

Sport

Railway win

Sports Reporter
Bangladesh Railway registered an edgy 18-run win over Agrani Bank in the day's lone Yamaha First Division cricket league fixture at the Mirpur Pallabi ground yesterday.

Agrani Bank won the toss in the battle of minnows and invited the Railway batsmen to make the first use of the strip.

Railway, aided by a patient 79-ball 51 from skipper Shahidur Rahman, mustered a decent total of 164 for the loss of nine wickets in the stipulated 45 overs to set a winning target of just over four runs per over.

In reply, the bankers fell 18 short of the mark, collecting 146 in 43.3 overs with Atiquzzaman making 31.

Acme Div II cricket

Sports Reporter
Rabul Islam scored 59 but still wound up at the wrong end of the table as Mirpur Nabin Sangha paid dearly for some wild bowling and equally sloppy fielding in their Acme Second Division cricket league match against Rupali Bank Cricket Club at the Dhanomdi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Nabin Sangha bowlers bowled 22 wickets and three no-balls as the Mirpur outfit conceded some 55 runs in the form of extras to let Rupali Bank score 154 for nine wickets in the allotted 40 overs.

Although Rabi played his part with the willow, it proved just a wee bit less than required and in the end Nabin Sangha were all out for 142 — 12 runs short of the mark.

In the other match of the day at the Dhanomdi Club ground, Bangladesh Boys crushed Gandaria Sporting Club by a convincing margin of 62 runs.

Bangladesh Boys totalled 194 for seven in 40 overs and then restricted Gandaria to 132.

Biman Open squash

Sports Reporter
Biman ruled the court on the second day of the second Biman Open squash championship with Sohel, Ram Jagadish, Jagadish Chawhan moving into the next round along with Sanjur Nabi at the Gulshan Club court yesterday.

Jagadish Chawhan romped past Shah Alam 9-1, 9-0. Sohel Hamid struggled to beat Kamal 9-7, 9-3 while Ram Jagadish won 9-3, 9-2 win over Asmatullah of hosts Gulshan Club.

Sanjur Nabi, the other winner of the day, beat Iqbal Rashid 9-0, 9-4.

Kasparov leads Russian charge

MOSCOW, Dec 13: Led by world champion Garry Kasparov, Russia-1 moved into a one-point lead at the Chess Olympiad on Monday by beating Georgia 3-1, reports AP.

Kasparov defeated Zurab Azmaiparashvili, one of his helpers for the Professional Chess Association title match against Nigel Short last year.

England downed Yugoslavia 3.5-0.5 to take a share of second place with 28 points. The Netherlands also won — 3.5-0.5 over China — to join England, Estonia and Bosnia.

With three rounds remaining, Russia-1 is the clear favourite, though it has yet to play England or the Netherlands.

In the next round, Russia-1 will face Russia-2, the Russian junior side. England will play either the Netherlands or Estonia.

The United States has won three matches in a row and has a chance for the bronze medal after beating Lithuania 3-1. It has 26.5 points.

In the women's section, Georgia maintained a solid lead with a 2-1 victory over Kazakhstan. Its main rival, Hungary, kept pace with a 2-1 victory over Romania.

Price to pay for patriotism

STOCKHOLM, Dec 13: A 22-year-old Kurd was sentenced to one month in prison Monday for running onto a soccer field with a Kurdish flag during a match between a Swedish and a Turkish team, reports AP.

Prosecutors said the action could have caused riots in the stands, because of the bitter debate over Turkish treatment of its Kurdish population.

During the Champions League match between IFK Goteborg and Galatasaray in Goteborg on October 19, the 22-year-old Kurd from Iraq and a 17-year-old Swede climbed the fence and ran into the field waving Kurdish flags.

Both men, whose names were not released, later explained they wanted to focus attention on what they said was genocide of Kurds.

The Kurd was convicted of trespassing for running onto the field without authorisation.

Victoria stun Mohammedans



C SHARMA ... brilliant

Sports Reporter
After a refreshing glimpse of renaissance in the just-concluded 15th Damal Summer cricket tournament the traditional club has pulled off another stunner.

And the team to be at the receiving end this time was Mohammedan Sporting Club, yet another traditional club but unlike the runners-up of the domestic season's curtain-raiser a vastly popular outfit.

Victoria came out with flying colours in the opener for the two clubs with rich legacy, winning yesterday's Navana

satisfactory analysis to rule out any possibility of wagging by the Mohammedan tail.

Sharma was beautifully backed by the other two Victoria seamen — Mohammed Ali and Iqbal Hossain, who conjured up exemplary collective effort to undermine the beleaguered Mohammedans.

Although Victoria seamen were in the full cry in the morning, much to the consternation of the Mohammedan batsmen, their employment at the tag end of the innings by skipper Azhar Hossain almost came back at them like a boomerang.

Three overs were deducted from Victoria innings as their bowlers failed to finish their quota of 45 overs in time. So, Victoria had to get 173 for victory in 42 overs, thanks to the pyrotechnics of Sharma, who sneared an otherwise highly successful day of individual ability with some unsavoury gesture at the galleries. To their credit the crowd showed restraint and nothing untoward happened except for a kind of siege laid by the frustrated, angry and success-starved fans around their players, huddled at the dressing room for some time.

In the morning, Victoria won the toss and Azhar Hossain with a strong seam attack at his command had no hesitation to ask his counterpart Aminul Islam to bat first.

Mohammedans struggled throughout and only two determined knocks by the skipper himself and Khaled Mahmud helped them get a fighting total.

Luck-lorn Amin top-scored with 43 from 63 balls, hitting the first Mohammedan boundary in the 37th over.

Khaled made a fighting 34 off 51 balls while Sajjad Mansur, the young opener, scored a typically sluggish 26 from 82 balls.

The two Pakistanis — Test discard Aamir Malik and his peer Shahed Tanveer — failed miserably again.

While Malik made five from 15 balls before falling to Abu Hamid, Tanveer, touted by his more fancied compatriot as big slogger, lost his stump to Mohammad Ali for a blob.

The Victoria pacemen were on song with Ali returning the best analysis of one for 23 from nine tight overs.

Sharma had made his mark in the first half of the maiden meeting of the two teams this season. He bowled superbly in the slog overs to capture three wickets to finish with a fairly

start losing Hasanuzzaman to a controversial decision and in-form opener Miharb did no good to his side, getting stumped rather callously for an adventurous 22.

Zia held the innings together with a patient 37 and although key batsman, Indian Rajinder was run out quite freely, Victoria came back in the reckoning by that effective and at times savage assault which came from the hands of Chetan Sharma.

In the end, things so smoothened for them that one over and four wickets were still left when yet another glorious victory became Victoria.

While another pathetic experience was being manufactured for former champions Mohammedans at the Dhaka Stadium, Bangladesh Biman, last year's joint winners with Abahani, duly cruised to a 108-run victory in their opener at the Dhanomdi cricket Stadium in the day's other Navana encounter.

Indian Sanjeev Sharma sliced through babes Eskaton Sabuj Sangha with a superb spell of seam and swing bowling that earned him season's best individual analysis.

The Delhi cricketer had a bag of six wickets for 26 runs from eight overs as Eskaton, faced with Biman's awesome collection of 235, were skittled out for 108 in 31.3 overs.

Earlier, Biman lost only three wickets to amass 235 from their quota of 45 overs.

In-form Jahangir Alam scored 61 and Pakistani Nasir Khan 41 as Biman, batting first, were given excellent foundation for an imposing total.

Habibul Bashar with 42 and Ziaur Rashid with an unbeaten 33 were the other major contributors.

Meanwhile, there will be no Premier league match today.



S. SHARMA ... 6 for 26

Indians reign

Sheetal and Aparna of India clinched the girls' doubles title in the first ITF Central Asian Circuit tennis tournament beating their compatriots Radhika and Rekha in straight sets 6-1, 6-1 in the final at the Ramna Tennis Complex here yesterday, reports BSS.

Sheetal and Rekha also reached the girls' singles final beating their Indian opponents in the semi-finals.

Sheetal outplayed Aparna 6-0, 6-3 and Rekha beat Radhika 7-5, 6-4.

The final will be played today at 2-30 pm.

In the boys' singles, top-seed Nomi Qamar and second seed Ijaz Ahmed, both from Pakistan, entered the final.

In the semi-finals, Qamar beat Manoj Mahadevan 7-5, 6-0 and Ahmed defeated Rohan Saikia 6-7, 6-4, 6-3. The final will take place today at 2-30 pm.

Industries Minister A M Zahiruddin Khan will attend the final as the chief guest and distribute prizes.

In the boys' doubles Qamar and Ahmed and Manoj and Saif reached the final beating Rohan and Vishal of India 1-6, 7-6, 6-2 and Rahat and Niranj of Bangladesh 6-1, 6-1 respectively in the semi-finals.

The final will be held today at 9-30 am.

NBL badminton
Sports Reporter
Mohammedan Sporting Club shuttlers now stand one match away from enacting some sort of a consolation for the traditional club in a year clouded with inexplicable failures.

Defending champions Mohammedans beat strong contenders Bangladesh Biman in their penultimate league engagement and now have to beat Surja Tarun tomorrow, the concluding day of the championship, to successfully defend the NBL First Division badminton league crown.

Yesterday's crucial encounter saw Indian Aritra Nandi give the holders a bright start by rallying from behind to win his match against Hasib. But Bangladesh national number one got Biman straight back into contention when he took care of Hamid.

However, Sumon again gave Mohammedans the lead and then with Aritra sealed the fate of the best-of-five sets rubber with a win in the doubles.

N'ganj soccer

From Our Correspondent
NARAYANGANJ, Dec 13: Parvez struck twice as Sirajuddowla Club thrashed DSS Club 4-1 in the Hanjin Shipping First Division football league at the Osmani Stadium here today.

Shaheed and Zakir also scored for the winners while Ashfaq pulled one back for the losers.

England rebounded impressively after losing a pair of one-day games to the Australian Institute of Sport Cricket Academy at the weekend.

Alec Stewart, who replaced the injured Mike Atherton as captain, was inspirational, driving his players on in the field.

England now have a 1-1 record in the quadrangular tournament, while Australia A dipped to 2-2. Australia lead with a 4-0 record, while Zimbabwe are 0-4.

England next face Zimbabwe in a day-night game at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Thursday.

Australia A were cruising at 138-3 but lost their last seven wickets for 19 runs in a remarkable collapse.

White and Phillip DeFreitas set up the win, taking five of the last seven wickets to fall.

White bowled Ricky Ponting for 31, Tom Moody (2) and Merv Hughes (2), while DeFreitas had Phil Emery (2) and Paul Reiffel (1) both caught by wicketkeeper Steve Rhodes.

Australian A batsman Justin Langer top-scored for his team with 55, while captain Damien Martyn made 40. No other batsman passed 12.

White earlier came to England's rescue with the bat after the top-order again failed to make an impact.

White's 43 lifted England after the tourists were in dire straits at 97-5 in the 29th over following the departure of Mike Gatting and Graham Thorpe within the space of four balls.

The plucky right-hander figured in a stabilising sixth-wicket partnership with Rhodes and then a dashing 33-run stand with DeFreitas.

White made his 43 from 65 deliveries in his 68-minute stay at the crease before being run out off the final ball.

England won the toss and elected to bat, and were forced to promote former skipper Graham Gooch into opening the innings after Atherton withdrew before the game began.

India need 321 runs, Windies 9 wickets for a win



BRIAN LARA ... 91

CHANDIGARH, India, Dec 13: Brian Lara smashed a brilliant 91 Tuesday to lead a final bid by the West Indies to win the third Test against India here and square the series, reports AFP.

Lara's highest score of the tour and a 145-run stand for the fourth wicket between Jimmy Adams (78) and Keith Arthurton (70) fired the tourists to 301 for three declared in their second innings — an overall lead of 357.

West Indian captain Courtney Walsh closed the innings and hour before stumps to give his bowlers a minimum of 105 overs to bowl India out on a wearing wicket at the Mohali Stadium here.

The Indians replied with 37 for one by close of the fourth day's play to set up a keen struggle on the final day Wednesday.

India suffered a severe setback when first innings centurion Manoj Prabhakar retired hurt after being hit in the nose by a short ball from Walsh in the first over.

Prabhakar received stitches and is unlikely to play again in the match.

Ken Benjamin then trapped Navot Sidhu leg before for 11 to make India 17 for one and give the West Indians just the start they needed.

At stumps, Sanjay Manjrekar was batting on 14, while Sachin Tendulkar was on six. The Indians need a further 321 runs on the fifth day to score an improbable win while the tourists require nine wickets.

Earlier, the West Indians gained a first-innings lead of 56 as India added eight runs to their overnight score of 379 for nine before being all out 15 minutes after the start of the fourth day's play.

The last wicket pair of Javagal Srinath and Venkatarathnam Raju, who had put on 56 runs on Monday, took their partnership to a record 64 before Raju was caught behind off Ken Benjamin for 15.

Srinath remained unbeaten on 52, his second Test half century following a 60 in the first Test in Bombay last month which India won by 60 runs.

Lara, whose previous best



BRIAN LARA ... 91

on the tour was 89 in a one-day international, was promoted to open the innings in a bid to get quick runs in the second innings.

The 25-year-old, who has the highest individual scores in both Test (375) and first-class cricket (501), responded superbly to the task with a sparkling 91 off 104 balls which included six fours.

Lara put on 85 for the first wicket with Phil Simmons — 41 of them in the first four overs — before Simmons was

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the fourth day of the third and final Test between India and the West Indies on Tuesday.

WEST INDIES: First innings

443 (J. Adams 174, A. Cummins 50, A. Kumble 4-90)	
INDIA: First innings	
Prabhakar c Murray b Walsh	120
Sidhu b Walsh	0
Manjrekar lbw b Benjamin	40
Tendulkar c Williams b Cuffy	40
Azharuddin c Williams	
b Cummins	27
Kambli c Simmons b Benjamin	18
Mongia hit wkt b Cummins	34
Kapoor c Simmons b Cuffy	15
Kumble c Hooper b Cuffy	0
Srinath not out	52
Raju c Murray b Benjamin	15
Extras: (b-5; lb-3; nb-17; w-1)	26
Total:	387

Fall of wickets: 1-1: 2-104; 3-168; 4-228; 5-262; 6-265; 7-305; 8-310; 9-323.

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Walsh	35	4	89	2
Benjamin	35.3	8	106	3
Cuffy	22	4	80	3
Cummins	16	0	45	2
Hooper	17	1	50	0
Adams	3	1	9	0

WEST INDIES: Second innings

Simmons run out	25
Lara c Mongia b Raju	91
Hooper lbw b Raju	20
Adams not out	78
Arthurton not out	70
Extras: (b-10; lb-4; nb-3)	17
Total: (for three wickets, declared)	301

Fall of wickets: 1-1: 2-135; 3-156.

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Prabhakar	9	1	34	0
Srinath	20	0	95	0
Kumble	7	0	56	0
Raju	12.3	0	60	2
Kapoor	7	1	32	0
Tendulkar	1	0	10	0

INDIA: Second innings

Prabhakar retired hurt	0			
Sidhu lbw b Benjamin	11			
Manjrekar not out	14			
Tendulkar not out	6			
Extras: (lb-4, nb-2)	6			
Total: (for one wicket)	37			
Fall of wicket: 1-17				
Bowling	O	M	R	W
Walsh	8	4	10	0

White to England's rescue

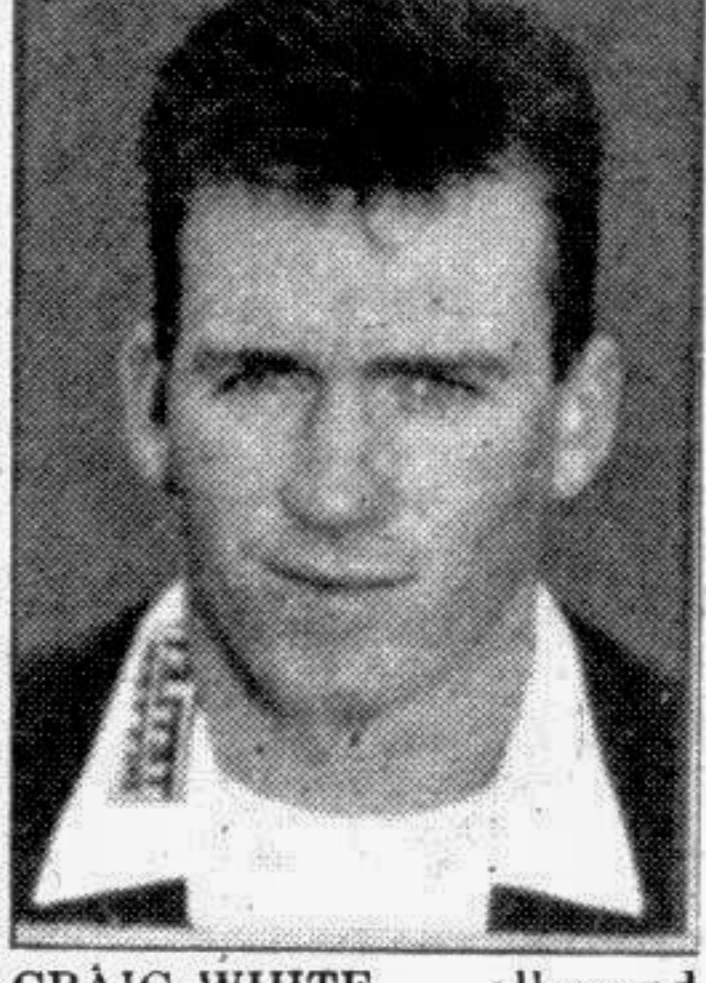


CRAIG WHITE ... all-round

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Australia A paceman Merv Hughes again pressed his claims for a Test recall with 2-



CRAIG WHITE ... all-round

AUSTRALIA A

Lehmann c Rhodes b Fraser	3
Hayden c Rhodes b Fraser	12
Martyn c Gooch b Tufnell	40
Langer run out	55
Ponting b White	31
Moody b White	2
Emery c Rhodes b DeFreitas	2
Robertson run out	2
Reiffel c Rhodes b DeFreitas	1
Hughes b White	2
Angel not out	3
Extras: (lb-2; w-1; nb-1)	14
Total: (45.5 overs)	157

Fall of wickets: 1-7: 2-20; 3-79; 4-138; 5-142; 6-145; 7-151; 8-152; 9-153.

Bowling	O	M	R	W
DeFreitas	10	2	24	2
Fraser	9	1	31	2
White	8.5	1	35	3
Udal	8	0	33	0
Tufnell	10	0	32	1

Result: England beat Australia A by 31 runs.

STANDINGS

Australia	4	4	0	8
Australia A	4	2	2	4
England	2	1	1	2
Zimbabwe	4	0	4	0

Tasmania nip NSW

SYDNEY, Dec 13: Tasmania seized New South Wales's last four wickets for eight runs to win their Sheffield Shield match by 51 runs in a gripping finish under floodlights on Monday, reports Reuters.

Set 321 to win in a minimum of 68 overs at the Sydney Cricket Ground, New South Wales slumped from 261 for six to 269: all out with 4.4 overs left.

Former Test paceman Chris Matthews captured four for 65, his haul including captain and Test all-rounder Steve Waugh for 52 and the final wicket of Anthony Kershner.

The result leaves the two teams level with South Australia on eight points behind leaders Queensland (20) and second-placed Victoria (11.1).

Orient Bread kabaddi

Jana Sasthya Karmachari Kalyan Samity squeezed home 17-16 over Maniknagar kabaddi team in one of the two matches of the Orient Bread kabaddi league at the kabaddi court yesterday, reports UNB.

The first session was locked 3-3.

In the other match, Baragoli Samajkalyan Jubo Sangha beat Jurani Janata Club 27-23 after leading the first half 14-8.

Fresh air in Juventus camp



ROBERTO BAGGIO ... Juventus star

LONDON, Dec 13: It is now nine seasons since Juventus, "La vecchia signora" or old lady of the Italian league, last won the Serie A title, reports Reuters.

But the old lady, as Juventus is nicknamed, is being revitalised and the fresh faces of 20-year-old Alessandro del Piero and 19-year-old Alessio Tacchinardi and Corrado Grabbì helped to put the club top of Serie A on Sunday with a 4-3 win at Lazio.

Del Piero, regularly used as a substitute this season for World Cup star Roberto Baggio, scored two brilliant goals, while Grabbì came on as a substitute after half an hour and scored the fourth Juventus goal in what was his first league game.

Tacchinardi played and important role too, starring in the unfamiliar role of sweeper in a reshaped defence following the substitution of defender Massimo Carrara by Grabbì.

Juventus coach Marcello Lippi, missing both Baggio and striker Gianluca Viali, sent on Grabbì after Lazio had been reduced to 10 men following the sending-off of defender Roberto Cravero.

Lippi afterwards: "I didn't do anything very extraordinary or courageous in sending on a young player of Grabbì's quality. I'm delighted that he scored, it's a great bonus for a youngster."

Deposed league leaders Parma had only themselves to blame for a 0-0 draw at Genoa in which they missed a number of easy chances.

Schuster Gianfranco Zola, guilty of several misses, was full of self-criticism, saying: "I'd like to cut off my feet... if we lose the title just by one or two points then I'll run away and you won't see me around for a while."

In Spain controversy raged over the knee injury suffered by Real Madrid midfielder Fernando Redondo, which will probably put the Argentine international out of the game for two months.

Real Oviedo's Slavisa Jokanovic was sent off for the foul.

Spanish radio commentators claimed Jokanovic down with a tackle from behind which resulted in torn ligaments in his rights knee.

Jokanovic himself was unrepentant. "It was the only foul I committed all through the game. I don't think it was my fault that he was injured — he had had this kind of problem before."

Redondo himself, who missed the first two months of the season with a similar injury in his left knee, said dismissively: "I am fed up that some people want to make me look like the guilty party just because of the way I do things."

Borussia Dortmund won 4-0 at Hamburg on Saturday to take a four-point lead into the German winter break.

Captain Michael Zore scored for Dortmund to complete a successful week for the club after they reached the quarter-finals of the UEFA Cup in midweek.

Second-placed Werder Bremen slipped further behind after drawing 0-0 with reigning champions Bayern Munich.

Bayern, who also reached the quarter-finals of the European Cup during the week, finished the first half of the season in fifth place, six points

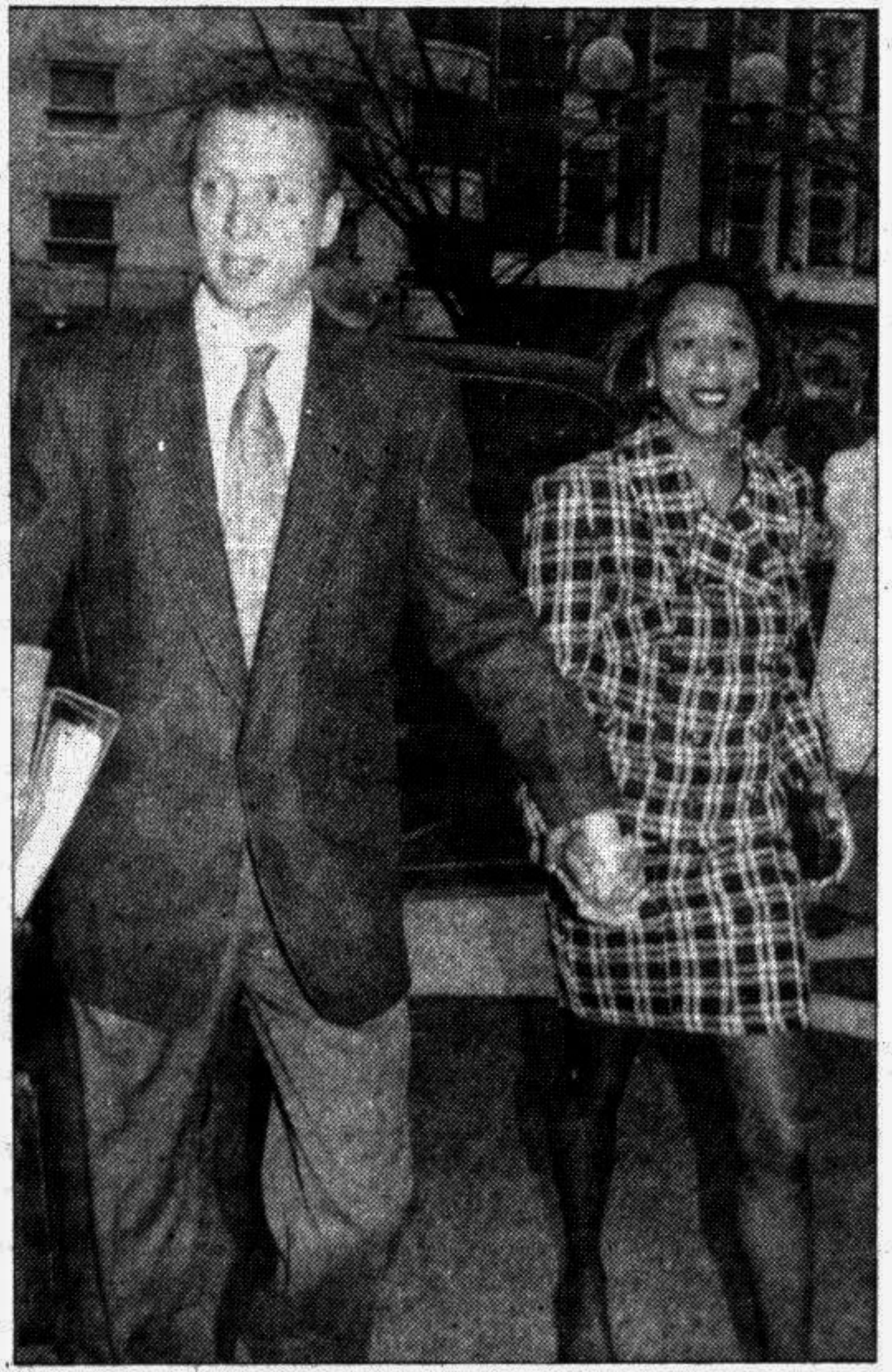
Return of Yugoslavia

BELGRADE, Dec 13: Serbian Yugoslavia Monday named its team for exhibition games against Brazil and Argentina, marking the former European soccer power's return to the international scene, reports AP.

The roster includes such stars as midfielders Dejan Savicevic of AC Milan, Vladimir Jugovic and Sinisa Mihajlovic of Sampdoria Genoa and several other players competing in the strong Italian, German and Spanish leagues.

Truncated Yugoslavia, which disintegrated in a civil war, now consists only of Serbia and tiny Montenegro. The matches against world champions Brazil, in Porto Alegre on Dec 23, and Argentina in Buenos Aires on Dec 27, will mark their first return to the international scene after 31 months of sanctions. Next March they also play England at Wembley.

The UN sanctions were imposed on Yugoslavia as punishment for fomenting wars in the breakaway Yugoslav republics of Croatia and Bosnia. They were eased in October to reward it for cutting military support to Serb rebels in Bosnia.



DIANE MODAHL ... Commonwealth champion

White to England's rescue



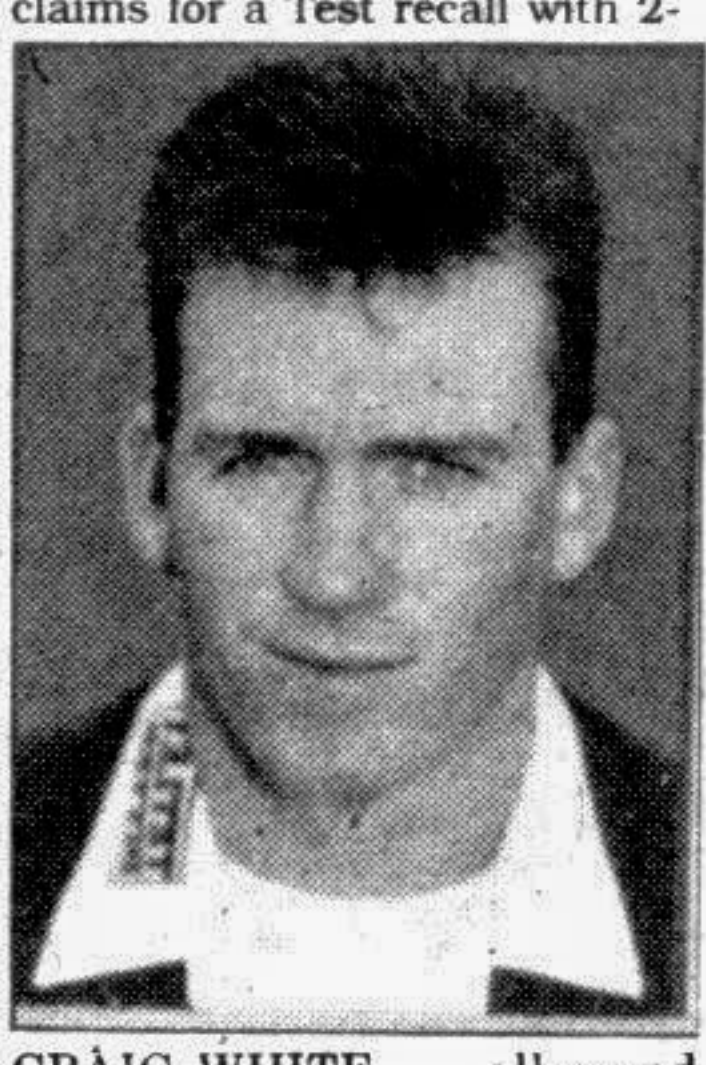
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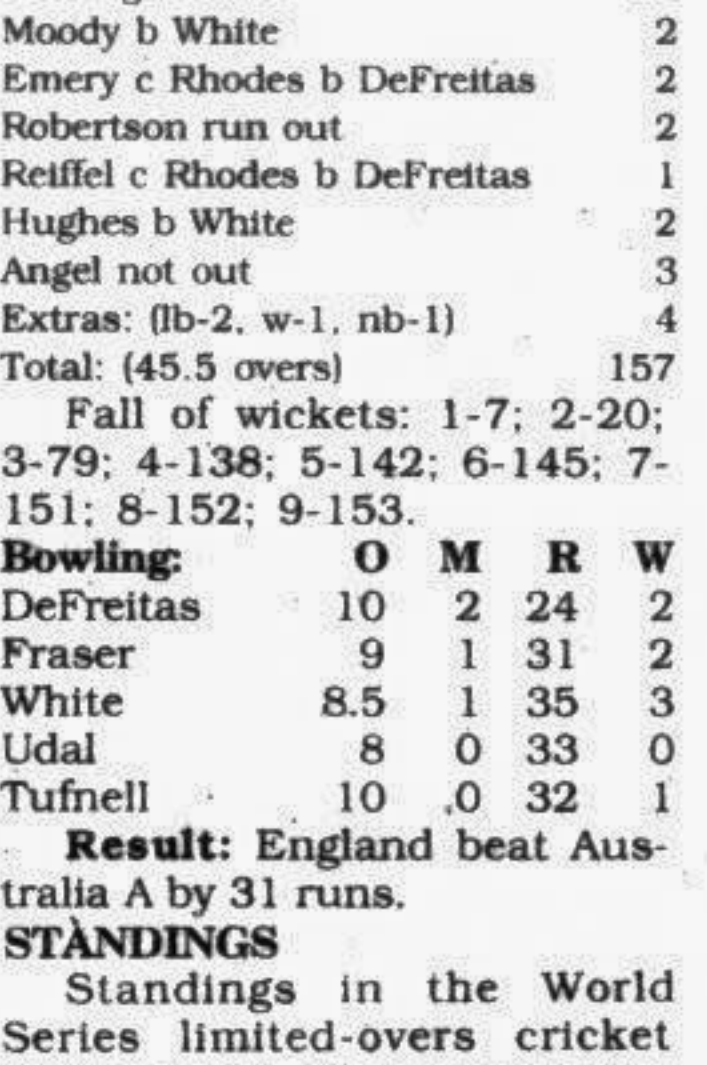
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CRAIG WHITE ... all-round

Former Commonwealth 800 metres champion Diane Modahl arrives at a British Athletic Federation disciplinary hearing in London yesterday with her Norwegian husband and coach Vincente. She is fighting a four-year drug ban after she tested positive at a meeting in Lisbon in June.

— AFP photo