Good wins for Abahani, Gulshan

dominated for the second consecutive day of the 1992-93 Navana Premier Division

cricket league as last year's runners-up Abahani Krira Chakra chalked up a convincing five-wicket victory against fancied newcomers Victoria Sporting Club at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Chasing a victory target of 210 in 45 overs, Abahani knocked up 212 for five wickets in 41.3 overs with Shri Lankan Athula Samarasekara once again leading the charge with a stroke-filled half century. He was ably assisted by Akram Khan, unbeaten with 54 at the kill, while skipper Gazi Ashraf Hossain Lipu, who has made it a wont this year to see his side through, lighted up the faces in the terraces in the approaching darkness with a lusty boundary past the straight country that rang in the season on a winning note.

Earlier in the morning Victoria started disastrously, losing Indian Raja Venkat for nought as Lipu chose to field first after winning the toss. Basically a middle-order batsman from Calcutta, the lefthanded Venkat was promoted as an opener by Victoria captain Rogibul but a fast improving Abahani new-ball bowler Khairuzzaman Babu clean bowled him for one.

Rogibul's son Sajid then teamed up with one down Selim Shahed and with some watchful batting took the score to 61 before the former

Opi shines for Eskaton Sabuj Sports Reporter

A fine allround performance by Opt help Eskaton Sabuj Sangha register an exciting 10-run victory against Bangladesh Railway in the only match of the Milnars First Division cricket league at the Mirpur Pallabi cricket ground.

Asked to bat first by veteran Railway skipper Selim, Eskaton were all out for 127 in 32.5 overs with Opi hitting 44 off 50 balls with the help of five fours. Biplob the other opener scored 29.

Ripon of Railway ripped through the Eskaton batting with figures of four for 28. Sadhan and Rezaul claimed two wickets apiece for Railway Opi gave the finishing touch

to the demolition act of Shaheen who triggered off Railway's collapse with figures of four wickets for 15. Tariq of Railway stood amid the ruins with an unbeaten 38 as only three of his teammates got into the double figures.

Railway reached 117 in 39.1 overs, leaving Eskaton winners by 10 runs. Opi rounded off a day of success with bowling figures of two for

TODAY'S MATCH Lalmatia Club vs Sadharan Bima KS (Mirpur Pallabi ground)

Shastri to lead as Azhar rests

DURBAN, Nov 19: Skipper Azharuddin, all-rounder Kapil Dev, paceman Manoj Prabhakar and wicket-keeper Kiran More have been rested to provide others an opportunity to display their form in the four-day match against a South Africa invitation XI beginning at Sprinbok Stadium tomorrow, reports PTI.

The Indian team will be led by vice-captain Ravi Shastri, an opener and left-arm spinner. Two other openers, Ajay Jadeja and W V Raman will also be on view. But with Shastri opening from one end, Raman in all likelihood will bat at number three.

The better performer between Jadeja and Raman will probably get the nod for the second Test.

Chetan Sharma was running fever last night but has been declared fit by doctors.

Div I chess from today

Sports Reporter

The 1992 First Division chess league under the aegis of the Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF) begins today at the National Sports Council chess room. The number-drawing and

inaugural ceremony was held at the chess room yesterday.

Fifteen teams including defending champions Bangladesh Biman will compete in the round robin league.

Judo, karate meet Sports Reporter The Ambia Khatun memo-

rial judo and karate competition will be held from Karate Sangstha (DMJKS), says a press release.

Sports Reporter

fell leg before to Sujan for 17. Shahed carried on in his typical phlegmatic fashion to top score with 70 which turned out to be the cornerstone of Victoria's eventual total of 209 for seven wickets from their guota of 45 overs.

Shahed, who owed his life to the Abahani fielders, played



110 balls and struck six welltimed boundaries before being stumped by Shovon off Lipu. Shahed built a 61-run partnership for the third wicket with Gautam Some, the other Calcutta cricketer playing for Victoria this season.

Gautam scored 33 before Sujan picked him up at ground level at sort midwicket off a half-hearted stroke. The allrounder who played 56 balls and hit three fours was visibly unhappy when umpire Asghar lifted his finger to diffuse confusion.

The sleek reading 157 for four of the scoreboard was not appearing to serve Victoria's cause much because of the sluggish run rate when Imran Hamid Partha jauntily walked in to take Shahed's place at the wicket. The robust lefthander slammed a blazing 38 off just 21 balls to land Victoria in the vicinity of 200. His first of three sixes was a return

DURBAN, Nov 19:

After years of

isolation, South

Africans have

forgotten how to

appreciate the

subtleties of Test cricket,

ing the unfolding drama of a

game which lasts five days and

can still end in a draw, most

prefer the instant thrills of

one-day cricket played in gar-

ish clothing under floodlights

country's top cricket officials

after poor attendances for the

first ever Test against India

which finished here on

said fans would have to be "re-

South Africa's first home

When India arrived last

month South African officials

confidently predicted large

crowds with 26,000 sell-outs

was rained off - attracted a to-

tal attendance of only 30,000.

Sunday's 14,000 was the high-

ticket prices have been cited

as two factors but a key one

seems to be the public per-

ception of Test cricket as bor-

Bacher, managing director

of the United Cricket Board of

South Africa, said: "The public

will need to be re-educated as

far as Test matches are con-

19: A night after

the No 2 seed

was bumped out

of the tourna-

ment, the Virginia Slims

Championships ran true to

form Wednesday night, reports

Sabatini, No 5 Arantxa Sanchez

Vicario and No 7 Jennifer

Capriati posted straight-set

victories to move into the

In what was rapidly

quarterfinals of this season-

becoming a fad in the dlrs 3

million tournament, Capriati

and Sanchez Vicario had to

win first-set tiebreakers en

route to victory. Not so

Sabatini, who crushed Amy

Frazier 6-0, 6-2 in the night's

Sukova 7-6 (7-3), 6-1 after

Sanchez Vicario upended Zina

Garrison 7-6 (7-0) 6-1. On

Tuesday, Lori McNeil shocked

No 2 seed Steffi Graf 7-6 (7-1),

6-4 and Jana Novotna

eliminated No 6 Mary Joe

her on in both English and

With the crowd cheering

Fernandez 7-6 (7-3), 6-2.

Capriati defeated Helena

ending event.

final match.

Third-seeded Gabriela

November examinations and

Instead, the four days — one

Test for 22 years was staged in

Durban because of the city's

large Indian population.

One of them, Dr Ali Bacher,

That's the verdict of the

with a guaranteed winner.

Instead of patiently watch-

reports Reuter.

Tuesday.

educated."

on some days.

from death throes as Babu dropped and helped him to a sixer at long on. The second this time off Effee, settled the score as he hoisted him straight near the sight screen but the third, an Akramesque heave over midwicket, took



the cake. The Abahani fielders

A SAMARASEKARA ... 56 when another wild swing off Samarasekara shattered his

With Rogibul chipping in with a useful 17 off 21 balls Victoria reached 209 for seven at the end of their stipulated quota of 45 overs. Samarasekara was Abah-

ani's best bowler taking two for 22. Lipu also claimed two but at higher cost, 34 runs, to be precise. Samarasekara played an-

other entertaining innings of 56 of 58 balls, embellished with nine sure fours before playing on to his stumps off an attempted sweep against offspinner Rubel.

Faruq, who was shaping well became Rubel's second prey when a wonky sweep swirled high and landed in the safe hands of Sajid, the lad whose friskiness and aim at the stumps warmed the less passionate hearts. Akram hammered an un-

South African fans need to

re-discover Test cricket

Krish Mackerdhuj, presi

dent of the UCBSA explained:

ALI BACHER

"There has been a long gap

since playing Tests during

which time we've boosted one-

day cricket because we needed

to finance the development

nival atmosphere and people

like the quick decision and the

"One-day cricket has a car-

"There is a generation gap.

Many of the fans who watched

the match in Durban were

those involved in the old days.

We need to convince younger

people that Test cricket is

good and the basis of our

raise further fears about the

long-term future of Test

the one-day game in the 70s,

Test cricket has steadily lost

custom to the brash, short-

cricket consistently attract

Spanish, Sabatini had little

trouble handing Frazier a lop-

sided loss in her first appear-

strokes were deep and heavy,

her serves powerful and well-

placed, her volleys crisp.

Frazier was, in a way, the per-

fect foil as Sabatini began what

she hopes will end in her sec-

ond Slims title. She won in

applause when she held serve

in the second game of the sec-

ond set, winning her first

game of the match. Her second

— and last — came three games

later when she broke Sabatini's

It also took a while for

Sanchez Vicario to find a

groove. The Spaniard trailed

Garrison 5-2 in the opening

set before grabbing a quarter-.

final spot against fourth-

seeded Matina Navratilova in

the next round of this dirs 3

million tournament. Garrison

continued her lackluster play

at Madison Square Garden, los-

ing for the 11th time in 13

service.

matches.

Frazier drew a big round of

The Argentinian's ground

ance in the tournament.

ened version.

No surprises at New York

The poor crowds in Durban

Since the development of

Only in England does Test

programme.

climax.

beaten 54 off 65 balls with four hits to the fence while Lipu remained undefeated on a 28ball 25, inclusive of three fours as Abahani earned the victory off the third ball of the 42nd

Satkat was the pick of the Victoria bowlers, cleverly mixing armers with a left-arm spinners' stock delivery of leg spin to the right handers However, he could take only one wicket, that of Jahangir, for a cost of 36 runs from eight

The statistically superior Rubel took two for 34.

Shahed took one for 42 while Jahangir Shah Badshah, who managed a mutual clearance from his old club PWD to play for Victoria, took one for

GULSHAN WIN

Whether it was the pangs of separation caused by Jahangir Shah Badshah's delayed departure or the inherent weakness, the fact remains that PWD began their league campaign with a 49-run defeat to Gulshan Youth in the day's second Navana Premier engagement at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Put into bat, Guishan scored 190 for eight wickets from the possible 42 overs in their first match of this year's league. Liton top scored with 60 while former Indian Test ericketer Arun Lal made 34. Arif with a quick 26 was the other notable scorer.

For PWD Fazlu, Imdu and Anwar bagged two aptece.

Although Anwar cracked a carefree 43 not out off 45 balls and Kamrul an unbeaten 23. PWD could muster only 147 for five when the overs ran out. Asif bowled well for Gulshan

taking two for 21 off nine

TODAY'S MATCH GMCC vs Biman (Dhaka

comparable crowds.

cued.

they'll come.

South Africa is seen by

many as the final chance to

halt the trend and, although

the Durban Test suggested

otherwise, Mackerdhuj be-

lieves the situation can be res-

rary thing, that once people

get to know Test cricket

having been struggling

overnight, came back was what

Test cricket is all about.

spoke to many people espe-

cially younger ones, who said

"This is good cricket. The

It is a view echoed by the

Said Omar Henry: "By the

third day, which was really ab-

sorbing, you could tell people

were thinking there is some

thing to this five-day cricket.

They are so used to the one-

day game they are not aware

how good Test cricket can be"

Fans are no alone in need-

Television coverage is re-

stricted, with a long gap in the

middle of the day. That breaks

up the building tension which

is such a key part of the Test

being shown in their entirety

in both India and South Africa.

loss leader, officials are plan-

ning to cut prices for three

remaining Tests in an effort to

attract fans and convert them.

the turnstiles as anxiously as

the scoreboard when the sec-

ond Test starts in Johan

nesburg next week.

The one-day matches are

Like a supermarket selling a

Officials will be watching

crowd got into the game.

South African players.

ing to be re-educated.

"I hope it is just a tempo-

"The third day when India,

The three-day ninth na tional junior wrestling championships under the aegis of the Bangladesh Amateur Wrestling Federation (BAWF) got under way at the National Sports Council gymnasium yesterday.

meet begins

Sports reporter

The BAWF president Capt (retd) Siddique Ahmed inaugurated the meet.

Seventy-five wrestlers representing 12 teams are taking part in the competition. The teams are defending champions Khulna, last year's runners-up, Dhaka, Chittagong, Jessore Bogra, Gazipur, Munshiganj, Rangpur, Dinajpur, Narail, Comilla and Kushtia.

On the opening day, firstround matches of eight different weight categories were held.

Finals of all events will be held tomorrow, Saturday, the concluding day of the meet.

BFF short-lists 60 for President Cup Sports Reporter

The selection committee of the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has made a preliminary selection of 60 players to form two teams for the 1993 President Gold Cup tournament, to the held in the city from January 8 to 20, according to sources.

Six foreign teams and two teams from Bangladesh will mainly in their second team. participate in the meet in two groups. and useful batsman, toured

The list of the selected footballers will be published after the approval of the executive committee meeting of the BFF to be held next Sunday, November 22.

The coaching camp for the players will start from December 1.

Meanwhile, the BFF has decided to train the district coaches at eight different venues across the country.

Indian swimmers rule the pool

Sports Reporter

Hosts India annexed the inaugural South Asian swimming championship yesterday, the second-day of the three-day meet now being held at the Subhash Sarobar in Calcutta, according to All India Radio monitored in Dhaka yesterday afternoon. India secured 10 of the

swimming golds to clinch the title while Bangladesh and Shri Lanka managed one gold each. Pakistan and the Maldives.

the other two participating nations, are yet to bag a gold medal. Four more swimming

events, along with the waterpolo final, will be held today. the concluding day .

Sixth-place finish by Dhaka XI

Sports Reporter Bangladesh national hockey

team, which played under the guise of Dhaka XI, finished sixth in the nine-team All India Surject Singh memorial hockey championship held from November 3 to 13 in Jallandhar, Punjab, India.

Punjab and Sindh Bank emerged as champions while Air India finished as runners-

Finance DU b'ball champs Sports Reporter

Department of Finance emerged as champions in the Dhaka University inter-department basketball tournament trouncing Department of Marketing by 53 to 29 points at the university gym-

nasium yesterday. Acting Vice Chancellor of the University Prof Emazuddin Ahmed distributed the prizes as chief guest.

Seventh-seed Jennifer Capriati of the United States returns a shot to Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia in the first round match of the Virginia Slims Championships in New York on Wednesday. Capriati won 7-6 (7-3), 6-1. - AFP photo

Nat'l jr wrestling Kiwis call up Wright, 3 others



from the tour of Shri Lanka

most capped players, was

joined by uncapped pace

bowler Michael Owens, all-

rounder Justin Vaughan and

off-spinner Grant Bradburn,

New Zealand Cricket (NZC)

The quartet replace five

players - batsmen Mark

Greatbatch and Rod Latham,

all-rounder Gavin Larsen.

spinner Dipak Patel and fast

bowler Willie Watson - who

pulled out after the bomb at-

tack outside their hotel which

self unavailable for the tour and

was reported to be considering

retiring. The left-handed

opener led New Zealand from

1988 until 1990 and is their

batsman and slow-medium

change bowler, was tipped to

figure in New Zealand's World

Cup squad, but after being

named 12th man for a one-day

international against England

last season, dropped out of the

He spent the last English

Bradburn, an off-spinner

The five returning players

season with Gloucestershire,

Pakistan in 1990 and played in

the one-day series in Australia

have left Shri Lanka with team

coach Warren Lees, saying they

could not concentrate on

playing cricket after the

BOARD CHIEF IRKED

Meanwhile, another report

the following year.

Vaughan, a middle-order

highest Test run-marker.

Wright initially made him-

killed five people.

reckoning.

bombing.

blast, reports Reuter.

from Colombo said Shri Lanka WELLINGTON. Cricket Board president Nov 19: Former Tyronne Fernando, angry at a captain John Wristatement by an English ght was among cricket official over a bomb four New Zealanblast here on Monday, wants ders named on Thursday as replacements for the next International Cricket players who have withdrawn Conference meeting held out-

side London.

because of Monday's bomb "I would be requesting chairman Colin Cowdrey to hold the ICC's next meeting in Wright, one of the country's



some other place and not in London," he told Thursday's Daily News.

The visiting New Zealand cricket squad on Wednesday reversed an earlier decision to call off its Shri Lankan tour after Monday's explosion, which killed four people including the navy commander just outside the team hotel.

Fernando, who is also a government minister, was angered by a comment by Allan Smith, chief executive of the Test and County Cricket Board, saying the Colombo bomb would have implications for the England tour of Shri Lanka in March.

Smith also said the board would consult Britain's envoy in Colombo before embarking on the tour. "I am surprised at this

statement, especially as it has been made from far-away London where bomb attacks and threats are more frequent," Fernando said.

Shri Lankan newspapers said the high commissioners (ambassadors) of Britain and Australia had persuaded the

New Zealand team to stay. "Cricketing circles asked the question whether a New Zealand cricket party in England would have abandoned their tour if an IRA (Irish Republican Army) bomb went (off)," the Daily News said.

Crowe's complaint

AUCKLAND, Nov 19: An angry New Zealand cricket captain Martin Crowe made it clear Thursday that he had been directed against his own wishes to continue the troubled Shri Lankan tour, reports

The tour hit a crisis Monday when a bomb exploded outside the Colombo hotel where the New Zealand team was staying. Five people were killed.

off when a vote found the party evenly split on staying or go-

After New Zealand Cricket chairman Peter McDermott flew to Shri Lanka the tour was resumed but with the coach and five players returning home. Four replacements leave here Friday.

A plainly upset Crowe told the TV3 network Thursday that he would sooner go home. He said after McDermott's arrival he said there were no

Asked if he had been directed to continue, he replied: "That's right."

affected by the bomb. Asked if the departing play-

> ers had been important he replied: "Absolutely, they're vital players. "The replacements will come over and do their best

they would have been here in the first place," Crowe said.

Fight fire with fire', says Lillee "We have the players to beat overdid it and got thrashed in PERTH. Nov 19:



Australia's legendary former fast bowler Dennis Lillee has called on Australia to

fight fire with fire" in the fivematch Test series against the West Indies, starting in Brisbane on Friday this week, reports AFP.

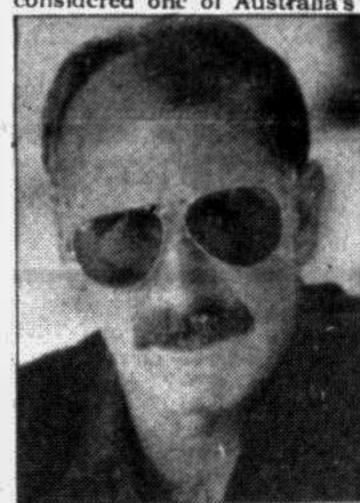
They have used the shorter-length ball very well over the years and there is no doubt our fast bowlers, especially Craig McDermott, Mery Hughes and Bruce Reid have the firepower to match it with them," Lillee wrote in a column in the West Australian

"We've simply got to fight fire with fire."

Favouring the inclusion of those three speedsters, plus Mike Whitney, to forth a pace quartet, Lillee wrote: "Selective shortpitched bowling can do the trick, but it's got to be selective because I can hark back to when we

the second Test against them in Perth in the 1975-76 Lillee, so often controversial, has called for Dean Jones,

considered one of Australia's



DENNIS LILLEE

most strongly entrenched batsmen to be sacked from the Test side.

Gazza's goals for England LONDON, Nov 19:



A resurgent Paul Gascoigne breathed life into an ailing England side with two

goals in an emphatic 4-0 victory over Turkey in a World Cup qualifier on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

Gascoigne, playing only his second international since a 15-month lay-off with a serious knee injury, orchestrated England's first win in six games with a goal in each half.

It set England's World Cup campaign firmly on track after a 1-1 home draw with Norway in their opening Group Two game last month. Alan Shearer, Britain's most

expensive player at 3.2 million pounds sterling, launched his bid to claim the striking mantle of the retired Gary Lineker with his second international goal in six appearances and captain Stuart Pearce blasted in a free-kick. After Gascoigne and

2-0 halftime lead, Turkey, who have never beaten England nor scored a goal against them in six previous matches, were killed off with two goals in two minutes on the hour. England, desperate for a victory after their draw with

Shearer had given England a

Norway, finally threw off the hangover of their poor European championship finals in June. Lazio midfielder Gascoigne, revelling in the vast space Turkey gave him, drove England forward to crush a

side which had restricted

them to a 1-0 win at Wembley.

in their last meeting a year

England had two chances of an early goal. Full back Lee Dixon hit the post in the fourth minute and Shearer was denied by a defender's foot after lan Wright's powerful shot was only parried by goalkeeper Hyrettin Demirbas. Turkey almost took a shock

lead in the 12th minute when goalkeeper Chris Woods blocked a shot from Hakan Sukur with his legs and captain Unal Karaman struck the underside of the bar with a cracking drive while Woods

was regaining his feet. But four minutes later the irrepressible Gascoigne settled England nerves with the opening goal.

Gascoigne lost the ball trying to dribble past too many defenders but, in a defensive mix-up between Bulenk Korkmaz and Gokhan Keskin, Paulince won it back and Gascoigne neatly side-steeped another Turk to score his third international goal.

Just before the half-hour Shearer demonstrated the predatory talents that have brought him 16 goals at Blackburn when he dived inside defender Ogun Temizkangolu to head a perfeetly directed cross from Wright into the net.

It was Shearer's second goal in six games since he scored on his debut against France in February. Substitute Ugur Tutuneker

almost scored with his first touch after coming on at halftime when his lob over stranded Woods just cleared the bar. Then Hami Mandirali forced a good save from Woods with a searing free-kick from midway inside the half. But Turkish hearts sank

when Pearce hammered a freekick with help of a deflection past Hayrettin and a minute later Gascoigne took a pass from a rare attack by defender Des Walker, sidestepped the keeper and tucked the ball home.

England manager Graham Taylor, celebrating his team's first win since a friendly against Finland in June, said: "I'm very, very pleased. It was a first-class team performance and the two goals from Gascoigne were icing on the

that plan," said the man who captured 355 Test wickets, more than any other Australian. "I do not think he has done

year. He might be a fine oneday player. When where are no slips or gullies." "He's the one to go if new

should be." Lillee says the West Indies are at their most vulnerable

since Australia walloped them 5-1 in 1975-76. Lillee, with 27 wickets at an

average of 26.37, was a key member of the Australian Test side that summer.

Waugh has a last chance to secure his Australian Test position when New South Wales play a four-day match against the West Indies starting Friday at the Sydney Cricket Ground, reports AP.

He is competing against his twin brother, Steve, and impressive young West Australian batsman Damien Martyn for

he expected Mark Waugh to retain his Test spot. "I think he's a good player

Richardson said.

things like that." "He's a very competitive cricketer and I like playing

found form.

Australia in Perth. "I want to play for Australia

mind," Waugh said. Tve got my fingers crossed that I'll be (in the team for)

the first Test, but you try not to think about it too much." "If I don't get any runs for New South Wales here, I don't

be in it." The Australian team for the first Test will be named on Monday - before the New

Initially the tour was called

more votes among the touring

He said there was no doubt the mood of the learn had been

but if they were good enough

the West Indies. But I do not believe Jones should be part of

> enough - one 50 from nine Test digs in the Caribbean last

blood is to be injected - as it

Since then, the West Indies have not lost a series to Australia, and have gained 17

wins to five defeats in 31 Tests, with nine drawn. Waugh's chance

to make the mark SYDNEY, Nov 19: Mark

Waugh has been under pressure to retain his spot since scoring four successive ducks in the last two Tests against Shri Lanka earlier this

one middle-order spot in the Australian team to face the tourists in the first Test starting in Brisbane on Nov 27. West Indies captain Richie Richardson said Thursday that

and an exciting player,"

"He plays some good shots and even though I'm on the other side, you like to see

against people like that. Since returning from Shri Lanka, Waugh has gradually

The elegant right-hander scored 88 in the opening Sheffield Shield match against Victoria and felt he was batting well after making 46 and 35 in two innings against Western

and it is at the back of my

have to worry about thinking of the Test team because I won't

South Wales-West Indies match is scheduled to finish.

December 1 to 5 at the National Sports Council gymnasium under the auspices of the Dhaka Metropolis Judo and