

Ajax, Orient win well

Sports Reporter
Ajax Sporting Club and Orient S C posted easy wins in their respective Second Division cricket league engagements at different city venues yesterday.

Munna leads an Evergreen march

Sports Reporter
An electrifying 35 not out by pace bowler Munna proved invaluable in the end for Evergreen when they registered a 33-run victory against Eskaton Sabuj Sangha in the Milars First Division league at the Mirpur Pallabi cricket ground yesterday.

India need a win desperately

CAPE TOWN, South Africa, Jan 1: India's need for a win has determined team selection for the fourth and final cricket Test which begins on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Aussies keen to increase lead

SYDNEY, Jan 1: Allan Border's buoyant Australians are ready to torment West Indies on a Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) pitch expected to suit spinners in the third Test starting on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Hartland replaces injured Wright

HAMILTON, New Zealand, Jan 1: New Zealand on Friday drafted in the inexperienced Blair Hartland to replace injured veteran batsman John Wright, reports Reuter.

ORIENT CANTER

In the other match of the day, an unbeaten 71-run third-wicket partnership from opener Rubel and Tuhin ensured Orient SC a convincing eight-wicket victory over Mill Barracks at the Dhanmondi Club ground.

Navana Premier league resumes today

Sports Reporter
Navana Premier Division cricket league resumes on the second day of new year, today at the Dhaka Stadium with Brothers Union playing Kalabagan Krira Chakra.

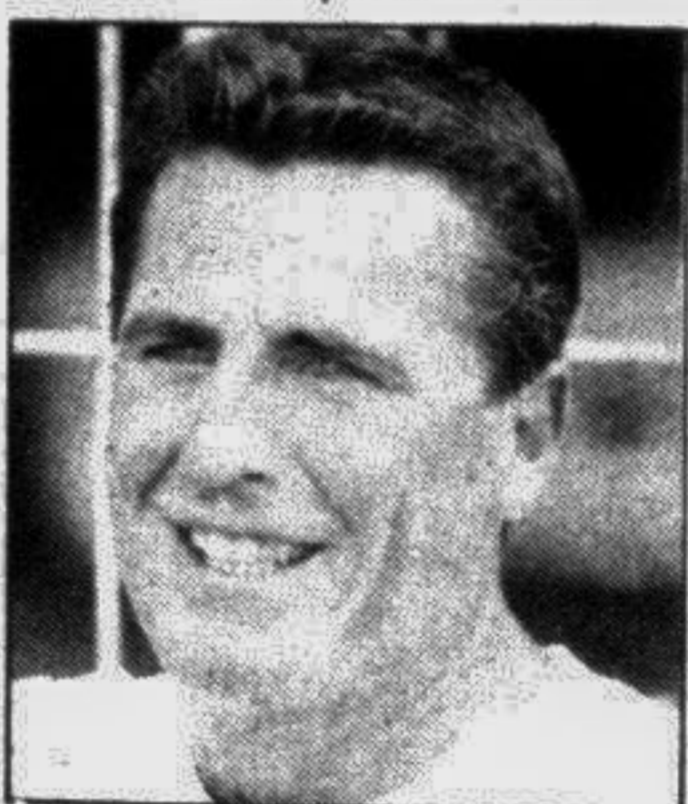
No third umpire in England-India Test series

NEW DELHI, Jan 1: The Indian cricket board has decided against using a third umpire during the forthcoming Test series against England, reports Reuter.

Lobanovsky loses his job

ABU DHABI, Jan 1: Valery Lobanovsky, who managed the Soviet Union in three World Cups, has been sacked as United Arab Emirates coach after his players threatened to strike, reports AFP.

what you see is what you get. I tend to play the length a lot and that eliminates a lot of the tum.



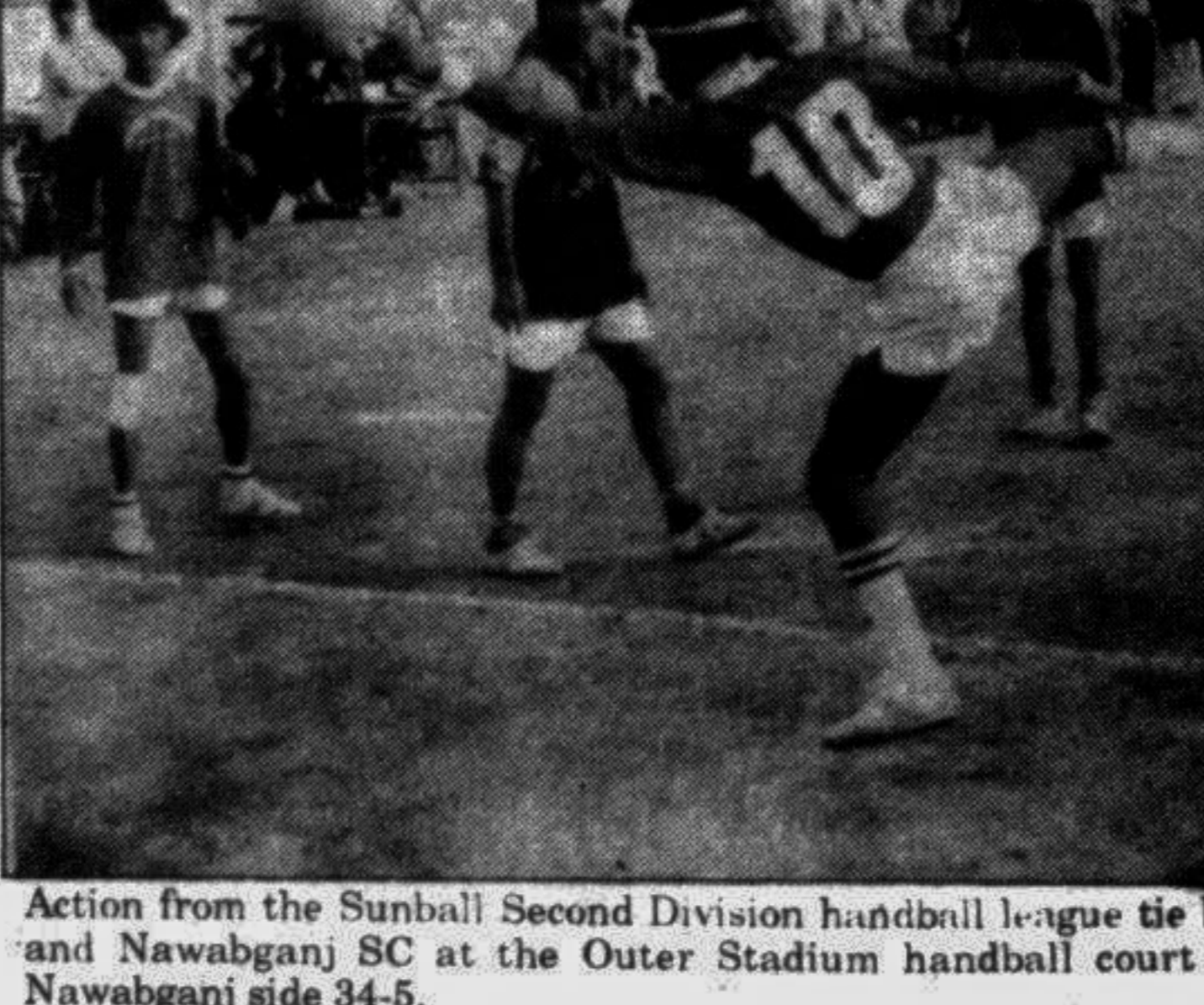
JOHN WRIGHT

Voted best batsman of last year's cricket World Cup, Crowe holds the New Zealand side together. Displaying an elegant style, the 30-year-old captain top-scored for New Zealand in each of the three one-day matches.

Jadukar Samad soccer begins today

Sports Reporter
The Jadukar Samad juvenile football tournament begins this afternoon at the Outer Stadium with Padmandi Samaj Kalyan taking on Mansur Sporting Club in the inaugural match.

Winners led the first half 10-6. Arif and Bulbul with seven and five goals respectively engineered the Nabin victory. Sohail returned with four for the losers.



Action from the Sunball Second Division handball league tie between Christian Youth Club and Nawabganj SC at the Outer Stadium handball court yesterday. CYC dumped the Nawabganj side 34-5.

management demanded to see replays of the incident. After the game Pakistan were diplomatic, but team manager Naushad Ali said the batsman should have been given the benefit of doubt.

The experienced Pakistani pace trio of Waqar Younis, Wasim Akram and Aaqib Javed are all fit for the five-day game. Javed will probably be selected after being suspended for one match for swearing at a New Zealand umpire.

Miandad acknowledged that his side's batting was poor in the one-day games but said Test matches were completely different.

I am sure in the five-day game the boys will be okay because they know how to play, said the Pakistan captain, who will be playing his 118th Test.

Stewart may miss the tour opener

NEW DELHI, Jan 1: Batsman and wicketkeeper Alec Stewart is struggling to be fit for England's opening tour match in India on Sunday, reports AFP.

The Surrey captain was hit on the finger while batting in the nets on Thursday. X-rays showed there was no break but it was badly bruised and swollen.

Stewart said: "I think I will be OK, but I am not sure if I will bat again today. It's bit early to say anything else - let's see how it goes."

Team manager Keith Fletcher said: "It's just blown up a bit and we are hoping he will be OK."

Stewart is expected to be forced out of at least the keeper's role for Sunday's tour opener against Delhi at Faridabad.

It could mean an early chance for Yorkshire's uncapped Richard Blakey in the three-day fixture.

Robin Smith is already ruled out as he continues to recover from a broken toe, sustained in the Lilles Hall nets two weeks ago.

TEAM

SOUTH AFRICA: Kepler Wessels (captain), Andrew Hudson, Peter Kirsten, Darryl Cullinan, Jonty Rhodes, Hansie Cronje, Brian McMillan, Dave Richardson, Omar Henry, Craig Matthews, Allan Donald.

Kapil, Tendulkar sue an SA daily

DURBAN, South Africa, Jan 1: Indian cricketers Kapil Dev and Sachin Tendulkar have sued a newspaper and a cosmetics firm in this east coast city for 400,000 rands (131,000 dollars) for using a poster of them without their permission, according to the Star newspaper Thursday, reports AFP.

The poster appeared in the 'Leader' newspaper last month, and the cricketers say the name of a health drink on a mug used in an advertisement in India was replaced with the company's logo, Modico.

Shastri won't make it

CAPE TOWN, Jan 1: India's vice-captain Ravi Shastri, plagued by an injury problem, will miss the fourth and final Test against South Africa starting on January 2, reports PTI.

Shastri, who is suffering from a swollen knee, will undergo conventional treatment, Mathur said at the Newlands Stadium, venue for the Test. "No operation is considered necessary at this point of time," he said, adding that "this is what surgeons advise here."

Perag Socks badminton on Sports Reporter

Five matches were decided on the opening day of the 12th Pallima Perag Socks badminton tournament that got underway at the Pallima Sangsad ground at Khilgaon on Thursday.

In the men's singles Shakil beat Atiq 15-1, 15-2. In another match Kochi outplayed 15-2, 15-6.

In the men's doubles the Mahbub-Sarwar pair got past the Rinku-Stru duo 15-2, 15-6. The Rana-Suman pair beat Ratan and Momon 15-4, 15-2.



A real happy new year for Mike Gatting who obliges the autograph hunters after a practice session of the touring England team at Feroz Shah Kotla, Delhi on Friday. - Photo AFP

Mathews is almost certain to be included in place of left-arm paceman Mike Whitney, while the West Indians have made one change from the team beaten in Melbourne.

Wicketkeeper David Williams, who made a pair in the second Test and showed poor form behind the stumps, has been dropped in favour of his understudy Junior Murray.

Murray, from the island of Grenada, will be making his Test debut, though he has played in one-day internationals on the tour.

Carl Hooper, out of form with the bat, has been retained because of his off-spin bowling.

TEAMS

Australia: Allan Border (captain), Mark Taylor, David Boon, Steve Waugh, Mark Waugh, Damien Murray, Greg Matthews, Ian Healy, Merv Hughes, Craig McDermott, Shane Warne, Mike Whitney.

West Indies: Richie Richardson (captain), Desmond Haynes, Phill Simmons, Brian Lara, Keith Arthurton, Jimmy Adams, Junior Murray, Curtly Ambrose, Ian Bishop, Carl Hooper, Courtney Walsh, 12th man - Gus Logie.

SMG may be eclipsed at SCG

SYDNEY, Jan 1: Australian cricket captain Allan Border wants to score the remaining 144 runs he needs to overtake India's Sunil Gavaskar as Test cricket's all-time leading run-scorer, reports AP.

Border will go into the third Test against the West Indies, starting at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Saturday, within sight of Gavaskar's lofty tally of 10,122 runs after scoring 110 in Melbourne earlier this week. Australia won that Test and holds a 1-0 lead in the five-Test series after the first match was drawn.

The 37-year-old Border has never scored a Test century at the Sydney Cricket Ground. He said Friday that he was hoping for a double that would see him score his first hundred at his former home ground and claim the record.

Another one for Chemwoyo

SAO PAULO, Brazil, Jan 1: Simon Chemwoyo of Kenya nipped defending champion Arturo Barrios of Mexico and beat 11,000 other competitors Thursday to win the 68th annual St Silvester road race, reports AP.

The 24-year-old Chemwoyo completed the 15-kilometre (9.3-mile) race in 44 minutes and 08 seconds to capture dls 5,000. With a time of 44 minutes and 17 seconds, Barrios failed to win his third consecutive victory by only nine seconds.

Libya withdraw from WC '94

ZURICH, Jan 1: Libya have pulled out of their 1994 World Cup qualifying group, the International Football Federation (FIFA) said on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

The withdrawal, due to the United Nations ban on flights to or from Libya, means Africa Group D now only comprises Nigeria, Congo and South Africa.

Libya's participation had been in severe doubt since September when all their matches were postponed indefinitely.