

3 President Cup teams due today

Sports Reporter
With just three days to go for the seventh President Cup football tournament it is time for the participating teams to start arriving.

Three participating club sides— Krylia Sovetov of Russia, Polonia Warszawa of Poland and the national Olympic selection of Malaysia are due in the city today. While the two first named teams are expected at 5:30 this afternoon the Malaysians are due around 10:45 tonight.

Another team— FC Tatran Presov of the former Czechoslovakia which was also due to arrive today will now reach the capital on January 5, the day the eight-team 11-day meet kicks off. FC Ploesti of Romania and the Housing Bank Club of South Korea are also expected on that day.

A high level meeting of the organising committee headed by its chairman Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman yesterday reviewed the preparations for the prestigious club level competition and expressed satisfaction at the state of affairs.

However, a Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) source told The Daily Star on condition of anonymity last night that the response from likely sponsors has not been very encouraging. BFF, which has budgeted a staggering sum of Taka one crore 49 lakh 13 thousand for the tournament had received assurances of only Taka 39 lakh as of last night.

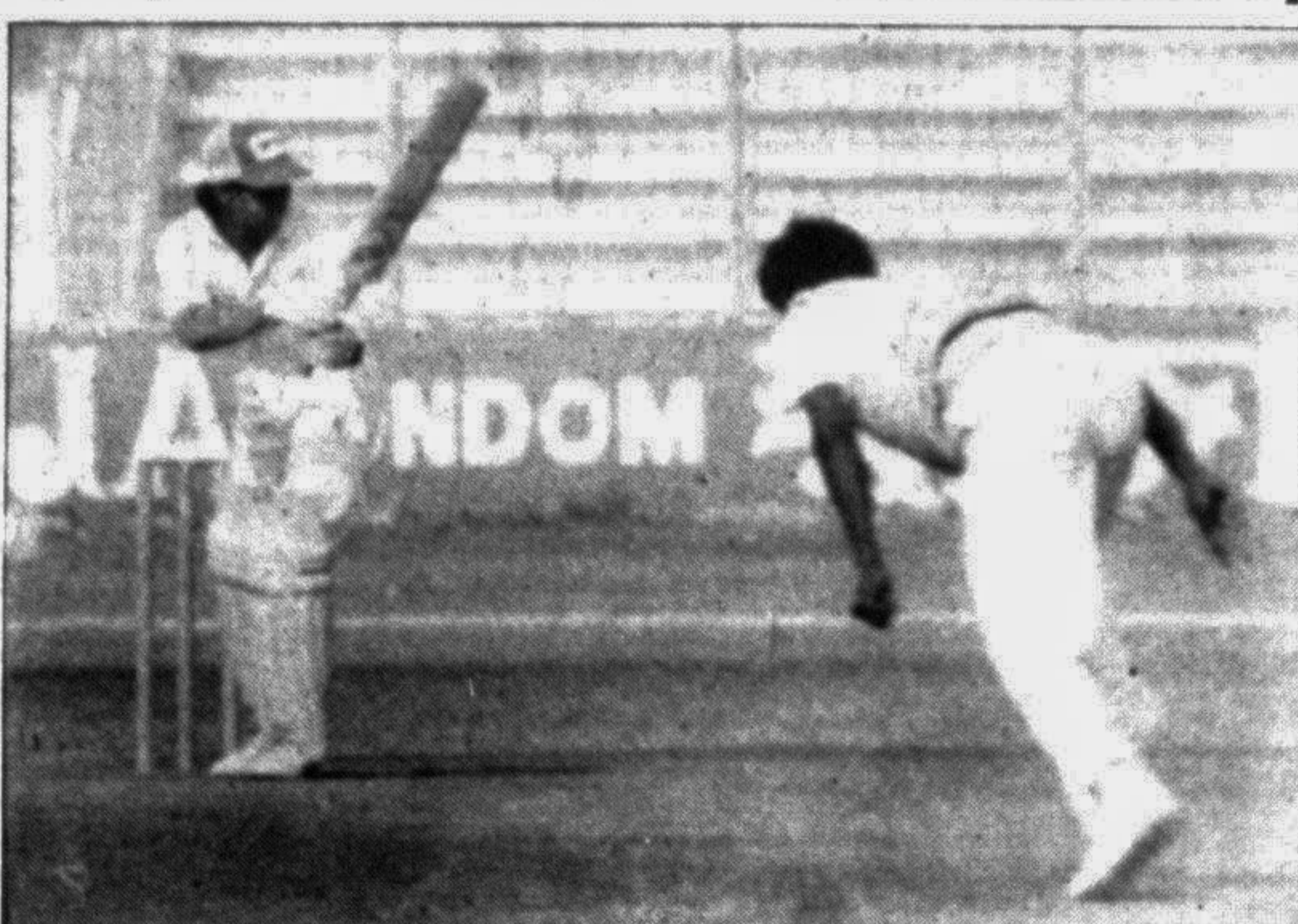
However, he expressed the hope that more money would flow in over the next few days and he felt confident the tourney, which will feature as many as four European sides—an unprecedented event in Bangladesh soccer—would draw encouraging crowds to offset the huge costs.

The organisers are offering US 25,000 dollars (roughly Taka ten lakh) as prize money with the champions standing to collect a purse of 12,000 dollars besides the glittering gold cup— first introduced in 1981—and the runners-up receiving 8,000 dollars. The third-placed team will get 5,000 dollars.

The teams will put up at Hotel Purbani.

Meanwhile, the two Bangladesh entries—the Reds and the Greens—are undergoing hectic practice sessions.

The Reds meet Polonia Warszawa in the meet opener at 5:30 pm on January 6 at the Dhaka Stadium.



Abahani opener Jahangir Alam tucks a delivery from Gulshan Youth pacemen Shabbir Chowdhury down the leg side during yesterday's Navana Premier league cricket match at the Dhaka Stadium. Abahani won by nine wickets with Jahangir making 27. — Star photo

Abahani romp past Gulshan

Sports Reporter

Off Spinner Efec was at his miserly best conceding just nine runs from eight spot on overs. Twenty-two extra runs crushed Gulshan Youth by nine wickets, at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Gulshan skipper Nasir Ahmed Nasu's decision to bat first proved to be an absolutely wrong headed premise as his side struggled all along to finish their 40-over vigil at 112 for nine wickets.

Abahani bowlers were never forced to scratch their heads with pacemen Anis, Shamin and Sri Lankan spinner Ashoka de Silva capturing two wickets each.

Gulshan's Shabbir (jr) topped with 21 followed by Shabbir (sr) 15 and Ehsan 14. Anis, the young left arm medium pacer was the pick of the bowlers taking two for 14 off eight overs. Shamin also took two wickets for 27 runs. Leg-spinner Ashoka de Silva snared two batsmen for 12 runs.

Abahani opener Jahangir Alam tucks a delivery from Gulshan Youth pacemen Shabbir Chowdhury down the leg side during yesterday's Navana Premier league cricket match at the Dhaka Stadium. Abahani won by nine wickets with Jahangir making 27. — Star photo

Big wins for Kakrail, Wari KC

Sports Reporter

With an asking rate of exactly five runs an over, the Kakrail openers responded well to the situation putting on 54 runs off 10.3 overs before Azim was clean bowled by Mustafiz for 27 inclusive of five fours and a six. His opening partner followed closely after a 49-ball 25 only three runs later. Imtiaf sent Pappu back for nought to make Kakrail reel at 57 for three. At the onset of the 22nd over the Kakrail campaigners were on a desperate 99 for six.

But Ripon and Shafique joined forces and to the utter dismay of the Evergreen bowlers the two guided Kakrail home with 3.5 overs to spare.

Ripon hit four shots across the fence and a couple of over boundaries for a 36-ball 41 while Shafique cracked half a dozen fours for his 39 off 28 balls.

WIN FOR WARI KC

In the other match of the day at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium fine batting performances from Sohail, Feroz and Bipool paved the path for a convincing 64-run Wari KC victory over Young Pegasus A.

Sent in to bat Wari KC found themselves in trouble for some time losing two early wickets for 37. But Sohail, Feroz and Bipool set things in Wari's way and at the end of the 35th over Wari had an imposing 245 for six on the board.

Sohail topped with a 69-ball 62 punctuated by five fours.

Feroz and Bipool really took on the Pegasus bowlers sharing a thunderous 41-ball sixth-wicket partnership of 71. Feroz sent five shots to the boundary and as many as four shots over it for his 60 runs in 34 balls. Bipool, on the other end, cracked five sixes and three fours in his 49.

Morshed was the most successful Pegasus bowler on a luckless day claiming two for 43 while Irfan and Sayed took one apiece.

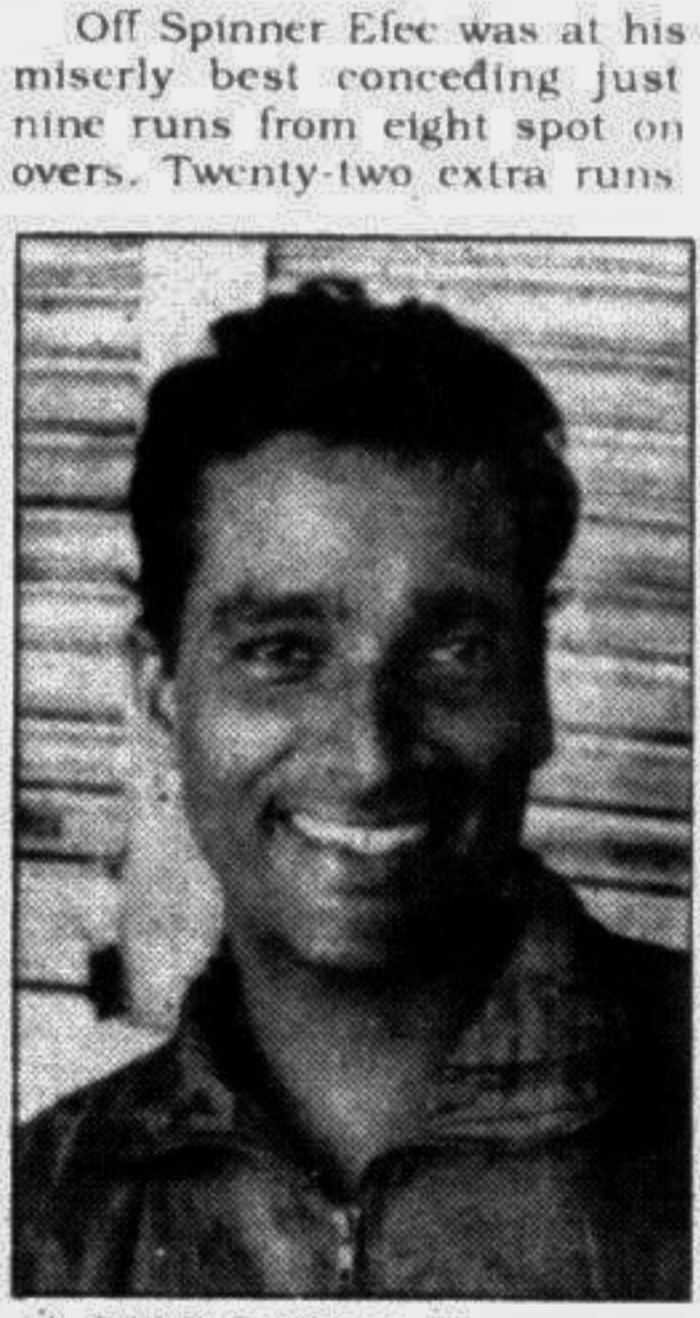
Chasing an almost impossible target of seven runs per over the Young Pegasus A innings crumbled on 181 in 29.3 overs.

Pegasus should be grateful to their one-day bat Liton who made a staid 74 in 90 balls including 10 shots to the fence.

Sohail, who topped in the Wari innings, had wonderful time with the ball claiming three wickets for 31 in his six overs.

He got able assistance from Manju, Mizan and Bipool taking one wicket each.

The Second Division league resumes tomorrow after a day's break.



A SAMARASEKARA... 69 went a long way in Gulshan's eventual total of 112 for nine wickets from the possible 40 overs.

DU retain varsities title

Sports Reporter

upper order batsman, getting a painstaking 20 while the rest found the medium-pace attack of Rafique Babu and Mamun too wobbly to max in batsmanship.

Kamrul managed a 34-run partnership with Al-Amin for the sixth wicket to spare some embarrassment with the former taking 73 balls for his precious little knock of 44 with the help of four boundaries.

Al-Amin made 17 off 33 balls but the JU tail did not wag any further and with a dwindling run rate planting self destructive urgency among the JU batsmen the innings came to a standstill at 122 for nine at the end of the stipulated 38 overs.

Rafique Babu was the best DU bowler with figures of two for 20 from eight overs.

Mamun and spinner Rupam claimed two wicket each giving away 25 and 15 runs respectively. Mahmud bagged one wicket for 24 runs.

DU were given a healthy start by openers-Kiron and Mamun who put on 54 runs in 15 overs before JU's Raju bowled Mamun for 14.

Kiron then left after having made a very aggressive 29 with all but five runs coming from boundary hits. He was soon followed by skipper Selim Shahed who scored 12.

A brief resistance by Zakaria and Atiq was enough to take DU to safe water. Zakaria made 21 while Atiq scored 20 as DU collected the necessary 123 runs for six wickets from 29.2 overs.

Kamrul captured three wicket for 31 runs to emerge as the pick of the JU bowlers. Raju to k three for 37.

Vice Chancellor Enajuddin Ahmed gave away the prize as the chief guest with Kamrul of JU winning the MOM trophy.

PEBBLE BEACH, California, Jan 3: Mark Brooks shot a bogey-free 68 on Saturday to take the second-round lead of the Pebble Beach Invitational, duplicating his first-round score, reports AP.

His 8-under-par 136 is good for a one-stroke lead over Duffy Waldorf heading into Sunday's final round.

Wari keep winning

Sports Reporter

Not one Lalimatta batsman reached double figures in their match against Wari Club as the latter registered a massive nine-wicket victory in one of the two matches of the Milnars First Division cricket league at the Mirpur Pallab ground yesterday.

Mr Sundries was the top scorer with 19.

Asim was the wrecker-in-chief with figures of three for 13. New-ball bowlers Saad and Arif took two wickets apiece giving away 24 and 13 runs respectively. Lalu had just enough time to finish with the flattering figures of two for two as Lalimatta were shot out for 67 in 28 overs.

Biddiut (jr) whisked his side to a most comfortable nine-wicket victory with a polished knock of 44 as Wari, continuing their unbeaten run, raised 68 for one wicket in 16.5 overs.

BIMA BEAT ESKATON

A fine innings of 55 by wicketkeeper Sanchay eclipsed a fiery opening burst by Colonel as Sadharan Bima beat Eskaton Sabuj Sangha by four wickets at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Batting first Eskaton were all out for 135 in 39.2 overs. Pappu top scored with 28 while Masud and Mona chipped in with 23 and 19.

Ismail was the most successful bowler for Bima taking two for 17. Dear, David and Litu picked up one wicket apiece.

Bima got off to a sedate start before Eskaton's Colonel appeared like a demon dismissing four batsmen in quick succession. Sanchay, however, held the Bima innings together with a fine unbeaten knock of 55 off 88 balls with the help of four fours.

Rizvi with 23 and skipper Towab with 15 bore Sanchay a hand to lift off a four-wicket victory by putting on 136 on the board in 34.3 overs.

There is no match for today with the league resuming after a day's break on January 5.

Former IBF champ stabbed

BERLIN, Jan 3: Former International Boxing Federation super-middleweight champion Graciano Rocchigiani and his brother were stabbed and injured in a New Year's Eve brawl, police said Saturday, reports AP.

A gritty Greatbatch leads Kiwi charge

HAMILTON, New Zealand, Jan 3: A fighting century by opener Mark Greatbatch left the cricket Test between New Zealand and Pakistan evenly balanced after the second day at Trust Bank Oval on Sunday, reports AP.

Greatbatch was seventh man out for 133 as New Zealand battled to 256 for eight at stumps, a lead of 40 over Pakistan's first innings of 216. It was Greatbatch's third Test century.

His dismissal three overs from the end — and tailender Murphy Su'a on the last ball of the day — evened up a day on which each side dominated a session.

The first two hours belonged to New Zealand, the second session to Pakistan but the home side, chiefly through Greatbatch's efforts, regained a small advantage in the final two hours.

Greatbatch and partner Blair Hartland, opening together for the first time in a Test, put on 108 to get New Zealand's response off to an excellent start. It was the third time in five Test innings that Greatbatch has shared an opening stand over 100.

Hartland showed character after being struck for the second time on the side of his helmet by Waqar Younis when

he had made 14.

A trickle of blood down the side of his head was patched up and, after being dropped by Inzamam-ul-Haq at first slip off Waqar, Hartland battled on and produced a string of impressive strokes.

His dismissal in the second over after lunch turned the balance of the match back to Pakistan.

Andrew Jones and Rod Latham went leg before wicket in the space of three balls — both for two and both to the hard-working Wasim Akram.

Stand-in captain Ken Rutherford partially restored the innings by adding 30 in 39 minutes with Greatbatch before touching a catch to wicketkeeper Rashid Latif from legspinner Mushtaq Ahmed.

Chris Harris could have been lbw on his first ball from Waqar. Harris was then missed by Rashid and Amir Sohail dropped him at second slip before Waqar finally had him lbw.

At tea, New Zealand were 168-5, still 48 runs adrift of first-innings lead.

Dipak Patel helped Greatbatch put on 29 before he tried to pull Mushtaq through mid wicket and missed, leaving him lbw.

Greatbatch reached his century in style, sweeping Mushtaq to the mid-wicket boundary.

Mushtaq toiled energetically in bowling an unbroken spell of 36 overs for three wickets. Waqar's figures im-



MARK GREATBATCH... 133 proved near the finish while Akram picked up the other two in a demanding display of swing bowling. The morning session began 45 minutes late because of light rain, but play was extended at the scheduled end of stumps.

The five-day match continues Monday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the Test match between New Zealand and Pakistan on Sunday:

PAKISTAN: First innings 216 (J Miandad 92, M Su'a five for 73).

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 256 for 8 (overnight 23-0)

M Greatbatch lbw b Waqar	133
B Hartland st Rashid	
b Mushtaq	43
A Jones lbw b Akram	2
R Latham lbw b Akram	2
K Rutherford c Rashid	
b Mushtaq	14
C Harris lbw b Waqar	6
D Patel lbw b Mushtaq	12
A Parore not out	0
Extras (nb-13, w-1, lb-13, b-1)	28
Total (for eight wickets)	256

Fall of wickets: 1-108; 2-111; 3-117; 4-147; 5-164; 6-193; 7-254; 8-256.

To bat: D Morrison, M Owens

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Waqar Younis	26	10	56	3
Wasim Akram	29	9	63	2
Mushtaq Ahmed	38	10	87	3
Aaqib Javed	7	2	24	0
Amir Sohail	5	2	12	0

A dubious penalty sends Palace home

LONDON, Jan 3: English Premier League club Crystal Palace were fuming on Saturday night after tumbling out of the FA Cup to a dubious penalty from Second Division side Hartlepool

United in the third round, reports AP.

Palace defender Richard Shaw, whose 82nd minute challenge on Nicky Southall gave Andy Saville the chance to net from the spot, had to be restrained from confronting referee Dermot Gallacher at the final whistle.

And after studying television re-runs of the incident, Palace manager Steve Coppell was equally annoyed, claiming "if that was a penalty, then there are six or seven penalties in every match."

"I was standing 40 yards away and couldn't believe it. At first I thought the referee had given a goal kick. It seems to me that their player ran into Richard. It hurts to go out of the Cup like this, especially to a marginal decision."

Hartlepool manager Alan Murray admitted that his side were lucky to be awarded the penalty, but felt Palace got the result, they merited.

"We definitely deserved to win this game," he said. "I got the impression that they came here hoping to take us back to their place. We're a better side than many people think."

"If the penalty had been given against me, I would have been upset, but sometimes these things go in your favour and sometimes they go against you."

Sheffield United boss Dave Bassett was also critical of the officials after his side scored twice in the last nine minutes to earn a 2-2 draw at home to Second Division Burnley.

"The pitch was very hard and I would have been happy if the match had been called off," he said.

"Games played in these conditions are a lottery and we started badly, but at the end of the day I'm happy with the result."

The managers of Aston Villa and Manchester City preferred to criticise their players rather than the officials after also being held to home draws by lower-grade opposition.

Villa boss Ron Atkinson was particularly harsh on his Welsh international striker Dean Saunders after he had fluffed a penalty, the 1-1 draw with First Division strugglers Bristol Rovers.

"Dean should have got that but he had an even easier

chance afterwards," stormed Atkinson. "We appreciate Rovers will take the plaudits because of their status, but we had more chances. Now we've left ourselves with a very uncomfortable replay."

Rovers manager Malcolm Allison revelled in the glory of his side's performance, quipping: "They were lucky we didn't have our full team out."

"We deserved a draw at least. The pace was a little quicker than my players are used to, but they soon adapted to it and we were as good as

Tottenham.

Relieved Arsenal manager George Graham described Wright's finishing as exquisite, as the gunners ended a run of seven matches without a win.

He admitted: "Once our first goal went in, it was just a question of how many more. We could have had five or six."

Tottenham chief coach Doug Livermore was rather more generous towards Marlow, saying: "I thought the Marlow players were a credit to the club as a difficult game for us to approach in some ways, but our attitude was good and we passed the ball well. Maybe we could have scored more goals, but we're pleased to be in the hat."

Everton boss Howard Kendall was also pleased at surviving to fight another day after a goalless draw at Wimbledon.

Jadugar Samad soccer results

Sports Reporter

Fine marksmanship by striker Nantu paved the path for an easy 4-0 victory for Chorlonti Khelaghar against Durniban Sporting Club in the Jadugar Samad juvenile football championship at the Outer Stadium yesterday.

Nantu scored two goals in the 16th and 22nd minutes of the first half to help side establish a two-nil lead before breather.

Shah Alam and Pappu then added to the tally with goals in the 10th and the 14th minutes of the second half.

In the first match of the day Diamond Sporting Club also recorded a two-nil victory against Chandpur District Bhal Bhal Sporting Club. Anwar Hossain and Itfekhar Islam scored one goal each for the winners.

Handball results

Sports Reporter

Mansur Sporting Club, Nabhin Sangha and Arunayatan Sanskritik Sangha Dal were the winners in the three matches of the Sunball Second Division handball league held at the Outer Stadium handball court yesterday.

Mansur beat Bhratri Sangha 12-11. The winners led the first half 6-2. Ismat and Yunus scored four each for the winners. Kumar and Neyamat also scored four apiece for the losers.

In another match, Nabhin Sangha drubbed Nawabganj Sporting Club 23-10 with Khokon finding the target eight times for the winners who led 10-5 at half time.

Arunayatan scored an equally effortless victory beating Dipali Juba Sangha 19-9.

Tamal with seven was the top scorer with seven goals for the victors.

WRIGHT'S HAT-TRICK

There will be no more great-killing this season, though, for non-league Yeovil and Marlow. Yeovil went down 3-1 at home to a hat-trick from Arsenal's Ian Wright, while Marlow crashed 5-1 at

Microchip dogtag!

PALMER, Alaska, Jan 3: Organisers of this year's Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race will use computer chips instead of paint to identify dogs taking part in the 1,600-kilometre (1,000-mile) trek across Alaska, reports AP.

Tiny chips the size of a grain of rice will permit officials to check each of the hundreds of dogs in the race and help prevent illegal attempts to substitute dogs.

The chips are implanted under the back of a dog's neck using a syringe and a fat, hollow-tipped needle. Dr. James Leach III, chief veterinarian for the 1993 race, said the chips have been injected into animals ranging in size from birds and puppies to llamas.

So far, he said, there have been no bad reactions.

Most mushers seem to favour the idea, especially if it does away with messy paint that rubs off on clothes.

"The paint always seemed kind of prehistoric," said Jeff King, an Iditarod musher from Denali Park. "I know I've had red paint put on my dogs and people mistake it for blood."

Musher Dee Dee Jonrowe of Willow said it's time Alaska joined the "robodog" club.

"I have one dog that's been 'chipped' for three years, and I haven't seen any bad effects," Jonrowe said. "It's permanent. A dog only has to be marked once in its life."

Microchips for identification have been used for several years in Europe's Alptrod race.

But another musher, George Atla, questioned whether enroute dog substitution was a big enough problem to warrant high-tech gadgetry. Atla said he couldn't imagine a musher choosing to leave an Iditarod-quality dog out of a starting lineup.

"If you had an extra good dog, you'd be the luckiest man in Alaska," Atla said.

MSC badminton

Sports Reporter

The Mohammedan Sporting-Peoples Insurance schools badminton championships were inaugurated at the wooden-floor gymnasium yesterday.

Organised by Mohammedan Sporting Club and sponsored by Peoples Insurance, the meet which gets off to an official start today from 3.30 pm, features 40 shuttlers including ten women from 17 school teams, four of which are from outside Dhaka.

State Minister for Textiles and chairman of the governing body of Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club Major (ret'd) MA Mannan inaugurated the tournament.



Sharmin Ahmed Momo seen in action during a practice match, organised to mark the formal opening of the Mohammedan Sporting-Peoples Insurance schools badminton tournament at the wooden-floor gymnasium yesterday. — Star photo