First DMFA Cup semifinal today

Sports Reporter

Defending Star First Division league champions Abahani Krira Chakra take on Brothers Union in the first semifinal of the DMFA Cup football tournament at the Dhaka Stadium today.

Abahani, the Group One leaders who scored 12 goals in their three group matches, are favoured to win the tie.

On the other hand, Group runners up Brothers Union had a somewhat indifferent run to the last four. The Gopibagh outfit rallied from one goal down to beat Agrani Bank 2-1 in their opening round robin league match They showed sign of confidence in their next tie against Victoria Sporting Club by three goals to nil before going down to eventual group champions Mohammedan Sporting Club 0-2 in their last match.

Abahani have so far displayed a superlative blend of football en route to the semifi nals. In the first match of the round-robin league Abahani outplayed 3-0 and then scored five times against Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society before rounding off their group engagements with a 4-1 victory over Arambagh Krira Sangstha

Arambagh Krira Sangstha who finished runners-up in Group One on better goal dif ference, will be up against Mohammedan Sporting Club tomorrow in the other final.

Football league from June 11

Sports Reporter

A new look First Division football league will commence at the Dhaka Stadium from June 11. This was decided at the meeting of the league committee held at the Dhaka Metropolis Football Association (DMFA) office with Shahidul Islam Chowdhury in the chair.

League this year will be played under a completely new format with the top ten finish ers of last year's league playing in a premier league while the last eight and the two promotees fighting it out in another tier-known as First Division league.

East End, an old club with fairly good records in Senior Division league, won back the right to play in the Senior Division once again along with Bangladesh Boys who are to bear the brunt of the big league for the first time.

Abahani Krira Chakra, the reigning champions and Mohammedan Sporting Club, their arch rivals who finished runners-up, would start as the routine favourites for this year's title.

Organised by the DMFA, the Senior Division football league is sponsored by Bangladesh Tobacco Company, who has entered into a three-year contract to finance the major sporting attraction of the country. Last year's league was named Star First Division football league after one of the products of the sponsors.

Hafiz appeals against ban

Bangladesh nominee for International Referee Examination, earlier barred from appearing in the test by Bangladesh Amateur Basketball Federation (BABF), has appealed against the ban, reports

The BABF on Thursday banned Major Mohammad Atiqui Hafiz, a basketball coach of Bangladesh Army, from participating in any competition, clinic, camp or seminar for two years for his alleged misbehaviour in semifinal of Bangladesh Games last December.

Atiq in his appeal to the ministry has prayed for reconsidering his case and allow him to appear in the test for which Bangladesh Army will bear all expenses.

Earlier on May 15, the BABF nominated Major Atiq as one of the four candidates for the examination, a rare opportunity

for Bangladesh having no grade-A referee. None but Atiq responded

for the examination to be held in Kuala Lumpur from June 5-8 and all formalities including clearance from the Chief of Staff was completed.

It was learnt that Atiq, one of the four B-grade referees recognised by the Federation of International Basketball Association (FIBA), was barred from sitting for the test according to the recommendation of the Technical Com mittee on May 20.

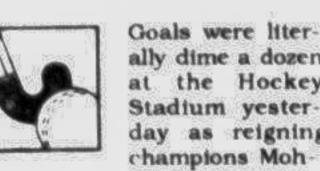
Russian quartet scales Everest

KATMANDU, May 25: Four members of a Russian expedition have climbed Mount Everest, bringing the total number of people who have scaled the world's tallest peak this spring to 79, reports AP.

Vladimir Janochkin, 42, a teacher, climbed the 8,848metre (29,028-ft) high peak on May 15.

Goals galore at Hockey Stadium

Sports Reporter



Abaham Krira Chakra recorded

ally dime a dozen at the Hockey Stadium yesterday as reigning champions Mohammedans and runners-up

and some resolute defending by Police kept the scoreline barren for the first thirty-five

Jumman opened the ac count three minutes into the second half when he ham mered a penalty corner into Senior Division league.

In the first match of the day, reigning champions Mohammedan Sporting Club blanked Bachelor's Sporting Club 4-0 with Sadek, the national star, scoring a hattrick. Taking the field without



A Mohammedan forward pushes the bill past the onrushing Bachelors Sporting goalkeeper during the Green Delta First Divis on Hockey league match at the Hockey Stadium -Star photo yesterday. Mohammedans won 4-0.

facile victories in their respective Green Delta hockey league engagements.

In the second match of the day familiar demonstration of marksmanship by Jumman Lusai powered Abahani to their second consecutive big win.

After a barren first half, Lusai opened the floodgates by finding the mark thrice from penalty corners in the space of five minutes.

Later skipper Mahbub Harun added another three while Zahid Hossain and Aminul Islam scored one each, to complete an eight-nil rout of the policemen.

The tremendous dunking that Police underwent in the second half was not really foreshadowed during the first half, as an infinitely better outfit, gunning for this year's title, Abahani Krira Chakra turned the screw on their opponents right from the word go.

But a heady mixture of poor hockey by Abahani forwards

rscille. On Wednesday, he can

do it with AC Milan - against

There's a possibility Papin

will not be on the field - and

may not even be on the bench

when Milan and Marseille

clash for European soccer's

top prize for clubs, the

Champions Cup, at Munich's

moved to Milan last year, was

sidelined for one month by a

pulled muscle. He played an

unimpressive first half in

Milan's 1-1 league draw at

Cagliari on Friday and was sub-

placed by Daniele Massaro is

only one of Milan's injury wor-

pulled muscle and his fellow

Dutch superstar Marco van

Basten is in the early stage of a

comeback after being sidelined

between mid-December and

Van Basten, three-time

winner of the Golden Ball prize

as the European player-of-the-

year, underwent ankle surgery

had scored 12 goals in as many

league games, and hit four in a

Champions Cup match against

Swedish champ IFK Goteborg.

Basten has played one full

league match, scoring one

goal, and was rested in Cagliari

because he still feels some

slight pain in the operated

the bench — or even in the

stands if coach Fabio Capello

Milan's team, Frank Rijkaard,

crucial role in delivering the

Champions Cup to Milan in

scored two goals each against

Steaua Bucharest in 1989, and

Rijkaard scored the winning

goal against Benfica one year

Fading form is also adding

After a sensational league

start that helped Milan stretch

the unbeaten streak to a

record 58 games, the team

went into a slump, winning

only one of its last 10 league

games and getting knocked

decides to name Papin.

is fit and sure to start.

1989 and 1990.

to Milan's worries.

out of the Italian Cup.

Gullit is likely to end up on

The third Dutchman on

The Dutch trio played a

Gullit and Van Basten

Since his comeback, Van

Before the operation, he

to remove some cartilage.

early May.

right ankle.

But Papin, who could be re-

Ruud Gullit is nursing a

The French striker, who

Olympic stadium, reports AP.

Assuming he plays.

his former club.

Jean-Pierre

Papin failed to

win the European

Champions Cup

with Olympic Ma-

the cage much to the horror of the Police defenders.

Lusai was again on the mark when he stopped a penalty corner push at the top of the box deftly and then beat the Police custodian with another powerful hit.

Lusai got his hattrick when he made the most of yet another penalty corner in the 43rd minute. Skipper Mahbub Harun got

into the act three minutes later with a field goal. Another field goal in the 48th minute from Zahid Hossain saw Abahani five up.

Harun was poised for a hattrick after scoring one in the 52nd minute from a well-synchronised move and twelve minutes later through a penalty corner but Aminul Islam scored a field goal in the 67th minute to deny his skipper the feat as well as to mark the end of Abahani's goal feast.

Papin's injury worries Milan

In the Champions Cup,

History, also speaks in

however, it has won all 10

Milan's favour. They have never

lost a Champions Cup final and

Wednesday and third in five

seasons. Real Madrid hold the

JEAN-PIERRE PAPIN

the Champions Cup, although

the competition was a French

No French club have won

After failures by Reims in

1956 and '59, and St Etienne

in 1976, Marseille came close

in 1991, but lost a penalty

shootout to Red Star Belgrade

But in their only Champions

The French team elimi-

after a goalless draw in the fi-

Cup clash to date, Marseille

nated Milan in the 1991 quar-

terfinals, after a floodlight fail-

ure interrupted the match.

Milan, who were trailing,

were hoping for a replay and

refused to return to the field.

The players' action earned the

Italian club a one-year suspen-

sion from European competi-

ing domestic league titles

again this season and are

headed by ambitious and rich

presidents - Milan by Silvio

Berlusconi, Marseille by

Bernard Taple, businessman

and Socialist politician. Both

have promised a lot to their

DMCA meeting

on Friday

Sports Reporter

Association (DMCA) will be

held on Friday next at 11:30

am at the Arambagh club

requested to be at the meet-

premises at Motifheel.

An emergency meeting of

players.

Both teams close to clinch-

got the better of Milan.

record with six wins.

are seeking their fifth title on

games on the way to the final.

This was Abahani's fifth consecutive win in this year's

Pakistan international. Moha mmedans impressed with fine attacking flair. The winners led the first

Mumtaz Haider, the former

half one nil with left winger Zahid Biswas sounding the board in the 15th minute.

Midway through the second half Mohammedans doubled the margin when Sadek weaved his way through the opponent defenders to put the ball in with Javed, the Bachelor's custodian, drawn out of his position.

Two minutes later, Sadek again sounded the board from a field goal. The crafty player completed his hattrick three minutes later when he latched on to a midfield through to make the score 4-0.

The win gave Mohammedans ten points from matches and the champs are yet to lose a point.

TODAY'S MATCHES Wart Club vs Sonali Bank Sadharan Bima vs Azad

According to reports.

Milan's stars will get dirs

270,000 each for a victory,

while the Marseille players

could receive a bonus of dlrs

rivalry will play a part too.

Rijkaard will face Rudi Voeller.

Marseille's German striker

with whom he had an ugly

spitting exchange at the 1990

"In France there are high expectations for the first

French victory in the cup,"

Voeller said. "I believe

Olympique can do it. Milan are

considered the favorites and

this is going to help us. We will

have nothing to lose. I am sure

Voeller, who may be head-

ing for the J-League in Japan

next season, and Croatian

striker Alen Boksic form a very

proficient forward pair for

64,400 see a memorable

good march. It will be a tacti-

cal match with both teams very

within the first 20 minutes

than the show could suddenly

cautious." Van Basten said.

But will a sell-out crowd of

"Fans can hardly expect a

'If one team scores one goal

that we will win the cup."

World Cup in Italy.

Some old German-Dutch

200,000.

Marseille.

match?

Tendulkar named Azhar's deputy

NEW DELHI, May 25: Twenty-year-old Sachin Ten dulkar was named on Monday as Mohammad Azharuddin's deputy for India's tour of Shri Lanka from July 10 to August 14, reports Reuter.

The Indian Cricket Control Board opted for Tendulkar as vice-captain rather than one of several more experienced members of the 16-strong

The board have kept faith with the players who whitewashed England 3-0 in their home series earlier this year.

"We did not want to disturb winning combination and hence decided not to experiment with new players," board secretary Chandappa Nagaraj

Anil Kumble, Venkatapathy Raju and Rajesh Chauhan, who played such a decisive role in the England rout, occupy the three slots for specialist slow bowlers.

All-rounder Ajay Sharma edged out Sanjay Manjrekar for the final batsman's berth on the basis of his utility as an additional spin bowler.

SQUAD

Mohammad Azharuddin (captain), Sachin Tendulkar (vice-captain), Navjot Sidhu, Manoj Prabhakar, Wookeri Raman, Vinod Kambli, Praveen Amre, Ajay Sharma, Kapil Dev, Kiran More, Vijay Yadav, Anil Kumble, Rajesh Chauhan, Venkatapathy Raju, Javagal Srinath, Salil Ankola,

Div II cricket qualifiers

Sports Reporter

Five matches of the Second Division cricket qualifying tournament were held yesterday at different venues across the city.

Tuhin Smriti Sangsad registered a two wicket victory over Rare Cricket Club at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium (cast).

Batting first Rare Cricket Club were dismissed for 134 in 27 overs.

In reply, Tuhin Smritt Sangsad reached the victory target in 29.5 overs losing eight wickets.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium (west) Amateur Cricket Club overpowered Student Cricketers by seven wickets.

Amateur Cricket Club raced to 140 in 23 overs losing three of their in reply to Student Cricketers' score of 139 in 29.5 overs.

Barnak Samaj Kalyan posted a thrilling one-wicket triumph over Agrani Krira Samaj Kalyan at the Dhanmondi Club ground. Agrani Krira Samaj Kalyan batted first and made 150 for nine in the stipulated 30 overs.

Barnak Samaj Kalyan struggled to 153 losing all best one wicket with 11 balls to spare. At the Mirpur Pallabi ground, Bashabo Tarun Sangha beat SCC Azimpur by four

wickets. Batting first SCC Azimpur were shot out for 96 in 29.5

Bashabo Tarun Sangha needed 21.4 overs to reach 98 for the loss of six wickets.

PSQ recorded a four-wicket win over Holidayers Cricket Club at the Jagannath Hall Cricket ground of the Dhaka University. Holidayers batted first and

managed 124 for nine from their quota of 30 overs. In reply, PSQ made 125 for

six in 22.4 overs.

BDR wrestling

RAJSHAHI, May 25: The 20 risle battalion, Rajshahi, clinched the championship of inter-battalion wrestling competition of Bangladesh Rifles, Rajshahi Sector, bagging 22

Naogaon, Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj battalions participated in the three-day competition that ended here on Monday.

Reefat's third on a trot Sports Reporter drew the other two to up his Reefat-bin-Sattar

clinched his third consecutive national title yesterday with two

more rounds to go after beating International Woman Master Rant Hamid in

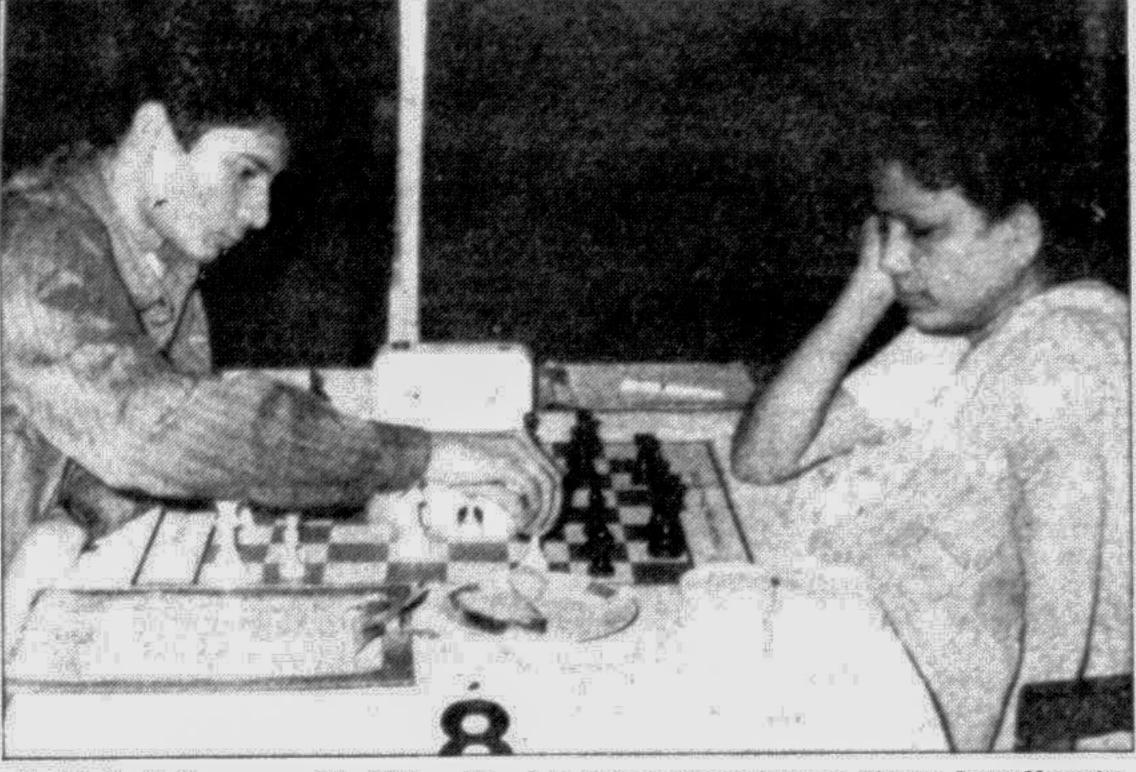
tally to 12.

Distantly following him with seven and a half points each are Kalimullah Khan Kalam and his Ansars teammate Niyamul Hug Niru. Kalam, however, has played two games less than

Corporation (BTMC) also ended up at the winners' end of the table.

against ANM Ruhul Quddus

Playing with black pieces Rasiq resorted to Sicilian Defence to prevail in 37 moves



defence during their thirteenth round natch in the nineteenth national chess championship at the National Sports Council yesterday. Reefat won the match to clinch his third consecutive national title. -Star photo

the thirteenth round of the nineteenth national chess championship at the National Sports Council chess room

Reefat, playing with white pieces in a game of Sicilian Defence, needed 21 moves to British Open women's champion's blunder and forced her to resign six moves later.

able run in the recently concluded world zone eleven championship in Ispahan, Iran earning seven and a half points from eleven matches, has so far won eleven matches and

Kalam beat Ali Amiad Mintu yesterday following the Alapine variation of the Sicilian defence. Playing with white pieces Kalam had his opponent resign on the 26th move. Niru, on the contrary, had

to be satisfied with half a point. Against Khandaker Kayes Hassan, also from Bangladesh Ansars, in a Taimanov variation of the Sicilian Defence Niru settled for a draw after 18 Ziaul Qader Tuhin, half a point behind Kalam and Niru,

outmaneuvered Abul Kashem Bhuiyan in 47 moves following the Petroff's Defence. Former national champion Rezaul Huq, playing with black, adopted King's Indian Defence to get rid of Abdullah Al Raqib in 38 Rafiqui Islam of Chittagong

and Saifuddin Lablu of Bangladesh Textile Mills

move more to beat Abdullah Al Ragib of Dhaka Metropolis in a game of King's Indian Defence.

The other match of the day between Omar Khaled of Chittagong and Mahbub Ali Ferdous of Feni was still in progress when the report was filed last night.

ROLL OF HONOUR

1978 Mian Abdus Salek 1979 Niaz Murshed

1980 Niaz Murshed

1981 Niaz Murshed 1982 Niaz Murshed

1986 Zillur Rahman

1989 Rezaul Huq

1990 Tahmidur Rahman 1991 Reefat-bin-Sattar

1992 Reefat-bin-Sattar

Afford, Buss lead Notts home



tables on Kent to spin Nottingham

shire to an improbable 74-run county championship victory at Trent Bridge on Monday, reports Reuter.

Off-spinner Field-Buss claimed a career-best 6-42 while Afford weighed in with 4-35 as Kent were skittled out for 104 on a wearing wicket after being left a testing target of

It was a complete turnaround for Notts who, forced to follow on, had scored 330-9 declared in their second innings despite a marathon spell of 40 overs by left-arm spinner him a 7-127 return. Captain Martyn Moxon and

big-hitting David Byas guided Yorkshire to their second championship win of the season, seeing off Hampshire by six wickets with nearly eight overs to spare at Southampton.

an unbeaten 53, including two sixes and six fours off just 33 balls, after Hampshire had declared leaving Yorkshire requiring 222 in a minimum of 42 overs.

England all rounder Ian Botham was also in belligerent mood despite

treatment after thumping his third four off his first eight balls. He returned after the fall of two quick wickets to score 73 off 78 balls.

Derbyshire captain Kim Barnett collected the 40th first-class century of his career to leave champions Essex still chasing their first championship victory of the sum-

Barnett's unbeaten 130 at Chelmsford occupied 344 minutes and included 14 fours. Somerset's Pakistani leg spinner Mushtaq Ahmed returned his second five wicket haul against Worcestershire for

he still finished up a loser. Worcestershire reached their 246-run target with two wickets in land.

Among press scoops was

match figures of 10-145. But

J-League takes a giant step play at the same time.



in its first 10 life, Japan's soccer league has bundled sumo and baseball off page

six sports dailies released today showed that, since the J-League kicked off on May 15, it has won 40 per cent of pageone space, against 23 per cent for baseball and 18 per cent each for sumo and horse rac-

Soccer has been up against stiff competition, including a 15-day sumo tournament that went right down to the wire and a big horse race with foreign entries.

Much of the media attention has focused on the life of luxury led by the top stars among the nearly 50 overseas players lured to play in the new J-League for salaries several time higher than their Japanese teammates.

Each of the 10 clubs is permitted up to five foreign players, any three of who may

Model High in kabaddi final Sports Reporter

School and College and Motifheel Model High School advanced to the final of the BGIC fourth schools kabaddi championship yesterday.

Outer Stadium.

The winners, who earned four lonas against none, dominated the first half 13-6. In the other semifinal,

only lona of the tie. The final will be held on Friday next.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain will witness the final as chief guest and distribute prizes.

Rifles School,

Bangladesh Rifles Public

In the first semifinal, Bangladesh Rifles Public School and College registered an casy 47-16 victory over Gandaria High School at the

Motifheel Model High School posted a 19-12 triumph over Dolairpar High School after leading the first session 2-1. The winners managed the

Focus magazine's revelation that Brazilian superstar Zico, 40, had hired a chauffeur to take him to training. Zicb, who scored a devastat-

lives 100 km (60 miles) away in one of Tokyo's most expensive residential districts. Focus also reported that German World Cup star Pierre Littbarski jetted into Japan with his wife this month to

find a personal interpreter laid

on by his new club. The two

ing hattrick in his first home

game for the Kashima Antlers,

were put up in Tokyo's Bay Hilton Hotel at 80,000 yen (720 dollar) a night. Littbarski has already repaid part of the investment, scoring two goals and leading his team, Ichihara Jef United, to two

wins in three games. So far, the most disappointing foreign star has been the most expensive.

Former England captain

Gary Lineker, reported to have signed a two-year contract with the Nagoya Grampus Eight for an estimated 530

million yen (4.8 million dollar), has failed to score in three games, except for one goal in a penalty shoot-out on Saturday. Focus said that car giant Toyota, the main shareholder in the Grampus, initially

sought to sign Argentine star

Maradona and in early 1991

had tentatively agree with him on contract terms of 1.5 billton yen [13.6 millton dollar]. Toyota pulled out of the

deal after Maradona's involvement in a drugs scandal, the racy weekly said.



Reefat-bin-Sattar moves his bishop deep into International Woman Master Rani Hamid's

yesterday.

take care of the former national women's champion. Rani Hamid played with poise until the 15th move when she made a premature exchange of knights to give her young opponent and advantage. Reefat, whose International Master status awaits FIDE recognition, capitalised on the three-time

Reefat, who had a remark-

1983 Jamilur Rahman 1984 Younus Hassan 1985 Saeed Ahmed

1987 Zillur Rahman 1988 Ziaur Rahman

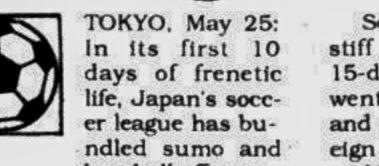
1993 Recfat-bin-Sattar

Richard Davis which earned LONDON, May 25: Michael Field-Buss and Andy Afford turned the

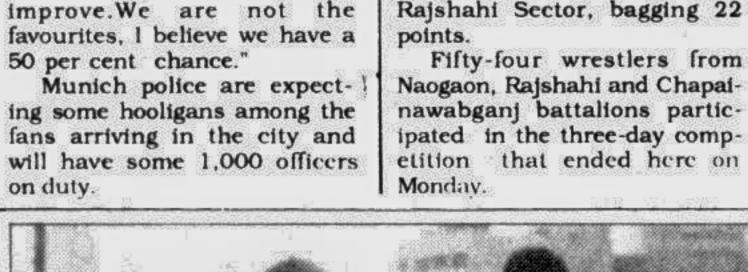
Moxon made 61 and Byas

Former

ricking his neck in Durham's drawn game with Gloucestershire at Bristol. Botham had to retire for



one of the nation's sporting press, reports Reuter. An Asahi Shimbun survey of





Rifles Public School and College and Gandaria High School at the Outer Stadium. Rifles School advanced to the final. -Star photo