on Feb 19.

## Skating like the Danube



ALBERTVILLE. France, Feb 20: The athlete and the artist were supposed to battle each other for the gold.

Wednesday night, artistry won out in the form of American's Kristi Yamaguchi, who may already have locked up the Olympic women's figure skating championship, reports

Waltzing over the ice, Yamaguchi was as smooth as the waters of the Blue Danube' she was dancing to. gliding elegantly and spinning superbly. At the same time, she hit all her jumps solidlyincluding the one that Japan's Midori Ito couldn't, the triple

Yamaguchi landed in first place going into Friday's free skate finals, followed by the US's Nancy Kerrigan, France's who fell resoundingly after substituting a triple lutz for the more difficult triple axel. "I am sorry," said the

Surva Bonaly and then Ito.

Acrobatic Ito, who had been considered the gold medal favourite. "I did not think would fail the triple lutz. chose it for safety. I was under the pressure of having not done the triple axel well in practice. American Tonya Harding

also fell, while performing a triple axel, and skidded into sixth place. She trailed another Frenchwoman, Lactitia Hubert, who was a surprising Yamaguchi finished first

with all nine judges, drawing seven 5.9s for presentation. "I tried to just skate free

out there," she said. "! wanted a romantic mood, something easy. flowing and nice -to watch."

## Winning start by hosts, Aussies



KARACHI, Feb 20: A last minute goal gave Pakistan a 1-0 win over Britain in the opening match of the

14th Champions Trophy world hockey tournament today, reports Reuter.

Pakistan skipper Shahbaz Ahmed dived full length to connect a right plant cross from Mohammad Shahbaz and score the winner two minutes from time.

Olympic champions Britain played better than expected and came close to snatching a point after Pakistan failed to capitalise on dive penalty cor-Pakistani half Qamar

card for arguing with the Spanish umpire when a goal was disallowed at the start of the second half. At first the umpire whistled for a goal, but reversed his decision after Britain's players

Ibrahim was shown the green

#### **AUSTRALIA'S** REVENGE

the side netting.

showed it had entered through

Meanwhile, Australia gained sweet revenge by defeating holders Germany 2,1 in the second match of the day.

In the final match of the 13th tournament played in Berlin last September, Germany had won 2-0 to regain the trophy from Australia but it was a different story this

Australia were the sharper and more committed team, while the Germans only came into the game spasmodically.

After a slow start, Australia went ahead in the 33rd minute when Mark Hager picked up a loose ball in midfield, ran on unchallenged and then left German goalkeeper Michael Knauth stranded with no

chance against a strong, wellplaced shot. The Germans fatled to give any sign of mounting a recovery after the cross-over, and Australia went further ahead in the 47th minute when

scoop the ball into the net. Germany reduced the lead in the 62nd minute with a

Stephen Davies seized on a re-

bound from a short corner to

#### Donald's goal

BRISBANE, Feb 20: South African Allan Donald is playing down his reputation as the fastest white bowler in the world as his team continue their build-up to the cricket World Cup. reports Reuter. Tam sure that any fast

bowler here for the World Cup won't be here to prove he is the quickest," said Donald.

"It's very difficult in oneday cricket to bowl at pace, depending on the conditions of the day.

"Some days you feel really good and you can bowl as quick as anyone in the world but other times you don't have to concentrate on line and "I just want to soak up

some experience, take a few wickets and maybe man-of-the-series in a good goal to achieve." .

South Africa, who are here for a one-day warm-up match against Queensland on Friday, have their first Cup clash next Wednesday when they face holders Australia in Sydney.

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#### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer 25 New **ACROSS** 43 Dashing port England 1 Come in

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D I S C S E M I P R O S 44 Musical passage

45 Does a

garden NORA 6 Blunders

48 London suburb

CRYPTOQUIP

CWGJF PXUPWBF IXUBV UF

IXB TCL. CVILT Wednesday's Cryptoquip: SAID TIRED AUTHOR, "MY COOKBOOK IS FINALLY FINISHED, AND IT'S ABOUT THYME."

### Today's Cryptoquip clue: P equals C

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

## Countdown to the fifth World Cup-I A M Chowdhury



Australia, England, the West Indies, India and

the favourites in the forthcoming fifth World Cup. Four out of these five are likely to find semi-final berths. But again the BIG QUESTION which four ? Each and every one of the five can be considered good enough and it will largely depend on the consis-

The Australians are the hot favourites for all the 'pundits' of the game and it is likely that they will retain the Cup which they won at the Eden Gardens, Calcutta, in 1987 beating

England by only 7 runs. This writer had the privilege of being among the 80,000 spectators, and still often wonders what would have been the outcome of the match had Mike Gatting not tried that adventurous and unnecessary reverse-sweep which caused his dismissal and

In the recently concluded World Series Triangulars. Australia proved their superiority quite emphatically over India and the West Indies. It is beyond any doubt that they are the most balanced side; their strong batting line-up is backed by a superb battery of fast and medium-fast bowlers; their spinners do the containing role admirably: in fielding they are simply excellent, and in running between the wickets they have attained the

Australia no doubt possess the strength and the abil ity to be the champions for the second consecutive time and that, too, on their home grounds. David Boon, if he continues in the same fashion as he had been doing this sea son (in the World series he averaged 61.72 and compiled 432 and in the 5 Tests he collected 545 runs at an average of 77.85), he alone is capable of ensuring victory for his side. But in cricketing circles there is a superstitious belief, based or the so-called law of averages that every one has a quota for the season and David Boon may have used up a substantial portion of his quota before the World Cup. Let us wait and see if such beliefs have any credi-

Graham Gooch shall emoy

the advantage of having at least

three quality all-rounders.

from among lan Botham.

Degmott Reeve, Chris Lewis

and Derek Pringle, in his first eleven, which in turn will allow him to have an extra batsman, who in all probability. will be Neil Fair brother. Graeme Hick looks like not to have settled down yet and if ian Botham fills up the opening slot the middle order will be fairly strong with Robin

Stewart. Phillip DeFreitas may be a different bowler under swinging conditions. Gooch can reasonably count on the good services of either of his two spinners, Phil Tufnell and Richard Illingworth. Gladstone

The West Indies are sometransition, their recent performances promise some hope as well as despair. At Sharjah, they failed, but with some honour: they retrieved their position in Pakistan but their recent Down Under experience in the World series must

have been demoralising for them. The strength of the Caribeans lie in their bowling Their fast bowling department manned by Curtly Ambrose Malocolm Marshall, Patrick Patterson, Anderson Cummins and Winston Benjamin, is capable of ripping through any batting line-up. But they will have to cut down their wides

and no-balls. loves to play shots square of the wicket and his subtle placements keep the score board moving. On Australian wickets batsmen of short stature have an advantage in tackling the rising ball. Brian Lara and Keith Arthurton are batsmen with great potentials. If they have learnt their lessons from the recent WSC triangular matches, they are expected to do well. If the and gets enough runs, their bowling prowess is capable of wresting the initiative from

any side. Pakistan, under the leader ship of Imran Khan, is a power to be reckoned with. If injury problems do not decapitate them seriously, they, on their day, can win against any opponent. Their bowling line-up may lay a claim to be among the best in the tournament with the experienced Wasim Akram, Aquib Javed and Imran Khan. Wasim Hyder will be the stock medium-pacer. This line-up may thunder through any batting line-up and it is likely that the Pakistan quick ics shall find the fast bouncy

Australian wickets to be their happy hunting ground. They have able spinners in Mushtaq and Igbal Stkander.

shoulders of the veterans Rameez Raja, Javed Miandad, Salim Malik and Imran Khan The youngsters are all very talented players. Inzamamul Huq fared very well against the Sri Lankans, but now does this tall lanky opener adjust to the fast Australian wickets is to be seen. Ijaz Ahmed, with his experience, may find a place for himself. Aamer Sohail, Zahid Fazal and Shahid Saeed are talented players and if they can adjust to the Down Under conditions. Pakistan is not to be discounted easily. Javed Mtandad and Salim Malik are great improvisors and if they get going things will not be that easy for the opposing bowlers. Imran Khan is now a better batsman than a bowler. and once he gets his eyes in he has the guts and capability of taking liberty with any attack. Wasim Akram has always performed well with the willow on Australian pitches. Pakistan is fortunate in having Imran Khan as the leader. He is a great strategist and commands great respect from his teammates. But in order to be a winning force Pakistani players have to field very well. Any lapse at the top level of cricket may prove to be disastrous. Incidentally it may be mentioned that Imran

Last but not the least come the Indians, who having been beaten by Australia in the Test series 0-4 and in the World Series Finals 0-2, are in a depressed situation. But their performance in the one-day Triangular tournament has tures, which will help them in The batting of Sachin alone can lift the morale of his team. The Indian bowlers did very well to contain as well as line up. Kapil Dev. the highest wicket-taker in one-day is still a force; he has been

the World Cup tournaments,

inclusion of Vinod Kambli and Ajay Zadeja is bound to add more agility and enthusiasm in the team. All the opponents face the danger of being 'Srikanthed'. Indians would very much hope their skipper Muhammad Azharuddin to be amongst runs.

Who, among these five teams, are going to reach the Semi Final stage ? You are at liberty to make a guess, and like all guess work there is chance you will be right. Shall take a chance ? Prudence dictates I shall not; but passion encourages me to take it. Let me be passionate for once. Australia and England are likely certainties. West Indies, the gay cavalters of world cricket, are also great fighters would like them to be in the last four. It appears one of the Subcontinental teams would be failing to make it. Please do not press me any further to name the unlucky team. However, please allow me to put a few saving clauses. One should not leave out the possibility of an under-dog forging ahead to the top four. Who could guess at the beginning of the 1985 tournament that Kapil Dev would be holding aloft the trophy at Lords? Further, England's show of strength against a mediocre New Zealand team may not be

a real picture. The outcome of the semi finals and the Final is anybody's guess. One-day cricket is a game on the day and the going on the day dictates the result. The teams that reach the last four have very little difference among them. So let

the best side win.

Let us all hope for good. enthralling, entertaining and competitive cricket. One-day cricket is no longer a 'circus' It is a serious business now and a great money-spinner. The different aspect of the game have been perfected to such a level that it is now a game of tactics, nerves and precision. Thanks to the BTV we had the opportunity of reviewing the earlier World Cup Finals and any connoisseur of the game would be able to see the difference in the whole enactment that has undergone since 1975. The Fifth World Cup. in a new format, promises all the thrtlls and the 39 encounters are going to be tough and absorbing, though not in equal degree. Cricket lovers in Bangladesh would feel grateful to BTV and their sponsors since they, for the first time, are assured of viewing quite a few matches.

18 Cogitates 20 Violet's cousin 21 Yale man 22 Flat, marshy

third

5 Fish or

Cape

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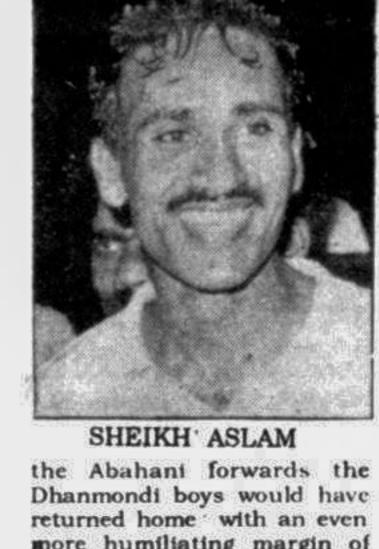
36 Duke or 38 Bounder

39 Wine caskwednesday's answer 8-20 40 Cut wool

8-20

GCF

will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to



more humiliating margin of defeat. Star striker Sheikh Mo-

hammad Aslam netted the first two goals for Abahani in the fourth and 35th minutes. Mamum Joardar in the 43rd. Rumi in the 67th, and Zakir in the 77th minute. In between, the harried and harassed Dhanmondi betrayed a bout of nerves by putting one in their own net by pushing an intended backpass to the goalie to give Abahani their fifth goal.

points, having won all seven games todate. In the other match on the

Mohammedans vs Adamjee

San Marino in a friendly international here on Wednesday. reports AFP.

in between, AC Milan's Roberto Donadoni made it 2-0

DOHS Club and Eastern

home in 34 overs for the loss Skipper Mithu top scored

day, Eastern Sporting Club recorded a 27-run win over Nabin Sangha at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium

Maruf top scored with 42 off 45 deliveries that contained a six and five hits to the Mukta made 31 off just 15

Lineker

sound start by putting on 31 for the first wicket. Left-arm paceman Rafiq brought one sharply in to trap the Lanky Hadi leg before, for 14. Titu followed him and neither Sri Lankan Aruna Silva nor Javed Omar Belim Golla stayed long enough to consolidate the po-

Skipper Rodrigo then

On the opening day, Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club will take on the sixth qualifier

Jewel scored the winner for

Mahbub of Bangladesh winners was shown the yellow

Pakistan can reasonably be grouped together as

tency of their performances.

turned the tide in Australia's lavour.

nearest thing to perfection,

Smith, Allan Lamb and Alec

small may provide able back-up in emergency. thing of an enigma. A team in

Logie, a diminutive man, West Indian batting comes off

The Pakistani batting strength rests mainly on the

Khan and Miandad will be creating a record of playing in all

quite a few redeeming fearegaining their confidence. Tendulkar, the little master. break through the opposing cricket (todate 217 wickets), bowling as good as ever. India got beaten, but they were not far away from victory. They missed in the earlier matches narrowly, but that does not mean they cannot hit victory. They have had enough time to settle down in Australian conditions, if, of course, they have not become stale by now. The