BCCB squad for tour of Pakistan **Sports Reporter**

Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) yesterday announced a 17-member team for a tour of Pakistan from January 1 as a part of Bangladesh's preparation for the forthcoming ICC Trophy.

Skipper Faruge Ahmed of Abahani wili have teammate Akram Khan as his deputy during the -15-day trip which will feature a number of friendly

matches in Lahore and Karachi Bangladesh who recently played some prep matches both at home and abroad, are bidding seriously for one of the top three slots in the most important meet for associate mem bers of the ICC.

Three top teams of the ICC Trophy, scheduled to start in Keya from February will win the rights to complete in the next World championship of cricket along with the nine full members of the ICC. India. Pakistan and Shri Lanka are going to be the joint hosts of the sixth version of over-limit championship.

The members of the BCCB team are: Faruque Ahmed (Captain). Akram Khan (Vice-Captain), Athar Ali Khan, Jahangir Alam. Aminul Islam Bulbul, Minhazul Abedin Na nnu, Selim Shahed, Enamul Hug Moni, GM Nawsher Prince. Al Shahariar Rokon, Nasir Ahmed Nasu, Habibul Bashar Suman, Anisur Rahman Anis, Nurul Abedin Nobel. Mizanur Rahman Babul, Shahnawaz Shaheed-Shahu. Sajid Hassan and Mohindar Amarnath (coach).

Div II cricket Sports Reporter

Evergreen and East End Club won their respective mat ches in the Second Division cricket league at different venues in the city vesterday

In a match, held at the Ja gannath Hall cricket ground. Evergreen outplayed Azad Boys Club by five wickets.

were shot out for a paltry 139 runs in 39.4 overs. Tahmid with 28. Shabbir 17

Azad Boys, who batted first.

Yasir 15 were the main contributors for Azad. Sujon captured three for 29

and Imrul two for 19. Evergreen made 143 runs for the loss of five wickets in 32.2

Naimul with 53 from 47 deliveries was followed by Shamim

25. Fuad 19, Sujon 16. Shabbir took two for 27. East End Club recorded a four-wicket victory over Bang-

ladesh Boys Club at the Dhanmondi Cricket Ground. Bangladesh Boys, batting first, were all out for 157 in

39.5 overs. Ashraf topscored with 38.

Rais claimed three for 31 and Bipul three for 27.

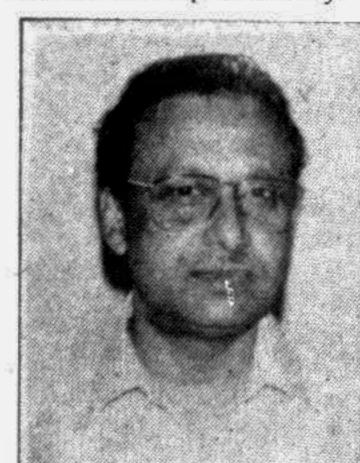
East End Club reached the target with 158 for six in 39 overs. Hassan contributed 45 runs. Noman and Rais were the other main scorers with 28 and 24 respectively. Kamrul got three for 27 and Shaheen two for 31.

Argentina to ask FIFA to reprieve Caniggia's ban

BUENOS AIRES, Dec 28: The Argentine Football Association (AFA) will ask world soccer's governing body FIFA to shorten its ban against striker Claudio Caniggia, AFA president Julio Grondona said, reports Reuter.

Caniggia was banned for 13 months for cocaine use when he was playing for Italian club as Roma. The ban runs out on May 8, little more than a month before Argentina's World Cup opener against Greece on June

Caniggia played a prominent part in the 1990 World Cup finals in which Argentina finished runners-up to Germany.



Asafuddowlah has been holding the post of the president of the Bangladesh Swim-

Circus animals' desertion

The circus that held Dhaka in a trance of delight and excitement over the last eight days is gone. With the exception of the Bhutanese contingent all the foreign participants of the Sixth South Asian Federation (SAF) Games left Dhaka vesterday.

The 14-member Bhutanese team which captured more attention for being the smallest party in the carnival than any worthwhile achievement will leave the city today.

India, the traditional superpowers of the sevennation biennial extravaganza, who had a maximum haul of 139 medals including 61 golds in the just concluded meet left Dhaka on Monday in two batches.

Their bitter neighbours Pakistan who staged a magnificent late rally to finish second in the medals table left vesterday morning. Moving gingerly through out the meeting Pakistan suddenly found their desired thrust from the boxers who brought them nine golds in one day. Pakistan finally collected 66 medals. Besides the 23 golds, they bagged 22 silvers and 21 bronzes.

Another three teams Nepal. Shri Lanka and the Maldives -also returned home vesterday.

Shri Lanka finished third in eight-day long championship with 83 medals. Their position in the final team standing was lowered because of their 21 golds, two less than runners up Pakistan. Shri Lanka got 23 silvers and 39 bronzes as well.

Nepal made the most of the

Sports Reporter penultimate day of the meet as their footballers beat fancied India in a marathon match to clinch the lone gold in this meet for the Himalayan kingdom. Nepal the hosts of the inaugural SAF Games, collected six silvers

and 15 bronzes. Bhutan and the Maldives were the only two contingents to go without any medals in this competition.

President of the Olympic Council of Asia, (OCA), Sheikh



Ahmed Al Sabah of Kuwait who attended the closing ceremony of the Sixth SAF Games as the special guest left Dhaka yesterday.

Rashida Yousuf, the Sports and Women's Affairs Minister of the Maldives and D M Aradessa. the State Minister for Sports and Youth of Shri Lanka flew back home yesterday.

Minister for Religious Affairs. Keramat Ali and officials of the Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) were present at the airport to see the distinguished guests off.

Hosts Bangladesh who staged the Games for the second time having hosted the second Games in 1985 managed the fourth position in

the medals table. Bangladesh equalled the feat of their haul of 64 medals in the second Games but set a new mark for themselves by winning eleven gold medals, two more than the nine they got in 1985.

Although the air is still heavy with the pangs of separation and the poor performance of the local footballers, the sixth Games left Bangladesh with one great consolation. The fastest man of South Asia is our very own Bimal Chandra Tarafdar. The 21-year old BKSP student clocked 10.61 seconds to set a new SAF record in men's 100m

It was an unexpected gain for the hosts as Golam Ambia. the experienced sprinter of army, withdrew from the competition with a bad leg injury during the heat. It turned out to be a good omen as Bimal like a true dark horse took the nation by a pleasant surprise with his marvellous feat.

But the saga of our footballers will not fade away so easily. Bangladesh became last in a competition of six teams drawing with the Maldives and then losing to eventual champions Nepal in the second and last group match.

The Sixth SAF Games will remain etched in the :memory for a long time for more than one reasons. From the next meet, which is scheduled to be held in the Indian city of Madras, two years later, the Games will be rechristened as South Central Asian Federation (SACF) Games as two more countries - Uzbekistan and Afghanistan — will join the

Eskaton, Bima post big wins

Sports Reporter

Eskaton Sabui Sangha and Sadharan Bima recorded comfortable wins in

their respective matches of the Milnars First Division cricket league at different city venues yesterday. At the Pallabi Cricket

Ground, Mirpur, Eskaton Sabuj Sangha batted first to rattle up a huge score of 231 for all the ten wickets from 44.2 overs. Opener Biplab topscored

with 73 off 123 balls with the help of six boundaries. Wicketkeeper Mona (Sr) who came at number three scored a bright 53 off 51 balls hitting two fours and a sixer in the pro-

Evergreen's Mamun bowled lion-heartedly to dent Eskaton's hopes of final flourish in the slog overs with a haul of five wickets for 51 runs as the lower order Eskaton batting failed to sustain the tempo set by their predecessors at the

In fact the beleaguered Evergreen bowlers would have been much better off without the 54 extras that accrued on Eskaton's grand total of 231.

Apart from Mamun, Tutan of Evergreen was the other successful bowler bagging three for 48.

Evergreen in their turn could muster 169 for nine wickets with skipper and stumper Azim making 40 from 82 balls. Among other batsmen Asif, with 36 and Shaibal with 25 featured prominently.

Shri Lankan Rajkumara and Shabbir took three wickets apiece giving away 17 and 38 runs respectively.

Colonel made early inroads in Evergreen batting with figures of two for 28.

Eskaton won the match by 62 runs to post their fifth win in seven matches. So far they have collected ten points. Evergreen on the other hand succumbed to their fifth loss and stay at their previous collection of four points only.

BIMA WIN Sadharan Bima registered an emphatic seven wicket win against Dhaka Wanderers Club in day's other match at the eastern strip of the Dhan-

mondi Cricket Stadium. Put in to bat first Wanderers found the going tough against

bowling by the Bima bowlers and managed 119 for nine from the stipulated quota of 45

the only other batsmen to make it to the double figures with 14 and 15 respectively.

and Litu got one wicket apiece. Wicketkeeper Shabbir and

on 76 runs for the first wicket. but Sanchay and skipper Dear

This was Bima's fifth win from seven matches and their tally of points is now ten.

same points from seven matches. Like Bima, they have in the ten team fray.

history books MELBOURNE, Dec 28: Aus-

Boon goes

into Aussie

tralian star batsman David Boon marched into the history books Tuesday as the first cricket Test against South Africa resumed at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, reports

Rain wiped out all but two hours of the opening two days but play got away on time Tuesday morning under grey skies. During the session. which was interrupted for 20 minutes by rain. Boon ambled past a major landmark.

He lifted himself into fourth spot on the all-time Australian run-makers list when he took two runs to advance to 20 just after drinks, advancing past Neil Harvey.

Harvey scored 6,149 runs from his 79 Tests and the two runs to Boon took him along to 6.151 runs, behind only the impressive trio of Allan Border (10,876 runs), Greg Chappell (7,110) and Sir Donald Bradman (6.996).

The match is the first on Australian soil between the two foes since Trevor Goddard's South Africans drew a series one-all in 1963-64

Baggio owes it to Buddhism

ROME, Dec 28: Newly crowned European-footballer of-the-year Roberto Baggio has dedicated his award to the leader of a Japanese lav Buddhist organisation, reports Reuter.

"I dedicate it to Daisaku Ikeda, my master, the president of Soka Gakkai, the Buddhist school which I follow." Baggio said in an interview in Monday's Gazzetta Dello Sport.

Baggio, of Juventus and Italy, was awarded the prestigious European title on Sunday to add to the world title he received from FIFA last week.

He was an easy winner in

the annual poll of European sports journalists conducted by the weekly France Football. The pony-tailed Baggio converted to Buddhism five years

ago. He said he met Ikeda in Japan last summer, describing the meeting as "very important." Soke Gakkai, the lay affiliate

of a Buddhist community set up in the 13th century, backs Japan's Komeito political party. Ikeda has headed Soke Gakkai since 1960. Since then it has established schools, col-

leges and one of Japan's largest art collections. Baggio has reached the top despite rupturing cruciate ligaments in his knee in 1985 when playing for Third Division Vicenza, an injury which threatened to put a premature end to

his career. The Juventus attacker said he has to perform special exercises to prevent further injury problems.

"For eight years I've had to work with weights several times per week, two hours per session to maintain the muscle tone at its maximum. The knee doesn't give me problems but the tendon does. If I lose a bit of tone there is a high risk of injury." Baggio said.

"For eight years I've not known a real holiday I've always have to think of this need. I've even had a gym built at home so as to be able to spend more time with my family."

Hayat, Shah join ICC umpires panel

LAHORE, Pakistan, Dec 28: Two seasoned Pakistani Test umpires Khizer Hayat and Mahboob Shah have been nominated to the international panel of cricket umpires, Shahid Rafi, secretary of Board of Cricket for Control in Pakistan (BCCP) said here Monday, reports AFP.

Rafi told reporters the panel of the International Cricket Council (ICC) will come into force during Pakistan's tour of New Zealand next month.

English umpires Dickie Bird will supervise the three-Test series along with a local umpire.

Ramos makes an appeal

MANHA, Dec 28: President Fidel Ramos in a statement issued here today, called on Philippine athletes to produce the country's first Olympic gold medal at the next Games in Atlanta, reports AFP. However, Ramos also admit-

ted that "today's sports developments programme needs a lot of reworking, not just warming over," in a speech to sports writers at a private party late Monday... The palace quoted Ramos as

saying that "in 1994 we must .. make a strong and committed bid for a historic Olympic gold medal in the 1996 summer games in Atlanta" "My great wish is to have : this Olympic gold medal within

this decade," Ramos, an avid sportsman, was quoted as say-The Philippines best ever

first batsman to hit centuries in debut matches against four different Test nations. He would also become only

the second player after new Zealand's Martin Crowe to hit centuries against seven differ-

bowled over three days, Austr'alia were 140 for three in their

With just two days remaining, the first Test encounter between the two countries since 1970 appears certain to end in

Taylor was left needing to add one more run to his undefeated 63 to reach 1,000 runs in Test cricket during 1993.

The left handed batsman was delighted with his form during a four-hour innings spread over three days because of poor weather.

"I have been moving my feet better and striking the ball well in this innings," Taylor told reporters

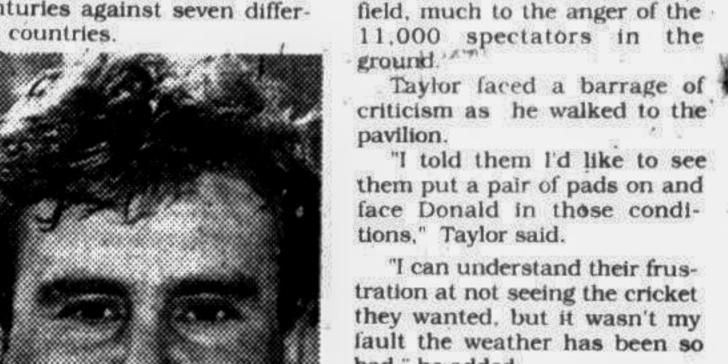
Test cricket, said he had been motivated by criticism in the media which has questioned his place in the Australian side.

"I have scored quite a few years," Taylor said.

but perhaps they've helped to make me a little bit tougher." he The other batsman at the

crease when bad light ended play to minutes before the scheduled close was Mark Waugh on 11.

ent countries.



"I told them I'd like to see them put a pair of pads on and face Donald in those conditions," Taylor said. "I can understand their frustration at not seeing the cricket

from fast bowler Allan Donald.

Moments later, umpires Terry

Prue and Darrell Hair consulted

Taylor and Waugh then ac-

cepted the offer to leave the

about the poor light.

they wanted, but it wasn't my fault the weather has been so bad," he added. The local weather bureau

was forecasting warmer and sunnier conditions on Wednes-

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the first Test between Australia and South Africa today.

AUSTRALIA: (overnight 71 for two M Taylor not out M Slater c Kirsten b Donald 32

S Warne 1bw b De Villiers D Boon b Matthews M Waugh not out Extras (b-2, nb-2 lb-5) Total (for three wickets) Fall of wickets: 1-57, 2-58,

3-127. Did not bat: S Waugh, Border, Martyn, Healy, Reiffel, May, McDermott.

Bowling Donald De Villiers Matthews Cronje 11 0 Symcox

SOUTH AFRICA:

Wessels (captain), Hudson, Cronje, Cullinan, Rhodes, Kirsten, Richardson, Symcox, Matthews, De Villiers, Donald,

Anand going great guns

During this brief passage of

play. Waugh was struck on the

shoulder by a vicious bouncer

M TAYLOR

wash out, the teams were on

the field for only 128 minutes

grabbed the only wicket to fall

during the day when David

edge for 25 in the final over be-

til the evening after rain washed

out the afternoon session but

the players were on the field for

only 39 balls before bad light

ended proceedings for the day.

Boon was bowled off the inside

That was the last action un-

today.

fore lunch.

After Monday's complete

Paceman Craig Matthews



GRONINGEN, Netherlands, Dec 28: The top five ga-

Association (PCA) qualifying tournament ended in draws. with India's Viswanath Anand retaining the tournament lead. reports Reuter. The Groningen tournament,

which is being played to find a challenger for the unofficial PCA world chess champion Garri Kasparov, allows seven players to qualify for the next stage of the championship cycle. Few players with a good position in the tournament are inclined to

Anand retained the lead in typically rapid style, drawing in

opening but the American initiated an early exchange of queens, leaving Anand no

Anand, the number three ranked player in the world behind Casparov and official world champion Anatoly Karpov, remains half a point above his main rivals in the race for the 40,000 dollars first prize.

choice but to offer a draw.

The most eventful battle of the day was an error-prone game between the world's fourth and fifth ranked players, Latvia's Alexey Shirov and Vladimir Kramnik of Russia.

Shirov, 21, who has built his reputation on spectacular attacks, sacrificed his queen in order to attack his opponent's king. The attack was unsound but Kramnik, 18, missed two chances to counter-sacrifice his own queen and win the game, leaving Shirov a draw through perpetual checks.

"I was sure that Kramnik had seen the win - he thought for half an hour on his 20th move," said a relieved Shirov after the game." I just tried to keep a straight face and it

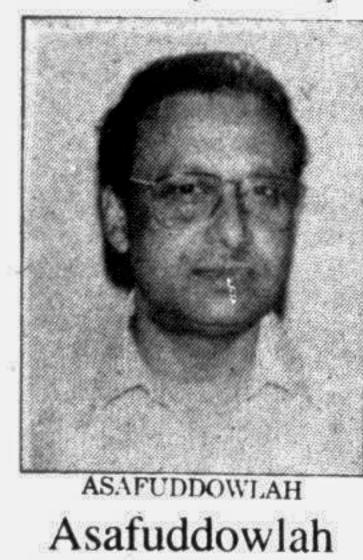
an opportunity to move into a tie for second place by defeating Bosnia's Ivan Sokolov after 49 moves of a Spanish opening. Adams will now have a chance to take over the lead if he can defeat Anand in today's 'ninth round. Adams, 22, shares second

gave England's Michael Adams

old Russian Sergei Tiviakov who drew a six-hour battle against Joel Benjamin of the United States. The PCA qualifying tournament features 54 of the world's

Standings (after 8 games): 1. Anand (India) 6 points. Joint 2. Tiviakov (Russia). Gulko (USA), Adams (England)

Shirov (Latvia), Bareev (Russia) Kramnik (Russia), Kamsky (USA). Nikolic (Bosnia). Kaidanov (USA), Piket (Netherlands) 5.



re-elected SASF president

President of the Bangladesh Swimming Federation, M Asafuddowlah has been re-elected the president of the South Asia Swimming Federation (SASF) for another two-year term, according to a press release issued here in Dhaka by the Bangladesh Water Development Board yesterday.

ming Federation since 1976.

IOA to acknowledge in cash

NEW DELHI, Dec 28: The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) will give cash incentives to Indian medal winners at the SAF games which concluded in Dhaka yesterday, reports PTI.

Addressing a press conference soon after returning here this morning. IOA president B Sivanthi Aditya said a gold winner in individual events will get Rs 10.000, silver will receive Rs 5,000 and bronze Rs

For team events, he said, the amount would be four times the individual award and

Non-title Lewis-Holyfield

bout next year LONDON, Dec 28:A Lennox Lewis-Evander Holyfield heavyweight showdown without any titles at stake could take place next year, Lewis manager Frank Maloney said on Thurs-

day, reports Reuter. An angry Maloney disclosed the plan after the World Boxing Association (WBA) followed the International Boxing Federation (IBF) and refused to sanction a multi-million dollar unification fight between the pair next April

Tve recommended to Lennox and American promoter Dan Duva that Lewis and Holyfield give up their titles, fight a 12rounder and call it the supreme heavyweight fight.

"I've spoken to Duva, American television and a site in America and they are prepared to give it their ultimate backing. "Whoever wins will be recognised as the world cham-

pion anyway, the man the peo-

ple will recognise. After that,

nobody else could call himself champion." Lewis holds the World Boxing Council version of the title. Plans for Holyfield to fight Lewis to unify the world championship have been scrapped after the IBF blocked the bout until Holyfield, the WBA and IBF champion, makes a mandatory defence against top-ranked

Michael Moorer.

distributed equally among the

the accurate and effective

members. The funds for these awards, which would amount to nearly Rs 11 lakhs for the Dhaka games, would be raised through sponsorships and not from the IOA coffers, Adityan

The awards function is expected to be held here after the Pune or Bombay National

Games next month, he said. The IOA chief expressed his satisfaction over the performances in Dhaka but added one could not take the SAF Games lightly any longer as the

other nations were fast catching up. He said he was disappointed over the failure of the Indian teams in football, kabaddi and volleyball and conceded that a reappraisal of India's preparations for the Hiroshima Asian Games next year

would have to be made. IOA's senior vice-president Dr Vijay Kumar Malhotra said it was for the federations concerned not to stake their claim for a berth in the next Asiad when their performance was not up to the mark.

K Murugan, secretary-gen-

eral of the volleyball federa-

tion, who was also present.

immediately announced that his Team would not be going to Hiroshima. Malhotra said additions to and substractions from the list of 15 disciplines identified for the priority category for the next Asiad, could always be made based on their performances in the last Asiad and

the most recent Asian champi-

onships.

The disciplines in the priority category are: athletics, archery, badminton, boxing, hockey (men), table tennis, weightlifting, wrestling, volleyball, swimming, yachting, rowing, equestrian, shooting and kabaddi.

Malhotra said claims for inclusion in the category had been received from judo. kayaking and canoeing and golf Expressing his satisfaction

won five and lost two matches one reason for the fall in the number of golds won was the

always been strong. Indian performance, particu-

Don't cancel it' LONDON, Dec 28: English fans have appealed to the Football Association (FA) in London not to cancel England's friendly international against Germany

in Hamburg next April, reports Reuter.

the fixture rather than risk any fan trouble in Hamburg. porters Association (FSA) has written to FA chairman Sir Bert Millichip asking the FA to consider bringing the match for-

scrapping it.

written asking them to look at other options including staging the match on April 19. "Fans are looking forward to watching England face the world champions. It would be a bitter disappointment if the

match was called off."

the game has been launched in conjunction with governmentfunded German supporters organisation German Fan Projects, who have approached their own FA.

The FSA campaign to save

Opener Shafique, wicketkeeper Patwari were the only two Wonderers batsmen to make any headway. Patwari made 22 and Shafique 20. Lipu and Halim Babu were

Ismail was the pick of the Bima bowlers with figures of three for 17 from his ceiling of nine overs. Nakib, Sajjad, Saad

Nayan scored 36 each to give Bima an excellent start putting Kiran with 16 followed the two openers into the pavilion remained unbeaten on ten

each to see Bima post 121 in

40 overs.

Wanderers too have the

over the performance in Dhaka, D. V Bhatia, chef-damission of the contingent, said

reduction in number of total

golds on offer from 142 in the

previous games in Colombo to

117 in Dhaka with the dropping of discipline like weightlifting in which - India has Bhatia said there was marked improvement in the

larly in athletics and swim-

The match, scheduled for April 20, clashes with the anniversary of Adolf Hitler's birthday and is in doubt because of the possibility of trouble from extremist groups.

Initially the FA appeared to

indicate they would pull out of But now the Football Supward 24 hours rather than

FSA spokesman Steve

Beauchampe said: "The FA only

seem to be considering cancel-

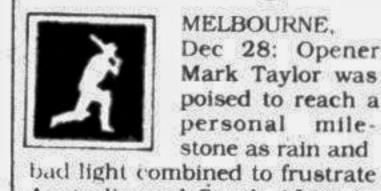
lation. That appears to be the way they operate. We have

Olympic performance was a silver medal in boxing.



South African fast bowler Allan Donald signs autographs as rain again interrupts play during the third day of the first Test between Australia and South Africa in Melbourne yesterday.

Mark Taylor on the verge of history as It only rains in Melbourne



Dec 28: Opener Mark Taylor was poised to reach a personal milestone as rain and

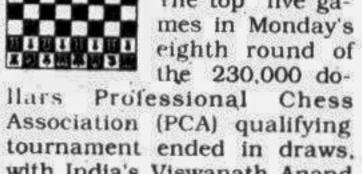
Australia and South Africa in the first Test today, reports At the premature close on he third day at a wet and gloomy Melbourne Cricket Ground. where only 58 overs have been

first innings.

Taylor, who averages 47 in

runs, especially for Australia and I thought I had proved myself over the past four or five "Those comments have hurt

Should Taylor reach his hundred, he would become the



take risks.

only nine moves, and seven minutes against Boris Gulko. 46, of the United States. The 24-year-old Indian accepted Gulko's queen's gambit

worked."

The draws on the top boards

place with Gulko and 20-year-

best grandmasters in an elevenround tournament which concludes on December 30.

Joint 5. Belyavsky (Ukraine).