



Agrani Bank custodian Totum leaps into the air to grab the ball during the Star Premier Division football league match against reigning champions Abahani Krira Chakra at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. Abahani registered a convincing 3-0 victory. —Star photo

**MSC maintain clean slate**

**Sports Reporter**  
Mohammedan Sporting Club beat Wari Club by two goals to nil to maintain a clean slate in the Green Delta First Division hockey league at the Hockey Stadium yesterday.

After a barren first half, Muntaz Haider, the big Pakistani centre forward, gave Mohammedans the lead when he finished off a fine move initiated by compatriot Zahid Maqbul in the 47th minute. The goal created some confusion as the ball managed to get out of the cage giving Wari players some scope to create stir about the legitimacy of the goal. After a brief consultation the two umpires confirmed the goal.

Sadek so far the highest scorer of the league with 15 goals added another one to his kitty yesterday when he scored a field goal three minutes later.

Mohammedans have now won eleven matches on the trot and with 22 points they share the top slot in the points table along with their arch rivals Abahani Krira Chakra.

Wari, who lost their previous match to Abahani, remain at nine from eleven matches.

In the first match of the day Bangladesh Railway drew with Bangladesh Sporting one-all.

Zaid Khan gave Railway the lead in the 26th minute through a field goal. Five minutes later Sporting's Mont neutralised the goal in an identical fashion.

Despite yesterday's point Railway remained at the bottom of the points table with two points from 11 matches while Bangladesh Sporting are marginally better off with three points from eleven matches.

**Abahani roll over Bankers**

**Sports Reporter**

League champions Abahani Krira Chakra beat Agrani Bank 3-0 to record their third win in the Star Premier Division football league at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The winners made the most of the limited openings they created to take a 2-0 lead at the half time.

Skipper Rumi Rizvi Karim playing with one leg swathed in bandage scored twice to go to the top of the individual scorers' list with six goals to his name so far.

Despite their two-nil lead Abahani's first half performance was far from being satisfactory. Ironically, the sky blues managed just one goal inside of a vastly superior display in the second half as three of their attempts were thwarted either by the side post or the cross bar.

Bankers, who had earlier snatched a point from Brothers and lost to Mohammedans not before giving the title aspirants a real run for their money, did live up to the expectations testing the Abahani defence with last moves on the break. Only an immaculate exhibition of timing by national goalkeeper Mohsin saved the Abahani net from being revised. A bit off-colour since his return to the field following an injury in the DMFA Cup, Mohsin yesterday left his charge with electrifying mental and physical readiness at least on four occasions to keep Bank forwards Munna,

Jahangir and Bakhtiar at bay.

Gaus, the dark dapper winger, gave Abahani the lead in the seventh minute when he back-headed a long throw by Alamgir with Bank goalkeeper Totam knowing very little about it (1-0).

Bank retaliated strongly but former Abahani player Munna was robbed of the possession by an alert Mohsin after an apparent off side trap by the Abahani defenders collapsed.

Abahani's midfield were in a quandary after this and suddenly the lead looked a very tenuous one. After a rather prolonged spell of midfield tussle Abahani consolidated their lead just before the short whistle when Rumi found the mark from an Ahmed pass inside the box (2-0).

With Russian Dozmorov taking genuine interest in the second-half proceedings Abahani turned up the heat on the Bankers. First the big Russian's powerful shot went out of the play after hitting the post.

Gaus, another player who impressed last evening with intelligent flank play, evaded a charging substitute Bank goalkeeper Manju to float a neat cross but Rumi's header bounced back into the game off the side post with an empty goal before him.

Sudarikov, the smallest of the Russian trio, had his powerful shot rammed against the side post minutes later following another dangerous Dozmorov move down the flank.

Never really outplayed, Bank carried two squally counter

attacks past the Abahani defence which at times looked quite vulnerable mainly because of the absence of star defender Monem Munna, who was kicking his heels on the side line because of a two-match suspension following a marching order in the previous match. However, Mohsin rose to the occasion on both occasions and foiled the Bank forwards with sheer agility.

Dozmorov, who received his second successive yellow card yesterday, paved the path for Abahani's third goal. He initiated a move on his own from the field with clever maneuvering and set up a lovely ball across the Bank goalmouth and Rumi's powerful shot hit bank defender Bishu before entering the net in the 70th minute of the match (3-0).

Abahani have eight points from five matches while Bank have four from five matches.

In the first match of the day, Fakirpool Youngmen's Club recorded their first win when they inflicted Eskaton Sabuj Sangha their first defeat by a solitary goal in the Star First Division football league held earlier at the same venue yesterday.

Askar Babu scored the match-winner 19 minutes into the second half.

Fakirpool now have six points from five matches. Eskaton have five points from same number of outings.

**TODAY'S MATCHES**  
Police Vs Sonali (2-30)  
Abahani Vs Usha (4-15)  
**Ctg soccer**  
CHITTAGONG, July 5: Regency Club defeated Mukta Bihanga Club 2-0 in the last quarter-final match of C J K P Second Division football league at a local stadium this afternoon, reports BNA.

Feeroz scored both the goals in the 17th and 69th minute of the match.

Friends Club will play against Little Brothers in the first match on July 8 while Regency Club will be up against Abahani Juniors in the second semi-final the next day. The date for the final match would be announced later, the organisers said.

**H'ball training course ends**

MADARIPUR, July 5: A four-day long handball training course concluded at the Kalkini Pilot High School here last week, district sports association sources said, reports UNB.

Organised by the Madaripur District Sports Association, 40 trainees took part in the workshop, first of its kind in the area.

Thana Nirbahi Officer of Kalkini H M Rasheduzzaman distributed certificates among the participants at a ceremony on June 22. Atiar Rahman conducted the training.

**BDR wrestling on**

The inter-sector wrestling competition of Bangladesh Rifles-43, organised by Static Signal Sector, began yesterday at Pechkhana Central Training Centre, reports UNB.

Brigadier T U Mohammad Iftikharul Bashar, Deputy Director General of BDR, inaugurated the competition as chief guest.

**Batistuta bails Argentina out**

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador, July 5: Striker Gabriel Batistuta shrugged off his Copa America lethargy in the nick of time, scoring twice in the final as Argentina beat Mexico 2-1 to retain the soccer trophy on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Batistuta, who has complained of tiredness in the Southern Ecuador heat, put the holders ahead in the 63rd minute when he outpaced the Mexican backs to surge through in the middle and beat advancing keeper Jorge Campos.

Mexico, who created the greater number of chances in an exciting final, equalised within six minutes when Benjamin Galindo beat penalty-saving specialist Sergio Goycochea from the spot after the goalkeeper had brought down Zague.

Florentina striker Batistuta put Argentina, winners of the trophy in Chile two years ago, in front again in the 74th minute, crashing home a pass from substitute Leo Rodriguez after a cross from the right by Diego Simeone.

Batistuta, top scorer in 1991 with six goals, took his tally in the tournament to three after scoring in the 1-0 opening win over Bolivia, the holders only other outright victory. They drew four matches, winning their quarter-final and semifinal on penalties.

Argentine captain Oscar Ruggeri, who lifted the trophy for the second time in two years, went off injured seven minutes before halftime and was replaced by Fernand Caceres of River Plate.

After Alberto Acosta and Simeone went close with early chances for the holders,

Mexico were denied the lead only when a last-gasp, diving save by Goycochea prevented Alberto Garcia-Aspe's low shot finding the net at the foot of the right post.

Argentina's best first half chance came in the 16th minute when Simeone crossed behind the defence from the left and Campos blocked Batistuta's point blank shot.

In a fine attack involving three members of Mexico's midfield and started by the busy Garcia-Aspe on the left, Galindo crossed to David Patin on the right but his shot went into the side netting.

Acosta wasted a good Argentine chance in first half injury time with a weak cross to Batistuta intercepted by Campos.

Zague, known by the nickname given him by his Brazilian-born father, went close with a good effort minutes before Batistuta's opening goal.

The whole Mexican team, including colourful goalkeeper Campos in a fluorescent pink strip, were up in the Argentine penalty area for an 88th minute corner as they battled for a last-gasp equaliser.

Mexico, playing as guests for the first time in the South American Championship and the only side in the tournament already through to next year's World Cup finals, were the surprise team.

They reached their first final in a major international competition, qualifying with a 2-0 semifinal win over hosts Ecuador.

It was Argentina's 11th Copa America triumph in the 76-year history of the competition, oldest in the world for national football sides. They have also won the South American Championship three

times when the Copa America was not in play.

Four Argentine players and three Mexicans were booked, including Batistuta and Mexico skipper Hugo Sanchez.

Commerce Minister M K Anwar inaugurated Zia Smriti Kishore football tournament-93 at the Abahani play-ground at Dhanmandi yesterday, reports UNB.

Eight teams from different parts of the country are participating in the tournament. Ganakul Kishore Football Club and Suryasena Sporting Club participated in the inaugural match.



A Wari player dives full-length in an abortive attempt to stop Mohammedans' Pakistani forward Mumtaz Haider during yesterday's Green Delta First Division hockey league match at the Hockey Stadium. Mohammedans recorded a 2-0 win, their 11th in a row. —Star photo

**Bouncer law to top ICC agenda**

LONDON, July 5: Pakistan and the West Indies will face strong opposition from England here this week in their bid to rewrite cricket's bouncer law again, reports AFP.

The rule of one short-pitched delivery per batsman per over is top of the agenda at the International Cricket Council's annual meeting on Wednesday.

Pakistan and the West Indies want the law abolished completely. If not, they say it should be applied only to unrecognised batsmen or, as another alternative, increased to two bouncers per batsman per over.

They are determined that their fast bowlers should again be allowed to unleash as many bouncers as they like, with only and umpire's interpretation of the word 'intimidation' protecting batsmen.

England will do their best to fight another change, arguing that the current rule was voted in for a three-year trial run and should not be ditched after only 24 months.

"We think the rule is working very well," said Test and County Cricket Board chief executive Alan Smith. "It has not inhibited the likes of Merv Hughes and if it has helped to introduce more spin bowling, then so much the better."

"We believe the object of the game is to bowl at those three sticks in the ground, not at someone's head."

**Prime Sports to cover British Open golf**

HONG KONG, July 5: Prime Sports prepares for the 1993 British Open, the third Golf Major this year. Asian golf fans will have the chance to witness live coverage of this world premier event from the famous Royal St. George's Golf Club in Sandwich, England from July 15-18, 1993 at 6pm (local time), says a press release.

The famous Royal St. George's golf course challenges the world's top players to 72 holes of stroke play. Traditionally, this tournament attracts one of the greatest international playing fields and offers a grand prize purse of US \$ 1,900,000.

Viewers can expect to see a strong line-up of challengers including the likes of Bernard Langer, Nick Price, Fred Couples, Gred Norman, Paul Azinger, Ian Woosnam and Defending Champion, Nick Faldo.

Nick Faldo regained the World Number One spot after surviving a dramatic final-round collapse at last year's championship to capture his third British Open in one of the most thrilling finishes of the tournament's history.

**Zia Smriti soccer on**

Commerce Minister M K Anwar inaugurated Zia Smriti Kishore football tournament-93 at the Abahani play-ground at Dhanmandi yesterday, reports UNB.

**Gritty Gooch denies Aussies**

NOTTINGHAM, England, July 5: Graham Gooch, his captaincy in doubt after a year of disastrous results, led a superb England recovery on the fourth day of the third Test against Australia today, reports Reuter.

ended his tour on the opening day of the second Test, Australia had cause to be worried.

But it was not Hughes' enforced retirement that gave England their best day of the series. By the time he left the field, the Australian bowling attack had already been sub-



England captain Graham Gooch square-cuts during his superb knock of 120 in his side's second innings on the fourth day of the third Ashes Test in Trent Bridge yesterday. David Boon, the prolific Australian batsman, looks on. England were 362 for six at close. —AFP photo

With defeat looking ominously likely and a 3-0 series deficit ending even the remaining slim hopes of recovering the Ashes, Gooch played an innings of quality and courage to score 120 and open just a glimmer of a hope of victory.

By the close, England, beginning the day a meagre 70 runs ahead and with four wickets already down, had battled their way to 362 for six and an overall lead of 310.

England's task was made more easy when Australia's sole strike bowler Merv Hughes was forced to leave the field with a groin strain in mid-afternoon.

Following the return home of their other principle opening bowler Craig McDermott after an abdominal operation

Only two wickets fell during the day on a pitch which gave little help to pacemen or spinners.

After Gooch finally went, caught at slip off a sharply turning ball out of the rough from leg-spinner Shane Warne, Test debutant Graham Thorpe carried on the recovery, gaining in confidence as the day wore on and Australian spirits flagged for the first time in the so-far one-sided series.

By the close, Thorpe had scored 88 and had shared a 45-run seventh wicket partnership with Nasser Hussain who as 16 not out.

Gooch, 12 not out overnight, was aided first by nightwatchman Andrew Caddick, who defended reso-

lutely against the opening attack of Hughes and Warne for the first hour of play after England resumed on 122 for four.

Caddick aided Gooch to see off the threatening bowling of Hughes and the pair shared a vital fifth wicket partnership of 42. In the end it was second string paceman Bernard Julian who finally proved his undoing.

The tailender, who until then had been content solely to defend, hit Julian for two beautifully timed boundaries through the off-side but then the left-handed paceman produced a shorter which tucked up Caddick who fended the ball straight into the hands of David Boon at short leg.

Gooch continued unrepentant and was especially severe on off-spinner Tim May, several times dancing down the pitch to punch boundaries over the infielders.

Thorpe also gained in confidence and the pair added 150 together before Gooch finally fell to Warne's spin.

It was Gooch's 19th Test century — and also one of his greatest considering the pressure under which England were batting. When he reached 103, he became only the eighth player, and the third Englishman, to score 8,000 Test runs.

Denied the pace and penetration of Hughes, the Australian attack failed to make and further breakthrough and England ended the day with, at least, hopes high of avoiding an eighth successive Test defeat.

But a much-needed victory is still likely to have to wait until another day.

**SCOREBOARD**

Scoreboard on the fourth day of the third cricket Test between England and Australia at Trent Bridge today.

**ENGLAND: First Innings**  
321 (R. Smith 86, N. Hussain 71, M. Hughes 5-92)

**AUSTRALIA: First Innings**  
373 (D. Boon 101, M. Waugh 70)

**ENGLAND: Second Innings**  
(overnight 122-4)

M. Lathwell lbw b Warne	33
M. Atherton c Healy b Hughes	9
R. Smith c Healy b Warne	50
A. Stewart lbw b Hughes	6
G. Gooch c Taylor b Warne	120
A. Caddick c Boon b Julian	12
G. Thorpe not out	88
N. Hussain not out	16
Extras: (b13, lb-8, nb-7)	28
Total: (For six cricket)	362

Fall of wickets: 1-11; 2-100; 3-109; 4-117; 5-159; 6-300

<b>Bowling:</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>W</b>
Hughes	22	8	41	2
Julian	28	10	77	1
May	38	6	112	0
Warne	47	21	93	3
S. Waugh	1	0	3	0
Border	5	0	11	0
M. Waugh	4	2	4	0

**Hooper hones out a Kent win**

LONDON, July 5: West Indies Test batsman Carl Hooper stroked his first limited overs century for Kent and then snapped up five for 41 with his off-spin to keep the county top of the Sunday League, reports Reuter.

Hooper's brilliant all-round performance ensured victory by 157 runs over Essex at Maidstone, keeping Kent four points clear of second-placed Glamorgan in the 50 overs competition.

Opener Trevor Ward gave Kent a flying start by lashing 86 off 79 balls while Hooper sustained the momentum with his exhilarating innings of 103.

Hooper, who reached three figures from 109 balls, struck 11 fours and faced a total of 111 deliveries. It was his second hundred in successive days, having taken an unbeaten 108 off the Essex attack in their County Championship match.

Kent ended with 309 for seven and Essex, despite a 72-ball half-century from acting captain Paul Prichard, were bundled out for 152 as Hooper's accuracy took its toll.

Glamorgan second wicket pair Stephen James and Adrian Dale shared a record second-wicket partnership for the county in any one-day match of 172 as the Welsh team overwhelmed Middlesex by 121 runs at Cardiff.

Dale hit 61 and James, dropped on five, hammered 94 from 120 balls before Matthew Maynard added 43 from 33 deliveries to spur Glamorgan to 287 for eight.

Middlesex slumped to 31 for four and thereafter they never seriously threatened to turn the game round, a combination of fine catching and a spell of three for 23 by former West Indies captain Viv Richards closing the innings for 166.

Sussex batsman Martin Speight defied a back injury to hit a whirlwind century off 47

balls that set up a 105-run win against Somerset at Taunton.

Speight had to retire hurt on 93 after damaging his back but he returned in considerable pain with a runner to go on and make 126 off 56 deliveries with four sixes and 20 fours.

"I went out again because the team still needed some more runs," said Speight, who was only three short of Sussex's Sunday record of 129 by Tony Greig against Yorkshire in 1976.

Ian Botham produced his best Sunday bowling figures of three for 22 but could not stop Durham going down by 36 runs to Surrey at the Oval.

Surrey wicket-keeper Graham Kersey played a key role, hitting exactly 50, his maiden league half-century, holding a stunning catch to dismiss West Indian paceman Anderson Cummins and making a leg-side stumping to dismiss Durham to scorer Phil Bainbridge (46).

**Flight of fabulous Phoenix**

JOHANNESBURG, July 5: Zambia emerged from the aircraft tragedy that killed 18 players, upset Morocco 2-1 in an African Zone World Cup soccer qualifier on Sunday and remain on course for a place in next year's finals, reports Reuter.

Zambia, forced to rebuild their national team after the April air crash when the squad was in route to a world Cup tie, rode an emotional roller-coaster incoming from a goal down to secure victory in Lusaka and go top of Group B.

The match was one of three key African qualifiers at the weekend that also saw Zimbabwe and Nigeria claim their first points in second round group matches.

Zimbabwe snatched a late goal to beat Cameroon 1-0 in Harare on Sunday, while

Nigeria thrashed Algeria 4-1 in Lagos on Saturday.

Zambia were playing their first competitive match since the military aircraft carrying their team and coaching staff for a scheduled World Cup match in Senegal exploded in mid-air off the coast of Gabon.

Their new-look team which included several European-based players who were not on that aircraft, were given a standing ovation by a capacity home crowd before the match.

They made a nervous start and fell behind to a long range effort by Moroccan midfielder Rachidi Daoudi in the 16th minute.

But roared on by their supporters in the second half, Zambia scored twice inside seven minutes to win the match.

Dutch-based captain Kalusha Bwalya netted from a free-kick on the hour and the

Johnstone Bwalya, who plays for FC Bulle in Switzerland, scored the winner.

"It was a fabulous performance," said coach Freddie Mwila in a telephone interview.

"The team played a marvelous game, it was just the start we needed."

"But we are keeping our feet on the ground. We still have three matches to play before we can start thinking about qualifying," Mwila added.

Across the border in Harare, Zimbabwe opened their account in second round Group C with a win over highly-fancied Cameroon.

Fine goalkeeping by Bruce Grobbleaer kept Cameroon's experienced strikers at bay in the first half and a double substitution by Zimbabwean coach Reinhard Fabisch turned the tide of the match in the second period.