

Sport

Active chess

Sports Reporter
Sayefuddin Lavlu of BTMC led the points table at the end of the sixth round of the Ganges Active chess tournament at the chess room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

He beat Suman in the fifth round and then went on to beat Jahangir in the next round to confirm his position atop the table ahead of fancied players like national champions Reefat Bin Sattar and Rani Hamid, the queen bee of local chess.

Reefat Bin Sattar and Rani Hamid were in the second position along with ten other players each having secured five points each.

Cox's Bazar soccer results

COX'S BAZAR, July 11: Rakhain Sporting Club defeated Shaheed Smriti Club 3-1 in Juniors Gold Cup tournament at the local stadium this afternoon.

The winners led 2-0 in the first half through a pair from Mong Shai Tho. In the second half Sang Jui scored another one for the winners while Ziaul returned another a few moments before the final whistle.

Rarmu Little Eleven will play against Sunflower Club tomorrow.

IOC to publish report today

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, July 11: The International Olympic Committee's (IOC) report on the cities bidding to host the 2000 Olympic Games is to be published early, reports AFP.

The report will appear on Monday, instead of the intended date of July 16, in an attempt to stop further leaks, IOC spokeswoman Michele Verdier announced here on Saturday.

The move follows details of the report appearing in the press, which seemed to favour Sydney's bid.

Verdier, however, refused to confirm the Australian bid was the front-runner ahead of Olympic rivals Beijing, Berlin, Manchester, Istanbul and Brasilia.

"It was not worth holding the publication since some information — which was actually incomplete — has already appeared in the press," said Verdier.

She stressed the report drawn up by IOC inspectors did not make any conclusions over which city should be chosen.

Initially the report was to be given to IOC members on July 14 and distributed to the press two days later. The final choice of which city should host the Games will be made on September 23 at Monte Carlo.

US begin CONCACAF defence with win

DALLAS, July 11: Eric Wynalda's goal in the 67th minute lifted the United States to a 1-0 triumph over Jamaica as the Americans began defence of their CONCACAF Gold Cup crown on Saturday at the Cotton Bowl, reports Reuter.

The win, only the third for the US national team in 21 matches this year, proved more difficult than anticipated as the Jamaicans packed their defence to make it difficult for the Americans to penetrate.

The best US chances came on counter-attacks, and Wynalda's goal was the quickest strike of all.

US goalkeeper Tony Meola started the play with a punt deep into the Jamaican territory. The ball bounced and Roy Wegerle, standing about 10 metres outside the box, headed it into the box.

Wynalda, one of five US players who played in Europe last season, came in from the left, took a thigh-high bounce and lifted the ball over Jamaica goalkeeper Harren Barrett.

Wegerle missed two superb opportunities in the first half, dribbling the ball through the Jamaican defence and around Barrett, but he could not find the net.

BU drop further atern

Sports Reporter
Brothers Union dropped further atern in the so called triangular race for the league title when they were held to a one-all draw by Public Works Department (PWD) in the Star Premier

around Brothers skipper Moon and his company. Both the players muffed up fine scoring opportunities as crosses flew in from the flanks.

Two minutes from the final whistle PWD got their cherished equaliser. Mansur, the sturdy PWD player who caught every-



Action from yesterday's Star First Division football league encounter between Dhanmondi and East End. The match ended in a goalless draw. — Star photo

Division football league at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

PWD, who had earlier caused quite a bit of stir by holding reigning champions Abahani Krira Chakra to a one-all draw, yesterday forced a belated equaliser through Reza to snatch a valuable point from their fancied opponents.

After a barren first half Brothers took the lead when Russian footballer Vastlyn converted a spot kick, rewarded the Gopbagh side 15 minutes after the resumption of match that remained suspended for almost half an hour because of power failure.

Brothers, who had a deceptively easy win against Arambagh, found goal scoring extremely difficult despite enjoying territorial dominance for the most part of the game.

Brothers' Russian players tried to add punch to with some sporadic bursts but looked pedestrian mainly because of the want of support from the local players. Kudinov exemplified one such effort four minutes before the short whistle when he took a sudden shot almost from the midfield but the ball hit the

Five minutes later, Brothers took the lead when Manik fell inside the box following a not-too-aggressive tackle by PWD's Babu but the man in black, who had earlier overlooked a similar incident, promptly pointed to the dreaded spot.

After a brief protest PWD players accepted the slightly dubious decision and Vastlyn neatly placed the ball wide off the PWD custodian (1-0).

Brothers, who started their league campaign with a shock defeat at the hands of Wari, gave every indication of running all over their opponents.

Their attacks down the flanks looked lethal enough and only a goaline save during this spell kept the office team aloft.

PWD players, who after appearing to have lost hearts at one stage, underwent a mental metamorphosis mainly because of the reconciliatory efforts by Swapan Kumar Das, the former national footballer now playing the role of the coach of PWD. With nothing to lose and everything to gain PWD went nap.

Brothers defence wilted under pressure with Mushtaq and Raza winding a bonny pirn

one's eye with some hefty defending and swashbuckling surges deep inside the Brothers territory, sent in a long throw from the north-eastern said and Reza found the net from the melee after Brothers custodian Poir got a hand to the ball in a vain attempt to retain his side's precious lead.

Brothers now have eight points from six matches having dropped four points so far. PWD, who suffered their first defeat in the previous match against Wari, push their tally to seven from six matches.

POINTS SHARED
Dhanmondi and East End shared points in the Star First Division football league encounter held earlier at the same venue.

The match which ended in a goalless draw helped promotees East End to raise their collection to six from as many matches. Dhanmondi, who too have played six matches, have got seven points so far.

TODAY'S MATCHES
Youngmen's Fakirpool vs BRTC (4.30)
Abahani vs Rahmatganj (6.30)

Qamar designs Usha downfall

Sports Reporter
Qamar Ibrahim opened the account for Abahani three minutes into the 'fragment' of the play and the 41st minute of the match when he sounded the board past a puzzled Tushar Kanti Haldar after Mehmood had set him up with a square pass (1-0).

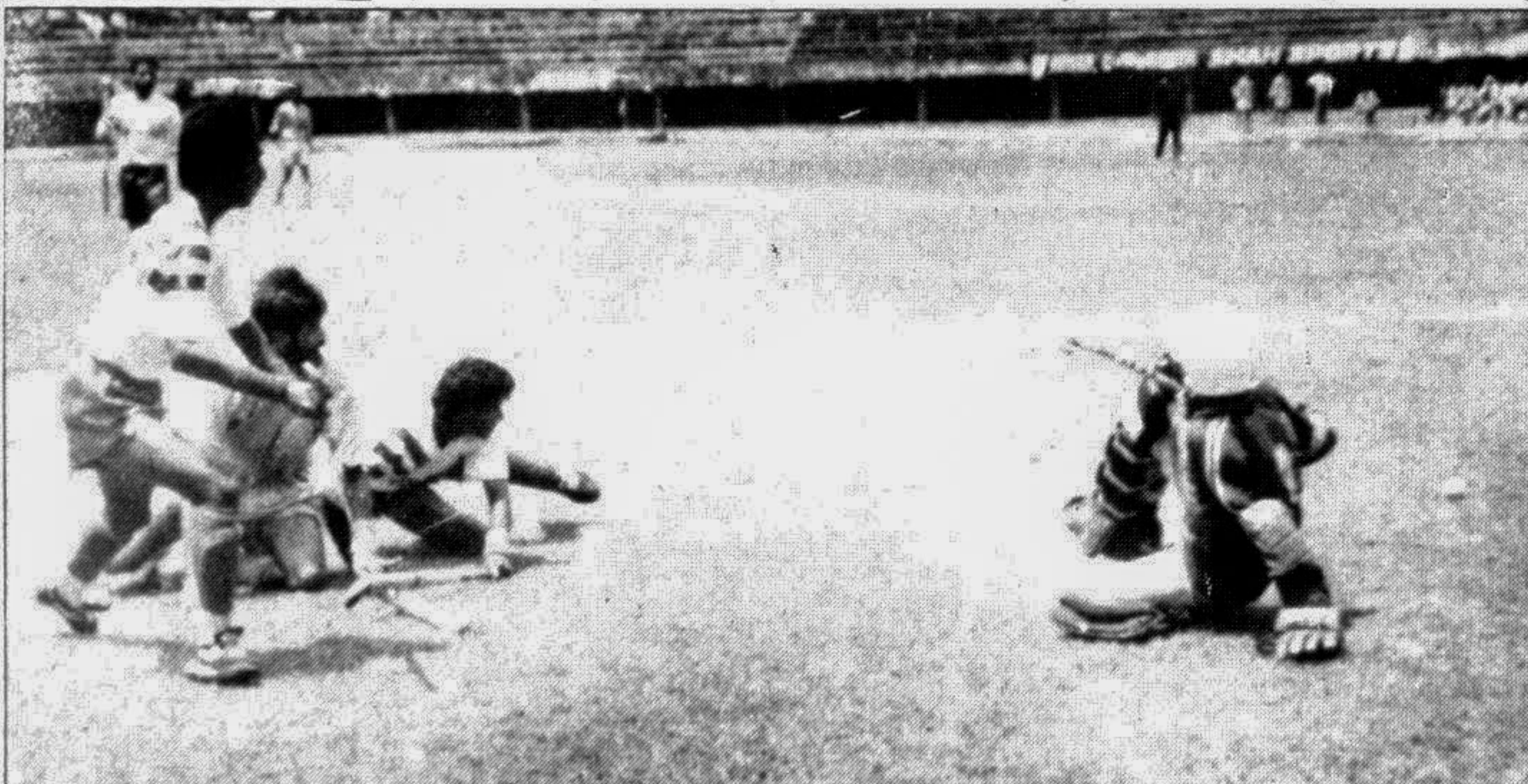
Three minutes later Qamar Ibrahim scored a brilliant goal after Anjum Sayeed had freed him with a beautiful through. The handsome Pakistani, who had a host of Usha defenders and goalie rushing his way, pushed the ball into the cage with a delectably measured push (2-0).

It was a situation that demanded intelligence than brute force and the former Pakistan winger offered an object lesson for the willing learners.

Four minutes from time Usha got a consolation goal with their Pakistani recruit Noman Zaidi finding the mark following a goal-mouth melee caused by a penalty corner (1-2).

Abahani skipper Mahbub Harun, Mehmood Hassan and Anjum Sayeed played superb hockey to help the winners control the game which at times was threatened by sharp but evanescent showers.

Usha managed seven penalty corners without ever



MAGIC MOMENT: Qamar Ibrahim, Abahani's star Pakistani forward is about to score the first goal as Mehmood Hossain (bearded Abahani player) sandwiched between two Usha defenders watches anxiously. While Usha suffered their first defeat while Abahani crossed a hurdle on their way to regaining the Green Delta First Division hockey title at the Hockey Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

Azhar believes India can end overseas jinx

COLOMBO, July 11: Indian cricket captain Mohammad Azharuddin said on Saturday he was confident India could end their overseas Test jinx during their five-week tour of Sri Lanka, reports Reuter.

The Indians have played 25 Tests overseas since 1986 without a win.

"We have a very balanced side to suit the conditions here and we are quite confident of winning," said Azharuddin whose squad of 16 has been at a training camp in the humidity of Madras which has a climate similar to Colombo's.

The Indian captain said he had a healthy respect for Sri Lanka.

"Sri Lanka has a good and talented side with youngsters eager to prove themselves. It will be a tough series," he told reporters.

India open their seven-match tour with a three-day game in Kurunegala against a Sri Lanka Board President's XI captained by Test batsman Hashan Tilakaratne.

The first of three Tests begin in Kandy on July 17.

Maradona to spill the beans

Buenos Aires, Argentina, July 11: Diego Maradona is threatening to name names in a revealing biographical feature film which he said would tell the truth about his cocaine abuse, reports Reuter.

The Argentine, who walked out on Spanish club Sevilla last month, said: "I'm going to tell all I know about several people who took (drugs), or take them or sell them."

"It will be a nice movie. Maybe it will get me in trouble, but Argentines are going to find out the whole truth," the former Argentina skipper told a television interviewer on Friday night.

Maradona also said he would travel to Cuba soon to play a match to protest against the US economic sanctions against Cuba.

Maradona, 32, did not say when the film would be shot but said it would be directed by Fito Paez, a young Argentine song writer and singer who has dabbled in film making.

Maradona was jailed briefly in 1991 after Argentine police arrested him on drug possession in a raid on a friend's Buenos Aires flat. He was serving a 15-month soccer ban at the time for testing positive after an Italian league match.

In his television interview Maradona said he felt he had to do something for Cuba after staying there in 1987 as a guest of President Fidel Castro.

"A war is not only fought with missiles and bullets, and what they're doing to Cuba is a horrible war by blocking the entry of food for kids, and no one says anything about it," he added.

Olympic Stadium construction begins at Atlanta

ATLANTA, Georgia, July 11: Earth-moving machines dug the first holes into the site of a 207-million dollar Olympic Stadium here Saturday while protesters renewed their objections to the showplace being built for the 1996 Games, reports AFP.

About 50 of the 1,000 people attending the ceremonies carried signs of protest and shouted objections to having the 85,000-seat stadium built in their neighbourhood.

The stadium, scheduled for completion two years from now, will be the site of athletics plus the opening and closing ceremonies for the 1996 Games.

"This is a great day," said organizing committee co-chairman Andrew Young, Atlanta's mayor when the Olympics were awarded here. "We're on time, on schedule and within budget."

Holland reached England's target with seven wickets and two balls to spare, with New Zealander Roger Bradley (88 not out) and Australian Peter Cantrell (64) doing most of the damage.

The Dutch fully deserved their victory, although the matting pitch became wet yesterday morning and batting was far more difficult as England struggled to reach 90 for four from 35 overs by lunch after being put in.

But England team manager Keith Fletcher, contemplating yet another international defeat, admitted, "We would have batted if we had won the toss — we didn't read the mat conditions at all."

"Obviously we are disappointed to lose, but the players all did their best, and it's not the end of the earth."

"It has been a good weekend's cricket and today it was just that Holland were on the right end of it. I am not unhappy with the way the weekend has gone because I've been pleased to have a look at some of our young players."

Border, Hayden run riot

CLONTARF, Ireland, July 11: Allan Border and Matthew Hayden smashed speedy centuries on Saturday as Australia thrashed Ireland's weekend club cricketers by 272 runs, reports Reuter.

Border cracked 111 in just 54 balls with eight sixes and 10 fours.

Luckless spinner Angus Dunlop was on the receiving end when the Australian captain hit sixes off the first five deliveries of one of his overs. But to the bowler's relief Border managed just two from the last ball.

Hayden reached an unbeaten 133 from 141 balls with two sixes and 19 fours.

The pair put on 153 for the third wicket as Australia mustered 361 for three in 49 overs.

Only four Irishmen reached double figures in a total of 89 with 17 extras the top scorer.



Total: (for three wickets, declared-46 overs) 361
Fall of wickets: 1-155; 2-208; 3-361

Did not bat: D Martyn, T Zoehrer, I Healy, B Julian, P Reffel, W Holdsworth, T May.

Bowling	O	M	R	W
McCrum	8	1	46	0
Moore	9	0	66	1
Benson	4	0	25	0
Lewis	3	0	36	0
Curry	12	0	75	1
Harrison	12	0	72	1
Dunlop	1	0	32	0

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the one-day cricket match between Ireland and Australia on Saturday:

AUSTRALIA:

M Slater b Curry	56
M Hayden not out	133
M Waugh c Curry b Harrison	26
A Border c McCrum b Moore	111
Extras: (b-4, lb-5, nb-26)	35

IRELAND:

J Benson c Julian b Holdsworth	1
M Real lbw b Holdsworth	11
S Warne c Zoehrer b Holdsworth	4
A Lewis b Reffel	14
G Harrison b Zoehrer	15
D Curry c Zoehrer b Reffel	0
A Dunlop c Waugh b Hayden	2
N Doak c Healy b Slater	14
B Millar c Holdsworth b Zoehrer	9
P McCrum not out	2
E Moore c Healy b Zoehrer	0
Extras: (b-6; lb-4; w-1; nb-6)	17
Total: (all out 42 overs)	89
Fall of wickets: 1-2; 2-19; 3-22; 4-39; 5-41; 6-59; 7-65; 8-85; 9-88;	

Bowling:

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Holdsworth	6	2	13	3
Julian	5	1	7	0
May	6	1	14	0
Reffel	6	1	10	2
Zoehrer	10	4	23	3
Hayden	4	1	5	1
Slater	5	1	7	1

Result: Australia won by 272 runs.

Derbyshire clinch B & H Cup

LONDON, July 11: England prospect Dominic Cork (42), but Derbyshire's fielding remained razor sharp and their bowling only occasionally threatened to wilt under the pressure.

When a heavy storm interrupted proceedings, though Lancashire were still in with aerial shout, needing 112 runs from 17 overs.

But, following a 70-minute delay, Fairbrother failed to find sufficient back-up at the other end as Warner removed Graham Lloyd for five and then Akram.

Mike Watkinson and Phillip DeFreitas threw the bat in the gathering gloom and, with 11



He was given solid support by England opener Mike Atherton (54) and Nick Speak (42), but Derbyshire's fielding remained razor sharp and their bowling only occasionally threatened to wilt under the pressure.

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SCOREBOARD
Final scorecard in the Benson and Hedges Cup final between Derbyshire and Lancashire at Lord's here on Saturday:

DERBYSHIRE

K J Barnett b Akram	19
P D Bowler b DeFreitas	4
J E Morris c Hegg b Watkinson	22
C J Adams b Watkinson	11
T J G O'Gorman c Hegg b DeFreitas	49
D G Cork not out	92
F A Griffith c Hegg b DeFreitas	30
K M Krikken not out	37
Extras: (b-1, lb-11, w-1, nb-5)	18
Total: (6 wks 55 overs)	252
Fall of wickets: 1-7; 2-32; 3-61; 4-66; 5-175; 6-175;	

Did not bat: A E Warner, D E Malcom, O H Mortensen.

Bowling:

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Austin	11	2	47	0
DeFreitas	11	2	39	3
Akram	11	0	65	1
Watkinson	11	2	44	2
Barnett	11	0	45	0

LANCASHIRE:

M A Atherton c and b Griffith	54
S P Titchard c Adams b Warner	0
N J Speak b Mortensen	42
N H Fairbrother not out	87
G D Lloyd lbw b Warner	5
Wasim Akram c and b Warner	12
M Watkinson b Cork	10
P A J DeFreitas c Krikken b Griffith	16
I D Austin not out	0
Extras: (lb-11, w-3, nb-6)	20
Total: (7 wks, 55 overs)	246
Fall of wickets: 1-9; 2-80; 3-150; 4-159; 5-184; 6-218; 7-243;	

Did not bat: W K Hegg, A A Barnett.

Bowling:

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Malcom	11	0	53	0
Warner	11	1	31	3
Cork	11	1	50	1
Mortensen	11	0	41	1
Griffith	11	0	60	2

Gold award winner: Cork.

runs needed from that final over, Derbyshire's hearts were beating fast.

Seamer Frank Griffith proved the men for the occasion, though, keeping his nerve superbly to restrict Lancashire to just four runs.

There was even a last gasp television replay incident, with Fairbrother just surviving midway through that nail-biting final over.

But Derbyshire were not to be denied and within minutes they were in raptures over a case of third time lucky after heavy defeats in the 1978 and

Dutch diminish England glory

HAARLEM, The Netherlands, July 11: England's jubilation at ending a dismal four and half months without an international victory was short-lived after Mark Benson's England XI lost to the Dutch here on Saturday, reports AFP.

England, who comfortably won Friday's one-day game against cricket minnows Holland, lost the second 55 overs match by seven wickets after failing to defend a total of 188 for seven.

Holland reached England's target with seven wickets and two balls to spare, with New Zealander Roger Bradley (88 not out) and Australian Peter Cantrell (64) doing most of the damage.

The Dutch fully deserved their victory, although the matting pitch became wet yesterday morning and batting was far more difficult as England struggled to reach 90 for four from 35 overs by lunch after being put in.

But England team manager Keith Fletcher, contemplating yet another international defeat, admitted, "We would have batted if we had won the toss — we didn't read the mat conditions at all."

"Obviously we are disappointed to lose, but the players all did their best, and it's not the end of the earth."

"It has been a good weekend's cricket and today it was just that Holland were on the right end of it. I am not unhappy with the way the weekend has gone because I've been pleased to have a look at some of our young players."

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on Saturday's 55-over one-day match between Holland and an England XI.

Holland beat England by seven wickets.

ENGLAND XI:

T R Ward b Cantrell	14
M R Benson c Jansen b Lubbers	58
P J Prichard c and b Jansen	26
N Hussain lbw b Cantrell	4
J Blakey c Scholte b Jansen	4
Gouch c Gomes b Visee	5
R D Stemp not out	4
Extras: (lb-7, w-3, nb-1)	11
Total: (7 wks, 55 overs)	188
Fall of wickets: 1-24; 2-76; 3-81; 4-90; 5-140; 6-168; 7-178;	

Did not bat: M J McCague, M A Robinson.

Bowling:

Bowling	O	M	R	W
LeFebvre	11	2	37	0
Visee	11	2	18	2
Cantrell	11	0	40	2
Jansen	11	1	34	2
Lubbers	8	0	41	1

The English side was selected from just four countries who were not involved in domestic cricket this weekend.

On Friday they trounced Holland by 128 runs, but yesterday defeat in a 55-over contest brought back memories of the 1989 humiliation, when Peter Roebuck's England representative side lost by three runs in Amsterdam.

Queenslander Cantrell, a 26-year-old golf club manager, has played Sheffield Shield cricket but was unavailable on Friday.

But on Saturday he took two for 40 with his off-breaks and then, with Bradley, rallied Holland from 29 for two. Both he and Bradley are married to Dutch girls and live full time in Holland.

De Leede 3 0 16 9

HOLLAND:

N Clarke lbw b Gough	13
P Cantrell run out	64
R Gomes c Stephenson b Gough	4
R Bradley not out	88
T de Leede not out	10
Extras: (lb-4, w-2, nb-4)	10
Total: (3 wks, 54.3 overs)	189
Fall of wickets: 1-23; 2-29; 3-167;	

Did not bat: R Vos, R P LeFebvre, S W Lubbers, H Visee, R Scholte, F Jansen.

Bowling:

Bowling	O	M	R	W
McCague	10.3	0	42	0
Gough	11	2	28	2
Stephenson	11	1	51	0
Robinson	11	2	22	0
Stemp	11	1	42	0

Soskic to coach US national team

DALLAS, July 11: Former star international goalkeeper for Yugoslavia Mfutin Soskic on Saturday was named full-time goalkeeping coach for the US national soccer team, US officials announced, reports Reuter.

"US soccer is very proud to announce that it has added a premier international goalkeeping expert in Mr Soskic to the national team coaching staff," US soccer general manager Bill Nuttal said. "He brings a wealth of knowledge to this position and he has the experience, both as a player and a coach, to back it up."

Soskic, 55, who played in more than 50 full-international matches for Yugoslavia, joined the US team in Dallas for the CONCACAF Gold Cup.