Khelaghar

Acme Div II

cricket champs

Sports Reporter

willow while skipper Kollol

shone with the leather to pro-

pel Khelaghar Shishu Kishore

Shangha to clinch the Acme

Second Division cricket league

title with a comfortable 49-run

win over Bangladesh Boys at

with both sides already assured

of qualification to the Yamaha

scored a fighting 187 for seven

in the allotted 40 overs with

Shakil Ahmed hammering a

put on a vital 78 runs for the

fourth wicket with Shakil.

scored a polished 37 off 48

balls while opener Shahiduz-

zaman, the other notable run-

ners, chipped in with a 49-ball

32, was the pick among the

from his quota of eight overs.

Rahman (14) were the only

double-digit scorers for the

Nat'l cricket

begins tomorrow

Pepsi Cup National cricket

championship begins simulta-

neously at seven different zonal

venues across the country to-

seven groups, will compete in

the prestigious meet to be

held at Jessore. Barisal, Chan

dpur. Thakurgaon, Jhenidali

will take on Patukhali at Jes

sore. Narsingdi meet Gopal

ganj at Barisal, Comilla face

Habiganj at Chandpur, Dinajpur

play Gaibandha at Thakurgaou.

Kushtia encounter Meherpur

at Jhenidah, Tangail meet Na

tore at Rangpur, and Manik-

champions along with the last

vear's semi-finalists - Sylher

Chittagong, Dhaka University

and Bangladesh Biman - will

play in the 11-team final round

Reid to step

down as Kiwi

cricket coach

Reid announced Sunday that

he has decided not to seek the

job of New Zealand cricket

coach on a permanent basis.

Reid's brief term in charge

of the national team ended in

Auckland on Saturday when

New Zealand were beaten by

Sri Lanka in the last match of a

three-game limited-overs

New Zealand won the series

Reid took control of the

Kiwi team in January following

the surprise resignation of

Geoff Howarth. He will resume

his career as Auckland Cricket

Association chief executive

Rutherford said he was disap-

pointed Reid had not elected

to apply for the position, say-

ing Reid and team manager

Gren Alabaster had made a ma-

jor impact over the past 10

can't continue as coach."

Rutherford said. "He's had a

very, very positive influence on

the side and the players have,

"He's extremely well orga-

New Zealand Cricket, the

nized and extremely cooperative in the way he's reacted to

things that I've tried to do."

by and large, responded.

"I'm disappointed John

New Zealand captain Ken

WELLINGTON, Apr 2: John

to be held in Dhaka.

reports AP.

series.

weeks.

later this week.

Only the seven group

ganj battle Pabna at Tangail.

On the opening day, Khulma

Forty-eight teams, split in

morrow, reports UNB.

Rangpur and Tangail.

The first phase of the 21st

Boy's bowlers.

scalps.

losers.

Badruzzaman with three for

getter for the eventual win-

Sayeed Hassan Sumon, who

Khelaghar, sent in to bat,

First Division next year.

brilliant 59 off 84 balls.

In an insignificant finale

the Dhaka Stadium vesterday.

Shakil dazzled with the

BKSP win big

Sports Reporter Defending champions Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protisthan (BKSP) made a resounding start in their chase to retain the national youth hockey championship title with a thumping 8-0 win over Rangpur at the Hockey Stadium vesterday.

In a goal-feast first match of the day. Ramiz. Shamsuzzaman, and Ziaur Rahman struck twice apiece for the Savar outfit while Sikander Ali and Sadeque shared the other two goals to complete the Rangpur

Rajshahi Education Board. the other strong contenders in the fray, recorded a convincing 2-0 win over Narayanganj in the other billing of the day.

Kajal gave the winners a 10th minute lead before Abu sealed the fate of the match adding another seven minutes the second half.

JU cagers lift inter-varsity b'ball title

Sports Reporter

Hosts Jahangirnagar University upset the form book when they beat Dhaka University 69-62 to win the interuniversity basketball championship at the JU central gymnasium yesterday.

JU cagers led the pulsating first period 42-38.

For Jahangirnagar, Rinku top scored with 19 points.

JU Vice-Chancellor Amirul Islam Chowdhury witnessed the see-saw final as the chief guest and later distributed trophies.

The country's six universities - Dhaka University, Chittagong University, BUET, Agricultural University, Shahjalal University and Jahangirnagar University - took part in the five-day tournament.

GMCC beat Wari

Greater Mymensingh Crieket Club (GMCC) beat Wari Club by five wickets in the Navana Premier Division cricket relegation league on the western strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Batting first, Wari made 191 for seven in the allotted 35

In reply, GMCC reached their target making 194 for five with one ball to spare.

Cute handball

Surjodoy Krira Chakra reg istered a facile 38-12 victory over Dhaka Wanderers' Club in the Cute metropolis premier handball league at the Outer Stadium handball court yesterday, reports UNB.

Surjodoy KC dominated the first half 15-5.

Rajesh Kumar netted 12 and Vindar Singh 11 goals for the winners while Mousum Ali and Al-Islam scored four each for the losers.

Bangladesh Police will meet Bangladesh Ansars in today's

NZ down China in eves' hockey

HOBART, Apr 2: New Zealand downed world number seven, China 2-0 in the upset of the four-nation women's field hockey tournament here Saturday, reports AFP.

The young Kiwis, not ranked in the world's top 12, went ahead through Sue Duggan from a penalty corner in the 12th minute.

New Zealand maintained the pressure in a physical second half, and took their winning break 18 minutes from full time when Anna Lawrence scored from a penalty corner.

The victory gave New Zealand a win, a draw and a loss from the round robin tournament, while China exited winless.



A host of young booters, who are likely to join Abahani Krira Chakra, await their tokens on the inaugural of the six-day inter-club players' transfers at the DMFA office yesterday. - Star photo

Inter-club players' transfers

Muktijoddha reap rich

Sports Reporter



The inter-tlub soccer transfers for 1995 began vesterday with 95 players taking tokens from the

Dhaka Metropolis Football Association (DMFA) office in the evening.

Like last year, Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra led the way by taking seven transfer tokens. Mohammedan Sporting' also took seven tokens while their arch-rivals, last year's Premier Division league champions Abahani Krira Chakra paid for a dozen tokens on the opening day.

Among the other clubs competing in the senior league. Arambagh made a big show by coming to the DMFA office accompanied by a brass band. Their officials produced eight booters, including Mahbubur Rahman Roxy and Shamim, who played in midfield and defence respectively for Mohammedans last year.

Muktijoddha, who suddenly

came alive last season by pulling off the biggest signing coup of recent times by roping in as many as eleven top-ranking national team players, yesterday came close to repeating

Among the seven tokens taken by an official of the freedom fighters' club, four were for players who donned the pale blue Abahani jersey in 1994, two from the orangecoloured Brothers Union and the other for one of their own -- custodian Arun who did duty for them quite commendably last season.

The four Abahani stars who are fikely to join Muktijoddha this year are midfielders Zakir Hossain and Golam Ghaus, striker Masudur Rahman Rana and defender Emdadul. For Rana, it would be a return to his former club.

The two Brothers players seeking to change colours are striker Babu Das and defender Shahzada.

Abiliani on the day were meant for new signings Biplab (BU). Jamal, Iqbal, Jahangir (Agrani Bank). Hasan Al-Mamun (Fakirerpool), Ali Mansur and Chanchal (Wari).

The five others are their stable mates from the past year Mansur Ali, Partha, Shamim. Dhanu and Saidur.

Arman, who played for Muktitoddha last year, has decided to return to Mohammedans, along with the highest scorer in last year's Star First Division league Milon of Rahmatganj. Ruhul Amin of Brothers and the East End defender Munna are also set to wear the black-and-white jer-

Agrani Bank seem to be planning a total overhaul, having taken as many as 19 tokens. Victoria have so far sought five tokens, which cost Tk 200 each.

Actual transfer formalities begin today. The transfers run until April 7.

The twelve tokens taken by

Rovers move further clear

Sutton's sensational strike



LONDON, Apr 2: Striker Chris Sutton scored the fastest English Premier League goal in 16 secon-

ds as leaders Blackburn went six points clear of champions Manchester United on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Sutton beat the previous mark of 19 seconds for the league's quickest-ever goal, by Chelsea forward John Spencer.

Blackburn, with England marksman Alan Shearer firing the second, won 2-1 at relegation-threatened Everton to lift their points tally to 79 from 35 matches.

Second-placed Manchester United, who have 73 points from 35 games, are at home to Leeds on Sunday. Arsenal striker John Hartson produced the day's outstanding individual scoring feat with a hattrick in nine minutes that thrust his London team to a 5-1 home win over Norwich.

Hartson signed from First Division Luton in January, struck after four, six and 13

minutes. Nottingham Forest, chasing a place in European competition next season, romped to a thumping 7-1 victory away to Sheffield Wednesday, with **Dutchman Bryan Roy and Stan** Collymore each scoring twice.

Everton, without five suspended first-team players including marksman Duncan Ferguson and leading scorer Paul Rideout, were rocked by the double strike from Sutton and Shearer, who was passed

fit after missing England's midweek friendly against Uruguay because of a knee injury.

Sutton made the most of a misjudgement by defender Earl Barrett as he tried to cut out a cross from the right, the Blackburn forward slipping the ball neatly past goalkeeper Neville Southall.

Balckburn pressed home their advantage six minutes later when a free kick by Graeme le Saux was not fully controlled by Sutton and the ball ran loose for Shearer to drive an unstoppable shot ho-

me from the edge of the box. Everton cut the deficit through Graham Stuart after 24 minutes but Blackburn held on for a victory that left Everton 17th in the 22-team league from which the bottom

four are relegated this season. Hartson's hattrick set Arsenal on the way to their biggest league win of the season, with a 75th-minute strike from Paul Merson and an own goal by defender Rob Newman

completing their tally.

It was only the second time in their last 37 league and cup matches that Arsenal had scored three of more goals. providing a timely boost ahead of their European Cup Winners' Cup semifinal first leg at home to Italians Samdoria next Thursday.

Forest, aiming for a UEFA Cup spot in 1995-96, recalled some of their exhilarating early-season form as they buried Sheffield Wednesday in a second-half spree.

the heat after halftime.

an 86th minute strike.

Forest's win kept them in fourth place with 63 points one point behind third-placed Newcastle, who snatched a 1-1 draw at Cheisea.

Swiss international defender Marc Hottiger equalised in the 88th minute for Newcastle after midfielder Gavin 'Peacock had put the London side ahead in the first

lose 4-31

Norwegian international Oydind Leonhardsen equalised in the 85th minute and striker Jon Goodman struck a last minute winner. The pair had each scored within two minutes midway through the sec-

lpswich, who have 23 an injury-time own goal.

Defender Stuart Pearce and

midfielder Ian Woan put Forest 2-0 ahead in the first 20 minutes, but the former European champions really turned up

Roy scored in the 48th and 64th minutes and fellow forward Collymore hit his two goals after 78 and 80 minutes. Norway midfielder Lars Bohinen wrapped up the rout with

Leicester and Ipswich, the bottom two teams, were looking ever more certain to be relegated after suffering contrasting home defeats.

Leicester, propping up the league with just 21 points from 35 games, led Wimbledon 3-2 with six minutes left, only to

ond half.

points from 34 games, slumped 1-0 to Aston Villa when debutant Chris Swailes scored

Rangers beat Dundee United

Glasgow Rangers gave former backroom boy Billy Kirkwood an unhappy managerial bap-tism in his first match in charge of Dundee United on Saturday, reports Reuter.

minutes, with Gordon Durie's opener coming after just 12 seconds, spurred Rangers to a

Leaders Rangers are now 14 points clear of second-placed Motherwell, who were held I 1 at Celtic, leaving the champions needing five points from six games to clinch their seventh consecutive championship.

West Indies in deep trouble

Sports Reporter



Indies wee staring at deleat on the third day of the secondin Bridget Barbados

The hosts were all out for 180 according to a radio monitored report late last night. West Indies, who scored

195 in their first innings. found themselves in deep trouble again when they lost their first five wickets with only 91 runs on the board.

Skipper Richardson fell for 36, Lara nine, Hooper 16 and wicketkeeper Junior Murray chipped in with 23.

For Australia, Shane Warne and Glenn McGrath evenly shared four wickets among themselves while Brendon Julien, the first innings' wrecker, took one wicket and Paul Reiffel made the vital breakthrough capturing the prized scalp of Richardson at the stroke of lunch.

Jimmy Adams remained not

out on 41. Earlier on Saturday AP adds: In reply. Bangladesh Boys Australia seized command on could muster only 138 before the second day of their first being all out in 35.5 overs Test with the West Indies. mainly due to a brilliant spell compiling a first innings total from Kollol, who finished with of 346 all out and a 151-run fantastic figures of four for 29

By stumps, the West Indies He was well backed by new had laboured to 13 without ball bowler Sajjad Hossain, who loss off 15 overs in their secgave only 19 runs for his two end innings with Stuart Williams on six and Sherwin Sayed (24), Uzzal (19) Campbell four. Pavel [15], and skipper Ziaur

Resuming Saturday morning on 91 for two, all of Australia's batsmen combined for five partnerships of 40 runs or more. Wicketkeeper lan Healy led with a vital, unbeatent 74, his highest score against the West Indies. Steve Waugh hit 65 and captain Mark Taylor added another 55!

Healy, the 30-year-old vice captain, batted three hours and hit seven fours and two sixes. His typically belligerent

innings shifted the momentum just when the West Indies were fighting back. The home team had reduced Australia to 230 for six with the second new ball three overs away.

But Healy combined with first-day bowlfng hero Brendon Julian to add 60 for the seventh wicket and grab the ini-

Julian batted 80 minutes and hit three fours in his 31. He was finally out on the second ball after tea, hitting offspinner Carl Hooper to Kenneth Benjamin at mid-off.

But Healy continued to flourish as he and the rest of the tail managed to add 56 runs for the last three wickets.

Earlier, Taylor and Mark Waugh stretched their overnight third-wicket stand to 49 before Taylor edged Kenneth Benjamin to Carl Hooper at second slip. Taylor's 55 lasted three hours, included eight fours and spanned 132 balls."

The West Indies had an ear lier chance to break the stand, but Kenneth Benjamin floored a catch at fine leg when Mark Waugh hooked at Courtney Walsh. The score was then 103 with Waugh on 11.

Waugh took advantage to make 40, but never looked completely comfortable against the short, rising ball, which eventually proved his downfall. He was caught behind by Junior Murray off Curtly Ambrose after adding 45 with his twin brother, Steve. Mark batted 106 minutes, faced 65 balls and hit five fours.

Steve's 65 came from 128 minutes and was spiced with eight boundaries before he was caught one-handed by wicketkeeper Junior Murray diving to his right off Kenneth Benj-At 230 for six, the West

Indies had clawed their way back into the match. But then came Healy and Julian. Winston Benjamin was the

leading West Indies bowler with three wickets for 71 off 23.2 overs, while there were two wickets apiece for Curtly Ambrose, Courtney Walsh and Kenneth Benjamin.

SCOREBOARD

Scores at the close of the second day of the first cricket Test between the West Indies and Australia at the Kensington

WEST INDIES: 1st inning AUSTRALIA: 1st innings

M Slater c Williams b

W Benjamin M Taylor c Hooper b K Benjamin D Boon e W Benjamin M Waugh c Murray b S Waugh c Murray b K Benjamin G Blewett c Murray b Ambrose I Healy not out B Julian c K Benjamin b Hoope P Reiffel b W Benjamin S Warne c Adams b Walsh G McGrath b W Benjamin Extras: (lb-13, nb-5) Total: (all out)

7-290, 8-291, 9-331 Bowling: Ambrose 78 2 K Benjamin 71 2 12 0 59 1

Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-72,

WEST INDIES: 2nd innings S Williams not out S Campbell not out Extras: (nb-3) Total (without loss) Bowling: Warne McGrath (Incomplete)



Players of Khelaghar Shishu Kishore Sangha who became Acme Division Two cricket champions beating Bangladesh Boys by 49 runs at the Dhaka Stadium. - Star photo

Exciting finishes to London Marathon

Ceron, Sobanska triumph

LONDON, Apr 2: Defending cha-LAA mpion Dionicio

Ceron of Mexico burst away from Australian Steve Moneghetti in the final few strides to become the first man to win the London Marathon twice with a superb victory in glorious spring sunshine on Sunday, reports

Reuter. In conditions very different from the cold and blustery weather which marked his victory last year, the 29-yearold Mexican ran a tactically superb race in a personal best time of two hours eight minutes 30 seconds to add the 55,000-dollar bonus prize for finishing first to his 100,000-

dollar appearance fee. The time was the second fastest in the 15-year history of the London race and Ceron's surge for the line in the final few strides of the 26 mile 385 vard (42.195 kms) course was

enough to leave Moneghetti back in second place for the second time in six years. The Australian, who clo-

cked 2:08.33, finished just

three seconds behind the leader - the same slender margin by which Kenyan Douglas Wakithuri beat him in 1989. One consolation for the Commonwealth Games champion was the runners-up paycheck of 30,000 dollars. Antonio Pinto of Portugal, who won the 1992 race, fin-

ished third in 2:08.48 and picked up 22,500 dollars after what proved to be a rash decision to try and break the field around the halfway mark. He opened up a lead of

some 200 yards (metres) but was passed by both Ceron and Moneghetti in the last mile. Unlike the men's race which saw Pinto running alone

at the head of the field for mile after mile, the women's race quickly settled into a battle between European champion Finland's Ritva Lemettinen and Poland's Malgortata Sobanska, who won in 2:27.43 to collect the women's 55,000-dollar first prize.

Manuela Machado of Portugal,

Katrin Dorre of Germany. winner for the last three years, was out of contention by the halfway stage and eventually finished seventh, while Britain's Liz McColgan, running in a major race for the first time after 18 months out through injury, finished fifth.

Only six were left in contention by the 16-mile marker - the eventual first three and Poland's Renata Kokowska, who finished fourth, McColgan and American Kim Jones, who was sixth, in the final stages though Sobanska motored ahead of Machado, who eventually finished 10 seconds back in second place, although that winning margin was the narrowest yet in the history of the women's race.

Earnest money

Roquibul Hassan (extreme left), the manager of the Sharjah bound Bangladesh national cricket team, delivers words of wisdom towards his boys after a light practice session at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. The national squad is scheduled to leave for the United Arab Emirates tonight to take part in the Pepsi Asia Cup tournament which begins on Wednesday. - Star photo

sport's domestic governing body, has advertised the national coaching position in publications around the world.

GLASGOW, Apr 2: Scottish Premier Division champions

Two goals in the first nine 2-0 away victory.

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