

**C'wealth youth
h'ball from Aug 24**

The sixth version of the Commonwealth youth handball (men's and women's) championship '95 will be held in Dhaka. August 24-31 at the Mirpur National Indoor Stadium, reports UNB.

Ten teams — England, Nigeria, Malaysia, India, Pakistan, Canada, Australia, Ghana, Cyprus and host Bangladesh — are expected to take part in the eight-day competition.

Earlier, Bangladesh participated in the Commonwealth handball meet held in New Delhi in 1991 and finished third in the men's group among the seven participating countries.

To make the tournament a success, a 34-member high level organising committee has been formed recently with Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman as chairman and Major General M Mahubur Rahman as organising secretary.

Indian all-star cricketers' tie

CALCUTTA, Apr 10: The present Indian team and a host of star cricketers from the past, including Sunil Gavaskar, Kapil Dev and Gundappa Vishwanath would be seen in action in a day-night exhibition match to be played at the Eden Gardens here on April 28, reports PTI.

The exhibition match between the present Indian team and the Indian Masters XI, to be led by former Indian captain Sunil Gavaskar, has been organised to raise funds for the promotion and welfare of sportspersons in the state.

The president of the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB), Jagmohun Dalmiya, would be honoured during the course of the match for his excellent work as a sports administrator.

Sunil Gavaskar and Kapil Dev would also be felicitated for their outstanding contribution to Indian cricket, the State Sports Minister, Subhash Chakraborty, told a press conference here today.

Chakraborty said that CAB would help organise the match and the prices of tickets had been kept very low to ensure a large turnout.

Senegal beat Mauritania

JOHANNESBURG, Apr 9: Senegal finally justified their seeding in Group Two of the African Nations' Cup with a 1-0 away victory over Mauritania as a 14-match weekend programme got underway, reports AFP.

The Lions, semifinalists in 1990 and quarter-finalists in 1992 and 1994, have five points, the same as front-runners Liberia and Togo, but tie third on goal difference.

Senegal went to Nouakchott needing both points to have a realistic chance of qualifying for the 16-nation finals in South Africa in January.

The visitors made a dream start as Mamdou Diallo scored in the 14th minute against a Mauritanian defence that had conceded only two goals in four previous Cup ties.

Victory confirmed the improvements in Senegalese fortunes since Karim Diouf replaced former national stars Jules Bocande and Boubacar Saar as coach in January.

Before Diouf took charge, Senegal were held goalless at home by Mauritania, lost in Togo and could only draw in Dakar and Tunisia, the other seeds.

Under new leadership, Senegal snatched a last-minute equaliser in Liberia, and a victory over Togo late this month would leave them well placed for a record fourth consecutive finals appearance.

Egypt and Algeria, the nations expected to qualify from Group Four, boosted their chances with easy home victories over Sudan and Ethiopia respectively.

German athlete suspended for doping

FRANKFURT, Apr 10: Susen Tiedtke-Greene, the German long jumper who won the bronze medal at the indoor World Championship last month, has been suspended for failing a drug test, the German Athletics Federation (DLV) said Monday, reports AP.

In a statement, the DLV said a drug test on March 13, one day after she won the bronze medal in Barcelona, Spain, revealed traces of a steroid and "definitely" led to conclusions that she had been using banned substances.

Rain plays foul at Antigua

ST. JOHN'S, Antigua, Apr 10: West Indies fast bowler Courtney Walsh took the crucial wicket of Australian skipper Mark Taylor before rain forced an early lunch on Monday, the third day of the second Cable and Wireless cricket Test, reports AP.

Australia, resuming for 16 without loss overnight, reached 31 for one in half-hour before showers forced the players off the field.

LATEST Sports Reporter

Australia had progressed to 60 for two, a lead of 16, shortly before tea on a rain-interrupted third day of the second Test against the West Indies at St Johns, Antigua, according to radio reports monitored in Dhaka late last night.

David Boon with 26 and Mark Waugh with six were at the crease.

Courtney Walsh claimed his second wicket in the Australian second innings when he sent back opener Michael Slater for 18, caught by Richardson.

Michael Slater was undefeated on 17 and David Boon on six. The tourists still need 13 runs to erase their first innings deficit.

Walsh, who undermined the Australian batting in the first innings with six for 54, struck in the day's fourth over.

Left-hander Taylor was out for the second time in the match hooking, this time gloving to wicket-keeper Junior Murray down the leg side. Taylor was out for five with the score at 22. In the first innings, he skied his hook at Curtly Ambrose to Walsh at five.

It stopped raining after an hour but the skies remained overcast. Umpires Steve Bucknor of Jamaica and David Shepherd of England decided to take lunch 20 minutes early at 11:45 am.

Earlier on Sunday AFP adds: Australia scrambled back into contention with West Indies on the second day of the second Test.

Australia were 16 for no wicket in their second innings at the close, still 28 behind having dismissed West Indies for 260 on a day of fluctuating fortunes at the Recreation Ground.

Brian Lara, returning to the scene of the world record 375 he scored against England last year, looked like making it a one-man show again as he murdered the bowling during the first and second sessions.

But Steve Waugh had Lara caught by David Boon for 88 as the Australians cleaned up the last five West Indies wickets for 20 runs.

Defending their paltry 216 first innings total, the Australians were looking for quick wickets when West Indies resumed at 14 for no wicket.



BRIAN LARA... 88

They picked up Stuart Williams for 16 when the youngster spooned a catch to Boon off Shane Warne's bowling.

That brought Lara to the crease and he carved up the disciplined Australian attack with incredible ease, lashing 11 boundaries en route to his 12th Test half-century.

He starred in a 72-run partnership with his slightly out-of-touch captain Richie Richardson (37) and a 62-run stand with Jimmy Adams (22), putting West Indies in a position of strength at 168 for two midway through the second session.

However, the Australians hit back with stunning force. Warne collected Adams, succeeded successfully pleading loud and long to umpire Steve Bucknor for an lbw decision, and captain Mark Taylor brought on all-rounder Steve Waugh in an attempt to upset Lara's rhythm.

Bowling round the wicket, Waugh drafted Boon into an unusual slightly mid-on spot for Lara.

Two overs later Lara lifted a shot to Boon's left and the stocky Tasmanian bounded high and eloped a wonderful catch.

SCOREBOARD

Scores at lunch Monday, the third day of the second cricket Test between the West Indies and Australia:

AUSTRALIA: First innings 216 (C. Walsh 6-54)

WEST INDIES: First innings S Williams c Boon b Warne 16 R Richardson c S Waugh b Julian 37 B. Lara c Boon b S Waugh 88 J. Adams lbw Warne 22 C. Hooper c Julian b S Waugh 11 K. Arthurton c Taylor b Warne 26 W. Murray lbw Reiffel 26 W. Benjamin c Taylor b McGrath 4 C. Ambrose c Taylor b Reiffel 0 C. Walsh b Reiffel 9 K. Benjamin not out 5 Extras: (6-b, 3-lb, 1-W, 6-nb) 16 Total: (All out) 260

Fall of wickets: 1-34; 2-106; 3-168; 4-186; 5-187; 6-240; 7-240; 8-240; 9-254

Bowling: O M R W
Reiffel 17 3 53 3
Julian 10 5 36 1
Warne 28 9 83 3
McGrath 20.1 5 59 1
S Waugh 6 1 20 2

AUSTRALIA: Second innings (overnight 16 without loss)
Mark Taylor c Murray b Walsh 5
Michael Slater not out 17
David Boon not out 6
Extras: 3
Total: (for one wicket, 16 overs) 31

Bowling: O M R W
Ambrose 5 0 9 0
Walsh 7 1 14 1
Winston Benjamin 4 1 7 0
(Incomplete)

Aussie trio refuses to go Pakistan

New turn in bribery scam

ISLAMABAD, Apr 10: A top Pakistan cricket official described Monday the reported refusal of Australian players to provide evidence in bribery allegations against former Pakistani skipper Salim Malik as a "new turn" in the affair, reports AFP.

Malik has a legal right to cross-examine the accusers. And if they don't come it will give the whole case a new turn," Arif Abbasi, chief executive of the Pakistan Cricket Board, told AFP by telephone.

Reports from Sydney said the Australian trio Tim May, Shane Warne and Mark Waugh would not be travelling to Pakistan to substantiate the allegations.

May and Warne had accused Salim Malik of offering them bribes during the Australian tour of Pakistan last year. Australia lost the series 1-0 after two-Test matches were drawn.

Pakistan Cricket Board "charge-sheeted" Malik on the basis of a report it received from the London based International Cricket Council (ICC). However Malik, who was suspended for seven days pending his explanation, "categorically denied" the charges and the ban was lifted on March 20.

Malik, whose reply has been sent to the ICC, had requested the Australian players to come and give evidence against him.

The matter is now between ICC and the Australian Cricket Board. Abbasi said adding that "We have to work through ICC."

Abbasi said the Australian players "have to prove the allegations."

In AFP message from Melbourne says: The Australian Cricket Board (ACB) have decided not to force Test players Shane Warne, Tim May and Mark Waugh to undergo cross-examination in Pakistan over an alleged bribery scam.

The ACB has not revealed why it will not comply with the Pakistan's cricket authority's request for the three to give evidence at the hearing.

The trio alleged they were offered bribes by Pakistan captain Salim Malik to throw a Test in Pakistan last year.

All three said they rejected the offers out of hand and the ACB passed on the details of the alleged approach to the International Cricket Council (ICC).

Malik has denied the allegations, saying they were part of a plot to undermine his team and have left him shattered.

Pakistan wanted the Australians to go to Pakistan for cross-examination and to allow Malik the chance to defend his reputation.

The request was forwarded

Grobbelaar keeps a clean sheet

MASERU, Apr 10: Bruce Grobbelaar, making his first trip out of Britain since being arrested and freed on bail over match-fixing allegations, helped Zimbabwe edge closer to the African Nations' Cup finals on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The goalkeeper, who plays for Southampton in the English Premier League, had little to do as Zimbabwe beat hosts Lesotho 2-0 in their Group One Qualifying match.

The result left Zimbabwe, with eight points from five games, on the verge of qualifying for their first finals since independence in 1980.

Grobbelaar, a popular figure in Africa, was given a loud reception from the small crowd at the Sesotho Stadium and was mobbed by fans afterwards.

He had his passport confiscated by police last month but was allowed out of Britain for the match and will return on Tuesday.

"We are very close now to qualifying. We just need another win to go through," Grobbelaar said later. He refused to comment on the allegations against him.

"You will have to talk to my lawyer in Britain about that," he said.

Bruno fights Anis on May 13

GLASGOW, Scotland, Apr 10: Frank Bruno's next opponent before he lines up a world title challenge to either Oliver McCall or Larry Holmes will be Ray Anis, a 29-year-old Haitian-born, New York-based fighter beaten once in 20 contests, reports AP.

Soccercide

WALSALL, England, Apr 10: Three men were arrested Monday in connection with the beating death of a Crystal Palace fan during a brawl in a parking lot before the team's FA Cup semifinal against Manchester United, reports AP.

The Football Association, meanwhile, was meeting in London to decide whether to call off Wednesday's replay between the two clubs following Sunday's 2-2 tie.

West Midlands police said three men arrested were all from the Manchester areas and were aged 27, 28 and 29.

A 35-year-old Palace supporter, whose name was not immediately released, was killed outside the New Fullbrook pub before the game at the Villa Park ground in Birmingham.

Another Palace fan was stabbed and seriously wounded in the brawl, which involved about 100 fans wielding bricks, stones, bottles and glasses.

Witnesses said the fight erupted after an exchange of taunts regarding Eric Cantona, the Manchester United star who launched a kung-fu-style attack on a Palace fan on Jan 25 at Selhurst Park.

That incident intensified the usual rivalry between the two sets of fans. Sunday's game was the first time the two teams had met since that Selhurst Park match.

Carltona was given a 14-day prison sentence after pleading guilty to the attack in January, but a judge later reduced that to 120 hours community service.

Two busloads of fans had arrived at the pub in a quiet residential area a few hours before the game.

"They just went berserk," said Julie Butler, who lives nearby. "They were throwing glasses and bottles and they were ripping off the bricks and big stones and trying to smash them into smaller ones to hurl at people."

It was the latest in a catalogue of recent incidents involving English fans and part of a resurgence in soccer hooliganism.

When England played Ireland in an exhibition game in Dublin in February, English fans started ripping up seats and hurling them at fans seated below. The game was abandoned after only 27 minutes.

Chelsea fans have been arrested for starting trouble in Belgium and Spain this season.

Palace make M United wait

BIRMINGHAM, Apr 10: Holders Manchester United came back twice to force a 2-2 draw after extra time against underdogs Crystal Palace in a pulsating FA Cup semifinal at Villa Park on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Goals from Iain Dowie and Chris Armstrong put Palace ahead after 33 and 91 minutes respectively, but United replied through Denis Irwin (69th) and Gary Pallister (93rd) to force a replay back at Villa Park on Wednesday.

The winner will meet Everton, who beat Tottenham 4-1 in the other semifinal at Elland Road, in the Cup final at Wembley on May 20.

Palace, bidding to go one better than in the League Cup where they were beaten in the semifinal, carried the game to United in the first half, buckled under pressure in the second, but held on to salvage the draw.

German President takes time off

LAHORE, Apr 10: German President Roman Herzog toured this ancient city Friday, and then joined his Pakistani counterpart to watch a field hockey match between their two nations, reports AP.

Herzog, on a five-day visit to Pakistan, was taken to the Badshahi Mosque, one of the country's most spectacular. He also laid a floral wreath at the mausoleum of the philosopher-poet Allama Mohammed Iqbal, the man who first called for an independent Pakistan in the 1930s.

In the afternoon, Herzog and Pakistan's President Farooq Leghari attended a field hockey match between Pakistan, the reigning World Cup champions, and Germany, the defending Olympic champions. The match ended in a 1-1 draw.



Kenyan Douglas Wakihuri exults as he crosses the finish line to win the sixth IAAF World Marathon Cup in Athens on April 9.

Palace make M United wait

United equalised when Irwin blasted a free-kick high and wide of Palace goalkeeper Nigel Martyn although the ball took a slight deflection off the Palace defensive wall.

That goal came after almost 20 minutes of continuous United pressure and the holders went close soon after when Ryan Giggs forced Martyn to make a brilliant diving save when the ball looked destined for the top, right-hand corner.

Armstrong, who had three good chances to score during the opening 90 minutes, finally found the net a minute into extra time by lobbing Schmeichel after the United defence allowed him to break free into space.

But Palace's dreams of reaching the final for the second time — the first was when they lost to United in the replayed final of 1990 — were put on hold three minutes later.

They failed to put a defender on the far post and allowed Pallister to score with a header for only his second goal of the season.

EVERTON STUN SPURS

AFP adds from Leeds: Relegation candidates Everton upset the odds when they swept into their first FA Cup final for six years with a commanding 4-1 victory over Tottenham Hotspur at Elland Road on Sunday, reports AFP.

Spurs had been widely tipped to win the competition after having their FA ban for financial irregularities overturned shortly before the third round in January.

But a performance of passionate determination by the Merseysiders appearing in their 24th semifinal destroyed the dream for the north Londoners.

All four Everton goals came from players who would not have been in the Everton side if Royle had a full squad available.

Substitute Daniel Amokachi killed Tottenham off with two late efforts after Matt Jackson and Graham Stuart had rocked Tottenham back on their heels.

Amokachi, the three million-pound Nigerian international, killed off the Tottenham fight-

German President takes time off

Real Madrid riding high

MADRID, Apr 10: Chilean striker Ivan Zamorano scored one goal, assisted on another and missed a chance for a third on a penalty, leading Real Madrid to a 3-0 victory over Zaragoza on Sunday as the top of the Spanish First Division standings began to spread out, reports AP.

The victory kept Real (17-8-3, 42 points) six points ahead of second-placed Deportivo La Coruna (14-8-6), but saw other contenders fall further behind with only 10 rounds remaining.

Deportivo kept pace with a 4-1 victory at Tenerife, but Barcelona (14-7-7) dropped another point back to 35 after a 1-1 draw at home against Real Sociedad.

Zaragoza (14-5-9) fell two points back 33 and saw Betis move past there into fourth place with a 2-0 victory Saturday over Atletico Madrid.

In other games Sunday, it was: Valladolid 2, Oviedo 1; Celta 0, Valencia 0; Compostela 4, Logrones 0; Albacete

the 78th. Juan "Juanele" Castano scored his side's sole goal in the 51st minute as Tenerife slipped to 10th place.

Valladolid 2, Oviedo 1 = At Valladolid, Juan Urban scored a 73rd-minute game winner to give relegation-bound Valladolid the victory. Striker Nilson Esidio gave Oviedo the lead in the 17th minute, Oliverio Jesus "Oli" Alvarez equalized in the 66th, but Urban rallied Valladolid seven minutes later for only its sixth victory of the season.

Compostela 4, Logrones 0 = At Logrones, Compostela got goals from four different players to send last-placed Logrones to its 19th loss of the year. Frenchman Frank Passi opened scoring in the 28th minute. Nigerian Christopher Oken added a goal in the 69th, followed by Francisco Javier Mulero Villena in the 72nd minute and Jesus Moure in the 80th.

At Seville, First Division newcomer Betis continued their strong showing in the top flight, beating struggling Atletico on goals by Luis Marquez and Alexis Trujillo.

Wakihuri just misses it

ATHENS, Apr 10: Former world champion Douglas Wakihuri of Kenya won the sixth World Cup marathon on Sunday but missed shattering a 26-year-old course record at the historic run by about one minute, reports Reuter.

Wakihuri, 31, world champion in 1987 and silver medalist at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, braved the rough course in light rain to clock an official two hours 12 minutes one second and made a successful comeback to the event.

His time was about a minute away from the present course record of two hours 11 minutes four seconds, set by Briton Bill Adcock 26 years ago.

"The race was not easy but in the last year I was very well prepared," Wakihuri said afterwards. "Good tactics won me the race."

Japan's Takahiro Sunda, 22, came second in 2:13.16, a personal best, and Italian Davide Milesi was third in 2:14.09 on the marathon-Athens course used at the first modern Olympics in 1896.

In the women's race Romanian Anuta Catana broke the course record, clocking two hours 31 minutes 10 seconds, besting Portuguese Rosa Mota's 2:36.04 in 1982.

Romania dominated the race, with Lidja Simon finishing second in 2:31.46 and Cristina Pomacu third in 2:32.09.



Argentina's Independiente goalie Luis Alberto Islas holds aloft South America's Recopa trophy after the final in Tokyo on April 9. Independiente beat Velez Sarsfield by a solitary goal. — AFP/UNB photo