Ansars booters in final



moved into the final of the fifth Bangladesh Games soccer championship defe-

ating Dhaka Division by two goals to nil in the first semifinal at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday

Ansars will take on the victors of today's semifinal match

Men's volleyball semis today

Sports Reporter Defending champions Bangladesh Army will take on Bangladesh Rifles and last Games runners-up Bangladesh Navy will play Bangladesh Air Force in today's semifinals of the fifth Bangladesh Games men's volleyball championship at the Outer Stadium volleyball court.

Bangladesh Army and Bangladesh Air Force finished champions and runners-up respectively in the Group A while Bangladesh Navy and Bangladesh Rifles finished first and second in Group B by winning their respective matches yes-

Army trounced Tangail 15 4, 15-5, 15-3; Navy outplayed Rangpur 15-1, 15-9, 15-10; Bangladesh Rifles beat Rajshahi University 15-10, 15-8 and 15-5 while Air Force go the better of Bangladesh Police 15-2, 15-6, 15-2.

In the women's event, played on a league basis. favourites Khulna DSA, and national champions Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) have collected nine points from three matches each.

Ansars and Dinappur have collected seven and five points respectively while Rangpur and Narayanganj- the other two teams in the fray- gave three points each.

Sports Reporter

Hic three-day fifth Bangladesh Games boxing championships began at the Mahammed Ali Boxing Stadium

yesterday. Seventy-five punchers representing 14 teams are taking part in 13 weight categories. The teams are Bangladesh Army, Bangladesh Rifles, Bang ladesh Police, Bangladesh Ansars, Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation (BTMC), Comilla, Kushtia, Rangpur, Rajshahi, Munshiganj, Satkhira, Jessore,

On the opening day, 16 quarter final bouts of five different weight divisions were

Chuadanga and Bagerhat DSAs.

In the bantamweight funder-54 kg) quarterfinals, Hk Bazlur Rahman of Army lost to Md Mozammel Haq of Police while Md Ashrafuzzaman of BTMC beat Md. Nadim Shaikh of Rajshahi, Md Biplab of Jessore beat Md Salahuddin of Satkhira and Abdul Barek of Bangladesh Rifles beat Abdur Rashid of Ansars.

In the flyweight (under-51 kg). Md Bazlur Rahman of Rifles beat Md Raseluzzaman of Rangpur; Nk Jubairul Islam of Army beat Tariqui Islam of Satkhira; Md Mizanur Rahman of Munshiganj beat Saidul Islam of Bagerhat and Moha mmad Hossain of Ansars beat Md Ashraful Hug of Jessore.

In the light-flyweight funder 48 kg). Nk Md Ruhul Amin of Army knocked out Md Delwar Hossain of Bagerhat: Mirza Lutfor Rahman of Ansars beat Md Saidur Rahman ol Kushtia and Md Asaduzzaman of Jessore won against Md Bachchu Mia of Comilla.

In the pinweight funder 45 kg), Havilder Abul Hossain of Army beat Motaleb Hossain of Jessore and Pijush Kanti Sen of Bagerhat beat Md Abdul Malek of Rifles.

Nk Md Shaidul Alam of Army beat Swapan Mian of Ansars, Lnk Md Aslam beat Md Waltur Rahman of Jessore and Mahbubur Rahman of Bagerhat won against Md Zakaria Masud of BTMC in the three featherweight (under-57 kgs) division quarterfinals held yesterday.

In the only pre-quarterfinal match of the featherweight (under-57 kg) held on the day, Saiful Islam of Rajshahi won against Md Nazrul Islam of Munshigani

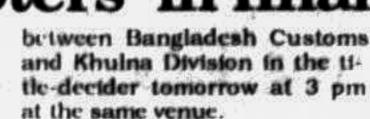
All the finals will be held tomorrow, the concluding day of the three day championships organised by the Bangladesh Amateur Boxing Federation.

Cairns rules himself out

WELLINGTON, Dec 21: New Zealand all-rounder Chris Cairns, recovering from a kidney operation, has withdrawn from the forthcoming series of one-day internationals against

Pakistan, reports Reuter. New Zealand Cricket (NZC) said in a statement Cairns did not feel he was sufficiently fit and had withdrawn from the squad. Cairns had the operation shortly after completing a season with English county side Nottinghamshire.

He will be replaced by Michael Owens, who made his debut for New Zealand in Shri Lanka earlier this month, NZC



In yesterday's keenly-contested match Ansars scored a goal in each session.

Angoor put Ansars ahead in the 35th minute (1-0) while Shah Alam doubled the margin in the 79 minute.

The vanquished Dhaka Division players carried out repeated raids inside Ansars' territory but poor marksmanship of their forwards especially striker Akhtar, denied them any rewards.

Besides, Ansars' goal keeper Dhonu made some brilliant saves to deny Dhaka Division any goals.

The third-place deciding play-off between the losing semifinalists will be held tomorrow December 23 at 8:30 am at the same venue.

TEAMS

Ansars: Dhonu, Lokman, Raquib, Chhoton, Sufian, Nurul Islam, Shah Alam, Alfaz, Munna, Mustaq and Angoor (Jamal)

Dhaka Division: Bijoy, Amir, Salahuddin, Azmat, Ali Monsour, Nazimuddin, Chandan (Sclim), Akram, Milan (Maruf), Monir and Akhter.

Referee: MR Mukul.



Sulaiman Majumdar of Bangladesh Army on his way to winning the men's 110m hurdles gold of the fifth Bangladesh Games at the Army Stadium yesterday. Sulaiman won the medal with a time of 14.50 seconds. - Star photo

Germany find champion touch



MONTEVIDEO, Dec 21: Germany finally produced a performance wo rthy of world

champions Sunday as they thrashed Uruguay 4-1, reports Reuter. The result lifted an enor-

mous weight off the shoulders of coach Berti Vogts, under following Wednesday's 3-1 defeat by Brazil and earlier draws at home to Austria and Mexico. Germany struggled until de-

fender Guido Buchwald opened the scoring with a header in the 42nd minute. But in the second half they

ran riot, with Juventus midfielder Andreas Moeller and striker Juergen Klinsmann scoring a goal apiece and pro-

ducing masterly performances. Thomas Haesslar added the other goal while Michael Zorc fired into his own net to give the Uruguayans a late consola-

The bad news for Vogts was that midfielder Lothar Mattheus once again performed well bellow par.

Uruguay were an immense disappointment, lacking creativity and time after time slipping up in defence, traditionally their strong point.

They sorely missed the presence of star players Ruben Sosa, Carlos Aguilera and Daneil Forseca, who refused to appear for the national team because of a long -standing row with trainer Luis Cubilla.

Vogts made five changes to · the team outclassed by Brazil.

Lazio striker Thomas Doll was given the job of partnering Klinsmann in attack while Moeller was drafted into midfield at the expense of Stefan Effenberg, dropped after a disappointing performance in the earlier game. Klinsmann came close to opening the scoring twice, while Moeller fired narrowly wide from 25 metres after being set up with a delightful back-heel by

Uruguay might have had a penalty when striker Hugo Guerra appeared to be pushed by Buchwald as he went for a cross but the referee waved play on.

Klinsmann.

Zore headed ah own goal stx minutes from time, but it is unlikely to save Cubilla from a barrage of criticism.

The other side of Barcelona



MADRID, Dec 21: Hristo Stoichkov and Ronald Koeman were sent off as Barcelona lost their lead in the Spanish championship on

Sunday, reports Reuter. Nine-man Barcelona were held 3-3 by unfancied Rayo Vallecano, who collected eight of the 13 bookings in the bitter battle.

Bulgarian forward Stoichkov, voted second this weekend behind Marco van Basten in the European footballer-of-the-year awards, departed just seven minutes into the game for a second yellow card offence.

Moments after receiving his first caution for protesting to the referee he was involved in another dispute over a free-

Dutch desender Koeman

was dismissed in the 70th minute for deliberate handball when Austrian Anton Polster seemed certain to score. It failed to deter Polster.

The Australian calmly drove home the ensuing penalty to complete his hat-trick and add to his goals in the second and 20th minutes.

Koeman had begun Barcelona's resurgence in the 40th minute after they were two goals down by scoring from the penalty spot.

Although they again fell two behind after Polster's penalty. Barcelona dug deep into their reserves and hit back through some superb creative pay by Danish striker Michael Laudrup.

After a deceptively weaving run through the centre by Laudrup, Jose Bakero volleyed

Julio Salinas levelled.

It was a courageous response by the depleted Barcelona team but they still surrendered the league lead to Deportivo Coruna, who surprised Real Zaragoza with a 2-0 away win, their first victory there in 40 years.

Striker Claudio Barragan scored the first after seven minutes and Brazilian Jose Bebeto, the second from a 22nd minute penalty.

Atletico Madrid slid to disastrous, 1-0 home defeat to bottom-placed Logrones, only their second victory of the season and their first away. With Real Madrid losing 2-0

at Seville on Saturday, the capital's top two teams lost ground.

Deportivo have 23 points, Barcelona 22 and a game in

a 20-metre left-foot shot into hand, and third-placed Real the net and five minutes later Madrid 20.

Sidek, Susanti win World GP KUALA LUMPUR, wardhani 9-11, 11-3, 11-4, to



Dec 21: Favourite Rashid Sidek lived up to his billing of being almost unbeatable

at home when he became Malaysia's first shuttler to win the World Grand Prix men's singles crown Sunday, reports The 24-year-old champion

proved to the badminton world that only he could be master of the game in Malaysia by scalping Olympic gold medalist Allan Budi Kusuma of Indonesia 15-9, 5-15 and 15-7 in the tournament final. Rashid - who won the

Malaysian Open for the third time and led Malaysia to their second Thomas Cup victory this year - gave an impressive performance to beat Kusuma in 72 minutes, despite a resilient fight by the Indonesian.

The Malaysian ace bagged a top prize of 8,125 dollars while Kusuma pocketed 5.000 dollars as runnerup.

Rashid began steadily with a combination of winning strokes and cross-court smashes to take the first set from Kusuma while the Indonesian was still shooting in to the net and smashing out.

Kusuma took stock in the following game and played tight net and accurate drop shots to force Rashid in to a rubber set.

The Malaysian, however, rebounded in the final game with an unassailable 132 lead and allowed Kusuma to pick up five more points before finishing him off with two faultless moves.

Kusuma's girlfriend, Susi Susanti, proved more fortunate by winning the women's singles title for the third straight Susanti, who like Kusuma

won a gold medal at the

Barcelona Olympics, beat com-patriot Sarwendah Kusuma-

collect a victory prize of 6,250 dollars

in the mixed doubles, Danes Thomas Lund and Pernille DuPont defended the title they have held since 1990 by dismissing compatriots Jon Holstehristensen and Grete Morgensen 15-5, 15-2. The women's doubles was

won by China's Lin Yanfen and Tyo Fen who floored Gillian Clark and Gillian Glowers of England 15-7, 17-16. The men's doubles crown

went to Indonesia's Ricky Subagia and Rexy Mainaky, 'who beat Malaysia's Cheah Soon Kit and Soo Begn King 15-11, 15-8, for the first time in seven encounters.



Olympic gold winner Susi Susanti of Indonesia waving at the awards ceremony after winning the women's singles of the World Grand Prix badminton finals for the third year in a row on Sunday in Kuala Lumpur. Susanti got richer by 6,250 US dollars. AFP photo

Pakistan want Graveney replaced

ISLAMABAD, Dec 21: Pakistan want former England Test batsman Tom Graveney řeplaced as the match referee for their cricket tour of West Indies next March, reports Reuter.

Graveney enraged Pakistanis five years ago during the Mike Gatting-Shakoor Rana umpiring row when he was quoted as saying "They (the Pakistanis) have been cheating us for 37 years and it's getting

The Board of Cricket Control of Pakistan (BCCP) wrote on Monday to the International Cricket Council (ICC) suggesting three names to replace Graveney. They were former Indian captains Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi and Sunil Gavaskar and New Zealander Frank Cameroon, who played 19 times for his country in the

The board feels this Graveney) is not a judicious selection," said BCCP Secretary General Shahid Rafih.

There are many other refcrees on the ICC list and we would appreciate if someone else was nominated."

He said he received a response this week from ICC secretary John Stephenson, explaining that Graveney's remark was a " throwaway line" which was never meant seri

Rafih, however, pointed out that Graveny's remark was widely known and his appointment might not be in the best interests of the ICC given the wide choice of referees at its disposal.

Dhanmondi win Milnars tie Sports Reporter

The 1992-93 Milnars First Division cricket league resumed yesterday after a oneday break with Dhanmondi Club beating Evergreen Club by 44 runs at the Mirpur Pallabi ground.

Sent into bat. Dhanmondi Club were all out for 173 runs in 45 overs, opener Adil scoring 45 with the help of four boundaries and wicketkeeper Atiar making 32 off 56 balls with three fours.

Dulu, Rafique and skipper Babar got 18, 16 and 14 runs respectively while extras contributed a healthy 22 runs to the total.

Shihab with three wickets for 36 was the most successful Evergreen bowler while Nafis and Afzal claimed two wickets

In reply, Evergreen were shot out for 129 in 39.3 overs. Shihab went one better with the willow, remaining unbeaten on 47. Mithu scored 17 while no other Evergreen batsman could reach double figures. Veteran Samiur Rahman bagged three wickets for 24 runs and Dhanmondi's Shri Lankan recruit Raj Kumara claimed two wickets conceding eight runs while Mithu, Sohel and Biplab took a wicket apiece.

NIRMAN CRICKET

Meanwhile, the Dhaka zonal championship for the 11th Nirman schools cricket tournament will begin from January 10, says a press release

Interested schools of Dhaka metropolis and adjacent areas have been asked to sent in their entries to the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) on official letterheads by December 31.

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Abahani coast into final

Holders Abahani Krira Chakra majestically marched into the final of the Victory Day cricket tourna-

ment with a massive 209-run victory against the Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club (GMCC) at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. All talk, all hopes of GMCC

giving a good account of themselves with seasoned Indian batsman Raman Lamba around vanished in the morning with the rapidly progressing Abahani paceman sending back two GMCC batsmen -opener Rownakul Islam Tutul and Anisuddin Bhuiyan Pika - within the first fifty runs of the team. Pitted against a mind-bog-

gling victory target of 396 for victory in 75 hours, GMCC kept on losing wickets at regular interval before being all out for 186 in 61.4 overs. The man on whom so much

of a GMCC resurgence depended, Raman Lamba, the Delhi opener, grafted a facesaving 43 off 64 balls before holing out to Shri Lankan test player Athula Samarasekara off another Shri Lankan, Ashoka Sports Reporter

de Silva The rest of the GMCC batting just fell away and the fears of an unreasonable collapse struck roots earlier than ex-

pected

Tight bowling by the Abahani spinners made things all the more difficult for the spiritless GMCC batsmen of whom Mohsin with 35, skipper Tariquzzaman Munir with 28 and Shri Lankan Sanjeeva Weerasinghe with 20 offered some resistance.

Saidul Anam Effee, the right arm off-spinner, enjoyed the statistical supremacy among his peers snaring three batsmen at a personal cost of just 20 runs from his quota of 15 He was well backed by the

right-arm fastish leggie, 'Ashoka de Silva who captured two wickets for 23 from 13 Khairuzzaman Babu, Abaha-

ni's lanky new-ball bowler, confirmed his continuing improvement with a haul of three wickets for 30 runs. The young bowler from Mymensingh was instrumental behind opening the GMCC batting inside out in the morning.

With the drought of goodpace bowlers being already felt it was good to see a local lad taking positive strides at filling the void

Earlier, on Sunday Abahani, put into bat, amassed 395 for five wickets with Shovon and

Akram hitting 128 and an unbeaten 107 respectively. Abahani will now meet the winners of the other semifinal between Mohammedan Sporting Club, last year's runners-

up, and this year's Damal

runners-up Brothers Union.

The two-day second semifinal starts this morning at the Dhaka Stadium. The final, a 75-overs-a-side

contest spread over two days, will start on December 27.

MUSHTAQ-JEWEL

nal of the first-ever seven-team Shaheed Jewel-Mushtag cricket tournament, between Bangladesh Biman and Victoria Sporting Club starts today at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Dondon $4 \sim 1 - 1 - 1$ Border torments Pak bowlers BRISBANE, Dec

PAKISTAN: 1st innings

Aamir Sohail run out

Asif Mujtaba not out

McDermott b Storey

Saeed Anwar c Border

Inzamamul-Hag c

Shahid Saced lbw b Law



21: Australian skipper Allán Border struck an unbeaten 71 as Queensland reached 318 for five wickets on the third day of their match

against Pakistan at the Gabba ground in Brisbane today, reports Reuter. Border was in good form after Queensland suffered a mid-innings collapse, with three wickets falling for 17

Steve Storey (15) was the other not out batsman at the end of the day's play.

Earlier, Trevor Barsby struck a whirlwind 116- including 23 boundaries -while Dirk Wellham was run out late in the day after weighing in with for 49 Pakistan declared today at

cracking 102 not out. SCOREBOARD Scoreboard after the third day of the cricket match be-Pakistan tween

368 for six with Asif Mujtaba

Queensland at the Gabba cricket ground in Brisbane to-QUEENSLAND: 1st innings

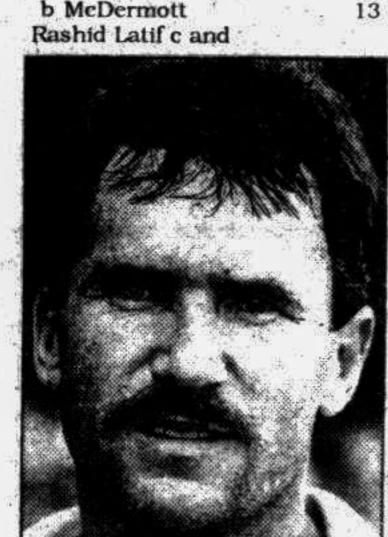
Matthews sends

NSW reeling SYDNEY, Dec 21: Australian Test all-rounder Greg Matthews spun New South Wales into a strong position in their Sheffield Shield maich against South Australia in Adelaide by picking up four wickets on Sunday, reports

The 33-year-old off-spinner conceded just 17 runs from 25.5 overs as South Australia laboured to 215 all out to trail by 184 on first innings.

Matthews' return for the innings was four for 25 from 32.5 overs. In Perth, Saturday century

maker Dene Hills went on to score 138 his highest Shield score as Tasmania piled up 457 for nine declared in reply to Western Australia's first innings 417.



ALLAN BORDER... 71 n.o b Kasprowicz Naved Anjum c Healy b Kasprowicz

Extras: (2lb, 1nb) Total: (for six wickets declared) Fall: 1-116; 2-176; 3-305: 4-325; 5-360; 6-360

Mushtag Ahmed not out

Bowling: McDermott 6 68 Kasprowicz 3 0 16 0 Border

T. Barsby c Sohail b Mushtaq Ahmed M Hayden c Mujtaba b Mushtaq Ahmed P Goggin c Mujtaba b Mushtaq Ahmed S Law c Rashid b Akram A Border not out D Welham run out S Storey not out Extras: (2b, 4lb, 9nb, 1w) Total: (for five wickets)

Fall: 1-101; 2-157; 3-160;

4-174; 5-301.

QUEENSLAND; 2nd innings

Wasim Akram Aaqib Javed 12 2 34 0 Naved Anjum 11 0 70 Mushtaq Ahmed 23 2 100 Shahid Saeed 0 31 0 Aamir Sohail 2 0 19 Asil Muitaba Rain washes out

WI-Victoria tie BENDIGO, Australia, Dec 21: Persistent rain forced the

abandonment today of the four-

day cricket match between Victoria and the West Indies at the Queen Elizabeth Oval in Bendigo, Victoria, reports No play was possible on the first two days and a third elec-

trical storm struck again on Sunday night The tourists now go into the second Test against Australia at Melbourne starting

on Boxing Day with no first class cricket since the end of the first Test in Brisbane earlier this month. The other major loser was Victorian batsman Dean Jones.

who missed and opportunity to push his Test claims. -indones has had only three first class knocks this summer and is struggling to retain his place in the Test 12 which will

be named on Tuesday. Left-arm paceman Mike Whitney is expected to replace the injured Bruce Reid while Shane Warne is tipped to come in at the expense of Jones to

add variety to the attack. The Australians could not dismiss the West Indian tail on the last day in Brisbane and legspinner Warne is expected to be included as another option for Allan Border.

LONDON, Dec 21: Robin Smith has cracked a bone in his toe just a week before the England team leave for their cricket tour of India, reports Reuter.

But England manager Keith Fletcher said on Sunday he was confident Smith would be fit for the first tour match starting on January 3.

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FBRKBTQC

EQ ZIPFFBRU.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Reuter.

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Today's Cryptoquip clue: F equals P

KJJTPRD

CRYPTOQUIP

EWQBTZBCU,

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DID THE LIFE STORY OF

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

FINAL Meanwhile, the two-day fi-Each team will get a maximum of eighty overs to bat.