

Zia's feat

Sports Reporter

International Master Ziaur Rahman emerged runner-up in the Asian under-20 chess championship, which concluded yesterday at Doha, the capital of Qatar.

Iad Zia, who finished with seven and a half points and whose second position had to be settled through tie-breaker, won in his last round match against Kangwal of India, he would have finished at the top. But he lost and saw Nguyen Kai Dong of Vietnam walk away with the championship.

Meanwhile, the Second Division chess league, organised by the Bangladesh Chess Federation, begins today at the National Sports Council chess room.

More than twenty teams are taking part in the Swiss league meet.

Kabaddi league from Friday

Sports Reporter

The Dhaka kabaddi league, organised by the Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation, gets underway at the Outer Stadium court from Friday.

Two matches are scheduled for the opening day — Mirpur Jubo Sangha vs Anirban Sanskritik Sangsad; and BRA Recreation Club vs Bara Goal Jubo Sangha.

Schools b'ball from tomorrow

Sports Reporter

The National King Fan schools basketball championship begins tomorrow. A press conference will be held at the National Sports Council conference room today in this connection.

AIPSSCB clinch Moin-ud-Dowlah Gold Cup

AIPSSCB cricket team lifted the Hyderabad Moin-ud-Dowlah Gold Cup Invitation tournament beating India Cements by two runs in the final played at Lal Bahadur Shastri Stadium yesterday, according to a faxed message received by BCCB last night, reports UNB.

The winners batted first and were all out for 263 runs with Baskar Pillai scoring 68, A Kale 54 and Nandan 46 while S Sharma of the losing team claimed 2 for 62.

In reply, India Cements fell two runs short reaching 261 with Chandrasekar's 82 and Srikanth's 30. Maninder claimed two wickets giving away 40 runs and Wasson took one for 56.

Bangladesh Cricket Control Board Eleven, who failed to reach the semifinals of the invitation tournament, had earlier defeated the champions AIPSSCB in a practice match.

The BCCB Eleven was ousted from the tournament after a shocking 43-run defeat in the hands of Chemplast XI on September 8 in their second group match.

Assistant Manager Tanjeeb Ahsan Saad in the message said the BCCB Eleven is due to leave for Indian port city of Bombay where they will play five or six preparation matches for the next ICC Trophy cricket tournament to be held in Kenya next February.

Kent beat Zimbabwe

CANTERBURY, England, Sept 14: Kent beat Zimbabwe by 196 runs in their three-day cricket match ending on Monday, reports Reuter.

Scores: Kent 264 and 68-1 declared, Zimbabwe 53-1 declared and 83 (M Ealham 5-14, D Spencer 4-46).

Tragic remains

LUSAKA, Sept 14: Zambian investigators have located wreckage from the Zambian Air Forces plane which crashed off the coast of Gabon in April killing 16 members of the national soccer team, Foreign Minister Vernon Mwaanga said, reports Reuter.

The plane went down shortly after taking off from Libreville, killing all 30 people aboard. It was taking the national soccer team to play a World Cup qualifier against Senegal.

Zambia have complained bitterly over what they say is the un-co-operative attitude of the Gabonese government in helping with the investigation.

Australia won't be off guard

SYDNEY, Sept 14: Australia will play two warm-up matches against South Korea to prepare for their World Cup playoff series against Argentina, coach Eddie Thomson announced Tuesday, reports AP.

An Australian team without its European-based stars will play the two matches in South Korea on Sept 24 and 26.

Australia will play Argentina in Sydney on Oct 31 and in Buenos Aires two weeks later to decide which team advances to the 1994 World Cup finals in the United States.

BU on Mohammedans' toast

Sports Reporter



Title aspirants Mohammedan Sporting Club virtually sealed this year's Star Premier league championship when they mesmerised strong Brothers Union 3-0 at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

It was an anticlimactic climax of the long drawn out drama of this year's league as Mohammedans built an almost unassailable hiatus with their nearest rivals and none knew it better than Brothers Union.

The Gopibagh side, which held Mohammedans to a two-all

draw in the first phase, badly needed to win the match, to be in with a slim chance of winning their first league title.

Known as 'mud kings' for their galvanised power football on muddy strip, Brothers Union yesterday took the field with 22 points 15 matches.

Mohammedans, on the other hand, had garnered 26 points from 15 matches before yesterday's 29th clash between the two teams, good 'three

points ahead of arch rivals Abahani Krira Chakra, champions for the last two years.

When Malaysian referee, Nik Ahmed Haji Yaakub, the first official from abroad to supervise a local league match blew the long whistle, Mohammedans

not only succeeded in retaining the distance with Abahani but may have left the league to a premature denouement.

Not even the titanic tussle between Mohammedans and Abahani, normally regarded as the finale of the league, does not hold the promise of any drama. Because Mohammedans have two more matches to go and one of it is against PWD, who are very unlikely to upset Mohammedans apple-cart in the current form.

Abahani, Mohammedans' nearest rivals dreaming earlier of a unique second hat-trick of league titles, have nothing in their hands apart from keeping their fingers crossed. Winning their last two matches will not

draw in the first phase, badly needed to win the match, to be in with a slim chance of winning their first league title.

Known as 'mud kings' for their galvanised power football on muddy strip, Brothers Union yesterday took the field with 22 points 15 matches.

Mohammedans, on the other hand, had garnered 26 points from 15 matches before yesterday's 29th clash between the two teams, good 'three

points ahead of arch rivals Abahani Krira Chakra, champions for the last two years.

When Malaysian referee, Nik Ahmed Haji Yaakub, the first official from abroad to supervise a local league match blew the long whistle, Mohammedans

not only succeeded in retaining the distance with Abahani but may have left the league to a premature denouement.

Not even the titanic tussle between Mohammedans and Abahani, normally regarded as the finale of the league, does not hold the promise of any drama. Because Mohammedans have two more matches to go and one of it is against PWD, who are very unlikely to upset Mohammedans apple-cart in the current form.

Abahani, Mohammedans' nearest rivals dreaming earlier of a unique second hat-trick of league titles, have nothing in their hands apart from keeping their fingers crossed. Winning their last two matches will not

draw in the first phase, badly needed to win the match, to be in with a slim chance of winning their first league title.

Known as 'mud kings' for their galvanised power football on muddy strip, Brothers Union yesterday took the field with 22 points 15 matches.

Mohammedans, on the other hand, had garnered 26 points from 15 matches before yesterday's 29th clash between the two teams, good 'three

points ahead of arch rivals Abahani Krira Chakra, champions for the last two years.

When Malaysian referee, Nik Ahmed Haji Yaakub, the first official from abroad to supervise a local league match blew the long whistle, Mohammedans

not only succeeded in retaining the distance with Abahani but may have left the league to a premature denouement.

Not even the titanic tussle between Mohammedans and Abahani, normally regarded as the finale of the league, does not hold the promise of any drama. Because Mohammedans have two more matches to go and one of it is against PWD, who are very unlikely to upset Mohammedans apple-cart in the current form.

Abahani, Mohammedans' nearest rivals dreaming earlier of a unique second hat-trick of league titles, have nothing in their hands apart from keeping their fingers crossed. Winning their last two matches will not

draw in the first phase, badly needed to win the match, to be in with a slim chance of winning their first league title.

Known as 'mud kings' for their galvanised power football on muddy strip, Brothers Union yesterday took the field with 22 points 15 matches.

Mohammedans, on the other hand, had garnered 26 points from 15 matches before yesterday's 29th clash between the two teams, good 'three

do: Mohammedans have to be worst kind of wasters as they were in the first phase encounter to dead-end Abahani.

All these might sound very annoying beating about the bush but the bottom-line of it is Mohammedans are deserving and majestically poised for the title and their last night's performance before perhaps the biggest turn out of the season was more than a confirmation of it.

The black and whites simply destroyed the men in orange. Mohammedans needed just ten minutes to make their inten-

san Kanan, the national custodian back under the Mohammedan bar after completing his six-match suspension on disciplinary grounds, had almost nothing to do barring one or two occasions. The Mohammedan defence, led by two wing backs — Russian Roman and local Barun, faltered rarely and when they did Brothers forwards were not agile or resourceful enough to cash in on the lapses.

Riding merrily on their twin lead, Mohammedans slackened the electrifying pace in the latter half. It was relatively un-

eventful second half barring two excellent scoring chances muffed one each by the two teams. Jyotnickov, the highest scorer of the league so far, was trifle late to a sleek Shabbir pass allowing Ponir to collect the ball in time. Uttam of Brothers reciprocated minutes later as his shot was smartly saved by Kanan.

Mohammedans rounded off the show one minute from time when a Titu minus from the left entered the net off Moon's leg as the defender attempted a desperate defensive measure (3-0).

Malaysian referee cautioned Mohammedans' Titu for rough play.

— Star photo

draw in the first phase, badly needed to win the match, to be in with a slim chance of winning their first league title.

Known as 'mud kings' for their galvanised power football on muddy strip, Brothers Union yesterday took the field with 22 points 15 matches.

Mohammedans, on the other hand, had garnered 26 points from 15 matches before yesterday's 29th clash between the two teams, good 'three

points ahead of arch rivals Abahani Krira Chakra, champions for the last two years.

When Malaysian referee, Nik Ahmed Haji Yaakub, the first official from abroad to supervise a local league match blew the long whistle, Mohammedans

not only succeeded in retaining the distance with Abahani but may have left the league to a premature denouement.

Not even the titanic tussle between Mohammedans and Abahani, normally regarded as the finale of the league, does not hold the promise of any drama. Because Mohammedans have two more matches to go and one of it is against PWD, who are very unlikely to upset Mohammedans apple-cart in the current form.

Abahani, Mohammedans' nearest rivals dreaming earlier of a unique second hat-trick of league titles, have nothing in their hands apart from keeping their fingers crossed. Winning their last two matches will not

draw in the first phase, badly needed to win the match, to be in with a slim chance of winning their first league title.

Known as 'mud kings' for their galvanised power football on muddy strip, Brothers Union yesterday took the field with 22 points 15 matches.

Mohammedans, on the other hand, had garnered 26 points from 15 matches before yesterday's 29th clash between the two teams, good 'three

points ahead of arch rivals Abahani Krira Chakra, champions for the last two years.

When Malaysian referee, Nik Ahmed Haji Yaakub, the first official from abroad to supervise a local league match blew the long whistle, Mohammedans

not only succeeded in retaining the distance with Abahani but may have left the league to a premature denouement.

Not even the titanic tussle between Mohammedans and Abahani, normally regarded as the finale of the league, does not hold the promise of any drama. Because Mohammedans have two more matches to go and one of it is against PWD, who are very unlikely to upset Mohammedans apple-cart in the current form.

Abahani, Mohammedans' nearest rivals dreaming earlier of a unique second hat-trick of league titles, have nothing in their hands apart from keeping their fingers crossed. Winning their last two matches will not

draw in the first phase, badly needed to win the match, to be in with a slim chance of winning their first league title.

Known as 'mud kings' for their galvanised power football on muddy strip, Brothers Union yesterday took the field with 22 points 15 matches.

Pakistan, WI SL to play in Sharjah cricket

COLOMBO, Sept 14: Shri Lanka is to join West Indies and Pakistan in a limited over cricket tournament next month in Sharjah, the United Arab Emirates, cricket officials here said Tuesday, reports AFP.

The three teams will play for the Sharjah Champions Trophy, from October 28 to November 5.

THE SCHEDULE
Oct 28 — Shri Lanka V West Indies
Oct 29 — West Indies V Pakistan
Oct 30 — Shri Lanka V Pakistan
Oct 31 — Rest day
Nov 1 — West Indies V Pakistan
Nov 2 — Shri Lanka V Pakistan
Nov 3 — Shri Lanka V West Indies
Nov 4 — Rest day
Nov 5 — Final

Bastien bowls Glamorgan to victory
LONDON, Sept 14: Pace bowler Steve Bastien followed his career-best 6-52 first in-

nings return with a further six wickets on Monday as Glamorgan beat champions Essex to record their ninth championship victory of the season, reports Reuter.

Set a modest 201-run victory target at Cardiff, Essex were dismissed for 178 with Bastien taking 6-53.

Earlier, David Hemp had made the most of some 'joke' bowling to plunder a career-best 90 from 41 balls with six sixes and nine fours before Glamorgan declared at 217 for five.

Border envisages retirement
SYDNEY, Sept 14: Australian cricket captain Allan Border said Tuesday he was considering retiring at the end of the 1993-94 season, reports AP.

Border said he expected Australia's recently concluded 4-1 Ashes series victory over England would be his last tour and that he could step down after Australia play host to New Zealand and South Africa this (southern hemisphere) summer.

"I'll weigh it up then, but it's probably a good time to get out," Border said.

"There is a tour to Pakistan in August, but I'm not enjoying the touring as much as I used to and you can't pick and choose what tours you go on."

"I'll have to sit down and discuss it with the Australian selectors."

Border said he probably still would play state cricket for Queensland after his retirement from the Test arena.

He has scored 10,627 test runs at an average of 51.58 over the past 15 seasons.

Border's teammate David Boon underwent arthroscopic surgery Tuesday on a troublesome left knee injury, but is expected to be sidelined for only three weeks.

Boon is one of three Australian Test regulars to have undergone recent surgery.

Paceman Craig McDermott had to leave England with a twisted bowel and is now making a good recovery, while fellow fast bowler Merv Hughes also needed surgery on an injured knee when he returned from England.

He is not expected to play until at least January.

Wang vows to do even better
BEIJING, Sept 14: After an astonishing week in which she toppled long-standing world records, Chinese runner Wang Junxia vowed on Monday to do even better in future, reports Reuter.

Cheered on by an emotional crowd in a stadium in Beijing's Asian Games Village, Wang slashed six seconds off the world record she had set less than 24 hours earlier on the same track to win the 3,000 metres in eight minutes 06.11 seconds.

Her Sunday result had shattered a mark that had stood since 1984.

Her coach, Ma Junren, said championships result of the group of record-breaking women she leads, known to an adoring local press as the 'Ma Family Army' in his honour, were all due to his scientific training and were not miracles.

Wang, 20, knocked an astonishing 42 seconds off the 10,000 metres world record last week when she ran 29:31.78. The previous record of 30:13.74 set by Norway's Ingrid Kristiansen had stood since 1986.

On Saturday she ran the second fastest 1,500 metres of all time behind Qu Yunxia, who set a world record of 3:50.46. Wang's time of 3:51.92 was also inside the old record of 3:52.47 set by Tatiana Kazankina of the Soviet Union in August 1980.

Qu finished second behind Wang in Monday's 3,000-metre

Tougher drug checks for China
LONDON, Sept 14: Tougher drug checks will be started in China next year, an International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) spokesman said here Monday, reports AFP.

China's world 10,000 and 3,000 metres record holder Wang Junxia, wearing number 6, outruns Qu Yunxia, the 1,500 metres record holder, in the finals of the women's 3,000 at the National Games on September 13. Wang, on her way to winning the gold, smashed her day-long record with a time of 8 minutes and 6.11 seconds.

— AFP photo

SA rear expose SL bowlers



COLOMBO, Sept 14: An unbroken sixth-wicket partnership of 103 between Daryll Cullinan and

David Richardson saw South Africa recover to 231 for five wickets at the close of play on the first day of their third and final Test today, reports Reuter.

South Africa, who lead 1-0 in the three-Test series, looked in danger of being bowled out before the end of the day when they lost half the side for 128 before tea.

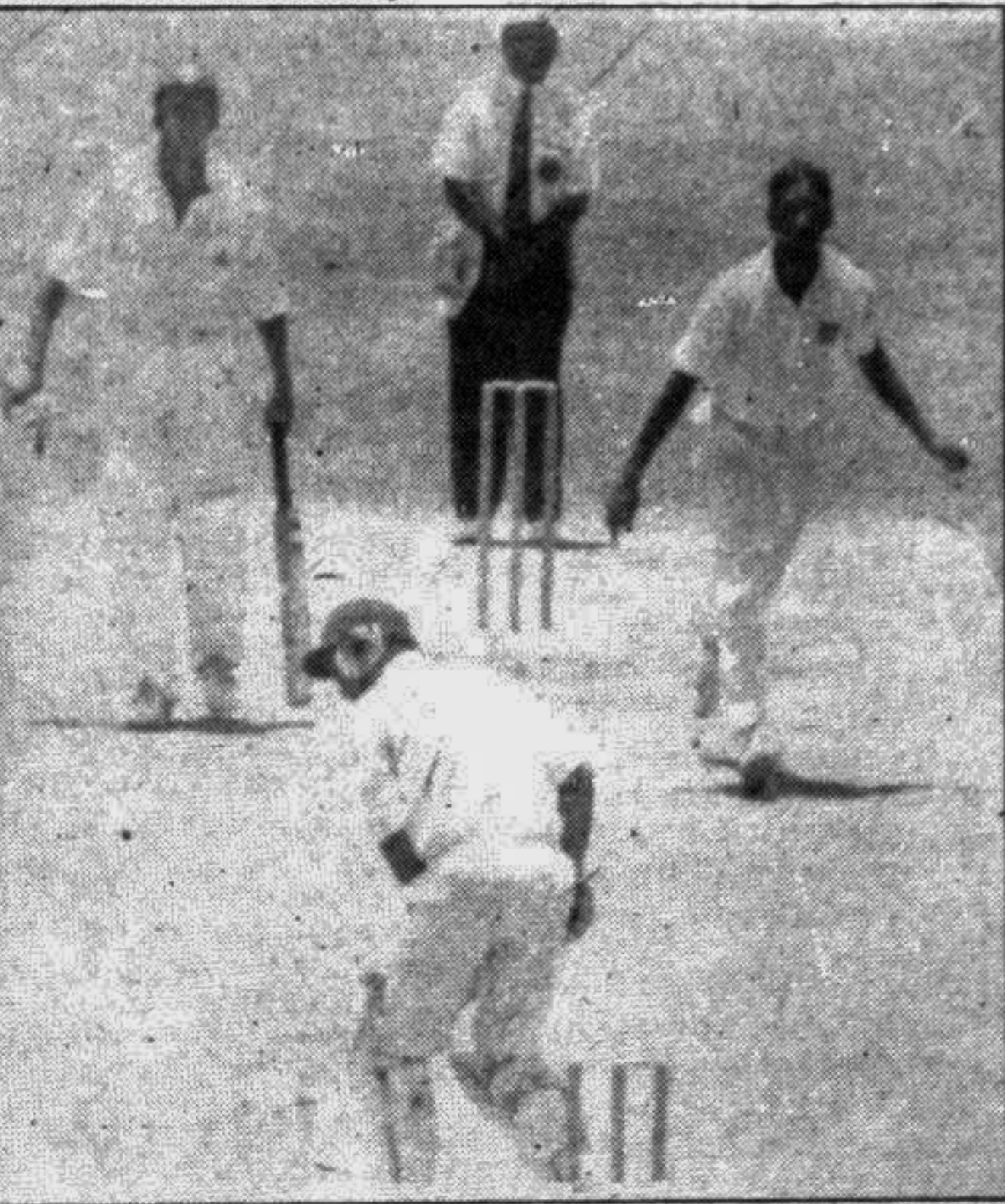
But Cullinan, unbeaten on 85 and Richardson (51 not out), steered them towards safety.

Cullinan, who made 52 in the second Test which South Africa won by an innings, completed his second 50 of his four-Test career off 91 balls with 10 fours.

By stumps, he had increased his total boundaries to 14, having batted for 266 minutes. Richardson gave him good support, reaching his half century shortly before the close.

South African captain Kepler Wessels won the toss and decided to bat on a pitch which had large cracks in it.

After an opening partnership of 51, both openers fell within the space of four balls before lunch.



South African vice-captain Hansie Cronje looks anxiously on as his skipper is clean bowled by Shri Lankan Dulip Liyanage on the opening day of the third and final Test in Colombo yesterday. South Africa were 231 for five at the end of the day.

— AFP photo

Sampras' words of wisdom
NEW YORK, Sept 14: US Open champion Pete Sampras says the wave of shock results at this year's tourna-

ment was due to the depth of top-class talent in tennis today, reports Reuter.

"The depth of tennis is very deep," said Sampras, who won the men's title on Sunday with a 6-4, 6-4, 6-3 victory over Frenchman Cedric Pioline.

"There are a lot of upsets these days versus 10 years ago. You used to expect McEnroe, Connors, Lendl and Borg in the semifinals, whereas today it is a different story. There are so many guys out there that are dangerous."

Steffi Graf kept her cool to lift the women's title with an easy 6-3, 6-3 win against 12th seed Helena Sukova of the Czech Republic.

But while Graf and Sampras emerged triumphant and cemented their positions at the top of the rankings, many of their rivals seemed to regard the tournament as a chamber of horrors both on and off the court.

A record five men's seeds were eliminated in the first round and a record seven were gone by the second round, including two-times champion Stefan Edberg.

There were shocks in the women's event too. Jennifer Capriati was knocked out on the second day and four-times champion Martina Navratilova went down in the round of 16.

Players found plenty to moan and groan about — from the food at Flushing Meadow to New York's traffic jams.

"It is not really comfortable off-court here. The locker rooms are bad. The lounge is very crowded," said top seed Jim Courier before he bowed out to Pioline in the last 16.

Courier said he was frustrated by variations in the condition of the courts.

"It's a little frustrating to go practise since the other courts are totally different than the center and the grandstand. Different speed. Different quality. They have potholes. I mean, it is pathetic."

Courier started the US Open as the world number one but surrendered it to fellow American Sampras.

Eighth seed Andrei Medvedev of Ukraine "branded the tournament as 'the worst Grand Slam' after losing to Pioline in the quarter-finals.

"The players' lounge is bad. The food is horrible," said Medvedev.

"You have to get from the hotel to the tournament and if you have traffic... today it took us one hour sitting in the car."

Changes are planned at Flushing Meadow as part of a 200 million dollar face-lift.

Sampras avoided any problems over food as he swept towards the title.

"I didn't eat at Flushing Meadow all two weeks," he said. "What I was doing was getting good New York Deli sandwiches and eating turkey sandwiches for two straight weeks."

Hudson (22) gave spinner Kumara Dharmasena his maiden Test wicket when he was superbly taken at short leg by Hashan Tillekeratne attempting to glance.

Two runs later, Wessels was bowled by Dulip Liyanage for 26. Liyanage was making a return to Test cricket replacing the injured Pramodya Wickramasinghe.

Off-spinner Muttiah Muralidharan had the best figures out of the seven bowlers used with two for 32 off 22 overs.

He claimed the wickets of Jonty Rhodes stumped by Pubudu Dassanayake for seven and Brian McMillan (2), out to a very doubtful bat and pad decision.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard on the first day of the third and final cricket Test between Shri Lanka and South Africa today:

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings
Hudson c Tillekeratne b Dharmasena 22
Wessels b Liyanage 26
Cronje b Ramanayake 24
Cullinan not out 85
Rhodes st Dassanayake b Muralidharan 7
McMillan c Jayasuriya b Muralidharan 2
Richardson not out 51
Extras (b-5, lb-4, nb-5) 14
Total (for 5 wickets) 231
Fall of wickets: 1-51; 2-53; 3-96; 4-108; 5-128.

To bat: P Symcox, R Snell, A Donald, B Schultz
Bowling (to date): O M R W
Ramanayake 16 1 60 1
Liyanage 18 4 48 1
Hathurusinghe 6 4 6 0
Dharmasena 26 5 66 1
Muralidharan 22 7 32 2
De Silva 1 0 9 0
Jayasuriya 1 0 1 0

SHRI LANKA: A Ranatunga, R Mahanama, C Hathurusinghe, P Dassanayake, A de Silva, H Tillekeratne, S Jayasuriya, M Muralidharan, K Dharmasena, C Ramanayake, D Liyanage.

South African vice-captain Hansie Cronje looks anxiously on as his skipper is clean bowled by Shri Lankan Dulip Liyanage on the opening day of the third and final Test in Colombo yesterday. South Africa were 231 for five at the end of the day.

— AFP photo

Wang vows to do even better
BEIJING, Sept 14: After an astonishing week in which she toppled long-standing world records, Chinese runner Wang Junxia vowed on Monday to do even better in future, reports Reuter.

Cheered on by an emotional crowd in a stadium in Beijing's Asian Games Village, Wang slashed six seconds off the world record she had set less than 24 hours earlier on the same track to win the 3,000 metres in eight minutes 06.11 seconds.

Her Sunday result had shattered a mark that had stood since 1984.

Her coach, Ma Junren, said championships result of the group of record-breaking women she leads, known to an adoring local press as the 'Ma Family Army' in his honour, were all due to his scientific training and were not miracles.

Wang, 20, knocked an astonishing 42 seconds off the 10,000 metres world record last week when she ran 29:31.78. The previous record of 30:13.74 set by Norway's Ingrid Kristiansen had stood since 1986.

On Saturday she ran the second fastest 1,500 metres of all time behind Qu Yunxia, who set a world record of 3:50.46. Wang's time of 3:51.92 was also inside the old record of 3:52.47 set by Tatiana Kazankina of the Soviet Union in August 1980.

Qu finished second behind Wang in Monday's 3,000-metre

Tougher drug checks for China
LONDON, Sept 14: Tougher drug checks will be started in China next year, an International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) spokesman said here Monday, reports AFP.

China's world 10,000 and 3,000 metres record holder Wang Junxia, wearing number 6, outruns Qu Yunxia, the 1,500 metres record holder, in the finals of the women's 3,000 at the National Games on September 13. Wang, on her way to winning the gold, smashed her day-long record with a time of 8 minutes and 6.11 seconds.

— AFP photo

Sub par Bubka good enough
NEW DELHI, Sept 14: Sergei Bubka, the pole vault wizard who has a habit of breaking his own records,