



The Brothers Union coach Abu Noman Nannu briefs his boys during a light practice session at the Mohakhali T&T ground yesterday.

BCCB XI bow out

The Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) Eleven made their exit from the All-India under-16 cricket tournament when the Delhi Cricket Association (DCA) handed them a six-wicket defeat in the semi-final engagement at the Salt Lake Stadium in Calcutta yesterday.

MSC-BU final today



After wandering in the wilderness last season Mohammedan Sporting Club, one of the two giants in the local sports, will be looking to salvage their lost pride when they meet Brothers Union in the final of the Nirma DMFA Cup football tournament at the Dhaka Stadium today.

Sports Reporter

year in the eight-team final leg, smartly reached the semi-final winning their first three group league matches against Farashganj, Rahmatganj and Brothers Union before moved into the final with a 1-0 win over Muktiyoddha in the second semifinal on Saturday.

Everton clinch FA Cup



LONDON, May 21: Everton, in danger of relegation for much of the season, beat holders Manchester United 1-0 to win the English FA Cup for the fifth time on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Prince Charles looks on towards an ecstatic Everton's skipper David Watson who holds aloft the FA Cup after eliminating last year's champions Manchester United by a solitary goal at Wembley on May 20.

shadow of the side that won the Cup and league double last year. Royle, who has transformed Everton's fortunes after replacing Mike Walker as manager in November said afterwards: "Someone was writing the script. I can't believe it.

later Southall made a superb, diving save from Gary Pallister's glancing header. But the architect of Everton's fifth Cup win was the mercurial Limpar who ran everything in midfield until he was forced off with a hamstring strain in the closing stages.

United's defeat meant they failed in bid for a recorded ninth victory and failed to equal the feats of Newcastle and Tottenham in winning the Cup twice in succession this century. They also became the first team since Everton in 1986 to finish runners-up in both the Cup and League.

Werder Bremen title bound

BONN, May 21: Werder Bremen's Bundesliga title hopes hardened on Saturday with a 6-1 rout of Bayer Uerdingen, reports Reuter.

Basten hopes against hope

MILAN, May 21: Marco Van Basten, who has battled for three years against a chronic ankle injury, said on Saturday he still hoped to play again, reports Reuter.



Akram abases Middlesex



LONDON, May 21: Pakistan pace bowler Wasim Akram returned match figures of nine for 63 as Lancashire completed their third successive county championship victory with an innings thrashing of Middlesex at Lord's on Saturday, reports Reuter.

with Middlesex tottering at 78 for seven in reply to Lancashire.



WASIM AKRAM cashire's first innings 375. They managed to add only 10 runs. Akram taking two wickets for a 6-35 driftings haul.

When Middlesex followed on 287 behind Akram picked up two more quick scalps to send them plunging to three for three.

A ninth wicket stand of 44 between John Emburey and Mark Feltham merely delayed the inevitable - defeat by an innings and 175 runs.

Ma's ex-army in ignominy



TAIYUAN, China, May 21: Several of China's champion runners performed so poorly in national trials in national trials last week that they have failed to qualify for the World Championships in Sweden, reports AP.

Liu Dong, the 1993 world 1,500-metre champion who left the team after a disagreement with coach Ma in 1993, finished 16th in Saturday's 800 metres heat at two minutes, 14.08 seconds, nearly 19 seconds off her best time, it said.

Body on C'wealth youth h'ball meets

The first meeting of the organising committee, formed to hold the 6th Commonwealth Youth Handball Championship in Dhaka, was held in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

Holyfield's double delight



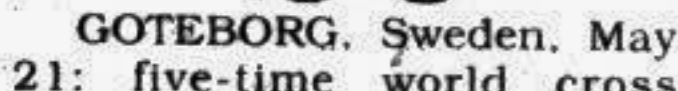
ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, May 21: Forged into a slugfest he didn't want, two-time champion Evander Holyfield took a dramatic first step back in the heavyweight division Saturday night with a unanimous 10-round decision over Ray Mercer, reports AP.

second. At round's end, Mercer went to his corner with his arms raised, apparently happy with his work. Mercer went to his knees in the third but it was ruled no knockdown by referee Ron Lipton because Holyfield had pushed him down. The two rocked each other with hard punches in a toe-to-toe exchange.



Former heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield (R) and Ray Mercer lock in a bout during their non-title fight in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on May 20. Holyfield defeated Mercer by an unanimous decision.

IAAF favours Ngugi



GOTEBORG, Sweden, May 21: five-time world cross country champion John Ngugi, banned for four years for refusing to take a drug test, gained early reinstatement Sunday from the International Amateur Athletic Federation Council, reports AP.

Ngugi was suspended for turning away IAAF representatives at his central Kenya farm on Feb 13, 1993. The runner, who speaks little English, claimed the representatives did not identify themselves properly and that, as a soldier in the Kenyan army, he could not legally give a sample to an unaccompanied foreign delegation.

Chinese sports officials said they hoped to do something to reverse the slump.