

Hassan lifts Sadharan Bima

Sports Reporter

Hassan's fifth goal in this year's league earned full points for Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha against Victoria Sporting Club in one of the two Star First Division football league engagements billed for the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The insurance men now line behind leaders Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society with eighteen points from 14 matches. Rahmatganj lead the table with twenty points.

Hassan headed home a flag kick by Palash from the right in the seventy-seventh minute to seal the fate of the match.

Victoria, who had played three fixed matches leading up to yesterday's match, were deprived of an equaliser when a goal bound Angur shot with the goal out of place was beaten back from the line by Munna of Bima.

Brought down to earth after a long spell of tension-free predestined matches, Victoria with yesterday's defeat remain glued to their previous collection of 17 points from 14 matches.

The traditional club along with Rahmatganj were axed down from Star Premier as the last two finishers of the upper tier last year.

Earlier at the same venue, babes Shantinagar and Dhanmudi went through the motions to legalise a point in an apparently fixed encounter ending in a one-all draw.

Seraj nodded home a lob by Abul from the left to help Shantinagar to an always ephemeral lead.

Dancing to the tune of their officials as a true marionette would do, Lion brought up the leveller a minute later leaving the referee with an unenviable job of running around for no reason at all for the match was as good as over.

TODAY'S MATCHES

East End vs Farashganj 6 pm (Mirpur Stadium)

Wari Club vs Fakirpool 4-30 pm (Dhaka Stadium)

Mohammedans vs Arambagh 6-30 pm (Dhaka Stadium)

Baffled BFF

Communications Minister Oli Ahmed's resignation as the Bangladesh Football Federation president has seemingly not been accepted as the Ministry for Youth and Sports is yet to give any directive on the issue either to the National Sports Council (NSC), the supreme body for country's sports, or to the BFF.

Meanwhile, Ahmed's decision to quit as the BFF president has given rise to disappointment in the BFF ranks.

General secretary Akmal Hossain, reacting to Ahmed's decision, lamented, "We are extremely shocked and disappointed. Under his dynamic leadership, the BFF has undergone qualitative change. He should come back for the greater interest of the country."

Oli Ahmed, a Member of Parliament of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party, tendered his resignation on September 30 through a government hand out citing the cause to ministerial preoccupations.

Shah Sports Cup soccer

Sports Reporter

Ek Jhank Paira flew home with a 2-0 victory over Ekota Sangha in the Shah Sports Cup football tournament at the Ganiaktuli Eidgah ground yesterday.

In a keenly-contested match, the winners led the first half by a solitary goal from Rafique.

Pintu added another in the 23rd minute of the second half to seal the fate of the match.

In the other match of the day, Tiger Sporting Club earned a lone goal victory over Shafique Sporting Club with Maqbul notching the match decider nine minutes into the second half.

H'ball results

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Ansars and Bangladesh Navy won their respective matches in the Rear Admiral M A Khan memorial handball tournament at the court adjacent to the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

In the first match of the day, Ansars, who earned a hard-fought 22-20 win over Air Force in their previous match, made light of Christian Youth Club with a 34-17 goal win yesterday.

Bangladesh Navy also recorded a facile 26-10 win over Progoti Boys Club in the other match of the day.

DU inter-dept football

Sports Reporter

The Department of Physics blanketed Microbiology 2-0 in an inter-department football match of Dhaka University at the university ground yesterday.

Pakistan go one up against Aussies in a cliffhanger

Last laugh of last pair

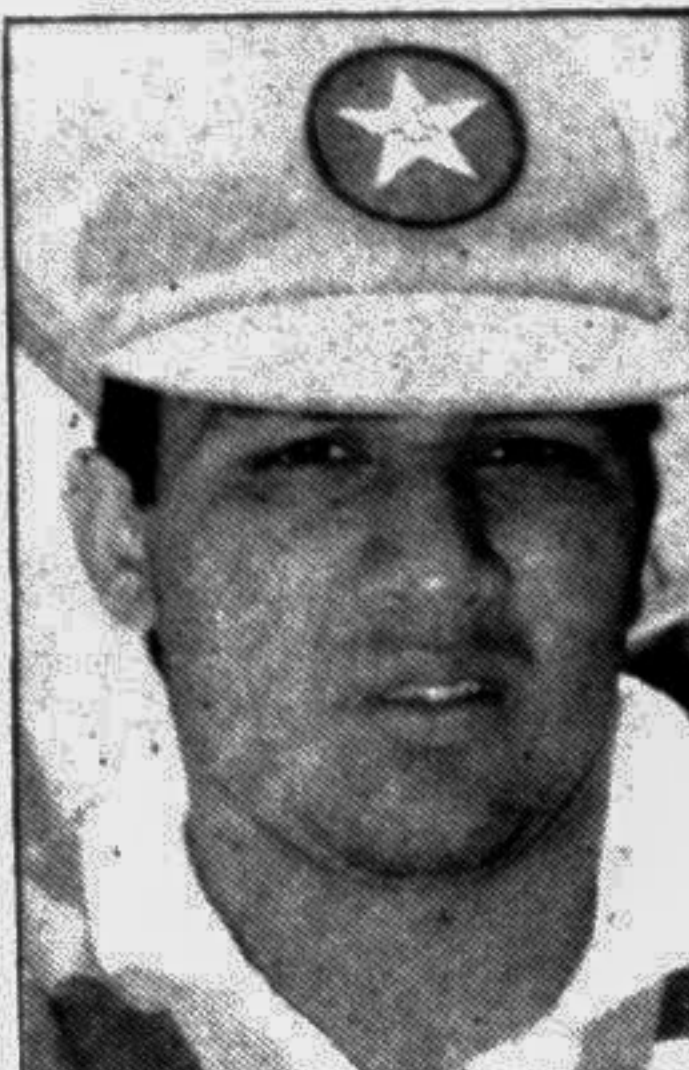


KARACHI, Pakistan, Oct 2: A last-wicket stand of 57 between Inzamamul Haq and Mushtaq Ahmed carried Pakistan to a thrilling one-wicket victory over Australia in the first Test on Sunday, reports Reuters.

The touring team appeared set to go one up in the three-Test series when leg spinner Shane Warne picked up four wickets to reduce Pakistan to 258 for nine. They had begun the final day on 155 for three.

But Inzamamul Haq, who scored 58 not out, and Mushtaq (20 not out) frustrated all of Australia's attempts to dislodge them.

The stand is the best for



INZAMAM ... 58 not out

the last wicket to win a Test. The previous best was South Africa's 48 to win against England in Johannesburg in 1905-06.

This is the first time Pakistan have scored over 300 runs in the fourth innings to win a Test match either at home or on the road.

The winning runs came from four batters after Ian Healy had missed a chance to stump Inzamamul Haq off Warne.

Warne — named man-of-the-match — took five wickets in the innings and eight in the match.

"I still don't believe it. This is my finest hour, winning my first Test as captain before my own fans," said Salim Malik. Inzamam said he was overjoyed to have played "the most unforgettable innings of my life."

Mark Taylor was clearly upset at losing his first Test as

Australian captain.

"Apart from the first session on the first day we were ahead all the time, so losing after such a dominating show is very disappointing."

"But I am very proud of the way all the guys played," Taylor said.

The final day began on a high note for the Australians with Warne trapping Akram Raza leg before with only two added to the overnight score.

Basit Ali and Wasim Akram also fell cheaply to Warne and opener Saeed Anwar was caught and bowled by Jo Angel for 77 to leave Pakistan in dire straits at 184 for seven.

But Inzamam and Rashid Latif refused to accept that their side's cause was lost.



S WARNE ... m-o-m

Latif, in particular, carried the attack to the Australians. He hit six fours in his 35 before Steve Waugh trapped him leg before with a slower ball at 236.

The Australians looked to have the match in their pockets when Warne dismissed Waqar Younis for seven — his fourth wicket of the day — but Inzamam and Mushtaq had other ideas.

Their half century partnership preserved Pakistan's remarkable record in Tests at Karachi's national stadium.

They have not lost there for 35 years, winning 15 and drawing 16 games.

The Pakistani selectors have included batsman Aamer Malik in a 14-strong squad for the second Test starting in Rawalpindi on Wednesday.

Malik comes in for Basit Ali who suffered a groin injury which will force him to miss the rest of the Test series against Australia and a triangu-

lar one-day series involving South Africa.

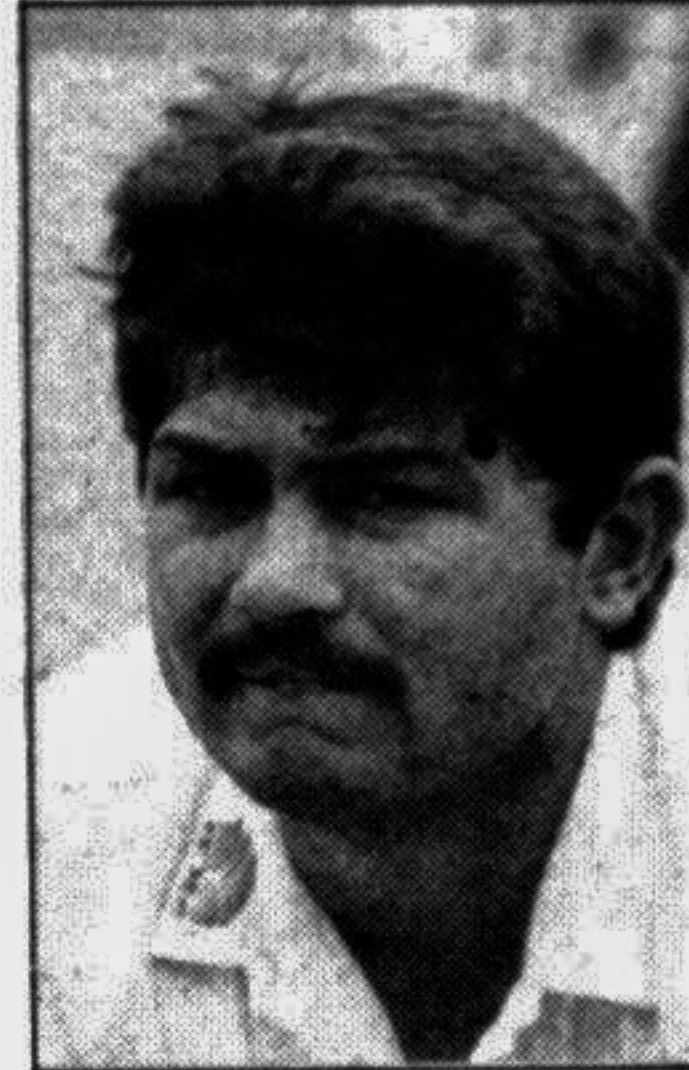
SQUAD: Salim Malik (captain), Saeed Anwar, Aamir Sohail, Zahid Fazal, Aamer Malik, Inzamamul Haq, Rashid Latif, Wasim Akram, Akram Raza, Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed, Asif Mujtaba, Mohsin Kamal, Kabir Khan

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the end of fifth and final day's play in the first cricket Test between Pakistan and Australia here Sunday.

AUSTRALIA: First innings 337 (M Bevan 82, S Waugh 73, Wasim Akram 3-75; Waqar Younis 3-75).

PAKISTAN: First innings 256 (Saeed Anwar 85, Wasim



MUSHTAQ ... gritty

Akram 39, J Angel 3-54, S K Warne 3-61).

AUSTRALIA: Second innings 232 (D C Boon 114, M Waugh 61; Waqar Younis 4-69; Wasim Akram 5-63).

PAKISTAN: Second innings

Saeed Anwar c and b Angel 77

Aamir Sohail run out 34

Zahid Fazal c Boon b Warne 3

Salim Malik c Taylor b Angel 43

Akram Raza lbw b Warne 2

Basit Ali lbw b Warne 12

Wasim Akram c and b Warne 4

Inzamamul Haq not out 58

Rashid Latif lbw b S Waugh 35

Waqar Younis c and b Warne 7

Mushtaq Ahmed not out 20

Extras: (b-4, lb-13, nb-3)

Total: (for 9 wickets) 315

Fall of wickets: 1-45; 2-64; 3-148; 4-157; 5-174; 6-179; 7-184; 8-236; 9-258.

Bowling

McGrath 6 2 18 0

Angel 28 8 92 2

S Waugh 15 13 28 1

Warne 36.1 12 89 5

May 18 4 67 0

M Waugh 3 1 4 0

DMFA does what DMFA did

Sports Reporter

The Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA), the Star soccer authorities, retained their reputation as sucklers of tradition.

Having been deadline till October 20 to use the Dhaka Stadium for the league matches by the National Sports Council earlier, the DMFA has reportedly pleaded with the supreme sports body through the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) for an extension of the stipulation over four more days since the twin Star Senior leagues are expected to be over on October 24 according to the present schedule.

Officials have ruled out the possibilities of earlierising the leagues to meet the deadline after yesterday's meeting.

With the cricket season imminent, DMFA's failure to release the contentious venue in time is going to relieve after an old acrimony between the football and cricket worlds of the country.

However, it is nothing new with the more influential footballuallahs. There had hardly been any love lost between the seasonal foes.

Meanwhile, Shahiduzzaman, the secretary of DMFA's league committee, has withdrawn his resignation at the behest of some clubs.

Shahid, who is also the treasurer of the DMFA, had resigned on September 21 protesting the objectionable behaviour of some club officials.

NZ tour of India in doubt

AUCKLAND, Oct 2: New Zealand's cricket tour of India could be in jeopardy because of a pneumonic plague in India, New Zealand Cricket Council chairman Peter McDermott said Sunday, reports AP.

Following advice from Indian health authorities, the West Indies team due to tour India this week postponed its arrival until Oct 12.

New Zealand are scheduled to play a one-day series with India and the West Indies from Oct 26 to Nov 3 on the way to South Africa.

However, Peter McDermott told the Sunday Star-Times there was "some considerable doubt" over the tour.

"That is one problem but our main priority is the health of the players. We are keen to complete the obligation because India have been so good to us, but we are not going to do it at the risk of player illness."

"We are monitoring the situation daily and if health authorities tell us it's not right to go, we won't."

McDermott said alternatives to the Indian tour would be for the team to go into training camp in New Zealand, stop over in Perth or Darwin in Australia for special outdoor practice or arrive early in South Africa.

AB Bank TT

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Biman had a relatively easier encounter in a day of top-sided affairs at the Dhanmudi gymnasium yesterday in the ongoing AB Bank metropolis table tennis league.

The defending champions registered their eighth consecutive victory against Swami-Bangs in a too familiar 3-0 margin while the other winners, Armanitola Jubo Sangha, Wari Club and Inter Sports, all had it 3-1 against Lalmatia Club, Combined Sporting Club and Ajax Sports Club respectively.

Natore league

From Our Correspondent

NATORE, Oct 2: Phoolbaghan Eleven prevailed over Chakrik Juba Sangha 3-2 in the only engagement of the Natore football league '94 at the local stadium today.

Rocket struck twice and Sumon notched the other for the winners while Kollol and Wahiduzzaman netted one goal each for the vanquished.

Uttaran Krira Sangha take on Samata Eleven in tomorrow's match.

Age-group tennis on

Sports Reporter

Eleven singles matches were decided on the opening day of the national junior age-group tennis championship at the Ramna Tennis Complex yesterday.

Sponsored by the Afzar Group, the five-day tournament was inaugurated by Bangladesh Tennis Federation president Professor Rashiduddin Ahmed.

MSC nets from October 6

The net practice for the Mohammedan Sporting Club cricketers for the forthcoming season begins from October 6.

The players have been requested to report to coach Osman Khan by 6 pm on October 5.



The Bangladesh delegation parade through the stadium during the opening ceremony of the 12th Asian Games in Hiroshima yesterday.

— AFP photo

Nightmare put to sleep

HIROSHIMA, Oct 2 (AP): Nestled unobtrusively at the edge of a bustling shopping district amid department stores and multistoreyed parking ramps stands a dull gray monument to one of mankind's worst moments.

The monument marks ground zero, where nearly 50 years ago a fireball erupted from the still airborne "Little Boy" atomic bomb, instantly turning Hiroshima into a hell of carnage and flame.

"Though it is once again a thriving, growing city, such reminders of Hiroshima's near total devastation in the world's first atomic bomb attack are hard to miss."

But as Hiroshima plays host to thousands of athletes and dignitaries here for Asia's version of the Olympics, it is going out of its way to make sure its anti-nuclear message is heard.

"We have an important message, and we want as many people to hear it as possible," said Hajime Fukumoto, administrative director of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum.

Fukumoto said the city and Asian Games organisers have arranged 10 different tour courses to introduce Games participants to Hiroshima's horrible past, and have printed pamphlets with Hiroshima's pleas for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Most of the tours include visits to the museum, which features photo displays, artifacts and grisly reproductions of what the city looked like

after the bomb fell on Aug 6, 1945, killing some 140,000 people and injuring or irradiating hundreds of thousands more.

Fukumoto said 1.4 million people visited the museum last year, with as many as 10,000 coming on "a good day."

Many of the countries participating in the Games fought against invasion or occupation by Japan's army during World War II, and have criticised postwar Japan's government for not facing its militarist past.

In one particularly bitter example, Korean residents of Hiroshima at the time of the blast were long denied recognition as victims by Japanese officials putting up monuments to the dead after the war. Hundreds of Koreans held a memorial ceremony in Hiroshima Sunday.

But lingering rancor toward the Japanese government does not seem to keep foreign visitors to the museum from sympathising with the tragedy of Hiroshima.

"Unforgettable," was how one, Andrew Gladstone of Australia, described it in a book kept near the exit for visitors to sign. "The displays were touching, horrible," wrote a woman from Hong Kong.

Just beyond the museum is Hiroshima's Peace Park, a patchwork of greenery, statues and cenotaphs to the dead. In one gully stands the Children's Peace Monument. Nearby is the Monument to the Employees of the Hiroshima

Post Office.

On Sunday, before attending the Asian Games opening ceremony, International Olympic Committee President Juan Antonio Samaranch laid a wreath before a flame at the centre of the park. Fukumoto said Samaranch would tour the museum on Wednesday.

Not all of Hiroshima's 900,000 residents are happy to have the Games, a sports extravaganza with nearly 5,000 athletes from 42 countries and territories, in their midst.

Outside the city's most poignant symbol, the skeleton of a bomb-blasted government building now known as the "A-Bomb Dome," dozens of leftists demonstrated Sunday against Hiroshima's role as host and the presence of Emperor Akihito at the Games' opening.

Japan's soldiers fought in the name of Akihito's father, the late Emperor Hirohito, and many left-wing groups believe the government and the royal family have never really atoned.

Leftists, and many mainstream Japanese as well, are also concerned by Tokyo's dispatch of troops to assist in United Nations missions in Cambodia, Mozambique and, just last week, Zaire. Some see the missions as an excuse to revive Japan's military.

"It is absolutely unforgivable for these people, with their militarist designs, to hold the Asian Games in this city," the leader of a group called the Workers' League yelled into a loudspeaker as plainclothes police stood by.

No stopping Newcastle



LONDON, Oct 2: Newcastle United stretched their lead at the top of the English Premier league with a 2-0 win at Aston Villa on Saturday as second-placed Blackburn went down 2-1 at Norwich, reports Reuters.

Newcastle's red-hot goal scorers Andy Cole and Robert Lee were both on target to take their tallies to 11 apiece for the season.

Champions Manchester United kept in touch with a 2-0 win over bottom side Everton, but Arsenal slumped to a shock 2-1 home defeat to

Crystal Palace, who had not won this season.

Ian Wright scored his 100th goal for Arsenal, but it was scant consolation as the defeat cast one of the pre-season title contenders 14 points adrift of Newcastle.

Steve McManaman scored a hat-trick as Liverpool came from behind to crush Sheffield Wednesday 4-1. Ian Rush claimed the other goal.

Tottenham Hotspur ended a run of three league defeats thanks to a stunning long-range goal from Romanian defender Gheorghe Popescu for a 2-1 victory at Wimbledon.

Blackburn, who suffered a

shock midweek exit from the UEFA Cup against Swedish part-timers Trelleborgs, went down to their first league defeat of the season at Norwich despite taking an early lead.

Chris Sutton took only four minutes to score against his old club on his first visit since they sold him to Blackburn for five million pounds (7.9 million dollars).

But Norwich equalised through Mark Brown on the half-hour and notched up only their third league win of the season when defender John Newsome scored his first goal for the club in the 55th minute.

Blackburn remained in second place, but fell five points behind the leaders.

Newcastle were held goalless for over an hour by Villa, but the home side tired following their UEFA Cup exertions against Inter Milan on Thursday and the league's leading scorers, Cole and Lee, snatched a seventh win in eight games.

Lee put Newcastle ahead in the 66th minute with a shot that swerved wickedly through the air and spun when it hit the ground in front of goal-keeper Nigel Spink. Cole struck seven minutes from time.

McManaman ended a two-year goal drought at Anfield in emphatic fashion with a hat-trick as Liverpool moved up a place to fifth.

Rush equalised Ian Nolan's first-half goal in the 51st minute. Three minutes later McManaman put Liverpool ahead with his first league goal at Anfield since November 1992.

He added two more in the 66th and 86th minutes.

A first-half header by Andrei Kanchelskis put Manchester United on course for a victory that moved them to within two points of Blackburn and third placed Nottingham Forest, who play Queen's Park Rangers on Sunday.

The Russian international converted Lee Sharpe's 41st minute cross and Sharpe sealed the game with a goal of his own two minutes from time to leave Everton with just three points from eight games.

Three years to the day after a knee injury almost wrecked his career, John Salako damaged Arsenal's title aspirations with both goals in Crystal Palace's 2-0 win at Highbury.



Striker Ian Wright exults after scoring his 100th goal for Arsenal against Crystal Palace in the English Premier League in London on Oct 1. However, Palace won 2-1.

— AFP photo

Int'l sixes title England's



HONG KONG, Oct 2: England scored a psychologically-important five-wicket win over old foes Australia to take the international cricket sixes title here Sunday, reports AFP.

Led by diminutive batsman Neil Fairbrother, England played solidly to eclipse the target of 1-68 set by the Australians from their five overs.

Fairbrothers took full advantage of a costly mistake by Australian pace bowler Merv Hughes to top score for England with 31.

Lancashire's Fairbrother skied the second ball of Australian captain Damien Martyn's over to the long-on boundary where Hughes had positioned himself well to take what should have been an easy catch only to put the ball to ground.

Encouraged by that piece of

fortune Fairbrother went on to plunder 22 from the over to take England from a precarious 1-15 to 1-40.

Another loose over by Australia's Neil Maxwell left England with only seven runs needed from the final over by Paul Reiffel, with Test discard Robin Smith chipping Reiffel's fourth delivery straight back down the wicket to record England's second successive win in the tournament.

"It's especially sweet for me because I've played 15 Tests against the Australians and lost 13 of them," Smith said.

"It's not often I get to beat them and I do enjoy it."

England progressed to the final with two solid round-robin wins, beating New Zealand by 23 runs and then a game South Africa by eight runs.

Australia made it to the final with a close two-run win over an impressive Dutch side and

then a convincing two-wicket defeat of the West Indies.

Better-known for his batting, Martyn could have had a hat-trick in the West Indies match after dismissing Roger Harper and Vaseb Drakes in successive balls, but dropped a sharp return catch from record-breaking batsman Brian Lara.

His frustration was doubled when he had Lara caught by Maxwell on the boundary with his next ball to take three wickets from four deliveries.

The dropped chance cost Martyn a 35,000 Hong Kong dollar award for any player who took a hat-trick during the tournament.

The West Indies took the Second-Division plate title by beating South Africa by just one run.

The third-tier bowl title went to India with a five-wicket defeat of hosts Hong Kong.

US star in a day of upsets