

Pallab finishes on top

Sports Reporter

Shawkat Hossain Pallab of Sonali Bank became the unbeaten champion with six and a half points in the qualifying round of the second United Insurance International Masters' (IM) chess competition at the chess room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

In the seventh and final round, Pallab beat Moniruzzaman Moni.

Tanina Parveen of Biman finished unbeaten runner-up while Genius' Aminul Islam took the third spot.

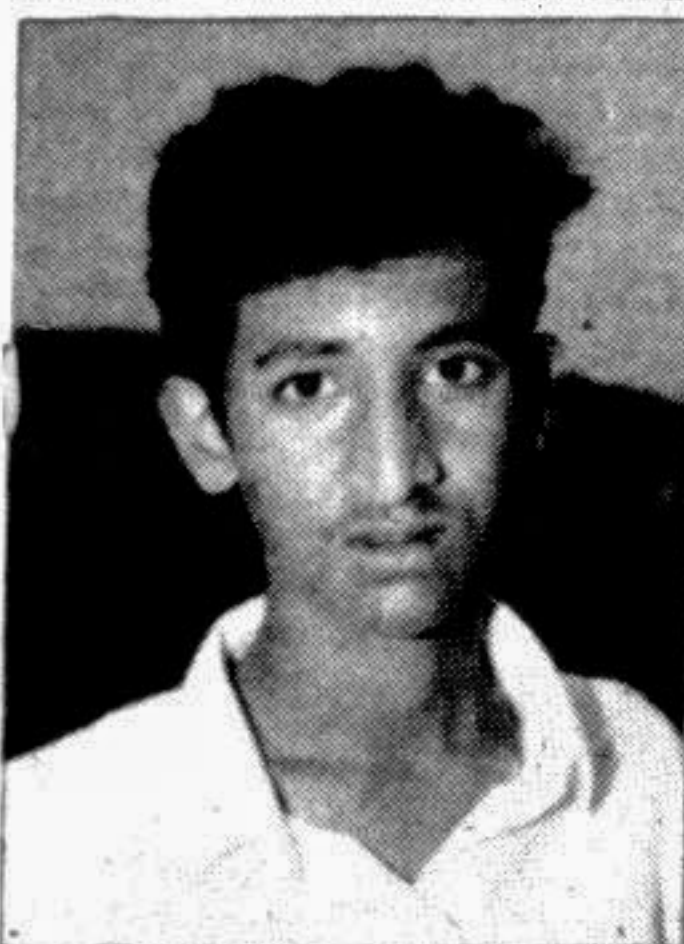
One hundred and three players took part in this Swiss league tournament.

The final round matches will begin from March 20.

Nirman cricket results

Sports Reporter

Opee produced an awesome batting display as Willes Little Flower School outclassed



OPEE... 157

Jatrabari PDB School by 115 runs in one of the Nirman Schools cricket championship tie at the Dhanmondi Club ground yesterday.

A regular league cricketer, Opee scored a marathon 157 with the help of 14 fours and nine sixes as Willes batting first amassed 253 for six wickets from their quota of 35 overs.

Jatrabari were all out for 138 in 33 over to embrace a 115-run defeat.

Government Laboratory registered an exciting win when they beat Dhanmondi International by just four runs in another match played on the western strip of the DCS.

Faruque scored 59 as Laboratory collected 162 for 35 overs.

Junayed took three wickets for 32 runs as Dhanmondi innings stalled at 158 for seven from the stipulated quota of 35 overs.

Nat'l cricket results

Sports Reporter

Six teams - Comilla, Manikganj, Gaibandha, Magura, Patuakhali and Nilphamari moved into the zonal semifinals of the Pepsi Cup 20th national cricket championship at different local venues across the country yesterday.

Excitement will be entertained

NEW YORK, Feb 24: A new World Cup prize has been created for the tournament's most exciting side. It was announced here on Wednesday, reports AFP.

FIFA secretary general Joseph Blatter, speaking trainers and directors from the 24 teams to reach the finals, said if the award 'had existed for the last World Cup in Italy, it would have been the Cameroon side who played the most attractively.'

Blatter added the new point structure for the tournament, with three points for a victory and one for a draw, would favour more attacking play.

Gullit has second thoughts

NEW YORK, Feb 24: Former Dutch captain Ruud Gullit, who said last year he was retiring from the national team, has changed his mind for the World Cup, reports Reuters.

'He will be a member of the squad again,' said Dutch team coach Dick Advocaat at a World Cup workshop here.

Advocaat said Gullit, currently in great form with his Italian club Sampdoria, was keen to return to international soccer and he as coach had wanted him back despite disagreements between the two last year.

'On May 23 he will be one of the 22,' the coach said of the dreaded 31-year-old midfielder.

'He's now in the form of his life and he feels good at Sampdoria. He's very happy and I'm happy too.'

Advocaat said injured striker Marco van Basten's involvement in the Cup was uncertain, however. 'He is still doubtful because we are not sure about his injuries.'

Violence overshadows match as

Khulna move into final

From Staff Correspondent



KHULNA, Feb 24: Khulna moved into final of the 22nd Sher-e-Bangla Cup national football championship defeating Narayanjan 2-1 in second semifinal at the local stadium here today.

The exciting encounter was also marked by violence following some allegedly controversial decisions by the referee which incensed the crowd who became violent. The trouble lasted about an hour and reportedly left fifty persons were injured including twelve policemen.

Among the injured Emily, the Narayanjan coach his wife and some players sustained minor cuts and bruises.

Witnesses claimed the police resorted to baton charge, used tear gas and fired blank shots to disperse the unruly

mob as the clashes spread outside the stadium after the match.

Hosts Khulna, who dominated the match, snatched victory with two spot kicks in both halves.

Sunny converted both the penalties for the winners while Riaz netted the only goal for Narayanjan.

The match was locked 1-1 at the breather.

Khulna created many chances to score.

They had wait till 21st minute of the proceedings before a Narayanjan defender fouled in the danger zone to award Khulna a penalty. Sunny scored from the spot-kick 1-0.

Seven minutes later Khulna deprived of another scoring chance when the referee over looked foul.

Narayanjan leveled the margin, in the 35th minute.

Riaz made a solo dash from midfield and dodged past a couple of Khulna defenders before slotting past onrushing goalkeeper Totam 1-1.

The Narayanjan custodian Milon who came to the rescue on several occasions to thwart Khulna's attacks beautifully chipped as Aslam free-kick in the dying moments of the first half.

Khulna in a desperate move to win the match got their cherished goal in the 65th minute when Narayanjan defender Azmat handled the ball in the penalty area. Sunny again proved his scoring ability converting the second spot-kick in the match (2-1).

Raj, Jagloo, Badal, Jahangir (sr) and Jahangir (jr) of Khulna and Hiru of Narayanjan were cautioned.

Khulna will meet Feni in the final on Saturday.

TEAMS

KHULNA: Totam, Raj, Sunny, Chanchal, Partha, Jagloo, Badal, Rumi, Asad, Aslam, Jahangir (sr) and Jahangir (jr).
NARAYANJAN: Milon, Azmat, Mossarraf, Aman, Montu, Swapan, Zakir, Hira (Rinku) Monir (Sultan), Gaus and Riaz.

Burillo blows Edberg away

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz, Feb 24: Jordi Burillo, rocking his jet-lagged opponent with 120 mph (193 kph) serves, delivered a big upset Wednesday with a 6-2, 6-3 victory over Stefan Edberg in the first round of the Nuven Championships, reports AP.

In beating the world's No. 3 player, Burillo complemented his booming serve with a sparkling return game to win with surprising ease.

The 21-year-old Spaniard had never been ranked higher than last year's season-ending 56th. Entering the match Burillo was 0-5 in singles play this year and ranked 69th in the world.

Edberg arrived Monday night after a flight from Germany, where he won the Stuttgart Open and increased his 1994 singles earnings to \$11,019 and his record to 15-1. He said he couldn't find his rhythm against Burillo.

Div II cricket

Sports Reporter

Ajax, Amarjyoti and Uttara recorded wins in their respective matches of the Second Division super league at different city venues yesterday.

Ajax carved out a massive 155-run victory against DOHS at the Dhaka Stadium.

Batting first the winners piled up 249 for three from the allotted 40 overs. Dola made 61 and Moni remained unbeaten on 50.

DOHS were all out for 94 in their turn from 32.3 overs.

Amarjyoti beat Orient Sporting Club by 47 runs in another match played on the eastern strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Amarjyoti, batted first and were all out for 155 in 40 overs.

Orient were all out for 108 in 34.5 overs.

Unlike the two other super league ties Uttara managed an exciting seven run win against Nirman XI at the Pallabi ground.

Uttara batted first and were all out for 123 but then succeeded in bowling Nirman out for 116 with Rana taking three for 16.

In day's relegation league encounter Azad Boys notched up a huge 105-run victory against Wari KC at the Jagannath Hall ground.

Azad Boys batted first and mustered 164 for nine wickets. Chasing 165 for a win Wari were all out for 59 in 19.5 overs.

Champak leads Madras chess

Sports Reporter

International Master (IM) Zillur Rahman Champak led the points table of the Madras International Masters' (IM) chess tournament in India with a collection of four points after the fifth round matches, according to a Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF) press release issued yesterday.

Champak beat British Grandmaster Stewart Conquest (rating 2495) and drew with Ibrahim Lodhe (IM) of Pakistan.

Mitrakanto Biswas (IM) of India stayed in the second position.

Partex b'ball

Sports Reporter

Angels Club sustained their all-win record when they swamped Eagles Club 98-55 in the Partex First Division basketball league at the Outer Stadium wooden floor gymnasium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 53-16.

Dual was the most successful cager for Angels with 33 points. Siddique and Rehan scored 20 and 14 respectively. Shakel, Imon and Nafi with 18, 14 and 12 were the notable cagers for Eagles.

Angels have earned 18 points from nine matches and Eagles have collected 16 from ten encounters.

Dhaka Winners face Hornets today.

Saudis to part with Beenhakker

NEW YORK, Feb 24: World Cup qualifiers Saudi Arabia will replace Dutchman Leo Beenhakker with a Latin American coach, a team official said on Wednesday, reports Reuters.

'It is 90 per cent certain that he will be from Brazil, 100 per cent from Latin America,' said Saleh Ahmed bin Nasser, head of a Saudi soccer delegation at a World Cup workshop being held by world body FIFA in New York.

'We are dealing with three different names,' said Nasser. 'It will be announced very soon.'

He said the separation with Beenhakker, announced in an official statement on Saturday, was amicable. Reports at the weekend suggested the Dutchman had been fired.

'Beenhakker is a good coach - the only thing was that he wanted to change the style of our players.'

'They used to play in the Brazilian style for more than 20 years. To apply the European style was a major change with the limited time available before the finals,' he said.

Nasser said the Saudi federation had not wanted to take the risk of changing the team's style.

'Otherwise the relationship with Beenhakker was perfect, he left the Kingdom today in a friendly way.'

Asked whether the change, only four months before the World Cup, would affect the Saudi team, Nasser hoped not. 'If this decision had been delayed maybe there would have been more risk than now,' he added.

Saudi Arabia, who have qualified for the first time for the World Cup starting in the United States on June 17, have been through a succession of foreign coaches.

Nasser said Assistant coach Mohammad Kharashi would coach the team until a replacement was signed.



Nancy Kerrigan of USA in action during the figure skating technical programme in the XVII Winter Olympic Games in Hamar on Feb 23.

—AFP photo

Pakistan plunder, NZ wonder



CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, Feb 24: Pakistan, with fast scoring and aided by numerous dropped catches, ended the first day of the third cricket Test against New Zealand today at 334 for seven wickets, reports Reuters.

Pakistan have already won the three-Test series 2-0.

At the close, Basil Ali was unbeaten on 98, his highest Test score, and Akram Raza was on 27 not out.

The tourists rattled off 120 runs without loss by lunch on a true wicket after being sent in by New Zealand captain Ken Rutherford.

Between lunch and tea, New Zealand, led by medium-pacer Simon Doull, picked up five wickets but even while these were falling Pakistan kept up a merry scoring rate.

New Zealand will rue seven dropped catches, especially one from the first ball of the match off fast bowler Danny Morrison.

Rutherford decided to play despite an injured hand, and it was to that hand that Saeed Anwar hooked the very first ball. The New Zealand captain spilled the chance.

In Morrison's next over, Aamir Sohail was dropped by wicket-keeper Tony Blair. 'The catching let us down,' New Zealand coach Geoff Howarth said. 'In this standard

of cricket you can't afford to drop that many and keep the score down to a reasonable total.'

The tiny crowd of just over 1,000 was entertained by some exciting stroke play by first Anwar and Sohail and then by Basil, who hit three sixes off the opening bowlers.

The two left-handed openers took full advantage of their luck and some loose bowling with a succession of flashing drives and leg side shots to the boundary.

Doull broke through soon after lunch by having Anwar caught at slip for 69 with the total on 125. Anwar hit 10 fours and one six in his 94-ball innings.

Shortly afterwards, Sohail on 60 attempted yet another flashing off-side shot but was caught at gully.

Atif Rauf, playing in his first Test in place of injured vice-captain Asif Mujtaba, was starting to settle in when he edged a catch to first slip off Morrison.

Spinner Matthew Hart made further inroads when he bowled captain Salim Malik on 18 with a straight ball. Doull got the fifth wicket of the session when he induced Inzamam-ul-Haq to give a sharp catch at first slip.

Despite losing a succession of partners, Basil did not slow his scoring pace, twice lifting Morrison over the midwicket

boundary and driving Doull for six.

His 50, reached in 65 balls, included five fours and two sixes, he was dropped on 70 and on 97.

Basil and Raza paid no heed to the second new ball, their 50 partnership coming up in 41 minutes.

Doull ended the day of three for 96, while Morrison, who also picked up Wasim Akram's wicket from a short lifter, finished with two for 100.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the first day of the third and final cricket Test between Pakistan and New Zealand today.

PAKISTAN: First innings

Saeed Anwar c Young b Doull	69
Aamir Sohail c Hartland b Doull	80
Atif Rauf c Greatbatch b Morrison	16
Salim Malik b Hart	18
Basil Ali not out	98
Inzamam-ul-Haq c Greatbatch b Doull	5
Rashid Latif c Hart b Thomson	27
Wasim Akram c Greatbatch b Morrison	5
Akram Raza not out	27
Extras: (w-1, nb-3, lb-5)	9
Total: (for seven wickets)	334

To bat: Waqar Younis, Aamir Nazir

Fall of wickets: 1-125; 2-147; 3-159; 4-195; 5-206; 6-254; 7-261.

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Morrison	20	2	100	2
Doull	25	3	93	3
Pringle	30	6	70	0
Hart	9	2	37	1
Thomson	6	0	20	1

West Indies duly go one-up



KINGSTON, Jamaica, Feb 24: West Indies beat England by eight wickets in the first Test here at Sabina Park on Thursday, reports AFP.

Earlier West Indies were within eight runs of winning the first Test on Wednesday despite Graeme Hick leading a valiant but forlorn rearguard fight by England.

Needing 95 to win, West Indies were 87 for two at the close and only rain throughout today final day can prevent England going 1-0 down in the five match series.

Desmond Haynes, with an unbeaten 40 led West Indies attempt to finish the match before the close but Alan Igglesden and Andrew Caddick each took a wicket to peg them back, frustratingly just short of the victory target.

Igglesden trapped Phil Simmons lbw for 12 and Caddick bowled Brian Lara for 28 with the final ball of the day.

The earlier part of the day was dominated by Hick, playing easily his best innings against the West Indies pace attack.

Hick batted for 310 minutes, hitting 12 boundaries, before falling for 96 caught at second slip after attempting to a ball from Kenny Benjamin.

Resuming with England on 80 for four and his own score 24, Hick looked untroubled by the West Indies pace attack as he and wicketkeeper Jack Russell scored at almost a run-a-minute for the first 50 minutes of play.

But then Russell seemed caught in two minds against a short pitched delivery from Winston Benjamin and succeeded only in spooning the ball to Jimmy Adams at back-

ward square leg. Adams later took a catch to dismiss Igglesden to equal the record of Gary Sobers of six catches in a Test against England.

New batsman Graham Thorpe played more confidently than in the first innings but then again fell into his bad habit of playing across the line and was bowled by Benjamin to give the paceman his third wicket of the innings.

Chris Lewis fighting for his place in the Test side, was England's last realistic chance of holding up West Indies, victory charge and he and Hick put on 58 for the seventh wicket.

But then Curtly Ambrose trapped Lewis before for 21 and with Igglesden and Hick falling soon afterwards the result looked inevitable.

Caddick and Devon Malcolm shared a brave last wicket partnership of 39 to frustrate the West Indies bowlers and Malcolm equalled his previous Test best of 18 despite being hit several times by short deliveries from Courtney Walsh who was booed by sections of the crowd.

Walsh finally ended England's defiance by bowling Malcolm with a yorker on his leg stump and Caddick was left unbeaten on 29 after once again displaying a superb Test temperament.

Walsh, who began England's downfall the previous night with the wickets of Robin Smith and captain Mike Atherton ended with three for 67 while Winston Benjamin had three for 56.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the fourth day of the first cricket Test between the West Indies and England at Sabina Park.

ENGLAND: First innings

234 (A J Stewart 70, M A Atherton 55, K C Benjamin 6-66).

WEST INDIES: First innings (407 (K L Arthurton 126, J C Adams 95 not out, B C Lara 83).

ENGLAND: Second innings (trailing by 173, overnight 80-4)

Atherton c Adams b Walsh	28
Stewart run out	19
Smith c Adams b Walsh	2
Hick c sub (Harper) b K Benjamin	96
Maynard c Murray b W Benjamin	0
Russell c Adams b W Benjamin	32
Thorpe b W Benjamin	14
Lewis lbw Ambrose	21
Caddick not out	29
Igglesden c Adams b K Benjamin	0
Malcolm b Walsh	18
Extras: (b-1, lb-3, w-2, nb-2)	8
Total: (all out)	267

Fall of wickets: 1-34, 2-39; 3-58; 4-63; 5-126; 6-155; 7-213; 8-226; 9-228

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Ambrose	24	4	67	1
Walsh	24.5	6	67	3
W Benjamin	20	3	56	3
K Benjamin	18	2	60	2
Adams	2	0	9	0
Simmons	3	1	4	0

WEST INDIES: Second innings (overnight 87-2)

Haynes not out	43
Simmons lbw Igglesden	12
Lara b Caddick	28
Richardson not out	4
Extras: (5-b, 3-lb)	8
Total: (for two wks)	95
Fall: 1-38; 2-87	

Did not bat: K Arthurton, J Adams, J Murray, C Ambrose, W Benjamin, K Benjamin, C Walsh

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Malcolm	5	1	19	0
Caddick	6	1	19	1
Lewis	3	0	6	0
Igglesden	7	0	36	1
Hick	3	1	2	0
Stewart	2.2	0	5	0

West Indies beat England by eight wickets and go 1-0 up in the five match series.

SA win with plenty to spare



DURBAN, South Africa, Feb 24: South Africa outplayed Australia in the fourth one-day international on Thursday to win by seven wickets at Kingsmead, reports AP.

After a brilliant spell of medium pace bowling by man-of-the-match Craig Matthews helped the home side bowled Australia for 154 in 43.2 overs, South Africa overcame that figure with five overs to spare.

It was first time in the last 10 one-day matches between the two countries that the side batting second won, and the victory gave South Africa a 3-1 lead in the series of eight one-days on Australia's two-month tour.

The sides now play three

five-day Tests before the final four one-day matches, which will be day-night affairs.

Matthews produced his career best one-day performance and needed just two spells to make a mockery of the Australian batting, which posted a mammoth 281 in winning the third match in Port Elizabeth. He took four wickets for 10 runs in only eight overs.

Australia built on a hard-working stand between opener David Boon and skipper Allan Border, who shared a face-saving 68 runs for the fifth wicket. The pair came together with Australia totalling on 23 for four.

Border remained unbeaten on 69 with one six and nine boundaries, and also shared a useful 38 runs for the eighth

wicket with Shane Warne (23). South Africa rode to victory on an 88-run fourth-wicket partnership by Hansie Cronje and captain Kepler Wessels.

Andrew Hudson