

### Remainder of title-deciding tie today

**Sports Reporter**  
The remainder of Friday's abandoned match between Mohammedans and Abahani will be played today at the Hockey Stadium from 3-30 pm. The title deciding match of this year's Green Delta First Division hockey league fizzled out into a fiasco as players of both sides indulged in a stick-swinging clash leaving eight players injured. The clash broke out four minutes in to the second half of the temper-plagued match. Abahani Krtia Chakra led up to the finale with 28 points from 14 points while their arch-rivals Mohammedans massed 27 from 14 matches. Abahani need only a draw to win the title after a long gap while Mohammedans have to win to keep the title to themselves for the third consecutive year. With some of the key players of both sides nursing injuries ranging from minor to quite serious like the one received by Abahani's Alamgir, one doubts whether the two so-called titans of our sporting arena would be able to take the field in full strength. But they have no other way out because the same players, who had played on Friday, must appear on the field for the remaining 31 minutes of the unfinished match according to the bye-laws. So, no matter how painful it is for a bandaged Alamgir or Pakistani Mumtaz Haider of Mohammedans who reportedly had an X-ray to check any possible hairline fracture because of that lusty swing of the stick by Abahani's substitute Liton during the fracas.

**Sports reporters boycott soccer league from today**  
The sports journalists will not cover the news of the football league from today, reports BSS. In a press release of the sports journalists signed by Mustafa Danesh, a senior journalist said the authority of Dhaka Metropolitan football league failed to come to a respectable solution to the problem created by their remarks blaming photo journalists for disturbances occurring recently in the Dhaka Stadium. Expressing their regrets for the trouble for newspaper readers and sports fans, they said they had given an ultimatum to the authority of DMFA for making a reasonable solution before August 15 but the unflinching attitude of the authority have made obstacle to come to a solution.

**Army aquatics**  
Chittagong area and Jessore Area moved into final of water polo in Bangladesh Army aquatic meet, reports BSS. In the semi-final matches held today at the Savar Cantonment, Chittagong Area trounced Comilla Area 5-2 while Jessore Area defeated Anti-Aircraft Artillery 4-1. Meanwhile, two more swimming events were finalised today. Havilar Mokslesur Rahman of Mymensingh Area clinched the gold in 100 metres freestyle, ahead of Lnk Abdus Sattar of Comilla Area. In the 5 metres platform diving Lnk Shahidul Islam of Jessore Area finished first, while Nk Giasuddin of Mymensingh Area became second.

**Political unrest Brasilia's bane**  
RIO DE JENEIRO, Aug 15: Brasilia blamed political turbulence on its withdrawal on Thursday from the running to stage the 2000 Olympic Games, reports Reuter. Marcia Kubitschek, president of the committee organising Brasilia's candidacy, said the bid was irreparably damaged in last year's political storm which led President Fernando Collor de Mello to resign in the wake of a corruption scandal. She said that it would have been necessary to ask for public money to continue the bid but this possibility was discarded because of the difficulties the country is facing. Kubitschek added that the bid had also been damaged by "mistakes observed in the report (to the International Olympic Committee) which was done in a short space of time by the association." She said the report, drawn up when the association had a different president, was done without the observation of Brazil's Olympic committee. Brasilia's bid to stage the 2000 Olympics was scathingly criticised last month by the International Olympic Committee, who made Thursday's announcement of the withdrawal from their headquarters in Lausanne. The IOC said Brasilia had officially decided to postpone its bid until the 2004 Games.



Australian defender Tony Vidmer (L) tries to pull Canada's Alex Bunbury away from the ball during their World Cup soccer qualifying match in Sydney yesterday. The Socceroos defeated the visitors in penalty shoot-out to advance to the next round. — AFP photo

### Australia stem Canada's run

**SYDNEY, Aug 15:** Canada were agonisingly dumped out of the race for next year's World Cup football finals after a heart-stopping 120-minute epic with Australia that was eventually decided on penalties here Sunday, reports AFP. Canada, who came here with a 2-1 advantage secured in Edmonton a fortnight ago, lost to the revitalised Australians 2-1 locking up the play-off at 3-3 after extra time to force the match into a penalty shoot-out. In a gripping climax, rookie goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer, who turns 21 in October, saved penalty attempts by West Ham United striker Alex Bunbury and defender Mike Sweeney to end the Canadians' exhausting 14-match qualifying odyssey. Australia sent almost 26,000 home fans into raptures when all their four penalty-takers, Paul Wade, Belgian-based Aurelio Vidmar, Alex Tobin and Strasbourg's Frank Farina fired past Canada's Ipswich town-based goalkeeper Graig Forrest. Australia now face either Argentina, Colombia or Paraguay in a home-and-away series scheduled to take place before the end of November.

"I thought during overtime (extra time) it was like two punch — drunk boxers, both teams were obviously shattered at that stage, but it's never easy to accept coach Bob Lenarduzzi after a post-game press conference. His Australian counterpart Eddie Thomson said: 'The first half is probably the best half of football that I've been involved with... we had buildups and a lot of good chances and their keeper (Forrest) had a super first half.' Australia frittered away up to six clear-cut scoring chances and nine corners in a dynamic first half, before Farina found the net on the stroke of half-time with an overhead kick to put the home side 1-0 up. The goal would have levelled the series, but leaving Australia with a better away goal difference, thanks to their away goal in Edmonton. But Australia's advantage only lasted until 10 minutes into the second half when Guyana-born midfielder Lyndon Hooper fired home a volley to put the Canadians again in the driver's seat. A measure of Australia's territorial dominance was that Canada's first corner came in the 63rd minute. The turning point for Australia came in the 78th minute when substitute striker David Mitchell, only on the field for a couple of minutes, set up a headed goal for defender Mehmet Durakovic to again lock up the game on aggregate. Canada had to play the last 10 minutes of extra time with 10 men after substitute Grant Needham suffered a severe concussion and was carried from the field on a stretcher after a sickening collision with Durakovic. Both teams drove themselves for the clincher, but the game spilled into extra time, where Schwarzer, who came on early in the Edmonton leg when goalkeeper Robert Zabica was sent off for a professional foul, performed his heroics. Australia's European-based players rallied against doubts over their commitment to the national team with rousing displays, headed by Belgian-based midfielder Aurelio Vidmar, Farina, Borussia Dortmund's Ned Zelic, while Mitchell, now with Turkish club Izmir, and Paul Wade made their presence felt in late substitutions. Canada's 192 centimetre (6 foot-5 inch) tall keeper Forrest had a sensational match, while Hooper and Randy Samuel were prominent.

### Navratilova snubs Sabatini

**MANHATTAN BEACH, Calif., Aug 15:** Martina Navratilova trounced third-seeded Gabriela Sabatini 6-1, 6-1 in 51 minutes Saturday to advance to her 11th final in 13 years at the Virginia Slims of Los Angeles, reports AP. Navratilova, the second seed, will try for her eighth Slims title Sunday against top-seeded Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, a 7-5, 6-2 winner over No 10 seed Lori McNeil. Navratilova hasn't lost a set in four matches and has lost just 16 games. She was equally dominant in a 6-4, 6-1 quarter-final victory on Friday over No 7 seed Amanda Coetzer that lasted 42 minutes. "I've played four flawless sets in a row and I can't remember the last time I did that," said Navratilova, 36. "Today I felt very young." Sabatini, who dropped to 5-15 lifetime against Navratilova, never got her heavy topspin groundstrokes going against her net-rushing opponent. "We never got into many rallies," Navratilova said. "She never had a chance to hit deep and get me running." Navratilova won 25 of 32 points (78 per cent) on her first serve and converted five of six break chances. "This wasn't my day," Sabatini said. "She wasn't missing at all. She was just too good." Sanchez-Vicario improved to 5-0 lifetime against McNeil. McNeil opened a 3-0 lead before Sanchez-Vicario won three straight games. McNeil held serve in the ninth game for a 5-4 lead, but Sanchez-Vicario won the last three games to take the set. Sanchez-Vicario won the final four games of the match that ended when McNeil's stab at a drop shot went long. "At first I could not see the

ball," said Sanchez-Vicario, who was playing at night for the first time in the tournament. "It takes me a while to get used to it. In my head I knew I had to keep going and I came back pretty good." McNeil committed 23 unforced errors to 14 for her opponent. "Arantxa hit some good passing shots," McNeil said. "I liked the way I played. I need to make some adjustments. I learned a lot."

### Muster walks over Riki to ATP final

**SAN MARINO, Italy, Aug 15:** Top-seeded Thomas Muster breezed past David Riki on Saturday, winning 6-4, 6-1, in the semifinals of the dlr\$ 300,000 San Marino International Championships, reports AP. Renzo Furlan defeated fellow Italian Andrea Gaudenzi 6-4, 3-6, 7-6(7-4) in a later semifinal to advance to Sunday's final with its top prize of dlr\$ 39,600. Muster dominated the match from the beginning, breaking the Czech's service immediately in the first set and then kept him on the defensive with a barrage of powerful, precise shots. Riki seemed to rally his forces in the ninth game and fended off two of Muster's set points. However, the Austrian took the first set and proceeded to break Riki's first service of the second set. Muster, setting a fast and demanding pace, conceded only one game in the second set as Riki struggled to keep up.

### S Africans ready to play under any match-referee

**GALLE, Sri Lanka, Aug 15:** South Africa is willing to play under any match-referee in the forthcoming cricket series against Sri Lanka, team manager Casim Doerat said here Sunday, reports AFP. "We are ready to play with any match-referee. It doesn't matter who it is," Doerat said, shortly after the tourists romped to an innings and 13-run win over a Sri Lankan Board XI in a three-day game in this southern port city. Doerat was responding to the protest lodged by the Sri Lankan cricket board against the appointment of New Zealand John Reid as match-referee on the grounds that Reid had coached in South Africa three years ago. Reid established several personal contacts in South African cricket when he resided there after retiring from first class cricket more than 25 years ago. He quit coaching a provincial side in South Africa three years ago. "We also have heard about it (the protest) but no one from the board has told us so far," Doerat said. The Sri Lankan board had written to the International Cricket Council (ICC) which made the appointment, requesting Reid's replacement as the match-referee for the series which commences on August 22. The ICC last week also appointed Reid's compatriot Brian Aldridge as neutral umpire for the three-Test series. Dozens of cricketing personalities from Test-playing nations have either coached or played in South Africa during the country's 21-year isolation from world cricket due to its apartheid policies. The current five-week tour of Sri Lanka is South Africa's first full overseas cricket programme since being re-admitted to the Test scene in 1991.

### Azhar puts it down to bowlers

**MADRAS, Aug 15:** Azharuddin today blamed his bowlers for the last one-day reversal against Sri Lanka played near Colombo yesterday, reports PTL. "The bowlers disappointed us in the third and last match yesterday," he said after expressing his reluctance to talk in the absence of the tour and cricket managers. Azharuddin was talking to PTL at the customs clearance hall, as he, along with 10 other team members, arrived here today after a 35 day tour of Sri Lanka, where they clinched the Test series 1-0 while lost the one-day series 1-2. On being pegged for more comments, he reiterated, "I have nothing to add to my comments already made in Colombo." Apart from Azhar, those who arrived here were Kapil Dev, his wife Romi Dev, Manoj Prabhakar, Navjot Sidhu, Ajay Sharma, Anil Kumble, VV Raman, J Srinath, Venkataparty Raju, Vijay Yadava and Rajesh Chauhan. Fraser ups his recall chances **LONDON, Aug 15:** Paceman Angus Fraser advanced his claims for an England recall by taking three wickets in 10 balls against Yorkshire on Saturday to put County Championship leaders Middlesex on course for another victory, reports Reuter. Yorkshire, trailing by 183 on first innings, were 110 for four at the close on the third day of the four-day match at Scarborough. Middlesex declared at tea on 439 for five after captain Mike Gatting and Mark Ramprakash had seized control of the match with a magnificent third-wicket stand of 321 in 87 overs. Gatting scored his 182 from 300 balls and hammered a six and 28 fours. Ramprakash made 140 from 267 balls, hitting a six and 15 fours.

### SA begin SL tour with a win

**GALLE, Sri Lanka, Aug 15:** South Africa needed just 75 minutes to claim the last four wickets and a comfortable victory by an innings and 13 runs in the first warm-up game on their tour of Sri Lanka today, reports Reuter. Resuming at a precarious 130-6 in their second innings, the home side were bowled out for 182. It looked as though the South Africans would complete the job in even less time when 22-year-old leftarm pace bowler Brett Schultz took two wickets with the fifth and sixth balls of the day. Wicket-keeper Pubudu Dassanayake (7) and Dulip Liyange (0) were caught by Brian McMillan and Darryl Cullinan at second and third slip respectively, but an aggressive and entertaining approach from South Africa's fast bowlers from Piyal Wijetunga (22) and Upul Chandana (32) delayed the inevitable for over an hour. Both men played the hook shot without fear and Schultz, although finishing with match

figures of seven for 56, became quite rattled. His new ball partner, Allan Donald, was also treated without respect, going for 50 runs without a wicket. Another left arm, 26-year-old spinner Clive Eksteen, was possibly the tourists' most satisfied player. A second four-wicket bag gave him a match return on eight for 84 and almost certainly a place in the first Test. Meanwhile, the South Africans have requested that their second warm-up game, a three-day match, against a President's Board XI starting in Kurunegala on Wednesday, be divided into two separate games. The South Africans want to play a two day game followed by a 50-over match on the third day. **SCOREBOARD** Scoreboard on the third and final day of the cricket match between South Africa and the Sri Lanka Board President's XI today. **PRESIDENT'S BOARD XI:** First innings 90 all out (Brett Schultz 4-18, Clive Eksteen 4-29).

**SOUTH AFRICA:** First innings 285 (Darryl Cullinan 92, Jimmy Cook 88). **PRESIDENT'S BOARD XI:** Second innings C. Mendis c and b Eksteen 32 D. Samarawera c Hudson b Schultz 12 N Nawaz c Donald b McMillan 7 M Atapattu b Eksteen 9 H Wickremaratne c Hudson b Eksteen 29 S Jayantha c Richardson b McMillan 22 P. Dassanayaka c McMillan b Schultz 7 P. Wijetunga c Richardson b Eksteen 22 D Liyanage c Cullinan b Schultz 0 U Chandana c Richardson b McMillan 32 R Pushpakumara not out 30 Extras (lb-6, nb-3, w-1) 10 Total: 182 Fall of wickets: 1-14, 2-34, 3-51, 4-91, 5-92, 6-117, 7-130, 8-130, 9-177. **Bowling** O M R W Donald 14 2 50 0 Schultz 16 3 38 3 McMillan 12 4 30 3 Eksteen 21 11 55 4 Cronje 1 0 3 0 South Africa won by an innings and 13 runs.

### Hayden, M Waugh run riot

**CHELMSFORD, England, Aug 15:** Matthew Hayden and Mark Waugh hammered centuries to put Australia in a commanding position on the first day of their three-day match against Essex on Saturday, reports Reuter. Essex were 51 for one at the close in response to Australia's 357 for six declared. Hayden hit 18 fours and put on 117 for the third wicket with Waugh. Waugh, who has played for

Essex on the county circuit, struck four sixes and 13 fours in his 108. Captain Allan Border weighed in with a quick-fire 57. England spinner Peter Such was taken apart by the Australian batsmen and finished with figures of 0-102 from 16 overs. Waugh took 19 off Such in one over, including two driven sixes. Essex lost their first wicket with only 10 on the board but former England captain Graham Gooch stayed to fight another day on 29 not out. **SCOREBOARD** Scoreboard on the opening day of a three-day cricket match between Australia and Essex on Saturday. **AUSTRALIA:** First innings 0 M Slater lbw b Pringle 0 M Hayden c Such b Pringle 117 D Boon at Garnham b Childs 15 M Waugh b Salim Malik 108 A Border c Pringle b Childs 57 I Healy c Hussain b Childs 32 T Zocher not out 17 B Julian not out 1 Extras: (lb-6, nb-10) 16 Total: (for six wickets declared) 357 Fall of wickets: 1-3; 2-81; 3-198; 4-291; 5-325; 6-347. Did not bat: M Hughes, P Reffel, T May. **Bowling:** O M R W Iloft 19 2 52 0 Pringle 14 1 48 2 Gooch 6 2 14 0

Such 16 2 102 0 Childs 23 4 86 3 Salim Malik 12 0 49 1 **ESSEX:** First innings G Gooch not out 29 N Knight c Healy b Reffel 1 P Prichard not out 17 Extras: (b-1, lb-3) 4 Total: (for one wicket) 51 Fall of wicket: 1-10; **MATTHEW HAYDEN ...111** To bat: J Lewis, Salim Malik, N Hussain, D Pringle, M Garnham, M Iloft, P Such, J Childs. **Bowling:** O M R W Hughes 5 1 28 0 Reffel 6 2 15 1 May 2 0 4 0

### Thompson scoops her sixth

**KOBE, Japan, Aug 15:** Jenny Thompson won the women's 50-metre freestyle and added gold in the 400-metre medley relay Sunday, finishing the Pan Pacific Swimming Championships with six gold medals from seven races, reports AP. Janet Evans captured her third gold of the meet by winning the women's 800-metre freestyle. In all, American swimmers won seven races Sunday, finishing the championships with 23 to eight for Australia, which won three on Sunday. New Zealand, Costa Rica and Japan took one gold medal each in the races at Kobe Port Island Sports Center. Australia's Kieren Perkins won his third gold of the meet Sunday, breaking his own 2-year-old meet record in the men's 1,500-metre freestyle — 14 minutes, 59.79 seconds — with a race of 14:55.92. He had won the 400 and 800 earlier. Australian compatriot Daniel Kowalski followed in 15:06.77, with American Carlton Bruner third in 15:16.64. The 20-year-old Thompson, from Dover, MH, equaled the

gold haul of Franzisca van Almsick of Germany at the European Swimming Championships at Sheffield, England, in early August. She missed victory only in the 200-metre freestyle, which taking golds in the 50- and 100-metre freestyle, the 100-metre butterfly, the 400- and 800-metre freestyle relays and the 400-metre medley relay. "I'm so happy to win a lot of gold medals as I swam pretty well this week," she said. In the 50, she won in 25.60 seconds, breaking the meet record of 25.72 set by American Leigh Ann Fetter in 1989. American Angel Martino was second in 25.78 and Jessica Amey of Canada was third in 26.06. Evans gradually widened her lead throughout the 800 and won in 8 minutes, 23.72 seconds, short of her world record of 8:16.22. Australian Hayley Lewis, the 1992 Olympic silver medalist, was second in 8:26.86. Claudia Poll, who had given Costa Rica its only gold medal in the women's 200-metre freestyle, was third in 8:33.80. Evans already had won gold in the 400-metre freestyle and 800-metre freestyle relay. American Allison Wagner, 16, set a meet record of 2:12.54 in the women's 200-metre individual medley, breaking the 1991 mark of 2:14.04 set by American Summer Sanders in 1991. Hitomi Maehara was second in 2:14.60 and Australian Eilli Overton third in 2:15.45. American Anita Nall added victory in the women's 200-metre breaststroke to her earlier triumph at 100 metres. She edged Australian Rebecca Brown 2:28.40 to 2:28.42. American Kristine Quance, winner of the 400-metre individual medley, was third in 2:28.75. In the men's 200-metre breaststroke, Australian Philip Rogers won in 2:13.50, followed by Jon Cleveland in 2:14.31 and American Eric Wunderlich in 2:15.47. Australian Matthew Dunn edged American Greg Burgess, the 1992 Olympic silver medalist, by .02 seconds in the men's 200-metre individual medley — 2:01.52 to 2:01.54. American Trip Zedlitz was third in 2:03.38.

"It was a very hard race. I could not catch Burgess until 150," said the 19-year-old Dunn. Jon Olsen won the men's 50-metre freestyle in 22.68, beating American compatriot Joe Huddephol, who finished in 22.95. Third was Dean Kondziolka of Canada in 23.16. The United States swept the men's and women's 400-metre medley relays. The women's team — Lea Lovelace, Mall, Thompson and Martino — finished in 4:04.90, beating the meet record set of 4:05.98 set by an American quartet in 1991. Jeff Rouse, Seth Van Meerden, Mark Henderson and Olsen won the men's race in 3:39.52. The next Pan Pacific Swimming Championships are scheduled in Atlanta in August 1995. **Glimpse of a nightmare** **KOBE, Japan, Aug 15:** Some US women swimmers had a close encounter with a knife-wielding man during a midday break outside the venue of the Pan-Pacific swimming Championships here Sunday, but no one was hurt, reports AFP. The man, who was young and appeared to be deranged, escaped from the scene via a nearby commuter monorail and police were searching for him, a Kobe waterfront police spokesman said. Seiichi Sakurai, a technical official at the meet, said he had seen Japanese spectators and two or three US women swimmers running back "in great astonishment" toward the Kobe sports center indoor pool, being chased by a man dressed in black and wielding a knife an estimated 40 centimetres (16 inches) long. The man had reportedly gone into a frenzy after he tried in vain to steal a bag from a schoolboy outside the center but had left before police arrived, Sakurai said. Sarah Anderson was among a few US swimmers at the scene but US team spokesman Jeff Dimond stressed the incident had posed "No threat to the American swimmers whatsoever."



Participants in the women's cricket coaching camp are seen warming up at the Women's Complex in Dhanmondi. — Star photo