

Inter-club transfers begin Biman confirm bookings

Sports Reporter

In the room men came, gathered, smoked, while some of them took forms, completed them and left the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) office in a general atmosphere of gloom and despair.

In short, the first day of the inter-club transfers for Senior Division cricketers passed quietly yesterday with no sensational signing being recorded.

Eighteen players took the official forms, or tokens, for transfer and submitted them in favour of the teams of their choices with Bangladesh Biman retaining or gaining the services of a maximum nine cricketers. Four players — last year's skipper Shah Nawaz Shaheed Shanu, Enamul Huq Moni, Zakaria Imtiaz and Mohammad Rafiq — decided to stay back in the airlines team.

Although Shanu, Moni and Zakaria had made their intentions clear a few days back, left arm seamer Rafiq was caught in two minds as Mohammedans, last year's champions, aired an offer earlier on. Fed up with the failures of Mohammedan officials Rafiq took the wisest decision of staying with his last year's club.

Mahbubur Rahman Selim, the exciting right-hand batsman and leg-spinner who did so well for runners up Abahani last year put his ailed allegiance for Biman in black and white while Ahmed Fayaz Shaheen the tall PWD all-rounder also signed for Biman who seemed to be on a predestined, budget-wise shopping spree before the others.

Ziaur Rashid Rupam, a promising all-rounder and paceman Mizanur Rahman Babul both from Gulshan Youth, were among the other unsensational but useful collections. Debashish Barooah, the Victoria wicketkeeper, will be Biman's number one stumper.

While national and Mohammedan skipper Minhazul Abedin Nannu loafed around with a long face in a pair of blue jeans and orange T-shirt, Victoria Sporting Club looked all set to make their presence felt in their first year in the Navana Premier league. Victoria gave the first taste of excitement when Raja Venkat, the experienced left handed batsman and all-rounder Gautam Some from Calcutta appeared in persons to put their signatures for the babes. Former national captain Riquibul Hassan told the Daily Star, "We have finalised talks with Golan Nowsher Prince". Raguibul's son Sajid and left arm spinner

Saikat were the two new purchases. With the newly introduced pool system rendering many fortune seeking cricketers rootless, teams like Victoria are going to spring many more surprises in the next few

hammedans took their tokens but did not submit them, with the latter almost sure to quit the champions.

Saiful Islam, regarded as the quickest bowler in the country, was in search of a



Shah Nawaz Shaheed Shanu, like his teammate Enamul Huq Moni, yesterday resolved to stay with Biman for another season. —Star photo

With Mohammedan and Abahani — the two most popular clubs fighting shy on the first day — gossip about some dramatic turnarounds filled the air. Minhazul Abedin Nannu, frustrated by the silence of Mohammedan officials was heard to have started talks with Abahani Kira Chakra. The star batsman is expected to take his token today.

Leg spinner Waheedul Ghan's prolonged honeymoon with Mohammedans might be over this year as he is also getting the cold treatment from the officials.

Aminul Islam Bulbul and Mohammad Ali of Mo-

team along with his GMCC peer and wicketkeeper Nasir Ahmed Nasu.

The eighteen players who took tokens and submitted them yesterday were Enamul Huq Moni, Shah Nawaz Shaheed Shanu, Mahbubur Rahman Selim, Ahmed Fayaz Shaheen, Zakaria Imtiaz, Mizanur Rahman Babul, Md Rafiq, Debashish Barooah, Ismail Miah, Ziaur Rashid Rupam, Kazi Ikram Mustafiz Paplu, Samir Rahman, Shawkat Hossain, Abu Zafar, Md Shafayetul Islam Kiron, Saiful Alam Cowdhury, Jewel Hossain, Sajid Hassan, Sarfudowla Ibne Shahid Saikat.



Goutam Shome, a former Bengal Ranji right-arm medium pacer signed to play for Victoria Sporting this season at the BCCB office yesterday. Raja Venkat, (R) the veteran left-hand batsman who toured Bangladesh as a member of the West Bengal side last year, will play for Victoria Sporting in the Navana Premier cricket league during the coming season. He put his signature on the dotted lines yesterday at the BCCB's Dhaka Stadium office. —Star photo

Hungarian club to protest police action

BUDAPEST, Sept 18: Hungarian club Ferencvaros will protest to the European Football Union

over brutal police treatment of their fans in Bratislava, technical manager Mihaly Havasi said on Thursday, reports Reuters.

"What We, Ferencvaros leaders, saw in the stadium was inhuman. We saw it happen in front of our eyes. It was dreadful, horrible," Havasi told Reuters.

"We will appeal to UEFA, absolutely. This is the least our fans can expect from us," he added.

Havasi said Slovakian commandos, wearing black masks and armed with long truncheons, had charged into crowds of Hungarian fans beating people at random during Wednesday's European Cup match, which Slovan Bratislava won 4-1 in front of a 25,000-strong crowd.

"They beat up here 30 people, then they moved on and beat up 50 in some other part of the sector," he said. Havasi added: "Never in my life have I seen such horror. These beasts with black masks stormed into the crowd, beating up all irrespective of whether the person was a boy or a girl," Havasi said. "People who fell to the ground

were kicked as long as they moved," he added. Some people had tear gas sprayed into their faces at the entrance to the stadium. Others were searched with their necks pressed against the wall with a truncheon, he said.

But a police report prepared by a Hungarian police officer who travelled with Ferencvaros supporters said fans were to blame.

"This report says all the actions of the Slovakian police were provoked by Hungarian fans," national police spokesman Gyorgy Suha told Reuters.

Police Major General Andras Turos, the chief director of Public Order for the Hungarian Police, went to Bratislava before the match to brief his Slovakian colleagues about the behaviour of Ferencvaros fans.

Hard-core Ferencvaros fans are notorious in Hungary for their hooliganism. But eyewitnesses say Slovakian police had clearly overreacted on Wednesday.

"I doubt if a girl of 16, beaten up there, was hardcore," Laszlo Szabolcs, a photographer of Hungarian weekly Reform told Reuters.

The Czechoslovak CSTK news agency said 60 fans were escorted from the ground, but it was not clear whether they were all Hungarian.

Hungary's Consul in

Bratislava Lajos Varadi said he had been told by Bratislava's deputy police chief that there had been no serious injuries.

Asked if the attack was "a beating of Hungarians" Varadi said: "People who complained to us described the event as such, that they were beaten indiscriminately. But Slovakian police said their action was a preventive measure."

The Hungarian Soccer Association MLSZ will meet today to decide whether to file its own complaint, Havasi said.

Roberto plays his part in Vasco's victory

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept 18: Veteran Brazilian striker Roberto, who played in the 1978 World Cup, scored the final goal as Vasco Da Gama beat Americano 3-0 in a Rio de Janeiro soccer championship match on Thursday, reports Reuters.

It was the second goal in the competition for the 38-year-old player, who was recalled to the first team following the sale of striker Bebeto to Spanish club La Coruna.

The result put Vasco, who have not conceded a goal in their six games in the competition, level on points with Fluminense, who lead the first stage on goal difference.



The East Bengal Sporting Club custodian makes a spectacular save to thwart a Malibagh attack in yesterday's Sonali Bank Second Division football league match at the Dhaka Stadium. Malibagh Avijatrik still edged past East Bengal 2-1. —Star photo

Shri Lanka agree on tri-nation bid

COLOMBO, Sept 18: Sri Lanka agreed on Thursday to join India and Pakistan in a joint bid to host the 1995 World Cup, the Board of Control of Cricket in Sri Lanka said, reports Reuters.

It said Indian representative J Dalmiya and Sri Lankan board chairman Tyrone Fernando worked out the framework of the proposal at a meeting in Colombo.

India and Pakistan, who decided a week ago to make a joint bid and ask Sri Lanka to join them as co-hosts, together staged the fourth World Cup in 1987 — the first time it was held outside England.

The fifth World Cup was held early this year in Australia and New Zealand.

South Africa and England have also said they will bid to host the next World Cup.

Chris Cowdrey retires

LONDON, Sept 18: Former England batsman Chris Cowdrey, who played in six Tests including one against the West Indies as captain in 1988, has retired from first-class cricket, reports Reuters.

Cowdrey, 34, who joined Kent in 1976 and led them between 1985 and 1990 before being released last year, has suffered from a persistent knee injury. He left Welsh county Glamorgan by mutual consent earlier this summer.

In almost 300 first-class matches, Cowdrey scored more than 12,000 runs with 21 centuries at an average of nearly 32. His right-arm seam bowling earned him 200 wickets at a shade under 40 runs.

Kabaddi zonals Oct 16-17

Sports Reporter

The Division-level qualifying meet for the fourth national youth under-19 kabaddi championship under the aegis of the Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation (BKF) will be held on October 16 and 17 at the four Divisional headquarters, says a press release.

Gullit pulls out of Dutch World Cup qualifier

AMSTERDAM, Sept 18: Dutch national team captain Ruud Gullit has pulled out of next week's 1994 World Cup qualification round opener against Norway for "personal reasons," the Dutch federation said Friday, reports AP.

Dutch Federation spokesman Ger Stolk refused to be more specific about the reasons for the withdrawal.

Replacing the AC Milan striker in Oslo on Sept 23 will be Gaston Taument of Feyenoord Rotterdam. The squad will be led by vice captain Marco van Basten, Stolk said.

Gullit's flair on offense has warned recently, with AC Milan coach Silvio Berlusconi benching the former European player of the year several times at this season's start.



RUUD GULLIT

He has also had several knee operations since leading Holland to the 1988 European Championship title.

Besides Taument and Van Basten, the Dutch team will be comprised of: Stanley Menzo, Sonny Silooy, Danny Blind, Frank de Boer, Dennis Bergkamp, Ed de Goey, Rob Witschge, Wim Rijkard, Ronald Koeman, Jan Wouters, Aron Winter and John van't Schip.



Biman sports official Nur Muhammad Khan (L) looks on as several players including Shah Nawaz Shaheed Shanu and Enamul Huq Moni (3rd and 4th from left) get their tokens from a BCCB official on the first day of the inter-club transfers for the coming Premier League season yesterday. —Star photo

East Bengal clinch Bordoloi trophy



GUWAHATI, Sept 18: East Bengal played aggressive soccer to trounce BSF Jullundhur, 3-0 and win the Bordoloi soccer trophy at the Nehru Stadium here today, reports PTI.

Krishnendu Roy opened the account for the Calcutta club while Nigerians Chibuzor and Christopher completed the tally.

It was sweet revenge for East Bengal who had lost to BSF in the last quarter final league match here by a solitary goal and the glamour club did it in style.

The game began in a fast pace with both the teams enjoying their share in front of the goal but it was BSF who came tantalisingly close to scoring when and Avtar Singh shot from close range touched the hands of the East Bengal custodian Debashish Mukherjee and rebounded off the bar for Swarup Das to make a goal line clearance.

East Bengal drew first bloods when Chibuzor collected the ball in front of the BSF box and passed it on to Tushar Rakshit who in turn passed it to Krishnendu Roy whose shot from close range beat the goalkeeper Bibhas Saha in the 25th minute of the first half.

Thereafter the Calcutta club had a number of opportunities to score and on one occasion Chibuzor, who was slightly off colour today, beat the BSE custodian but failed to put it into the net.

Immediately after that

skipper Kuljit Singh, who also had a bad day on the field, missed a sitter when he failed to connect when a Tushar Rakshit header rebounded off the bar.

Early in the second half, Chibuzor made amends by

Tapie triggers controversy

PARIS, Sept 18: Olympique Marseille chief Bernard Tapie sparked controversy here on Friday when he suggested that France should play their next World Cup qualifier in his football-mad city, reports AFP.

The idea was given short shrift by the French Football Federation, but backed by a dozen internationalists eager to redeem themselves after losing 2-0 to Bulgaria last week.

They are now due to face Group 6 rivals Austria on October 14 at the Parc Des Princes here.

Tapie told L'Equipe newspaper: "We absolutely have to win. The crowd have an important role to play and I can guarantee you that at the Stade Velodrome, it would be right behind the French team."

It would be one hell of a night... And it would certainly worry the Austrians."

But the federation gave two reasons for dismissing the idea. Under competition rules, the Austrians are entitled to four months' notice of the venue and have already made travel arrangements.

There is also the plight of 4,000 season-ticket holders, who have already paid to see France's home matches in Paris.

scoring the second goal for his team following a crisp pass from substitute Jhantu Dey.

Kashem tops chess qualifying meet

Sports Reporter

Abul Kashem Bhuiyan of BTMC emerged unbeaten champion of the qualifying tournament for the international rating chess competition scheduled for October.

In his last match of the eight-round Swiss league meet yesterday at the NSC chess room, Kashem drew with Ali Amjad Mintu to finish with seven points, winning six and drawing the other two.

Three players ended their engagements securing six and a half point each. Second to fourth places were decided through the Buscholtz tie-breaking system.

Qazi ANM Ruhul Quddus, who led jointly with Kashem till the sixth round, failed to keep up and in the end settled for the second spot with 38 points in the tie-break.

Qazi Mahmudunnabi Lenin and Rezaul Kabir Liton placed third and fourth respectively.

Players who secured places ranging from fifth to twelfth, are: Ranadev Das Gupta, Almasur Rahman, Ali Amjad Mintu, Mizanur Rahman Labu, S Islam, Hashim Hassan, Hanif, Taimur Nur and Tatyabur Rahman.

The top twelve players of this tournament which featured 105 players qualified for the international chess meet to be held in the city early October.

Asian jr hockey at semis stage

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 18: Pakistan play South Korea and India meet Malaysia in Monday's semifinals of the second Asian junior field hockey cup championships, reports AP.

At the end of group matches Friday, Pakistan topped Group A with a perfect eight points and Malaysia were runnerup with six points, having lost only to Pakistan.

In Group B, India was on top with eight points after winning all four of their matches while South Korea had six points after losing only to India.

In Friday's matches, South Korea defeated Bangladesh 5-1 after leading 4-0 at halftime. India thrashed Singapore 11-0 after leading 5-0 at halftime, and Oman defeated Sri Lanka 4-0 with all goals coming in the first half.

Saturday is a rest day, and matches for minor placings will be played on Sunday.

The top three teams from the meet will qualify for the World Junior Cup in Barcelona in September.

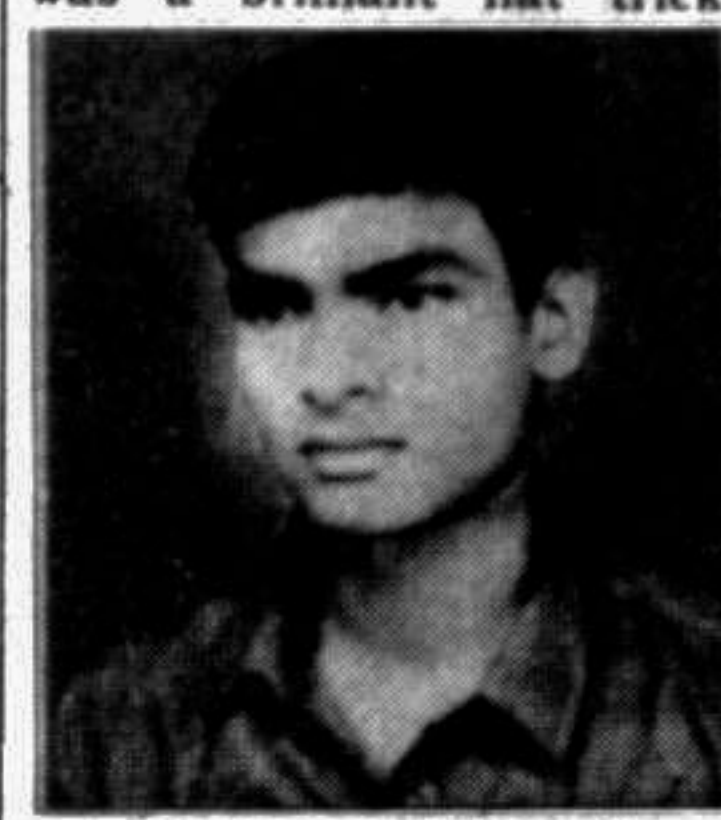
Standings after Friday's games in the second Asian junior field hockey cup championships:

GROUP A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Pakistan	4	4	0	0	29	3	8
Malaysia	4	3	0	1	16	7	6
Japan	4	1	1	2	8	10	3
Oman	4	1	1	2	7	17	3
Sri Lanka	4	0	0	4	0	23	0
GROUP B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
India	4	4	0	0	21	3	8
South Korea	4	3	0	1	17	5	6
Bangladesh	4	1	1	2	9	9	3
China	4	1	1	2	4	6	3
Singapore	4	0	0	4	3	31	0

Deaf soccer

Tongi IRPH Centre clinched the first deaf soccer title by beating Dhaka Deaf Sangha 4-1 in the final held yesterday in the city, says a press release.

The highlight of the match was a brilliant hat trick



TANVEER RATHAN

slammed by the Tongi skipper

Tanveer Rathan. Four teams took part in the competition organised by the Bangladesh Deaf Sports Federation.

Days in Italy help Matthaeus mature



BONN, Sept 18: Nobody need tell Lothar Matthaeus that there is a very thin line between glory and disaster in soccer. He has learned all about it in the past two years, reports Reuters.

In 1990, the German experienced the biggest moment of his career when he lifted the World Cup trophy for his country amongst deafening celebrations in Rome's Olympic Stadium.

Last June, while the Germans were preparing to contest the finals of the European Championship, the diminutive midfielder lay on a treatment bench struggling to recover from a knee injury that threatened to end his career in his early 30s.

The contrasting experiences have left their mark on Matthaeus as he prepares to return to action, after a five-month layoff, for his new club Bayern Munich in the Bundesliga on Saturday following his move from Internazionale Milan.

The 31-year-old German captain paints a dark picture of being down and out in the Italian First Division, the richest and most glamorous league in the world.

Matthaeus was a hero in Milan when he inspired Inter to the 1989 Italian title and the 1991 UEFA Cup. But his experience of being discarded because he was injured forced him to quit the country and return home.

"The injury opened my eyes about Italian football. When a player is injured or no longer can produce the right form, he is thrown away," Matthaeus said.

"I don't have a bad conscience (about the way I left Inter). The club did nothing at all for me for four months. Then I realised that as far as Inter were concerned, I was just rubbish."

After four years at Bayern when he guided them to three consecutive German league titles, Matthaeus left Bavaria in 1988 for a lucrative contract with Inter.

After guiding the Milan club to the league title in his first season, he produced some brilliant performances in the 1990 World Cup, many of them

in his adopted north Italian city.

But when Matthaeus underwent knee surgery last season many began to doubt

whether he would be able to return to his best and lead the national team again.

It is great credit to Matthaeus's inborn determina-

tion that he has been able to recover so quickly.

"Many said that a 30-year-old is finished when he gets a serious injury like that. But I knew I was still ambitious and said to myself that I should do everything to get back to the performances that everybody remembers me for," he said.

His return to fitness is good news for German national team coach Berti Vogts as he prepares a team to defend the World Cup in the United States in 1994.

Despite reaching the final at the European Championship, Germany missed Matthaeus's inspiration in midfield. Vogts near really found a successful replacement despite his experiments with Matthias Sammer, Andy Moeller and Stefan Effenberg.

Matthaeus is only 10 caps away from equalling Franz Beckenbauer's record of 103 appearances for his country. It was Beckenbauer's role as vice president at Bayern that helped to lure Matthaeus back to Munich.

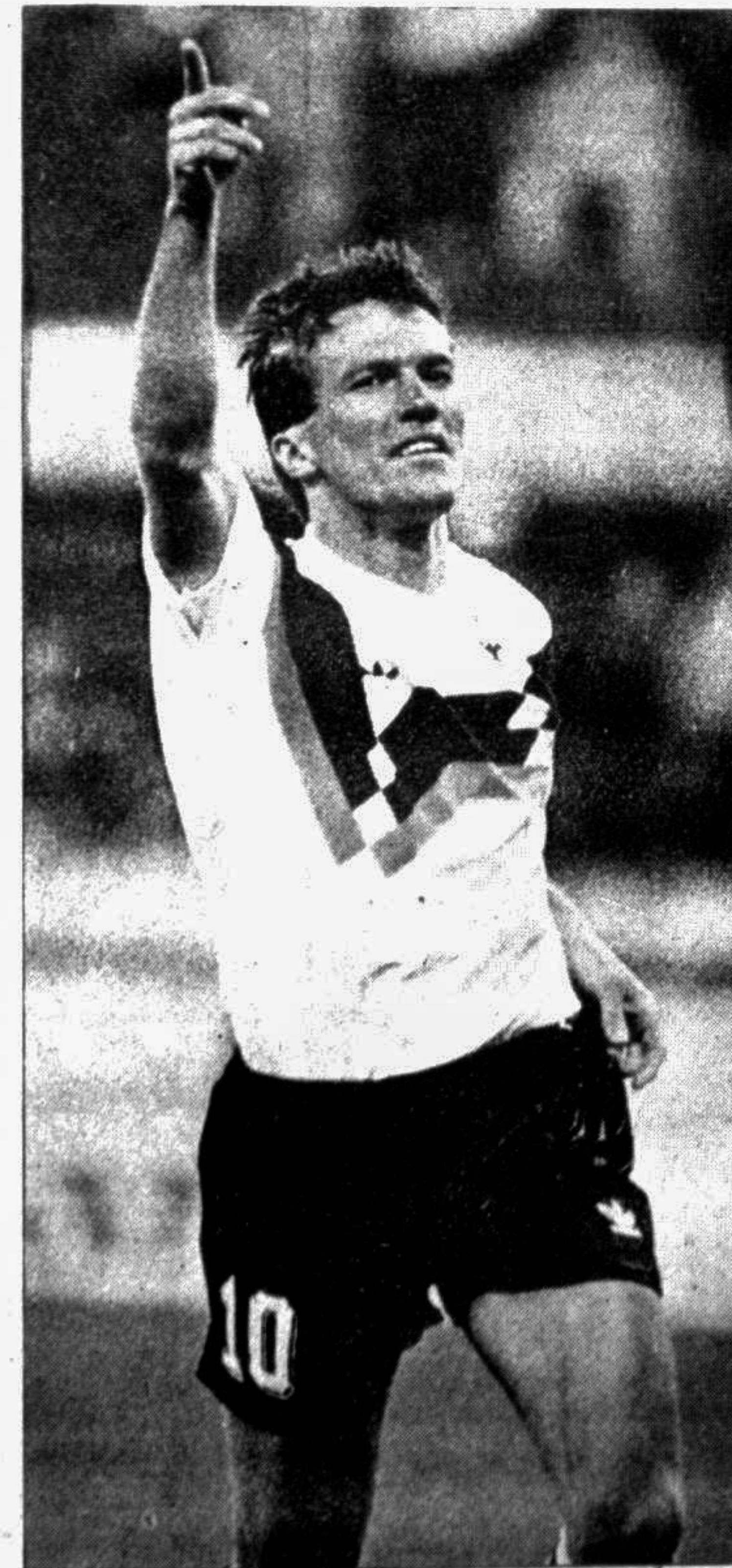
"Munich has also been my love. I never lost contact with Franz Beckenbauer, (business manager) Uli Hoeneß and some of the players," he said. "Of course, I won't score three goals in my first match. But the old Lothar Matthaeus will soon return."

After a disastrous last season when they could finish only 10th, Bayern will be looking to Matthaeus to help them continue their superb start to the season. Bayern, who play Wattenscheid on Saturday, top the league with 10 points from five games.

Matthaeus, who trained as a home-furnishings fitter before he took up soccer, is better suited to deal with the pressure than he was in his wild, younger days when he had a reputation for talking a lot but saying very little of substance.

Matthaeus, whose girlfriend Lolita recently gave birth to a son, said his experiences in Italy had helped him to mature.

"You mature with age. I see many things very differently now. I would have got more experience in Germany, too but the Italian mentality helped me to stop seeing everything so narrowly and have more fun doing things," he said.



LOTHAR MATTHAEUS

Div II soccer

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Boys Club and Mahakhali XI shared points after their alleged put-up affair ended in a two-all draw in the Sonali Bank Second Division football league at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Byazid and Mustafiz scored for Bangladesh Boys and Kamruzzaman and Apu for Mahakhali.

Malibagh Abhijatrik beat East Bengal Sporting Club 2-1 in the violence-marred other match of the day.

Reportedly the players and officials of East Bengal Club chased referee Rafiqul Islam and harshly beat him up.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Lalbagh SC vs Shantinagar Club (2:45 pm: Dhaka Stadium)
City Club vs Azad SC (4:15 pm: Dhaka Stadium)