Karachi Airport Gymkhana face Abahani today

BCCB XI go down fighting

ladesh like predators when they wrought out submission from a spirited Bang-ladesh Cricket Control Board President's Eleven which went



Unlike their first match against local giants Mohammcdan Sporting Club last Sunday, the Pakistani club side vesterday owed their victory to Aamer Hanif.

The stockily built allrounder who had impressed with his ability to bowl tightly and a bit disconcertingly, too, for the batsmen on his last trip to Bangladesh with a Pakistani team in the aborted SAARC tournament, yesterday scored a sparkling hundred to lay the

Salahuddin has no illusions

Sports Reporter

coach Kazi Salahuddin has no illusions about his side's prospects in the upcoming World Cup qualifying competitions in Japan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Talking to journalists at the Mirpur sports village in the city yesterday, the former star striker said his boys would adopt an ultra-defensive strategy during their first and second leg matches of the Asian Zone F or Group Six qualifiers, which also cluster co-hosts Japan and the UAE, Thailand and Shri Lanka.

desh's only realistic chances lay against Shri Lanka but given an allout effort by the boys we might even have a chance against the Thais. But against Japan — who hope to stage the World Cup in the year 2,000 and the UAE who played in the last World Cup in Italy, Salahuddin will prefer a 3-5-2 formation.

foundation of victory. He started from where he had left off in the match against Mohammedans where his quickfire 52 off 47 balls had helped his side conjure an easy

Coming at the wicket with his side one down for 13 after the Board President's Eleven skipper Faruque Ahmed won the toss and put the visitors in on what turned out to be a fine batting wicket, Hanif smashed 106 before holing out to Liton in the deep off left-armer Jahangir Talukdar Dulu.

Hanif's arrival at the wicket, however, did not stall the steady wicket- falling trend at the other end with Joydev Basak, the BCCB Eleven's dark right-arm medium-pacer producing a fine spell of lively

Things still looked under Faruque's control when the fifth Gymkhana wicket fell with the score on 126 with right arm off-spinner Azhar Hossain Shantu trapping Zafar Ahmed leg before for 14.

Joydev, who played for Gulshan Youth in the recently concluded Navana Premier Division league dismissed Test opener Rizawan-Uz-Zaman, his hard- hitting partner Kaisar Rashid and Md Javed.

Just when Aamer Hanif was about to give up hopes of having someone to lend him a hand to steady the rocking Gymkhana boat, Sajid Riaz came along.

The two took the score to 195 from 126 and the visitors put the emerging crisis behind them to attain a very healthy total of 237 for 8 wickets from their quota of 45 overs with Hanif hitting an excellent 106. Riaz made 42 while skipper Rashid Khan remained unbeaten on 19.

Joydev was the most impressive of the local bowlers claiming three for 29. Dulu also took three wickets but gave away ten runs more. Durjoy and Shantu bagged one

Bespectacled opener Shantu once again failed with the bat as the Board Eleven began their victory pursuit at an asking rate of a little over five. Shantu was bowled by Rashid Khan for nine.

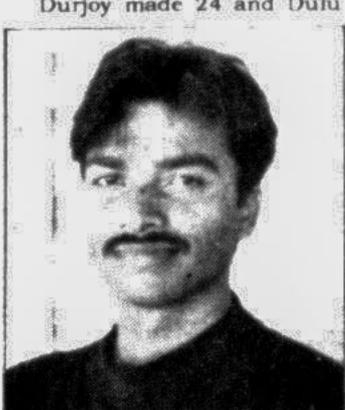
To compound the predicament Habibul Bashar Suman fell to Rashid's new-ball partner Javed for four and the writing was on the wall for the local selection.

Skipper Faruque Ahmed. who came at number four, then joined Harun-Ur-Rashid Liton Hopes soared among the partisan crowd as the pair took the fight to the enemy camp with some enterprising bat

Faruge completed a fine half-century, 55, before being caught by Parvez off Javed and Liton gave a return catch to centurion Hanif, now active in the role of a bowler.

Athar Ali was out cheaply and although Naimur Rahman Durjoy and Jahangir Talukdar Dulu showed some resilience the President's Eleven were booked for 213 in 44 overs.

Durjoy made 24 and Dulu



FARUQUE ... 55

Left-arm spinner Ashraf was the most successful bowler for the tourists with figures of three for 32. Rashid and Javed bagged two each while Hanif and Zahid claimed one apiece. MEET ABAHANI TODAY

The visitors take on league champions Abahani Krira Chakra today at the Dhaka Stadium. Athar Ali Khan and Habibul Bashar Suman, who played for Brothers Union last season, are likely to play for Abahani in today's match.

Meanwhile, the BCCB yesterday announced the last date for players' transfer for the forthcoming 19th Gold Leaf national cricket championship. Players seeking transfer have been requested to submit a transfer fee of Taka 500 by seven in the evening on April

Transvaal's easy victory

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa, Apr 1: Opener Brad White and captain Jimmy Cook steered Transvaal to and easy cight wickets win over Eastern Province in their Benson and Hedges limited overs semifinal on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

Set a target of 166, lefthander White hit 10 boundaries in his 67 and shared a second wicket stand of 93 with Cook, who made 47 not

West Indies fast bowlder Eldine Baptiste was the pick of the Eastern Province attack with one for eight off his nine

The two sides play the return leg on Friday.

New BBSF body likely tomorrow

Sports Reporter

Home Secretary Azimuddin Ahmed will soon take over from Dr MM Hossain as the president of the Bangladesh Billiards and Snooker Federation (BBSF), State Minister for Youth and Sports and National Sports Council Chairman Sadek Hossain Khoka told The Daily Star yesterday

Dr Hossain is likely to be appointed president of the Bangladesh Deaf and Dumb Federation.

The Sports Minister was talking to this correspondent at his NSC office yesterday evening

Former BBSF secretary Sved Mahboob will succeed Riazur Rahman Sohel as the new secretary, the minister

The 20-member new committee is likely to be an nounced tomorrow, Saturday.

During his conversation with this correspondent Sadek Hossain reasserted his pledge that the much talked about elections to all national federations will be held by next March

"We want to establish democracy in the sporting arena. But with the sixth SAF Games due next December, the process can not be started right now," the NSC Chairman

Executive committees o some more federations includ ing badminton and rowing are also likely to be revamped soon, Khoka hinted.

"We should do everything keeping in mind the greater interest of games and sports in this country," the minister

However, Sadek Hossain Khoka said that the NSC had not yet thought of making any changes in the Bangladesh Football Federation committee for the immediate future.

They are preparing the national team for the SAF Games. Any change at this stage is not desirable," he said. Nevertheless the NSC chief

expressed his satisfaction over the functioning of the Bangladesh Cricket Control They are indeed doing a

good job," Khoka said. President of the Bangladesh Olympic Association Gias Kamal Chowdhury was present

KLM Cup golf today

during the conversation.

Sports Reporter The KLM Challenge Cup, an

inter-club golf tournament, will be held at the Kurmitola Golf Club course today.

Kurmitola Golf Club will take on the Bhatiary Golf and Country Club, Chittagong in the inaugural contest of this annual competition, to be hosted by the two clubs alternately in line with the Europe versus America Ryder Cup format.

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines Marvelon-Organon Bangladesh Limited and American Express Bank are the co-sponsors of the tournament.

Shuttlers beat Nepal in HK

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh edged past Nepal by three games to two yesterday in their second encounter of the 1993 Asian badminton classification championships now being held in Hong Kong, according to a faxed message received in Dhaka yesterday.

Mahbub won his singles match against Ranji 17-16, 15-6 while Suman and Rana lost "When we get into the ring, to Prakash and Sudip 3-14, 3there's only two of us," he said. 15 and 12-15 and 1-15 in the Holyfield fought Stewart on second and third singles Nov. 4, 1989, and stopped him

matches respectively. Mahbub and Suman then drew level for Bangladesh by beating Ranji and Prakash 17-14, 15-11 in the doubles.

Rana and Hashem beat B Shah and Thapa 15-5, 15-1 to clinch the match 3-2.

Earlier Bangladesh lost to

India 5-0 in their inaugural encounter. Bangladesh meet Brunci in

their third outing today.

Jr soccer camps begin Sports Reporter

The 45-day intensive coach ing programme for the 120 sclected players who played in the 1992 Ma-o-Moni Cup under-14 football tournament began yesterday at four different venues across the country

Rajshahi, Munshigani, Barisal and Brahmanbaria.

The zonal venues are

State Minister for Shipping Harun-al-Rashid inaugurated the coaching programme at Brahmanbaria as chief guest.

Referees' course

Sports Reporter A ten-day coaching programme for soccer referees will be held in Khulna from April 20 under the joint aegis of the Khulna DSA and the Bangladesh Football Federation Referees' Board, says a press release.



German sprinters Katrin Krabbe (L) and Grit Breuer (R) link disappointed during a press conference in Neubrandenburg on Mar 31 following the German Athletic Federation's (DLV) decision Tuesday to reduce their four-year bans for drug abuse to one year. The ban will make it impossible for Krabbe and her teammate to compete in this year's World - AFP photo Championships in Stuttgart.

Welsh spanner in Belgian march



LONDON, Apr 1: Rvan Giggs and an Rush ended Belgium's runaway World Cup

streak with land mark goals Wednesday as Wales gained a 2-0 victory, reports AP.

Starting a game for Wales for the first time, 19-year-old Manchester United winger Giggs fired his first goal for the national team and Rush gained a Welsh scoring record of 24 goals by netting the second.

After six World Cup wins in a row, it was a setback for Group Four leader Belgium, but they still are on course for a place in the finals in the United States next year.

In a Group One game Wednesday, Switzerland and Portugal tied 1-1, England won 2-0 at Turkey in Group Two. Ireland downed Northern Ireland 3-0 and Denmark edged Spain 1-0 in Group Three and Greece won 1-0 at Hungary in Group five. Goals by two of England's

Italy-based players, David Platt of Juventus and Paul Gascoigne of Lazio, gained a 2-0 victory in Izmir over Turkey.

Platt turned in a sixthminute free kick from John Barnes for his 17th goal in England colours and Gascoigne headed the second in first half injury time.

Seconds before Gascoigne's goal. Turkey had substituted their injured goalie and the second touch for replacement Hayrettin, after he had taken a free kick, was to pick the ball

Schools handball

Narinda Govt High School beat

Bangladesh Rifles High School

by 15 goals to 12 in the fifth

Bata schools handball tourna-

ment which resumed yester-

day after a fortnight's Eid-ul-

Fitr break at the Outer

Both teams were locked 5-5

Rabbani and Bishnu scored

six and five goals respectively

for Narinda School while Rafig

netted five and Saveed and

Azad three each for Rifles

Graduates High School by 13

goals to 11 in the other

and Jasim and Kajal four each

for Badda Vidya Niketan while

Kawser and Russel scored four

goals each for Graduates High

TODAY'S MATCHES

Police Lines School (3:00 pm)

Rahmatullah School (4:00 pm)

Army basketball

Chittagong area teams won

their respective robin league

matches in the Army basket-

ball championship at Rangpur

Cantonment today, reports

RANGPUR, Apr 1: Bogra and

Shaheed Nabi School vs

Ansars School vs

Badda Vidya Niketan beat

Swapan netted five goals

Stadium handball court.

after the first session.

match of the day.

School.

School.

Sports Reporter

Defending champions

The result put England level on points with Norway and the Netherlands at the top of the Group Two standings. Norway lead on goal difference with England second and the Dutch third.

It also means Turkey still have never scored against England in eight meetings.



IAN RUSH

Ireland swept in three goals in a nine-minute first half spell against neighbour Northern Ireland in Dublin.

Andy Townsend, Niall Quinn and Steve Staunton netted for Jack Charlton's team which has still not conceded a goal in Group Three games. Northern Ireland, who got

to the finals in 1982 and '86, now have little chance of quali-

In Copenhagen, Spain conceded a Group Three goal for the first time and Denmark

Striker Flemming Povisen. who plays in Germany for Borussia Dortmund, scored the only goal in the 20th minute after breezing past two Spanish defenders.

The Group Three results mean Ireland have cut Spain's lead to one point and Denmark have leapfrogged Northern Ireland into third place. Spain have nine points from seven games, Ireland have eight from five, Denmark have seven from five and Northern Ireland six from six.

Greece stayed on course for their first ever appearance in the finals by winning 1-0 in Hungary to stay atop Group

penalty by Stratos Apostolakis 20 minutes from the end split the two teams and Greece now have a fivepoint lead in the standings with nine from five games. Russia are second with four from two and Hungary third with three from four.

Switzerland scrambled back atop the Group One standings despite being held 1-1 at home by Portugal.

Stephance Chapuisat, another Borussia Dortmund star, fired the Swiss ahead in the 39th minute with his fifth goal of the qualifying tournament but Portuguese defender Jose Semedo leveled four minutes later.

The draw enabled Switzerland to tie with Italy on eight points from five games but the Swiss have a superior goal

Wednesday also expect to

welcome back their injured

strikers Paul Warhurst and

David Hirst, both of whom have

attracted the attention of

England manager Graham

left back or central defender,

was ruled out of England's trip

to Turkey with a groin injury

after scoring 12 goals in 13

"We are very optimistic that

Paul will be fit in time. It was a

bad injury but he has re-

sponded well to treatment,"

said Wednesday assistant man-

Hirst, absent in recent

games with an injured thigh,

is expected to start the game

ager Richie barker.

on the bench.

games as a makeshift striker.

Warhurst, who can also play

Salem Open qtrs

number one Jim Courier overcame a tough challenge from unseeded Australian Sandon Stolle on Thursday to reach the quarter-finals of the 500,000 US dollar Salem Open tennis tournament, reports Reuter.

Courier finally emerged with a 6-2, 3-6, 6-4 victory as

ever played," the baseball-

but Sandon played better sec-

The semifinal is being billed as the biggest in the history of the city of Sheffield, famous worldwide for its steel but until recently something of a slumbering giant in soccer

United, though, believe that having four Sheffield natives in their side will give them an edge in terms of passion and commitment, guaranteeing a intriguing clash of op-

posites.

control of the championship

New twist in Times tale



LONDON, Apr 1: A bid by former chess champion

Garry Kasparov and challenger Short to stage their own world playoff

took another dramatic turn on Wednesday when a newspaper said the tournament had not been finalised, reports Reuter. Times newspapers reported

on Tuesday that the two players had faxed their acceptance of a 1.7 million pound (2.5 million dollars) bid submitted by itself and a Dutch group. The game would be played in September in London.

But the Evening Standard newspaper, partner in a rival bid by the London Chess Group, reported on its front page that the players' lawyers said the only agreement was that Kasparov and Short would negotiate exclusively with the

port and told Reuters he planned to make a statement The Standard quoted Lon-

don Chess Group spokesman Matthew Patten as saying: "(The players' solicitors) have both expressed regret that the Times has chosen to run their story which is factually incorrect and they want the London Chess Group to stay in play."

diately available to comment at Times newspapers.

The London Chess Group's bid was 2.0 million pounds (3.0 million dollars), the Standard said. Four groups originally placed bids to host the championship.

stage a playoff match to take

from the World Chess Federation (FIDE), which more than a month ago awarded the match to Manchester with prize of 1.2 million pounds (1.79 million dollars). Short, 27, the first Briton

his century to challenge for the world title, and Azeri-born Kasparov, 29, said FIDE had not consulted them about the decision to hold the game in the northern English city of Manchester, Short's home-

But FIDE said both players were notified about the bidding for the final and it had not received any communication from either of them indicating dissatisfaction with the process.

for IAAF ruling BONN, Apr 1. Katrin Krabbe is not likely to know until May whether the reduction of her dopting ban from four years to one will be backed by the IAAF reports Reuter

Krabbe must wait

The International Amateur Athletic Federation will probably discuss the German arbitra tion panel's controversial decision when it meets in Stuttgart on May 23-24 German IAAF council member August Krisch said on Wednesday

'If all the paperwork is available with the case it would routinely come up at the next IAAF council meeting," he said

"As far as the LAAF is con cerned there has been a doping offence. As is routine, the IAAF's anti-doping commission will study the case and make a recommendation to the council which then decides whether to follow it or not."

Evans not ready to retire yet NASHVILLE. Tennessee.

Apr 1 Janet Evans, the only American woman to win four Olympic swimming gold medals, said she is not ready to retire and she proved it won Wednesday by winning the 800 metre freestyle at the US Long Course National Championships, reports Reuter.

Right now I am taking it year by year," Evans said. "I'm definitely going to swim through the summer. "I'm having fun now and that's what's important. Evans winning time of 8

minutes and 34.99 seconds was more than 18 seconds off her world record time. "I'm having fun," Evans said "I think I swam well. A year

with the time. Now I'm going for the win. For the 21-year-old Evans. was her 31st national title.

ago I would have been upset

That is really neat that I've won so many national titles," she said. "I never realised how many I had. It makes me feel like I've been swimming for a long time. Evans won three gold

medals at the 1988 Olympics in the 400-metre individual medley, 400 metre freestyle and 800-metre freestyle. She won her fourth gold medal in 1992 in the 800-metre freestyle. She still holds three world records in the 400, 800 and 1,500 metre freestyle events and six American records.

Chad Carvin, 18, won the men's 800 metre freestyle in 8:10.70. The world record in the event is 7:46.60 set by Kieren Perkins of Australia on February 14, 1992.

The five-day meet, which continues through Sunday, is the first major American meet of the new quadrennium.

Courier reaches

OSAKA, Japan, Apr 1: World

the 87th ranked Stolle broke his serve three times in the second and third sets, the third in the opening game of the decider. "It wasn't the best match I

capped Floridian said. "I played a good first set,

ond and third sets, Hopefully I'll improve tomorrow, Stolle, son of former Australian great Fred Stolle, dropped his serve in the final

set as Courier got back to four-

all, then had two points for 5-4

in a highly-charged ninth Courier, who put in 61 per cent of his first serves during the match, saved himself with a service winner, then broke Stolle's serve to clinch his

victory.

He was asked if the felt pressure to win the tournament after a last-minute noshow by Germany's Boris Becker and the fall of all but three of the eight seeds during the first two rounds. "It's always the same for me, there will always be someone to play, whoever shows up," he said.

Connors dropped out last week for health reasons Fourth-seeded Brad Gilbert fell 6-2, 6-7, 6-2 to fellow American Jim Grabb after

and crowd favourite Jimmy

World number four Becker

managing only a 45 per cent success rate on the first serve. Second seeded Michael Chang, who needed three sets to oust German David Prinosil on Wednesday, showed better from to eliminate fellow

Fifth seeded Amos Mansdorf of Israel beat American Steve Bryan 6-1, 6-2. Courier takes on French

Californian Chuck Adams 6-4.

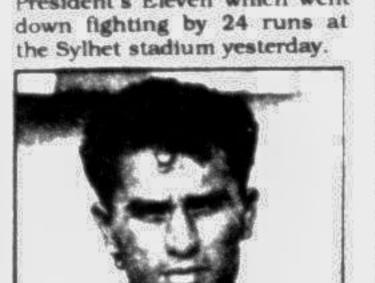
man Guillaume Raoux and Chang meets Greg Rusedski of Canada in Friday's quarterfinals

Hammer (L) at a news conference in New York on Mar 31 announcing a June 26 fight between Holyfield and Alex Stewart. Hammer, who is acting as Holyfield's adviser, was pretending to box. - AFP photo

Former heavyweight boxing champion Evander Holyfield (R) laughs at a remark by rap star

Sports Reporter visiting cricket

club from Pakistan, kept on prowling in Bangseven- wicket victory.



AAMER HANIF ... 106

Bangladesh national football

Salahuddin said Bangla-

Holyfield to return to the ring

NEW YORK, Apr 1: Obviously what a clerk considers a bad day at work

differs from Evander Holyfield's definition. In fact, Holyfield's heavyweight title loss on points to Riddick Bowe was considered

by some as net a bad day, but a bad bearing, the kind that would make a rich fighter re-

tire, reports AP. Holyfield even agreed - for a little while. "I know after that fight I said I was retiring," said the 30-year-old Holyfield, scheduled to fight Alex Stewart in a what is being billed a 12-round heavyweight championship

the Atlantic City Convention Centre. "I was going to retire because people wanted me to,' Holyfield said Wednesday, They said I had enough money which was true. They said I

elimination match June 26 at

had reached my goal, which was true." "But I want to fight and I told my mother I want to fight. I had a bad day at the office,

but I had eight years of good days and one bad day isn't going to discourage me." "I will be heavyweight

The match will be part of a

pay-per-view television dou-

bleheader with a 10-round

champion again."

middleweight bout between

Vinny Pazienza and Lloyd Honeygan of Britain.

to Islam

name "within the month," according to a published report, reports AP. heavyweight champion, who is serving a six-year prison

equivalent of Mike. Tyson, while serving his sentence at the Indiana Youth Centre, has been receiving

Sideeq, the Post said. by Jesse Jackson in 1988 af-

weight champ, Muhammad Ali dropped his given name,

Tyson converts

Tyson has embraced Islam and plans to officially become a Muslim and adopt a new

The New York Post said Thursday that the former

religious tutoring from a Muslim teacher, Muhammad

ter leaving his wife Robin Another former heavy

pted the Islamic faith.

"I am behind Mike 100 per cent," Ali told the Post Wednesday.

"All praises are due to

NEW YORK, Apr 1: Mike

term for rape, has selected the name Malik Abdul Aziz. It said Malik is the Muslim

Tyson had been baptized

Cassius Clay, when he ado-

It will be co-promoted by

Dan Duva, Holyfield's longtime promoter, and rap star Hammer, a new member of the Holyfield team. "This is my first" fight news conference, and everybody's getting up and saying nice

things about each other," said Hammer, wearing a black and white leather vest, but no "We're fighting, right?" Warming to his task, Hammer, who is built like a

go past Stewart, we're looking to go through him." The 6-foot-3 (1.9 metres) 225-pound (102-kilogram) Stewart smilingly noted Hammer's use of we."

dancer, said, "We don't look to

in the eight round of a tough match. Two fights later, Holyfield became heavyweight champion, which he remained until he was outpointed last Nov. 13 by Bowe. Holyfield will return with the same manager, Shelly

Finkel, but with a new trainer. Emanuel Steward is replacing Lou Duva and George Benton, who worked with Holyfield

since he turned pro in 1984.

He also said the winner of

the Holyfield-Stewart match

will get a title shot against

Bowe, tentatively set for Sept.

netted only their second. difference. Harkes ready to add new dimension to FA Cup



LONDON, Apr 1: American John Harkes will be the centre of attention at that quintessential

his club Sheffield Wednesday take on city rivals United on Saturday, reports Reuter. The match, staged by popular demand at the national stadium 24 hours before Arsenal meet Tottenham in the second semifinal, has tempted many of Harkes's

family and friends to cross the

English occasion, an F A Cup

showpiece at Wembley, when

Atlantic and sample a full blooded English Cup tie. Lucktly for them not to mention the player, Harkes was passed fit to play this week after suffering a dislocated toe.

The midfielder scored the

winning goal on his return in

the reserves at Liverpool on

Wednesday and commented:

"My legs were a bit wobbly at the end and I'm aching now but I felt fine when I scored the goal." "The toe I dislocated was swollen but I've had ice-pack treatment on it, although I'm

told it will swell up now every

game until the end of the sea-

Times for two weeks. Short's lawyer, Robin Bino, would not comment on the re-

Three was no one imme-

Short and Kasparov plan to

Kasparov was stripped of his title last week for refusing to defend it in Manchester in