

imaginative hockey helped Dhaka Moham- medan Sporting Club to clinch the Senior

Division hockey league title for the sixth time. The dapper little Pakistani was instrumental for all three goals as his side recorded a well deserved 3-1 win over arch rivals and last year's joint sharer of the league title, Abahani Krira Chakra in the most crowdpulling encounter of the Green Delta First Division league at Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Mohammedans, rigged in green, had the better of the exchanges and utilised the chances that came their way, better than their opponents in sky blue. Specially, former Pakistan international Mumtaz Haider was in cracking form again scoring two of the three goals, thus extending his tally to 27 - by far the highest this

Abahani came close to scoring in the first half when Raju crossed from right but Akhtar failed to guide it home from close. Mohammedans took the lead shortly after this in the 27th minute when full back Robi's powerful hit from a Zahid Maqbool penalty corner gave goalie Asir no chance (1-

Mohammedans doubled the margin immediately after the centre with the Abahani defence still pondering over the fault that led to the first goal. Zahid Magbool found Mumtaz Haider absolutely free on the right side with a delectable long pass across the turf. Mumtaz, the tall Karachi

LEAGUE AT A GLANCE Got under way on January

10, 1992. League opener : Abahani beat Bangladesh Sporting 3-

Total goals scored: 347 Highest margin : Abahani beat Sadharan Bima by nine goals to nil.

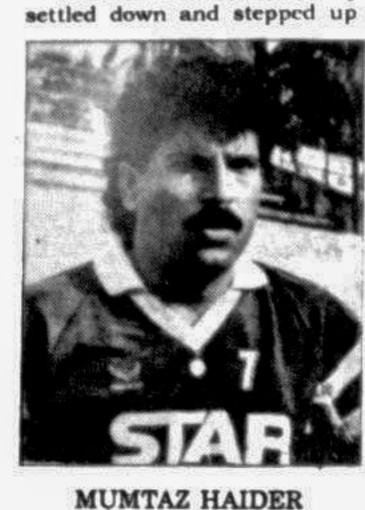
Highest scorer: Mumtaz

Haider of Mohammedans with 27 goals.

Sports Reporter player, galloped a few yards to take a shot at goal; Asir par tially saved but the ball bounced off him and the goal hungry forward swooped on it

diving Asir (2-0). Abahani Krira Chakra slowly

like a hawk to finish it past a



pressure on their opponents, reducing the margin three minutes before the short whistle. Harun pushed a penalty corner, Dolon stopped it for Juman Lusai and the sharpshooter cracked the ball into the goal (2-1).

Abahani retained the aggressive tenor for some time in the second half with Harun. Alamgir and Akhtar combining well. Akhtar missed two fine chances in this half for the sky

blues, failing to tap in two whistling crosses from the

right. At a time when Abahani were shaping up well for the equaliser, Mohammedans scored from a counter attack to put the issue beyond doubt. Zahid again beat the Abahani defence with a scything run down the middle of the Abahani defence and was challenged by an onrushing Asir, but the withd rawn forward got round past the custodian and teed it to a free Mumtaz who had all the ime and space in the world to

put the ball in the cage (3-1). Mohammedans missed a couple of good chances after this with Mumtaz failing to give the finishing touches on two occasions.

The match was held up for a few minutes as supporters of the two sides indulged in their routine brick-batting and police had to intervene to throw cold water on the unlawful passion and zeal of the partisan

Abahani finished the league with 27 points from 15 games. TEAMS

MOHAMMEDANS: Montu, Robi, Nixon, Nannu, Mitul, Jamal, Maqbool, Mumtaz, Chapal, Ashar (Zahid Biswas)

ABAHANI: Asir, Jumman, Mamun, Harun, Raju, Fazal Akhtar, Alamgir, Khurshid, Piru, Dolon.

Umpires: Aslam Belim and

ROLL OF HONOUR:		
Year	Champion	Runners up
1973-74	Mohammedan SC	Wari Club
1974-75	Abahani KC	Sonali Bank
1975-76	Abahani	Sonali Bank
1976-77	Not held	
1977-78	Abahani	Mohammedan
1978-79	Mohammedan	Abahani
1979-80	Mohammedan	Abahani
1980-81	Abahani	Mohammedan
1981-82	Mohammedan	Abahani
1982-83	Abahani	Sadharan Bima
1983-84	Sadharan Bima	Wari
1984-85	Abahani	Sadharan Bima
1985-86	Not held	6 (20 (A)
1986-87	Ajax	Mohammedan
1987-88	Ajax	. Abahani
1988-89	Abahani	Ajax
1990-91	Mohammedan and Abahani (joint)	
1991-92	Mohammedan Sporting Club	

## Pak heroes' triumphant return



29: Scores of Pakistanis greeted their returning World Cup herees with

garlands and rose petals today but thousands more angry cricket fans shut out of the airport terminal welcoming ceremony hurled firecrackers and smoke bombs, reports Reuter.

Shame, Shame, chanted fans carrying the Pakistani flag and dancing at dawn to drums and flutes at Karachi airport.

"They have cheated us." shouted Altaf Shakoor, leader of a right-wing student organisation, after police whisked captain Imran Khan and his team out of the terminal to a

Imran, looking tired after his overnight journey from Australia, was garlanded by officials shouting mubarak,

mubarak (congratulations) on your great achievement."

Imran's team beat England by 22 runs last Wednesday to capture cricket's most glittering prize and notch up Pakistan's greatest sporting

But on his return he repeated criticisms of his country's cricketing establishment. Imran has long campaigned for a regional structure instead of one based on company-sponsored teams.

"We have won despite the Pakistan cricket structure," he told a news conference. "I will appeal to the President of Pakistan, now, in this euphoout of this."

As he spoke, fans in multicoloured headgear, armbands and sweaters portraying the Pakistan Eleven blew trumpets and danced outside the termi-

ria, let the Pakistan cricket structure not get any credit

More than 100 riot police were posted outside the airport hotel where the team was taken to rest before carrying

# b'ball in April

27, says a BABF press release. Teams of the Dhaka First

Division and the district champion teams of the country are eligible to play in the tour-

entries by April 20.

## to England KARACHI, Mar 29

Miandad says

he may not go

Pakistan's most prolific batsman Javed Miandad said today he was doubtful for Pakistan's five-Test tour of England this year, reports Reuter. "I'm undecided about going

to England with the Pakistan team in May," he told reporters after the jubilant Pakistan side arrived back from their cricket World Cup victory in Australia.

"I will assess my fitness and other aspects before making a final decision," said Miandad, who was not included in the initial World Cup squad because of a nagging back injury. Despite the injury he

Pakistan outplayed England to win the final by 22 runs. Captain Imran Khan told reporters his right shoulder had bothered him throughout

scored a key 58 runs in

Melbourne last Wednesday as

weeks rest. He and the rest of the side were due to leave Karachi later for Saudi Arabia for a Moslem

the Cup and he wanted two

pilgrimage to Mecca. Fast bowler Wagar Younis is also being treated for a stress fracture of his spine which forced him to fly back home before the World Cup began.

"Younis's total fitness and his inclusion in the team is very essential for the Pakistan team before the start of the England tour," Imran said.

Pakistan are due to play five Test matches and five one-day internationals during almost four months in England.

### Few friends for Botham

SYDNEY, Mar 29: Cricketer Ian Botham, probably the most unpopular Englishman in Australia, attracted only 57 people to a 100 Australian dollar (75 US) a head charity dinner here, disappointed organisers were quoted as saying Saturday, reports AFP.

The Daily Telegraph Mirror quoted organiser George Hemmings as saying that the soirce on Friday, originally billed as lan Botham and Friends, was renamed an intimate night

Last Tuesday, the eve of the World Cup cricket final in Melbourne, Botham walked out of gala dinner as a female impersonator lampooned Queen Elizabeth.

# Determined BRTC hold PWD

The Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club team which yesterday became the unbeaten champions in the 1992 Green Delta First Division hockey league

Sports Reporter

port men who were led by the



Sport

Corporation and Department-hit it off well in the First Division football league with a two-all draw at the Dhaka Stadium vesterday.

beating arch-rivals Abahani 3-1 in the last and title-deciding match at the Hockey Stadium.

In the only match in the revised schedule of the month of Ramadan, PWD twice took the lead only to lose it to BRTC under the flood lights.

A better side any day than their opponents with Shri Lankan Prem Lal and Packeer Ally, PWD shot into the lead in the 33rd minute of the first half. Masud floated in a fine cross and Prem Lal found the net with a powerful left footer, much to the chagrin of the BRTC custodian Naju (1-0). The goal triggered off a

sense of urgency in the trans

seasoned Proshanto and the clusive Krishna upfront. Krishna, who sought a transfer from current champions Abahani Krira Chakra this year, swerved a flag kick across the PWD goal mouth one minute before the shout whistle and Tipu Khan rose clear to nod it past national youth custodian PWD smarting under the

wound of being robbed of the lead, surged ahead immediately after the resumption of the post breather session. The second half of the match was just four minutes old when Mushtaq, the man who won his spurs with some remarkable instances of marksmanship a couple of years back, ran down the right flank to float a cross in the BRTC goal mouth where Towhid managed to squeeze the ball into the net following

goalmouth melee 2-1.

The fate of the match did not require any reading in the alignment of the stars when BRTC's Proshanto drew level six minutes later with a close range left footed volley 2-2.

Yellow cards: Noman and Prashanto of BRTC, and Packeer Ali of PWD.

TEAMS

PWD SC : Lahul, Shamim Sr Tapan (Shamsuddin), Lokman, Masud, Pakir Ali, Suijit, Jewel, Mostak, Prem Lal and Rakib (Towhid). BRTC SC : Naju, Humayun

Shaheen, Shariful, Jasim (Babu), Noman, Masud, Mahbub (Tipu), Ratan, Prashanto and Krishna.

Referee: M.R. Mukul. TODAY'S MATCH

Dhanmondi vs Arambagh

# Real lead Spanish league



MADRID, Mar 29: Real Madrid snat ched the lead of the Spanish First Division and shoved champions

with a sparkling 3-1 win over Albacete on Saturday, reports Barcelona could only man-

age a feeble 0-0 draw away to lowly Ossuna and are now one point behind Real. Real cruised to their first away victory since Dutch coach

Leo. Beenbhakker took over

two months ago, despite playing the last 14 minutes with only 10 men. Real's superior defence eastly held out isolated attacks from a nervous albacete, fifth in the table, even when Romanian international midfielder George Hagi was sent

second vellow card. Fernando Hierro opened the scoring for Real with a header in the 25th minute set

Eagle volleyball

final today

decide the championship.

5 and 15-13.

Rifles and Army won their

Rifles beat Bangladesh Navy

Navy completed their five

15-12, 15-7 and 15-5 while

Army beat Titas Club 15-7, 15-

team, four match campaign

with four points while Titas

have none from three encoun-

respective matches yesterday.

off in the 65 the minute for his

up from a free-kick by Michael, Hagi powered home a free kick in the 52 and to make it 2-0 and Paco Elorente put away Real's third goal in the 80th with a low drive after the ball rebounded off the post. Abacete's only reply came

five minutes from time with a header from Pedro Corbalan. Barcelona struggled with strategy and were lucky to

hold 17th placed Osasuna - a relegation candidate-to a draw Bulgarian strike Christo Stoichkov was Barcelona's only attacker while leaky defence

almost allowed Osasuna three goals. The nimble fingers of international goalkeeper Antonio Zubizarreta just managed to keep danger away.

MARSEILLE STAY TOP

Meanwhile, another report from Paris says: A first-half effort by England's Chris Waddle helped Marseille cruise to a 2-0 home victory over Le Havre and stay top of the French

German League title reached a

temporary stalemate on

Saturday when they drew 2-2

in a classy top-of-the-table

A 55-th-minute equaliser

Falkenmayer earned Eintracht

a vital away point. But

Dortmund stretched their un-

beaten run to 19 matches to

hold on to their one-point lead

over the Frankfurt side at the

challenge with a 3-2 victory at

home against Hamburg. VFB

are third, though level on

Algerian soccer

coach replaced

soccer coach Abdelhamid

Kermali has been replaced and

six of the national team players

dropped after the side's dismal

performance in the African

Algeria, the defending the

The official news agency

Nation's Cup, reports Reuter.

champions, failed to get be-

yond the first round of the Cup

APS said on Saturday that the

Algerian Football Federation

(FAF) had accused Kermali,

who took charge at the end of

1988, and the six players of

"serious failure to (fulfil) their

APS said two new coaches,

The six players dropped

Abderrahmane Mehdaoui and

Meziane Ighil, had been ap-

from the team were Megharia

Fodil, Menad Djamel,

Benhalima ALi Ferhaoui

Abdelkader, Osmani Antar and

in January.

obligations."

Kadri Djamel.

pointed.

ALGIERS, Mar 29: Algerian

VFB Stuttgart kept up their

midfielder Ralf

clash, reports Reuter.

top of the Bundesliga.

points with Eintracht.

BONN, Mar 29:

The Intense ba-

ttle between Bo-

russia Dortmund

and Eintracht

Frankfurt for the

Waddle opened the scoring for the French champions in

league on Saturday.

the seventh minute and Jean-Pierre Papin put the issue beyond doubt when he scored his 25th goal of the season, 18 minutes from time. Marseille enjoy a two-point

lead over second-placed Monaco with four matches to Monaco warned up for their

European Cup Winners' Cup semifinal clash with Feyenoord Rotterdam on April 1 by taking a 1-0 win at Lens on Friday.

Paris St Germain underlined their claim for a place in European competition next season by winning 1-0 at Nimes. The Paris club, who started the season with eight new players, lie third, six points behind Marseille. Auxerre kept alive their

dreams of playing in Europe by beating Montpellier 1-0 but relegation strugglers Rennes and Nancy could do no better than goalless away draws at Metz and Nantes respectively.

clash was billed as an early

Bundesliga decider ahead of

the final stages of the champi-

onship and victory would have

given either side a major psy-

chological boost ahead of the

a capacity 52,616 crowd in

Dortmund, lived up to expecta-

tions and produced plenty of

The game, played in front of

last eight matches.

goal-mouth action.

## Stalemate in Bundesliga The Dortmund-Frankfurt-

South Maishundi led the

Khokon scored six and Babul got four goals for the winners while Priyotosh net-

TODAY'S MATCHES

Wanderers vs Tarun Sangsad (3pm)

Eintracht made a superb start when Ghanaian striker Anthony Yeboah scored in the third minute. But Borussia struck back seven minutes later with an equaliser from captain Michale Zorc.

Six minutes into the second half German Youth international Gerhard Poschner put the home side ahead for the first time before Eintracht struck back Falkenmayer's equaliser.

Eintracht last won the German League title in 1959 and Dortmund have not picked up the trophy since 1963. Their battle for supremacy looks like going right to the.

Bayern Munich, who have already sacked two coaches this season in a bid to improve their desperate form, suffered another humiliating 3-1 defeat at home in a local derby with Nuremberg.

The 12-times champions slipped down one place to 13th and are moving perilously close to the relegation zone, which would have been unthinkable at the start of the

Coach Erich Ribbeck, who recently took over from the dismissed Dane Soren Lerby. threatened to drop players after the result.

"I think those players who really weren't with it today will be watching from the sidelines next week," Ribbeck said.

## Zia, Riffat lead in active chess Sports Reporter

-Star photo

Youngsters Ziaur Rahman and Riffat Bin-Sattar jointly topped the points table at the completion of the fourth round of the Neptune active chess competition at the chess room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

Both collected four points each with Zia beating Kayes and Lablu and Riffat brushing aside the cerebral challenges of Mintu and Zillur in the third and the fourth rounds respec-

Tahmidur Rahman, who followed a close second along with Mansur Rahman Raja with three and half points, defeated Liton and Reza in the third and fourth rounds while Raja got the better of Abed and Mahboob to finish with three and half.

Zillur Rahman Champak, Lablu, Rezaul Hug, Kabir, Shiplu, Khalid Shawkat, Ali Amjad, Amir, Kalam, Shawkat, Idris Alt and M R Milky stayed in third position with three points apiece.

## results

Cute handball

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Police recorded their seventh victory in the Cute First Division handball league crushing West Jatrabari Krira Chakra 17-6 in a onesided affair at the Outer Stadium handball court yester-

Police led 7-3 at the breather. Salam and Nazrul netted

four goals each for Police while Zafar got three for West Jatrabari. The victory took Police's points tally to 15 from nine

matches while Jatrabari have 10 from ten outings. South Maishundi Krira Chakra posted their second victory beating Victoria

Sporting Club by a dozen goals

to six in the other match of the day. South Maishundi now have four points from eight engagements while Victoria have only two from ten encounters.

first half 5-3.

ted three goals for Victoria.

Rifles vs South Maishundi

## French runners sweep Paris marathon

PARIS, Mar 29 : Luis Soares, with a record time, led a French sweep of the top three places Sunday as the Paris Marathon revived after a oneyear absence, reports AP. Soares finished in 2 hours

10 minutes, 3 seconds for the 26-mile, 385-yard (42.195kilometer) course that passes some of the most famous monuments of the French capital.

He broke the record of 2:10:49 set by another Frenchman, Jacky Boxberger, if 1985.

Pascal Zilliox, 2:11:11, and Jean-Baptiste Protais, 2:12:23, were second and third for France. Hungary's Casba Czucs was fourth in 2:12:34. The two-Time champion,

Ahmed Salah of Djibouti, was eighth, more than three minutes behind Soares. Salah won in 1989 and 1990, but the race was canceled last year because of financial difficulties. Tatiana Titova, a Russian,

won the women's competition

in 2:31:12, beating her own record time of 2:34:23. Frenchwomen Sylvie Bornet and Marie-Helene Ohier took second and third.

About 15,000 people entered the race.

#### Tendulkar admits Yorkshire approach BOMBAY, Mar 29: be discussing anything until India's teenage



cricket sensation

Sachin Tendulkar

SACHIN TENDULKAR first overseas player, reports

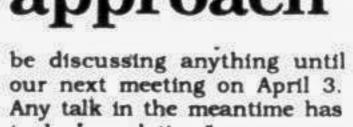
"Yes, they've asked me to join, but so far they have not sent me any contract," he said. The 18-year-old batsman,

who averaged 47.16 in the World Cup, said he had been trying to avoid talking to reporters since returning from Australia. "Some things have yet to be discussed with Yorkshire," he said. "I have not yet made up my

mind," he added. Yorkshire were left seeking a replacement overseas player

earlier this month when Australian fast bowler Craig McDermott, the first overseas player to be signed by the county, pulled out through in-

Cricket chairman Brian Close said on Friday: "We won't



to be speculation." Tendulkar, who would be Yorkshire's first non-white player, is rated as one of the best batsmen in the world and was one of the few Indians to enhance his reputation in

He made his Test debut at the age of 16 during the 1989 tour of Pakistan.

## Protea to replace Springbok

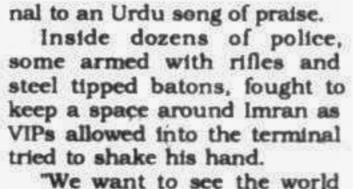
PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa, Mar 29: A Protea flower will replace the Springbok bird as the emblem for South African athletes at the Barcelona Olympics, the National and Olympic Sports Congress (NOSC) announced Saturday, reports AFP.

NOSC president Mluleki George told a press conference here the Springbok, which has for decades been the unofficial name of South African sporting teams, was associated with

apartheid. For most black people it represented the decades they were excluded from national sports squads because of the colour of their skins, he added. The Protea is South Africa's

national flower. George said the NOSC executive had also decided that neither the South African flag nor the national anthem would be used at this year's Olympics, though the green and gold colours would be used.

South African athletes will end a 32-year-long apartheidenforced Olympic isolation at Barcelona in July, provided unity is achieved between the different controlling bodies.



Cup with our own eyes," shouted one official as the team raised the Cup shoulderhigh and were showered with rose petals. The team originally planned to go to Lahore, Imran's home city, for a huge reception. But Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif

Saudi Arabia for a Moslem pilgrimage to Mecca. They were due to leave this evening. Some airport and security officials said they suggested that Imran lead his team out to greet the crowd but he re-

invited them to carry on to

Instead, he sent vice-captain Javed Miandad to wave briefly to the crowd but the veteran batsman was mostly hidden behind tall policemen.

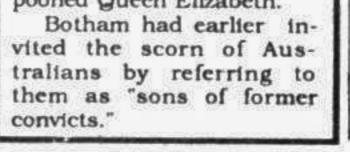
Sports Reporter

## on to Saudi Arabia. Federation Cup

The 5th Federation Cup basketball championship organized by the Bangladesh Amateur Basketball Federation (BABF) will begin from April

Teams willing to take part have been asked to send their

#### Sports Reporter with Ian Botham when it Bangladesh Army and Bangbecame clear that only ladesh Rifles are jointly seven tables were required. sharing the lead with full six "We've lost a lot of money points from three outings each in the 1992 MV Eagles Indepon this," Hemmings added. The report blamed the endence Day volleyball competurnout on the "sarcasm and insulting behaviour" of The two will clash at three Botham, whom it described this afternoon at the Outer as a" Ruffian royalist." Stadium volleyball court to





Pakistani cricket fans dance outside the Karachi Airport to welcome the victorious World Cup cricket team on March 29. - AFP photo