SA lose Aussie

tour opener

Africa's cricket team, playing its

first Test series in Australia in

30 years, lost its tour opener

Thursday by four runs to a

Prime Minister's XI at Manuka

runs from 42 overs in the rain-

delayed game, then dismissed

South Africa in the last of their

field several players suffering

The visitors fell behind the

Prime Minister's team's run rate

until late in their innings when

a fighting performance from

Hansie Cronje and Brian

McMillan lifted the team and

in the outfield by Tasmanian

state youngster Ricky Ponting

bowlers was medium-pacer Tom

Moody with 2-18 from nine

overs. Moody claimed the wicket

of makeshift opener David

Richardson for 11 and the

wicket of South African captain

Prime Minister's XI with 42 runs, while right-arm off-spin

ner Pat Symcox was the best of the South African bowlers with

After retfring Hayden

Symcox, in his next over, got a

simple return catch from the

bat of Tom Moody. Two balls

lian batsman Darren Webber for

The South Africans will play

later, he bowled South Austra

a duck with the score on 111

three tests against Australia

Matthew Hayden led the

Kepler Wessels for 17.

led to Cronje's run out on 60.

But a vital throw from deep

The best of the Australian

gave them a chance of victory.

South Africa were forced the

overs for 152 for the victory.

form a stomach virus.

The Australians scored 156

Oval, reports AP.

CANBERRA, Dec- 2: South

Sports Reporter

Arch-rivals Mohammedans and Abahani meet in an existential cricket clash at the Dhaka Stadium today.

The two most popular names of the local sporting circuit will complete their regulation engagements of eleven matches

Both teams have run up to this clash with similar track records - nine wins and a de-

However, the fate of this vear's Navana Premier Division cricket league will be far from · being decided from today's outcome as the winners have to face Bangladesh Biman in a decisive play-off. Biman, now tipped as the strongest among the three contenders for the title, proved the common nemesis for the two.

The price of tickets for the galleries has been fixed at Tk 10 for this crucial 45 overs-a-side

begins at 9-15 in the morning.

Press Club cricketers fail to reach semis

Bangladesh National Press Club beat Bangalore in their first match by six wickets on parently due to bad umpiring.

Chandigarh won the toss and elected to bat. A chancy 54 by opener Sanjoy Manchandha helped Chandigarh reach 154 for eight wickets.

Obayed Azman took three wickets for 23 and Sheikh Monir Siddique Rajib took three

In reply, Bangladesh National Press Club overcame a shaky start to post 156 for the loss of only three wickets with four overs to spare.

Shahriar Ferdous Shubhra, batting at number four, remained not out on 46. Skipper

In their crucial match against the strong Calcutta on Wednesday, Bangladesh National Press Club were all out for 130 chasing Calcutta A's 132 for eight in 30 overs.

which, under the rules should have been called a wide. Partha took three wickets and won the man of the match award in yesterday's match.

Bangladesh Press Club protested the decisions. The semifinals will be held tomorrow while the final will be played on Sunday at the Eden Gardens.

Swimming squad

Sports Reporter

The team includes four officials — a manager and three

13.49 seconds. The swimmers, selected for the Games, are: Shafiqul Islam, the silver in 13.66 and Nobuaki Harunur Rashid, Ilias Ahmed, Hoki of Japan took the bronze Nazmul Kabtr, Kawser Ahmed. in 13.93. The old meet record of Mukhlesur Rahman, Karar 13.90 seconds was held by Mizanur Rahman, Din Amin, China's Wu Ching Chin and Selim Mtah and Abdus Salam. had stood since 1985.

Cox's Bazar

From Our Correspondent

ttagong Bengal FC beat Chandgow FC by a solitary goal today on the second day of the Cox's Bazar Zilla DC Cup football competition here.

in the 32nd minute of the second half for Chittagong Bengal. play Chittagong Friends Club at

Abahani take | Big wins for Brothers, GMCC

Al Shahriar Rokon's all-round hatic win against Kalabagan in

brilliance propelled former champions Brothers Union to an empone of the two Navana Premier

Stadium yesterday. The young athletic cricketer remained unbeaten on a lively 64 off 65 balls with the help of three fours as Brothers, batting first, amassed 252 for four wickets only - the highest total by any team so far at Dhaka Stadium this year.

league ties at the Dhaka

Opener Zahid Razzak Masum and one drop Habibul Bashar Suman were the other major Brothers batsmen to be among the runs. Masum missed a half-century for two runs while Suman, the languid right hander, made 37.

Shri Lankan all-rounder Fernando blasted a characteristic unbeaten 36 inclusive of three fours and a sixer.

Pakistani opener Kaisar Rashid presented Kalabagan his third successive half-century

Every so often a

person comes on

the scene who has

the look of a

winner' stamped

all over him. This

thought came insistently to

mind while watching Sachin

Tendulkar in action in the later

stages of the Hero Cup. On

three occasions he demons-

trated that natural talent allied

to a bouncy sense of self-worth

can add up to an invincible

semifinal. South Africa, seem-

ingly losing, had suddenly come

roaring back, with their lower

order batsmen scoring freely

against the firing Indian attack.

With the game's final over to be

bowled South Africa needed as

over? The anguished hubbub of

a 100,000 excited Indian spec-

tators served as a backdrop as

the senior Indian players con-

ferred urgently on the field. The

way the South African batsmen

had been sighting the frontline

Indian bowlers it was difficult to

imagine who could contain

them. And then, as the smoke

cleared, it emerged that

Azharuddin had entrusted the

most crucial over of the whole

match to none other than

Tendulkar, who had not bowled

The rest, as they say, is his-

tory. Tendulkar produced ex-

actly the effort his captain re-

quired. Bowling with a low, al-

most flat, trajectory, perilously

close to being called wide on

several occasions, be eluded all

the efforts of the South Africans

to score. India ended up win-

ning by 2 runs. The point is

that Tendulkar seemed to have

conjured up this result as much

by sheer force of will as by his

ring a rain-drenched third day

an Track and Field Champion-

In the day's biggest surprise.

world record holder Andrei

was heavily favoured in the

hammer theow, did not show up

mediate explanation and the

biennial competition was ap-

parent throughout the day.

Only South Korea and Qatar

prevented a Chinese gold

who lives in Los Angeles and at-

tends Washington State Uni-

versity, jogged around the track

smiling, clenching his fist and

waving to the crowd after

winning the 110-metre men's

hurdles in meet record time of

Teammate Chen Yanhao won

Zhang Yu of China captured

the women's 100-metre hurdles

in meet record time of 13.07

seconds, surpassing the old

mark of 13.20 set by Zhu Yu-

ging of China in Kuala Lumpur

Sriyani Kulawansa of Shri

Lanka won the silver in 13.38

and Olga Shishigina of Ka-

zakhstan took the bronze in

In other ineet record tri-

umphs, China's Gao Hongmiao

won the women's 10,000-metre

walk in 47:08.98 minutes. Li

Chunxiu of China captured the

silver in 48:01.14 and Yuka

in 1991.

13.57.

Chinese runner Li Tong.

China's domination of the

for the finals. There was no im-

Abuvaliev of Tajikistan, who

of competition in the 10th Asi-

ships, reports UNB.

gold went to China.

In the final, against the West

in sweeping seven

gold medals du-

cricketing abilities.

so far in the innings!

Who was to bowl the last

little as three runs to win

The first occasion was in the

combination.

Sports Reporter but his side failed in its effort to quell the fears of being relegated along with Udity as the could muster only 172 for nine wickets at the end of the stipu-



ROKON ... 64 n.o

Brothers' spin twins. Amal Dalugoda, the Shri Lankan slow left armer and wrist spinner Rokon were the Kalabagan's

wrecker in chiefs. Rokon followed his solid half-century with a haul of

by Salahuddin Imam

Indies, Tendulkar again made a

decisive contribution, both with

bat and ball. The Indians batted

first and were steaming along at

160 for 2 after 35 or so overs.

Abruptly they lost three quick

wickets for only are additional

run and the momentum was

back in the hands of the fear-

some quartet of West Indian

fast bowlers. Tendulkar and

Kapil Dev arrived at the crease

at this moment, as the last

recognised batsmen in the live

only did they have to fend off

S TENDULKAR

the West Indian attack, now in

full cry, but they also had to

build a reasonable total of over

200 runs, with the overs slip-

ping rapidly away. Cricket

lovers everywhere settled down

eagerly to evaluate for them-

selves just how well Tendulkar

would negotiate this crisis, the

kind of all-round test which

separates the men from the

He fulfilled everyone's expec-

tations. Batting with all the

bravado and guts of a born

achiever. Tendulkar steered the

Their task was two-fold. Not

three wickets for 25 runs Dalugoda took another three for 39 to ensure the 80-run win for Brothers who have two more matches left.

GMCC REVEL

While Brothers were making life difficult for Kalabagan at the Dhaka Stadium, Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club (GMCC enhanced Victoria's fears of relegation to Milnars league with a thumping nine-wicket win at the Dhanmondi Cricket Sta-

Indian Rudra Pratap Singh stole the show there with an unbeaten 59 as GMCC made 122 for one wicket only in 36.5 overs after bowling out Victoria for 121 in 44.2 overs.

Adil, Rinku and Arup were Victoria's men to be in the double figures with scores of 24,20 and 16 respectively.

Promising left-arm spirmer Saikat took three for 17 runs only while RP took two for nine and Plaban two for 20.

RP's half-century and Javed Omar Belim Golla's 52 were enough to see GMCC through with plenty of overs to spare.

Indian ship with a firm hand to

harbour and a final score of

225. His innings of 28 net only

was easily worth a century un-

der less stressful circum-

About an hour into the West

Indies winnings the match once

more came to the boil. Lara and

Richardson had just about

weathered Prabhakar's deadly

opening spell, almost every ball

weaving and spitting like a

snake's tail. They were begin-

ning to strike the ball with the

legendary West Indian clarity

and had just plundered 18 runs

off Jadeja's first over. One-day

cricket is a game of brief dy-

namic surges and with their

score at 57 for 1. West Indies

were on the point, given a few

more run-productive overs, of

carrying off the watch then and

the eyes of a jampacked sta-

dium now suddenly turned

hushed and apprehensive, that

Azharuddin, acting with swift

resolution took Jadeja off and

kar, a truly amazing choice

As everyone now knows.

Tendulkar justified his captain's

faith in him and bowled Lara

with a beautiful dipping in-cut-

ter. The fabric of the West Indian

batting had now been irrepara-

bly punctured and all Azhar-

uddin had to do was marshall

his bowlers, who responded

magnificently, particularly Ka

end, an emphatic victory.

pil, to pull off what was, in the

the Hero Cup was due to a team

effort. One can't help but reflect

however that Tendulkar's irre-

pressible can-do attitude may

have made that vital edge which

tipped the balance in India's

Clearly, India's success in

tossed the ball over to Tendul-

considering that two specialist

bowlers had not yet been tried.

It was at this point, under

stances.

there.

Maradona feels he's at the end of the road

BUENOS AIRES, Dec 2: A gaunt, introspective Diego Maradona, whose recent comeback to international soccer fired up Argentina, fears he will not make it to the 1994 World Cup finals, reports Reuter.

After an 18-year professional career, the 33-year-old midfielder, who now plays for Newell's Old Boys in the Argentine league, also says it is getting harder to shrug off even minor injuries.

"I don't know whether I will be going to the finals in the United States," he told reporters after training with a national team where most players are 10 years his Junior.

"I'm 33. What do you want? That I continue playing until I'm 50? said Maradona, who has played for Argentina in the last three World Cup finals, orchestrating their victory in 1986.

"I'm getting on .. and the idea of picking up injuries really scares me," he continued. "These next matches, (against Cameroon and Germany) could well be my last for the national

T is for Tendulkar, talent B Basten may not

BARCELONA, Spain, Dec 2: Dutch striker Van Basten looks set to miss the World Cup finals next summer after being told he needs another operation on his right ankle, reports AFP.

Van Basten, 29, consulted Spanish specialist Antonio Viladot Perice for a second opinion on the diagnosis of Belgian surgeon Marc Martens.

Martens, who operated on Van Basten last June, advised the AC Milan player last week he needed three months of

what other specialists have told him," Perice said. But despite arguing new

"Although he has a very seri-

Van Basten has not managed to complete a full game for his club or country since an op-

team at the end of April but it now looks as if that return was rushed and the ankle gave away again after the European Cup final in May, which the Italians

After the June operation he was due to come back in October but the date was steadily put back until Martens advised the three-month break from all activity.

Eskaton edge

Eskaton Sabuj Sangha beat Lalmatia by 17 runs in the Milnars First Division cricket league at the Mirpur Pallabi cricket ground yesterday.

followed by Khokan and Rajkumar who made 33 and 28 respectively as Eskaton, batting first, were all out for 156 in 44.2 overs.

Laimatia's Indian cricketer Ashis Malik took five for 33 while left-arm spinner Atiq bagged another three for 27.

play in World Cup finals

complete rest.

But according to Perice a sixth operation on the troublesome ankle is the only solution. "I gave him my opinion and

he'll able to compare it with

surgery was necessary. Perice does not believe Van Basten's career has come to a premature

ous problem, I believe he can recover," he said. "Perice helped Barcelona's Jose Maria Bakero to get over a similar injury.

eration in December last year. He came back into the Milan

lost to Marseille.

past Lalmatia

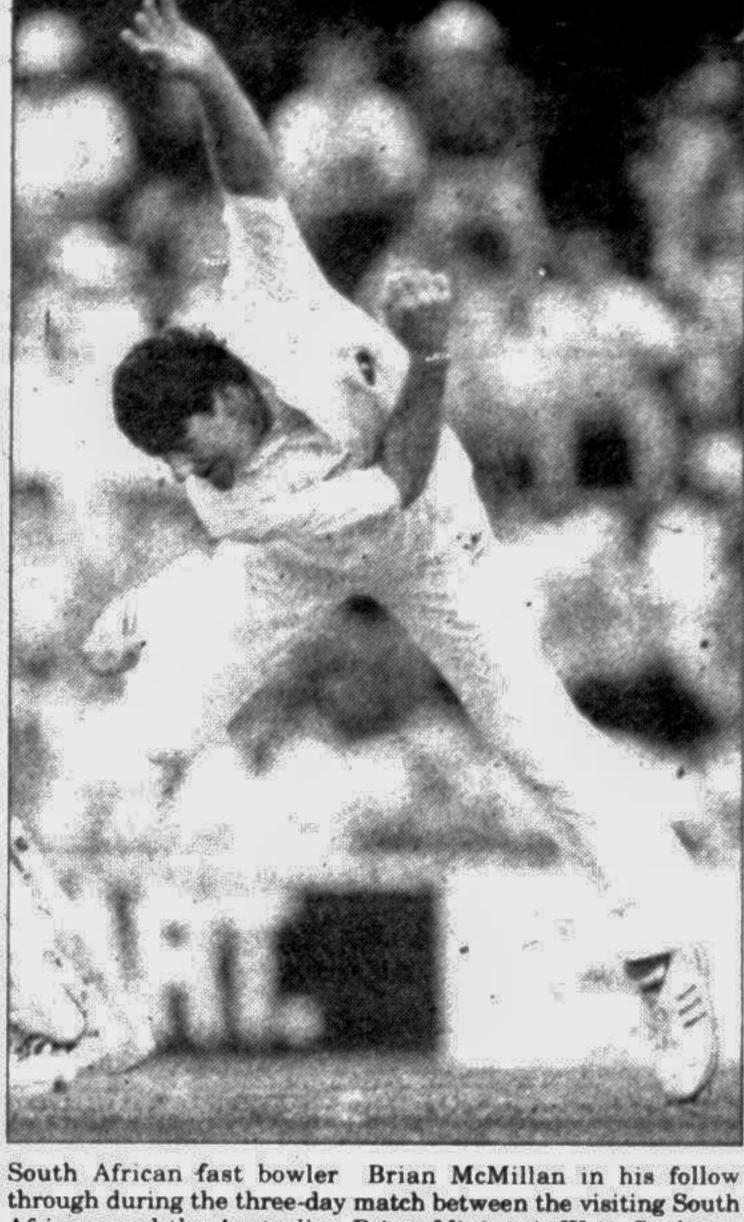
Sports Reporter

Towhid topscored with 35

Hassan's 54 and Shanto's 34

proved inadequate as Lalmatia needing 189 for a win found themselves straited at 169 for





through during the three-day match between the visiting South Africans and the Australian Prime Minister's XI in Canberra yesterday. Australia won the match. - AFP photo

KARACHI, Dec 2:

Javed Miandad

and wicketkeeper

Rashid Latif hit

half centuries as

Pakistan pains-

takingly pressed home their

advantage against tight Zim-

babwe bowling in the first Test

Pakistan extended their

overnight 197 for two to 388 for

eight at the close of the second

day, adding only 191 in five

gether with an unbeaten 52,

beating his previous Test best of

exactly 50 against England at

The Pakistanis were frus-

trated by the efforts of paceman

Eddo Brandes, who took three

for 96, and off-spinner Stephen

Peall, who marked his Test de-

but with two for 89 from 41

Brandes pushed Pakistan

on to the defensive when he

captured the wickets of Mian-

dad and Asif Mujtaba in quick

containing seven fours and

taking 175 balls, and Mujtaba

was caught by Mark Dekker at

third slip when he tried to

morning's first blow for Zim-

babwe with his first Test wicket.

having opener Shoaib Moham-

John Bennie had struck the

Miandad went lbw for 70.

succession just before lunch.

Latif held the lower order to-

hours play.

the Oval last year.

on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Pakistan crawl to 388 for 8

mad caught for a laborious 81 adding only 10 to his overnight SCOREBOARD Scoreboard on the second Pakistan added 52 in the second session. Losing Basit Ali caught at the wicket off Test

Iraq will be barred from Asian Games

debutant Guy Whittall for 36

and captain Wagar Younis to

KUWAIT, Dec 2: Iraq will be barred from the 1994 Asian Games in Hiroshima because of its 1990-91 occupation of Kuwait, Asia's top Olympics body said today, reports Reuter.

"One of the most important decisions taken is that Iraq will not take part in the Hiroshima Games," Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahd Al-Sabah, president of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), told a news conferences at the end of a council general assembly meeting.

The OCA suspended Iraq's membership in protest against its August 2, 1990 invasion of the Emirate. A US led coalition drove the troops out in February 1991.

Iraqi troops shot dead former OCA president Sheikh Fahd Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, younger brother of the Emir. Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, in

day of the first cricket Test between Pakistan and Zimbabwe on Thursday: PAKISTAN: First innings (overnight 197-2)

Aamer Sohail b Peall Shoaib Mohammad c A Flower ' remie Inzamamul Hag c A Flower b Brandes Javed Miandad Ibw b Brandes Basit Ali c A Flower b Whittall Asif Mujtaba c Dekker b Brandes Rashid Latif not out Wagar Younis c Peall b G Flower Mushtaq Ahmed c A Flower b Peall

Tauseef Ahmed not out Extras: (b-9, lb-12, nb-1) Total: ffor eight wickets) Fall of wickets: 1-95; 2-134; 3-217; 4-268; 5-280; 6-305; 7-332: 8-363 To bat: Ataur Rehman

Streak 6 77 0 71 1 Rennie Whittall 89 2 Peal 10 G Flower

ZIMBABWE: A Flower, & Flower, M Dekker, D Houghton, A Campbell, G Whittall, G Bruk-Jackson, S Peall, J Rennie, H Streak, E Brandes.

96° 3

26

Who'll be the lucky three? also. I hope we can get some Caribbean opponents look awe-

the first hours of the invasion.

square cut.

2: At least three berths in the Shri Lankan Test team to meet the West Indies in a one-off Test, billed for December 8-13, are up for grabs, manager Bandula Warnapura said Thursday, reports AFP.

Warnapura and the national selectors will be closely watching Test opener Chandika Hathurusinghe, number three batsman Asanka Gurusinha, and also former Test player Marvan Atapattu when the Shri Lanka Board's President's XI take on the tourists in a threeday match in Galle, starting "They will be under scrutiny.

Hathurusinghe has been out of form and Gurusinha was injured. Their performance in Galle will play a big part in the Test selection," said Warnapura.

While the Shri Lankan team have an air of uncertainty hanging over them, their day yesterday. We were in a good position, but unfortunately the weather intervened," said David Holford, West Indies

win their 300th Test.

manager. The West Indies were in a commanding position in the first one-day international, Wednesday, having scored 197 for 3 in 39 overs. They contained Shri Lanka to 35 for 1 off 12.1 overs when play was halted due to bad light, forcing the match to be abandoned.

The weather is likely to be the biggest hurdle for the tourists on their short tour. Seasonal monsoon rains is likely to follow the tourists around.

The forecast for Galle, 72 miles south of Colombo, too looks bleak. "It is raining there

some and outright favourites to cricket," said a hopeful Warnapura, who is praying for clear "We have absolutely no skies, so that the selectors can have a good look at the Test problems. Everyone is fit and raring to go. It is disappointing hopefuls. that we didn't win the first one-'Another couple of players

> former Test paceman, Rumesh Ratnayake and wicketkeeper Pubudu Dassanayake. Leading strike bowler Ratnayake's last Test appearance was at Lord's during the 1991

who will be watched closely are

tour of England. He played in the 1992 World Cup, but a shoulder injury put him out of

"He is better now, but he lacks match fitness. We will see how he goes," said Warnapura. Ratnayake will lead the

Board XI in Galle. Shri Lanka Board's President's XI: R Ratnayake (capt), D Samaraweera, C Hathurus-

inghe, A Gurusinha, H Wickremaratne, M Atapattu, S Jayantha, U Chandana, P Dassanayake, P Wijetunga, C Vaas.

TTT Sore finger worries Warne BRISBANE, Dec 2: swelling around the joint so he Mark Haslam could make his



Australia leg-spinner Shane Warne faces a prematch examination before the third cricket Test against New Zealand on Friday after complaining of soreness in his

spinning finger, reports Reuter. Warne cut short his stint in the practice nets on Thursday when the middle joint of the finger he uses to grip the ball began to swell, team physiotherapist Errol Alcott said.

The 23-year-old Warne, who devastated New Zealand in the second Test, was treated by Alcott and will be examined again before the start of play on Fri-

"We felt it was best to cut short his bowling session," Alcott said. "There's a bit of

has a bit of a strain there. I think he'll be fine but I want to have another look at him in the morning." Warne took nine wickets in

Australia's comprehensive victory in the second Test and has taken 63-Test wickets so far this year, the most by a spinner in Test history. Australia lead the three-Test

series 1-0 after thrashing New Zealand in the second Test in Hobart, winning by an innings and 222 runs, their biggest win against them.

New Zealand captain Ken Rutherford hinted on Thursday that there could be as many as three changes to his side. Batsman Bryan Young and

. "At 1-0 down, two spinners might be a gamble worth tak-

Test debut.

ing," Rutherford said. Rutherford said New Zealand

would not put wicketkeeper

Tony Blain in to open and they look set to replace out-of-form opener Mark Greatbatch with Test debutant Young. "We have a couple of options but I believe Bryan Young was chosen as a third-choice opener

and because he was selected in that capacity he's the man we should put in," Rutherford said. Blain is now expected to come in at number seven, following Cairns who was declared

95 per cent fit after a net session on Wednesday. Cairns pulled out of the sec-

paceman Chris Cairns are almost certain to come into the ond Test with a bruised heel line-up, while left-arm spinner just hours before play began.

each with this game. feat apiece.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Television and Radio will telecast the match live. The coverage

CALCUTTA, Dec 2: Bangladesh National Press Club recorded their second win in three encounters, beating Chandigarh Press Club by seven wickets in their last robin league match of the second Medinova interpress club cricket tournament here today, reports BSS.

Bangladesh, however, failed to reach the semifinals. Bangladesh National Press Club, Calcutta A and Bangalore posted two victories each but two scores of 200-plus by Bangalore gave them better run rate and a semi-final berth at the cost of Bangladesh Press Club.

Tuesday and lost by a narrow margin of two runs to the fancied Calcutta A Wednesday, ap-

Tanver Noved Partha made an unbeaten 36 while Obayed Azman made 22.

A gallant unbeaten 44 by skipper Partha went in vain vesterday when a vital run-out in the dying moments and several other questionable decisions by an umpire sealed Bangladesh Press Club's fate. At least three hits which crossed the boundary escaped the umpire's eyes. With three runs needed off the last ball, the umpire ignored the final delivery of the match yesterday

for SAF Games

announced

A 15-member swimming squad for this month's sixth South Asian Federation (SAF) games, scheduled for December 20-27 in the city, was announced by the Bangladesh Swimming Federation yester-

soccer

COX'S BAZAR. Dec 2: Chi-

Babul Dev scored the winner Tomorrow Abdus Sobhan FC Mitsumori of Japan won the

China gold rush unabated

MANILA, Dec 2: bronze in 48:03.02. Chinese athletes set three meet records Thursday

in 1989.

1991. tenant was so confident that he slowed down three metres from the finish to wave to the crowd.

in 10.38 and Lin Wei of China

Gao's time bested the meet record of 48:59.86 set by Chen Yen Lin of China in New Delhi

only non-Chinese to establish a meet record Thursday. Mansoor won the men's 100 metre dash in 10.22 seconds, bettering his own previous meet record of

10.24 set in Kuala Lumpur in The 28-year-old army lieu-Li Tao of China took the silver

favour.

Three-time meet champion Talal Mansoor of Qatar was the

the bronze in 10.46. in the men's hammer throw, women's shot put, women's long jump and women's 100

metre dash. Zhang Liuhang claimed the women's shot put gold with a throw of 18.68 metres (61 feet 64 inches). Le Myun Sun of South Korea finished second at 16.08 metres (53/06) and Japanese Aya Suzuki won the

China also picked up golds

bronze with 15.3 metres (50/49).

Defending champion Tian Yumei added China's other gold, winning the women's 100 metre dash in 11.36. Liu Xiaomei took the silver in 11.49.

Talal Mansoor of Qatar waves as he crosses the finishing line clocking 10.22 secs to set a new meet record in the men's 100 metre at the Asian Athletics Championship in Manila yesterday. On the right is Lin Wei (247) of China finishing third with 10.46 secs. - AFP photo