

Hockey league from tomorrow

The Metropolitan Green Delta First Division hockey league, organised by Bangladesh Hockey Federation, begins tomorrow, Thursday, at the Hockey Stadium, reports UNB.

NA Chowdhury, Managing Director of the sponsors Green Delta Insurance Company, will inaugurate the league in the afternoon.

Defending champions Mohammedan Sporting Club will take on newcomers PWD SC in the opening match at 3 pm.

After a day's interval, the league will resume on Saturday with Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club taking on Azad SC at 2.30 pm and Abahani KC playing against Bangladesh Railway at 4.15 pm.

Sixteen teams will participate in the prestigious competition, to be played on a single league basis.

The teams are: Mohammedan SC, Abahani KC, Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club, Ajax SC, Usha KC, Wari Club, Sadharan Bima KS, Dhaka Ansars, Dhaka Wanderers Club, Bangladesh Sporting Club, Police AC, Bachelors SC, Sonali Bank, Azad SC, Bangladesh Railway and PWD SC.

Each team will be entitled to field a maximum four foreign players this season on completion of registration formalities at least 48 hours before the start of the match.

Schools kabaddi

Motijheel Govt High School and Rifles Public School and College recorded comfortable victories in the fourth Schools Kabaddi tournament at the kabaddi court of the Outer Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

In the first match, Rifles boys earned six points as they trounced Dweepshika School by 64-17 points after leading the first half 34-11.

Motijheel Govt High outplayed Wari High School by 76-30 points in the other match of the day. The winners dominated the first half 37-8.

Mirpur Bangla School take on Ramkrishna Mission School while Staff Welfare High School meet Dholairpar High School today.

BAF soccer

CHITTAGONG, Apr 27: The Air Headquarters (Unit) team and the BAF Base Zahurul Haque team won their respective matches in the BAF inter-base football championship at the BAF Base Zahurul Haque playground here today, reports BSS.

Air Headquarters (Unit) team outplayed BAF Base Matiar Rahman 4-1. In another match, BAF Base Zahurul Haque defeated the BAF Base Bashar 2-0.

India to play five hockey Tests in SA

NEW DELHI, Apr 27: India will play five hockey Tests on their first tour of South Africa next month, an Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) spokesman said on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

He said formal approval from the Indian government was still awaited but the Sports Ministry had already given the IHF the go-ahead to arrange the tour.

South Africa returned to international hockey last year.

The Indian team will arrive in South Africa on May 17 for the 15-day tour. They will play games against provincial sides as well as the Tests.

Clough says, he wasn't pushed out

NOTTINGHAM, Apr 27: Brian Clough on Tuesday denied he was forced out as manager of Nottingham Forest, saying he was retiring from the English soccer team because he "had just had enough," reports AP.

Clough, whose retirement Monday followed a campaign by the team director to have him ousted, said he had been thinking about quitting for more than a year.

"I'm going into retirement at last because the time is right," the 58-year-old manager told the Sun newspaper. "I've discussed it ... over the last three or four weeks and my mind is made up. Brian Clough has not been pushed."

Clough was making his first public comments since his resignation was announced.

Clough, the longest-serving active manager in English soccer, led Forest to two European Cup and four League Cup titles plus the English League championship in 18 years with the club. This season, however, Forest has languished near the bottom of the Premier League, prompting calls for Clough's resignation or dismissal.

"I considered retiring last summer and with hindsight now, I know I should have done it," Clough told the Sun. "I suppose I may have stayed in management a shade too long."



Left-handed Pakistan batsman Asif Mujtaba is hit on the pads by an outgoing Winston Benjamin delivery during the second innings of the second Test at the Kingston Oval yesterday. Surprisingly he was given out leg before. Mujtaba made 41. — Star TV photo

Pakistan 262 all out

Sports Reporter

Desperate hitting by tailenders Waqar Younis and Aatur Rehman helped Pakistan avert the ignominy of an innings defeat in the second cricket Test against the West Indies at Bridgetown, Barbados yesterday, according to Star TV monitored in Dhaka late last night. They were all out for 262—a lead of only 28 runs.

When tenth man Aatur Rehman fell, caught Phil Simmons off Courtney Walsh for 13 Pakistan, following on 235 runs behind the West Indies first innings total of 455, had reached 236 for nine shortly before tea on the fourth day.

Under the rules, play continued beyond the scheduled time for tea because Pakistan then had only one wicket in hand. They had reached 251—a lead of 16 runs—with the last pair of Waqar and Aamer Nazir batting on 19 and six respectively.

Earlier, resuming at 113 for three on the fourth day after Monday's day of rest, overnight batsmen Asif Mujtaba and Moin Khan added 20 more runs before Mujtaba was adjudged lbw to Winston Benjamin for 41 in a controversial decision given by West Indian umpire Lloyd Barker.

Moin Khan was caught by wicket-keeper Junior Murray off Carl Hooper—another doubtful decision, according to

the TV commentators—for 17 with the board showing 141.

Inzamamul Haq and Basit Ali then put on 66 runs for the sixth wicket before Inzamam became the victim of yet another questionable lbw decision to the bowling of Benjamin for 26.

At the same score of 207 skipper Wasim Akram fell, clean bowled by Benjamin for nought. Eight runs later Basit Ali, who top scored with an unbeaten 92 in the Pakistan first innings of 221, was leg before for 37 to Courtney Walsh, giving the West Indian pacesman his 200th Test wicket, making it 215 for eight.

At this point Aatur Rehman joined vice captain Waqar Younis and the pair managed to take the total past the 234 runs needed to make West Indies bat again.

Eventually, a delayed tea break was taken after the Pakistani resistance ended on 262 when Waqar Younis was snapped up by Brian Lara in second slip off Carl Hooper for 29 with Nazir remaining not out on six and leaving the home team to get only 29 runs to win with all the time in the world.

Walsh, Benjamin and Hooper picked up three wickets each with Ambrose taking the others.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the scheduled time for tea on the fourth

day of the second cricket Test between Pakistan and the West Indies at the Kensington Oval, Bridgetown, yesterday:

WEST INDIES: First innings 455 (Haynes 127, Simmons 87, Arthurton 56, Lara 51; Waqar Younis 4-132)

PAKISTAN: First innings 221 (Basit Ali not out 92; Walsh 4-56)

PAKISTAN: Second innings (overnight 113 for three) Sohail c Benjamin b Ambrose 4 Rameez lbw Walsh 25 Mujtaba lbw Benjamin 41 Miandad c Arthurton b Hooper 43

Moin c Murray b Hooper 17 Inzamam lbw Benjamin 26 Basit Ali lbw Walsh 37 Akram b Benjamin 0

Waqar c Lara b Hooper 29 Rehman c Simmons b Walsh 13 Nazir not out 6

Extras: 21 Total: (all out) 262

Fall of wickets: 1-4; 2-47; 3-113; 4-133; 5-141; 6-207; 7-207; 8-215; 9-236.

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Ambrose	26	10	55	1
Bishop	4	1	13	0
Benjamin	17	7	30	3
Walsh	24	7	51	3
Hooper	32.3	6	96	3

(Incomplete)

Draw would do for Danes

DUBLIN, Apr 27: European champions Denmark are setting their sights no higher than a draw when they face Ireland in World Cup Group Three game on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

The Danes know the Irish, like themselves, have yet to concede a goal in their group in over seven hours of football and present a formidable obstacle on their home pitch where they have not lost since 1985.

"A draw would do for us. Ireland have a good team, but they don't frighten me. I think it's going to be a very evenly-fought match," said Danish coach Richard Moeller Nielsen.

A win for either side would step up the pressure on Spain, in action against Northern Ireland on Wednesday, who currently lead the group on goal difference from the Danes. Ireland are one point behind with games in hand on both their rivals.

Home manager Jack Charlton has been forced to stay apart from his players by a flu bug but, from a safe distance, is planning a possible recall for striker John Aldridge.

Aldridge has been missing for more than two months with a torn stomach muscle but says he is "confident" he can fulfil a useful role.

Defender Terry Phelan is missing, but Charlton admits he is loath to move Liverpool's Steve Staunton back into his club position from midfield. Eddie McGoldrick or Ronnie Whelan are alternative possibilities.

Charlton's thoughts are also occupied by Brian Laudrup, his vote in a recent best-player-in-the-world poll.

"I just hope we play as well as we did then," Moeller Nielsen said.

Amarnath arrives

Former Indian Test cricketer Mohinder Amarnath arrived in the city yesterday to groom the Bangladesh national cricket team for the forthcoming ICC Trophy, reports UNB.

BCCB Joint Secretary Golam Faruque Apu was at the airport to receive the famed Indian all-rounder who was adjudged the man-of-the-match in the World Cup final against the West Indies in 1983.

The World Cup qualifying ICC Trophy tournament will begin in Kenya February next year. For the first time the three top teams of the tournament will be entitled to play in the 12-team 1996 World Cup.

Amarnath will watch the matches of the "Sponsor's tournament" to be participated by the 45 preliminarily selected cricketers to help Bangladesh Cricket Control Board pick some 25 cricketers for longer term training.

These 45 cricketers, divided into three teams named after local cricket sponsors—Navana, Gold Leaf and Beximco—will play in the Sponsors' tournament on a return league basis beginning tomorrow, Thursday at the Dhaka Stadium.

DPRK march on

SINGAPORE, Apr 27: North Korea maintained their hundred per cent record in the Asia Group C playoff in the World Cup football qualifying tournament with a 3-1 win over Singapore at the National Stadium Monday, reports AFP.

The Koreans, the only unbeaten team in the five-national playoff group, led 2-0 at half time.

The Koreans, early favourites to win the group and qualify for the second round playoff, dominated play and were little troubled by the hosts.

They won all their four first round matches played in Qatar earlier this month and in their first encounter in the second round here edged Vietnam by a solitary goal last Saturday.

North Korea took the lead through Choe Wan Nam in the 28th minute and went 2-0 up in the 41st minute through Choo Yong San.

Singapore reduced the deficit in the 80th minute through Razali Saad but Choi put the issue beyond doubt four minutes later for a final score of 3-1.

The top team in this group will qualify for the playoff with the five other group winners in the Asian zone. The top two in the final playoff will qualify for the World Cup finals to be played in the United States next year.

Bremen blank Bayern 4-1

BONN, Apr 27: New Zealander Wynton Rufer netted two penalties as Werder Bremen thrashed championship leaders Bayern Munich 4-1 on Monday to draw level with them on points at the top of the Bundesliga, reports Reuter.

Both have 39 points with six games remaining but Bayern, seeking a record 13th title, retained the lead because of a slightly better goal difference.

Christian Ziege scored for Munich in the 29th minute but Rufer equalised with the first of his penalties seconds before the end of the first half.

The New Zealander added his second penalty in the 53rd minute as Bremen, playing before a home crowd of 40,800, began to dominate the game with wave after wave of attacks.

Austrian Andres Herzog and Bernot Hobsch added to Munich's night of misery with goals in the 68th and 79th minutes.

The match will have done little for the confidence of Bayern's 19-year-old reserve goalkeeper Wue Gospodarek, a late replacement for Raimond Aumann, who was sidelined with a painful wisdom tooth.

The German Soccer Federation (DFB) had at first told Aumann he could not play because he had taken a painkiller which apparently was on a list of substances banned by FIFA.

Div II basketball

Rangers Club defeated Flame Boys Club by 89-40 points in the only match of the BGIC Second Division basketball league at the Outer Stadium basketball court yesterday, reports UNB.

The first half score was 35-24 favouring the winners.

Anupam caged 27 and Liton 24 points for the Rangers while Ivans contributed 14 and Manoj 10 for Flame Boys.

The day's other fixture saw Victoria SC earning a walkover against Panthers Green Club who withdrew their team from the meet at the very last moment.

Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club take on Rising Force Sporting Club while Kurmitola Young Star face Mitford Friends Club today.

TCCB says 'no' to TV umpire



LONDON, Apr 27: England have turned down the idea of using TV umpires during the upcoming Test cricket series against Australia, reports AFP.

Third umpires, who monitor controversial run outs and stumpings on television from the pavilion, have been successfully used in experiments in the rest of the world.

But the Test and County Cricket Board want to try their own system in England. The tourists reluctantly agreed to exclude the TV umpire at a meeting at Lord's on Monday.

Australian coach Bob Simpson said his side through it "wonderful" to use the system on a recent trip to New Zealand. "It adds a dramatic new dimension to cricket because spectator get excited while waiting for a verdict."

"And players totally accept tight decisions because they are seen to be correct," said Simpson.

"There were quite a few decisions in New Zealand which looked not out from the sidelines but were rightly given out by the third umpire," said

Simpson. "We are more than happy to play under the system."

Last year, England captain Graham Gooch was given not out during the Headingley Test



BOB SIMPSON

against Pakistan. Replays showed him to be run out by a yard and the Pakistanis were furious.

England are one of few Test nations not to have tried the TV umpire. TCCB spokesman

Ken Lawrence said the Australian management accepted England's stance. "There is no disagreement. I'm sure it will be brought in before long but we want to try out our system in televised domestic cricket this season before making a final decision."

Another verdict reached during the talks means tougher new anti ball-tampering regulations introduced this season will not apply during the Tests and one-day internationals.

Instead of offering the batsmen a choice of replacement—and making it clear to everyone that someone had cheated—umpires will be in charge of changing a doctored ball. And there are to be only "random" checks rather than mandatory inspections at the end of every over.

Australia have three casualties as they prepare for Friday's first match against an England Amateur XI at Radlett.

Key fast bowlers Craig McDermott (groin) and Merv Hughes (knee) will be allowed to fully recover from minor operations last month. Seamer Paul Reiffel did not practice because of a stomach virus.

France, Sweden to vie for win



PARIS, Apr 27: Group Six favourites France and Sweden meet on Wednesday in a match which could go a long way towards deciding who will be making the trip to the United States next year for the World Cup finals, reports Reuter.

Despite the absence of their marksman *extraordinaire* Jean-Pierre Papin, France are confident of a fifth successive win which would put them firmly in charge of the six-nation group.

But Sweden, with three wins out of three so far, have arrived in Paris declaring they will aim for a victory which would enable them to star looking up their flight schedules.

Swedish trainer Tommy Svensson, who has also lost striker Stefan Pettersson through injury, said he would not be dismayed with a draw which would leave both with strong hopes of taking the two qualifying places in the group.

"We're looking for a win, as always, but a draw would be very satisfactory," he said. "France are favourites, they are playing better and better. They should go to the US and I hope we will go with them."

French coach Gerard Houllier has taken a gamble by throwing Auxerre's young playmaker Corentin Martins in to the fray.

Martins, who made his debut as a late substitute last month when France won their last qualifying game 1-0 over Austria in Vienna, was a key member of Auxerre's successful campaign to the UEFA Cup semifinals.

As the first genuine playmaker to lineup for France since the retirement of Michel Platini, Martins takes on a heavy burden of responsibility as he tries to create the openings for strikers Eric Cantona and David Ginola.

Both strikers return after being suspended for the Austria match.

"Sweden are a counter-at-

tacking side who can find themselves in front of your goal with just three passes," Houllier said.

"We will have to show even more fighting spirit than them. A draw would not be a bad result but a win will take us halfway to the United States."

Marseille midfielder Franck Sauzeau, a free kick specialist, takes over Papin's role as captain.

Svensson, who called up Oster Vaxjo striker Hans Eklund after Ajax Amsterdam forward Pettersson withdrew from the squad, said he would name his team shortly before the kick-off.

TEAMS:

FRANCE: Bernard Lama; Didier Deschamps, Franck Sauzeau, Paul le Guen, Corentin Martins, Eric Cantona, David Ginola.

Sweden: (probable) Thomas Ravelli, Roland Nilsson, Jan Eriksson, Patrick Andersson, Roger Ljung, Stefan Schwarz, Jonas Thern, Klas Ingesson, Stefan Rehn, Tomas Brodin, Johnny Ekstrom.

Portugal need win, so a striker



LISBON, Apr 27: Portugal, needing to beat injury-hit Scotland on Wednesday to retain any chance of making the World Cup finals, are short of a top-class goalscorer, reports Reuter.

"We need a lot of goals since if we don't win it will be the end of our hopes for the World Cup in 1994," said Portuguese national coach Carlos Queiroz.

But the growing reliance on foreign strikers by Portugal's club sides has effectively weakened the national team's attack, which has managed just three goals in four games.

Jorge Cadete or Sporting Lisbon, who with 15 goals in 28 matches is Portugal's top league scorer, will lead the attack.

The squad's second highest scorer, Domingos Oliveira, has managed just seven goals this season for league leaders Porto.

"It won't be a game for people with heart problems," said Queiroz.

With joint Group One lead-

ers Switzerland and Italy four points clear of Scotland and Portugal after playing two games more, defeat for either side on Wednesday would almost certainly end their qualification hopes.

Scotland have never won in Portugal but midfielder Stuart McCall believes a point would not kill off their chances.

"A draw isn't the end of the world. Of course, we are looking for a win, but a draw followed by wins in our next three games against Estonia home and away and Switzerland in Glasgow would turn the section on its head," he said.

McCall, one of seven Glasgow Rangers players expected to start the game, said: "Lisbon doesn't scare us. As far as the Rangers lads are concerned, the bigger the challenge the more we enjoy it."

But Scotland's injury crisis, which grew with the loss of key defenders Tom Boyd and Alan McLaren with ankle ligament damage last week, is worrying coach Andy Roxburgh.

Caniggia, 26, was last Thursday banned from the game for 13 months by the Italian soccer authorities. His suspension will end on May 8—just a month before the start of the 1994 World Cup finals in the United States.

A star of the 1990 World Cup when Argentina finished runners-up, Caniggia will miss all his country's qualifying matches for soccer's premier tournament.

He tested positive for cocaine after Roma's league game with Napoli on March 21. He admitted to smoking the drug in a "moment of weakness."

His downfall mirrors that of former Argentine captain Diego Maradona banned for 15 months after testing positive for cocaine when he played for Italian club Napoli in 1991.

A spokesman in the legal section of the Italian Soccer Association said the club must lodge its appeal within seven days of the sentence being passed.

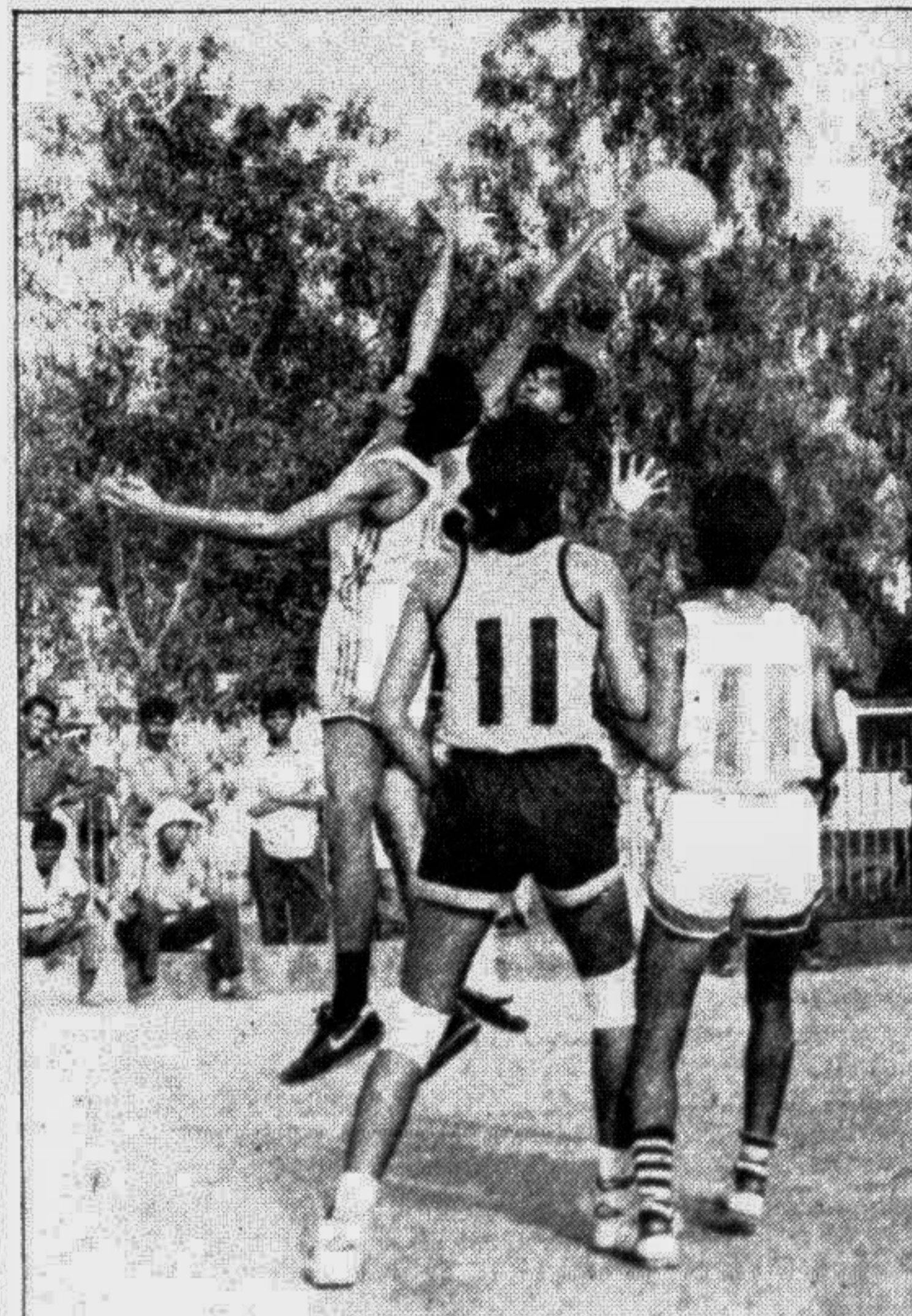
He added that the club would be given a further two to three weeks to prepare its case before the matter was put to Italian soccer's supreme court.

Italian Cup finalists Roma are also angry that they have been fined 100 million lire (68,000 dollar) for failing to keep adequate controls on the player.

Roma players Andrea Carnevale and Angelo Peruzzi were banned from soccer for 12 months in 1990 after testing positive for an amphetamine. Goalkeeper Peruzzi has since joined Juventus.



Pakistan's most experienced batsman Javed Miandad, playing his 120th Test, spells his own doom and that of his team in the second innings of the second Test at Bridgetown, Barbados on April 25. Having hit Carl Hooper's previous delivery in the last over of the third day Miandad only succeeded in hitting this one straight down deep mid-wicket fielder Keith Arthurton's throat after making 43. — Star TV photo



Scene from the BGIC Second Division basketball league match between Rangers and Flame Boys at the Outer Stadium yesterday. Rangers Club routed Flame Boys 89-40. — Star photo