

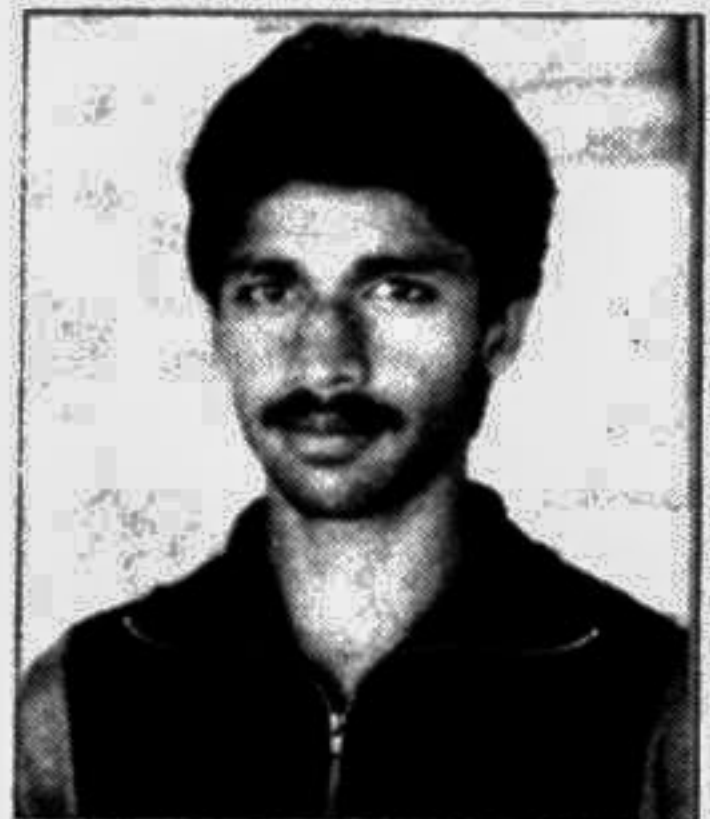
Zakaria grounds MSC

Sports Reporter

Just about when South Africa sent shock waves in Down Under by toppling Australia, the favourites for the 1992 World Cup, Bangladesh Biman pulled off an astonishing victory over title-aspirants and highly fancied Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club in the curtain raiser of this year's Navana Premier Division super league at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The foudroyant, when considered in the backdrop of the hardships and uncertainties that the airline team had to

overcome, was a brilliant ton



undergo about its somewhat fortunate passage into the super league phase, was made possible by brilliant batsmanship by young Zakaria and skipper Shanu.

It was almost time for Zakaria, the talented number three batsman of whom Ashok Malhotra, the captain of the CAB cricket team that visited Bangladesh recently spoke so highly, to substantiate the claim of his potential and there could not have been a better opportunity to do that. He was the undisputed architect of the upset but highly creditable victory of last year's runners-up yesterday. In the absence of regular one-drop batsman Selim Shahed who is currently away in South Africa to play and coach there under a scholarship of the Cricket Control Board of that country, Zakaria batted superbly to write the six-wicket victory script of his side with an innings of 111, embellished with

eleven boundaries. He played 122 balls to compile the seventh century in this year's league. Shah Nawaz Shaheed Shanu, the skipper of the Biman team that had hardly anytime to recover from the scars and scratches of the last-ditch play-off battle to scramble in the six-team super league, remained at the kill with a highly commendable innings of 63, punctuated with just three hits to the fence. Enamul Haq Moni threw his bat around to score a quick 21 off 17 balls with the help of a sixer to help Biman cross the Mohammedan total of 222 with just two balls to spare.

Earlier put into bat, Mohammedans scored 222 for eight wickets from their quota of 45 overs.

Skipper Minhazul Abedin Nannu shone in a grey welkin of poor scores with 65 off 66 balls. Mainly pushing and nudging his bat and there for ones and twos, Nannu struck only three fours during his 82-minute tenure at the wicket.

Rafiqul Alam, who has been batting with a vengeance this year, made only 28 with a six and a four. Azhar Hossain Shantoo made 26. His namesake Anwarul Amin Azhar, the seasoned off-spinner, used his guiles and experience to emerge as the best Biman bowler with figures of two for 32.

RELEGATION LEAGUE

In the Navana relegation league match Gulshan Youth Club centered past Rupali Bank by seven wickets at the Dhanmndi Cricket Stadium.

Bank batted first to notch 98 in 40 overs. Skipper Khokon was the only batsman to reach the double figures with 37. Gulshan skipper Rupam took three for six runs.

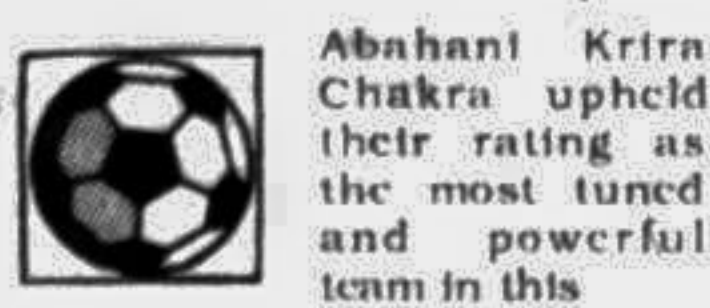
Gulshan made light of the challenge by overhauling the Bank total in 29.5 overs. Opener Mamun remained unbeaten with 35 as Gulshan made 98 for three wickets.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Abahani vs GMCC (Super League, Dhaka Stadium) Surja Tarun vs Warf (Relegation League, DCS)

Abahani swamp Adamjee

Sports Reporter



Abahani Krira Chakra upheld their rating as the most tuned and powerful team in this year's league with another big win in yesterday's Star First Division football league at the Mirpur Stadium. They humbled Adamjee Sports Club in the second match of the day by a flattering margin of 5-1.

The defending champions, who are yet to drop a point, were kept at the bay till the 41st minute of the match by the spirited Adamjee players.

But Mamun Joarder's cool placement that flummoxed the Adamjee custodian Narayan took the fight out of them and the flood gates really opened in the second half with the Abahani forwards running all over Adamjee.

Abahani led the first half with Rumi following up with another goal a minute after Mamun had scored the first

goal. Gaus scored two goals in the post-lunch session to make it 4-0, but failed to complete his hat-trick as Aslam scored the 149th of his career and 98th goal for Abahani as he cashed in on a faulty back-pass by an Adamjee defender.

Badshah got Adamjee's consolation seconds from the final whistle.

In the first match, Arambagh KS defeated Wanderers Club by two goals to one.

Shimul scored for Arambagh to give the winners a one-nil first half advantage.

Mosharraf, who was shown the red card, the eighth in this year's league, drew level for Wanderers. But Sunny of Arambagh converted a penalty to ensure full points for his side.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Warf vs BJMC (3 pm) Mohammedans vs Farashganj (5 pm)



German forward Sven Meinhardt jumps over Dutch defender Floris Jan Bovelndr in the 14th Champion's Trophy hockey tournament on Feb 25 in Karachi. Defending tournament champion Germany beat Holland 2-0. —AFP/photo

Germans dash Dutch hopes

KARACHI, Feb 26: Title holders Germany put world champions the Netherlands out of the running for the final of the 14th Champion's Trophy hockey tournament with 2-0 victory here Tuesday, reports AFP.

Germany, the European champions, have six points from four matches with just one defeat. So have the Asian champions, Pakistan and the Oceanic champions, Australia.

The Netherlands have lost two of their four matches, to Australian and Germany and can now only hope for a bronze medal. Their coach, Hans Jorisma, has the proud record of having won a medal at every tournament in which he has coached the Dutch.

But Britain suddenly fought their way back into the limelight Tuesday by beating France 5-2 and need to beat the Netherlands tomorrow to have a chance of playing off for third or fourth place.

N'ganj cricket

Sports Reporter

Narayanganj Cricket Club (Green) won a three wicket victory over Chanda Sporting Club in the A K M Shamsuzoha Memorial First Division cricket league organized by the Narayanganj District Sports Association at the Osmari Stadium yesterday, according to a press release.

Japan Cup judo from tomorrow

Sports Reporter

The two-day tenth Japan Cup judo competition under the joint aegis of the Bangladesh Judo and Karate Federation and the Japanese embassy in Dhaka gets underway at the National Sports Coaching Centre tomorrow, Friday.

The State Minister for Forests and Environment Gayeshwar Roy will declare the meet open at 10 in the morning while the Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh Toshio Saiki will attend as a special guest.

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury will distribute prizes among the winners on the concluding day February 29.

Nissan tennis

Sports Reporter

Hira Lal, Maroof, Shibu Lal, Ruman, Sami, Ram Kumar (India), Amit (India) and Dilip entered the quarter-finals of the men's singles event in the 5th Nissan Cup Tennis tournament at Gulshan Club yesterday.

In the first match, Jhatika Samaj Kalyan Sangha outplayed Bangladesh Bank by 53 points to 25 while Maniknagar Unnayan Samity trounced Bangladesh Boys 42-24 in the other match of the day.

TODAY'S MATCHES Azad Sporting vs Jatrabari Paruk Smriti Sangsad (5 pm) Gajaria Jaro Kalyan Samity vs Young Star Club (6.30 pm)

Olympic gold is Burrell's priority



NEW YORK, Feb 26: Let Andre Cason run all the fast indoor times he wants. It's running fast outdoors that most concerns Leroy Burrell, reports Reuter.

While Cason has been posting scintillating sprint times this winter, setting two world records at 60 metres, Burrell has been taking it slowly as he prepares for the Barcelona Olympics.

"In an Olympic year, starting off slow doesn't bother me," said Burrell, the former 100 metres world record holder, in a conference call this week from his home in Houston, Texas.

"I know what I can do, when the time comes, I'll run well in the 100. Not winning in January shouldn't concern you."

Burrell will match up against fellow-American Cason for the third time this season

on Friday at the USA-mobil track and field championships at Madison Square Garden.

Twice Burrell has finished second to Cason, but he probably wouldn't lose much sleep if Cason beat him again in the final.



LEROY BURRELL

nal Grand Prix meeting of the season.

"Obviously he's in good shape now," said Burrell, who took two weeks off before the start of the season to protect a sore left hamstring.

Seles sails as Navratilova opts out



INDIAN WELLS, Feb 26: Monica Seles breezed through the second round of the Matrix Essentials Evert Cup Tuesday while her main rival, Martina Navratilova, dropped out because of the flu, reports AP.

Seles was hoping to meet Navratilova, the defending champion and second seed, in the finals. Last year, Navratilova beat Seles in the finals.

"I was very disappointed that Martina is out," Seles said. "But when you travel as much as we do, it doesn't give you much time to recover when you're sick."

With Navratilova out, the other women making up the top five won their second round matches. They all had first-round byes.

Third-seed Conchita Martinez of Spain defeated Stephanie Rehe, 6-4, 7-6(7-3). The No 4 seed, Katerina Maleva of Bulgaria, beat Jessica Emmons, 6-2, 6-0, and No 5 Nathalie Tauziat of France swept past Canada's Rene Altier, 6-1, 6-2.

Navratilova, who recently broke Chris Evert's record for tournament titles, was slated to play Kathy Rinaldi on Tuesday, she was replaced against Rinaldi by Victoria Milvidskaia of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Rinaldi beat Milvidskaia 6-4, 7-5 to advance to the third round.

"I got to Los Angeles Saturday night and I came here Sunday and I had a scratchy throat," Navratilova said. "Then it got worse last night. I couldn't breathe and my nose was dripping. The L.A. crud is what I call it."

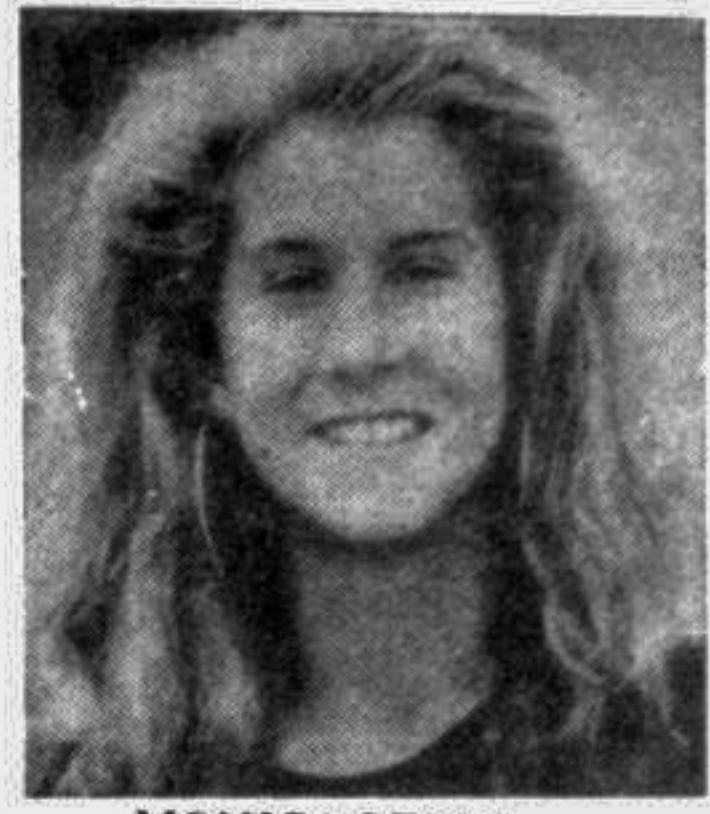
"This screws up my schedule," Navratilova said. "I don't have that many options. I'll have to make it up in the fall in Europe. I get one freebie a year. If it happens again, I get fined."

Navratilova, 35, has won

158 tournaments. She surpassed Evert, for whom this tournament is named, as the all-time leader in tournaments won earlier this month. Evert



NAV RATILOVA



MONICA SELES

when they went to deuce four times. Seles was able to pull it out when Reinach hit a backhand into the net.

"This court is different than when I practised. I was not hitting the ball too well. I was tight," Seles said.

Seles said she would try not to let Navratilova's withdrawal take her concentration away in matches this week.

"If I get to the final, it would make it easier if Martina's not there. But the matches can get tough, and I don't want to start thinking about the finals now. I have been lucky not to lose early in a tournament for a long time, and I want to keep it going," Seles said.

Navratilova said she was returning to her home in Aspen, Colorado, to recover.

Becker, McEnroe post easy wins

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands, Feb 26: Boris Becker of Germany and American John McEnroe each had straight set wins Tuesday to advance to the second round of the \$25,000 ABN AMRO World Tennis Tournament, reports AP.

Becker, ranked No. 4 in the world and seeded second here, had little difficulty disposing of Dutchman Michel Schapers 6-3, 6-1.

McEnroe, seeded six, produced a powerful serve-and-volley game to overwhelm Mark Koevermans, also of the Netherlands, 6-3, 6-2.

Earlier, France's Henri Leconte retired from his match against McEnroe's younger brother, Patrick, during the first set tiebreaker.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	34 Safe and warm	2 Legal matter before lunch or office
1 Whale of a movie: 1977	35 Dance's partner	3 Lynx or leopard
5 John — Passos	36 Ignore	4 Staged whispers
8 Baseball's Slaughter	40 Palm leaf	5 Couple
12 Restore to confidence	41 Opera star	6 Table scrap
14 Lonely fish?	42 Spend the summer	7 Young plant
15 Ballpark follower	47 — fixe	8 Landed property
16 Weight allowance	48 Hired, as a lawyer	9 "Cheers" patron
17 Bomb that bombed	49 Semester	10 Olive genus
18 Stage offerings	50 Theater sign	11 Hardens spot
20 Henri's headgear	51 Chaplin prop	19 Took the bus
23 Coagulate	DOWN	20 Word
24 Harem rooms	1 Mine output	
25 Pitchers throw them		
28 Totem pole		
29 Suppose		
30 Psych. org.		
32 "Journeys end in lovers' arms"		

Solution time: 25 min.

MAIL	DASH	TAB
ACNE	ONCE	UTA
IRKS	NORM	BOB
MESS	NNE	MAZE
ICE	ABO	
VASSAR	MARCIA	
ALIMB	YEARN	
CAROLS	HOORAY	
REP	OUR	
FAZE	RAM	LEAK
LIVE	SEMI	EZRA
FIR	HAIL	SIGN
IDO	EDDY	SOOT

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13				14				
15							16				
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41						42	43		44	45	46
47						48					
49						50			51		

8-26 CRYPTOQUIP

IGDIGAM WGXME'I XRFQI
 KMEMR'Q QUAZQ MRFDAZ
 IF ZM TFDRS ZUWIMYT
 GQ YFFIM MRSI.
 Yesterday's Cryptquip: THE CAROUSEL REPAIRMAN PROMISED TO COME AROUND.

Today's Cryptquip clue: X equals K

The Cryptquip 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.

Holmes-Holyfield bout on anvil



NEW YORK, Feb 26: Larry Holmes could be the next old timer to climb into the ring for another shot at his old heavyweight title as negotiations heated up on Tuesday for a match against reigning champion Evander Holyfield, reports Reuter.

Dan Duva, Holyfield's promoter, and Holmes' representative Bob Arum were in the midst of negotiations for a June date, according to Kathy Duva of Main Event.

"Dan's meeting with Arum right now. There's no deal yet but we're trying to make a deal," the spokeswoman said.

Kathy Duva said 18 million dollars for Holyfield and seven million for Holmes were "ball park" figures being discussed.

She said Holmes, a 42-year-old grandfather who upset contender Ray Mercer two weeks ago, loomed as a logical opponent for Holyfield since the World Boxing Council has retained Mike Tyson as its number one contender pending an appeal of his rape conviction.

Holyfield's manager, Shelly Finkel, said the fight would be announced on Wednesday or Thursday. "In the next day or two we will be together and we will make a formal announcement," he said. Finkel said no contracts had been signed but the money had been agreed. He would make no comment on what the financial terms were.

He said a meeting on Wednesday with representatives of Caesars Palace, the Las Vegas hotel where the fight would take place, and TVKO, who would televise it on a pay per view basis, could "wrap things up."

The fight date remained to be settled but Main Event favoured June 8 while TVKO preferred June 19. Main Event spokesman Mike Boorman said.

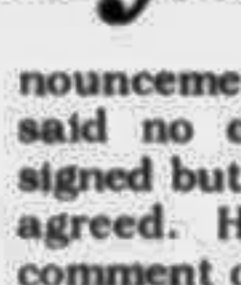
A source close to the negotiations said Holyfield would be paid 20 million dollars and Holmes 12 million.

Duva said that until Tyson's situation is finalized it would not make sense for Holyfield to take on leading contenders such as Riddick Bowe or Donovan "Razor" Ruddock.

"You don't want to fight one of those guys and find out you have to fight them again for a mandatory," she said.

"Holyfield has a mandatory defence owed to the WBC," Duva explained. "And they will not allow anyone else (besides Tyson) in their top 10 to fight him as mandatory challenger."

SA athletes look set for Barcelona



JOHANNESBURG, Feb 26: A high-level International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) delegation has indicated the organisation will readmit South Africa in time for the Barcelona Olympics, sports officials said today, reports Reuter.

"They have virtually given us the green light," said Sam Ramsamy.

They are Fide Master Ziaur Rahman, Fide Master Rifat Bin-Sattar, the current national champion, Ruhul Kabir Shipu, Fide Master Jahangir Ahmed, Hanif, Kalam, Fallah and Toyebur Rahman.

8 share lead in nat'l jr chess

Sports Reporter

Eight players, each with full points, are leading the table after the end of the third round yesterday in the 13th national junior chess championship now being played at the NSC chess room.

They are Fide Master Ziaur Rahman, Fide Master Rifat Bin-Sattar, the current national champion, Ruhul Kabir Shipu, Fide Master Jahangir Ahmed, Hanif, Kalam, Fallah and Toyebur Rahman.

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