

Sport

Div I chess league ends

Sports Reporter

Brothers Union, who confirmed successful defence of the First Division chess league title Thursday with one round still to go, ended the campaign in style yesterday when the Gopibagh outfit beat Leonine Chess Club 3-1 at the National Sports Club chess room.

With the championship under the belt, the Brothers Union players showed little sign of indifference and although Grandmaster Niaz Murshid opted to stay out, two draws were the only setback that came the champion's way. Brothers finished at 53 points.

Former champions Bangladesh Biman, however, didn't quite have a stylish finish as they drew 2-2 with Mahakhali Pradip Sangha to finish runners-up with 46 points.

Bangladesh Ansars finally won the three-way race for the third place and two points from a draw with Parijat Chess Club yesterday left them at 40.5 points. Other two contenders for this position, the Dhaka University chess team and Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation (BTMC) within one and a half points from each other, with the former finishing fourth with 40.5 points.

With a collection of 36 points, Mashgul Mehfil of Narayanganj, who have earned the reputation of being one of the two giant-slayers in the 17-team fray, ended up at the sixth place half a point ahead of the other - Bobby Fischer Chess Club.

At the wrong end of the points table were Sonali Bank and Protibha Daba Goshthi, who finished with 14.5 and 17.5 points respectively to put an end to their senior division league status.

ITF Satellite third leg from Nov 28

RAJSHAHI, Nov 25: The third leg of the ITF Thailand Bangladesh Satellite Circuit tennis tournament will be held here at Rajshahi Tennis Complex from November 28, reports BSS.

About 60 tennis players from 37 countries will participate in the week-long tournament.

State Minister for Planning, Dr. Moia Khan will be chief guest while Mayor Rajshahi City Corporation Mizanur Rahman Minu and Secretary for the ministry of youth and sports Azizul Huq will be special guests on the opening day.

Jointly organised by the International Tennis Federation and the Rajshahi Tennis Complex and sponsored by the Bangladesh Tennis Federation and Bangladesh Tobacco Company Ltd the tournament will be the fourth of its kind to be held at Rajshahi Tennis Complex.

Thai double in Pak int'l junior tennis

ISLAMABAD, Nov 25: Te-kasikul Akkasit of Thailand clinched the boys' singles title in the Pakistan international junior tennis championships beating local player Asad Ali Bhagat 6-1, 7-5 in a keenly contested final at the Islamabad Club here today, reports BSS.

However, Akkasit, pairing with Bangladesh's Shameem Ahsan Ronny, lost in the boys' doubles semi-final to the Iranian pair of Farshad Talavak and Amir Hossain Rafat 3-6, 6-7 (3-7).

In the girls' singles, Anuchan from Thailand won the title beating her compatriot Tovitsichai 7-6 (7-2), 6-7 (5-7), 6-3 in the final.

Bangladesh's Shathy Sarkar reached the girls' singles quarter-finals and lost to Tovitsichai 0-6, 1-6. Shathy and Urmi marched into the semi-finals of the girls' doubles, but lost to eventual runners-up Tovitsichai and Anuchan from Thailand 3-6, 2-6.

BSJA ceremony tomorrow

The award-giving ceremony of the Bangladesh Sports Journalists Association will be held at the Sonargaon Hotel here November 27 at 4-30 pm, reports BSS.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeque Hossain will attend the function as chief guest. Renowned footballer Nurunnabi Chowdhury and veteran sports organiser of Gaiandha Shachindra Kumar Chaki will be the special guests.

Players, officials and sponsoring organisations nominated for the years 1992 and 1993 will be awarded during the function.

Anybody not receiving an invitation has been requested to contact BSJA office situated at the eastern side of the Dhaka Stadium swimming pool.

Biman's super flight

Sports Reporter



Bangladesh Biman have moved into the second round of the 15th Damal Summer cricket tournament without turning a hair.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, the former champions outplayed Gulshan Youth by nine wickets yesterday.

National Cricketer Enamul Haq won the toss in the morning and asked his counterpart Arun Lal, the former Indian Test cricketer, to bat first.

Biman's strong and varied attack had the Gulshan batsmen pinned right from the very beginning.

The two seasoned left-armers in charge of the new ball - Golam Nawsher and Jahangir Talukdar - struck before long removing both the openers by the tenth over with Gulshan hardly averaging two runs per over.

Then Sanjeev Sharma, another Indian Test discard who joined Biman from Surja Tarun only this year, stepped in with his accurate medium pace as the first change bowler.

Sharma gave hardly anything away while picking up two wickets including that of Ashok Malhotra, Gulshan's other experienced former Indian Test cricketer, to finish with an excellent analysis of two for 17 from nine overs.

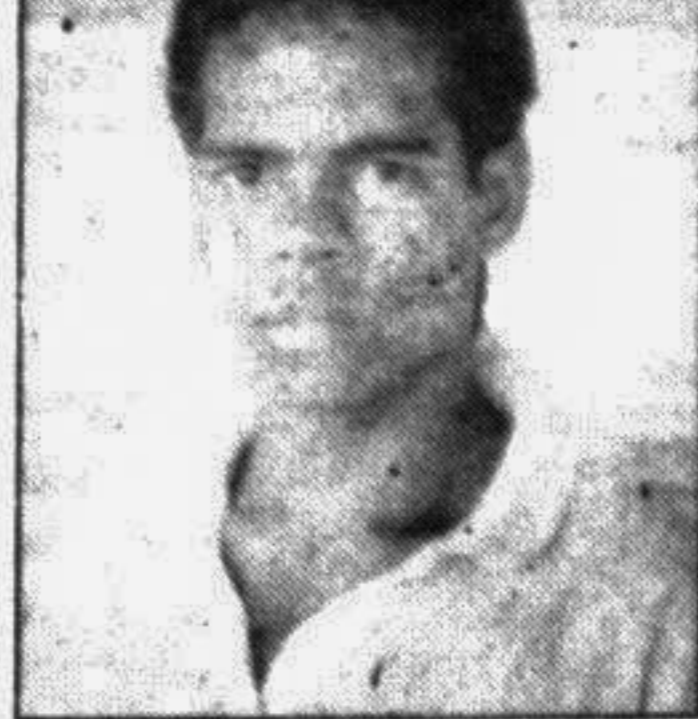
Imran Hamid laboured to a topscore of 18 in the innings that recorded just three double figures, the other two provided by opener Ujjal and Arun Lal, who made 14 and 11 respectively.

Biman's two left-arm spinners - Enamul and Shamsul - bagged two each while Habibur Bashar, brought on late, collected one thanks to the sleight of hands of stumper Debashis Barua, who had a fine

day behind the stumps effecting no less than four dismissals.

Gulshan lasted 43.3 over for the exact three-figure mark.

Bangladesh opener Jahangir Alam who is in fine fettle in this curtain-raising tourney,



JAHANGIR ALAM

cracked a belligerent unbeaten 55 off 47 balls including seven hits to the fence. It was Jahangir's third half century in as many matches.

Ziaur Rashid, who opened with Jahangir, was Biman's only casualty - caught and bowled for 25 off left arm spinner Nafis.

Habibul Bashar had enough time to score 16 off 18 balls when Biman had 102 rattled for one in only 15.4 overs.

Biman will vie for the semi-final slot with Mohammedan Sporting Club, another former champions and a youthful Brothers Union in Group Y.

While the battle for places among the last four in Group X involve champions Abahani, GMCC and the winners of today's match between Victoria and Surja Tarun.

It was a pity that while Biman made a no-contest of a vital encounter, two minnows

Gopibagh Friends Association and Ajax Sports Club, both well and truly out of contention were engaged in a thriller at the City Club ground at Mirpur.

At the end of the day, Ajax proved the luckier of the two - have-nots winning the match by one wicket with just five balls to spare.

Bhola was Ajax's hero as the new ball bowler pulled the chestnuts out of fire with a blazing 30 off 18 balls with the help of three fours and two sixers to cap a fine bowling feat earlier in the day.

He took three for 25 as Gopibagh, batting first, mustered 195 for eight wickets with the bulk of the runs coming from MR Babu, who made 61.

Skipper Saiful and Rafiq were the other major contributors with 24 and 20 respectively.

Chasing 196 in 45 overs for victory, Ajax were precariously placed at 148 for eight when Bhola came at the wicket to launch a terrific assault on the Gopibagh bowling.

However, Rupam was Ajax's topscorer making 47 as the number four batsman while Sajjad providing a cue for Bhola later smashed a hurricane 25 off 14 balls with two sixers.

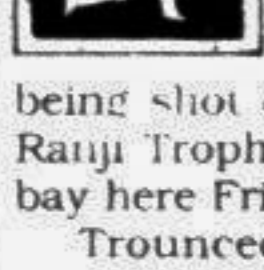
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Ripon too bowled tightly spending 21 from nine overs though not meeting with any success.

TODAY'S MATCH
Victoria vs Surja Tarun (DCS)

West Indies wobble again



KOZIKHODE, India, Nov 25: Be-leaguered West Indies continued their dismal run on tour in India, being shot out for just 176 by Ranji Trophy champions Bombay here Friday, reports AFP.

Trounced 4-1 in the one-day series and thrashed by 96 runs in the first Test against India this week, the tourists messed up a good opportunity for badly-needed batting practice ahead of the remaining two Tests.

Asked to bat on a placid wicket, the West Indies batsmen played indiscreet shots to be bowled out in just 69.1 overs. Bombay replied with 53 for two by close of the opening day.

Left-hander Shivarine Chanderpaul, a surprise omission for the first Test, played a lone hand for the West Indies. But his 56 enhanced his claims of playing in the second Test in Nagpur from December 1.

Chanderpaul and wicket-keeper Junior Murray (27) added 37 for the eighth-wicket to boost the score after five of the first eight batsmen

failed to get into double figures.

The off-form Brian Lara made only 29, before being caught behind off medium-pace Abey Kuruvilla, who ran through the West Indian batting with figures of five for 42.

Bombay, who rested their star trio of Sachin Tendulkar, Vinod Kambli and Sanjay Manjrekar, were reduced to 16 for two by fast bowler Anderson Cummins.

Cummins, another hopeful for the Nagpur Test, had opener Zubin Bharucha caught behind for four and clean bowled Sunil More for zero.

Jatin Paranjpye and Amol Mazumdar, two bright young batting prospects, steadied the innings by remaining undefeated till close. Paranjpye was batting on 20 while Mazumdar made 14.

SCOREBOARD
Scores from the first day of three-day cricket match between Ranji Trophy champions Bombay and West Indies here Friday.

WEST INDIES: First innings
Simmons c and b Ankola 5

Campbell c Dighe b Kuruvilla	26
Lara c Dighe b Kuruvilla	29
Holder b Kuruvilla	3
Chanderpaul c and b Kulkarni	56
Hooper lbw b Kuruvilla	4
Cummins run out	6
Dhanraj b Kuruvilla	4
Murray c Bharucha b Bahutule	27
Cuffy st Dighe b Kulkarni	0
Browne not out	0
Extras: (lb-7, nb-9)	16
Total	176

Fall of wickets: 1-11; 2-66; 3-67; 4-70; 5-77; 6-108; 7-139; 8-176; 9-176

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Ankola	8	3	27	1
Mambhrey	14	3	32	0
Kuruvilla	13.1	0	42	5
Bahutule	21	4	44	1
Kulkarni	13	4	24	2

BOMBAY: First innings
Bharucha c Murray b Cummins 4
More b Cummins 0
Paranjpye not out 20
Mazumdar not out 14
Extras: (b-6, lb-2, nb-7) 15
Total: (two wickets) 53

Fall of wickets: 1-10; 2-16
Bowling: O M R W
Cummins 7 2 16 2
Cuffy 5 2 8 0
Browne 4 0 14 0
Dhanraj 2 0 7 0

Roman rivals go into battle



ROME, Nov 25: It'll be a chest-having, arms-flailing, legs-churning battle at Rome's Olympic Stadium on Sunday.

And that's in the parking lot.

The intensity of the battle in the streets could match that on the field when title contenders and bitter crosstown rivals Lazio of Rome and AS Roma square off in the 11th round of the Italian First Division, reports AP.

Fan violence, before, during and after last Sunday's Brescia-Roma encounter at Brescia left 33 people injured and led several Italian deputies to urge a lifetime ban on habitual hooligans from soccer stadiums.

Three Romans - including a player for one of Roma's minor league clubs - were charged with attempted manslaughter in the stabbing of Brescia's deputy police chief.

Earlier this season, at least 12 people were hospitalised when rioting broke out at two First-Division games on Oct. 23.

The Rome derby may be broadcast on live television in an effort to keep people away from the sold-out stadium. Normally, only each round's night game is shown live.

The match pits two top-flight squads in the hunt for the league title. Lazio (6-3-1) are in second place, two points behind pace-setters AC Parma, while Roma (4-5-1) - who were in first earlier - are six points off the lead.

Lazio boast an explosive offence that erupted for four second-half goals in a 5-1 thrashing of Padova last week. Italian international Giuseppe Signori, who led the league in scoring the past two seasons, has seven goals, which ties for second with Roma's Argentine

turn to form if Roma are to avenge the 1-0 Lazio victory in the previous derby (last seasons a 26th round). The seven prior Rome derbies ended in draws.

While no other game will provide the overall fervour of Lazio-Roma, the greatest on-field spectacle may be in Florence, where all eyes will be on forward Gabriel Batistuta.

The Argentine star will break a 32-year-old Italian league record if he scores in Fiorentina's match with visiting Sampdoria of Genoa. A goal would extend his consecutive scoring streak to 11 games, topping the mark of 10 established by Bologna's Ezio Pascutti in the 1962-63 season.

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NZ 242 for four

JOHANNESBURG, Nov 25: New Zealand were 242-4 at the close on the opening day of the first cricket Test against South Africa at the Wanderers on Friday, reports Reuter.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard on the opening day of the first cricket Test between South Africa and New Zealand at the Wanderers on Friday:

NEW ZEALAND: First innings	
B Young c McMillan b Snell	7
D Murray c Richardson b De Villiers	25
S Fleming b De Villiers	48
M Crowe not out	81
K Rutherford c Cronje b Eksteen	68
S Thomson not out	5
Extras: (lb-5, w-2, nb-1)	8
Total: (for four wickets)	242

Fall of wickets: 1-7; 2-79; 3-92; 4-218

To bat: A Parore, M Hart, D. Nash, S. Doull, R. de Groen

Bowling (to date)	O	M	R	W
De Villiers	21	4	51	2
Snell	21	6	59	1
Matthews	16	2	53	0
McMillan	16	4	34	0
Eksteen	13	5	27	1
Cronje	3	0	13	0

SOUTH AFRICA: A. Hudson, G. Kirsten, H. Cronje, D. Cullinan, J. Rhodes, B. McMillan, D. Richardson, R. Snell, C. Eksteen, C. Matthews, F. de Villiers.

Flower fires Zimbabweans up
ADELAIDE, Nov 25: Captain Andy Flower struck an unbeaten 78 today to give Zimbabwe a three-wicket win over the Australian Cricket Academy on the final day of their three-day match, reports Reuter.

Flower hit a majestic six from his opposite number Daniel Marsh to give the tourists' victory with 15 overs to spare.

But the win was achieved at a price with three further players sustaining injuries.

Dave Houghton, their leading batsman, has already been sidelined with a fractured hand courtesy of a bouncer from teammate Heath Streak in a net session in Perth.

Ironically Streak broke his own hand the following day and now Zimbabwe are faced with injuries to Guy Whittall, Alistair Campbell and Daniel Rowett.

All-rounder Whittall has a hamstring strain, batsman Campbell has a groin injury and Rowett, who did not bowl in the Academy's second innings today, is suffering from pulled stomach muscles.

"They're bad enough to worry us and make us think about getting another guy in from Zimbabwe," Flower said.

Baggio amerces Admira Wacker

VIENNA, Nov 25: Italy striker Roberto Baggio scored twice as Juventus cruised to a 3-1 win over Austria's Admira Wacker in the way leg of their UEFA Cup third round tie on Thursday, reports Reuter.

His two goals helped Juventus, three times winners of the trophy, to a 3-0 halftime lead after Antonio Conte had given the Italian club the ideal start with a goal in the ninth minute.

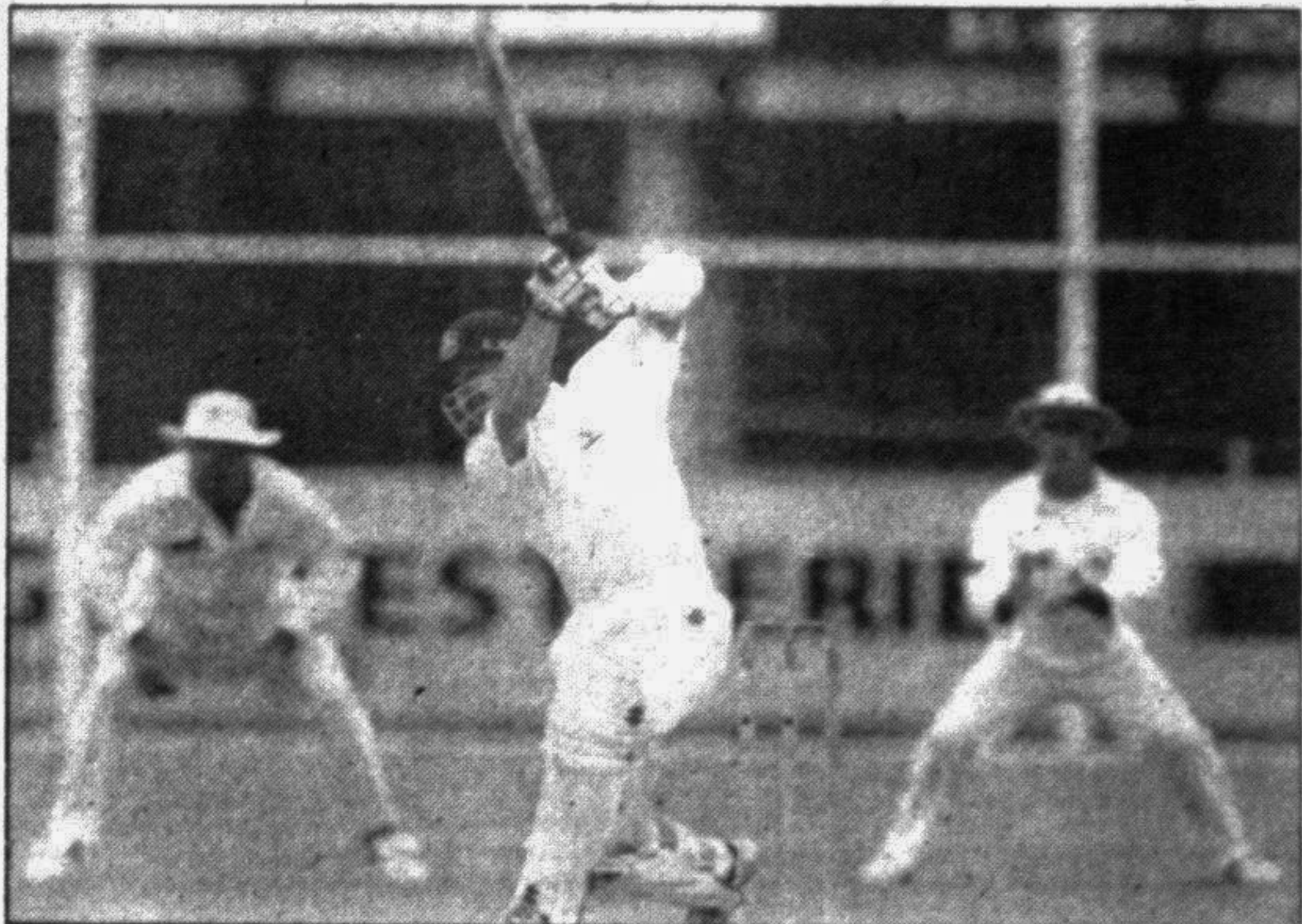
Baggio slipped past two defenders to put Juventus 2-0 up after just 16 minutes.

His second in the 42nd minute provoked an angry response from goalkeeper Wolfgang Knaller.

He dived to save a Baggio shot but as the ball squirmed away from the goalkeeper Baggio pounced to tap it into the net. Knaller protested in vain to Scottish referee Leslie Mottram that he already had the ball in his hands.

Admira had much more of the game after the interval and Michael Binder headed a consolation goal in the 56th minute.

Andreas Schiener headed against the post in the 70th minute with substitute goalkeeper Michelangelo Rampulla well beaten.



Aussie opener Michael Slater plays a flowing cover drive during his magnificent innings of 176 on the opening day of the first Ashes Test against England at the Gabba in Brisbane yesterday. Australia were in a commanding position, having scored 329 for four at stumps. — AFP photo

Slater slaughters England



BRISBANE, Nov 25: Australia opener Michael Slater ruthlessly exposed England's limitations with a magnificent 176 to atone for running out his captain Mark Taylor on the opening day of the first Ashes Test today, reports Reuter.

Slater's innings, his highest in Test cricket, barely overshadowed an equally brutal contribution by Mark Waugh as Australia cruised to a commanding 329 for four at the Gabba.

The pair effortlessly dispatched a tiring, ordinary English attack during a punishing final session which yielded 135 runs, with Waugh ending the day unbeaten on 82 alongside nightwatchman Shane Warne on night.

Slater, who eclipsed his innings of 168 against New Zealand last year, hit 25 fours from 244 balls on a dry, placid wicket at the Gabba before falling to a tired looking shot.

His 324-minute stay at the crease ended when he attempted to hit medium pacer Graham Gooch over the top only to be caught comfortably at mid-off by Mike Gatting.

Slater's effort compensated for his role in Taylor's dismissal for 59 just after lunch after the openers had added 99 untroubled runs.

Slater refused to respond to Taylor's call, leaving his New South Wales teammate stranded and denied an opportunity to join in the ensuing carnage.

The English bowlers, who were utterly demoralised by the close, barely managed to beat the bat during the day after Taylor won the toss and elected to bat.

Paceman Darren Gough, celebrating the birth of his son in England before the start of play, captured the two other wickets to fall.

With the score on 126, he bowled number three David Boon off the inside edge for three. Ten minutes before the close, Michael Beyan, on seven, edged Gough to Graeme Hick at second slip.

Gough, easily the best English bowler, finished with two for 69. Martin McCague, in comparison, ended wicketless after conceding 80 runs off his 14 overs.

Slater said he had been determined to make amends for the mistake which led to his captain's dismissal.

"It was my fault as I was watching the ball and not Mark, so I wanted to make up for that by making a big score," Slater told reporters afterwards.

"I made sure I concentrated even more after Mark was out. I was disappointed about the mix-up as I felt we could have batted for a long time together," Slater added.

Slater, who kissed the badge on his helmet on reaching three figures, was delighted at his own innings.

"It's a great way to start the series because the first day is always a very important day," Slater said. "Today was very satisfying because it was one of the tightest innings I have played."

Slater blamed over confidence for his dismissal.

"I wanted to get through to stumps but I got a little bit too cocky," he said. "I tried to slog Graham over mid-off and didn't quite get it right."

"It would have been nice to get 2000, but I was more concerned with the fact we lost a wicket late in the day when