

MSC-Abahani semifinal today

Sports Reporter
Mohammedan Sporting Club and Abahani Krira Chakra, the two most popular clubs of the country, fight it off for a place in the final of the 14th Darnal Summer cricket tournament today at the Dhaka Stadium.

Reigning Darnal champions Abahani finished as the Group X champion with straight victories against Victoria Sporting and Brothers Union.

Mohammedans, who suffered a shock defeat to the Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club, scrambled into the last quarter with a thumping eight-wicket victory against Bangladesh Biman.

This year's unprecedented clash between the two local giants at the semifinal stage was further precipitated by Mohammedans' six-run loss to GMCC and an ignominious and politic defeat by Brothers to Abahani.

Although Mohammedans have an edge over their opponents on paper, nerves and fielding may prove the deciding factors in today's match.

Talking to The Daily Star Abahani skipper Gazi Ashraf Lipu said, "I would like to field first and if we are chasing, Athulua Samarakerera who seems to have fallen in a bad patch, may be promoted as an opener."

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) has announced the rate of tickets for today's battle royale. VIP Gate 1 has been fixed at taka 50. VIP Gate No 3 will cost Taka 30 for every entry, while Gate No 3B will cost Taka 20.

Taka 10 has been fixed for the general galleries.

Jamal's hat-trick leads Jessore to nat'l soccer qtrs
Our Correspondent

MYMENSINGH, Nov 5: A brilliant hat-trick by Gazi Jamal Hossain powered Jessore to a convincing 4-1 victory against Bandarban DSA in the final round of the 17th national soccer championship for the Sher-e-Bangla Cup here at the Mymensingh Stadium this afternoon.

Jessore will play the 16th national soccer runners-up Dhaka University in the quarterfinals on November 10.

Both teams were locked 1-1 at the lemon break.

Jamal put Jessore in the lead in the 37th minute while Shaiful Islam restored parity for Bandarban in the very next minute (1-1).

Azizur Rahman once again put Jessore ahead in the 53rd minute (2-1).

Jamal scored his second goal of the match to increase the margin for Jessore in the 78th minute (3-1). He notched up his hat-trick to complete the tally for the winners three minutes from time (4-1).

Zahidul Islam of Jessore and Ariful Islam of Bandarban were booked by referee M R Mukul for rough play.

TOMORROW'S MATCH
Khulna vs Narayanganj (2:30 pm)

DU cricket
Sports Reporter

Fine all-round performance by Saifullah helped Department of Soil Science to record a massive eight wicket win over Social Welfare Department in the inter-department cricket championship at the Jagannath Hall ground yesterday.

Saifullah claimed three wickets for ten runs as Social Welfare were booked for a paltry 67 in 29.5 overs. Rana was the only batsman to reach the double figures with 16. Lipu scored nine as wickets fell like nine pins.

Dr Didarul Alam, a teacher of Soil Science Department took 2 for 19.

Saifullah played a prominent role when Social Science batted after lunch. Chasing a target of 68 for victory they posted 71 for two in just 18.3 overs with Saifullah top scoring with 23. Shaiful Alam scored 14.

Abdullah Al Zahid of Social Welfare took one wicket for 11 runs.

DU basketball
Department of Finance outclassed Applied Physics 73-29 in the Dhaka University inter-department basketball championship at the university gymnasium yesterday.

Finance's Imon, the highest scorer of the match, had 22 points to his credit. Wahed of the same team scored 16 followed by teammates Razik 14 and Raifan 12.

Anup was the lone cager of the losers to reach the double figures. He scored 10.

CSWA symposium
A symposium to mark the fifteenth founding anniversary of the Comilla Sports Writers' Association will be held today at 5 pm at the Comilla Stadium pavilion, says a press release.

Azad Boys dethrone Angels

Sports Reporter
Azad Boys Club, the most disciplined outfit in last year's senior division basketball league had the greatest moment in their experience when they disposed of holders Angels Club 42-33 in the last match of the Partex First Division basketball league at the wooden-floor gymnasium yesterday.

Comprising players from last year's scratched outfit Vega, Azad Boys pulled off a victory yesterday to exact a fine revenge. Vega, who had been following close to the heels of last year's eventual champions Angels, got themselves dumped in the cold by a court verdict over a rumpus about a foreign player.

Azad, who emerged as the unbeaten champions yesterday, trailed Angels 11-13 in the first half.

In a spirited second half rally Azad players not only faced the deficit but established an unassailable lead over the taller Angels players to lift the title.

The resurrected Vega, undergoing a transmigration of souls in this year Azad Boys, had their heroes in Asghar and

Zaheer. The former top scorer in the low scoring match with 17 points, while Zaheer, the highest individual scorer in the league with 93 points, managed 11.

Dulal, the tall national player of the vanquished, scored 14 while his teammate Rehan chipped in with six.

Azad Boys, who won all their league matches, secured maximum ten points in the super league.

Angels, who prepared themselves intensively for six months under national coach Bulbul, had the mortification of finishing runners-up with nine points.

Last year's fortunate runners-up Dhaka Winners Club, who made the most of a wilful decision by the Bangladesh Amateur Basketball Federation (BABF) came third in the race with eight points out of five super league outings.

Dhaka Wanderers Club, who finished last in the eleven-team Partex league, hampered by frequent postponements slid down to Second Division.

Asif Hossain and Asif Zafar both of Winners finished as second and third highest indi-

vidual scorers with 90 and 89 respectively after Azad's Zaheer who stole the show with 93.

The prize distribution ceremony of the 1992 Partex First Division basketball league will be held today at 7:30 pm at the conference room of the National Sports Council. Finance Minister Saifur Rahman is expected to give away the prizes as chief guest. State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain will grace the function as special guest.

TEAMS
AZAD BOYS CLUB: Zahir, Mont, Junaid, Ashgar, Aklas, Abed, Sohan, Gazi, Mustaque, Altaf, Antis and Ahmed.
ANGELS CLUB: Rehan, Mitra, Mamun, Dulal, Riz, Sabir, Jamies, Mintu, Jamil, Kabir and Siddique.

Following is the points table of the 1992 Partex First Division super league.

Teams	M	W	L	P
Azad Boys Club	5	5	0	10
Angels Club	5	4	1	9
Winners Club	5	3	2	8
The Greys	5	2	3	7
Dharmetu Club	5	1	4	6
Panthers Club	5	0	5	3



Players and officials of Azad Boys Club, the newly-crowned champions of the Partex First Division basketball league. Azad beat last year's champions Angels 42-33 at the wooden-floor gymnasium yesterday.

Tame draw at Bulawayo

BULAWAYO, Zimbabwe, Nov 5: The first cricket Test between Zimbabwe and New Zealand ended in a draw on the fifth day today when bad light stopped play 50 minutes before the scheduled close, reports Reuter.

Scores: New Zealand 325 for three declared and 222 for five declared; Zimbabwe 219 and 193 for one.

At tea, Zimbabwe had slowly worked their way to 109 for one in 52 overs with Kevin Arnott on 52, and left-hander Alistair Campbell on nine.

Openers Arnott and Grant Flower, who made 45, put on 92 for the first wicket to blunt the New Zealand attack and make the game safe for Zimbabwe.

Set 329 to win after the visitors had declared their second innings on 222 for five in the morning, Zimbabwe were 218 runs behind with nine wickets in hand and only two hours before the scheduled close.

An earlier AFP report said: A Test-best return of six for

113 from offspinner Dipak Patel and some brisk scoring by the top order batsmen in the second innings put New Zealand 269 runs ahead going into the final day of the first Test against Zimbabwe.

Mark Greatbatch posted his second fifty of the match as he and Rod Latham also registered their second century opening stand of the game — a New Zealand Test record.

At the close of the fourth day's play, Greatbatch was on 80 and vice-captain Andrew Jones on 31 with the Kiwis on 163 for one.

Captain Martin Crowe wanted at least 150 second innings runs on the board at this stage so he will be highly satisfied with the events of the day.

His only dilemma now will

be when to declare on the last day to set up a Zimbabwe fourth innings run chase. With his top order batsmen scoring an virtually five runs per over so far in their second innings, his options remain a little more flexible.

Patel, the 34-year-old all-rounder from Auckland, admitted later that his return of 6-113 "Rates more than anything else I've achieved in terms of my bowling."

"I obviously also enjoyed my 4-87 against England at Wellington but then you don't pick up easy wickets in Test cricket."

This was the first time Patel had been entrusted with the new ball in a Test innings and he certainly relished the opportunity.

"It was agreed beforehand that I would be used as an attacking bowler, bowling to attacking fields, and it was satisfying to do well on such a slow wicket."

Although Patel did obtain some gentle flight that he posed the greatest threat to the Zimbabwe batsmen and his capture of Houghtons wicket — as he attempted to cup — gave him the greatest satisfaction.

Bishop boosts Richardson's confidence

PERTH, Nov 5: West Indies skipper Richie Richardson's eyes lit up here today as he enthused about the potential ace in his pack for this summer's five-Test series against Australia, reports AFP.

Richardson could hardly conceal his glee over the fiery exhibition by fast bowler Ian Bishop in the tourists' impressive 28-run win over Western Australia in a limited-overs clash at the WACA ground on

Wednesday night when he took three for 21 in the first major game of the three-month tour.

Bishop was rated the world's fastest bowler before being bedevilled by back problems which forced him out of

the game for 18 months until earlier this year.

The 25-year-old began his comeback by completing a successful, untroubled season with Derbyshire in England in the past northern summer and looms as a big threat to Australian batsmen if he can maintain his form and fitness.

"I am a bit surprised he charged in the way he did on a wicket that was not helpful," beamed Richardson.

"I am confident he is now 100 per cent fit, and I am pretty sure he will be able to bowl in long spells when we get to the longer games."

"He really looked rather sharp. He bowled fast and accurately and I am very impressed."

So, too, was Western Australian skipper and possible Test opening batsman Geoff Marsh, bowled around his legs by Bishop for two.

"He obviously bowled well," said a rueful Marsh.

Richardson said he was so pleased with Bishop's performance the big right-hander from Trinidad and Tobago would probably be rested for the four-day clash against Western Australia starting here Friday.

Another tourist who may sit on the sidelines for this game is veteran opener Desmond Haynes, 36, who gave further

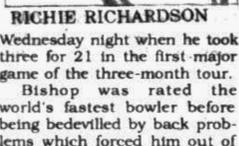
comfort to Richardson by hitting a polished 44, showing he has overcome a nagging back complaint.

"Des is okay," Richardson said. "He is an old war-horse, he is all right."

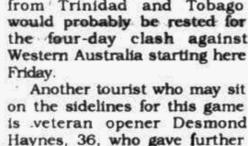
Richardson confirmed Phil Simmons, who missed Wednesday's game, would open in the four-day meeting.

But no decisions would be made until later on who will open with him, the captain said.

If Haynes is rested, Brian Lara seems likely to get the



IAN BISHOP



RICHIE RICHARDSON

Pragati top Div II qualifiers

Sports Reporter
Dhanmondi Pragati Sangha emerged as the champions in the qualifying meet for the Second Division cricket league by beating Evergreen Cricket Club by a flattering 105 runs in the log overdue final at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

The final, initially scheduled for last June, was postponed several times due to various reasons.

However, the match was purely of academic interest since both teams have already qualified for the Second Division league next season.

The Dhanmondi Pragati Sangha skipper Ranjan won the toss and elected to bat.

Opener Rahel scored 60 with the help of seven boundaries while Showmick got 34 off 28 balls as the Dhanmondi side made 199 runs for the loss of six wickets in the stipulated 30 overs.

Habib with 20, Biplab with 16 and Rafiqul with 12 were the other notable scorers for Dhanmondi Pragati Sangha.

Imrul and Zayed took one wicket apiece for Evergreen Cricket Club.

Facing a huge total, the Evergreen batsmen soon lost heart and were bundled out for a poor 94 in the 18.1 overs.

NAVANA PREMIER LEAGUE

Meanwhile, the 1992-93 Navana Premier Division cricket league will begin from November 14.

Eleven teams will take part in the first round with the top six-finishers making the super league berths.

The bottom five teams will play in the relegation league — three of them will face the ignominy of being relegated to the Milnars First Division league.

MILNARS LEAGUE

The Bangladesh Cricket Control Board has also announced fresh date for the beginning of this year's Milnars First Division league.

The ten-team league will now begin from November 11 instead of today, November 6, as was scheduled earlier.



Alamgir Faruq Chowdhury, vice-president of the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) received some gifts of soccer equipment from Ulrich Wilhelm Lippelt, Third Secretary of German embassy. Standing behind Chowdhury is German soccer coaching expert Holgar Obermann.

Imran to write books projecting Pakistan's beauty

ISLAMABAD, Nov 5: Cricket celebrity Imran Khan said here Thursday he would write books on places



IMRAN KHAN

of natural beauty in Pakistan to help boost tourism, reports AFP.

Speaking at a tourism promotion conference, Imran said the beauty and charm of Pakistan's mountainous north remained unprojected to the outside world.

"I have decided to write books to fill the vacuum," he said, while at the same time emphasizing the need for providing adequate facilities for tourists.

Imran, who led his country to a sensational triumph in the last cricket World Cup in Australia earlier this year, said he regretted that Pakistan was still seen abroad as a backward state where "fundamentalism prevailed and women were forced to remain inside."

DU chess

Sports Reporter
The prize giving ceremony of the Dhaka University chess championship will be held on November 10 at 4 pm at the seminar room of the TSC.

Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University Professor Wakil Ahmed will distribute the awards as the chief guest.

FRG gift for BFF

Sports Reporter
Officials of German embassy handed over some football equipments on behalf of the German government to the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) in a simple ceremony at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

BFF vice-president Alamgir Faruq Chowdhury received the presents which included footballs, jerseys, cans, practice implements from Ulrich Wilhelm Lippelt, third secretary of German embassy for press, culture and economic affairs. Also present in the occasion were BFF general secretary Sheikh Akmal Hossain, and Joachim Flock another German embassy official.

Holgar Obermann, the German coaching expert who has been here in connection with a coaching programme for the local coaches was also present in the function.

Meanwhile, the certificate award ceremony for the participants of the 'Coaches Training Programme' will be held at 10 am on November 7 at the conference room of the National Sports Council.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain will give away the certificates as chief guest.

R Graf, Charge d'Affaires of German embassy will grace the occasion as a special guest.

SCOREBOARD

Second innings scoreboard of New Zealand on the fifth and final day of the first cricket Test against Zimbabwe Thursday:

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 325 for three declared (R. Latham 119, M. Greatbatch 87, A. Jones 67 not out).

ZIMBABWE: First innings 219 (A. Flower 81, D. Patel six for 113).

NEW ZEALAND: Second innings (overnight 163 for one)

Greatbatch c Houghton	88
b Jarvis	
Latham c Houghton	48
b G. Flower	39
Jones retired hurt	49
Parore c Houghton b Jarvis	12
M. Crowe c A. Flower	6
b Jarvis	2
Doull b Traicos	6
Rutherford not out	11
Patel not out	11
Extras (lb-4 nb-1)	5
Total (for five declared)	222

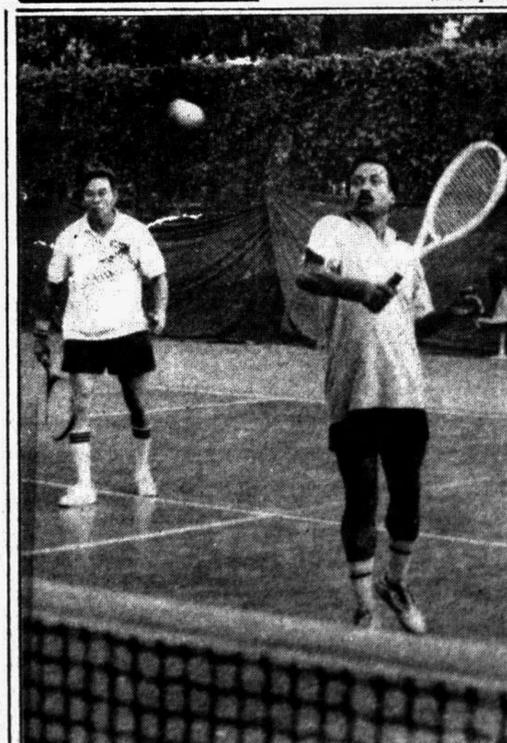
Did not bat: W. Watson, M. Haslam, M. Su'a.

Fall of wickets: 1-102; 2-181; 3-193; 4-196; 5-204.

Bowling:

	O	M	R	W
Jarvis	11	0	38	3
Shah	7	0	36	0
Crocket	5	0	30	0
Traicos	17	1	82	1
G. Flower	8	0	32	1

(Incomplete)



Action from the fifth Nasiruddin Memorial tennis tournament which began at Officers' Club yesterday.

Bangladesh TT squad leaves for Delhi tonight

Sports Reporter
A nine-member Bangladesh table tennis squad will leave for the Indian capital New Delhi tonight to take part in the 11th Asian table tennis championships to be held from November 7 to 14.

There are four male and three female players in the squad while the remaining two persons are officials.

The men are Syed Mosaedequl Haq Rochi, Nasimul Hassan Kochi, Saiful Haq Sadi and Manash Chowdhury and the women players are Zobera Rahman Litu, Zulekha Akhter and Noor-e-Saba Bachchi.

Rafiqul Islam-Tipu, a member of the executive committee of the Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation (BTTF), is accompanying the team as manager while another BTTF members Ishtiaque Ahmed Karim.

Who is also the president of the Bangladesh Table Tennis Players' Association, will represent Bangladesh in the congress of the Asian Table Tennis Federation.

Bangladesh will participate in seven different events. They are men's team, women's team, men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles, and mixed doubles.

Players from 21 countries in four groups will compete in men's events while 18 countries will contest in women's group.

Bangladesh male team has been placed in Group D along with Japan, Iran, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Kuwait while the women's team, also placed in group D, will face India, Nepal, Pakistan and Chinese Taipei.

England step up bid to stage World Cup

LONDON, Nov 5: England have stepped up their bid to stage cricket's next World Cup following South Africa's decision to drop out of the bidding, reports AFP.

The Test and County Cricket Board have been working on a detailed financial plan aimed at hosting the 1995 tournament.

England's only rivals will come from the sub-continent where India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are discussing a joint bid. Applicants must submit their financial plans by December 1 — in time for the International Cricket Council to make a firm decision by the end of January.

"We are very keen to host the competition again and determined our bid to stage it will be acceptable," said TCCB chief executive Alan Smith.

"We have a great deal of experience in managing events of this stature."

England hosted the first three World Cups in 1975, 1979 and 1983. The fourth was jointly staged by India and Pakistan and the fifth, earlier this year, went to Australia and New Zealand.

The sixth World Cup will be the biggest yet with 12 teams taking part.

While there may be support among ICC members for the sub-continent bid, South Africa looked England's most dangerous opponents.

A number of grounds in the republic have floodlight facilities and could have offered day-night matches which were such a successful feature of the competition in Australia.

Courier, Edberg in Paris Open qtrs

PARIS, Nov 5: Jim Courier and Stefan Edberg, the top seeds left in the dirs 2.1 million Paris Open, ended a rash of upsets with straight-set victories Thursday to advance to the quarterfinals, reports AP.

Courier, the top seed, fought off 13 aces from former Wimbledon champ Michael Stich to win, 7-6 (7-3), 6-1.

Edberg, No 3 seed, rallied to beat American Derrick Rostagno, 7-6 (7-2), 7-6 (8-6). He saved two set points and came back from 5-1 in the second tiebreak to win.

Navratilova wins

OAKLAND, Nov 5: Defending champion Martina Navratilova was stretched to three sets by Australian Nicole Provis in her debut at the Bank of the West Classic in Oakland Wednesday, but the 36-year-old rebounded for a 6-1, 2-6, 6-1 second round victory, reports Reuter.

"I was ready to play at the beginning and then I just got lulled," said Navratilova. "I've played close to 2,000 matches so it's hard to get as excited in early rounds."

The 17-year-veteran spent much of her post-match interview talking politics on the evening after the election.

Navratilova said that she was devastated by passage of a proposal in Colorado which rescinded gay rights ordinances in Denver, Boulder and her home town of Aspen, but elated over Bill Clinton's election.