

Abahani-MSC charity cricket match today

Sports Reporter
League champions Abahani Kriya Chakra meet runner-up Mohammedan Sporting Club in a day-night exhibition over-limit cricket match at the Dhaka Stadium today to help raise funds for ailing cricketer Ilira who is suffering from a debilitating disease.

Gazi Ashraf Hossain Lipu will lead Abahani. Apart from those who played for the team in the recently concluded 1992-93 Premier Division Navana cricket league, Ziaur Rashid Rupam who played for Biman last year, is likely to play for Abahani in today's match.

Mohammedans will be led by national captain Minhazul Abedin Nannu. Two guest players — Jahangir Talukdar Dulu who played for GMCC last year and Enamul Haq Mont, Biman's skipper — are also expected to play for them.

The 40-overs a-side match will begin at three in the afternoon and continue upto 9.30 pm, under the floodlights.

The rates of tickets for this match have been fixed at Taka 150 for VIP Gate No 1, Taka 50 for Gate 3A and Taka 10 for the galleries.

TRIAL TEAMS
Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board yesterday announced the names of players for the three teams to meet in a sponsors' tournament, conceived to help Mohinder Amarnath make an assessment of the ability of the local players.

The former Indian Test cricketer is expected arrive in Dhaka tomorrow to launch a long drawn out coaching programme to prepare the Bangladesh national team for the ICC Trophy — the most important meet for the Associate Members of ICC — to be held in Kenya next February-March.

Three teams, each with 15 leading cricketers, have been named after the sponsors as Navana Eleven, Gold Leaf Eleven and Beximco Eleven.

The teams are:

NAVANA ELEVEN— Minhazul Abedin Nannu (Captain), Masum, Liton, Selim Shahed, Athar Ali, Selim, Prince, Pilot, Salahuddin, Babul, Shaheen, Zakaria, Asif, Anis and Timir. Coach— Altaf Hossain.

BEXIMCO ELEVEN— Faruque Ahmed (Captain), Jahangir, Shantoo, Rokan, Shanu, Sujjan, Dulu, Joydev, Nasu, Durjoy, Saikat, Zakir, Golla, Sanwar and Rubel. Coach— Osman Khan.

GOLD LEAF ELEVEN— Enamul Haq Mont (Captain), Nobel, Azam, Sumon, Akram, Rahul, Saiful, Bulbul, Barua, Shipon, Babu, Piyal, Efec, Rupom, and Zaki. Coach— Mintu.

Selected players have been asked to report to their respective coaches on April 28 at 10 am at the BCCB office.

Sayed and Malek share Jabbar 'boli khela' title
CHITTAGONG, Apr 25: Professional wrestlers Sayed Boli of Hathazari and Malek Boli of Banskhal were declared joint champions when they failed to subdue each other in a twenty-minute long two-round challenge bout in the Abdul Jabbar memorial wrestling competition held at the historic Lalidighi Maidan here this afternoon, reports BNA.

They received trophies and cash award of Taka one thousand each from Forests and Environment Minister Abdullah al-Noman before a huge cheering crowd. The cash award was given from the personal account of the Minister.

Earlier, the joint champions Sayed Boli and Malek Boli defeated their rivals Taher Boli of Satkania and Kabir Boli of Fatikchhari respectively.

Thirty-four wrestlers from Rangamati, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Comilla, Narsingdi and Barisal participated in bouts when Chittagong Metropolitan Police Commissioner Osman Ali Khan declared the meet open. A jury board decided the results with assistance of the referees but the decisions were easier when a grappler pinned his opponent flat on his back.

Drumbeats encouraged the competitors who danced for a while before taking on the opponents. The wrestling action intensified when the beat of the drum rose in each round. With the announcement of the result the winner was escorted by the drum mens in a lap of honour to loud applause by the crowd.

Organisers of the traditional 'boli khela' and 'mela' said 1000 stalls were opened by the vendors and commodities worth Taka fifty lakh are expected to be sold in the fair. No untoward incident was reported till this evening except some cases of pick-pocketing. Tapas Barua Rumu, Sports Reporter of Dainik Inquilab of Dhaka was a victim of a pick-pocket.

Ctg retain nat'l title

Sports Reporter



Chittagong Zilla Kriya Parishad retained their title when, aided by a five-wicket haul from spinner Salahuddin, the reigning champions beat Bangladesh Biman by 60 runs in the final of the 19th Gold Leaf national cricket

ures of five for 59. Quite fittingly, Salahuddin, who had taken the first Biman wicket — that of Zahid Ruzak Masum on Saturday — took the last wicket yesterday, inducing Biman's last man Azhar to lob a catch to Nannu at short-leg.

Resuming their innings at the overnight score of 83 for

80. Never short of inspiration, though not being a man from Chittagong, Salahuddin then clipped the Biman wing by bowling Zakaria for an unlucky 13 with the addition of just seven runs to the total.

At 94, Mahbubur Rahman Selim stretched forward to Salahuddin and Nannu at short leg snapped up the simplest of the catches to see the back of the batsmen for three.

The tall Ahmed Fiyaz Shaheen looked determined to make good use of his height when he lofted Salahuddin over midwicket for four but Shahawaz Shaheed Shanu's stupid indifference led to an unwarranted dismissal with the gangling allrounder backtracking in a desperate bid to regain the crease at the batting end.

With six men back in the pavilion for just 110 runs Biman were well and truly out of the race.

Although skipper Enamul Haq Mont tried to reverse the trend with sporadic aggression, as exemplified in a sixer, Shanu parted company with score on 153 when Nannu bowled the stuggy batsmen for 20.

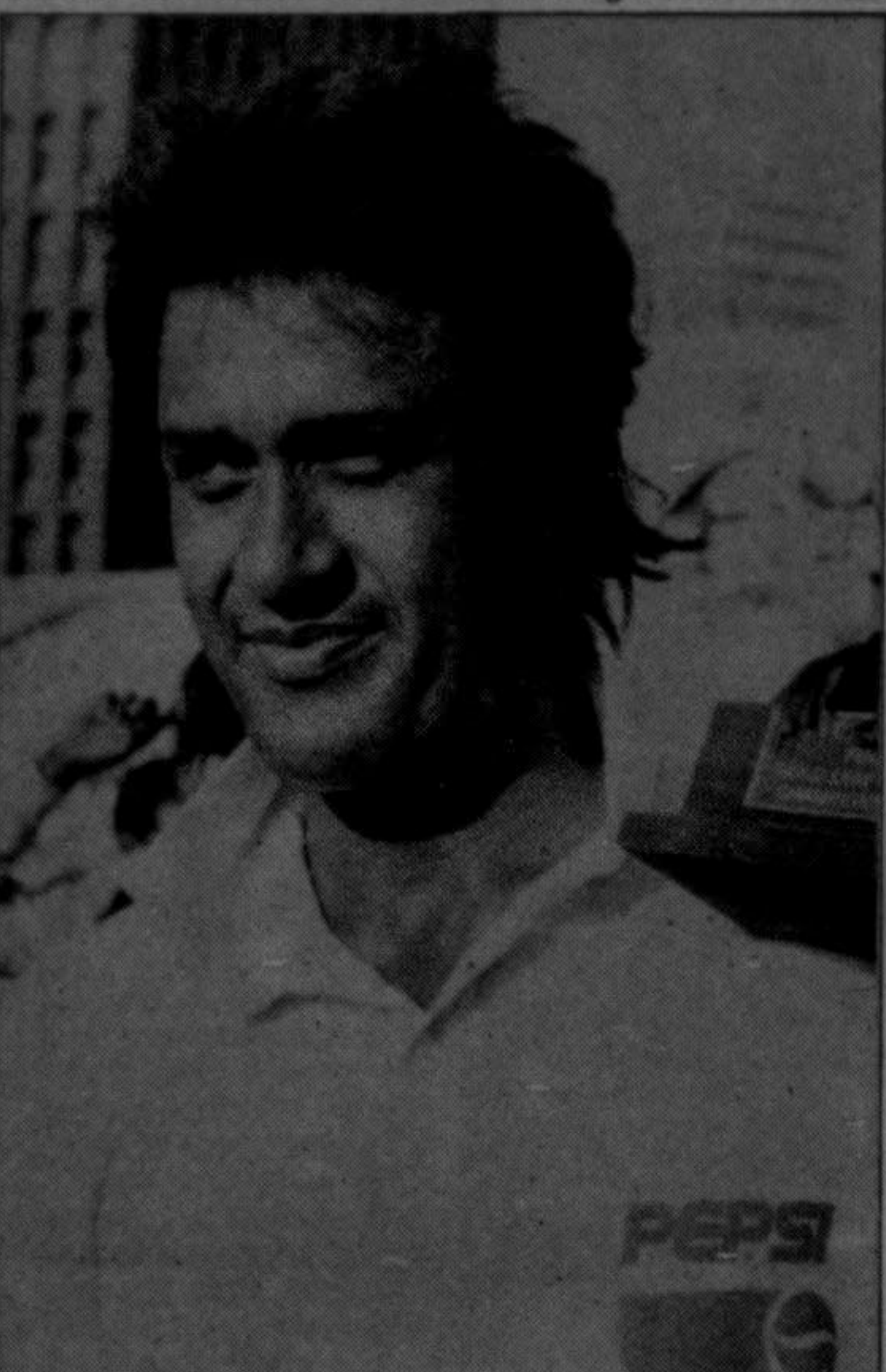
Moni left three runs later, run out for 33 and despite a defiant 17 by Babul the Biman innings finally folded for 194 in 84.5 overs.

Salahuddin returned match-winning figures of five for 59 but Jahangir Talukdar Dulu was named man-of-the-match by adjudicator Gazi Ashraf Hossain Lipu for his vital knock of 70 not out in the Chittagong innings of 254. Dulu, better known for left-arm medium-pace bowling, added an invaluable 103 runs along with Rubel, primarily a spinner, to dead-lift Chittagong from 117 for seven.

Dulu won Taka 2000 for his feat while the victorious Chittagong team received a cash award of Taka 25,000. Runners-up Biman were left with Taka 15,000.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain gave away the prizes as the chief guest while Malcolm Fry, Managing Director of the sponsors Bangladesh Tobacco Company attended the ceremony as a special guest.

SCOREBOARD
 BANGLADESH BIMAN:
Masum c Ishtiaque b Salahuddin 11
Bachchu c Dulu b Salahuddin 47
Barua lbw b Dulu 03
Zakaria b Salahuddin 13
Shanu b Nannu 20
Selim c Nannu b Salahuddin 03
Shaheen run out 08
Moni run out 33
Saiful lbw b Nannu 06
Babul not out 17
Azhar c Nannu b Salahuddin 07
Extras: (b9; lb5; wb4; nb8) 26
Total: (84.5 overs) 194
Fall of wickets: 1-37; 2-55; 3-87; 4-88; 5-95; 6-110; 7-153; 8-158; 9-167; 10-194.
Bowling: O M R W
Dulu 18 4 42 1
Morshed 5 2 17 0
Nannu 11 2 18 2
Rubel 22 4 44 0
Salahuddin 28.5 3 59 5



Jahangir Talukdar Dulu won the match-of-the-match award for his defiant, match-winning knock of 70 against Bangladesh Biman in the final of the 19th Gold Leaf national championship at the Stadium. — Star photo

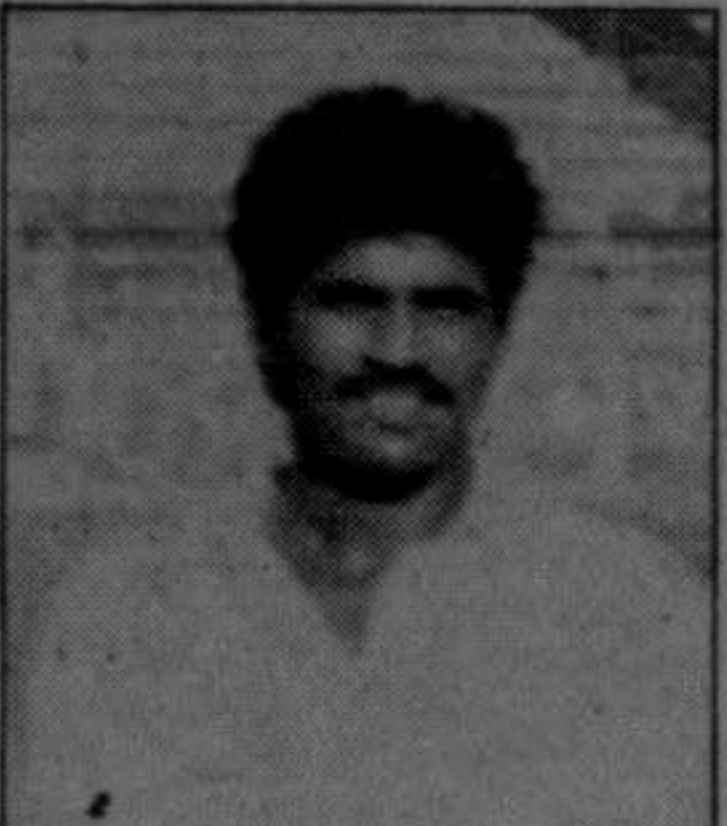
championship at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Needing 255 for victory on the last day of the three-day finale of this year's domestic cricket season, former title holders Biman tamely surrendered to Salahuddin's off-spin to be all out for 194 with 15.1 overs to come.

One of the hired 'aliens' in the port district team, Salahuddin who was employed into the attack from the Paltan end yesterday by Chittagong skipper Minhazul Abedin Nannu, preyed on the nerves of the Biman batsmen with commendable accuracy. The Brothers Union bowler cleverly exploited the wicket which had been helping spinners right from the Day One.

An appalling exhibition of technique and temperament on the part of Biman batsmen considerably helped Salahuddin who maintained a steady line and length just outside the off stump to come under the limelight for the first time with excellent fig-

two the airmen's son discovered that the Chittagong bowling, earlier touted as the weakest link of the champions' armoury, was feeling like a tightening noose around the



SALAHUDDIN ... 5 for 59 neck when veteran Ahmed Iqbal Bachchu lofted a ball from Salahuddin to be caught by Jahangir Talukdar Dulu — the man of the match of the final — for 47 with the score on

ROLL OF HONOUR

Year	Champions	Runners-up
1974-75	Comilla DSA	Barisal DSA
1975-76	Faridpur DSA	Comilla DSA
1976-77	Comilla DSA	Dhaka DSA
1977-78	Bangladesh Biman	Rajshahi DSA
1978-79	Dhaka University	Bangladesh Biman
1979-80	Dhaka University	Bangladesh Biman
1980-81	Bangladesh Biman	Chittagong DSA
1981-82	Bangladesh Shipping Cor.	Dhaka DSA
1982-83	Sylhet DSA	Dhaka DSA
1983-84	Dhaka University	Bangladesh Biman
1984-85	Dhaka University	Barisal DSA
1985-86	Dhaka University	Barisal DSA
1986-87	Dhaka University	Chittagong DSA
1987-88	Bangladesh Biman	Barisal DSA
1988-89	Chittagong JKP	Dhaka University
1989-90	Dhaka University	Narayanganj DSA
1990-91	not held	
1991-92	Chittagong JKP	Sylhet DSA
1992-93	Chittagong JKP	Bangladesh Biman

BGIC basketball

Sports Reporter
Kurmitola Young Star beat Yoying Angels 58-46 in the lone encounter of the BGIC Second Division basketball league at the basketball court adjacent to the wooden floor gymnasium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 30-19.

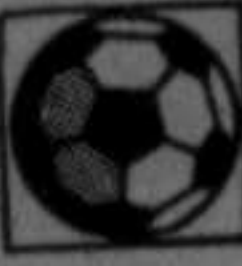
Nikkon with 20 and Harun with 18 points starred in winners score while Nizam and Raifan with 25 and 12 respectively.



Minhazul Abedin Nannu, the Chittagong CJKP skipper, receives the 19th Gold Leaf national cricket championship trophy from the State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain Khoka at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. The minister is flanked by BTC Managing Director Malcolm Fry and BCCB vice president Raisuddin Ahmed (dark glasses). — Star photo

Transfers close: Aslam joins MSC

Sports Reporter



Sheikh Mohammad Aslam, the long serving Abahani striker has decided to observe the twilight sky of his career from the Mohammedan tent. The former national player left league champions Abahani Kriya Chakra to join a team for which he played just for one season, as this year's inter-club footballers' transfers ended yesterday sans any major upset.

81 footballers including Abahani's Nira, who sought a 'commissioned' transfer from his old club to join neighbours Dhanmondi, sought 'changes' the disrupted, two-phase transfer for footballers this year.

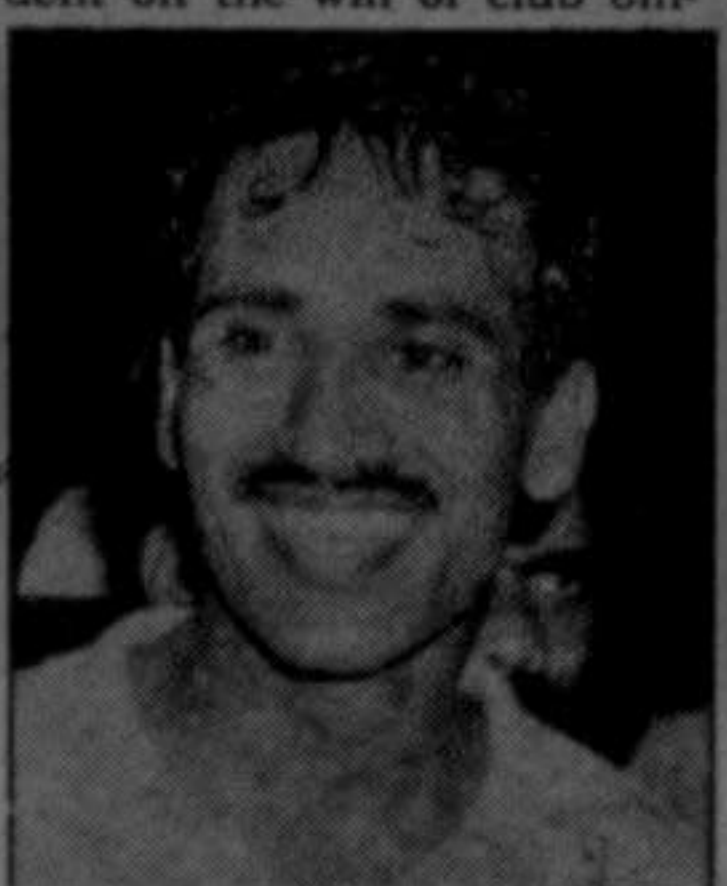
Amid cheers of the Mohammedan supporters Aslam yesterday returned to the club for whom he played way back in 1983. The well-built striker, who started his career for Victoria Sporting Club, played for Abahani for long ten years and in the process earned the distinction of being the only centurion goal getter of the country.

However, Aslam was not the only player to join the black and whites yesterday as Shah Alam Babu of Rahmatganj and Peter of Agrani Bank also signed up for Mohammedans.

The man, who was at the centre of the tug of war between Mohammedans and Brothers, aired as the third force in the local football, however, remained elusive and the same time constant.

Appearing more like a falling star than some of the static novias, Eskaton's Arman finally stayed with the club with whom he made his mark in the big league last year. The crafty midfielder, who revived the memories of former national midfielder Ashish

Bhadra with his scheming and penchant for scoring, had the mortification of being dependent on the will of club officials for his future at least this year and finally reconciled to a familiar lot — that of bearing the brunt of Eskaton Sabuj Sangha attack. Arman, a regular member of the Bangladesh national youth team, could not exercise free will as regards the choice of team this year for



SHEIKH ASLAM

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binding of every rookie player of playing at least two seasons for the parent club in any division.

In the otherwise undramatic last day in players transfer market all the big three clubs — Mohammedans, Abahani and Brothers Union — more or less maintained status quo regarding player strength. None of the trio suffered any serious loss although Mohammedan Sporting appeared to have benefitted most by roping in some promising players.

However, seasoned soccer fans believe that local players will hardly matter in this year's title race for more than one reason. The first and foremost is drastic reduction in players' fees. Overnight the soccer stars of the country fell from the grace as the club officials hit upon a plan to trim the sails of the booters some of whom haggled fees as high as Taka 20 lakhs. It was too high and temerous a situation to sustain and things changed so radically that the unofficial

record of this year's highest payment has been Taka 4 lakh shared, according to informed sources, by Shabbir, Kaisar, Jewel Rana of Mohammedans; Rumi and Mohsin of Abahani and Rakib of Brothers.

With the foreign players particularly those from Russia proving as cheap as dime a dozen compared to the infinitely less effective local ones the officials this year were in a position to give cold shoulders to the booters. Monem Munna, Abahani's star defender is a classic case of apathy as last season's highest paid player is now languishing in inactivity with a disciplinary measure slapped on him by the Bangladesh Football Federation at the behest of Abahani.

Many feel players this year will not feel like giving their best on the field for the stark change in perspective. For the time being they seem justified. Don't they? Because these same officials, who are now so indifferent, did not bother to keep the tabs on the fees only last year.

Booters leave for UAE today

Sports Reporter



A 29-member Bangladesh football team leaves Dhaka for Dubai today for what is surely to be an other chastening experience in the second leg of the 1994 World Cup Asian Zone Group F

qualifying tournament. AKM Fazul Haq, a Member of Parliament from Mymensingh who is also a Bangladesh Football Federation official, leads the team which includes 22 players and seven officials. The meet runs from April 28 to May 7.

Following is the fixture of the second leg:

Date	Home	Away
28-4-93	Japan	Vs Thailand
	Shri Lanka	Vs United Arab Emirate (UAE)
30-4-93	Japan	Vs Bangladesh
	Thailand	Vs United Arab Emirate (UAE)
3-5-93	Shri Lanka	Vs Thailand
	Bangladesh	Vs United Arab Emirate (UAE)
5-5-93	Japan	Vs Shri Lanka
	Thailand	Vs Bangladesh
7-5-93	Shri Lanka	Vs Bangladesh
	Japan	Vs United Arab Emirate (UAE)

FIRST LEG RESULTS
Following are the results of the first leg held Apr 8-18 in Japan:

Date	Home	Score	Away	Score
8-4-93	Japan	1	Thailand	0
	Shri Lanka	0	United Arab Emirates (UAE)	4
11-4-93	Japan	8	Bangladesh	0
	Thailand	1	Shri Lanka	0
13-4-93	Thailand	0	United Arab Emirate (UAE)	1
	Bangladesh	1	Shri Lanka	0
15-4-93	Japan	5	Shri Lanka	0
	Bangladesh	0	United Arab Emirate (UAE)	1
18-4-93	Japan	2	United Arab Emirate (UAE)	0
	Thailand	4	Bangladesh	1

In the second leg, Bangladesh play their first game against Japan on April 30, against hosts UAE on May 3, against Thailand on May 5 and against Shri Lanka on May 7, the concluding day of the competition.

Coach Kazi Salahuddin will travel to Riyadh on May 7 to attend the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) sponsored second Faisal Football coaching Academy course for coaches to be held in the Saudi Arabian capital May 8 to 20.

Following is the full Bangladesh squad:
Team leader — AKM Fazul Hoque, MP; Manager-Khairul Anwar Pearu; Asstt Manager—Md Yusuf Miah; Coach —Kazi Mohammad Salahuddin; Asstt Coach-Abdus Salam; Observer —Afzal Hossain; Physician —Dr Nazmul Haque.

Players: Kanan, Mohsin, Ponir, Moon, Ataur, Jewel Rana, Masud Rana, Rehan, Kaisar Hamid, Barun, Pijush, Shabbir, Arman, Zakir, Tito, Alamgir, Rupu, Rumi, Gaus, Rakib, Mamun and Nakib.

BAF soccer

CHITTAGONG, Apr 25: The annual inter-base football championship of the Bangladesh Air Force got underway at the BAF Base Zahurul Haque playground here today, reports BSS.

In the opening match, BAF Base Barua defeated BAF Base Pahar Kanchanpur 2-1. The other match between BAF Base Zahurul Haque and BAF Base Motiur Rahman ended in a two-all draw.

Earlier the five-day meet was inaugurated by base commander of the local air base Group Capt M Shaikul Islam.



Players and officials of the Chittagong CJKP who retained the national cricket championship beating Bangladesh Biman in the three-day final by 60 runs at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. — Star photo