

## 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 — reserved their places in their respective zonal finals of the Biman Cup national under-14 football championship yesterday.

In Mymensingh, Narayanganj, powered by Khokon's hat-trick, 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. Abul Hossain scored twice to help hosts Pabna post a 2-0 win over Chapainawabganj. 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 Gaibandha. Palash scored twice while Mobarak scored once for the winners. Feni edged Chittagong out when they won 4-2 in penalty shoots out. The scheduled time ended one all. Selim scored for Feni while Uttam equalised for the losers. At Sathkira, the hosts moved into the zonal semifinals, squeezing past Magura 3-1 in the tie-breaker. 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 Kirmayr 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.

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 Kirmayr.

Explaining her decision after the Virginia Slims championships in New York last November, Sabatini said: "I realise 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 realise 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.

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 Richey Reneberg tipped out eighth seed Karel Novacek 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 knee 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.

## Wilander learns harsh truth

SYDNEY, Jan 11: Mats Wilander had another stark reminder of the current health of his tennis when Ivan Lendl took just 59 minutes to win the battle of the former world number ones at the New South Wales tennis open here today, reports AFP.

Lendl revelled in his easiest win over Wilander in 21 tournament meetings, winning a first round encounter 6-2, 6-1 and setting up a second round engagement with lucky loser Australian Jamie Morgan, a replacement for injured Andrei Medvedev.

### BOA chief honoured

The non-journalist employees union of the Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) yesterday hailed the successful holding of the Sixth SAF Games as a very significant event in promoting friendship among the peoples of the seven South Asian countries who represent one-fifth of the human race, reports BSS.

A meeting held under the auspices of the union at the BSS premises in the capital accorded a reception to Gias Kamal Chowdhury, president of Bangladesh Olympic Association for his role in organising the most colourful sports event in recent memory in the capital.

The employees union presented him a memento symbolising the Sixth SAF Games logo. The meeting presided over by Afazuddin, president of the BSS non-journalist employees union was attended by D P Barua, managing director and chief editor as chief guest and A S M Habibullah, chief news editor, Shamsuddin Ahmed, chief accountant and Subal Das Gupta, chief of administration as special guests respectively.

### Milnars league final phase from today

Sports Reporter

The decisive phase of this year's Milnars First Division cricket league begins today.

Eskaton Sabuj Sangha, take on City Club in the inaugural match of the five-team super league at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium while Agrani Bank play lowly PWD in the relegation league opener at the Pallabi cricket ground.

The five teams who will have a go at the league title are: Eskaton Sabuj Sangha, Sadharan Bima, City Club, Wanderers Club and Bangladesh Railway.

The teams taking part in the relegation league are: Agrani Bank, Evergreen, Lalmatia Club, PWD and Shantinagar B.

The last time the pair met, Wilander lifted the world No 1 crown from Lendl after overcoming him in five sets to win the 1988 US Open final.

This time round it was in the humble surroundings of a first round match in the NSW Open with Wilander getting into the main draw with the aid of a wild card.

"It's a little bit strange. As soon as we started playing, points I realised Ivan is quite a lot match tougher than I am and he plays the big points better," said Wilander.

"He still trusts his best shots when it comes to a close point, I tend these days to rush it a bit and try to come to the net, because I don't want to play on the baseline anymore and guys hitting winners all over the place."

Lendl, 34 in March and entering his 17th year on the circuit, took his career head-to-head record to 14-7 against the 29-year-old Swede, who is making an attempt to rejoin the circuit after spasmodic appearances, since withdrawing in mid-1991.

A reflective Wilander 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 may be I could win one."

"It changes every day, if I have a good Australian Open then suddenly everybody thinks I'm back, that's what I'm hoping for."

Wilander said he came back to the tour because he missed playing regular tournament tennis.

### WTA's top 20

ST PETERSBURG, Florida, Jan 11: The top 20 women's tennis players, according to rankings issued by the Women's Tennis Association on Monday:

1. Steffi Graf (Germany)
2. Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (Spain)
3. Martina Navratilova (US)
4. Conchita Martinez (Spain)
5. Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina)
6. Jana Novotna (Czech Republic)
7. Mary Joe Fernandez (US)
8. Monica Seles (Yugoslavia)
9. Jennifer Capriati (US)
10. Anke Huber (Germany)
11. Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere (Switzerland)
12. Mary Pierce (France)
13. Kimiko Date (Japan)
14. Zina Garrison Jackson (US)
15. Amanda Coetzer (South Africa)
16. Helena Sukova (Czech Republic)
17. Magdalena Maleeva (Bulgaria)
18. Nathalie Tauziat (France)
19. Lindsay Davenport (US)
20. Natalia Zverev (Belarus)

### Women's h'ball

Sports Reporter

Baghmara Sporting Club, Friends Society Club and Brothers Union won their respective matches in the Harkhola Sporting women's club cup handball championship at the Outer Stadium wooden-floor gymnasium yesterday.

Baghmara Sporting Club of Jessore defeated Old Ideals of Dhaka 22-12 in the first match after leading first half 11-9.

Nazmun Nahar topscored with 11 goals for the victors. Friends Society Club of Rangpur outplayed Youth Sporting Club of Rangamati 22-11 in the second match.

Rasheda netted seven goals to lead the charge for the winners, followed by Nasima and Farzana with six and five goals respectively.

Mita, who scored seven goals, topped the losers' tally. Brothers Union of Dhaka mauled Mohammedan Sporting Club of Barisal 21-9 in the other match of the day.

Shahreen Hossain with 11 goals was the top-scorer for Brothers.



Action from a match in the Harkhola Sporting women's club cup handball championship yesterday — Star photo Amran Hossain

## 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.

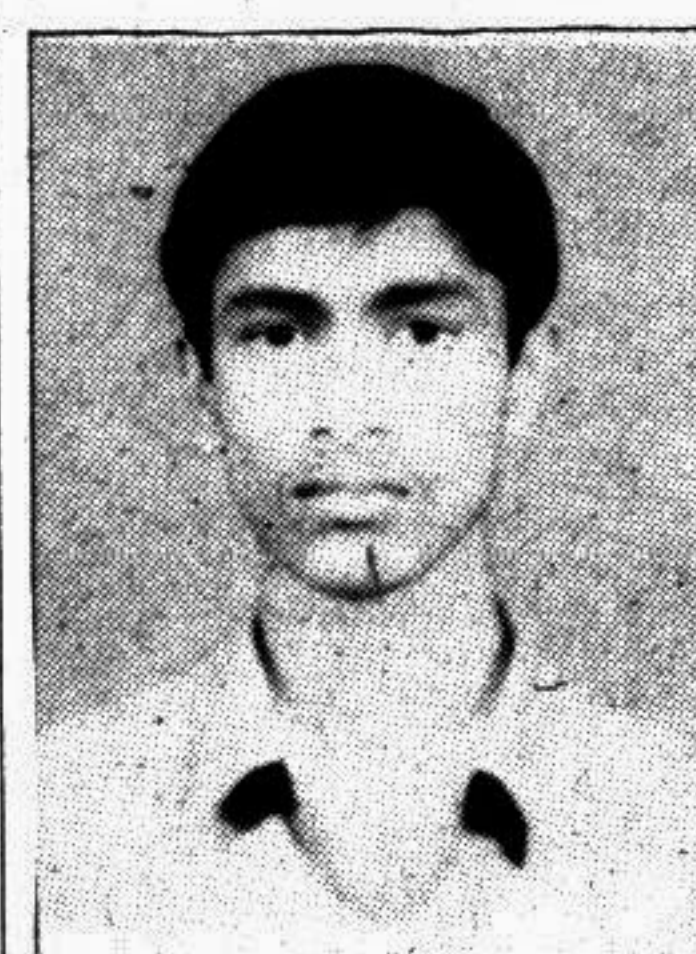
The 21-year-old Wang won the award for a series of astonishing performance in 1993, which began with the women's 10,000 m gold at the world championships in Stuttgart.

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 Nouredine Morceli 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, a 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.

Abu Sufian Shakil, Yanur Rahman Royal of Jhenidah, Aliullah of Chittagong and Najmul Huq finished fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh positions respectively with varying degrees of 'injustice' since they all got six and a half points each.

Sixty-six players took part in the nine-round Swiss league system meet that got underway on January 3.

### ROLL OF HONOUR

- 1980 — Sayeed Ahmed Sohail
- 1981 — S M Jaber
- 1982 — Idris Ali
- 1983 — Syed Wahidul Islam
- 1984 — Syed Iqbal Rakib
- 1985 — Not held
- 1986 — Reefat Bin Sattar
- 1987 — Ziaur Rahman
- 1988 — Syed Ruhul Kabir Shipu
- 1989 — Reefat Bin Sattar
- 1990 — Syed Ruhul Kabir Shipu
- 1991 — Syed Ruhul Kabir Shipu
- 1992 — Shawkat Hossain Pallab
- 1993 — Shawkat Hossain Pallab
- 1994 — Syed Mahfuzur Rahman



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

## Kiwis rarify SA chances

SYDNEY, Jan 11: New Zealand virtually clinched a place in the one-day cricket finals after defeating Australia by 13 runs in a thriller here on Tuesday night, reports AFP.

Chasing the Kiwis' total of 198 for nine, Australia rarely looked in the hunt and were dismissed for 185 in 48.3 overs.

The win puts New Zealand on seven points from six games, one point behind Australia, and only two enormous wins by South Africa (on three points) in their last two matches can get the republic into the finals at the end of the month.

In the epic second Test against South Africa here last week Australia crumbled to be all out for 111 in their second innings when only 117 were needed for victory.

Captain Allan Border's call for his players to back themselves more in such tight situations fell on deaf ears as Australia slumped to 87 for five in the 30th over against accurate bowling.

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 Groen (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

top then do it, but use a bit more of a common sense approach."

"I think you have to give them credit, they bowled very well."

New Zealand skipper Ken Rutherford said the win was a result of applying constant pressure on the Australians.

"If you keep up the pressure the batsmen will get out," he said.

"Chris Pringle loves playing against Australia and he has always performed well at the death."

Martyn was out by a fraction thanks to a left foot kick from Pringle in his follow through.

Third umpire Ian Thomas flashed the red light from the grandstand after watching a television reply and Australia were on the way out at 87 for five.

The Australians had the Kiwis 40 for three in the 15th over after Rutherford won the toss but the skipper and Greatbatch hammered 89 runs in 61 minutes to set the basis for a daunting total.

Warne got Greatbatch with a flipper that rapped the Kiwi on the pads and triggered a collapse of 39 for six in 13 overs.

After Warne deceived Shane Thomson (one), Border snared Rutherford and wicketkeeper Tony Blair (nll) in the same over and McGrath grabbed Chris Cairns (16 with a six) and Chris Pringle (one).

New Zealand take on South Africa in a day-night one-day match in Perth on Friday, with Australia playing South Africa there on Sunday.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the World Series Cup limited-overs cricket match between Australia and New Zealand today.

**NEW ZEALAND:**  
B Young b Waugh 19  
R Latham c Taylor b Reiffel 0  
A Jones lbw b McGrath 6  
K Rutherford c Healy b

Border 65  
M Greatbatch lbw b Warne 50  
S Thomson st Healy b Warne 1  
C Cairns c Healy b McGrath 16  
T Blair c and b Border 0  
G Larsen not out 29  
C Pringle b McGrath 1  
R de Groen not out 7  
Extras: (b-3, b-1) 4  
Total: (9 wickets-50 overs) 198

Fall of wickets: 1-4; 2-13; 3-40; 4-129, 5-131, 6-152; 7-152; 8-164; 9-168.

**Bowling:**  
McGrath 10 3 29 3  
Reiffel 9 0 33 1  
Waugh 7 0 38 1  
May 10 0 43 0  
Border 4 0 24 2  
Warne 10 1 27 2

### AUSTRALIA

M Taylor run out 1  
D Boon b Pringle 67  
D Jones c Pringle b De Groen 21  
De Groen 15  
M Waugh b Pringle 7  
D Martyn run out 1  
A Border b Thomson 48  
I Healy c Blair b De Groen 3  
P Reiffel lbw b Pringle 9  
S Warne b Cairns 9  
T May not out 4  
G McGrath b Pringle 4  
Extras: (w-4, nb-1) 185  
Total: (all out-48.3 overs) 185

Fall of wickets: 1-1; 2-38; 3-76; 4-86; 5-87; 6-164; 7-166; 8-171; 9-180.

**Bowling:**  
Pringle 9.3 0 40 4  
De Groen 10 0 34 2  
Cairns 9 2 18 1  
Thomson 9 1 40 1  
Latham 2 0 10 0  
Larsen 9 0 43 0

Result: New Zealand won by 13 runs  
Man-of-the-match: Chris Pringle (New Zealand)

### STANDINGS

Standings in the World Series Cup cricket tournament after Tuesday's match (tabulate under played, won, lost, no result, points):

Australia 6 4 2 0 8  
New Zealand 6 3 2 1 7  
South Africa 6 1 4 1 3

## 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 Dhanmondi 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 Shipon, who made 53 and 37 respectively.

Although Spread Eagles bowlers and fielders behaved rather prodigally, giving away as many as 36 extras, skipper Shipon captured three wickets for 20 runs. Sanjay 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 Lahu, who topped 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 Warf KC, the former triumphed by 113 runs on the western strip of the Dhanmondi 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 Kallol provided the pickles with scores of 44, 42, 40 not out and 34 respectively with extras adding another 28 runs.

Warf's Annu figured prominently among the beleaguered bowlers, taking two wickets for 12.

Wari Kiria 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 Kamal with three for 25 blew out Warf's hopes of making a match of the tie.

## Div II soccer

Sports Reporter

Shantinagar Club recorded a solitary goal win against Avijatrik 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 Lusal of Jurain Janata replied in the 66th minute.

## Div III soccer

Sports Reporter

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

Atan put Maghbazar ahead in the 12th minute of the play while Mahmudul scored the equalizer for Kadamtala in the 50th minute.