

Nirman final today

Sports Reporter
Former champions Willes Little Flower School will take on Saint Joseph's High School in the eleventh Nirman Schools cricket championships final for the Dhaka zone at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium today.

The 40-overs a-side match begins at 9.30 am.

Willes Little Flower beat Scholastica by 50 runs while Josephites had a more convincing 85-run victory against Saint Gregory's High School in the semifinals of the 40-team fray for Dhaka zone.

National cricketer Aminul Islam Bulbul will choose the man of the final as the adjudicator while former BCCB president KZ Islam, the pioneer and sponsor of this annual pan-Bangladesh meet, will give away the prizes as the chief guest.

Bulbul's presence as the match adjudicator will act as a booster for the budding cricketers because it was in this competition that Bulbul first caught the eye as a talented cricketer of Gandaria Boys' High School a few years back.

Five of the 44 participating schools of Dhaka zone champions were scratched for various cases of fraudulent practices.

Two hundred and forty-five schools are taking part in this year's country-wide Nirman Championships. The competition for the Dhaka zone began on January 15. None of the two finalists of last year — champions Dhanmondi Government Boys School and runners-up BCSIR School — could make it to the semifinals this year.

Incontrad volleyball from tomorrow

The second "Incontrad" inter-district volleyball (men's and women's) championship, organised by the Bangladesh Volleyball Federation, will begin tomorrow at the Dhaka Volleyball Stadium, reports UNB.

Sixteen men's teams and 11 women's teams are expected to participate in the week-long competition.

This was disclosed by Bangladesh Volleyball Federation President Major General Mahbubur Rahman at a press conference yesterday at the conference room of the National Sports Council.

Federation General Secretary Golam Quddus Chowdhury and members Sirajul Islam Bachchu and Sharif Hossain Khan also spoke on the occasion.

The men's teams are: Dhaka, Faridpur, Rajbari, Tangail (Dhaka Division), Noakhali, Comilla (Chittagong Division), Pabna, Bogra, Rajshahi, Dinajpur, Rangpur (Rajshahi Division), Meherpur, Satkhira, Khulna, Kushtia and Jessore (Khulna Division).

The women's teams are: Narayanganj, Rajbari, Tangail (Dhaka Division), Sylhet, Chittagong Cox's Bazar, Chittagong Division, Dinajpur, Rangpur, Joypurhat (Rajshahi Division), Khulna and Jessore (Khulna Division).

The organisers also reportedly extended invitations to the district teams from the newly-formed Barisal division but have not yet received any entries from that division.

Sixteen men's teams, divided in four groups, will compete in the first phase. The group champions will qualify for the semis.

The eleven women's teams, divided into two groups, will contest in the first phase with two top teams from each group qualifying for the semis.

A budget of Tk 2.25 lakh has been fixed for the tournament, of which Tk 2 lakh are likely to be provided by the sponsors, Incontrad.

Federation officials also informed newsmen that two Chinese coaches — one for the men and the other for the women — are expected to reach the capital by April to groom two local national selections for the 6th SAF Games to be held in Dhaka next December.

Mymensingh girls top Div meet

Mymensingh zone became champions in the Dhaka Divisional women's athletics competition yesterday securing 27 points, reports UNB.

Parveen Akhter of Dhaka zone earned the highest 11 points to clinch the individual championship of the meet held at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex.

Competitors from 17 districts of Dhaka Division, divided in four zones—Dhaka, Mymensingh, Jamalpur and Faridpur—took part in the competition, organised by the Dhaka Divisional Women's Sports Association.

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury inaugurated the meet in the morning and later distributed prizes among the winners.

Commissioner of Dhaka Division Badur Rahman was also present on the occasion.

Navana league resumes today

Sports Reporter
(GMCC). A group of unruly supporters rushed into the BCCB office room immediately after the match and indulged in vandalism to give vent to their feelings roused by BCCB's alleged step-motherly attitude against particular club.

With the competence and integrity of the umpires and conduct of the players becoming increasingly questionable the BCCB at long last was forced to take guard from law and a few measures were promulgated in Saturday's league committee meeting to trim the sails of all concerned with the game.

The match referees will be former cricketers whose identities will not be disclosed and all of them would be hand-

somely remunerated for their strenuous job.

The meeting also fixed the date for the start of this year's super league with the top six teams of the first phase from February 22. The relegation league comprising the last five teams of the eleven-team Navana league will also begin from the same day.

The BCCB's hard line regarding the increasingly unseemly behaviour of the cricketers, fans and club officials was reflected in its resolution adopted Saturday that erring players would run the risk of being ignored for national selection. Club officials will have their entry in the playing area and the players dressing rooms restricted.

Cantonians, Nabin win big

Sports Reporter
In another match, at the western portion of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Nabin Sangha basted United Heroes by 102 runs.

In a relatively low-scoring match, Ajax put in to bat, were all out for 146 in 35 overs. Russell hit an unbeaten 33. Montu, Sohel and Tony were the notable scorers with 25, 23 and 22 respectively.

Mustafiz took three wickets for 22 runs. Imtiaz also captured three wickets but gave away 28 runs. Asad bagged two for 29.

An unbeaten 36 wicket-keeper Nadim helped Evergreen overhaul the Ajax score in 30.1 overs, posting 147 for four wickets. Tarq, Naimul and Sujon with 18 were the other major contributors with 22, 19 and 18 respectively.

Tarq and Russell took one wicket apiece among the Ajax bowlers.

There is no match today with the league resuming tomorrow after a day's gap.

Cantonian Sporting Club won by the biggest margin in yesterday's three encounters of the Second Division cricket league when they beat Wari Krira Chakra at the Mirpur Pallabi ground by 120 runs.

Sent in to bat, Cantonians used up their quota of 35 overs to rattle up 214 for nine wickets with Bulbul hammering 77 including eight hits to the fence, Wicketeer Babu with 31 and Ripon with 17 were the other notable run-getters.

Litu of Wari KC claimed three wickets for 43 runs.

Wari KC were skittled out for just 94 in 22 overs. Farid topscored with 19 while Ali made 14. Jani completed the trio of Wari batsmen who got into double figures.

Kamrul, Shaif and Bulbul took two wickets apiece to ensure Wari's rout.

Lucky break for Jim Courier

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Feb 14: Jim Courier broke Amos Mansdorf only once Saturday, but his timing was perfect as he pulled out a 7-6 (7-3), 2-6, 6-4 semifinal victory in the Kroger-St. Jude International, reports AP.

"I can only think of two break points I didn't play smart on," said Courier, the No. 1 player in the IBM-ATP Tour Rankings. "The only one I got was match point. That's the one that mattered, but it would've been a lot nicer to get three or four of those."

Seven matches were settled in the boys' team event of the third Eynon Open table tennis championships, organised by the Bangladesh Table Tennis Players' Association at the National Coaching Centre yesterday.

Unseeded Todd Martin beat No. 2 seed and seventh-ranked Michael Chang in straight sets 7-6 (7-4), 6-4 in a night match to advance to the finals against Courier.

The victory was Martin's second in two days over top 10 players following his upset of eight-ranked Andre Agassi on Friday in the quarterfinals.

Courier holds a 5-0 advantage against the Israeli Mansdorf, whom he said played much tougher than usual on Saturday.

"Mansdorf is always tough. Today Amos played up to here while I started the match at a very high level, then I nose-dived," Courier said. "He was just going for shots harder than he has in the past."

Mansdorf, ranked 26th, seemed to gain momentum

when he tied the final set at 4-4 by surviving two game points by Courier and six deuces. He won the game to tie the set when Courier hit a cross-court shot wide.

Courier rallied quickly by holding his serve on the next game to go up 5-4. A ball that hit the net and dropped over for a point put him up 30-15, and then Mansdorf hit into the net twice to give Courier the match.

"I probably played a bit better than the other times. This time I'm terribly disappointed because I felt I played good enough to win," Mansdorf said.

Neither player could take control in the first set as each held serve until the tiebreaker. Then Courier jumped out to 3-0 and had Mansdorf yelling at him self before closing to 5-3 on a cross-court shot. Courier closed out the set when Mansdorf missed on a long passing shot and then could not handle Courier's serve.

Mansdorf jumped out to a 4-0 edge in the second set and won as Courier held his serve only twice.

In his semifinal, Martin kept Chang off-balance by running back and forth across the court and placing shots just beyond his reach. He took the tiebreaker in the first set with a job over Chang's head to go up 4-3 and took advantage of a long shot and two hits into the net to win 7-4.

Martin started the second set by breaking Chang's serve and went up 5-3 when Chang pulled within 5-4 on his serve.

Serving in the final game, Martin led 30-15 when he netted a shot to the score at 30-30. But Chang went long on a return to give Martin, ranked 96th in the world, a shot at Courier on Saturday.

short into the net. Following his next serve, Mansdorf again hit into the net to give Courier the match.

Unseeded Todd Martin beat No. 2 seed and seventh-ranked Michael Chang in straight sets 7-6 (7-4), 6-4 in a night match to advance to the finals against Courier.

The victory was Martin's second in two days over top 10 players following his upset of eight-ranked Andre Agassi on Friday in the quarterfinals.

Courier holds a 5-0 advantage against the Israeli Mansdorf, whom he said played much tougher than usual on Saturday.

"Mansdorf is always tough. Today Amos played up to here while I started the match at a very high level, then I nose-dived," Courier said. "He was just going for shots harder than he has in the past."

Mansdorf, ranked 26th, seemed to gain momentum

when he tied the final set at 4-4 by surviving two game points by Courier and six deuces. He won the game to tie the set when Courier hit a cross-court shot wide.

Courier rallied quickly by holding his serve on the next game to go up 5-4. A ball that hit the net and dropped over for a point put him up 30-15, and then Mansdorf hit into the net twice to give Courier the match.

"I probably played a bit better than the other times. This time I'm terribly disappointed because I felt I played good enough to win," Mansdorf said.

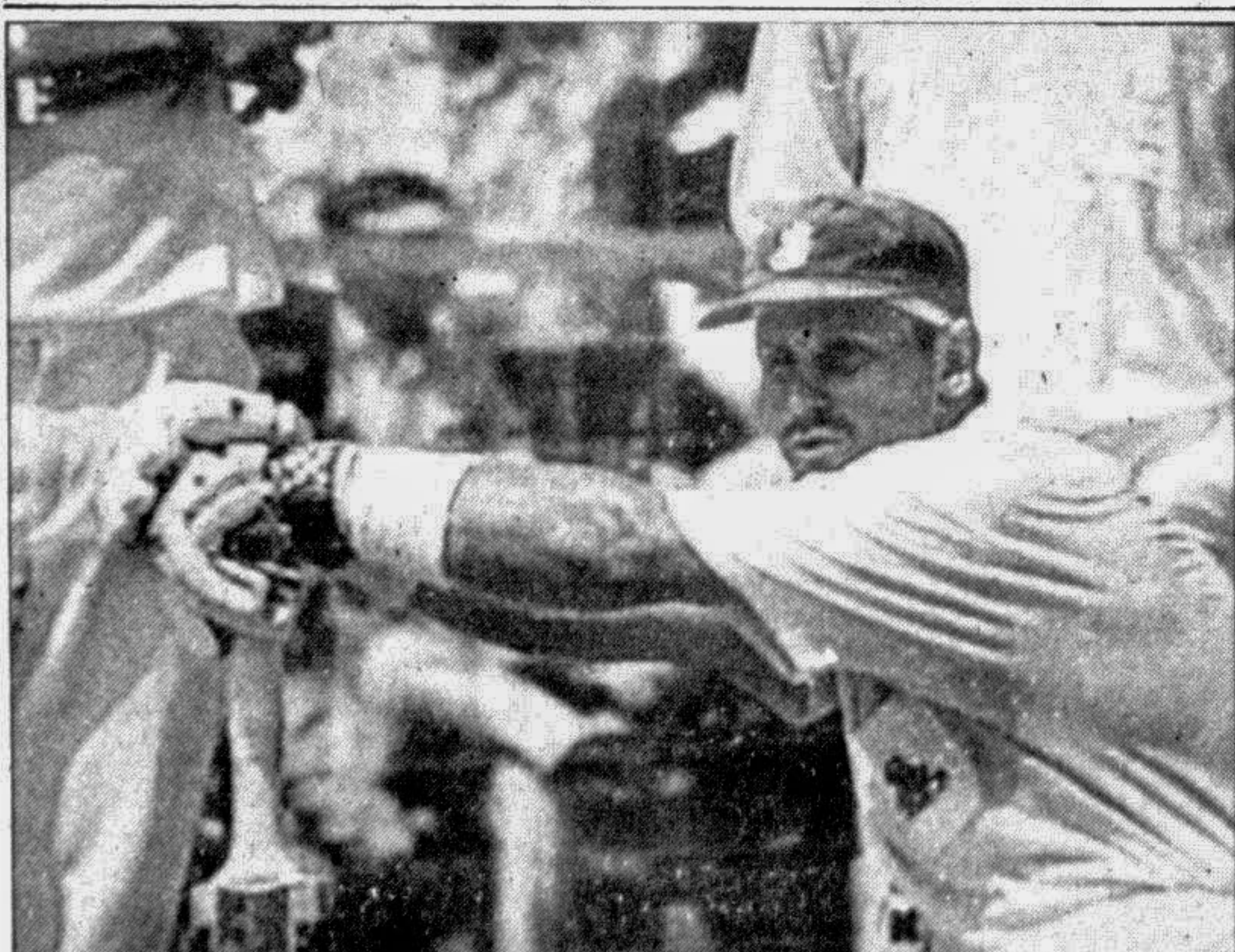
Neither player could take control in the first set as each held serve until the tiebreaker. Then Courier jumped out to 3-0 and had Mansdorf yelling at him self before closing to 5-3 on a cross-court shot. Courier closed out the set when Mansdorf missed on a long passing shot and then could not handle Courier's serve.

Mansdorf jumped out to a 4-0 edge in the second set and won as Courier held his serve only twice.

In his semifinal, Martin kept Chang off-balance by running back and forth across the court and placing shots just beyond his reach. He took the tiebreaker in the first set with a job over Chang's head to go up 4-3 and took advantage of a long shot and two hits into the net to win 7-4.

Martin started the second set by breaking Chang's serve and went up 5-3 when Chang pulled within 5-4 on his serve.

Serving in the final game, Martin led 30-15 when he netted a shot to the score at 30-30. But Chang went long on a return to give Martin, ranked 96th in the world, a shot at Courier on Saturday.



This happened more than once yesterday when Robin Smith had to see fellow-England batsmen at the other end trudging all the way back to the pavilion during the fourth day's play of the second Test against India at Madras. Smith made a gritty 56 before he fell victim to Kumble. — Star TV photo

Tiviakov to play in GM chess

Sports Reporter
Russian Grandmaster Sergei Tiviakov has confirmed his participation in the forthcoming first United Insurance Grandmasters' chess competition, scheduled for a February 19 inauguration in the city.

GM Tiviakov, whose 2575 is the highest rating among the participants of this meet, is now playing in the ongoing Goodricke international chess tournament in Calcutta and currently in topping the table with six and a half points from eight matches.

Tiviakov, only 19, heads the entry list which features five more GMs. They are Julian Hodgson, David Norwood and Daniel King of England, Dibyendu Barua of India and Niaz Moshed, the only Grandmaster of this country.

Goodricke chess

CALCUTTA, Feb 14: G M Sergei Tiviakov continued to lead the field at the end of the eighth round of the Goodricke international chess tournament, being held at the Gorky Sadans here, reports PTI.

Lewis keeps Indians waiting

MADRAS, Feb 14: England all-rounder Chris Lewis smashed a brilliant unbeaten 108 off 125 balls Sunday to delay India's inevitable victory in the second Test here, reports AFP.

Forced to follow on 274 runs behind India's first innings score of 560-6, England faced a humiliating innings defeat in four days when they limped to 99 for six 20 minutes before tea.

But the 24-year-old Lewis and Ian Salisbury defied the rampaging Indians for 82 minutes to add 73 for the seventh wicket and help England end the fourth day's play at 231 for eight.

A sell-out crowd of more than 50,000 at Chepauk, expecting an Indian win Sunday, watched in frustration as Lewis surpassed his highest Test score of 70 against New Zealand in Christchurch and raced to his century.

Lewis, who came in at 88-5 midway through the afternoon session, reached his century 15 minutes before stumps lofing left arm spinner Venkatapathy Raju over long on for a second six.

He has also hit 14 boundaries during his 151-minute blitzkrieg.

But with England still needing 44 to make India bat again with just two wickets in hand, Lewis' effort may have come too late to prevent the home team's win on the final day Monday for a decisive 2-0 lead in the three-Test series.

Salisbury was bowled by leg-spinner Anil Kumble for 12.53 minutes before stumps, but Lewis found able support from number 10 Phil Tufnell, who batted for 36 minutes to score 10 during an undefeated 45-run stand for the ninth-wicket.

Earlier, England were all out for 286 in their first innings an hour and 18 minutes after the start when they resumed at Saturday's score of 221-7.

England suffered the humiliating follow on despite a defiant 83 from left-handed Neil Fairbrother who hammered the Indian spinners for 10 boundaries and a six during his three hour stay at the wicket.

The 29-year-old Lancashire captain, whose previous best in eight Tests for England was an unbeaten 33, scored 83 of the last 100 runs England scored with the bat.

But his teammates failed to learn a lesson from Fairbrother's sparkling batting and caved in tamely against the Indian bowlers in the second innings.

Veteran all-rounder Kapil Dev shook England with two wickets in nine deliveries either side of the lunch interval to reduce the tourists to 12-2.

Kapil, who had trapped captain Alec Stewart leg before before lunch, had Graeme Hick caught at second slip for no score with the third ball after the break.

The quick blows took the 34-year-old Kapil's Test tally to 416, just 15 behind Richard Hadlee's world record haul of 431.

Kapil would, in fact, have moved to 417 to the same over but wicket-keeper Kiron More spilled a low catch off the edge of Mike Gatting's tentative bat.

Gatting who had not opened his account then, partnered Robin Smith in a face saving stand of 59 for the third wicket to take England to 71 for two.

The 35-year-old Gatting completed 4,000 Test runs in his 70th match when he reached 14, but could and only five more before being leg before in trying to sweep Raju.

Smith, who made one, eight and 17 in three previous innings in the series, returned to form with a dashing half-century before falling to the close-in trap set by the Indian spinners.

Smith had made 56 with 10 boundaries when Kumble, replacing Raju from the pavilion end, had him caught at short leg in his first over.

Debutante Richard Blakey, who failed to score in the first innings, lasted 13 minutes to score six before being bowled by Kumble to make England 88 for five.

Fairbrother's heroic effort ended with England 74 short of making India bat again when Chauhan spun a ball sharply across the bat and the edge was picked up by Kapil Dev in the slips.

Chauhan then removed Phil Tufnell for two to finish with three for 69, but Raju re-

turned India's most successful bowler with four for 103 from 54 overs.

Biman squash

Sports Reporter
Four matches were decided on the seventh day of the 12-day Biman Open squash tournament, which began on February 8 at the Dhaka Club squash court, yesterday.

Rashed Chowdhury, Sentu, Malcolm Fry and Matthews registered easy victories. Rashed beat Samad 9-3, 9-3; Sentu took care of Tasirul Islam 9-2, 9-4; Fry defeated Captain Latif 9-2, 9-3 and Matthews elbowed out Masud Ahmed 9-0, 9-3.

Biman sports ends

The 12th annual athletic championship of Biman Bangladesh Airlines concluded yesterday afternoon at the Rajarbag Police Line ground.

Habibur Rahman, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism was the chief guest on the concluding day of the two-day meet and distributed prizes among the winners.

Biman's Managing Director Abdul Mueyed Chowdhury, Directors, high officials and a large number of Biman officers, employees and their family members were present.

Marketing and Sales Directorate emerged as team champions with 66 points while Customer Services Directorate finished runner-up with 46 points.

Enamul Huq of the Engineering Directorate became the individual champion in the men's group with 21 points while Mahabubul Huq of Customer Services Directorate finished runner-up securing 12 points.

In the women's group, Syeda Nasima Akhter of Marketing and Sales won the individual championships bagging 19 points with her teammate Sabina Alam securing 12 points as runners-up.

In all 249 athletes from different Directorates and domestic stations of Biman took part in 22 events of the meet.

Jabbar tennis

Sports Reporter
Saathi beat Chatti without turning a hair to move into the final of the women's singles in the M A Jabbar memorial tennis championship at the Engineers' Club tennis court yesterday.

In the men's singles Heera Lal, Jhijan, Fayaz and Faisal made it to the semis.

In the boys' singles, Rony, Dipu, Bijoy and Tofazza, worked their way to the semis. The boys' semifinals will be played today.



SHOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN THE BAT AWAY: That must have been the thought crossing England wicketkeeper Richard Blakey's mind as an Anil Kumble delivery took a sharp turn to whip the bails off yesterday in the second Test at Madras. Kiron More and Kapil Dev are also in the picture. — Star TV photo

Chris Lewis... 108 no

Fall of wickets: 1/46; 2/157; 3/166; 4/175; 5/179; 6/179; 7/220; 8/277; 9/279

Bowling: O M R W
Prabhakar 3 2 7 0
Kumble 25 9 61 2
Chauhan 39.3 16 69 3
Raju 54 2 1103 4
Kapil Dev 4 0 11 0
Tendulkar 2 1 5 0

ENGLAND: Second Innings
Smith c Amr b Kumble 56
Stewart lbw Kapil Dev 0
Hick c Tendulkar 0
b Kapil Dev 0
Gatting lbw Raju 19
Fairbrother c Prabhakar b Kumble 9
Blakey b Kumble 6
Salisbury b Kumble 12
Lewis batting 108
Jarvis c Tendulkar b Kumble 2
Tufnell batting 10
Extras: (4b, 5lb) 9
Total: (for eight wickets) 231
Fall of wickets: 1/10; 2/12; 3/71; 4/82; 5/88; 6/99; 7/171; 8/186

Bowling: O M R W
Kapil Dev 11 5 36 2
Raju 23 3 76 1
Chauhan 16 2 51 0
Kumble 16 5 51 5
Prabhakar 3 2 4 0
Tendulkar 2 1 4 0



A KUMBLE... 5 for 51

Gooch needs rest

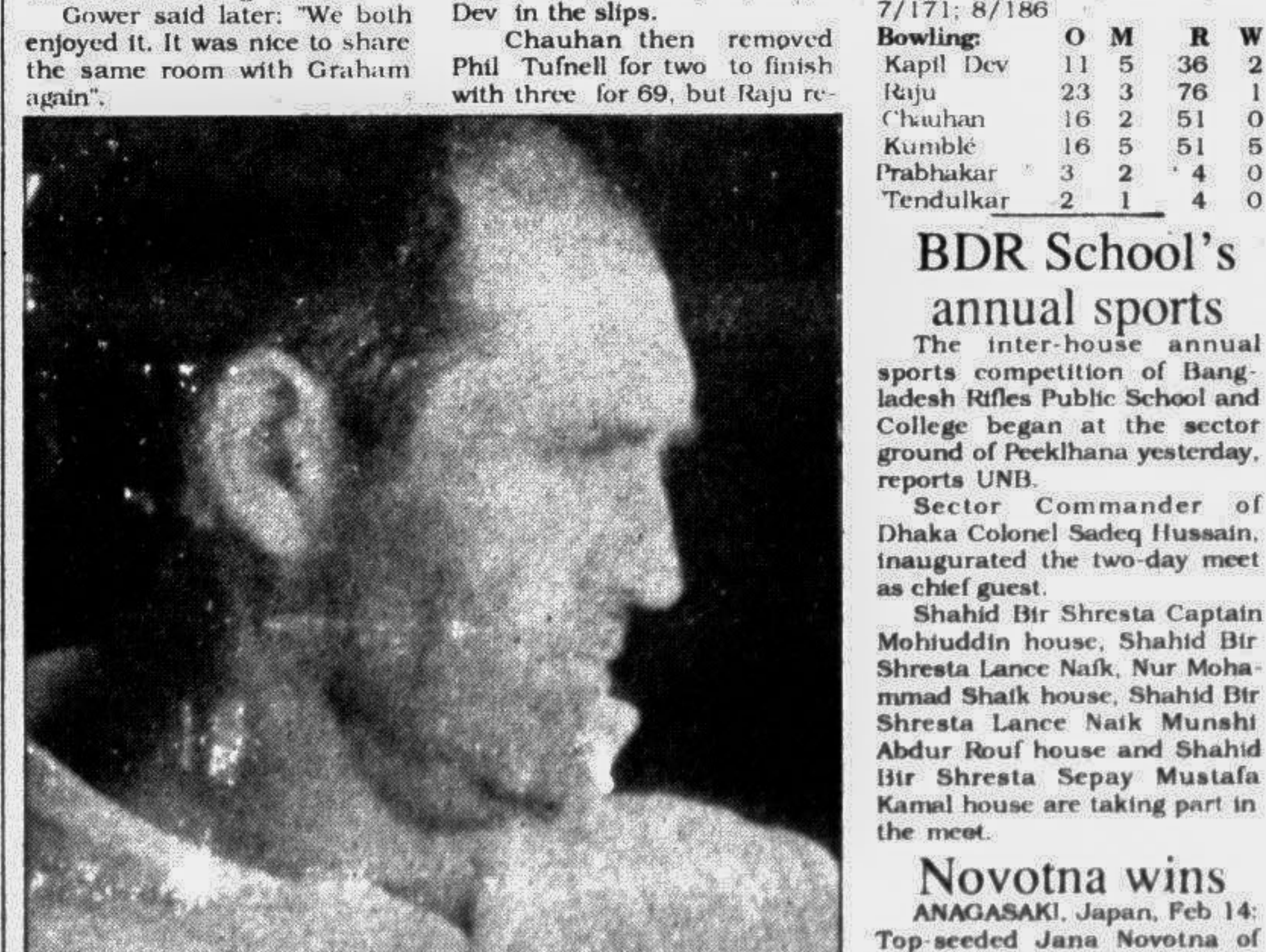
MADRAS, Feb 14: England captain Graham Gooch has been advised to rest over the next few days to make sure of his fitness for the final Test against India starting in Bombay next Friday, reports Reuter.

Tour officials are concerned that workaholic Gooch may overdo his personal training programmes in a bid to recover his strength after the food poisoning that forced him out of the current match in Madras.

Gooch sat still long enough on Saturday to join the British Sky TV commentary team, sharing microphone duties with David Gower, controversially omitted from current tour party.

The two men enjoyed some good-natured sparring over Gower's cricketing future.

Gower said later: "We both enjoyed it. It was nice to share the same room with Graham again".



A dejected Graham Gooch, the sidelined England skipper, must have been wondering what went wrong while watching the proceedings of the fourth day's play of the second Test in Madras yesterday. — Star TV photo

BDR School's annual sports

The inter-house annual sports competition of Bangladesh Rifles Public School and College began at the sector ground of Pookhiana yesterday, reports UNB.

Sector Commander of Dhaka Colonel Sadeq Hussain, inaugurated the two-day meet as chief guest.

Shahid Bir Shrestha Captain Mohiuddin house, Shahid Bir Shrestha Lance Nafk, Nur Mohammad Shaik house, Shahid Bir Shrestha Lance Naik Munshi Abdur Rouf house and Shahid Bir Shrestha Sepay Mustafa Kamal house are taking part in the meet.

Novotna wins

ANAGASAKI, Japan, Feb 14: Top-seeded Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic beat fifth-seeded Kimiko Date 6-3, 6-2 Sunday to win the Asia Women's Open Tennis Tournament, reports AP.