

**Sport**

**Div I hockey league now from Apr 29**

**Sports Reporter**  
 First Division hockey league will now begin from April 29. This was finalised in the meeting of the league committee held at the Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) yesterday. The league was earlier scheduled to begin from April 19. Mohammedan Sporting Club the reigning champions will take on Babes FWD on the opening day. Four foreign players will be able to take part for every team in this year's championship which will be played in a single league. However foreign recruits must be registered 48 hours before the match. Meanwhile, Abahani Krita Chakra, last year's runners-up, will not participate in the Beighton Cup hockey tournament in Calcutta. Abahani were earlier considering the invitation extended by the authorities across the border but disagreement over some terms and conditions led to the cancellation of the tour.

**Nobel sets DU at nought**

**Sports Reporter**  
 Floccinaucinihilipilification, perhaps the longest single word in English, formed the apt summation of the first semifinal of 19th Gold Leaf national cricket championship as Nurul Abedin Nobel, the hard hitting opening batsman of Chittagong Zilla Krita Parishad scored a sparkling hundred to give the reigning champions a facile seven-wicket victory against former champions Dhaka University at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday and with it the right to retain their diadem of domestic cricket. Nobel scored 101 to set little or no value to a doughty knock of 109 by DU's Ziaur Rashid Rupam scored on Sunday — the first day of the two-day long semifinal as DU threw away an early initiative to collect 250 from their allotted 80 overs. Yesterday Chittagong with their wealth of batting made light work of that challenge as they posted 251 for three wickets in 68.7 overs, thanks to that emicant knock by Nobel. The path to this convincing victory was laid in the morning by 19-year-old Azam and Nurul Abedin Nobel as the two openers put on 122 in 32.1 overs. Azam fell nine shot of what would have been a well-deserved half century when he had a swish at Iqbal and Robi did the rest behind the stumps. Prolific Akram Khan took over the reins and although the burly Abahani batsman played mainly sheet anchor role, runs came off the reel because of the protechnics of Nobel at the other end of the wicket. Nobel, who captained Brothers Union last year, raced to his hundred with the help of eight fours and two sixes before being bowled by Rafiqul

for 101 made off 147 balls. Although his younger brother Minhazul Abedin Nannu, the skipper of the national team as well as Chittagong, did not hang around for long, Shahid teamed up with Akram and duly completed the unfinished task. Shahid was unconquered on



NOBEL... 101

will be a three-day affair with each side provisioned to play maximum 100 overs.

**SCOREBOARD**  
**DHAKA UNIVERSITY: 250** all out in 79.5 overs  
**CHITTAGONG:**  
 Azam c Robi b Iqbal 41  
 Novel b Rafiqul 101  
 Akram Khan not out 53  
 Nannu c Shahid b Rupam 11  
 Shahid not out 25  
 Extras (b5, lb2, wb 11, nb2) 20  
 Total: (three wickets, 68.1 overs) 251  
 Fall of wickets: 1-122; 2-177; 3-197

**Bowling:**

|           | O    | M | R  | W |
|-----------|------|---|----|---|
| Iqbal     | 13   | 2 | 41 | 1 |
| Sajjad    | 8    | 0 | 21 | 0 |
| Mamun     | 4    | 1 | 12 | 0 |
| Tutul     | 4    | 0 | 18 | 0 |
| Rafiqul   | 16   | 1 | 60 | 1 |
| S. Shahid | 9    | 0 | 43 | 0 |
| Rupam     | 14.1 | 0 | 49 | 1 |

**DMFA Cup soccer from May 1**

**Sports Reporter**  
 The DMFA Cup football tournament comprising 23 teams is likely to start in the city from May 1. All twenty teams of the Senior Division football league including promotees East End and Bangladesh Boys will be in the fray. However, Abahani, Mohammedans, Brothers and Aram-bagh, the top four finishers of last year's league will be given first round bye. The nineteen other teams, which will also feature two Third Division outfits — Lalmatia Club and Badda Jagarani Sangsada, who climbed to Second Division recently — and a selection from the Pioneer league, will be distributed albeit oddly into four groups at the preliminary stage. The champions of these four groups will then meet the four first round bye winners in the second phase of the meet.

**Pioneer soccer**

**Spots Reporter**  
 KR Boys and Motijheel T&T Club shared points in a goalless encounter, the last of the Janata Bank Pioneer soccer super league, at the Outer Stadium yesterday. Meanwhile, in a press release issued yesterday, the league committee postponed the two semifinals, scheduled for April 20 and 21 owing to the apparent deadlock in Group A. Five Teams of Group A — KR Boys, Motijheel T&T Club, MSPCC, Kawran Bazar Progti Sangha and Shatadal Sangha — have collected four points each from same number of matches. Earlier from Group B, Dipal Jubo Sangha and Swadesh Samaj Kalyan Sangha made it to the last four as champions and runners-up respectively.

**Catlift helps Canada win**

**BURNABY, British Columbia, Apr 19:** John Catlift scored two second-half goals and substitute Dominic Mobilio added another to rally Canada to a 3-1 victory over Honduras and keep it atop the final round of CONCACAF regional qualifying for the 1994 World Cup, reports AP. Canada trailed until Mobilio scored from just outside the goal box, about 4 meters from the end line in the 51st minute, rejuvenating his teammates before an enthusiastic sellout of 6,866 at Swangard Stadium. Catlift put Canada in front in the 61st minute when a corner from Mike Sweeney was misplayed by Honduran goalkeeper Dangelo Bautista. Replays made it appear that Bautista could have knocked the ball into his own goal as he moved to his left to punch it away. Bautista further hurt his team five minutes later when he was ejected for punching Canadian striker Alex Bunbury inside the penalty area. Catlift scored on the ensuing penalty against replacement goalkeeper Blarmino Rivera to secure Canada's victory. Honduras finished the game with only nine men after midfielder Mauricio Funez was sent off for kicking Catlift. The victory gave Canada a 2-1-0 record and five points, one more than Mexico (2-0-1) heading into next Sunday's crucial head-to-head clash in Mexico City. Alex Pineda gave Honduras the lead in 17th minute against the nervous Canadians who raised their level of play considerably after intermission. The comeback was sparked by Mobilio, who replaced starter Dale Mitchell at half-time, when he scored with a rising shot from a sharp angle early in the second half. Desperate Honduras, under pressure from government officials to get at least a draw, played aggressively right from the opening kickoff, executing several hard, sure tackles outside the penalty area. Pineda scored on a pass from Juan Flores when the Canadian defence was slow to cover. Pineda carefully threaded his 18-yard shot past goalkeeper Craig Forrest and just inside the far post. Bunbury was pulled down inside the penalty area midway through the first half by Pastor Martinez, but Venezuelan referee Nelson Rodriguez Fernandez elected to overlook the apparent infraction. The acrobatic Bunbury put two headers over the crossbar later in the half and Canadian defender Colin Miller had his long shot carefully smothered by Bautista. Flores and Eduardo Bennet were both issued yellow cards in the first half, Flores for dissent and Bennet for knocking down Catlift from behind. Canadian defenders Mark Watson and Randy Samuel were shown yellows late in the game when tempers flared.

**Three each for Miller, Scherbo**

**BIRMINGHAM, Apr 19:** All-round champions Vitaly Cherbko and Shannon Miller boosted their gold medal haul to three each at the World Gymnastics Championships on Sunday, reports Reuters. The Belorussian added the vault and parallel bars crowns to Saturday's floor exercises silver and remained undisputed world number one. But the three golds out of a possible seven fell short of the six from eight he took at the Barcelona Olympics. American Miller overcame a debacle on the beam in which she finished last after falling twice to battle to the floor title. She won the uneven bars gold earlier to tally three out of five. A stomach bug continued to plague her, especially on the beam. "I could definitely have done a lot better on the beam, but overall I'm pleased with

my three gold medals," she said. She added that the beam exercise went wrong "mostly because of this lingering stomach-ach thing, I don't know what it is." "I didn't feel great and after my first fall I lost concentrations." Her coach, Steve Nunno, said it took some work to get her motivated for her floor exercise. "She felt under the weather and definitely did not have her inner drive. We had to re-mained her how hard she had worked, to forget about the beam and get ready for the floor." Nunno was rewarded when Miller produced a superb blend of acrobatic and artistic skill to take the gold from Gina Gogean of Romania. Nunno suggested he might have been wrong to allow Miller on to the beam in view of her condition. "It's the most tedious event if you're not 100 per cent," he said. The beam was won by Lavinia Milosiovi of Romania with American Dominique Dawes second and Gogean third. Dawes appeared to have it sewn up until Milosiovi, last of the eight finalists, produced a brilliant double back somersault dismount in tuck position with a perfect landing.

Scherbo, whose major error of the week came on Saturday in the pommel horse, in which he was last, finished fourth and out of the medals on Sunday on the high bar after one mistake and a faulty landing. Sergei Charkov, the Russian who has returned to top-level competition this year after four leg operations over the past two years, won from Marius Gherman of Romania.

**Mexico back to winning ways**

**MEXICO CITY, Apr 19:** Three different players scored for Mexico as it avenged an earlier loss to El Salvador with a 3-1 victory on Sunday, keeping pace with Canada in the final round of CONCACAF regional qualifying for the 1994 World Cup, reports AP. Mexico, which lost its final-round opener 2-1 in San Salvador two weeks ago, improved to 2-0-1 with four points, one behind Canada (2-1-0), which beat Honduras in another qualifying match Sunday in Burnaby, British Columbia. Only the winner of the final round after league schedule is guaranteed a berth in the 24-team field for the World Cup finals. The second-place finisher must win a series against the Oceania region winner (either Australia or New Zealand) and then beat a team from South America to qualify. Playing before a capacity crowd of 120,000 at Azteca Stadium, Mexico took the lead in the 11th minute when Ignacio Ramirez scored from long range. Luis Garcia increased the lead in the 56th and Ramon Ramirez put Mexico ahead 3-0 in the 74th. Oscar Ulloa scored El Salvador's lone goal in the 86th. Mexico will face Canada in a decisive game at home next Sunday, while El Salvador meets Honduras in Tegucigalpa.

**Dream debut for Eamonn Martin**

**LONDON, Apr 19:** Briton Eamonn Martin, running his debut marathon, pulled off a dramatic sprint over the last 100 yards (metres) to win the 13th London Marathon Sunday and collect the £15,000 first prize, reports AP. Martin ran shoulder-to-shoulder with Mexican Isidro Rico over the last four miles (6.4 kilometres) before showing the kick that had made him a champion over 10,000 metres. The winning time, slowed by a stiff head-wind for much of the race, was 2 hours 10 minutes 50 seconds. Rico clocked 2:10.53 for second, while Gajdus Grzegorz of Poland was third in 2:11.07.

**Tragic!**

**SIoux CITY, Iowa, Apr 19:** A university decathlete has died from injuries suffered when he missed the pole vault landing pad at a meeting on Saturday, reports AFP. Wade Knutson, 21, missed the pad after a vault on Saturday morning. He landed on his shoulders then hit his head. He was given mouth-to-mouth resuscitation at the scene, but died at a hospital Saturday night.



Teammates running up to congratulate a beaming Wasim Akram, after the Pakistani skipper took a brilliant catch to dismiss his counterpart Richie Richardson in the West Indies' second innings on Saturday. — Star TV photo

**Butterflies bring luck to the 'lions'**

**YAOUNDE, Apr 19:** Cameroon overcame a stadium invasion by millions of butterflies on Sunday to beat Guinea 3-1 and boost their chances of qualifying for the 1994 World Cup in the United States, reports Reuters. Two goals by Alphonse Tchami and third in injury time by Jacob Ewane gave the indomitable lions a great start in the first time in African zone Group C. Mohammed Sylla replied for the visitors in the second half. The players seemed infazed by the black butterflies swirling around the stadium. The butterflies invaded Yaounde last week from hills surrounding the capital. Africa's three World Cup finalists will be the winning teams in three second round qualifying groups. Zimbabwe are the third team in Group C.

**N Korea beat Qatar to top Group C**

**DOHA, Apr 19:** North Korea defeated injury-plagued Qatar 2-1 on Sunday to head Asia's World Cup qualifying Group C, reports Reuters. Song Gun Ruy scored both goals for North Korea within eight minutes of each other early in the second half. Khalid al-Malki scored for Qatar in 89th minutes. Goalkeeper Yong Yo Kim saved two close calls, denying Qatar's Zamel Al-Kuwari and Fahad al-Kuwari. Sunday's win gave north Korea maximum points from four games in Qatar as the five teams in the group head for Singapore for the second stage starting on April 24. Hosts Qatar started the clash ahead of North Korea in Group C on goal difference. They rose to the top of the group on Friday with a convincing 4-1 win over Singapore, which is in third place after defeating Indonesia 2-1 on Sunday. Qatar began Sunday's match without five regular first-choice players, including goal scorer Mahmoud Soufi who had a leg injury. Singapore who took four points from four matches played in Qatar, kept in the running by defeating bottom-placed Indonesia. It has home advantage when it hosts the second state of the groups matches. Sundram Moorty and Rafi Ali scored for Singapore in the 58th and 75th minutes respectively. Vietnam has two points but Indonesia left Qatar with no points, having lost all its matches and scoring only one goal in the competition.

**STANDING**

World Cup Asia zone Group C first round qualifying table after Sunday's match at Doha between Qatar and North Korea.

Standings (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points)

|             |   |   |   |    |    |   |
|-------------|---|---|---|----|----|---|
| North Korea | 4 | 4 | 0 | 11 | 2  | 8 |
| Qatar       | 4 | 3 | 0 | 11 | 2  | 6 |
| Singapore   | 4 | 2 | 0 | 7  | 8  | 4 |
| Vietnam     | 4 | 1 | 0 | 3  | 10 | 2 |
| Indonesia   | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4  | 11 | 0 |

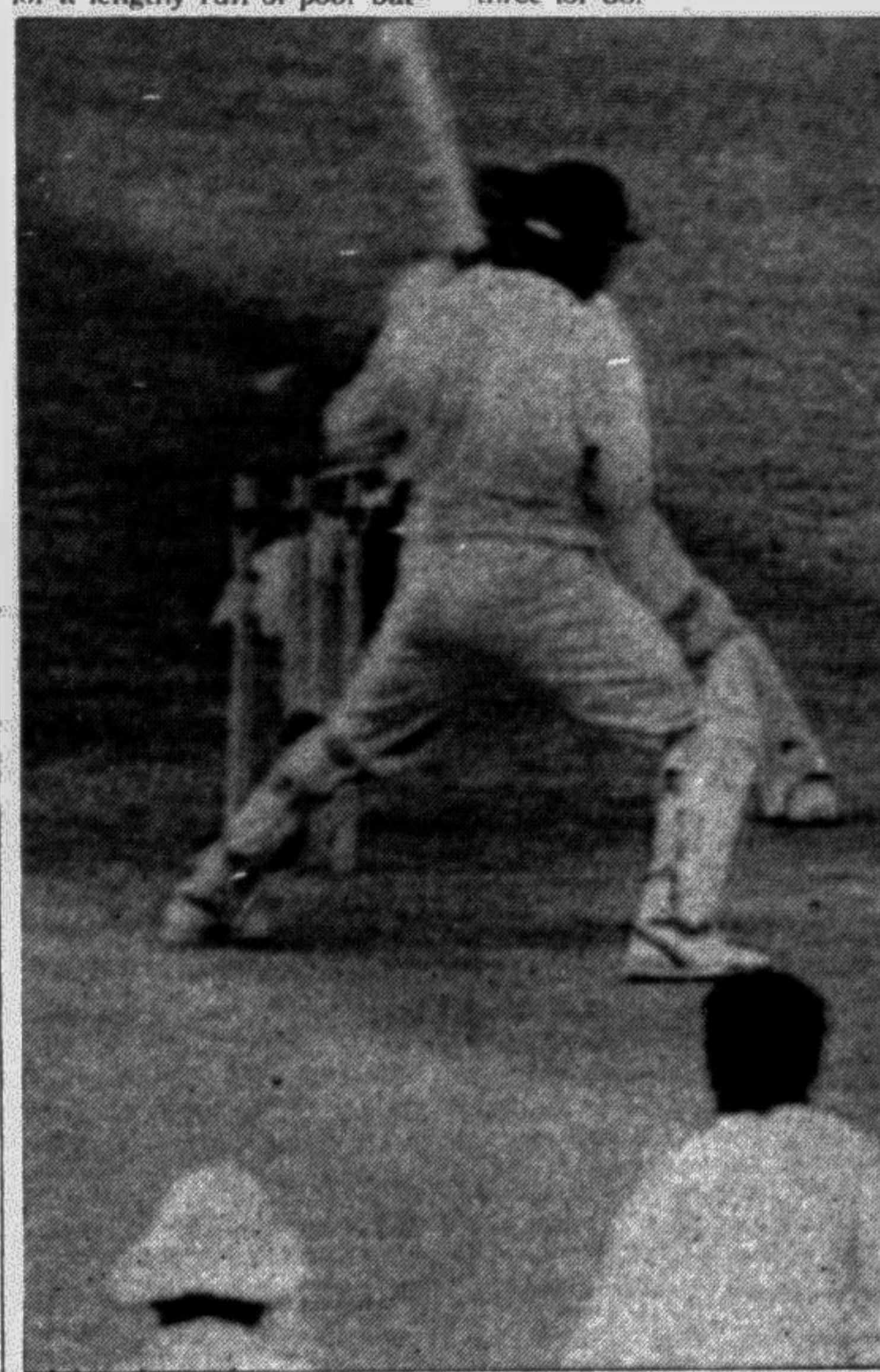
**Rivaldo succeeds where Pele failed**

**RIO DE JANEIRO, Apr 19:** Brazilian striker Rivaldo succeeded where Pele had failed by scoring a spectacular goal from the halfway line in the Sao Paulo Championship at the weekend, reports Reuters. Rivaldo scored straight from the re-start after his side Mogi Mirim had fallen behind 1-0 to Noroeste. The ball was passed to Rivaldo who blasted it over a bewildered Noroeste goalkeeper from the halfway line to equalise just 28 seconds after going behind. This goal will go down in history, he said. The incident was similar to the memorable moment in the 1970 World Cup when Pele attempted to chip the Czechoslovak goalkeeper from the halfway and missed by centimetres. Mogi Mirim went on to win 4-2 and move into fourth place in the group, from which six teams qualify for the second stage. Santos trainer Evaristo Macedo was sent off and had to be restrained by police in yet another Brazilian refereeing controversy. Macedo was shown the red card in the second half of Santos 2-1 win over XV de Piracicaba for furiously protesting when a Santos player was given offside. On being sent off, Macedo attempted to run onto the pitch to confront the referee and was restrained by police. The incident was the latest in a long list of controversies involving refereeing decisions in the last month. Santos moved into third place in Group A of the Sao Paulo Championship. Leaders Palmeiras lost their second match in a row when they were beaten 2-0 by second-placed Sao Paulo.

**Windies thrash Pakistan**

**PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Apr 19:** Off-spinner Carl Hooper grabbed five wickets as West Indies thrashed Pakistan by 204 runs with two days to spare in the first Test on Sunday, reports Reuters. Hooper, severely criticised for a lengthy run of poor bat-

solid recovery on Saturday and took a useful second innings total of 333 for three into the third day. It was just as well because they suffered another collapse, tumbling out for 382 largely due to playing back to deliveries that kept low. Akram took four for 75 and pace partner Waqar Younis three for 88.



SAD DEMISE: Brian Lara, the flashing West Indian left-hander, turns around to discover that his number is up as an innocuous Asif Mujtaba delivery rolls on to the stumps off his pads. Lara scored 96 as West Indies made 382 in the second innings of the first Test in Trinidad. The Caribbean beat Pakistan by 204 runs to go one up in the three Test series. — Star TV photo

ter, Pakistan's hopes all but vanished in the next over when the experienced Javed Miandad attempted to cut Ian Bishop and was caught by wicketkeeper Junior Murray for four. When Hooper replaced Bishop he soon ended a defiant fifth-wicket stand of 67 between top scorer Basil Ali and Asif Mujtaba. Basil, who reached 37, became the first of three quick successes for Hooper. Mujtaba (20) and Akram (4) were the others. Ata-ur-Rehman (19) and Mushtaq Ahmed (12 not out) swung their bats in a 31-run last wicket stand.

**SCOREBOARD**  
 Scoreboard on the third day of the first Test between West Indies and Pakistan on Sunday:  
**WEST INDIES: First innings 127**  
**PAKISTAN: First innings 140** (Aamir Sohail 55, Bishop 5-43)  
**WEST INDIES: Second innings (overnight 333 for three)**  
 Haynes not out 143  
 Simmons c Mujtaba 22  
 Richardson c Wasim 68  
 Lara b Mujtaba 96  
 Bishop c Motin b Akram 3  
 Arthurton lbw b Akram 1  
 Hooper lbw b Waqar 0  
 Murray lbw b Waqar 0  
 Ambrose lbw b Akram 5  
 Cummins lbw b Akram 0  
 Walsh run out 6  
 Extras: (fb-18, b-1, nb-17, w-2) 38  
 Total: 382  
 Fall of wickets: 1-57; 2-160; 3-329; 4-342; 5-356; 6-358; 7-358; 8-371; 9-371

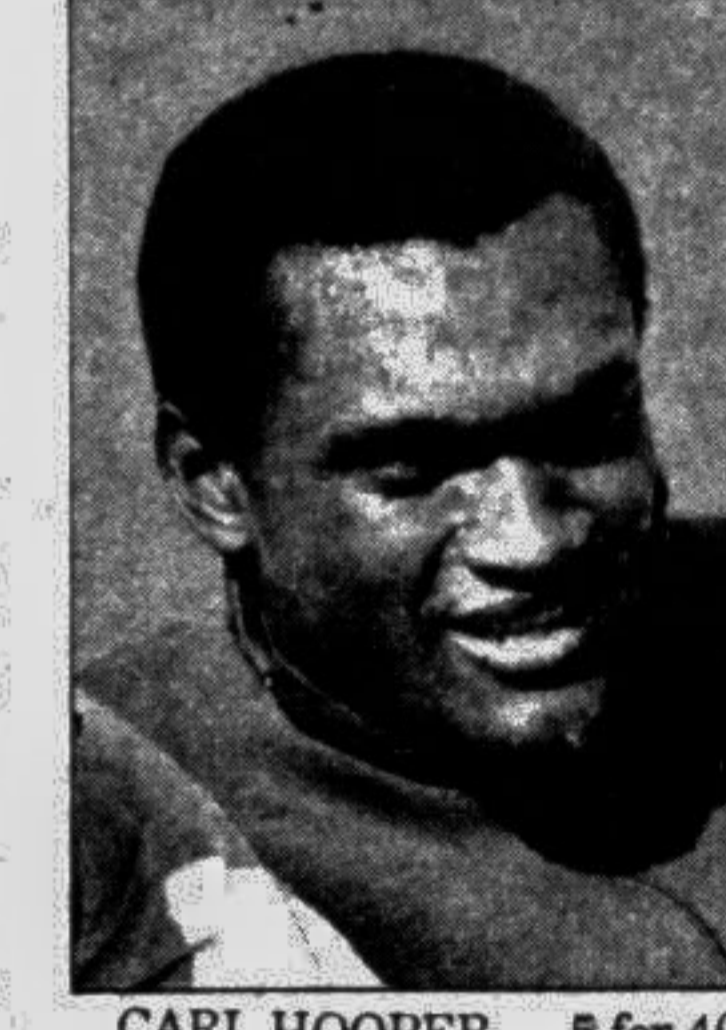
**Bowling:**

|            | O  | M | R  | W |
|------------|----|---|----|---|
| Akram      | 27 | 3 | 75 | 4 |
| Waqar      | 23 | 2 | 88 | 3 |
| Richardson | 19 | 0 | 82 | 0 |
| Mushtaq    | 13 | 1 | 45 | 0 |
| Aamir      | 5  | 1 | 30 | 1 |
| Mujtaba    | 10 | 1 | 43 | 1 |

ward to Walsh, for 15. Sohail's exit set a world record for leg before dismissals in a single Test. He

Pakistan were in turn immediately in trouble as opener Rameez Raja was trapped leg before for 11 by Curtly Ambrose. Number three Inzamam-ul-Haq went the same way to Courtney Walsh for six and opener Aamir Sohail was sent back, also lbw, pushing for-

ward to Walsh, for 15. Sohail's exit set a world record for leg before dismissals in a single Test. He



CARL HOOPER... 5 for 40

**Barcelona, Real in a deadlock**

**MADRID, April 19:** Barcelona and Real Madrid remained deadlocked at the top of the Spanish league after home wins yesterday but gave their fans plenty of scares, reports Reuters. Barcelona edged past mid-table Real Zaragoza 1-0, even though midfielder Josep Guardiola was sent off in the 37th minute for two yellow cards. The leading pair moved two points clear of third-placed Deportivo Coruna, who were held 1-1 at home by Atletico Madrid on Saturday. Both goals came from penalties, with Deportivo's Brazilian striker Jose Beбето bringing his tally for the season to 25 in the 14th minute. Juan Vizcaino Equalised from the spot for Atletico in

who banged the ball home. Zaragoza looked likely to equalise at any time and harried the Barcelona defence to the point where Guardiola was driven to two fouls on striker Miguel Pardeza. In the second half Zaragoza did most of the pressing but the Barcelona defence, aided by several smart interventions by goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta, held on. Cadiz were not overawed by their opponents and rocked the 79,000 crowd by scoring in the 33rd minute. Young Brazilian striker Natanuel Macedo crowned a fine individual effort by beating Bujo with a brilliant looping shot. Madrid were level nine minutes after the restart when midfielder Michel Gonzalez ploughed his familiar furrow down the right wing and centred for Emilio Butragueno to stab the ball home. Madrid clinched victory in the 74th minute when Michel again put the ball on Butragueno's head at the far post.

**Morocco edge past Senegal**

**PARIS, Apr 19:** Mohamed Chaouch scored with only six minutes remaining to give Morocco a 1-0 victory over Senegal on Sunday in Group C of the final round of Africa regional World Cup qualifying, reports AP. Only the winners of the three, three-team groups after a league-like schedule advance to the World Cup finals in the United States, June 17-July 17, 1994. On Friday, Algeria and Ivory Coast drew 1-1 in Tiencen, Algeria in Group A. The weekend games were the first of the second round for the African region, which has been set with withdrawals and controversy. Zimbabwe, who protested and won a replay of their final first-round match with Egypt, only qualified for the second round Thursday. They drew 0-0 with Egypt in Lyon, France to win the berth from Group C. Egypt's 2-1 victory in Cairo on Feb 28 was voided by FIFA because of crowd violence. Zimbabwe will face Guinea on May 2, when the African regional schedule resumes.



JOSE BEBETO

the 70th minute, but was sent off two minutes later for collecting two yellow cards. Barcelona went ahead after only four minutes. Guardiola lofted a curling centre beyond the far post for Bulgarian striker Hristo Stoichkov to let fly with a left-foot volley. Goalkeeper Andoni Cedruin parried the shot but only into the path of Michael Laudrup,

**Rose Bowl's seating capacity to be reduced**

**PASADENA, Calif, Apr 19:** Seating capacity at the Rose Bowl for the 1994 World Cup will be reduced by as much as 10,000, organizing committee members said Sunday, reports AP. Although some of those seats will be devoted to media and VIPs, an undetermined number will be removed to widen the field to meet specifications of the international soccer federation (FIFA).