Last year's champions Faridpur were huddled off the competition but runners-up Dhaka set up a

clash with hosts Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protishthan (BKSP) in the final of the 13th national youth hockey championship.

Former champions BKSP made the most of the familiar conditions when they deposed reigning champions Faridpur with a two-nil victory in one of the two semifinals played at the BKSP ground, at Jirani, Savar.

In an exciting ding-dong affair BKSP led the first half one-

Cheered on by their supporters on a ground as familiar as one's own backyard. BKSP boys launched into offensive right from the bully.

Pitted against powerful opponents in an alien atmosphere, Faridpur took time to settle down for obvious reasons but once they found their bearings the match deviated from the tournament's hithSports Reporter

erto prescribed path of embarrassingly big victory margins for the winners and painful absence of any contest.

Both teams went for swift raids at each other's citadel but at the 19th minute a defence lapse saw Faridpur receive a severe body blow from which they never really recov-

Fazle Noman, the hard working BKSP winger, gave his side the much desired lead 16 minutes from the short whistle amidst the wild cheers of the partisan crowd (1-0).

BKSP, tipped as the hot favourites for this year's hastily and rather unceremoniously arranged meet, sealed the fate of the match when inside for-(2-0).

The goal wrought havoc with Faridpur's resilience and resistance as they flaked out slowly, seemingly reconciled to their fate.

Although the second semifinal saw the ouster of one of last year's finalists. Dhaka District Sports Association (DSA), the runners-up of the

12th nationals, battled their way to Thursday's finale beating Dhaka Education Board (DEB), another Dhaka outfit, by the odd goal in three.

Here also the winners led the first half one-nil.

Tareq Adil was winners' hero, finding the mark twice in a pacy, exciting session of hockey.

Dhaka went ahead quite early when Tareq sounded the board 17 minutes into the match (1-0).

He doubled the margin 20 minutes later [2-0].

Far from being swayed to submission by these quick reversals. DEB stepped on the gas and went all out for equaliser. Instead of opening the gates for more goals against them, the boys of the DEB actually pulled one back when Din Islam Babu flicked the ball home with the final whistle ten minutes away (1-

take on hosts BKSP in the final of the 13th national youth hockey championship tomor-

ward Shamsuzzaman sounded the board in the 56th minute

Winners Dhaka DSA will

Bangladesh seeded second

ICC Trophy from Saturday



NAIROBI, Feb 8: Cricket teams from afar afield as Argentina, Denmark and Fiji are

gathering in the Kenyan capital Nairobi for the fifth International Cricket Council (ICC) associate members' tournament opening on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Twenty teams are taking part, playing 75 matches of 50 overs a side over three weeks in the biggest tournament yet for the minnows of the cricketing

The three top finishers will win places in the next World Cup. Previously only the winner joined the nine Test-playing na tions in the tournament, the next to be hosted by the Indian subcontinent in 1995.

"Now that three countries go forward to the World Cup, the tournament in Nirobi has so much importance," commented Robbie Armstrong, secretary of

the organising committee.

Zimbabwe have run out easy winners thrice previously, but their 1990 Holland success thrust them into the ranks of the Test-playing nations. In their absence, the tournament lacks a clear favourite.

Holland, runners-up in 1990 and 1986, are the top seeds. But behind them are eight other teams with strong claims to one of the three World Cup places.

Second seeded Bangladesh have impressed in pre-tournament friendlies, including a sixwicket victory over fourth seeded Bermuda.

The Bermudans and their Caribbean style of cricket cannot be discounted despite struggling to score runs early in their innings. Their middleorder has some powerful hitters including Noel Gibbons who has played in all four previous ICC tournaments.

Hosts Kenya are third seeded

and have the advantage of playing on familiar grounds and at altitude -- Nairobi is 1,800 metres (6,000 feet) above sea level and have a strong batting line-up that includes three brothers.

The US and Canada boast teams with strong West Indian influences, while the three countries who are playing in the tournament for the first time Namibia, the United Arab Emirates and Ireland, all have experience against strong opposition.

Group A: Holland, Papua New Guinea, Ireland, Malaysia, Gibraltar

Group B: Bangladesh. United States, United Arab Emirates, Argentina, East and Central Africa.

Group C: Kenya, Canada, Namibia, Singapore, Israel.

Group D: Bermuda, Denmark, Fiji, Hong Kong, West

First NZ-Pak Test on Thursday



AUCKLAND, Feb 8: New Zealand opening batsman Blair Pocock and Pakistan spinner Mushtag Ahmed

both passed fitness examinations Tuesday and are likely to play in the first cricket Test, which starts Thursday at Eden Park, reports AP.

Sakib sinks Shantibagh **Sports Reporter**

Sakib took six wickets for ten runs only as Rajdhani High School crushed Shantibagh High School by 78 runs in day's lone Nirman Schools cricket tie on the western strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Chasing a monumental victory target of 209 in 35 overs Shantibagh were all out for 130 in 23.5 overs.

Habib was the notable scorer for the losers with 33. Earlier, Rajdhani batted first and were all out for 208

in 34.4 overs. Morshed topscored with 32

not out. Taslim and Biplob chipped in with 27 each. Liton bagged three for 28 among the luckless Shantibagh

bowlers. Hassan took two for

Dhanmondi International School got walkover against Nawabpur High School in day's other match scheduled to be held on the western strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket

Stadium as Nawabpur failed to

Div Two cricket

turn up.

Rayer Bazar, Evergreen and Nirman Schools XI recorded wins in their respective matches of the Second Division league at different city venues yesterday.

On the eastern trip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium (DCS), Lalbagh's Kamal captured six wickets for 34 runs but failed to stop Rayer Bazar marching to a four-wicket win.

Rayer Bazar scored 132 for six wickets in 36.5 overs as Lalbagh batting first were all

out for 131 in 37.1 overs. Zahir was Rayer Bazar's most successful bowler claiming four for 20.

Mirpur Nabin KC outclassed Evergreen by eight wickets at the Mirpur Pallabi Cricket ground.

Evergreen batted first and made 90 for seven while Mirpur posted 91 for two wickets.

At the Dhaka Stadium, Nirman Schools beat Azad Boys by four wickets.

Azad batted first and collected 144 for eight while Nirman made 146 for six in 37.5 overs.

painful lower back injury while making 95 for a New Zealand XI against the tourists in

Physiotherapist Mark Plummer worked with Pocock on Tuesday and was satisfied with his recovery.

unless something drastic happens overnight he will be playing," said New Zealand team manager Geoff Howarth

slightly more complicated, and depends on whether the player or the team management have read his fitness more accurately.

Since then he has been restricted to light bowling and

Tuesday and Pakistan coach Intikhab Alam cheerfully pronounced him "almost certain"

Pocock was struck by a

"As far as I'm concerned,

workout in the nets on

Mushtag's situation is

Mushtaq hasn't played since he bowled four overs in the one-day tour opener at Hamilton nine days ago. Medical tests then revealed a tiny fracture at the base of his back.

normal stretching exercises, but nothing strenuous.

Hamilton a week ago.

Mushtag had a 45-minute

Mushtag himself fell short of complete confidence.

Rather than giving a verbal thumbs-up on the state of his back, he held his hand out, palm down, and gave it a 50-50 wobble from side to side.

Pakistan won't name their team for the Test until shortly before play starts but five batsmen are considered certainties - opener Saeed Anwar, fellow left-hander Asif Mujtaba, captain Salim Malik,

Inzamam-ul-Haq and Basit Ali. The other opener will probably be the attacking, but erratic Aamir Sohail. He also of-

fers some handy left-arm spin. First choice wicketkeeper Rashid Latif will play, while new ball stars Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis will be backed up by either Ataur Rehman, Ashfaq Ahmed or Amir Nazir, along with

Mushtaq. New Zealand will rely on a four-pronged fast-medium attack of Danny Morrison, Chris Cairns, Simon Doull and Richard de Groen, with some offspin backup, if needed, from Shane Thomson.



Bill Ruel of Laguna Hills, California buys a one-of-a-kind Olympic T-shirt for 5,000 Norwegian krones (US 72 dollars) from a vendor in Lillehammer on Feb 7. The shirt shows the number five indicating the number of days before the start of XVII Winter Games. - AFP photo

Sport Mother's reaction

CHANDIGARH, Feb 8: "Mere Kapil ki tapasya ka phal hai" (this is the fruit of my Kapil's hard work) - this was how the superstar's mother Lajwanti Nikhanj reacted soon after his becoming the highest wicket-taker in Test cricket. reports PTI.

"I am grateful to the Almighty for bestowing his blessings on my son to enable him to bring name and fame to the country and inscribe his name in the history of world cricket in letters of gold," she said with tears of joy in her eyes. She then fumbled for words with emotion getting the better of her.

Mamma Nikhanj along with her other two sons, Bhushan and Ramesh, and other family members kept glued to the TV set praying for 'our Kaku's feat'. And the moment he struck in Ahmedabad. His mother thanked God with folded hands and her head bowed in reverence while other members of the family hugged her, danced around and offered sweets to each other and a few guests present for the big occasion.

A number of youngsters rushed to the Sector 16 Cricket Stadium where Kapil Dev had started his cricketing career and performed 'Bhangra' (dance).

Gregs, Winners post victories

Sports Reporter

Title-aspirants The Gregs Club and Dhaka Winners Club careered to comfortable wins in their respective engagements of the Partex First Division basketball league at the Outer Stadium woodenfloor gymnasium yesterday.

In the day's first match. league-leaders Gregs stretched a fairly combative first half difference of 37-27 to a yawning final score of 96-44 against the hapless Hornets, who to their horror found two irrepressible scorers in Amy and Apu, principal accumulator of the bulk of Gregs' points with personal contributions of 30 and 24 respectively.

Gregs now have won all seven matches and stay atop the points table with 14

Suman and Arup of Hornets paid home rather poorly with

12 and 11 respectively.

encounter of the day. Winners registered a 76-63 win against Winners, who recorded

In the more competitive

their sixth win in seven matches, yesterday led the first half 33-24. Eagles raised their game in the second half quite appreciably and trailed their fancied

opponents by just four points but Winners still managed to ward the resurgent Eagles off. Toufique led a gallant Eagles fightback with a haul of

17 points to his credit while Kabir deposited another 12. For the victorius Winners Tanu topped with 16, followed by a heavier Asif, who being forced to dash to the court

from office, did well to chip in

with 15. Winners chase Gregs hot on the heels with 13 points from seven matches.

Tofazzal boys' singles champ

Sports Reporter Tofazzal lifted the boys' singles title of the M A Jabbar memorial tennis tournament beating Omar 6-2, 6-2 at the Engineers' Club court yester-

The semifinal encounter of the inter-club event between Engineers' Club and Gulshan Club was in progress at the time of writing this report.

Int'l Jr tennis from Feb 22

Sweden and Austria will take part in the eighth Bangladesh international junior tennis championships to be held at the National Tennis Complex here from February 22 to 26, reports BSS.

Sweden will send one boy Maciej Nierzwicki - to play in the boys singles. Austria will send three boys for boys events of the five-day

tournament, a regular under-

18 event of the International

Tennis Federation organised

Bangladesh Tennis Federation. The Austrian boys are: ingo Neumuller, Andreas Leber and Axel-Diester Wolfmayr.

Mariners TT

Victoria Sporting Club (Green) reached the Women's team event final of the Druti Paribhan Sixth Mariners table tennis tournament defeating Wari Club by straight 3-0 sets at the Dhanmondi wooden floor gymnasium yesterday, reports UNB. Molly beat Apu by 21-10,

21-6. Rosy defeated Sweety 21-11, 21-10 while Molly and Rosy pair overcame Apu and Sweety pair 21-8, 21-14 in the women's team event matches.

Indian all-rounder Kapil Dev waves to the crowd after capturing his 432nd wicket, that of Shri Lanka's Hashan Tillekeratne.to eclipse Sir Richard Hadlee's Test-wicket haul of 431 during the third and final Test between India and Shri Lanka in Ahmedabad yesterday. - AFP photo

Profile of a low-profile bowler

ing the magnificent career of cricket's most successful bow-

Tuesday.

8: While statistics often conceal more than they reveal, they do full justice in recall-

ler, Kapil Dev, reports AFP. The 35-year-old Indian allrounder had assured himself of a place in cricket's Hall of Fame long before he surpassed New Zealander Sir Richard Hadlee's 431-wicket haul here

Kapil's brilliant 15- year career is littered with broken records and unprecedented feats that confirm his status as one of the game's all-time

Test cricket apart, the pro-

lific seamer is also the most

successful bowler in one-day

internationals with a tally of 248 wickets. That he has sent down more deliveries in Test cricket than any other bowler -27,506 before the start of the third Test here against Shri Lanka - and played more Tests (130) than anyone except Australian captain Allan Border is a tribute to Kapil's

Born on January 6, 1959, Kapil has not missed a Test match due to injury since making his international debut in

ighted for Indian bowler Kapil

Dev, who passed the New

Zealander's Test bowling tally

to become the world's most

prodigious Test match wicket-

Kapil Dev snatched the world

record off Hadlee by taking his

432nd Test wicket against

Shri Lanka during his 130th

"It's a marvellous perfor-

mance, although in some ways

it's sad. It's a very special mo-

ment for Kapil Dev and for

world cricket and we should

enjoy the moment for Kapil as

well," Hadlee told New

Hadlee is now retired and is

The New Zealander said the

fact half of Kapil's wickets had

come from the unforgiving

batting strips of the Indian

sub-continent was a tribute to

"I'm enjoying the moment

The New Zealand pace

bowler, who took his Test

wickets in just 86 matches.

said he had not originally re-

his fitness, skill and stamina.

for him," Hadlee said.

Zealand television.

a cricket commentator.

The 35-year-old all-rounder

taker, reports Reuter.

Test match.

WELLINGTON.

New Zealand, Feb

8: A sad Sir Ric-

hard Hadlee said

today he was del-

Hadlee sad, surprised

physical endurance and

Faisalabad in October 1978. And he would have played . 130 matches on the trot if he

the dusty Pakistani town of

had not been dropped for one

Test in 1984 for playing what

the then-captain Sunil Gavaskar and the national selectors thought was a rash stroke. Rated as one of the game's great all-rounders, Kapil has been equally prolific with the

The youngest player ever to achieve the double of 1.000 runs and 100 wickets at the age of 21 Kapil is the only allrounder to score more than 5,000 runs and claim 400 wickets.

Kapil adjusted superbly to the slow, grassless wickets in India - any fast bowler's nightmare - having realised early in his career that movement off the seam and in the air was more beneficial than hurling the ball at express

Half his 130 Tests have

been played at home where he

has picked up 219 wickets as compared to 213 abroad. His best series at home was against Asif lqbal's Pakistanis in 1979 when he claimed 32 wickets in six Tests. Abroad. his best tally was 25 in five

Tests in Australia during the 1991-92 season. Kapil inspired an entire

garded Kapil as a threat to his

record, but thought West

Indian Malcolm Marshall

would overtake him until he

as many as 450 Test wickets.

but young Australian leg-spin-

ner Shane Warne was the most

likely candidate to outstrip the

"Probably in 10 years some-

one will go beyond Kapil and

the way that Shane Warne is

going at the moment he could

go beyond what Kapil has done

Hadlee said Kapil could take

retired two years ago.

Indian's record.

generation of Indians, who grew up on the exploits of the famed spin quartet of Bishean Bedi, Bhagwat Chandrasekhar, Erapalli Prasanna and Srinivas Venkataraghvan, to realise that a career could be made by played by the selectors in pit-

something of a joke with captains usually using it to take the shine off the ball before handing it to spinners. India now fields at least three seamers in Tests abroad even four as in Sydney

Till he appeared on the

scene, India's seam attack was

bowling quick.

against Australia in January 1992. While leg-spinner Anil Kumble is the only quality spin bowler in India, a host of seamers like Javagal Srinath Venkatesh Prasad, Prashant Vaidya and Bhupinder Singh

step into Kapil's shoes. There are at least three pace academies in India. prompting calls for spin bowling schools as well.

are waiting in the wings to

Kapil has had a less successful stint as captain, winning just four of the 31 Tests India played under him. But he achieved what no

other Indian captain has ever done - lifting the World Cup in England in 1983 after defeating the mighty West Indies in a low-scoring final at Lord's

India's other superstar Sunil Gavaskar is part of cricket folklore, although Kapil insists the dispute was a creation of the sensation-seeking media. The game of musical chairs

ting one against the other fuelled the feud. Kapil took over from Gavaskar after a humiliating 3-0 defeat in Pakistan in 1982, but the little master was back

Indies thrashed India in 1983 by a similar margin. Kapil returned as captain when Gavaskar voluntarily stepped down in 1985 and stayed on until 1987 when

India failed to reach the World

at the helm when the West

Cup final at home. A distraught Kapil, who has played under eight captains including juniors like Krish Srikkanth, Ravi Shastri and Mohammad Azharuddin, wanted the job back in the twilight of his career, but was ignored by the selectors.

Maybe, it wasn't a bad decision after all, for Kapil was left alone to concentrate on realising the bowler's ultimate dream.

Now that he has reached the peak, all India is fervently praying he carries on for several more years. For they may never see another like him

His running feud with MILESTONES

Highlights in the career of Indian all-rounder Kapil Dev. who became Test cricket's most successful bowler when he took his 432nd Test wicket here against Shri Lanka today:

Test debut: V Pakistan, Faisalabad, 1978 1st wicket: Sadiq Mohammad c Gavaskar Faisalabad 1978 1979 50th: Bruce Yardley lbw Kanpur 1979 100th: Taslim Arif c Chetan Chauhan Calcutta 150th: Chris Tavare c Gundappa Vishwanath Lord's 1982 200th: Andy Roberts bowled Trinidad 1983 250th: Allan Lamb c Ravi Shastri Bombay 1984 1986 300th: Rumesh Ratnayake bowled Cuttack 1989 350th: Javed Miandad c Azharuddin Karachi 1992 400th: Mark Taylor lbw Perth 431st: Don Anurasiri c Azharuddin Bangalore 1994 1994 432nd: Hashan Tillekaratne c Manjrekar Ahmedabad

BOWLING RECORDS

wkts Tests Team Pakistan West Indies England Australia New Zealand Shri Lanka Zimbabwe South Africa Five or more wickets in a innings: 23 times.

Best bowling: 9-83 v West Indies, Ahmedabad, 1983

1979, 10-135 v West Indies, Ahmedabad, 1983).

300-PLUS CLUB Following is the list of the world's leading Test wickettakers after Kapil Dev broke Sir Richard Hadlee's mark today (tabulate under player, country, Tests, wickets, five wickets

10 wickets in a match: twice (11-146 v Pakistan, Madras,

in innings, 10 wickets in match, best bowling): Kapil Dev (India) 130 Richard Hadlee (News Zealand) lan Botham (England) 4 2-22 Malcolm Marshall (West Indies) 6 8-58 Imran Khan (Pakistan) 7 7-81 355 Dennis Lillee (Australia) 0 8-43 Bob Willis (England) Lance Gibbs (West Indies) 309 2 8-38 18 307 17 3 8-31

Fred Trueman (England) Magdalena survives a scare

SIR RICHARD HADLEE

... Shane could be the first to

ret 500," he said.



CHICAGO. Feb 8: Magdalena Maleeva received a big scare Monday before wearing do-

wn Tami Whitlinger 6-2, 5-7, 6-2 in the opening round of the Virginia Slims of Chicago, reports AP. Linda Harvey-Wild, using

strong voileys and passing

versial call in the second game

shots, beat Ros Nideffer 6-3. 6-4. In the first set, Nideffer threw her racket and berated Maleeva lost the sixth game the chair umpire over a line call, drawing a racket violation. after double-faulting, but easily broke back and then held Maleeva, the No 5 seed. serve to end the 2 hour, 5 took advantage of a contro-

of the third set. Whitlinger was within one point of squaring the set at 1-1 when a linesman ruled her return long. · After a courtside meeting

between the umpire and a WTA official, the call stood, and Maleeva was able to hold serve, going up 2-0. Whitlinger's luck ran out in

minute match when her

In the second set, Harvey Wild went up 4-3 only to lose the next two games. the fifth game after twice being within one point of winning the game, slamming a return into the net to trail 4-1.

times.

opponent drove a réturn wide.

Harvey-Wild, a local

favourite from suburban

Chicago, trailed 3-1 in the first

set before winning the next

five games. The ninth and final

game went to deuce seven

"It was then I got mad at myself and really settled down," she said. "I've beaten her all four times I've played her, and I knew I could make a lot of points off her second serve. I think she tries to do a little to much with it.

H'ball results Bangladesh Police qualified for the final of the Phoenix

Insurance handball tournament outplaying Anirban Sangsad 38-15 at the Outer Stadium handball court yesterday, reports UNB. Police, which earned 15

points from six outings, will

take on Bangladesh rifles in

the final on Thursday at 3:30

Rifles, unbeaten with full 15 points from five matches, will however play their last league match against Brothers Union

today. In the day's match. Police dominated Anirban Sangsad during the first half 21 5