

Junior booters stun Kuwait

Sports Reporter

The junior booters of Bangladesh earned a memorable solitary goal victory over fancied Kuwait in the sixth Asian Under-16 football championship at the Saudi city of Dahrn on Thursday.

According to a faxed message received here yesterday, promising striker Asaduzzaman scored the all-important goal in the seventh minute of the play when he volleyed home from inside the box.

Bangladesh, who lost 0-3 to hosts Saudi Arabia in their first round robin league match, have bounced back into the race with this win. They will play their last group match against Malaysia today.

Asad, who scored the match-decider amidst cheers from the Bangladesh fans residing in Saudi Arabia, was declared best player of the match by the Saudi Football Association and received a cash award of one thousand real, which is equivalent to Taka 11,000.



ASADUZZAMAN

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TEAM

BANGLADESH: Anwar (sr), Saeed, Nazrul, Pradip, Shahzad, Anwar (jr), Nayan, Azim, Asad, Milon and Don.

Surrey want Waqar fully fit

LONDON, Apr 15: Pakistan paceman Waqar Younis must provide medical evidence that he is fit if he wishes to play for Surrey in the forthcoming English season, reports AFP.

The 22-year-old world number one bowler recently underwent an operation to cure appendicitis and has told Surrey that he can play for them before embarking on Pakistan's tour of Sri Lanka in July.

However, that assurance is not enough for the English county. Who want to know exactly how long he will be out of action.

"Waqar has just come out of hospital in Pakistan," said Surrey chief executive Glyn Woodman. "We've not yet got an accurate report of his medical condition."

"We don't know whether it's going to be four weeks or eight weeks. We've spoken to him and he's very confident, but obviously we need medical opinion."

There have been rumours that Surrey have approached Australian Test paceman Paul Reiffel as a one-season replacement for Waqar, but these have been denied by Woodman.

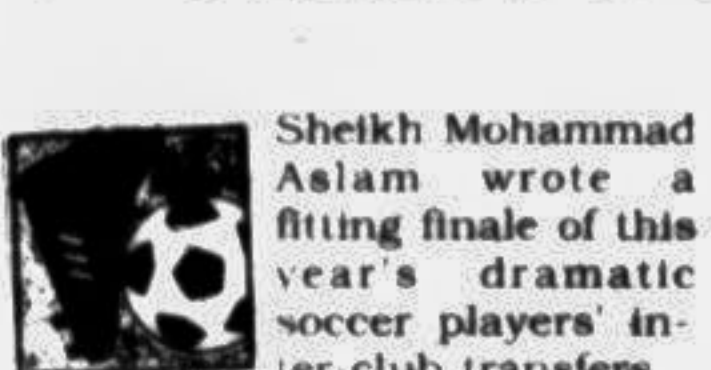
"No approach has been made to any other player," he insisted.

Navy v'ball ends

The annual volleyball championship of Bangladesh Navy concluded at BNS Shaheed Moazzam here yesterday, reports BSS.

BNS Issa Khan won the title, defeating BNS Haji Mohsin by 3-1 sets in the final match of the four-day meet.

Inter-club players' transfers end Aslam returns to Abahani



ASLAM

Sports Reporter

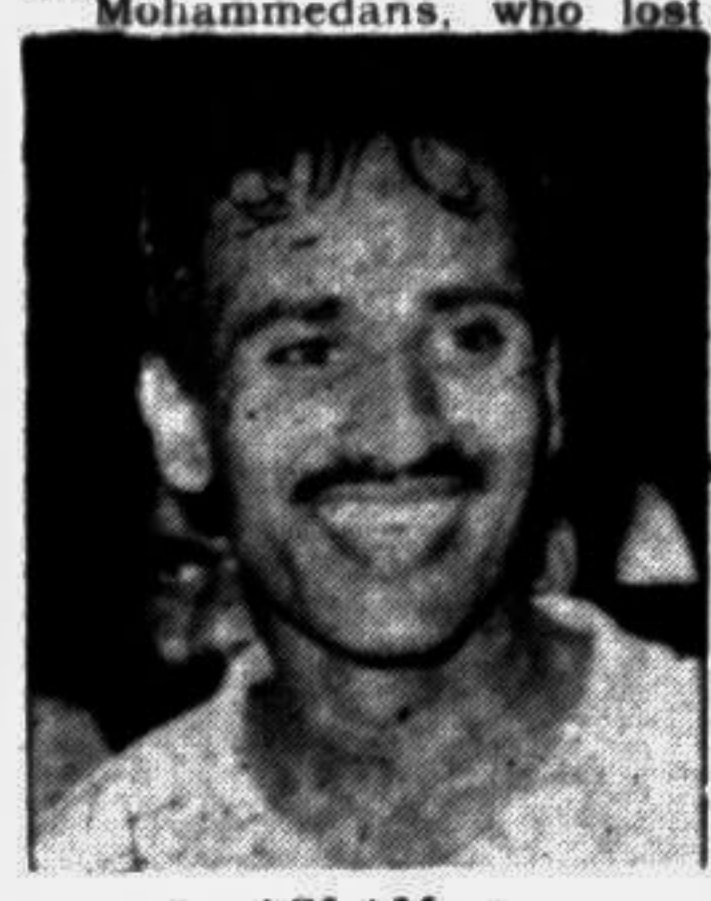
three clubs — reigning champions Mohammedans, Abahani and Brothers, Aslam overnight became the most sought-after player at the advent of the unforeseen desertion of some of the key players from the big trio.

Mohammedans, who lost to Aslam taking his token on commission 38 players changed allegiance on the concluding day. While most of the changes being of the day bordering on number filling low-key affair, Mohammedans signed Syed Hassan Rubel of Rahmatganj while Pappu of the same team switched to Brothers Union, who, too, were badly hit by Muktiyoddha's fatal fello sloop on April 10.

While Muktiyoddha can justifiably boast of having the best team, at least on paper, comprising local players, both Mohammedans and Abahani will have to wait the arrival of foreign booters to find their feet in this year's league battle.

Three hundred and seventy-three players took tokens this year with a record 18 collecting them on commissions.

Three hundred and one players switched clubs in this year's fray.



ASLAM

young striker Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib to Muktiyoddha, tried to retain Aslam for their dear life as Abahani, smarting under the loss of Rumi Rizvi Karim, too, were in hot pursuit of the ageing front-liner.

Confronted by Muktiyoddha's coup, officials of the two big clubs engaged in a race for the best of the offers.

for Aslam and in the end Abahani clearly ruffed, leaving Mohammedans in a tight corner. Already an established businessman Aslam, who has already announced the coming season to be his last year, quickly buried the hatchets to once again don the jersey of the Dharmond club.

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Eng-WI 5th Test begins today



ST JOHN'S, Antigua, Apr 15: West Indies, without injured captain Richie Richardson, will seek instant revenge for their upset loss to England this week when the fifth Test starts on Saturday, reports Reuters.

"You are going to have some bounce," Thomas said. "The fast bowlers will have something to work with for the first five days."

Desmond Haynes, who would normally have assumed the captaincy in the absence of Richardson, is in doubt because of the finger injury which required four stitches in Bridgetown.

If the veteran Barbadian opener does not play the captaincy may go to fast bowler Courtney Walsh.

A decision about Haynes' fitness will not be made until Friday but the West Indies selectors have drafted two uncapped batsmen Stuart Williams and Roland Holder in to their squad.

England are likely to bring back their fastest bowler Devon Malcolm with the perennially disappointing Chris Lewis likely to step down.

They must also decide whether to preserve with Mark Ramprakash, who despite his undoubted talent has consistently failed to deliver.

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SA squad for England tour named

JOHANNESBURG, Apr 15: The 16-man South African cricket squad for the tour of England starting in June was announced on Thursday, reports Reuters.

South Africa will play three Tests on their first official tour to Britain since 1965.

SA SQUAD

Kepler Wessels (captain), Hansie Cronje (vice-captain), Andrew Hudson, Gary Kirsten, Jonty Rhodes, Peter Kirsten, Daryll Cullinan, Brian McMillan, Dave Richardson, Gerhardus Liebenberg, Allan Donald, Fanie de Villiers, Craig Matthews, Aubrey Maryn, Tim Shaw, Pat Symcox.

Bima end Navy's unbeaten run

Sports Reporter

Ireza Kader Guddu struck a late goal to give Sadharan Bima Krira Sangatha a crucial win over Bangladesh Navy in the Sonali Bank office hockey super league at the Hokey Stadium on Thursday.

With this win Sadharan Bima topped hitherto leaders Navy, upping their collection to 13 points from eight matches.

Navy, who lost their unbeaten record, remained stuck at 12 points.

In the day's match, National colour Ireza Kader Guddu converted one of Bima's six short corners, seven minutes before the long whistle.

Sonali Bank also registered a 1-0 win over Bangladesh Air Force in the other match of the day at the same venue.

Ehtesham scored the match-decider in the 60th minute.

Azad clinch independence day kabaddi crown

Azad Sporting Club lifted the Independence Day Kabaddi title, beating Dikusha Sporting Club in the final at the kabaddi court of Outer Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

The crucial final was locked at 14-14 on completion of regulation period and an extra session of ten minutes also left the two teams tied 16-16.

Later, Azad Sporting Club were declared winners by virtue of earning the first points in the match as per tournament's bye laws. The winners led the first half 7-6.

Rahmatullah of Dikusha SC was adjudged the best player of the match and received Ali Sports trophy.

Secretary-General of Bangladesh Olympic Association Bashir Ahmed later distributed the prizes as chief guest.

Law to lead Aussie XI

BRISBANE, Apr 15: Queensland state captain Stuart Law was named Friday to lead an Australian XI cricket team in three one-day internationals against a touring Indian squad, reports AP.

Law will lead a team of talented young players, including test hopefuls Justin Langer and Damien Martyn, against an Indian squad that will be led former star batsman Sunil Gavaskar.

"It's certainly a great honour to captain the side and also good to know on a personal level that you're still being kept in mind (by the selectors)," said Law.

"It's also an exceptional side, which just goes to show how deep the talent in Australia goes."

The Indian squad will be virtually at Test strength and will include current captain Mohammed Azharuddin and star batsman Sachin Tendulkar.

The first match will be played at Manuka Oval in Canberra on April 30 with another game in Canberra on May 1 and the third in Sydney on May 3.

The graduate

JOHANNESBURG, Apr 15: Jacob Malao, a 22-year-old left-arm spinner from Soweto, has become the first graduate from South Africa's cricket township development programme to gain a place on the ground staff at Lord's, the game's headquarters, reports Reuters.

Malao will be part of a group of 20 young cricketers from around the world at Lord's for the forthcoming season.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for me," said Malao. "Ian Botham and Steve Waugh both got their starts on the Lord's groundstaff and I hope I can do the same."

Malao began playing cricket in 1986 during the first year of the South African United Cricket Board's development programme and played against both England A and the Australian tourists earlier this year.

Alli Bacher, managing director of the UCB, said: "Jacob is a dedicated young cricketer who I am sure will reach the top."

Brig Mosharraf win ASEAN golf

Sports Reporter

Bring Mosharraf clinched the title of the Indonesia-Malaysia-ASEAN golf tournament at the lush green course of Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday.

The day-long golf tournament, jointly organised by the Indonesian Embassy and Malaysian High Commission in Bangladesh, was inaugurated by Chief of Army Staff Lt. Gen. M Nooruddin Khan in the morning.

Lt Gen. M Nooruddin Khan, who was also among the 160 participants, became runner-up while the best gross went to Shaukat-Uz-Zaman.

M S Kwon was the ladies' winner.

Pakistan canter past India



SAEED ANWAR ... m-o-m

SHARJAH, Apr 15: Pakistan continued their supremacy over arch-rivals India with an emphatic six-wicket win in the Australasia cup here on Friday, reports AFP.

The World Cup champions bowled India out for 219 after electing to field first in perfect batting conditions, cruising to victory in the 45th over.

Opener Saeed Anwar led the way with a blazing 72 off 69 balls that included eight fours and two sixes against a depleted Indian attack without its two injured all rounders Kapil Dev and Manoj Prabhakar.

The Indians, who have now lost 11 of their 14 matches against Pakistan at the Sharjah cricket stadium, have themselves to blame for the latest debacle.

Fired by a brilliant 73 off 65 balls by opening batsman Sachin Tendulkar, the Indians were comfortably placed at 156 for two in the 31st over before six wickets crashed for the addition of just 41 runs.

The 20-year-old Tendulkar slammed 10 boundaries and three sixes.

But both sides are expected to make the semi-finals at the expense of the unfancied United Arab Emirates.

Pakistani openers Anwar and Amir Sohail revelled on the easy victory by putting on 76 for the first wicket by the 13th over.

The pair tore into India's new ball attack, taking 30 from four overs by newcomer Bhupinder Singh and 25 from five by the more experienced Javagal Srinath.

Off-spinner Rajesh Chauhan raised a glimmer of hope by taking three wickets in his first spell of seven overs to make Pakistan 106 for three in the 23rd over.

Chauhan, who replaced left-arm Venkatapathy Raju here, bowled Sohail for 20 and had Inzamam-ul-Haq caught behind before trapping Anwar leg before.

Pakistan captain Salim Malik and Basit Ali steered their team to safety with a 65-run partnership for the fourth wicket that took Pakistan to 171 for the three in the 36th over.

Malik was removed by Srinath for 25, but Basit carried his team to victory with a superb unbeaten 75, hitting the winning runs with a six off Srinath.

On Saturday Australia take



SAEED ANWAR ... m-o-m

For the first time in two years, the two archenemies met for a one-day cricket match at Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.

Shopkeepers were surly and preoccupied, government clerks had one hand wrapped around pocket radios, and taxi drivers drove a little quicker to get back to their stands, since few taxis here are equipped with radios.

If there is one thing that binds the two feuding neighbors, it is cricket, a game that British colonizers imported to almost every region where the crown ruled.

And there is no one they'd rather beat than each other. Both sides see cricket as an extension of their political conflicts and the three wars they fought since 1947 when they became independent.

India lost the last Australasia Cup meeting against Pakistan in 1991, but accused the Sharjah organizers of bending the rules to help Pakistan and refused to take part in subsequent tournaments.

India beat Pakistan in World Cup match in 1992 in Sydney.

In New Delhi, TV sets were set up on sidewalks so that

crowds do not throng inside the shops.

"I don't really mind the crowd because there are no shoppers today. No business anywhere in the city," said Dinesh Arora, whose electronics shop had about 50 people outside craning to watch a 20-inch TV inside.

"This is not just a cricket match, it's a clash," Arora said waving back part of the crowd blocking the door. "No, I am not exactly skipping work. I will get back when they break for lunch in Sharjah," said Baljit Malik, a government employee, who had gone to work just to sign the attendance register.

It also was a big day for the bookies, with betting not only on the winner, but also on what batsmen would score or how many overs they would play.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Australasia Cup one-day cricket match between India and Pakistan today:

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Fall of wickets: 1-62; 2-111; 3-156; 4-164; 5-179; 6-187; 7-187; 8-197; 9-218.

Bowling: O M R W				
Wasim Akram	8.3	1	36	1
Aaqib Javed	9	1	41	2
Ataur Rehman	9	0	50	2
Salim Malik	10	0	49	2
Akram Raza	10	0	41	1

PAKISTAN

Saeed Anwar lbw Chauhan	72
Amir Sohail b Chauhan	20
Inzamamul Haq c Mongia b Chauhan	1
Salim Malik c Azharuddin b Srinath	25
Basit Ali not out	75
Asif Mujtaba not out	16
Extras (lb-4, w-7, nb-3)	14
Total (4 wickets)	223

Fall of wicket: 1-76; 2-89; 3-106; 4-171.

Bowling: O M R W				
Srinath	9.3	0	58	1
Bhupinder	7	1	44	0
Kumble	9	0	27	0
Chauhan	10	0	47	3
Tendulkar	8	0	34	0
Jadeja	1	0	9	0

Pakistan won by six wickets. Man-of-the-match: Saeed Anwar.

Cakewalk for Australia



SHANE WARNE ... m-o-m

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Apr 15: Leg-spinner Shane Warne showed off his bowling tricks to a new audience as Australia crushed Sri Lanka by nine wickets in the Sharjah Trophy here on Thursday, reports AFP.

The 22-year-old picked up three for 29 in the overs to send Sri Lanka crashing to 154 all out.

Australia then coasted past that total in the 37th over, following a 133-run unbroken second wicket stand between captain Mark Taylor (68) and Mark Waugh (64).

Australia's emphatic victory came without the services of the experienced trio of Allan Border, Craig McDermott and Ian Healy, all who opted to miss the tournament.

The Aussies, who flew in after a gruelling tour of South Africa, showed no signs of fatigue as they outplayed their new-look Sri Lanka team in their opening match of the six-nation tournament.

The Sri Lanka's badly missed top four players Arjuna Ranatunga, Aravinda de Silva, seamer Pramodaya Wickramasinghe and spinner Muttiah Muralidharan, who were controversially dropped before the tournament.

Ranatunga, Wickramasinghe and Muralidharan walked out in protest after De Silva failed to pass a fitness test ordered by the Sri Lankan government.

Left-hander Hashan Tillakaratne top-scored with a defiant 64 after Sri Lanka elected to bat — but seven others failed to reach double figures.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India is yet to name



M WAUGH ... m-o-m

When Australia replied, Michael Slater was bowled by left-arm seamer Chamanda Vaas for 15, but Taylor and Mark Waugh came together to cane the Sri Lankan attack.

Australia play New Zealand next in a Group B match on Saturday. Sri Lanka will the Kiwis on Monday to decide the second semifinalist from the group.

Meanwhile, Indian cricket manager Ajit Wadekar, who suffered a heart attack on Wednesday is recovering well but is likely to remain in hospital for a few more days.

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SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the Australasia Cup one-day international between Sri Lanka and Australia on Thursday:

SRI LANKA	
Mahanama lbw Reiffel	10
Samarasekera c Langer	
b S Waugh	24
Gurusinha run out	1
Jayasuriya run out	8
Tillekaratne c Taylor	
b S Waugh	64
Kalpage c Bevan	
b Warne	4

Fall of wickets: 1-30; 2-38; 3-40; 4-61; 5-91; 6-124; 7-136; 8-142; 9-153.

Bowling: O M R W				
Reiffel	10	1	28	2
Fleming	9.3	1	27	1
S Waugh	6	0	17	2
May	10	0	25	0
Waugh	10	1	29	3
M Waugh	4	0	18	0

AUSTRALIA

Taylor not out	68
Slater b Vaas	15
M Waugh not out	64
Extras (lb-1, lb-7, w-3)	11
Total (1 wk, 36.5 overs)	158

Fall of wicket: 1-25

Bowling: O M R W				
Ramanayake	8	1	15	0
Vaas	10	1	35	1
Munasinghe	6.5	0	28	0
Jayasuriya	4	0	22	0
Kalpage	5	0	29	0
Chandana	3	0	21	0

Australia won by 9 wickets. Man-of-the-match: Mark Waugh.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

33 "Elmer Gantry" author

36 Mum

37 Dunne or Cara

38 Halloween handout

39 Authoritative decree

40 Hosp. workers

41 Nevertheless

DOWN

1 Hall of fame?

2 Counter-tenor

3 Hardly a Bush leaguer

4 Edward Durell — 5 Therefore

6 Jannings of old movies

7 Track runner's goal

8 Steeple

9 Airfield builder

10 Cows chew it

12 Paddock pops

14 Seal

15 Urban music style

19 Animation frame

20 Turn blue?

21 Ranis' wrap-arounds

22 Inge opus

23 Farmer, at times

24 Make louder

25 More, in Mazatlan

26 God

28 Tobaccoist's ware

29 Nations

30 Chilean offering?

31 Mouthwash

32 Put to work

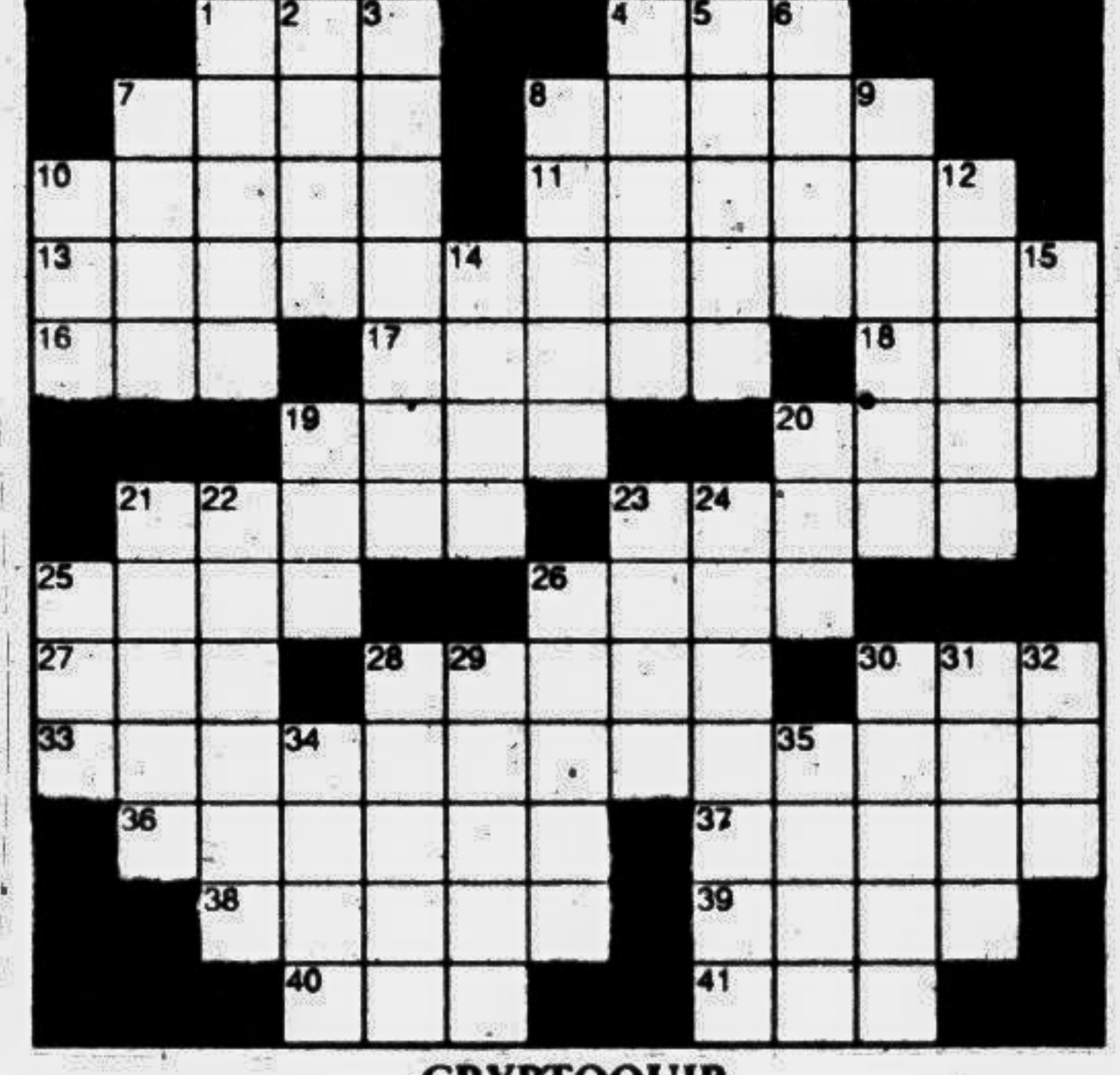
34 Quiet one

35 Pennsylvania port

Solution time: 22 mins.

SLIM CAB SOLE
EATA OLE TWIT
EVER HEADREST
NARTH EX EERIE
HEN USE
MADAM TRIPLEX

AUSIN AKA IERM
IDLE AGE LANA
NEER NET ENOS



CRYPTOQUIP

CMK LKBYRTZ MWOGS - BTYVLSF CTG OGOTZZK CTFQ: LWV QTVK RWTJG. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I KNEW THAT THE MINOR RIP VAN WINKLE MOVIE WAS A SLEEPER.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: C equals W. The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Brig Mosharraf win ASEAN golf

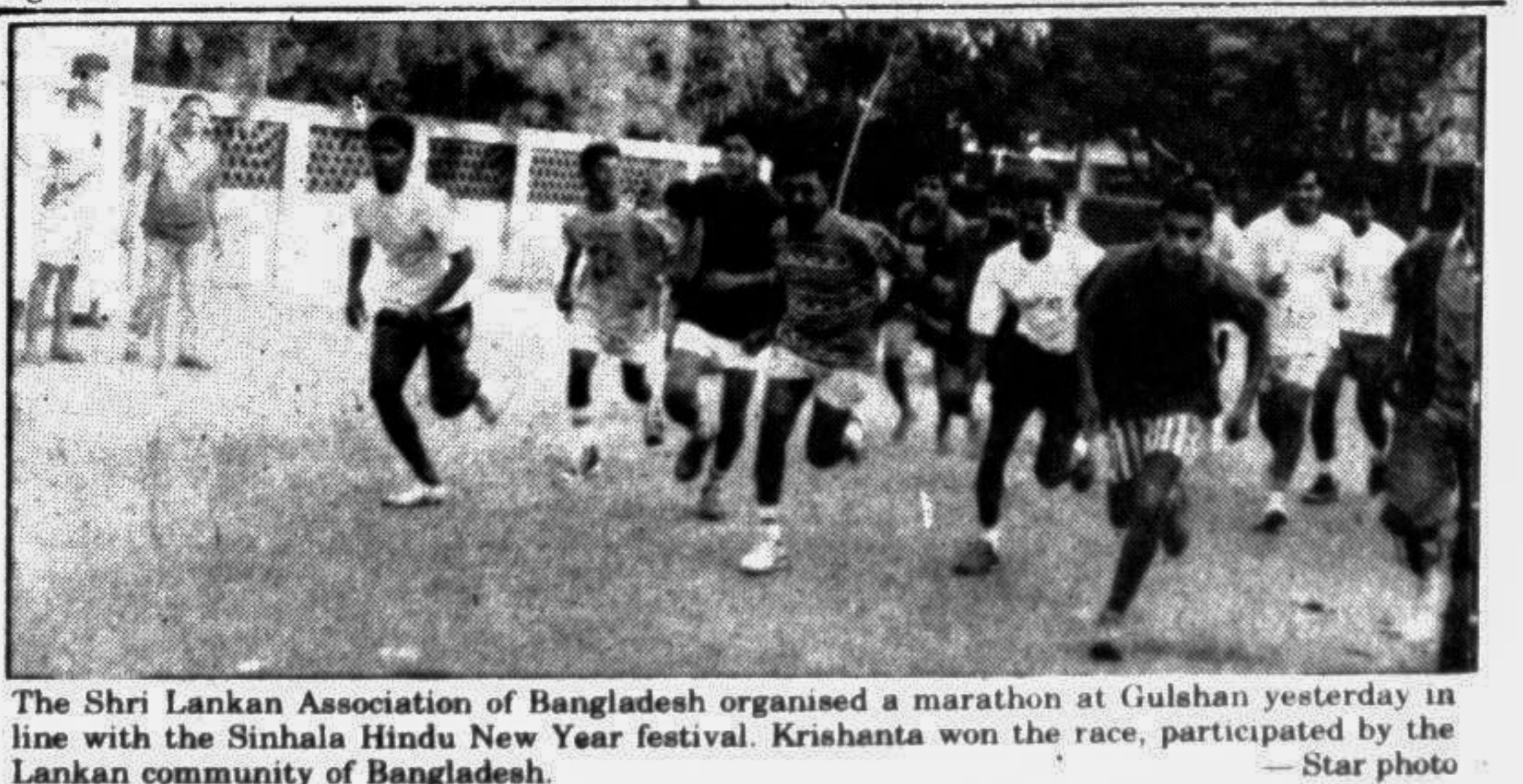
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Lt Gen. M Nooruddin Khan, who was also among the 160 participants, became runner-up while the best gross went to Shaukat-Uz-Zaman.

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The Shri Lankan Association of Bangladesh organised a marathon at Gulshan yesterday in line with the Sinhala Hindu New Year festival. Krishanta won the race, participated by the Lankan community of Bangladesh. — Star photo