

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT footballers in Brazil have long been given nicknames. Leonidas was known as "the black diamond," Garincha as the "little bird" and Picasso was known as Jahu after the initials of the aeroplane in which he flew. The most famous nickname of all is "Pelé," which actually has no meaning. It was merely a nonsense word chanted by Santos fans at their hero.

Now I could think of a lot of nicknames our referees are given but, unfortunately, none of them are fit for print. Moreover, unlike in Brazil, they have pretty good meanings, too. There was this father of one of our great players who sat in the gallery to watch his son play for one of the local football giants. On his return home, his wife asked him how did he like their son's game. The weary dad replied, "Well, the crowd mentioned you and me every time our son got the ball."

But, our players have had their share of glorifying nicknames. The only catch is that nicknames change as quickly as the result. You don't expect a fan to come and say, "Bad luck, black diamond" after you've lost a match. He will perhaps leave out the diamond bit.

SPORTS TALK



Harold Larwood

Legendary England fast bowler, 1949
"If I had my time over again I would never be a fast bowler. It's not worth it."

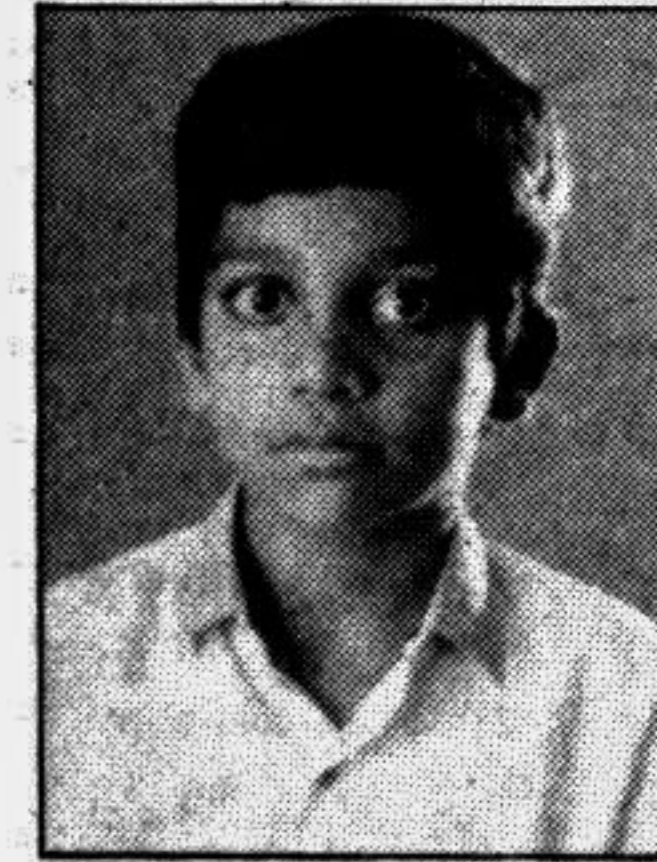
Sports WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN
(The rules are published every Saturday.)

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-3.
Tick the Correct Answer
(Competition closes: 8 PM, Sept 8, 1995)

1. Where was the 1992 Olympics held?	Barcelona	Atlanta	Seoul
2. The national game of Bangladesh is	Kabaddi	Football	Cricket
3. In cricket the distance between the wickets is	22 yards	33 feet	44 metres
4. How many players play in a basketball team?	5	7	9
5. Bangladesh youths are better than Great Britain in	Handball	Football	Volleyball

Name: _____
Class: _____ Roll No: _____
School Address: _____
Phone: (if any) _____

WHIZZ KID-2 winner



Hussain Patel
Oxford International School

Notice
Our regular item 'Crossword' could not be accommodated today due to space constraint. Inconvenience to our valued readers is regretted.
— Sports Editor



Muktijoddha Sangsad's makeshift central defender Masud Rana (7) battles to take the control of the ball during their Lifebuoy Premier League engagement at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. Arambagh sunk the title-aspirants 2-1. — Star photo

Arambagh redden Muktis

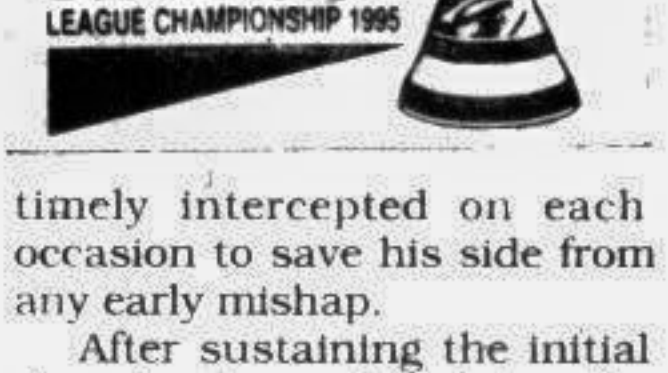


Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra suffered a big blow in the Lifebuoy Premier Division football league last night when they were forced to their third league defeat by middle echelons Arambagh Krira Sangha 2-1 at the floodlit Dhaka Stadium.

It was a great day for Arambagh skipper Roxy who, after his trailing the match 0-1 as striker Ahmed Imtiaz Naqub put Muktijoddha ahead 19 minutes into the first half, brilliantly levelled the match in the same half and then set up the match winner for his teammate Jahangir in the final session to celebrate their second victory of the league.

The word go and kept the red coloured outfit awfully busy in their own box with a series of offensives.

With in form forwards Jahangir, Shob and Russian recruit Matviev, Arambagh could have easily taken an early lead with their speedy moves. But their efforts did not end in goals due to a determined Muktijoddha custodian Pannu who, with the help central defenders Masood Rana and Kingshuk,



timely intercepted on each occasion to save his side from any early mishap.

to equalise the match in the 30th minute of the first half [1].

Both teams remained hopeful for a win after the breather and went for all out football. But it was the Arambagh boys who stole the show with a magnificent match-winner from an indirect free-kick in the late second half.

It was Muktijoddha's goalkeeper Pannu who invited the disaster as he handled a Masood Rana back-pass in the "D" box and thus allowing Arambagh to earn an indirect free-kick.

Roxy pushed the ball to an unguarded Jahangir who blasted home with a power-packed right-footer for the top of the box 10 minutes from the final whistle.

Nat'l hockey begins today

Sports Reporter

The seventeenth national hockey championship gets underway at the Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protishtan (BKSP) in Savar today. The eleven-day long meet will be officially inaugurated by the president of the Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) Major General Mohammed Abdur Rob.

The Narayanganj District Sports Association team will take on Bangladesh Navy in the opening match. The final of the knockout tournament, organised by the BHF, is scheduled to be held on September 15.

Eighteen teams were originally slotted in to fight out for the honours on the artificial astro-turf of the BKSP. But the Dhaka Educational Board withdrew at the last moment to reduce the number of participants to seventeen.

Bangladesh Army, the defending champions, are strong favourites to win the trophy but Dhaka University, with six national players in their ranks, are threatening to pose a stiff challenge. Last year's losing finalists Dhaka District Sports' Association may also put forward a fight for the championship.

Athletics meet deferred

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Amateur Athletic Federation has deferred the Summer meet, scheduled to begin from today.

As per the new programme, the three-day competition will now be held from 7 September at the Mirpur Stadium.

Nat'l rowing Sept 28

Sports Reporter

The twentieth national and second national junior rowing championship will be held on the Buriganga river on September 28 and 29. The annual competition is organised by the Bangladesh Rowing Federation (BRF).

Only the top two teams from each district and teams representing the services, universities and educational boards will be eligible for the event.

The champion and runners-up teams of different districts who are interested to compete in the meet are requested to report to the BRF by September 15.

Boys embarrass East End

Sports Reporter

League leaders East End Club suffered a severe blow when Bangladesh Boys handed the old town outfit a solitary goal defeat in the lone Lifebuoy First Division football league match at the Mirpur Stadium on Monday.

In an up and down encounter, Shuvra scored the all-important goal as early in the 10th minute as Bangladesh Boys, who were relegated to the First Division this year, went home with a squeaky win.

It was East End's third defeat in the league to remain stuck to their previous collection of 24 points from 13 matches. But despite the defeat they still enjoy a slender lead from their nearest rivals Bangladesh Boys, who with this win earned 22 points from 13 engagements.

BOA Secy-Gen hospitalised

Sports Reporter

Bashir Ahmed, Secretary General, Bangladesh Olympic Association, has been admitted to PG Hospital with serious ailment. He has appealed to all to pray for his early recovery.

Jahangir stars behind the stumps' BCCB bamboozle SBI



Sports Reporter

Brilliant keeping behind the stumps by Jahangir Alam enabled the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) eleven to record a 15-run win over the strong State Bank of India (SBI) in the Moynud-dowla Gold Cup invitational tournament in the Indian city of Hyderabad on Monday.

Jahangir, the former national opener-cum wicket-keeper, who was playing in replacement of an injured Khaled Masud Pilot, celebrated his call up with five catches and one stumping as the visitors who lost their tournament opener against the Maharashtra Cricket Association by 19 runs, showed signs of a comeback when they picked up their first win within 24 hours.

According to a faxed message received in Dhaka yesterday, BCCB, sent in to bat on a matting wicket at the Osmania University ground, scored a fighting 227 for nine in their share of 50 overs.

The BCCB innings was built around useful contributions from openers Athar Ali Khan and Javed Omar Belim Golla, who shared 34 runs for the opening stand.

Athar, the stout national opener, departed for a rapid-fire 24 off 29 balls while his young partner Javed, who kept the other end intact for a long time, chipped in with a plucky 44 off 110 balls.

But Zakaria Imtiaz, one of

the three changes in the BCCB line-up, provided the real middle order thrust as well as accelerating the run-rate sharing in two vital partnership with Javed and skipper Akram Khan.



JAHANGIR ALAM

The bulky Zakaria, who put up 56 runs for the third wicket with Javed, added another vital stand of 35 runs for the fourth wicket with his skipper before becoming one of two Yashpal Sharma victims for a sparkling 42 off 59 balls.

Akram Khan hammered a quick-fire 32 off 24 balls while Naimur Rahman Durjoy, who ensured BCCB crossed the 200-mark, wielded his willow for a 28-

ball 29. Khaled Mahmud Sujon plundered 18 runs facing one ball less while left-arm spinner Mohammed Rafique remained unbeaten on a run-a-ball seven.

Among the SBI bowlers Sharma, Johnson and A Sarker evenly shared six wickets among themselves.

In reply, SBI requiring to score at little over 4.5 runs per over, were all out for 212 in 47.3 overs in the face of an accurate spell from Athar Ali Khan and vice-captain Enamul Huq Moni with Jahangir remaining at the helm of every dismissal.

Athar, the right-arm seamer, with his gentle pace, finished with three for 31 in his 7.3 overs while Enamul Huq Moni, the national slow left-arm, who consumed the heart of the SBI innings with his spinning web, returned with figures of four for 40 in his 10 over spell.

Among the SBI batsmen tail-ender Tejas topscored with an unbeaten 29 followed by skipper Y Sharma, who chipped in with 36. Johnson (32), Yadab (25), Probhakar (21) and A Azim, who toured Dhaka early this year as a member of the Hyderabad Cricket Association, chipped in with 19.

The visitors will now take on Indian Cement on Wednesday and meet hosts Hyderabad Cricket Association-B in their last group league match on September 8. Only the group champions will qualify for the semifinals of the meet.



Players having cerebral works during yesterday's fixtures of the International Open rating chess tournament at the chess room of the National Sports Council (NSC). — Star photo

Brothers botch up again

Sports Reporter

Brothers Union, the traditional third force in the domestic football circuit, appeared to have lost their interest for a respectable position in the ongoing Lifebuoy Premier League when they played out a goalless draw with relegation-threatened Farashganj Sporting Club in the first match at the Dhaka Stadium on Monday.

White spoils Windies party

LONDON, Sept 4: Test reject Craig White snatched two wickets in one over to give Yorkshire an 11-run victory over West Indies in their one-day match at the Scarborough Festival on Sunday, reports Reuter.

West Indies, needing 254 to win, recovered well after early shocks to reach 240 with three wickets remaining as Otis Gibson (41) and Ian Bishop (24) shared in a stand of 69 from 10 overs.

But White then dismissed both in the same over and fellow paceman Peter Hartley clean bowled last man Rajindra Dhanraj to have West Indies all out for 242.

The tourists had made an uncertain start as seamer Gavin Hamilton took three for eight in 17 balls.

West Indies captain Richie Richardson hit 54 from 57 deliveries and Shivnarine Chanderpaul contributed a useful 49 but even so West Indies were struggling at 171 for seven before Gibson and Bishop came together.

Yorkshire, who won toss, made 253 for four largely through Anthony McGrath's first century in senior cricket.

The England under-19 opener made 106 from 102 balls, hitting three sixes and eight fours.

Australian Michael Bevan provided the necessary acceleration towards the end of the innings with an unbeaten 70 from just 53 deliveries with two sixes and five fours.

draw in the double league and the Gopibahar outfit are yet to win a single match in the second leg since they beat Rahmatganj 3-0 during their eighth league engagement on July 31.

Apart from that facile victory, Brothers' major success in the league was a sensational 2-1 win over title-aspirants Mohammedan Sporting Club and a 3-1 thrashing on Wari Club.

But after Youngmen's Club Fakirerpool handed them an ignominious 4-1 defeat during their last league engagement of the first leg, Brothers not only lost their pride as a force but also failed to recover their image.

The impact was so grave for the tangerine outfit that they lost to Agrani Bank 2-0 in their second leg opener and slipped to the fifth position in the ten-team elite group.

The trend somewhat continued till last evening when they recorded their third successive draw and in the

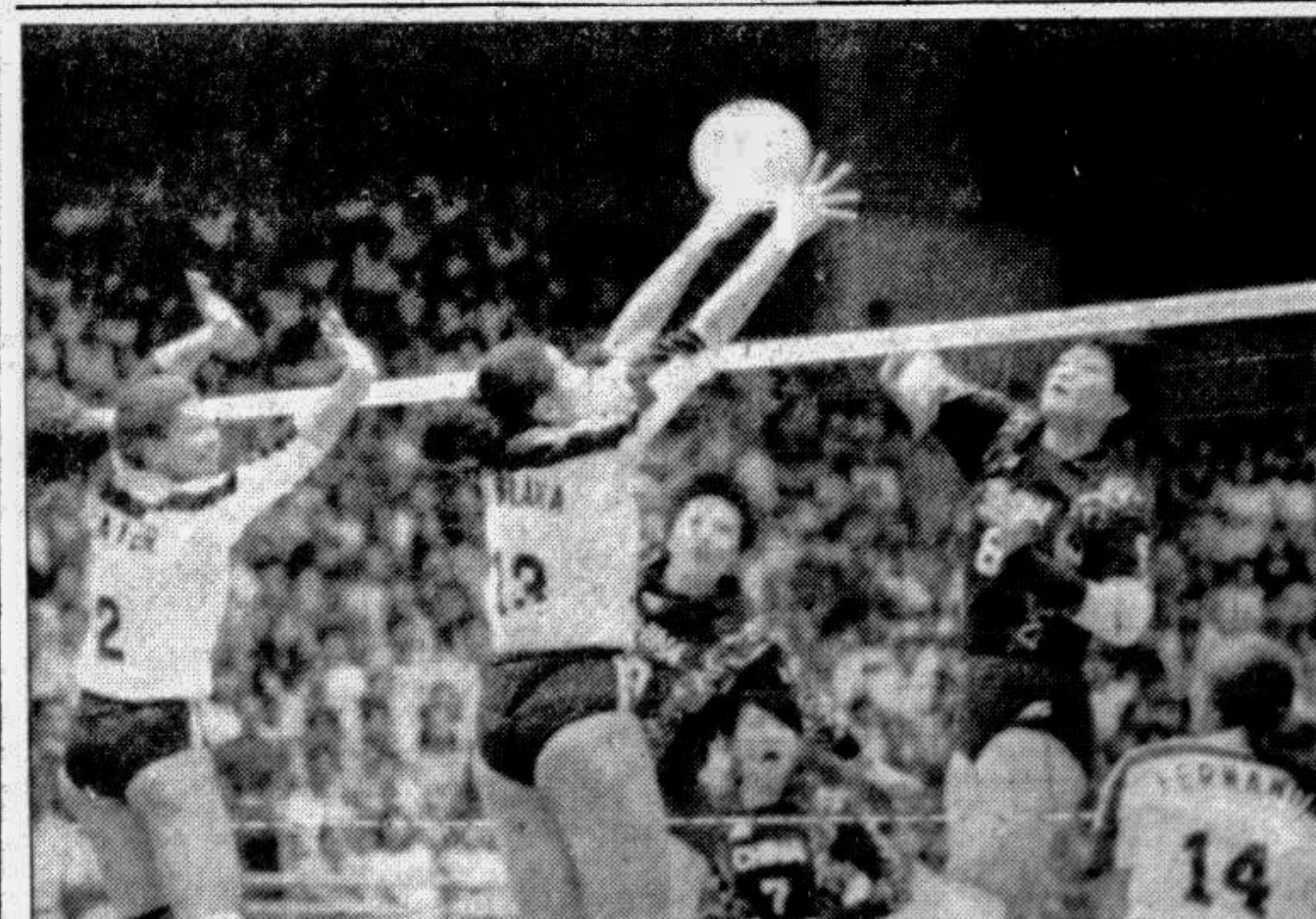
process slipped further behind in the league table.

With this draw, Brothers Union now hold the fifth slot ahead of Wari Club, Rahmatganj, Farashganj SC, Arambagh and Agrani Bank who are closely following them with 14 points.

However, in the day's eye-soring encounter, Brothers, who rested most of their key booters for reasons best known to themselves offered yet another pedestrian display with the ball mostly confined in the middle.

But after a lacklustre first half, when striker Don and Nigerian Barnard instead of trying their luck shooting into the opponents' goal from close surprisingly adopted to backpass the ball, the fate of the match became a forgone conclusion.

With this draw, Brothers raised their collection to 15 points from 13 matches while promoters Farashganj earned seven points on completion of their 13 league engagements.



A Brazilian spiker tries to block a smash by Chinese counterpart during their Volleyball Grand Prix encounter at Macau on September 3. China won the match by 3-2 sets. — AFP/UNB photo

Hick Worcester's hero



LONDON, Sept 4: Graeme Hick turned in a superb all-round performance to help Worcestershire comfortably beat Somerset and set up an exciting close to the English Sunday League, reports Reuter.

Hick, who resurrected his international career with fine performances in the final two Tests against West Indies, top-scored with 72 and then weighed in with a personal competition-best four for 21 as Worcester beat Somerset by 68 runs.

Worcester's win, their fifth in a row, enabled them to draw level with Kent at the top of the table on 46 points from 15 matches.

In the remaining two games, Worcestershire visit Northamptonshire and entertain Glamorgan while Kent, who were not playing on Sunday, take on third-placed Lancashire at home and Warwickshire away.

Neither side can afford to falter, with holders Warwick-

shire, winners over Northamptonshire in the NatWest Trophy final on Sunday, in fifth place six points behind but with a match in hand.

Hick boosted Worcestershire to 174 for seven in their 40 overs and then wrecked Somerset with his off-spinners as they were dismissed for 106 in 33.5

Army aquatic

SAVAR, Sept 4: One more new Army record was set on the third day of the Bangladesh Army aquatic meet at the BKSP swimming pool at Savar today, an ISPR press release said, reports BSS.

Have Md Abdus Salam of the Chittagang Area set a new Army record in 100m butterfly. Nk Md Asaduzzaman of the same area clinched gold in 200m freestyle.

Have Md Rezaul Islam of the Comilla Area clinched two gold medals in 3-metre springboard diving and in 5-metre platform diving respectively.

Lancashire stayed in touch thanks to a six-wicket win over Surrey at The Oval with Wasim Akram, making his final appearance of the season, taking three for 30 to help restrict Surrey to 189 for nine.

Jason Gallian hit 62, sharing a second-wicket stand of 76 with John Crawley (40) before Graham Lloyd (38 not out) and Wasim (11 not out) saw Lancashire home with 15 balls to spare.

Former England captain Graham Ooch also turned in a fine all-round performance as Essex beat Derbyshire by 24 runs at Chelmsford.

After hitting an unbeaten 63 from 52 balls to help Essex to 196 for seven, he went on to play a significant role in the field.

He took three catches, one a magnificent diving effort off his own bowling to get rid of Colin Wells, and finished with two for 43 as Derbyshire collapsed from 101 without loss to 172 all out in the space of 14.2 overs.

One last visit to Rieti



ROME, Sept 4: Algeria's Noureddine Morceli leads a host of world champions, on Tuesday in what could well be a record breaking farewell to the central Italian town of Rieti's annual athletics meeting, now beset by a drop in sponsors, reports Reuter.

Morceli, the world 1,500 metres champion and a local favourite, wants to mark the 25th edition of the Rieti event by breaking the 3,000 metres world best of seven minutes 25.11 seconds he set in Monte Carlo last year.

The Algerian an honorary citizen of Rieti after setting the 3,500 metres and mile world records at meetings in 1992 and 1993, is not alone in chasing records in what could be the town's final major meeting for some time. Ireland's 5,000 metres world champion Sonia

O'Sullivan has announced she intends to try and break the women's mile record set by Romanian Paula Ivan in Nice in 1989.

It would not be the first time the small-town track, with a backdrop of Italy's Abruzzi mountains, had witnessed such a feat. In 1982 Romania's Maricica Puica broke American Mary Decker's mile world record here.

Kenya's Moses Kiptanui, the 3,000 metres steep-lechase world champion and record holder, has said he wants to try and break the two mile best but the attempt looks doubtful after an exhausting 5,000 metres in Berlin on Friday.

Organisers say Britain's triple jump world record holder Jonathan Edwards has promised to be at the meeting, along with pole vault world champion Sergei Bubka of the Ukraine.

Double world Champion Michael Johnson of the United States has arrived in town and will run the 200 metres while organisers say Britain's 100 metres Olympic champion Linford Christie is '90 per cent' certain to appear.

However newly-crowned Italian women's long jump world champion Fiona May, saying she feels out of condition, has decided not to compete against Germany's Heike Drechsler.

The big-name turnout has already been hailed as a victory by race director Sandro Giovannelli, who had feared the 25th anniversary edition might have to be scrapped.

Giovannelli said athletes and managers had worked to ensure the Rieti event went ahead, guaranteeing their presence before discussing any of the financial aspects of the meeting.