

MSC march on, Usha stumble

Sports Reporter

National star Sadek took his individual tally to 15 as he scored twice in Mohammedans three-nil triumph over lowly Ansars in the second match of the Green Delta First Division Hockey league at the Hockey Stadium yesterday. Fresh from their six-nil drubbing of Wanderers, Mohammedans took remarkably long time to open their account and it came in the 26th minute when Mumtaz Haider, the big former Pakistani international, sounded the board to finish a fine buildup (1-0).

Sadek doubled the margin shortly after the breather when he scored the second of the three field goals in the 42nd minute (2-0).

He topped up another in an identical fashion two minutes later (3-0).

However, the magic treble mark eluded him in the rest of the match. Mohammedans now have 18 points having won their all nine engagements while Ansars have nine from eight outings. Lebu Mollah of Ansars was given marching order for repeated dangerous infringement.

Lady luck continued to betray Usha, the newly emerged forces of the domestic circuit, when Wari Club in a prelude of remarkable field day for the traditional club held them to a one-all draw.

Usha, who had suffered a similar fate in their previous match, came a cropper yesterday as their players failed to make anything out of the 13 penalty corners. They earned in the course of the match.

Things did not look that bad for Usha when Rafiqul Islam scored for the Independence Day Cup champions in the 64th minute from a penalty corner.

Talyab of Wari restored parity five minutes later from a penalty corner. After that Usha in a desperate bid to avoid a second consecutive draw launched relentless sorties but to no avail.

Cornered Wari players survived the assault to go home richer for a point leaving a cue for their peers at the football ground who later completed a fine day's work by snatching a point from fancied Abahani Krira Chakra.

Usha now have 14 points from eight matches while Wari have ten also from eight outings.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Ajax SC vs Wanderers (2-30)

Abahani KC vs Sadharan Bima (4-15)

Div II cricket qualifiers resume today

Sports Reporter

The final round of the Second Division cricket qualifying competition suspended for quite some time because of inclement weather resumes today.

At the Jagannath Hall ground, Amateur Cricket Club will take on Jinjira Krira Chakra while Khelaghar Samaj Kalyan will play Maghbazar Kishalay at the Mirpur Pallabi ground.

Chinese coaches for SAF Games

Sports Reporter

Four Chinese coaches will be in Bangladesh shortly to boost the dim local chances for the forthcoming 4 sixth South Asian Federation (SAF) Games, scheduled to be held in Dhaka in December.

The four coaches are: Liang Shiqiang (track and field), Liu Fucheng (shooting), Lu Shiqing (swimming) and Li Lianyi (table tennis).

BTF executive committee meets

The executive committee meeting of the Bangladesh Tennis Federation was held at the National Tennis Complex yesterday with its president Planning Minister AM Zahiruddin Khan in the chair, reports BSS.

The meeting discussed the preparation for the tennis competition in the South Asian Federation (SAF) Games to be held in Dhaka from December 20 to December 31 this year and also training arrangements for the Bangladesh tennis team.

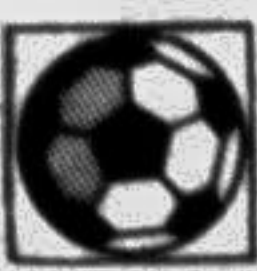
Vice presidents Faizur Rahman Chowdhury and Zafar Imam, general secretary Moazzem Hossain Khan, other officials and members were present in the meeting.

Ferguson set to quit Dundee

LEEDS, England, June 22: Scotland striker Duncan Ferguson is set to quit Premier Division Dundee United in a 3.25 million-pound transfer to English Premier League club Leeds United, reports AFP.

Abahani lose second point

Sports Reporter



Abahani Krira Chakra lost their second point in three matches when the reigning league champions were held to a two-all draw in the Star Premier Division football league tie at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Wari, who gave a trial of their strength in their league opener beating fancied Brothers Union one-nil, finished the first half on a high with Mosharrar Hossain Tutul nullifying an early Abahani lead with a penalty conversion at the flag end.

While the most talked-about of the local upcoming footballers drove the spot kick home to trigger off an evening of pacy, ding-dong soccer, national footballer Rumi Rizvi Karim missed his turn in the second half to add to the miseries of the Dhanmondi club.

Donned in the rather unusual outfit of glazing yellow Abahani started the match with the liveliness and flair more associated with mirthful butterflies than the plethora of pejorative symbolic associations.

Ironically at the end of the day yellow proved to be the right kind of symbol for the Dhanmondi team. They had begun their campaign on June 11 on a stuttering note, being held to a one-all draw by lowly

the ball into the net after goalkeeper Bijon had badly misjudged the flight of a Masud Rana cross (1-0).

Buoyed by an early lead and the reassuring knowledge of national custodian Mohsin's return under the bar Abahani launched a series of sallies to make the men in red like cats on a hot tin roof. Abahani were almost two up when Mamunul Karim assayed an angular drive from outside the box but the shot went out after hitting the wood work.

Abahani, perhaps out of fatigue, eased off the pressure before the short whistle and Wari accelerated their tempo to make the most of the lull. A combined move resulted in a handball by Munna inside the box and Tutul, looking taut and tense hammered the spot kick with all his power and the shot rocketed into the net just grazing the cross bar in the 44th minute (1-1).

Revved up by a verbal dose from coach Salahuddin Abahani started the second half with renewed vigour and were rewarded with the result two minutes after the resumption.

A flag kick from the north-western corner of the ground created heady chromatic punch of red and yellow and Swapan, the younger brother of former national footballer Samrat Hossain Emily, squeezed the ball into the Wari net

match because the man who replaced Bijon under the bar went on to save Rumi's penalty shot and deprive Abahani a lead by the odd goal in the five.

However, before Tony could show his heroics Wari drew level six minutes after Abahani's second goal when Maqbul, carelessly allowed inside the box, sent a half-cross half-shot from the left and the ball swung in and took rest in the net leaving Mohsin absolutely dumbfounded (2-2).

Abahani were awarded a penalty kick in the 24th minute following the second handball of the day inside the dreaded zone. Tony, who gave good account of himself later, dived to his left to parry the ball away.

The set-back stemmed panic in the Abahani camp and instead of widening the field the frenzied footballers of the champion team directed all their moves down the middle. Wari players looking far superior in fitness, strength and determination found it to their advantage jamming Abahani's way with rugby type scrumming. They left the whole midfield to Abahani and packed the defence leaving only the dangerous Tutul in the upfront.

The chance of fatal break-away move was always there and Wari almost scored their third goal five minutes from



Bijon, the Wari custodian, rushes forward to collect a cross ball denying Abahani's Gaus a chance to have a crack at the goal during yesterday's Star Premier Division football league match at the Dhaka Stadium. Wari forced the reigning champions to a two-all draw. — Star photo

PWD, somewhat recovered the shock in their next match against Muktiyoddha Sangsad with a two-nil win only to be blighted by another draw yesterday.

If Abahani's draw in the inaugural match was a surprise to many, yesterday's result was a more reasonable one in the context of Wari's steady, sustained display over the last few days.

Their last match which Mohammedans won 3-1 was a bad reflection of their strength and they underlined that last evening. Perhaps the most drilled team at the moment in the domestic circuit, they showed remarkable resilience in the face of all the unwritten odds.

Backed by a vociferous contingent of supporters Abahani shot into the lead in the eighth minute of the match when skipper Rumi stylishly headed

with faint flick of his head past a dazed Bijon (2-1).

This proved to be the apparent turning point of the

Paraguay, Peru split points

CUENCA, Ecuador, June 22: Paraguay and Peru played to a dull and uninspiring 1-1 draw in a Copa America Group B match on Monday, reports Reuter.

Both teams were clearly satisfied with the result as they left the pitch.

Paraguayan striker Luis Alberto Monzun broke through Peru's offside trap to score in the 38th minute with his team's only real attack of the first half.

Paraguay now have three points from their two games and Peru two, giving both teams reasonable chances of reaching the quarter-finals.

time. Chanchal raced clear from a free-kick push but Abahani goalie came out in time to save his side from a certain downfall. Abahani retaliated strongly but Wari survived a few close shaves to go home with a well-earned point.

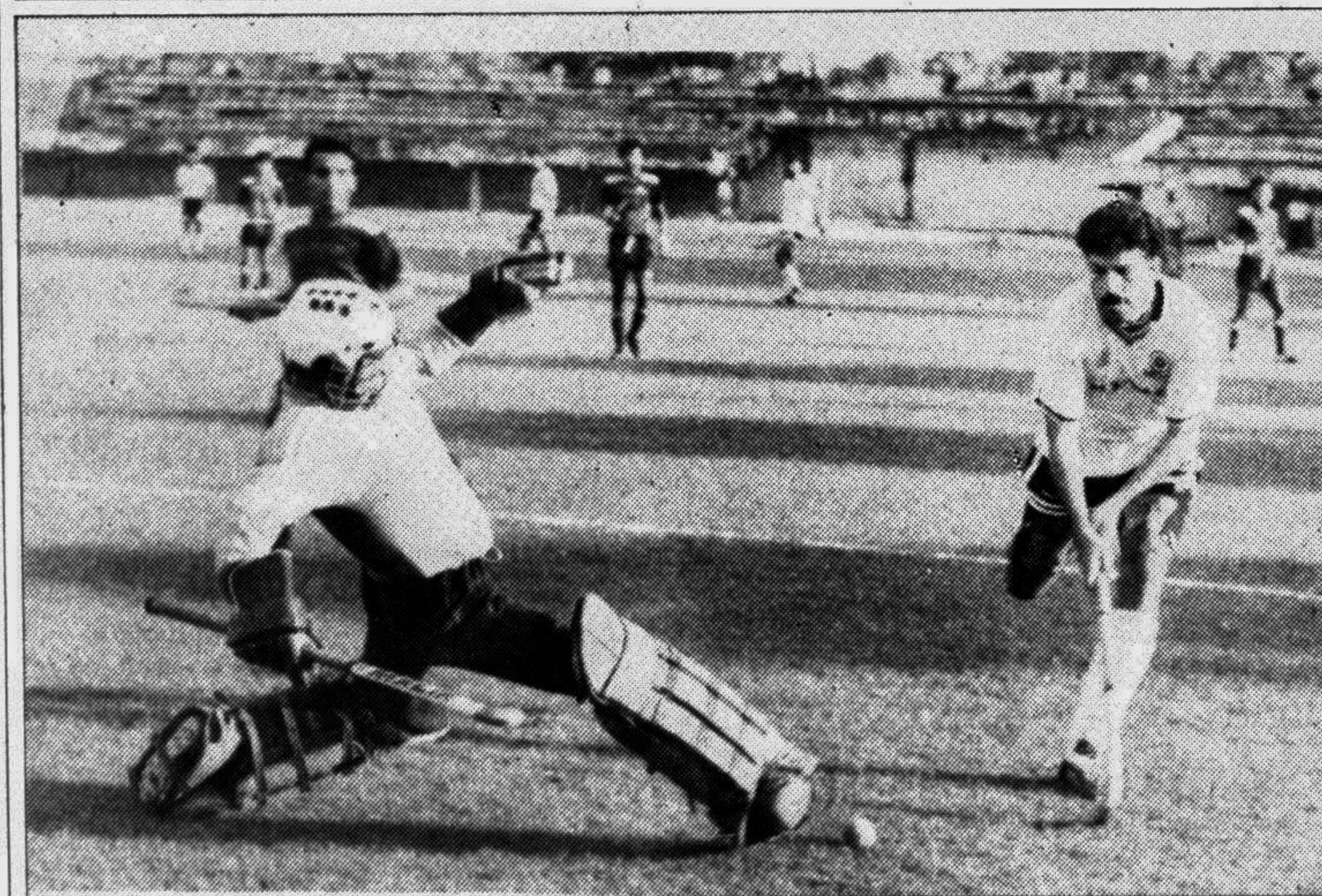
Abahani now have four points from three matches while Wari have three points from same number of outings.

In the day's first match, a Star First Division football league tie, Fakirerpool Youngmen's Club drew with Sadharan Bima Krira Sagtha one-all. Askar gave Fakirerpool the lead in the seventh minute but Mintu neutralised it for Bima in the 38th minute of the match.

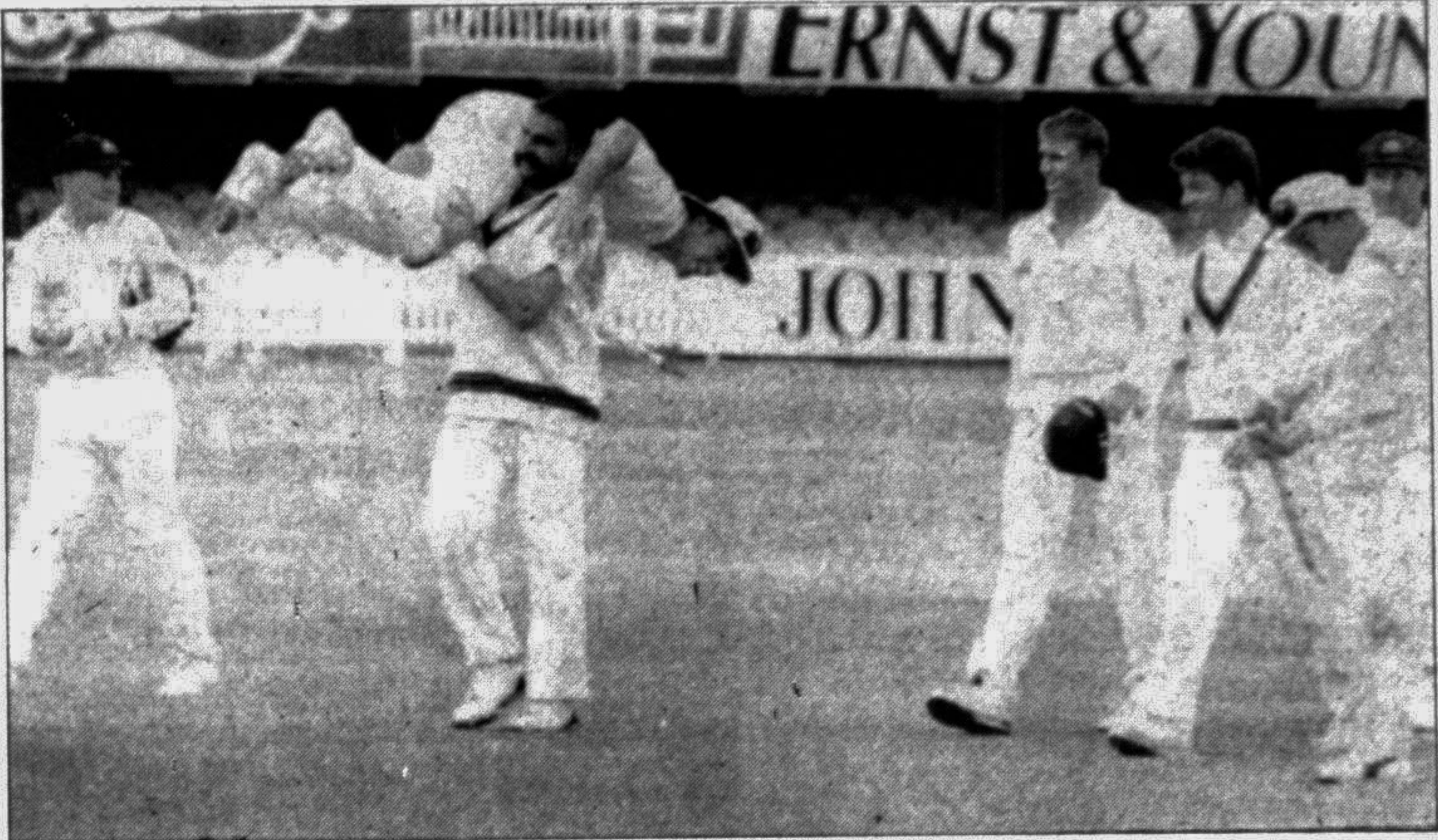
TODAY'S MATCHES

Farashganj SC vs Adamjee SC (4-30)

Mohammedan SC vs Victoria SC (6-30)



Dhaka Ansars goalkeeper thwarts a Mumtaz Haider move during the Green Delta First Division hockey league match against Mohammedan Sporting Club at the Hockey Stadium yesterday. The defending champions maintained their all-win record with a 3-0 triumph. — Star photo



CELEBRATIONS, AUSSIE STYLE... paceman Merv Hughes hoists teammate Tim May who along with leggie Shane Warne designed English downfall, on his shoulder after Australia registered a resounding an innings and 62 runs win in the second Ashes Test to take a 2-0 lead in the six-match series. — AFP photo

Pele blames lack of training for Brazil's bane

CUENCA, Ecuador, June 22: Football legend Pele reckons a lack of preparation is behind Brazil's dismal performance in the Copa America here, reports AFP.

Brazil were beaten 3-2 by Chile in Group B on Monday, sending them tumbling to the bottom of the pile. Now they need a result against Paraguay on Thursday to stand even a chance of reaching the quarter-finals.

"This Brazilian side is young and hasn't trained enough," Pele told local television. "There wasn't enough team work. They never looked like the Brazil that everyone knows — capable of moving the ball around and of showing the right sort of commitment."

The teamsheet bore little relation to the one which sparked in this month's US Cup. Only four men from world club champions Sao Paulo, who had been in the States, played here on Wednesday night.

Pele, also reckoned the side were not physically prepared for Chile, but said: "I believe they'll be better equipped for the Paraguay match."

Among the three groups, the top two sides qualify for the quarter-finals, along with the best two third-placed teams.

Brazil will know exactly what they have to do as they are the last team to play. The other group games are later on Tuesday and on Wednesday.

Sevilla withhold Maradona's final payment

SEVILLE, Spain, June 22: Spanish club Sevilla have withheld the final payment on Diego Maradona's contract because they are unhappy with the service they received last season, reports AFP.

Sevilla, who finished the 1992-93 season in a disappointing mid-table position, say Maradona frequently missed training and failed to fulfil his professional obligations.

The Argentinian is claiming he is owed 1.125 million dollars by the Catalan club. "FC Sevilla do not want to honour their contract and they are using any pretext they can find," said Maradona's agent Marcos Franchi.

Marsh's harsh words for England



ADELAIDE, Australia, June 22: England's disastrous Ashes performances reflected the appalling standard of their county cricket competition, which featured bowlers who were no more than "pie throwers," former Australian Test wicket-keeper Rod Marsh said today, reports AFP.

Marsh, head coach of the Australian Institute of Sport Cricket Academy which has produced current Ashes tourists Shane Warne, Michael Slater, Brendon Julian and Damien Martyn, said some current English county players would struggle to play suburban grade cricket in Australia.

He said the standard of English cricket was so low the Australian Cricket Board might have to consider scheduling only three Tests when England next tour Australia, placing them on a pack with other lower profile cricketing nations such as Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe.

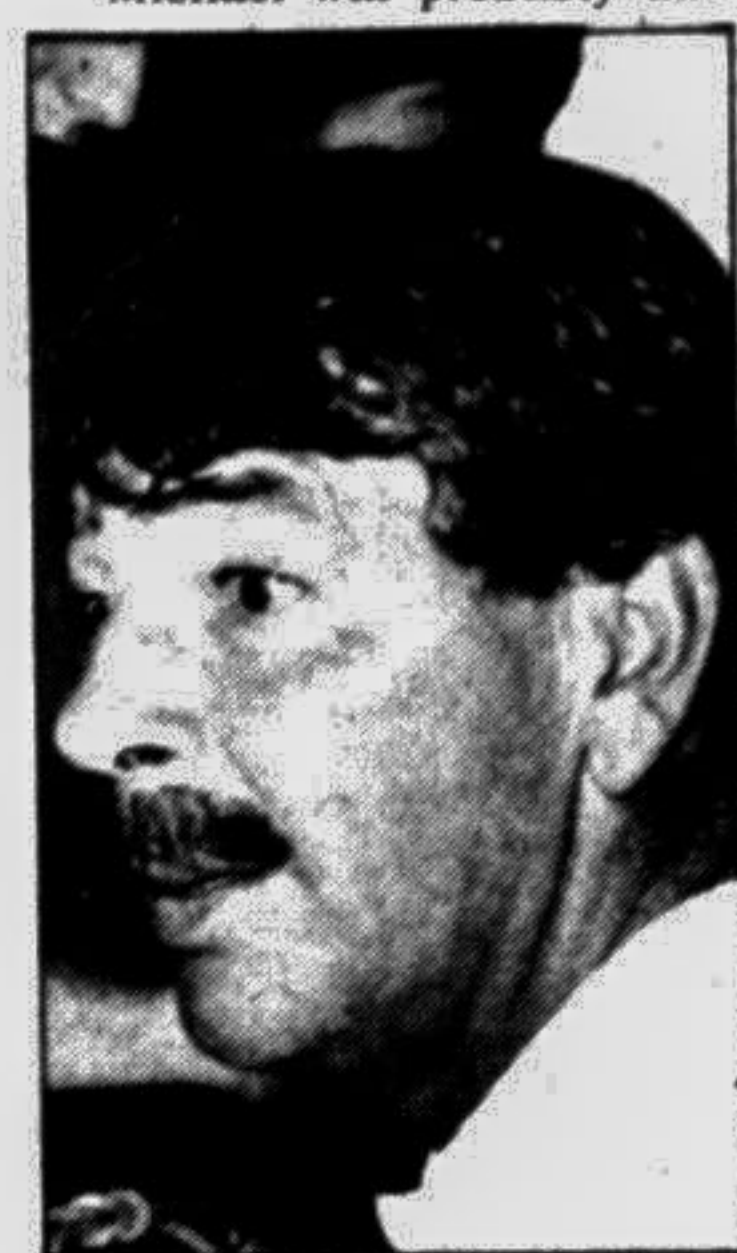
"These performances all stem from county cricket and the fact that it's not a good competition" Marsh said.

"You see blokes in county games scoring hundreds and taking bags of wickets who you know wouldn't have a hope of playing first class cricket in Australia, and would struggle to make it in a first grade side."

"Take Michael Slater's innings (of 152 at Lord's) — sure

it was a good knock, but there's a lot of blokes in this county who would have given their right arms to bat against that attack."

"Michael will probably ad-



RODNEY MARSH

mit he's made better 30s or 40s in Sheffield Shield (domestic state level) cricket than the 152 he made against England."

Marsh said he hoped 23-year-old Warne, who leads the Australian bowling averages with 16 wickets at an average of 18.50 from two Tests, would resist all offers to play in the county league because it would harm his development as a

cricketer. Spending the Australian winter in England was good for young players to make friends and down a few beers, but as far as cricket education went they were better off spending the off-season playing grade cricket in Darwin (an isolated northern Australian outpost), Marsh said.

"They go over there and face bowlers that are really just pie throwers, and they are not going to learn anything about the game," he said.

Marsh said he could not understand why England, which trail 0-2 in the current Test series, continued to play veterans such as Mike Gatting and Neil Foster, rather than follow Australia's lead and give up-and-coming players a chance.

England must start developing their young cricketers or they would suffer even greater humiliation than in the second Test, he said, where Australia lost just four wicket while England were bowled out twice on a placid strip against a depleted attack.

"The Australian selectors have always used a policy of 'if in doubt, choose youth's because youth has an exuberance that become infectious and runs through the senior players in the team,'" he said.

"There's going to come a time when Australians start to feel sorry for England, but fortunately I've not reached that stage yet."

Middlesex, Glamorgan at top



LONDON, June 22: Middlesex and Glamorgan scored comfortable wins on Monday to stay deadlocked at the top of the English County Championship table, reports AFP.

Glamorgan hammered Durham by 113 runs at Colwyn Bay, while Middlesex were indebted to a brilliant 115 by West Indies opener Desmond Haynes in their five-wicket success against Somerset at Bath.

The Welsh County dismissed Durham for 287, with medium-pace Steve Watkin taking four for 93 and boosting his season's haul to 48 wickets.

Durham began the day on 62 for two and although Ian Botham, Phil Bainbridge and West Indies paceman Anderson Cummins hit half-centuries, they could not deny Glamorgan the 22 points.

At Bath, spinner John Carr captured four for 73 as Somerset were dismissed for 240, leaving Middlesex 258 to win.

Lancashire, had to battle for their four-wicket success over Haynes, who hit two sixes

and nine fours, received useful help from Mark Ramprakash and Keith Brown in the run chase.



HAYNES...115

It was easy as well for Hampshire, who coasted to a seven-wicket victory over Northamptonshire at Northampton thanks to Kevan James (71) and Paul Terry (58 not out), who shared a stand of 62 in 16 overs.

Lancashire, had to battle for their four-wicket success over

Sussex at Old Trafford, Opener Steve Titchard (87) and Gehan Mendis (85) being their match-winners.

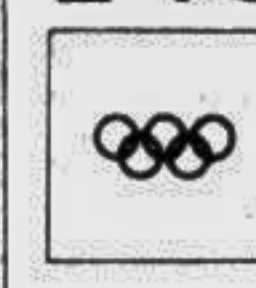
The pair put on 179 runs to follow their 127-stand in the first innings as the hosts went past a stiff target of 326 with more than an hour to spare. Nick Speak weighed in later with a vital 59.

The two other games were drawn, Gloucestershire holding off Yorkshire at Sheffield after following-on 204 runs behind, while Nottinghamshire denied champions Essex at Trent Bridge.

Gloucestershire's first innings reached just 241, but second time around the visitors got their heads down, with Chris Broad (87) and Mark Alleyne (78) dominating a total of 235 for three.

At Trent Bridge Notts scrambled to 197 for eight after Essex had set them 332 to win in 73 overs with a score of 260 for one, in which John Stephenson cracked an unbeaten 113 with eight fours and Jonathan Lewis stroked 136 not out with 16 boundaries.

Nebiolo's hardline stance



LAUSANNE, Switzerland, June 22: World athletics chief Primo Nebiolo said Monday that cycling, tennis and football should consider quitting the Olympic Games if they cannot meet strict new drug standards, reports AFP.

His comments came after the International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced an historic pact with federations controlling individual sports to step up the battle against doping.

Federations and the Olympic organisers will now apply the same sanctions against those found guilty of taking illegal performance enhancing drugs.

Nebiolo, president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) and an influential IOC member, highlighted the rule that any sport wanting to be part of the

Olympics had to fall in line with the pact.

"There are some sports that should think about not staying part of the Olympics," said Nebiolo, in a veiled attack on the tennis, football and cycling governing bodies.

Sporting sources said that while football and cycling had been dragging their feet over

changing drug control procedures, only tennis had not yet declared its intention to fall in "line with the pact."

The new accord gives the IOC extensive new powers outside its usual remit. It will now get say on drug procedures used by individual federations outside Olympic competition.

The IOC has also set up a new arbitration panel in an effort to stop athletes, such as American sprinter Butch Reynolds, from going to civil courts to make multi-million dollar damages claims.

Keiba Mbaye, a former international court judge and IOC member, said it was hoped to give the supreme council for international sports arbitration sufficient powers to a convince athletes there was no need to go to civil courts.

Reynolds was awarded 27.5 million dollars in compensation from a US court over a drugs ban imposed by the IAAF.

Olympians on a mission

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, June 22: Around 250 athletes from 30 countries who took part in the 1984 Winter Olympics in Sarajevo today issued an appeal for the warring parties in Bosnia to spare children from suffering, reports AFP.

The appeal was organised by the defence of children international, a Geneva-based aid group created in 1979.