

MSC need a win now

Sports Reporter

Mohammedan Sporting Club have to beat arch-rivals Abahani Krira Chakra in the last match to retain the title as the reigning

Mohammedans went all out for a win right from the word go and the tough Mariner defence fell under relentless assault in the 12th minute. Sadek, top scorer of the league and one of the most

fortify their position but again the scorers were unable to deliver the goods. Mariners launched sporadic offensives in the second half but their relatively weaker offence lacked in penetration.



Sadek (R) Mohammedan's mercurial forward is trying to get past a Mariner defender in the Green Delta First Division hockey league encounter at the Hockey Stadium yesterday. MSC won the match two nil. — Star photo

champions beat strong Mariner Young's Club by a comfortable margin of two goals in the Green Delta First Division hockey league at the Hockey Stadium yesterday.

The win takes Mohammedans collection to 27 from 14 matches, one short of Abahani's full 26 points from 13 matches. A draw in the August 13 derby will help Abahani regain title after a fairly long time while only a win would give Mohammedans the title because Abahani are highly to stumble against lowly Bangladesh Boys, one of their remaining two opponents in this year's league.

Yesterday Mohammedans led the first half one-nil with former Pakistan international Mumtaz Haider sounding the beard.

promising of the local players, opened the Mariner defence with a beautiful pass and the lethal and vocal Mumtaz sounded the board with his customary panache (1-0).

Mohammedans kept up the pressure after this early success but poor finishing stopped them from consolidating their position.

Mariner, who took time to settle down, gradually asserted themselves in the share of exchanges. In the 28th minute they came across an excellent scoring chance but stocky Palash failed to knock the ball into an open goal after Isa sent in a neat cross.

Mohammedans pitched themselves in the second half to

Having hung on to the slender lead Mohammedans finally got the chance of being over with frets and doubts of being robbed of it.

Ten minutes from time they were awarded a penalty stroke when Mariner custodian Micky went out of his way to obstruct a Mohammedan move.

Sadek converted the penalty stroke to take his individual tally to 17 (2-0).

The defeat made Mariners stay at their previous collection of 19 points from 14 matches. In the first match of the day Sonali Bank defeated Wanderers (1-0)

Qamrul Ahsan scored the match winner in the 27th minute of the match.

Height, Uruguay's headache

LA PAZ, Aug 7: Crisis-hit Uruguay face the dreaded trip to La Paz to play Bolivia at an altitude of 3,700 metres in a World Cup qualifier on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Like his Brazilian counterpart Carlos Alberto Parreira, Uruguay coach Luis Cubilla has found himself under fire after two poor results in South American Zone Group B.

Unlike Parreira, who has somehow kept his good humour, Cubilla is refusing to talk to his country's press in protest at the criticism. Team news is being given by the president of the Uruguayan Soccer Federation, Hugo Batalla.

Uruguayans were initially optimistic that the inclusion of top players Ruben Sosa, Daniel Fonseca and Enzo Francescoli, back in the national team after

ending a long-standing row with Cubilla, would give them the firepower they previously lacked.

Instead, Uruguay struggled to beat Venezuela 1-0 and were then held 0-0 at home by Ecuador in their first two qualifying games as their world class forwards struggled to develop an understanding with the rest of the team.

La Paz, with its thin air, is a venue hated by visiting teams and Uruguay lost there in the 1990 World Cup qualifiers before finally qualifying ahead of Bolivia on goal difference. Uruguay were due to arrive on Friday, giving them just two days to adapt.

Key defender Santiago Ostolaza is suspended, having received two yellow cards.

Bolivia, who ended Brazil's proud unbeaten record in World Cup qualifying matches two weeks ago, are out to show that they do not just depend on alti-

tude to win games. They will be boosted by the lifting of a ban on defender Miguel Rimba.

He was suspended on Monday when FIFA said a dope test following the Brazil game found traces of cocaine.

On Friday, FIFA said Rimba had drunk some Bolivian tea, made from coca leaves, before the match and had not contravened doping regulations.

TEAMS:

BOLIVIA: Carlos Trucco, Carlos Borja, Gustavo Quinteros, Marco Sandy, Luis Cristaldo, Miguel Rimba, Milton Melgar, Marco Etcheverry, Julio Baldiviso, Luis Ramallo, Erwin "Matin" Sanchez.

URUGUAY: Robert Sibold, Cecilio de los Santos, Daniel Sanchez, Fernando Kanapits, Nelson Cabrera, Alvaro Eierrez, Hector Moran, Ose Luis Zalazar, Enzo Francescoli, Daniel Fonseca, Ruben Sosa.

Dynamo Kiev in a quagmire

KIEV, Aug 7: Dynamo Kiev, one of the former Soviet Union's richest teams, is gloomily facing the new soccer season with debts of

dollar 2 million and a line-up of demoralised players, clubs officials say, reports Reuter.

Chief coach Mikhailo Fomenko said on Friday the players had not been paid for four months. "There have been shortages of football kit, balls and even mineral water," he said.

Businessman Grigory Surkis, appointed as the new club president, said Dynamo, who dominate Ukraine's fledgling soccer league, had debts of dollar 2 million.

"It's unbelievable — we sold 16 of our best players to the most prestigious European clubs and had dollar 12 million on our books just a few years ago. Now we are bankrupt," Surkis said.

A meeting of players, coaches and other team managers last month voted to sack chief executive Viktor Bezverkhty, accusing him of mismanaging the side and running up huge debts.

Fomenko said infighting at the club Bezverkhty strongly denies the charges and has said he will contest the decision to sack him — could affect the players as the new season starts Sunday.

"Football players are human beings, they are not machines. And they are under strong pressure from the club's former management to reverse their decision," Fomenko said in an interview.

Fomenko, a former Dynamo player, said he also wanted Bezverkhty out. The team has made his choice and I fully back the players," he said.

Surkis told a news conference on Thursday that the previous management had set up 26 joint ventures and small enterprises which had nothing to do with soccer. Kiev, who reached the semi-

finals of last season's European Cup, look to stand little chance against Barcelona in their first-round cup tie next month.

Bezverkhty has threatened to send a letter to UEFA asking them to disqualify Dynamo from the European Cup, saying Surkis has turned the club into a new company which is not the legal successor to the team which won last year's championship.

The disarray at the club is a far from the days when Dynamo, who carried off the European Cup Winner's Cup in 1975 and 1986, dominated the Soviet league. They won the championship five times between 1979 and 1991.

Soccer leagues deferred

Sports Reporter

The second phase of this year's two-tier Senior Division football league will not begin from today as announced earlier.

Instead the return league will get underway from Monday. The delay has been attributed to non availability of adequate number of members of the law enforcing agency by the organisers Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA).

On the opening day two Premier league matches will be played. Arambagh Krira Sangstha will take on Victoria Sporting Club in the first match scheduled for a start at 4-30 pm.

Reigning champions Abahani Krira Chakra will face Public Works Department (PWD) in the second match starting at 6-30 pm.

Premier League leaders Mohammedans, who topped the points table with 14 points, play on the following day. They play Mukttijoddha in the second match on August 10.

In the first match of the day Rahmatganj MFS take on Agram Bank.

The first phase of Star Premier and Star First Division ended on August 5.

Kanan suspended

Sports Reporter

Syed Hassan Kanan, Mohammedan and national goalkeeper has been suspended for six matches for his attack on referee Muzaffar Hossain during the Star Premier Division football league encounter between Mohammedans and Abahani on August 4.

The decision was taken last night in the meeting of the disciplinary committee of organisers of the two tier Senior Division leagues, Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA).

Mamun, the substitute Abahani custodian has also been slapped a similar disciplinary measure. He will not be able to take part in three matches of the second phase of the Star Premier league starting from August 9, Monday.

The committee has fined Mohammedans and Abahani Taka 25000 each for the want of 'sufficient control' over their players.

Kazi Jashimuddin Joishi, the former Mohammedan left-winger who is hardly an active



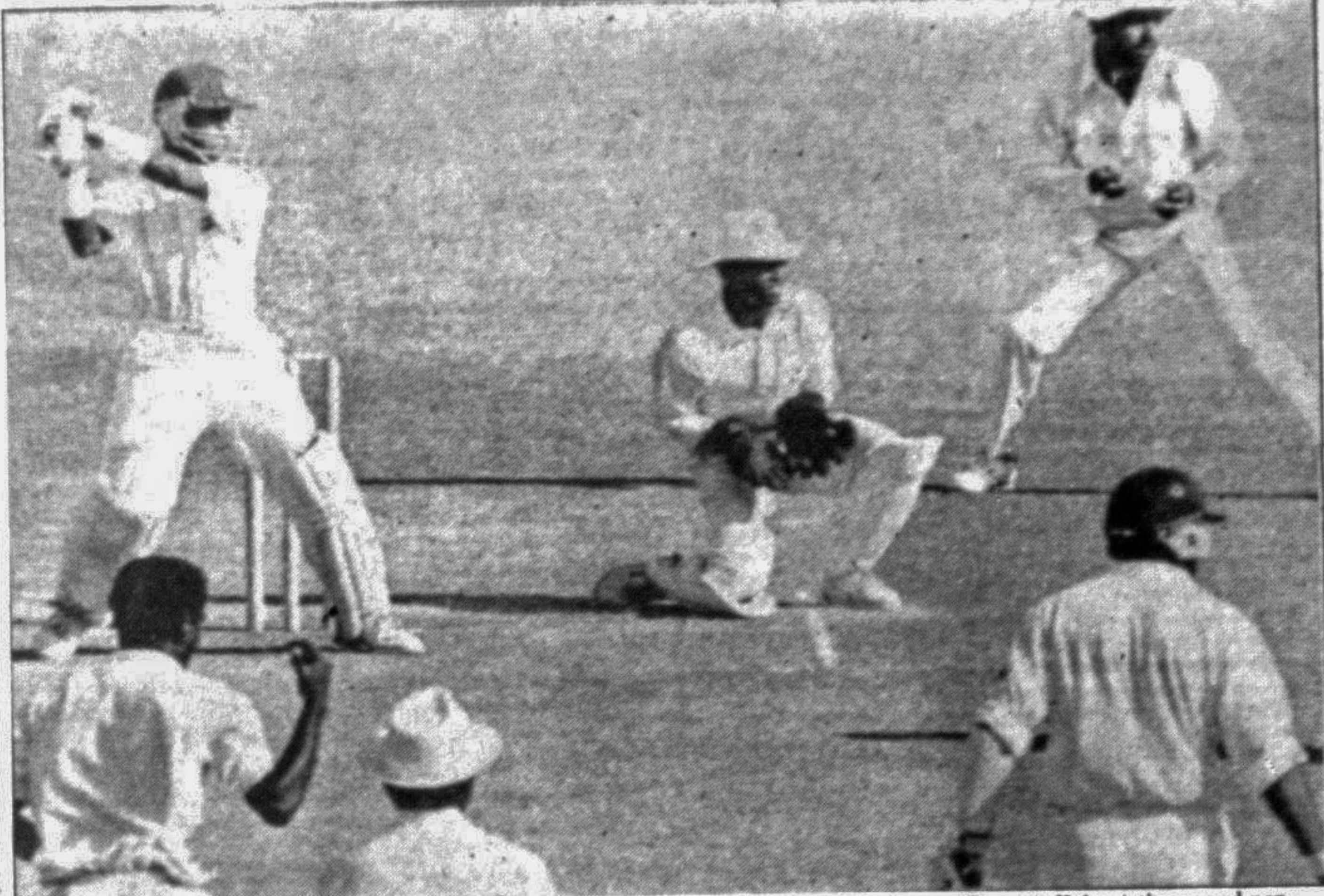
KANAN

player these days will not be able to play anywhere in the country till the end of this year if Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) endorses the DMFA disciplinary committee resolution forwarded last night.

Three Abahani players — Alamgir, Russian Alexander Dzoromov and Mamun Joarder have been given verbal warning for their attitude in the trouble-marred August 4 clash of the two Titans of local soccer.

The persona non grata period of Abahani official Golam Rabbani Helal has been further extended. Banned earlier from the stadium during the match hours upto August 7 will now have to wait till 22nd of this month for his entry into the field during the Abahani, Mohammedan match on August 4.

A similar punitive measure has also been lotted for Abdus Salam Murshedi, the former Mohammedan striker now playing the role of a team official.



Lankan off-spinner Muttiah Muralidharan, slip fielder Asanka Gurusinha, wicketkeeper Romesh Kaluwitharana and non-striker Azharuddin, the Indian skipper all watch the course of the ball (not in the picture) as prolific Indian batsman Vinod Kambli brings up his fourth century in five innings with a fierce square-cut yesterday in the third Test between India and Sri Lanka in Colombo. The dark, talented southpaw hit 120 as India, already one up in the 3 Test series, rattled up 384 for five at the end of the third day. — AFP photo

India in the catbird seat

COLOMBO, Aug 7: Vinod Kambli hit a blazing 120, his fourth century in five innings, to give India a firm grip on the third Test against Sri Lanka here Saturday, reports AP.

The left-handed Kambli led a charge against a tame home attack as India took a 33-run first innings lead by piling up 384 for 5 at close on the third day.

Skipper Mohammad Azharuddin, enjoying one of his best matches in Sri Lanka, was unbeaten on 47 after helping to set up a 63-run fourth wicket stand with Kambli and a further 50 runs in 47 minutes for the fifth wicket with Praveen Amre who took 21.

The run-hungry Kambli smashed 15 boundaries and two sixes in a 315-minute knock that dashed any hopes Sri Lanka had of grabbing the upper hand on a crucial third day.

Sri Lanka now face the agony of awaiting India's declaration on the fourth day before being sent to bat a second time on a pitch that is expected to take turn on the final day.

Besides Kambli, half-centuries from opener Manoj Prabhakar and vice-captain Sachin Tendulkar, helped India to score exactly 300 more runs on the third day.

Sri Lanka made 351 in their first innings.

The 21-year-old Kambli, playing his seventh Test, continued for his superb 125 in the second Test.

He treated the attack with sheer contempt and was joined in the run fiesta by Sachin Tendulkar and Azharuddin during two lucrative stands.

Tendulkar followed up his 104 not out in the second Test with a polished 71, his ninth half-century, when he was

snapped up at gully by skipper Arjuna Ranatunga of medium-pace Chandika Hathurusinghe in the last ball before tea.

The exciting 20-year-old stroke-maker cracked ten boundaries in a 204-minute third-wicket association with Kambli that realised 162 runs.

Tendulkar's exit did not curb India's appetite for runs as Azharuddin joined Kambli in churning out 63 runs for the fourth wicket in less than 18 overs.

Azharuddin finally found his form in the current Test series scoring seven 4s in his 84-ball unbeaten innings.

With the latest ton, Kambli consolidated his position as one of the world's most prolific run-getters.

He made successive double centuries in matches against England and Zimbabwe before scoring 125 against Sri Lanka in the second Test. His only failure in the last five innings was when he made 4 in the second innings of the second Test.

Kambli, who entered the fray when India had lost a wicket in the day's third over, ran amok just after reaching his century whacking two successive sixes off spinner Muttiah Muralidharan in his 32nd over.

He hit the first six out of the grounds over long-on forcing play to be held up for a couple of minutes until ground staff retrieved the ball.

Kambli spanked the bowler's next ball over the same region but met his end in the next over from medium-paced off-cutter Jayananda Warnaweera who had him leg-before with one that kept low.

Muralidharan eventually finished as the most expensive of the Sri Lankan bowlers giving away 117 runs in his 37 overs.

Medjum-pace Pramodya Wickramasinghe had the best figures of 3 for 77.

Sri Lanka had one opportunity to get Kambli earlier but wicket-keeper Romesh Kaluwitharana fluffed an easy stumping chance when the batsman was on 53.

The Sri Lankan attack clearly lacked penetration though they caused a ripple in the morning session by claiming two wickets in five overs.

From an overnight 84 for no loss, India slid to 109 for 2 when Wickramasinghe sent back openers Manoj Prabhakar (55) and Navjot Sidhu (39).

Prabhakar's ninth half-century in his 30th Test contained eight boundaries.

Scoreboard at the close of the third day's play of the third cricket Test between India and Sri Lanka at the P. Saravanamuttu Stadium here Saturday:

SRI LANKA: 351 (P A de Silva 148, A P Gurusinha 56, H P Tillekeratne 51, Chauhan 3-59)

INDIA: (84 for no loss overnight) M Prabhakar c Jayasuriya b Wickramasinghe 55 N S Sidhu c Kaluwitharana b Wickramasinghe 39 V G Kambli lbw Warnaweera 120 S R Tendulkar c Ranatunga b Hathurusinghe 71 M Azharuddin not out P K Amre c Kaluwitharana b Wickramasinghe 21 A Kumble not out 0 Extras: (lb-5, lb-9, nb 16, w 131) Total: (for 5 wks) 384

Fall of wickets: 1-86; 2-109; 3-271; 4-334; 5-384.

Bowling: Wickramasinghe 31 7 77 3 Gurusinha 11 1 27 0 Warnaweera 20 2 71 1 Hathurusinghe 19 6 46 1 Ranatunga 4 2 2 0 Muralidharan 37 8 117 0 Jayasuriya 8 2 30 0

To bat: K Dev, K S More, R K Chauhan, V Raju.

Umpires: B C Cooray and P Manuel.

Four-a-side soccer

Sports Reporter

Blacks will play Reds in the final of the inter-friends four-a-side soccer tournament by virtue of a convincing 3-1 victory against Blues at the Azimur ground yesterday.

The architect of Blacks' easy passage to the final was Ronny who scored a fine hat-trick. Johnny of Blues pulled one back for the losers.

Khulna soccer

KHULNA, Aug 7: Platinum Jubilee Club thrashed Khulna Central Club 5-2 to earn full points in the Khulna Star First Division football league at the local stadium this afternoon, reports BNA.

The winners led 2-1 in the first half. Azad and Kamruzzaman of Platinum scored two goals each while Hanif rounded off the tally.

Faruk and Jamil, scoring one each, reduced the margin.

Khulna News Print Club will take on Khulna Shipyard Club tomorrow.

Ctg football

CHITTAGONG, Aug 7: Pahartal K C and Pathantully Boys' Club split points when battled it out for a 1-1 draw in the Siraj Metropolitan juvenile football league at the Dampara Police Lines ground this afternoon. Siraj scored for Pahartal while Pathantully equalised through Wahid, reports BNA.

In the other encounter of the day Mukta Bihanga trounced Sonamoni 4-0. Murad scored a hat-trick while Murad netted the other goal.

Mosharraf leaves for USA today

Proficient swimmer Mosharraf Hossain Khan leaves Dhaka today for the United States to participate in the first World Swimming Technical Clinic organised by the FINA, reports UNB.

One swimmer from each FINA member state will participate in the clinic. Mosharraf Hossain will also participate in two other Masters' swimming international competitions.

Army aquatics on

The annual aquatic meet of the Bangladesh Army got underway at the Savar Cantonment yesterday afternoon, reports BSS.

About 350 swimmers are taking part in different events of swimming, water polo and diving.

In the opening day heats of 200 metre free style, 200 metre backstroke and 400 metre butterfly were held.

Chittagong Area beat My-mensingh Area 2-1 in a keenly-contested opening match of water polo.

Earlier the local Brigade Commander Colonel M Harun-Rashid, Bir Pratit, declared the meet open as chief guest.

Navy swimming meet begins

The annual swimming and water polo championships of the Bangladesh Navy began at the Naval Headquarters Complex swimming pool at Banani yesterday, reports BSS.

About 100 competitors representing eight different ships and establishment of the Navy are taking part in the three-day meet.

On the opening day ten heats, two final events of swimming and two water polo matches were decided. BN swimmers improved Navy record in 1500m free style.

Lewis calls for a change

MONACO, Aug 7: Carl Lewis, the greatest track athlete of his era, said on Friday the sport was dying in the United States and called for radical administrative changes, reports Reuter.

"Our sport is going down the drain," Lewis told a news conference on the eve of the Monaco Grand Prix.

"We are still denying in our country that track-and-field is declining."

Lewis, who has won 16 Olympic and world title, was particularly critical of the American selection system for major championships.

Under the US system the first three finishers in the American trials are automatically selected for Olympic or World Championships.

Lewis himself was a victim last year because of illness and was unable to defend his Olympic 100 metres title after finishing sixth at the trials.

The 32-year-old American, who will run both the 100 and 200 at next week's Stuttgart World Championships, said the trials at present were held too early in the season.

He said the American administrators should stage a national championships in June which would serve as a qualification for the trials a month later. Elite athletes such as himself would have an automatic place in the trials.

As a further step to ensure the world's top athletes took part in Olympic Games or World Championships all champions should have the right to defend their titles regardless of current form.

World champion and world record holder Lewis, who has lost all his six 100 races this season, steps up a distance in Saturday's meeting, the last

Grand Prix before the World Championships.

He said he was not worried about the losing streak and felt he was faster than ever before.

"When the World Championships comes I will be focused to do it. It's not as easy to focus on any other meeting as it was five years ago."

Lewis's Santa Monica Track Club teammate Leroy Burrell, who beat both Lewis and Olympic champion Linford Christie in Zurich on Wednesday, will run in the 100 here.

Former world record holder Burrell, who finished second to Lewis in the 1991 Tokyo World Championships, missed selection for the US team this year after finishing fifth in the trials.

One intriguing entry on Saturday is world 400 metres hurdles champion Taiyana Ledovskaya.

Housman to miss Pan-Pacific meet

BRISBANE, Aug 7: Barcelona Olympic Games 1,500 metres freestyle silver medalist Glen Housman Saturday failed a fitness test and will miss next week's Pan-Pacific swimming championships in Kobe, Japan, reports AP.

Australian Swimming, the sport's governing body, gave Housman a late chance to gain a place in the Australian team after his preparation was disrupted by illness.



American Leroy Burrell waves to the crowd after winning the men's 100m sprint with a time of 10.02 sec at the Zurich track and field meeting on Aug 4. — AFP photo