

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT the most tragic dismissal in cricket history must be that of Basil D'Oliveira...

Now, this came through the wire this morning from another Professor who happened to be in England...

Perhaps some of you could fish out a Wisden of the mid-60s from somewhere and fill the gaps by writing to the Professor with the necessary information...

By the way, this is one cricket record that is the easiest to break. But, not many have strived for it.

SPORTS TALK



Bishen Singh Bedi

(Former Indian master spinner) "You have undone all your deeds with this one stroke!"

In a letter to Gavaskar, criticising the latter's refusal of the honorary membership of the MCC.

WHIZZ KID

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

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-11.

Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. Nov 3, 1995)

- 1. The building containing a cycle-racing track is a... 2. The maximum that winners can score in a volleyball game is... 3. 'Fresh' is a term used in... 4. The 1995 SAF games will begin in Madras from... 5. In night cricket the ball is usually...

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

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Quadrangular football tournament: Venue: Ang Sung Memorial Stadium, Myanmar... National junior (U-14) tennis championship: Venue: Ramna Tennis Complex...

Atalanta jolt Juve

ROME, Oct 29: Winger Fabio Gallo scored three minutes from the end of extra time on Wednesday as Atalanta beat league champions Juventus 1-0 to reach the quarter finals of the Italian Cup, reports Reuter.

Both the northern soccer clubs ended up with just 10 men in a hot-tempered match in Bergamo.

Biman in rough weather

Sports Reporter

BRIEF SCORES

Ajax SC: 134/8 (Dola 35) Biman: 135/7 in 47.3 overs (Rupom 36, Rafique 30 n.o. Bhola 4/24)



A responsible batting display by unorthodox Mohammed Rafique let title aspirants Bangladesh Biman off the hook when the national airlines outfit survived a scare before scraping home to a squeaky three-wicket win over Ajax Sports Club in their 16th Damal Summer cricket tournament opener at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

After Biman, chasing a modest Ajax total of 134 runs, lost their first six wickets for 81, Rafique pulled his side out of the grave scoring a priceless knock of unbeaten 30.

The national left-arm spinner, who joined his former club after a one-year stint with Mohammedan Sporting Club, played the perfect foil of a seasoned batsman in his uncharacteristically long innings of 45 balls to steer Biman to victory.

The star-studded Biman outfit, who after a brisk start

seemed to be cruising comfortably with 78 for two in 28.4 overs, helplessly watched four middle-order batsmen return to the tent with the addition of only three runs.

The rot started when Biman skipper Ziaur Rashid Rupom was caught and bowled by Emdadul Huq Emdu after scoring a sedate 36 off 83 balls.

Rupom then captured the prized scalp of Shanewaz Shahu (20) and Jewel Hossain Mona for a duck in successive overs leaving Biman in dire straits.

Biman's misery was compounded when Ajax's new-ball bowler Anisul Islam Bhola, returning in his second spell, captured his third wicket when he had wicket-keeper Farid Hossain Tomal caught for a nought. Bhola had earlier removed tall national opener Athar Ali Khan (10) and stylish Habibul Bashar Sumon for a duck.

The dismissal of Tomal brought Rafique on a pitch which proved to be a bowler's paradise with the ball keeping low and slow. But the left-handed bat, in a rebuilding process, shared 45 runs for the seventh wicket with Ahmed Faiz Shaheen (17) before the latter became the fourth victim of Bhola, who finished with fantastic figures of four for 24 in his ten economic overs.

Rafique, who had earlier done well with the cherry, then landed Biman safely without further damage, scoring the required nine runs. He clubbed two fours and a huge six for a patient but match-winning knock.

Earlier, sent in to bat in the morning, Ajax could muster only 134 for eight in the stipulated 50 overs with Dola the younger brother of Bhola, hammering a quick-fire 35 off 46 balls embellished with three hits to the rope.

Opens Suman Bishwas with 19 and veteran Rafiqul Alam with a painstaking 16 off 49 balls were the other double-digit scorers for the vanquished.

For Biman, Jewel Hossain Mona, the young off-spinner who played for Abahani last season, skipper Rupom and Rafique captured two wickets apiece.

But it was all-rounder Athar Ali Khan, who returned with a fabulous figure of 10-4-7-1.

Biman, who are seeded top of group E, will take on Lalmita on November 3 in their next group league match. Ajax will play Eskaton Sabuj Sangha on the following day.



An Ajax batsman plays a defensive shot off a whirl-wind delivery from Biman's national spinner Rafique in yesterday's 16th Damal Summer cricket tournament match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium. Biman won by four wickets.

— Star photo

Badsha's book on cricket

Sports Reporter

Jahangir Shah Badsha, one of the most gifted cricketers of the country, has begun a new innings. The ex-national star has embarked on a possible career as a sports author with the launching of his first book, "Playing Cricket."

Dedicated to the sportsmen who sacrificed their lives for the freedom of



Bangladesh, the book targets children and teenagers whom Badsha is determined to make cricketers.

Badsha also hopes that anyone interested in helping young cricketers will find the book a ready reference.

Paying tributes to Badsha, a national cricketer for 18 years, Raisuddin Ahmed, the BCCB vice-president, writes at the rear of the book that the publication will go a long way in developing cricket in Bangladesh.

In his words for promoting the book, Md Quamruzzaman, Sports Editor, Dainik Bangla, showers accolades on the complete cricket personality of the country - Jahangir Shah Badsha.

2 v'ball coaches leaves for Lahore today

Two volleyball coaches are to leave Dhaka for the Pakistan City of Lahore today to participate in an international volleyball coaches' course (level-1), reports UNB.

Bangladesh Volleyball Federation nominated Titas Club coach Abdul Hakim Mukta and Khulna District Volleyball team coach Zahirul Islam Chowdhury for the training course.

International Olympic Congress (IOC) and Pakistan Volleyball Federation have jointly organised the two-week course in Lahore, beginning November 4.

Miura's magic sinks Saudis

MATSUYAMA, Japan, Oct 29: Japan's ace striker Kazuyoshi Miura triggered a come-from-behind victory against Saudi Arabia in the last eight minutes for a 2-1 win in a friendly football match on Saturday, reports AFP.

After a goalless first half, winger Sami al-Jaber left-footed to complete a three-way passing play with defender Faud Amin and Khalid al-Tewami in the 53rd minute, putting the visitors one up.

But Miura, the scorer of the deciding shot in their first game Wednesday, struck home an equaliser on a Tetsuji Hashiratani pass in front of the Saudi goal.

Three minutes later, Miura hit a corner from the right to Hiroaki Morishima in the area, who headed for substitute Yutaka Akita's get-ahead shot at the Ehime Stadium, western Japan.

With the win, Japan stretched their record against Saudi Arabia to three wins against one defeat and a draw since their first encounter at the Beijing Asian Games in 1990.

On Wednesday, Japan defeated Saudi Arabia 2-1 at the National Stadium in Tokyo.

Indian bosses come under blasts Dreary draw in Madras



MADRAS, Oct 29: The second cricket Test between India and New Zealand was declared a draw today with no ball being bowled on the fifth and final day due to rain, reports Reuter.

The umpires inspected the soggy field at 11 am (0530 GMT) and then called off the match.

Monsoon rains had washed out play on the second and third days, and only a total of about six hours were played on the first and fourth days.

India had scored 144 runs for the loss of two wickets at close of play on Saturday. But rain that evening and overnight damaged the pitch.

India leads the three-match series 1-0 after winning the first Test at Bangalore earlier this month. The third Test is scheduled to begin on November 8 at Cuttack in the eastern state of Orissa.

Meanwhile, the Indian cricket officials faced criticism today after rains ravaged the Test match, disappointing thousands of spectators and spoiling a broadcast event worth millions of dollars.

Retreating monsoon winds bring rain to India's south-eastern coast in October and November, a month after the end of the rainy season in other parts of the country.

Madras, capital of the southern Tamil Nadu state, is in the heart of the rain belt.

"It has been raining at this time for 30 years. The technical committee should have thought about it," said former Indian Test player Bharath Reddy. Both spectators who paid for season tickets and players were disappointed, he said.

Another disappointed party was US-based television network ESPN, which has made a grand entry into a cricket-crazy market by buying up television broadcast rights for the series, paying an undisclosed amount believed to run into millions of dollars.

ESPN officials were not available for comment, but Trans World International, handling the live broadcast for ESPN, was clearly not amused.

"It is very frustrating for us," senior producer Alistair Waddington told Reuters. He said he would not comment on the officials' decision to choose Madras but added that his own team and ESPN were disappointed that there was no live cricket.

Reddy said cricket associations in India, which will receive money from the sale of broadcast rights, were not affected, but advertisers could be hit.

Spectators were not entitled to refunds because of rain.

Former India wicket-keeper Farokh Engineer, now a broadcast commentator, said officials should be careful with broadcast and spectator money involved. "They should take things seriously. They shouldn't be messing around," he said.

The chief of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Jagmohan Dalmiya, told reporters on Saturday that the tour's schedule was fixed well in advance, and adjustments were difficult because the schedule was tight.

Cricket officials are now thinking of improving ground infrastructure, and funds coming from broadcast rights a recently-introduced concept for India — should help.

Ashok Kumbhat, secretary of the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association (TNCA), told Reuters the Madras ground staff had worked around the clock using rollers, sawdust, foam and jute bags to clear the ground of water but the strategy may need rethinking.

"We might go in for sophisticated equipment in future," he said.

Sportswriter R Mohan wrote in the Hindu daily that automated moppers like those in Sydney could be the answer.

Nat'l junior tennis finals today

Sports Reporter

Nadeem Khan and Aziz Raj set up a clash in the boys' singles final of the national junior tennis championships after winning their respective semifinals of the U-14 age-group at the Ramna Tennis Complex yesterday.

Dyuti Sanchayita and Shifat Nusrat stormed into the girls' singles final after eliminating their respective opponents on the same day.

In the two boys' semifinals, Nadeem of Chittagong faced hardly any resistance from Sirajul Majid of Dhaka on his way to a facile 6-1, 6-2 win while Aziz sauntered past a helpless Kanchan for a convincing 6-3, 6-2 victory.

On the distaff side, Dyuti earned a cake-walk 6-2, 6-1 win over Bushra Ferdousi.

Nadeem, who is looking for a delightful double, moved into the boys' doubles final along with his teammate Kanchan. In the semifinal the Nadeem-Kanchan pair beat the Dhaka duo of Babu Lal and Kabi 6-2, 6-0.

In the final, the port city pair will take on Aziz Raj and Tahsin Noor, who beat the Sirajul Majid-Sajal pair in the other semifinal 3-6, 6-3, 6-3. All the finals of the three-day meet will be held today.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues: ACROSS 1 POKER varies 5 Holy mackerel! 8 Hours d'oeuvre spread 13 Ben- 14 He's gonna get it 15 Aida or Arkin 16 Downed 17 Writer 18 Bombeck 19 Attempt 20 Culture medium 22 Plus 37 26 Paragon 29 Resilience unit 30 Shark's indication 31 Boule's planarians 32 109 et al. 33 The 34 - Diego 35 - tal 36 Confronts 37 Minus 37 40 Arid 41 Recently revived musical 45 So be it 47 Sometimes it's crude 49 Helen's home 50 Scourge of serge 51 Citric quenchers 52 Mah-jongg piece 53 Let slide 54 June 55 Bothers 56 Health resorts 57 Post-bath application 58 Provo's state 59 Signifies team-mates provider 60 No longer chic 61 They're all round Christmas 62 Grain quencer 63 Bundle piece 64 Great 65 Let front protector 66 Strigine creature 67 Phys ad 68 "I can help it!" 69 Transport for Tarzan state 70 Tackles 71 Drought-stricken 72 One's performance 73 Slight-seers? 74 Height for Heidi 75 Woody's ex 76 Crete's highest peak

Cryptogram puzzle: MEHK C E H F W C B L C M F L Z G K T B Z C H J G B D F I F J Z W B Y H E H Z W D H "B" T H I H K D W F Y H J I Yesterday's Cryptogram: NEWS FLASH PIECE A FORMERLY WHITE DALMATIAN WAS RECENTLY SPOTTED Today's Cryptogram clue: D equals F The Cryptogram is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Pakistan in a bad patch



PERTH, Oct 29: Pakistan faced heavy defeat in their opening first-class tour match in Australia after a dismal batting performance against Western Australia on Sunday, reports Reuter.

In reply to the home side's 402 for five declared, Pakistan stumbled to 164 all out, losing their last six wickets for the addition of just seven runs.

At close of play on the second day at the WACA ground, Western Australia were 34 for one in their second innings, a lead of 272 with two days remaining.

Opener Aamir Sohail, who took over as Pakistan captain on Sunday while fast bowler Waqar Younis rested a minor hamstring strain, said the tourists needed more time to adjust to Australian conditions.

"Whenever we come to Australia, we have to get used to the extra bounce in the wickets," Sohail said afterwards.

"I think we were still getting used to that and we also played a couple of irresponsible shots — that's why we struggled," Sohail said.

Opener Salim Elahi provided the sternest resistance, facing 173 balls in a patient innings before being run out for 54.

Wicketkeeper Moin Khan, who was given a 1000 Australian-dollar (750 US dollar fine) suspended fine for dissent on Saturday, took the opposite approach, smashing 56 runs from just 64 balls.

Moin's dashing innings, including two successive sixes off the bowling of spinner Brad Oldroyd, ended when fast bowler Brendon Julian lured him into edging a catch to Western Australia captain Damien Martyn in the gully.

Pakistan's last four batsmen were dismissed for ducks as the tourists crashed down from the relatively healthy position of 157 for four.

Pace bowler Jo Angel matched Julian and Oldroyd as the trio shared the honours by taking three wickets each.

Pakistan's troubles continued sharply with Western Australia's control in building on their overnight score of 337 for five.

All-rounder Brad Hogg,

who started the day on 72, scored 101 not out to record his maiden first-class century, equalling the feat of opener Mike Hussey on Saturday.

Wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist remained unbeaten on 58 as the pair added 114 runs for the sixth wicket before Martyn declared the innings before lunch.

In their second innings, Western Australia lost Hussey to the last ball of the day, caught by Salim Elahi close to the wicket off spinner Mushtaq Ahmed for 17.

Younis, who bowled only five overs in the first innings because of a hamstring injury,

Richie stays in saddle

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Oct 29: Richie Richardson has been reappointed as West Indies captain for the forthcoming World Series tournament in Australia and the World Cup in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka early next year, reports Reuter.

The decision was announced by West Indies Cricket Board of Control (WICBC) on Saturday.

Richardson has been captain since late 1991, though he took a break from the game because of acute fatigue in 1994-95 when Courtney Walsh successfully led the team on tours of India and New Zealand.

Wes Hall was named manager and Andy Roberts was appointed coach for the World Series and World Cup assignment, the pair having been in charge on this year's tour of England.

Australia, West Indies and Sri Lanka compete in the World Series limited overs tournament starting on December 15.

Army hockey

JESSORE, Oct 29: Bangladesh Army earned full points defeating Bangladesh Navy 2-1 in the inter-services hockey championship, on the opening day, today at BAF base Matiur Rahman, reports BSS.

According to an ISPR press release Jessore Area Commander, Bangladesh Army Major General Muhammad Mustafizur Rahman, Bir Bikram inaugurated the three-day championship as chief guest.



Action from yesterday's 18th national boxing championships encounter between Kushtia's Saidul Haque (R) and BDR's Saidur Rahman at the Mohammed Ali Boxing Stadium in the city. —Star photo