



Finance Minister Saifur Rahman is being shown around the swimming pool now under construction at Mirpur. — Star photo

Four-a-side SOCCER
Sports Reporter

Yellow drew with Green one-all in the inaugural match of the inter-friends four-a-side football tournament at the Azampur ground yesterday. Mona gave Yellow the lead which Shipon of Green neutralised. Five teams are taking part in this meet scheduled to be concluded on August 9.

Khulna BU take home DSA Cup

KHULNA, July 25: Khulna Brothers Union clinched the DSA Cup football title defeating Khulna Bankers Club 2-1 in final at the local stadium here today (Sunday), reports UNB. Tatal of Brothers scored the first goal in 17th minute of the match but Masud Rana of the Bankers equalised the margin in the 40th minute. Tatal scored the match-winning 10 minutes into the second half.

Sixteen teams took part in the tournament. Secretary of the Textiles Ministry and vice president of the Bangladesh Football Federation Abul Hasanat Mofazzal Karim witnessed the final match and distributed prizes among the winners. Divisional Commissioner Abdul Moktadir Chowdhury and Deputy Commissioner Kazi Rezaul Haq were also present.

Rowdy fans ruined soccer match

From Our Correspondent
COX'S BAZAR, July 25: Violence led to the abandonment of the second semifinal of the Junior Gold Cup football tournament at the local stadium here today.

The match between Uttara Eleven and Tarun Muslim Club came to an unfortunate and premature end when referee Prof Jasmuddin showed red card to Shahidullah, a Tarun player, one minute before the long whistle and all the hell broke loose.

Angered by the marching order, supporters of Tarun Club entered the ground with sticks and blasted a few cocktails. Three Uttara players, 15 spectators, a local DSA official and linesman Parash Dey were injured by the rampant hooligans. Injured persons were taken to the hospital under police protection.

In a press release issued later, Nurul Huda Chowdhury, the general secretary of Cox's Bazar DSA held Tarun supporters responsible and condemned the untoward incident.

Bernes resigns

PARIS, July 25: Olympique Marseille general manager Jean-Pierre Bernes resigned on Sunday saying he wanted to help save the club from "destruction" over bribery accusations made against him, reports AFP.

Bernes, who has been charged with corruption, said in a letter of resignation: "Olympique Marseille cannot remain a hostage to those, who through me want above all the destruction of the club." The right hand man to Marseille owner Bernard Tapie was released from prison custody last week. He was given a hero's welcome as he did a lap of honour around the Marseille ground before the first match of the season on Saturday.

Bernes has been accused of masterminding an attempt to bribe three Valenciennes players to throw a match against Marseille on May 20, six days before the French champions won the European Cup final.

Games works cruise along

Sports Reporter

Organisers of the sixth SAF Games yesterday dispelled doubts over the completion of the swimming pool and the indoor stadium well before the Games, scheduled to be held in Dhaka from December 20 to 27. Yesterday a team of observers led by Finance Minister Saifur Rahman visited the Games complex at Mirpur. The swimming pool, which under the revised budget would cost Tk 12.5 crores, will be ready, according to the observers, by November. Earlier the budget for the pool was earmarked at Tk eight crores. The construction work of the Tk 34 crore indoor stadium is going on satisfactorily. The renovation of the Mirpur Stadium, which would host the athletics event, would cost Tk 3.5 crores. The track is expected to be ready by

December 17. Although it will be quite some time from now before the venues are fully rigged, aesthetic side of the Games will be completed in the next couple of days. Recording of the sixth SAF



Games song, reflecting spirit and motto of the seven-nation meet will be done shortly.

Written by Moniruzzaman and set to tune by Samar Das, the ceremonial song will be sung by Samina Chowdhury and Khaled Hassan Milu in tandem with 18 other vocalists. A team of callisthenics expert from China is already in the city to train the Bangladeshi artists for grand opening and closing ceremonies of the meet. The ground and gallery displays for the ceremonies are expected to be finalised by the middle of the next month and the drilling of the young boys and girls will for that purpose would get underway immediately.

ROK COACH ARRIVES
Youn Sun Lee, a South Korean boxing coach, arrived in the city yesterday to train the local pugilists for the sixth SAF Games.

Lillee eccentric as ever

LEEDS, England, July 25: Australian fast bowling great Dennis Lillee backed England to win the Headingley Test at odds of 500-1 here on Saturday, just as he was reported to have done 12 years ago, reports AFP. Then Lillee is thought to have staked 10 pounds on the home team, causing an uproar, as he was playing in the match which England won after following on. He doubled his stake this time, but waged his bets by putting money on Australia as well at 7-4.

Money raising: Imran's way

LONDON, July 25: Former Pakistan captain Imran Khan is to raffle his Mercedes convertible as part of his campaign to raise money for his country's first cancer hospital, reports AFP.

The 39-year-old heart-throb, who is looking for 100,000 pounds (150,000 dollars) for the car from the raffle on November 15, needs the cash quickly as the Shaikat Khanum Trust Hospital opens in Lahore on December 1. "It has no dents and it's in good condition," he said. "I'm really a very careful driver." The hospital — named after Imran's mother, who died of cancer eight years ago — is still 2.74 million pounds short of its target, although he has raised more than 10 million pounds for it since 1989.

Adams, Bareev Gelfand lead Bienne chess

BIENNE, Switzerland, July 25: Boris Gelfand of Belarus, Evgeny Bareev of Russia and Michael Adams of Britain shared the lead Sunday at the start of the ninth round of the Bienne International Grandmasters tournament, reports AP.

Gelfand defeated Viswanathan Anand of India, the highest-rated player in the tournament, trapping him with a surprising sacrifice of a knight, and Bareev knocked his countryman Valery Salov from the top of the standings in play Saturday. Perhaps profiting from Salov's tiredness after a string of marathon matches, Bareev never let him get into the game.

Adams put together two wins on the same day, bringing his victory string to five in a row against top opposition. Adams defeated Viktor Korchnoi of Switzerland in the continuation of their 7th-round match, then stopped Vladimir Kramnik of Russia, third-rated in the world. At 62, Korchnoi is the oldest player in the Bienne meet; the 18-year-old Kramnik is one of youngest.

Judit Polgar of Hungary, at 17 the youngest player in the tournament and the only female, lost in the resumption of her adjourned seventh-round match against Eric Lobron of Germany. But she defeated Vidmant Malisauskas of Lithuania in the 8th round.

England hopes turn to ashes



LEEDS, England, July 25: Off spinner Tim May and wicket-keeper Ian Healy teamed up for two vital stumpings Sunday as Australia powered closer to a series-clinching victory over England at Headingley, reports AP.

After bowling England out for 200 and forcing the follow on in reply to their massive 653 for four, Australia had the home team battling to survive at 237 for four at the close with a day to go.

Already 2-0 ahead in the series, the umpires were unsure about the stumping at first and asked for a decision from the third official, Barry Leadbeater, who was sitting in the stands watching slow-motion TV action replays. He ruled that Atherton was out.



Mark Lathwell, the England opener, who fell for a blob in the first innings, sets on the slow trudge back to the pavilion during the fourth Test between England and Australia in Leeds on July 24.

Smith looked in impressive form and had scored 35 before he offered no stroke to a ball from Paul Reffel that cut in and he was out leg before wicket. Gooch looked in more confident form than partner Alec Stewart and scored more quickly in the early stages. He hit a four off May to put

him and in a seemingly hopeless bid to avoid an innings defeat. Andrew Caddick fell on the sixth ball of the day with no further runs added to the overnight score of 195 for seven.

Hughes found the edge of his bat as Caddick, who had scored nine, chased a wide delivery and Mark Waugh held the catch at second slip.

Martin Bicknell pushed the score to 200 but then Warne collected the wicket of Martin McCague who edged a catch to first slip Mark Taylor for no score.

Hughes captured the final wicket with a lifting delivery that Bicknell, who had scored 12, fended off only for Border to take a catch at short square leg.

A third England loss Monday will inevitably further fuel speculation that Gooch should step down as captain.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the fourth day of the fourth Test between England and Australia at Headingley on Sunday:

AUSTRALIA: First innings 653-4 declared (A Border 200 not out, S Waugh 157 not out, D Boon 107, M Slater 67, M Waugh 52)

ENGLAND: First innings (overnight 195-7)

M Lathwell c Healy b Hughes	0
M Atherton b Reffel	55
R Smith c and b May	23
A Stewart c Slater b Reffel	5
G Gooch lbw b Reffel	59
G Thorpe c Healy b Reffel	0
N Hussain b Reffel	15
A Caddick c M Waugh b Hughes	9
M Bicknell c Border b Hughes	12
M McCague c Taylor b Warne	0
M Illott not out	0
Extras: (b-2, lb-3, nb-17)	22
Total	200

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-43, 3-50, 4-158, 5-158, 6-169, 7-184, 8-196, 9-200.

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Hughes	15.3	3	47	3
Reffel	26	6	65	5
May	15	3	33	1
Warne	23	9	43	1
M Waugh	3	0	7	0

ENGLAND: Second innings

M Lathwell b May	25
M Atherton at Healy b May	63
R Smith lbw b Reffel	35
A Stewart not out	59
G Gooch at Healy b May	26
G Thorpe not out	10
Extras: (b-5, lb-2, w-1, nb-11)	19
Total: (for four wickets)	237

Fall of wickets: 1-60; 2-131; 3-149; 4-202.

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Hughes	14	4	32	0
Reffel	20	2	84	1
Warne	28	10	46	0
May	25	4	65	3
M Waugh	2	1	3	0

Japan trounce US in Group A World League v'ball

TOKYO, July 25: Japan overwhelmed the United States three sets to zero in the World League Group A men's volleyball preliminary competition near here Sunday, reports AFP. Set scores at the China Port arena were 15-4, 15-7, 15-8.

The game was Japan's second win against two losses in four matches with the United States in the preliminary round. Japan finished third with a 10-10 win-loss record in the preliminary while the United States took fifth spot with 7-13. The Japanese spikers were aggressive enough to maintain the lead throughout the match Sunday, while their opponents made errors repeatedly.

Japan's Masaji Orgino scored five service aces in the second set. Two top teams in Group A and B preliminary rounds advance to the finals starting in Brazil Friday.

Russia and Brazil have qualified for the Group A final, while Italy and Cuba have won the Group B final berth.

China downed ROK in world v'ball league Group B

HONG KONG, July 25: China downed South Korea in straight sets to win their preliminary round match in Group B of the men's world volleyball league here today, reports AFP. The 17-15, 15-13, 15-7 scoreline flattered the Chinese in what was a closely contested tie.

China came from behind to take a tight first set after South Korea failed to capitalise on a series of set points.

In a similarly close fought second set, which saw neither team break more than two points clear, China again proved the stronger side under pressure and took their chances to finish 15-13.

Zoehrer mauled



LEEDS, England, July 25: Australian wicket-keeper Tim Zoehrer was nursing a sore head on Saturday after becoming the latest victim of the Headingley hooligans, reports AFP.

The reserve stumper was punched when two drunks tried to board the tourists' coach and were refused entry by the driver.

Tour manager Des Rundle reported: "It was a nasty incident. Tim was bashed around a bit and it left him with a headache.

"It's ridiculous that the coach should have to be parked in the street. The same thing happened at Lord's and there was a bit of strife there too."

It's a bit late now, but for the rest of the game the coach will be inside and the players will be able to board it without being molested.

There was a guy sitting in a police car up the road, but he just sat there and did nothing."

However, the officer concerned, PC Steve Nunn, pointed out that he was dealing with two members of the public after their car had been stolen.

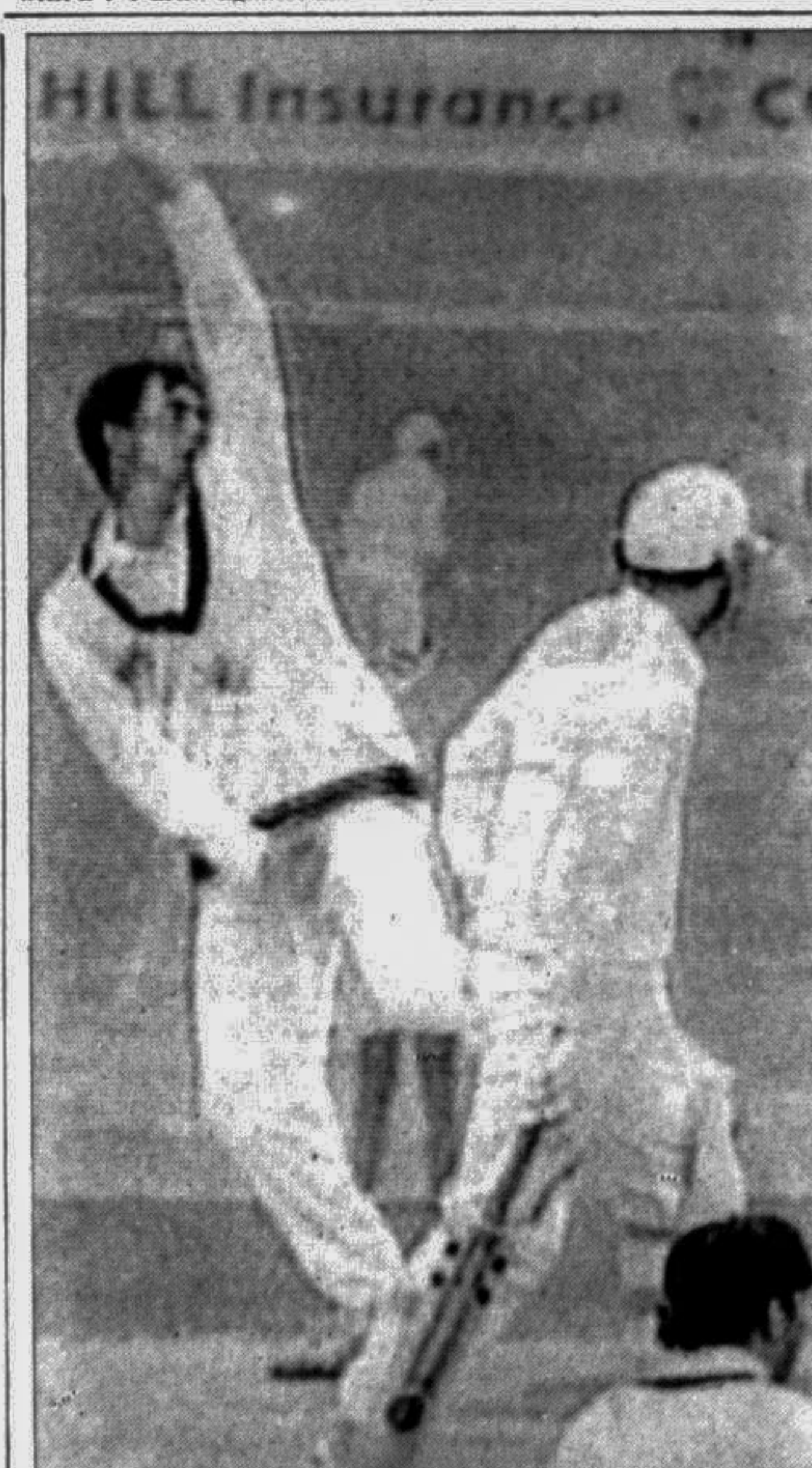
The tourists demanded an apology over the attack, but Supt Eric Thompson refused to give them one. "I'm satisfied with my officer's handling of the situation," he reasoned.

enclosure containing Pakistani fans, while racist abuse of black players is the norm. The tourists were also angry that tickets allocated to their families were in the middle of the western terrace, a notoriously rowdy area.

Rundle added: "When England come to us, we roll out the red carpet. Sadly, that treatment doesn't always seem to be reciprocated."



However, Yorkshire chief executive Chris Hassell defended his club over the positioning of the Australians' tickets. "They get about 70 tickets each day and they're good seats in various parts of the ground," he said. "How the Australians give them out is up to them."



Tim May, the Aussie off spinner, gets side on to let go another delivery in the England first innings on Saturday during the fourth Test of the current Ashes series. — Star TV photo