

Khokon powers Narayanganj

Sports Reporter

Khokon of Narayanganj scored a treble against Kishoreganj as his side along with six more — Barisal, Feni, Pabna, Nilphamari, Sunamganj and Dhaka — deserved their places in their respective zonal finals of the Biman Cup national under-14 football championship yesterday.

In Mymensingh, Narayanganj, powered by Khokon's hatrick, dumped Kishoreganj 6-0 en route to the final.

Hosts Sunamganj thrashed

Moulvi Bazar 4-1 in a match marred with controversy. The losers fielded eight players and left the ground six minutes before the final whistle.

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At Patuakhali, Barisal beat Jhalakathi 2-0.

Mizan and Asad scored once each for Barisal.

At Gopalganj, Dhaka trounced Madaripur 3-0.

Salahuddin netted twice while Mamun was on target once the victors.

Nilphamari registered an im-

pressive 3-0 victory over Dinajpur at Gabandha.

Palash scored twice while Mobarak scored once for the winners.

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The regulation time ended goalless.

Sabatini back to square one



SYDNEY, Jan 11: Gabriela Sabatini, without a tournament win for 20 months, is looking to her old coach

Carlos Kirmy to rejuvenate her waning tennis career, reports AFP.

Sabatini made a successful, if albeit unconvincing, start to 1994 when she wore down Ukrainian Natalia Medvedeva, winning her first round match in the New South Wales Open here 7-5, 5-7, 6-4 in 2 hours 40 minutes on Tuesday.

The swarthy Argentine, a winner here two years ago, will now take on American Kimberly Po, who on Monday ousted American tennis veteran Pam Shriver.

Sabatini's world ranking has slipped to five with her last win at the 1992 Italian Open.

Symbolic of her muddled year 23-year-old Sabatini played musical chairs with her coaches, at times training under Denis Ralston and compatriot Guillermo Villas, before switching back to her long time Brazilian mentor Kirmy.

Explaining her decision after the Virginia Slims championships in New York last November, Sabatini said: "I realize that Carlos had a lot of things which could really help me."

"I played my best tennis when I was with him. My tennis

was very confident, aggressive, that's the king of game he taught me. He showed me that I could do that."

"I got a little tired when I worked with him before, but I realize he can make me a really good player."

But Sabatini is not regretting her experiment with four time Grand Slam champion Guillermo Villas as her coach late last year.

"With Guillermo I learned so much, he knows so much about tennis and he taught me so many details. He was very good for me. I think it was a good idea to work with him for some time."

The problem was that he couldn't travel with me all the time, I wanted someone who could be with me the whole time, but he was unable to do that because he is still playing tennis."

Elsewhere, Petr Korda overcame a "sleepy" opening set, to negotiate a potential hazardous first round match in the men's draw, when he downed Swede Mikael Pernfors in three sets.

Austrian Judith Wiesner

earlier became the second women's seed to fall on Tuesday

losing 6-2, 6-3 to German Barbara Rittner.

Korda, winner of two million US dollars at the Grand Slam Cup in Munich last November, set up a second round meeting with Japan's Shuzo Matsuoka after beating Pernfors, 6-7 (7/4) 6-3, 6-3.

"In the first set I was sleepy on the court. My time change from Perth (Hopman Cup) is

still not working. I need a couple of more days to adjust to the time zone change," he said afterwards.

Korda was anxious about doing well in Sydney, where he has had little success since winning a junior tournament in 1985.

"It's very difficult to play Pernfors, he doesn't look nice on the court, but he's very dangerous and has great experience," Korda said. "It's very difficult to have good timing with him because he plays some strange balls, some top spin, sliced ball and he passes well."

Elsewhere, world No 1 Pete Sampras had little problem eliminating Jonas Svensson 6-4, 6-2, while American Ritchey Reneberg tipped out eighth seed Karel Novak of the Czech Republic, 6-1, 6-3, and in the women's draw German fourth seed Anke Huber fell to Leila Meskhi of Georgia in three sets.

Austrian Judith Wiesner earlier became the second women's seed to fall on Tuesday

losing 6-2, 6-3 to German Barbara Rittner.

Lucky loser Jamie Morgan, coming into the draw for Andrei Medvedev, treating a medial ligament strain, ousted German Davis Cup member Marc Goellner 6-1, 7-6 (7/4) and Czech Republic qualifier Daniel Vacek continued Pat Cash's win-less comeback, winning in three sets.

MAHFUZUR RAHMAN

Wang does it again

BEIJING, Jan 11: China's record-breaking distance runner Wang Juxia has beaten yet another world class field to snap up the prestigious 14th annual Jesse Owens Award, the Xinhua news agency announced here Tuesday, reports AFP.

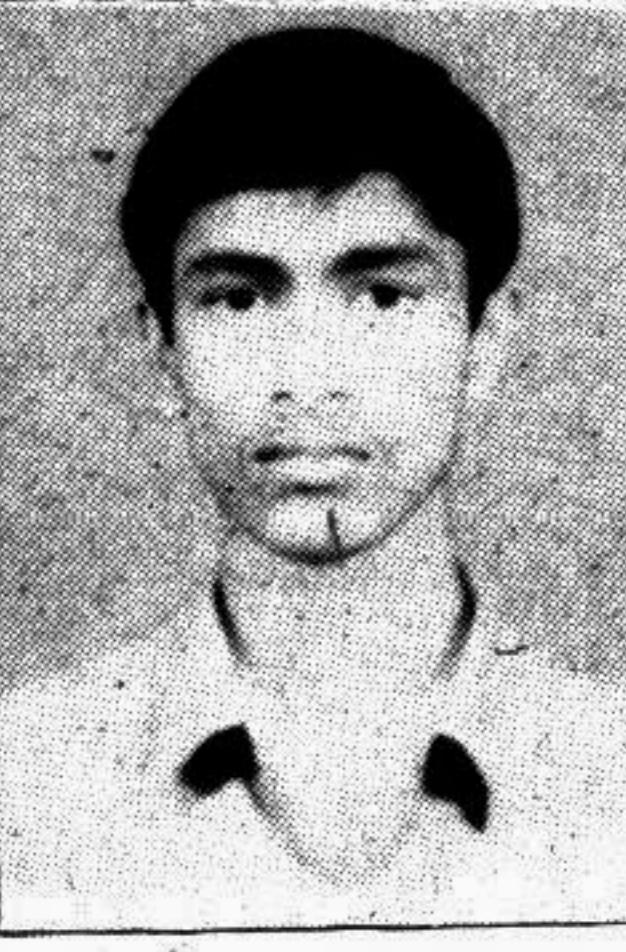
The 21-year-old Wang won the award for a series of astonishing performances in 1993, which began with the women's 10,000 m gold at the world championships in Stuttgart.

At the National Games in Beijing, Wang shattered the world record at the same distance and twice broke the 3,000 m world mark. She also ran the fastest marathon of the year.

In taking the Jesse Owens award, Wang beat nominees including US sprint star Gail Devers and world 1500 m record holder Noureddine Morelli of Algeria.

The award, judged by an international panel, will be especially satisfying for Wang and her charismatic coach Ma Junren.

"Ma's army" of women middle-and long-distance runners burst onto the international athletics scene last year, but not without accusations of drug taking from western runners and coaches.



MAHFUZUR RAHMAN
Imon national
sub-junior
chess champ

Sports Reporter

Syed Mahfuzur Rahman Imon drew with Abu Sufian Shakil in the last round of the fourteenth national sub-junior chess championship yesterday at the chess room of the National Sports Council to emerge the unbeaten champion of the nine round meet.

Imon, the youngster from Magura, finished with eight and a half points, good one point clear of pre-tournament favourite Abdullah Al Rakib who was lucky enough to get the runner-up slot since another contestant, Hossain Arif collected the same number of points. A tie-breaker inevitably followed and in the progressive scoring system Narayanganj's Rakib managed 40 while Arif flaked out, to settle for the third place with 38.5 points.

Opener David Boon top-scored with 67 and wicket-keeper Ian Healy struck 48 from as many balls but their 77-run stand was the only bright spot in Australia's batting.

Once they fell within four balls of each. There the end was near.

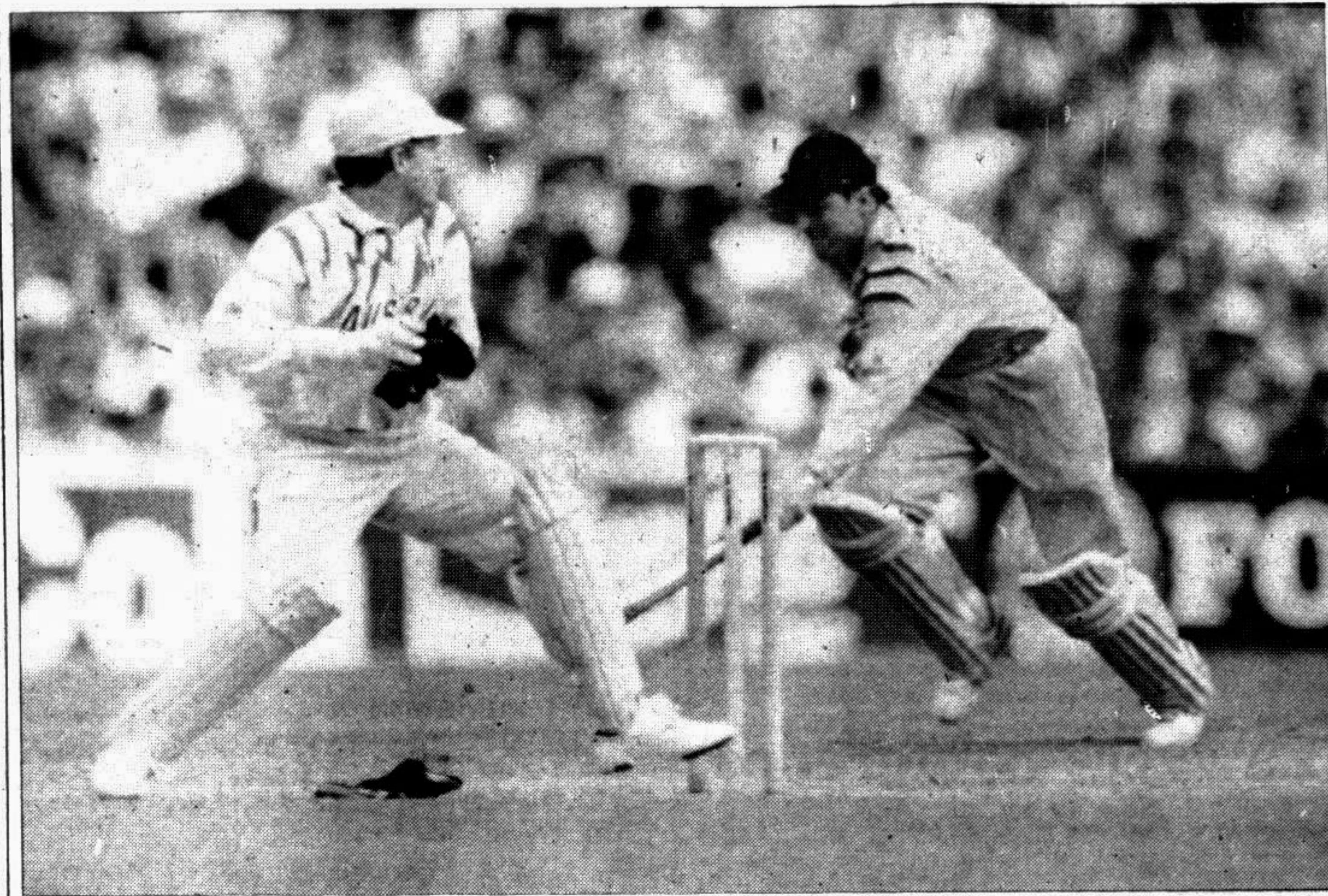
New Zealand's last wicket stand of 30 between Gavin Larsen (29 no) and Richard de Groot (7 no) proved crucial.

Paceman Chris Pringle was awarded the man-of-the-match award for his 4-40 from 9.3 overs, along with a good catch to dismiss stroke-player Dean Jones for 21 and a freakish run-out of young West Australian Damien Martyn for seven.

The instructions were basically the same — to back yourself," Border said afterwards.

"If you want to go over the

Sport



SO WHAT ONE IS HOME: Ian Healy, the springy Aussie stumper is about to aim for the stumps at the non-striker's end after seeing Zelanian skipper Rutherford gain the ground in an attempt for a run during yesterday's WSC tie between hosts Australia and New Zealand at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

— AFP photo

Lucky win for Pegasus

Sports Reporter

Young Pegasus recorded a rather fortuitous win when they beat Spread Eagles by virtue of having lost fewer wickets in a tied match of the Second Division cricket league at the Dhankundi Club ground yesterday.

Chasing 190 for an outright

win, Pegasus finished on 189 for nine wickets. The main men behind Pegasus's incomplete victory quest were Palash and Shiron, who made 53 and 37 respectively.

Although Spread Eagles bowlers and fielders behaved rather prodigiously, giving away as many as 36 extras, skipper Shibly captured three wickets for 20 runs. Sanjy took another two for 34 while a lately employed Tukan took two for 21.

Earlier in the morning spread Eagles were all out for 189, thanks to some useful batting by Labu, who tonscored with 71, Ripon and Madan. Ripon scored 44 while Madan made 26.

Piyal was the most successful among the Pegasus bowlers bagging three for 26. He got good support from Mohammed, who took two for 34.

In the day's other match, played between Lalbagh USC and Warr KC, the former triumphed by 113 runs on the western strip of the Dhankundi Cricket Stadium.

Lalbagh batted first and aided by a string of middling contributions piled up 211 for five wickets only from their quota of 40 overs.

Masum, Suman, Babu and Kalol provided the pickles with scores of 44, 42, 40 not out and 34 respectively with extras.

Wari Krira Chakra in their turn were all out for 98 in 23.5 overs.

Extras deposited 25 runs, the highest contribution from a single source. Annu, who took two wickets in Lalbagh's innings, toiled honestly with the willow in hand, giving his side 20 runs. Yaad with 19 was the other notable run-getter for the losers.

Munna with three for eight and Karmal with three for 25 blew out Wari's hopes of making a match of the tie.

Div II soccer

Sports Reporter

Shantinagar Club recorded a solitary goal win against Avijit Malibagh in the Sonali Bank Second Division football league at the Dhaka Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Shiraj scored the decider for Shantinagar in the 10th minute.

In other match BJMC and Jurain Janata Club shared points as the game ended in a one-all draw at the same venue.

Mizanur Rahman put BJMC ahead in the 34th minute while Biyaka Lusai of Jurain Janata replied in the 66th minute.

Div III soccer

Sports Reporter

Maghbazar Krira Chakra and Basabo Kadamtala Sangsads split points in the Pragati Insurance Third Division football super league at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

Ataur put Maghbazar ahead in the 12th minute of the play while Mahinul Islam scored the equalizer for Kadamtala in the 50th minute.

Krabbe gets no favours



BONN, Jan 11: Katrin Krabbe's athletics club or Monday turned down her request to be registered for regional indoor championships later this month, reports Reuter.

Krabbe, banned until August 1995 for doping by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), had asked the Neubrandenburg Club earlier in the day for the go ahead to run at the event in Rostock on January 22.

Her coach Thomas Springer had also asked the club to put forward the names of teammates Grit Breuer and Manuela Derr who were banned for the same period after the trio admitted to taking clenbuterol in mid-1991.

A reflective Krabbe told a press conference of his fitful progress: "I guess it will come in time, playing a lot of matches, but I don't know how long it's going to take ... it's a lot of travelling to play for one hour."

"I don't have all the answers about the future yet. I can't tell you whether it's next week or in two years, and I'm not sure what's going to make the decision for me it's the way I play, the way I feel, or my ranking."

"I enjoy coming to Australia and I realise there is a chance

that I won't win a match in three tournaments, but there is also a chance that I can get into the draw and maybe I could win one."

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