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.

Electing to bat, Ajax Sporting Club amassed 198 for the loss of four wickets in their quota of 35 overs. Rupam, their two-down batsman, hit nine fours and a couple of sixes in his hurricane 38-ball 68 to be the top scorer. Ajax opener Rafiqui also sent nine shots across the fence in his contribution of 61 runs from 67 balls. Montu, who shared in two significant partnerships with Rupam, played a sensible 75-ball knock punctuated by four fours for his 44.

Babu took two wickets out of the four to fall in the innings

for ten runs. In reply, United Heroes found the asking rate - just under six runs per over - out of their reach and when time ran out on them they had three wickets in hand but were 21 runs off the mark. Sujon topscored with 40 (4x4, 6x1) while Sayeed made 36 with two fours and a six. Extras provided some 37 runs.

Rozel, Ragib and Sohel took two wickets each.

ORIENT CANTER

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

Sent in to bat, Mill Barracks managed 138 in 35 overs losing nine wickets thanks to last-minute effort by Tapan and Pappu who put on 38 runs off

26 balls. Nagib, the Orient skipper, led his side's bowling with ligures of two for 17 in his seven-over spell. Mamun, Sohag and Masum also claimed

two wickets for 23 runs each. Chasing a modest total Orient cantered home in 21.5 overs losing only two wickets.

Rubel hit five boundaries for his unbeaten 43 followed by Pappu who notched up 31 and Tuhin remained unbeaten on 25. The Mill Barracks man behind the stumps helped Orient's cause considerably by assisting in some 40 extras

Zakir took the two Orient wickets to fall for 36.

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. Navana league was sus-

pended November 25 onwards on account of the four nation SAARC cricket tournament which was postponed on December 9 because of grow ing tension over the demolition of a mosque in India.

The start can herald another stoppage in cricketing engagements as the President Cup football tournament is scheduled to start from January 6 at the same venue. A string pulling tussle is going on between the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) and the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) over the possession of the field. The BFF has already secured permission from the National Sports Council (NSC), but the cricket board president has reportedly written to the NSC authority to hold only a few matches instead of a wholesale staging to minimise the extent of damage feared from the stamping of the footballers

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.

The Indian board has not made the arrangements for video monitoring of close deci-

sions," Chandappa Nagaraj, the board's secretary, said or England manager Keith

Thursday, said on Thursday. Fletcher said the experiment with the third umpire had

proved successful during the India's South African tour. He said he would welcome the introduction of a third umpire for the Test series in

India but the England management would "Not insist on

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.

Munna leads an Evergreen march

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 Sabut Sangha in the Milnars First Division league at the Mirpur Pallabi cricket ground yes-

Sent in to bat first, Evergreen squandered a solid start only to be brought back into contention by tailenders of whom Munna played a prominent role. The number ten batsman swung his bat to striking effect as 35 runs were deposited to his account off 23 balls inclusive of three fours

and one sixer. There was Nafis also who played no less important a role to revive the comatose Evergreen innings. He scored a sedate, boundariless 30 off 43 balls before being bowled by Colonel.

Such rearguard action perhaps entered the mind of none of the Evergreen batsman earlier in the morning when openers Shahed and Tutan laid an excellent platform for earefree assault on the toiling Eskaton bowlers. Biplab was the man for

Eskaton to halt the menacing march of the Evergreen open- claimed two wickets each as

Sports Reporter

ers - Shahed and Tutan. He had Shahed caught by Zahid for an aggressive 40 made with the help of five cracks at the fence and one over it. Then he removed Tutan for 18 and Mashuq for 9 and the sluicegates were opened with Biplab's partner Opt finding the wicket taking formula much to the dismay of the Evergreen batsmen.

Three wickets fell on the score of 91 another six runs later and by the 38.4 overs out of the stipulated 45 overs. Evergreen were precariously placed at 129 for eight. And then came the rescue act which took them to a total of 181 for nine wickets.

Biplab and Opi shared eight Evergreen wickets between themselves. Biplab was dead lier of the two bagging four for 18 which Opi took four for 22

Colonel claimed one for 31. Eskaton openers took a cue from their counterparts posting 50 in 16.1 overs. Pappu topscored with 44 before being stumped by Liton off Nafis. The other opener Biplab was run out for 20 and Masud too left for 20 with the score on 92. From then on wickets fell at regular interval and four batsmen were run out as panic gripped them.

Tutan, Nafis and Afzal

Eskaton innings folded at 148

Another neat innings of 54 by Agrani Bank batsman Atio set up an easy seven-wicket victory for his side against Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha in the other match of the day at the Dhanmondi Cricket

Only skipper Dear made any attempt to swim against the tide scoring a defiant 29. Opener Shaheen and Halim Babu made 13 each, Ismail scored an unbeaten 13 as Bima were bowled out for 130 in 44.2 overs.

Bankers suffered an early set back losing experienced Anwar for two but a polished 39 by Niaz, the other opener and a solid 54 by Atiq rowed

Ratan with two for 30 was

Hartland replaces injured Wright

Zealand, Jan 1:

nd to open the batting in Saturday's Test match against

to prop up the side's suspect-

Hartland has played a handful of Tests for New Zealand but has yet to prove himself. He is likely to play alongside flamboyant left-han-

der Mark Greatbatch. New Zealand coach Warren Lees told reporters he would probably be selecting leftarmed seamer Murphy Su'a and pace bowler Michael Owens for the Test. Neither played in the one-day series

Su'a and Ownes back, and I think it would be quite an opportune time to introduce them to the Pakistanis," Lees

failed in all three one-dayers in New Zealand.

kind of assurance.

endary compatriot Abdul Qadir.

"You need good, clear concentration. You don't go look-

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Boys Club 15-13 in one of the two matches of the Sunball Second Division handball league at the Outer Stadium handball court yester-

and five goals respectively engineered the Nabin victory. Sohel returned with four for the losers.

In another match Christian Youth Club recorded a massive 34-5 victory against Nawabganj Sporting Club.

The pattern was set in the first half which showed an assailable 20-2 lead in favour of the winners.

Shahid did the bulk of scoring with ten goals, lle was followed by Sabil

Javed scored thrice for the losers while Malek and Aslam found the target once each.

Kurmitola Apollo Club vs

Goshthi

Progoti Boys Club vs Old

in 42.5 overs.

Bankers put the insurancemen in when veteran Jogesh called correctly in the spin of coin. Fine bowling by medium pace duo of Azam and Pappu soon reduced Bima to 93 for eight wickets.

bankers out on the safe waters. Azam who bowled so well in the Bima innings remained unbeaten on 17 as Agrant Bank posted 134 for three wickets.

the pick of the Bima bowlers.

30.4 overs.

TODAY'S MATCH Railway vs Dhanmondi

New Zealand on Friday drafted in the inexperienced Blair Hartla-

out-of-form Pakistan to replace injured veteran batsman John Wright, reports Reuter. The 38-year-old Wright, New Zealand's most prolific run scorer, had been selected

looking top order, especially against the fiery Pakistan pace attack. But he broke a finger on Wednesday.

against, Pakistan that just fin-

"We've deliberately kept

The world one-day champions appear to have even bigger problems with their batting. They lie last in the triangular series under way in Australia with the home side and West Indies, their batting having

New Zealand won the series 2-1 with Pakistan failing to score more than 158. Captain Javed Miandad 'is the only player to have batted with any

Batsmen, especially the New Zealanders, will need to be on their toes on the hard and fast wicket in Trust Bank Park in Hamilton, Southeast of Auckland. They suffered in practice on the main block of the wicket on Friday.

New Zealand captain Martin Crowe, however, chose to pay tribute to wily leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed on Friday, comparing him with his leg-

ing for one thing or another,

Handball results

Nabin Sangha edged past

Winners led the first half

Arif and Bulbul with seven

who scored eight and Mamun six goals respectively.

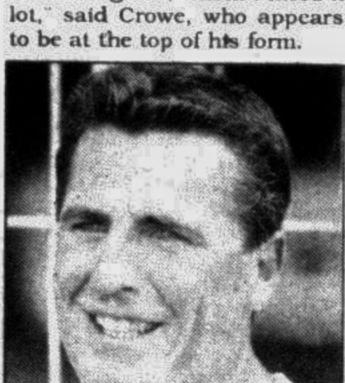
TODAY'S MATCHES

Nawabpur Sporting Club Avijatrik vs Sachetan

Farashganj Sporting Club vs. Anirban Sangsad.

what you see is what you get.

tend to play the length a lot and that eliminates a lot of the "He's a good bowler but I enjoy facing him. "He's similar to Abdul Qadir, whom I faced a



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.

Miandad held back announcing his team until shortly before the match, but youngster Shahid Saeed will be nervously watching the controversial third umpire - rejected by India for the English tour just beginning - if he is se-

Saeed was the first player in New Zealand to be adjudged out by a third umpire watching television relays and was then given out again by the third umpire in controversial circumstances in the third oneday match in Auckland.

Saeed's bat was on the line when Dipak Patel threw down his stumps, and Pakistani team

Jadukar Samad soccer begins today

Sports Reporter

The Jadukar Samad juvenile football tournament begins this afternoon at the Outer Stadium with Padmanidhi Samai Kalyan taking on Mansur Sporting Cub in the inaugural match.

Twenty teams divided into four groups will play in a robin league system. The champions and runners-up of every group will play in the quarter-final. Two matches will be played everyday.

Law and Justice Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz will inaugurate the meet as chief guest.

management demanded to see

replays of the incident. After the game Pakistan were diplomatic, but team manager Naushad Ali said the

given the benefit of doubt. pace trio of Waqar Younis, Wasim Akram and Aagib 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.

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

Probable Teams

New Zealand: M Greatbatch, B Hartland, A Jones, M Crowe (captain), K Rutherford, C Harris, D. Patel, A Parore, D Morrison, M Su'a, M Owens, W Watson.

the tour opener

The Surrey captain was hit on the finger while batting in swollen.

Stewart said: "I think I will be OK, but I am not sure if I will bat again today. It's bit carly to say anything clse -

tcher said: "It has just blown up a bit and we are hoping he will be OK.

opener against Delhi at Faridabad. It could mean an early chance for Yorkshire's unca-

pped 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.

batsman should have been The experienced Pakistani

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

will be playing his 118th Test.

Pakistan: Javed Miandad (captain), Rameez Raja, Aamir Sohail, Salim Malik, Inzamamul-Haq, Asif Mujtaba, Shahid Saeed, Saeed Anwar, Rashid Latif, Wasim Akram, Wagar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed, Aaqib Javed Naved Anjum, Ata-ur-Rahman.

Stewart may miss

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 nets on Thursday. X-rays showed there was no break but it was badly bruised and

let's see how it goes." Team manager Keith Fle

Stewart is expected to be forced out of at least the keeper's role for Sunday's tour

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. India, 1-0 down in the series after losing the third Test in Port Elizabeth this week, have recalled Javagal Srinath, their young fast bowler, to give

them a five-man attack. South Africa have brought in batsman Darryl Cullinan for his

India have also recalled Ajay Jadeja, fit again after a hand injury. He replaces Ravi Shastri who undergoes surgery on his left knee here on Saturday.

Sanjay Manjrekar will be dropped unless Woorkeri Raman, who has a bruise above his eye affecting his vision, falls a fitness test. In that case Manoj Prabhakar will open.

South Africa have retained Omar Henry, as the wicket is likely to take spin, and dropped left-arm fast bowler

Brett Schultz.

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. INDIA: Woorkeri Raman or Sanjay Manjrekar, Ajay Jadeja Mohammad Azharuddin (captain), Sachin Tendulkar, Praveen Amre, Kapil Dev. Kiran More, Manoj Prabhakar, Venkat Raju, Anil Kumble,

Javagal Srinath. 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,

Bishop made a plaintive cry of and the cricketers say the where's the grass? Wen he saw name of a health drink on a the pitch, while Border said he mug used in an advertisement hoped the pairing of Warne in India was replaced with the and off-spinner Greg Matthews company's logo, Modico Leader' Editor Sunil Bramdaw confirmed that he

the two cricketers. Shastri won't

had received a letter of de-

mand from lawyers acting for

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

Shastri is reportedly trying to contact his surgeon Dr Anand Joshi who was treating him in Bombay but the doctor is away in Bangalore.

Meanwhile, Ajay Jadeja has

recovered from his hand injury

sustained about two weeks ago and had gone for the net practice today. 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-Siru duo 15-2, 15-6. The Rana-Suman pair beat Ratan and Momen 15-4, 15-2.



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. - Star photo



A real happy new year for Mike Gatting who obliges the autograph hunters after a practice

Aussies keen to increase lead

session of the touring England team at Feroz Shah Kotla, Delhi on Friday.



SYDNEY, Jan 1: Allan Border's buoyant Australians are ready to tor-

ment West Indies on a Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) pitch expected to suit spinners in the third Test starting on

Saturday, reports Reuter. Border's team, who won the second Test in Melbourne-by 139 runs after an incisive spell of seven for 52 from leg-spinner Shane Warne, feel they have ideal conditions to secure another victory for a 2-0 lead

in the five-Test series.

The SCG has been a happy Test venue for Australia against West Indies, even when the touring team were at their most dominant during the 1980s, and groundsman Peter Leroy has prepared a flat, brown strip almost totally devoid of grass which would favour spin.

West Indies fast bowler lan

could spin his side to a second consecutive victory. That wicket seems to be

just what the doctor ordered

for us," Border said. "It looks like it's going to play very well

but hopefully assist the spinners." "That's basically what we wanted to happen and I'm really happy with it. There's no safety-first stuff and we are go-

ing to go straight for the jugu-West Indies suffered emphatic defeats in Sydney during their 3-1 series victories against Australia in 1984-85 and 1988-89, but captain Richie Richardson said he had

gard history. Even though we lost Test matches here in the past, that doesn't say we should do it here again," Richardson said.

"We are a good enough

team to beat Australia and if we

play well, we will beat them.

stressed his side must disre-

We have done it quite a lot to come from behind." West Indies have not lost a Test series since early 1980 when they were beaten 1-0 in a three-match rubber in New

Matthews is almost certain to be included in place of leftarm paceman Mike Whitney,

- Photo AFP

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

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

played in one-day internation-

TEAMS Australia: Allan Border (captain), Mark Taylor, David Boon, Steve Waugh, Mark

Waugh, Damien Martyn, Greg

Matthews, Ian Healy, Merv Hu-

ghes, 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

"I would like to do it here

to get it out of the way,"

Australian fast bowler Craig

McDermott successfully came

through a strenous net session

on Friday and looks virtually

certain to play after doubts

over an injured thigh.



SYDNEY, Jan 1: Australian cricket captain Allan Border wants to score the remaining 144 runs he nceds to overtake India's Sunil Gav-askar 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

Border said. "I had it in my

ALLAN BORDER mind at the start of the year that I would like to do it in

it's looming. Border's century at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) last week was his first in Australia in more than five years, taking him to 25 centuries in all. Australia is in the box scat to win the series after young leg-spinner Shane Warne en-

on Wednesday. Australian fast bowler Craig McDermott came through a strenuous net session successfully on Friday afternoon and looks certain to play after earlier doubts over his injured

gineered a 139-run victory at

the MCG with a devastating

spell of seven wickets for 52

Out-of-form all-rounder Carl Hooper is likely to be retained by the West Indies because of his off-spin bowling, but David Williams could forfeit the wicketkeeper's spot to under-

his former home ground and study Junior Murray. claim the record. Australia if possible and now The likely teams: Another one for Chemwoyo



SAO PAULO, Brazil. Jan 1: Simon Chemwoyo of Kenya nipped defending champion Arturo Barios of Mexico and beat 11,000 other co-mpetitors 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 dirs 5,000. With a time of 44 minutes and 17 seconds, Barios failed to win his third consecutive victory by only nine sec-

A few hours earlier Maria

del Carmen Diaz of Mexico

won the women's division in

BJMC Khulna Zone

annual sports KHULNA, Jan 1: The thirteenth annual sports competition of Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation of Khulna Zone was held here today at the Crescent Jute Mills ground, reports BSS.

One hundred seventy five

athletes including forty female

from all the twelve Jute Mills

of this zone took part in forty-

The competition was for-

mally inaugurated by Jute

Minister Brig (Retd) A S M

Hannan Shah who also dis-

winners.

tributed prizes among the

three events of this competi-Crescent Jute Mills became group champion while Platinum Jubilee Jute Mills became runners-up.

54 minutes flat. "At the beginning I thought

pointed.

I was going to win easily, but the race got more and more difficult," Chemwoyo said, panting and perspiring heavily after being the first Kenyan to win the St Silvester race. Barrios was visibly disap-

"I expected to win, but the

Brazilians Johny Regis

Kenyan proved to be a stronger

Pazin, Vanderlei Cordeiro de

runner than me," he said.

Lima and Arthur Freitas Castro came in third, fourth and fifth with 44.55, 45.02 and 45.14 respectively. For the first time in its 68year-old history the race was held as part of the official cal-

endar of the International

Amateur Athletics Federation.

Athletes from more than 10 countries raced along Sao Paulo's wide, skyscraper-lined avenues and up and down and around its narrow winding streets. Barrios and Chemwoyo took

and Faustino Reynoso. Chemwoyo soon pulled ahead with Barrios a few metres behind in second place. The other runners were left far behind. The Kenyan soon plaged some 50 metres be-

an early lead followed closely

by Mexicans Alejandro Cruz

tween himself and Barrios. In the final uphill stretch, Barrios started catching up and within a few seconds was running side by side with Chemwoyo. The Mexican managed to pull ahead but was unable to hold on to the lead. Chemwoyo overtook Barrios

and held on to the lead until

crossing the finish line. Thousands of spectators lined the race's course cheering and applauding. Some broke through police lines to offer small cups of water to the athletes who ran under a temperature of 35 degrees centigrade (95 degrees Fahrenheit).

Women started competing

in 1975 and until 1987 ran to-

gether with the men but classified separately. The race is named after St Silvester, the Roman Catholic saint whose feast day is celebrated Dec 31. It was first run in 1924 and was the brainchild of Casper Libero, founder of the Gazeta Esportiva newspaper - the event's main

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

Libya's participation had

Untied Nations ban on flights

to or from Libya, means Africa

Group D now only comprises

Nigeria, Congo and South

been in severe doubt since September when all their matches were postponed indefinitely.