

Column One

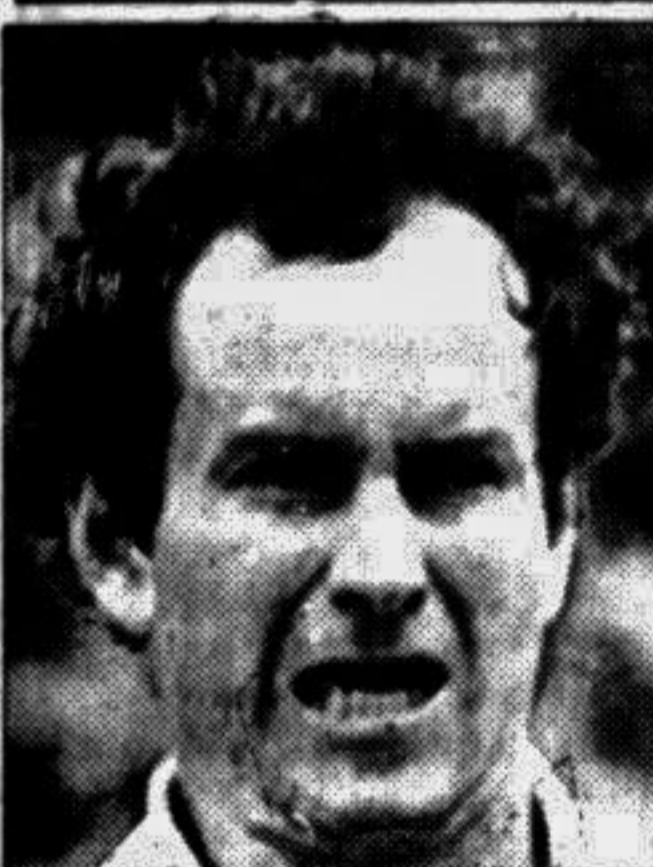
DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT in Pakistan the first badminton courts were hour glass shaped. This strange shape in all probability derived from a badminton court in Karachi. The court was situated in a hall which was only marginally larger than the court itself. At the centre of the hall, on either side, were massive doors which opened at the centre. All subsequent courts for over thirty years, both in the sub-continent and in Britain, were modelled on this one.

The first formal rules for the game were published in 1877 in Karachi. The game was known for sometime as "poona" after the Indian town. The English Badminton Association was formed only in 1893.

SPORTS TALK



John Mc Enroe

(Former American tennis superstar)  
I would like to be remembered as a great player... though some people will talk about how I get angry.

Sports

WHIZZ KID

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

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-18

Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. Dec 23, 1995)

- Which is the highest individual score in an one day international?  
181    185    189
- Who are the current Biju Dhas cricket champions?  
Abahani    Brothers    Biman
- How many teams will compete in the 96 European soccer championships finals?  
12    14    16
- New Zealand Test all-rounder Chris Cairns is the son of Test paceman Cairns  
Lance    Vance    Walter
- The 1984 Summer Olympics was held in  
Las Vegas    Los Angeles    Dallas

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

Acme Div II cricket

Sports Reporter  
Uttara Sporting Club, Rupali Bank Sports Club and Lalbagh Anwar cricket Eleven won their respective matches in the ongoing Acme Second Division cricket league yesterday.

Uttara beat Kathalagan Sporting Club by a big margin of 75 runs at the Mirpur Outer Stadium while Rupali Bank recorded a narrow one-wicket victory over Udayachal Club at the Dhanmondi Club ground. The other match of the day between Lalbagh Anwar and Dhanmondi Progoti Sangha ended in a tie as both teams scored 156 in their stipulated 40 overs. But Lalbagh were declared winners as they lost less wickets than their counterparts — eight against nine.

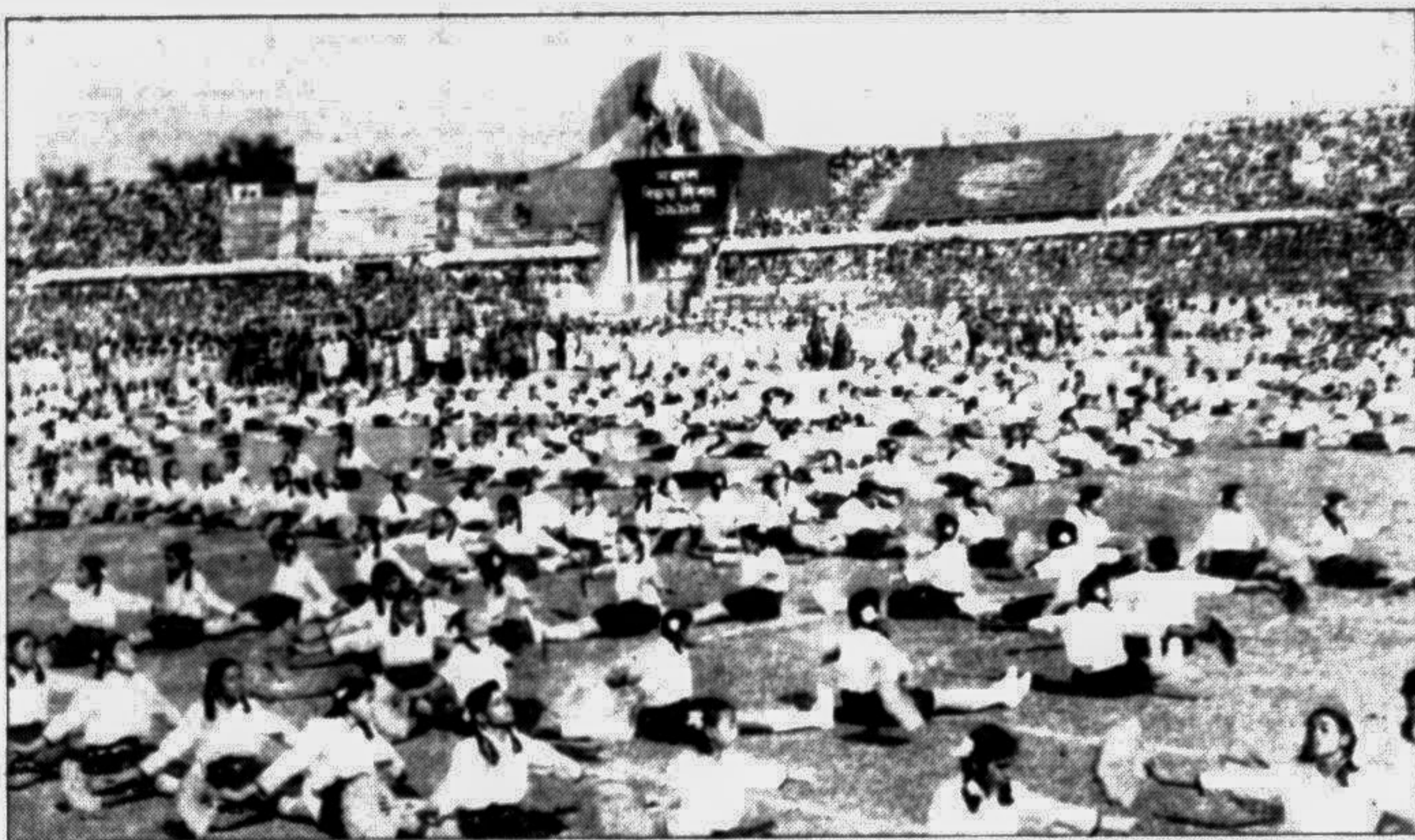
**Brief Scores**  
Uttara vs Kathalagan  
Uttara SC: 238 for 7 in 40 overs (Mridul 60, Shafigue 43, Nadeem 33, Mukhtar 31).

Kathalagan SC: 163 in 40 overs (Babu 38, Riad 30, Razu 4/12)  
Rupali Bank vs Udayachal  
Udayachal Club: 145 in 36.2 overs (Baquee 28, Chanchal 20, Munna 4/35)

Rupali Bank SC: 148 for 9 in 39 overs (Mustafiz 53 not out, Shahnewaz 6/14)

Lalbagh Anwar vs Dhanmondi Progoti  
Dhanmondi Progoti: 156 for 9 on 40 overs (Habib 24, Dipu 19, Shakil 19, Sumon 2/18, Shafigue 2/24).

Lalbagh Anwar SC: 156 for 8 in 40 overs (Shafigue 40 not out, Zafar 23, Shams 2/26, Dipu 2/31)



Students of city's different schools and institutions display their expertise at the green-top of Dhaka Stadium on the occasion of country's 25th Victory Day on Dec 16. — Star photo by A K M Mohsin

SAF fiesta begins today

MADRAS, Dec 17: The seventh SAF Games, the biggest sports extravaganza of the seven SAARC nations, gets underway at the Madras Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, reports UNB.

Indian Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao will declare the 10-day meet open at 4:15 pm local time.

Some 1,075 athletes and sportsmen including 195 women will compete for the gold of 129 events in 14 sporting disciplines to be held in 10 different venues in and around the Madras city.

The 14 disciplines are: Athletics (Dec 20-24), Basketball (Dec 19-21), Boxing (Dec 20-26), Football (Dec 19-27), Hockey (Dec 19-23), Judo (Dec 19-21), Kabaddi (Dec 19-22), Shooting (Dec 19-26), Swimming (Dec 20-24), Table Tennis (Dec 19-22), Tennis (Dec 19-23), Volleyball (Dec 22-26), Weightlifting (Dec 22-26) and Wrestling (Dec 25-26)

Two disciplines — Kho-Kho and Silambam — are also included in the meet as demonstration Games. All the athletes and sportsmen except the Indian hockey team have already arrived in the south Indian capital of Madras to participate in the grand meet. The Bangladesh team led by Abah Ahmed reached here Saturday afternoon.

Hosts India, the leading performer in all the previous Games, will field the largest squad of 264 members, followed by Pakistan with 204, Sri Lanka 217, Bangladesh 179, Nepal 151, the Maldives 48 and Bhutan 12.

Nearly 400 pressmen from the seven South Asian countries are now in Madras to cover the SAF Games. The South Indian port city of Madras has been decorated with flags, gates and games mascot. Tight security measures have been adopted for the Games and as well as for

the arrival of the Indian Prime Minister in Madras. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr J Jayalalitha will receive the prime minister.

The mandatory part of the opening ceremony will begin at 4:18 pm with the march past by the participating teams led by Games' mascot 'Leo' and continue till 5 pm. The march past will be



followed by arrival of the SAF flag in the stadium, welcome speech by IOA President, the opening declaration by the Indian Prime Minister, unfurling of SAF and other flags, gun salute, release of pigeons and balloons, showing of flower petals from helicopter and lighting of games flames.

The next events will include Games' hymn song, oath taking by the Indian captain, departure of the teams, presentation of memento to the Prime Minister and para-dropping.

A one-and-a-half-hour-long cultural programme, one of the main attractions of the ceremony, will start at 5 pm. Nearly 11,500 boys, girls and performers will participate in the gallery display and 15 cultural items.

Some 9000 school boys and girls from Tamil Nadu along with 2,500 performers of 10 Indian states will present cultural shows. The game songs will be rendered

by renowned singers of Madras and Bombay.

Anuradha Podwal, Kumar Sanu and Alka Yagnik of Bombay and Mano, Chitra, Janaki and SP Balasubramanian of Madras are expected to participate in the cultural programmes. Renowned composer Sibir of Madras will look after the music of the ceremony. The ceremony will be featured by grand fire works.

SAF Games soccer Hosts, Lankans straight into semis

MADRAS, Dec 17: Hosts India and Sri Lanka have found a direct berth in the semifinals of the SAF Games football championship beginning at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium from Dec 19, reports PTI.

With Pakistan pulling out of the championship from Group A, both India and Sri Lanka will begin their campaign from the semifinal stage. Defending champions Nepal, Bangladesh and Maldives feature in Group-B of the event to be played on a league-cum-knock-out basis.

Nepal, who have won the title twice since the 1984 SAF Games in Kathmandu, play their opening match against Maldives on Dec 19. The final is slated for Dec 27.

- FIXTURE**  
Dec 19: Nepal vs Maldives (Group-B)  
Dec 21: Maldives vs Bangladesh (Group-B)  
Dec 23: Bangladesh vs Nepal (Group-B)  
India vs Sri Lanka (Group-A)  
Dec 25: Semifinals — winner of B vs runners-up of A  
winner of A vs runners-up of B  
Dec 27: Final.

Pfister pissed off with SAF organisers

From Al-Amin

MADRAS, Dec 17: Bangladesh's German football coach Otto Pfister has severely criticised the Organising Committee of the Madras SAF Games for not allowing them any practice since their arrival here on Saturday afternoon.

"We have been virtually imprisoned in the Sports Village for 24 hours without any practice," said Pfister to the press at the Nehru Stadium press centre. While expressing his dissatisfaction Pfister added, "It seems to me that the authorities concerned are nothing but a bunch of jokers. For their imprudent attitude we had to remain stranded in the Sports Village for about four hours after a long journey from Dhaka."

"Besides when we finally got the green card, it came to my utter surprise that allotments for rooms have been made in different buildings," Pfister further added that some of his boys have complained that they were running out of water in the rooms.

"I don't know whether the IOA has anything in their mind but I must say without having practice for the last 24 hours, our preparations have suffered a severe jolt."

However, when the local press were filing their reports at the main press centre at the Nehru Stadium, Pfister and his boys were allowed for a light practice session under floodlights around 7.30 pm local time.

Navana cricket league Dec 20

Sports Reporter

Joint holders Mohammedan Sporting Club will take on promoters Agrani Bank Sports Club in the inaugural match of the Navana Premier Division Cricket League which will begin at the Dhaka Stadium on December 20.

Abahani Krira Chakra, the other joint champions, will face Dhaka Wanderers Club in their opening match on the following day at the same venue.

A total of twelve teams will participate in the prestigious league in two phases. The first round of the league will be a 50 overs a side affair from which top six teams will qualify for the super league while the remaining six will join in the relegation league.

The two-day matches in the super league will be an eighty overs a side affair.

The following twelve teams are participating in the Premier League: Mohammedan SC, Abahani KC, Kalabagan KC, Bangladesh Biman, Victoria SC, Brothers Union, GMCC, Wari Club, Gulshan Youth Club, Eskaton SS, Dhaka Wanderers Club and Agrani Bank SC.

Steffi skips Aussie Open

BONN, Dec 17: World number one Steffi Graf will be unable to play in the Australian Open next month after undergoing an operation for a chipped bone in her left foot on Friday, her surgeon said, reports Reuter.

"The patient wants to give herself enough time over the next few weeks to carry through the rehabilitation programme fully and without suffering further physical complaints," Hartmut Krahl of Essen's Alfred Krupp hospital said in a statement.

Graf, 26, who has won the Australian Open four times, had a similar operation on her right foot two years ago.

Aussies abase Windies



ADELAIDE, Dec 17: West Indies suffered another heavy blow to their confidence in losing by a massive 121 runs against Australia in a World Series limited overs match today, reports Reuter.

Beaten convincingly in their previous two tour matches and weakened by the absence of top batsman Brian Lara, West Indies limped to a paltry 121 for six without ever threatening to challenge Australia's total of 242 for six.

The tourists badly out of form, failed to recover from a dismal top order collapse in a match reduced to 47 overs a side because of early morning rain at Adelaide Oval.

After 12 overs, West Indies were floundering on 19 for four, with openers Sherwin Campbell and Phil Simmons, captain Richie Richardson and Carl Hooper already back in the pavilion.

From that point, the tourists appeared to abandon any thought of chasing the target, opting instead to merely occupy the crease in what amounted to some sedate batting practice.

It was a third successive one-day loss for the West Indies, who are clearly suffering as a result of Lara's decision to stay at home.

They lost the opening World Series match against Sri Lanka by four wickets on Friday, only three days after a more humiliating defeat against the inexperienced Australian Cricket Academy side.

Australian all-rounder and man-of-the-match Mark Waugh helped lift his side with a rapid 53 from only 65

balls after Richardson won the toss.

Waugh, promoted one place in the order to replace axed veteran David Boon, steadied the innings before Michael Bevan and all-rounder Shane Lee launched a late assault.

The New South Wales teammates hammered 71 runs from the final seven overs.

Lee, making his debut for Australia in a one-day international, contributed 39 runs from 27 balls before losing his wicket in the last over of the innings.

Off-spinner Roger Harper, the most effective of the West Indies bowlers, accounted for Waugh in a four-wicket haul at a cost of 46 runs from his maximum 10 overs.

Australia fast bowler Craig McDermott set the tone for the West Indies reply by dismissing Richardson and Hooper cheaply in a superb spell to finish with two for a

eight from seven menacing overs.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the World Series limited-overs match between Australia and West Indies at Adelaide Oval today:

**AUSTRALIA**

Taylor b Harper	47
Slater b Bishop	32
Waugh c Hooper b Harper	53
Ponting st Browne b Harper	11
Law c Hooper b Harper	13
Bevan not out	32
Lee st Browne b Hooper	39
Healy not out	0
Extras (b-1, lb-7, w-7)	15
Total (for six wickets, 47 overs)	242
Fall of wickets: 1-60; 2-109; 3-142; 4-166; 5-169; 6-232	
<b>Bowling:</b> O M R W	
Ambrose	9 0 43 0
Walsh	10 1 46 0
Bishop	8 0 33 1
Simmons	2 0 17 0
Harper	10 0 46 4 (w-1)
Hooper	8 0 49 1

**WEST INDIES**

Campbell run out	4
Simmons c M Waugh b McDermott	7
Richardson c Healy b McDermott	4
Hooper lbw b McDermott	0
Chanderpaul c Taylor b M Waugh	39
Adams c Law b Lee	20
Harper not out	31
Browne not out	11
Extras (lb-2, w-3)	5
Total (for six wickets, 47 overs)	121
Fall of wickets: 1-8; 2-16; 3-16; 4-17; 5-54; 6-97	
<b>Bowling:</b> O M R W	
McDermott	7 2 8 2
McGrath	5 1 13 1
Lee	7 0 20 1
Warne	7 1 22 0
M Waugh	10 0 26 1
Law	7 1 23 0
Bevan	3 0 7 0
Slater	1 1 0 0

Result: Australia won by 121 runs.  
Man-of-the-match: Mark Waugh (Australia)  
Match reduced to 47 overs a side because of rain.



MARK WAUGH ... m-o-m

Hanif rises to occasion

Sports Reporter

runs off 107 ball and remained unbeaten till the first delivery of the 40th over when they cruised home with seven wickets in hand.

Hanif's match-winning knock included nine boundaries and a six and last but not the least an unbeaten fourth wicket partnership of 77 runs with his skipper Ziauddin Ahmed Shovon, who was not out on 24.

After the loss of three top orders — Bidyut (13), Sazzad Ahmed Shipon (3) and Halim Shah (12) — with the board reading 67 in 23 overs, it was a timely response by Hanif and Shovon who faced 16.1 overs to score the required 77 runs.

Earlier, put in to bat, Wari Club, the upset winners over Victoria Sporting Club in the semifinals, were booked in 46.2 overs with their scoreboard on 140

Hasanuzzaman Hasan was

the highest Wari scorer who fired 65 runs off 122 ball while M Z Ehsan added 28 runs to their account.

Pacer Sajal Chowdhury, Rashed Hanif, the younger brother of Abid Hanif, and Mohammad Salauddin of Brothers Union got two wickets apiece conceding 18, 25 and 28 runs respectively.

Abid Hanif was adjudged as man-of-the-match for his unbeaten 77 runs. He received Taka 3,000 cash as prize money.

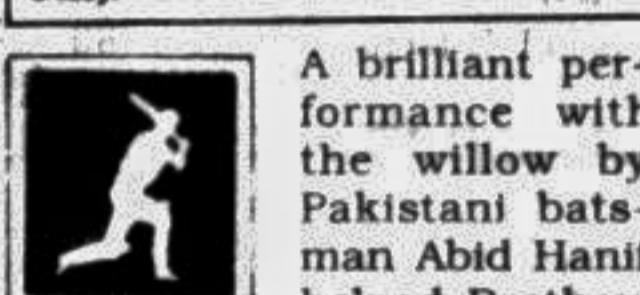
The champions were rewarded with Taka 10,000 while the runners up team were richer by Taka 7,500.

Foster's feat

SHEFFIELD, England, Dec 17: Briton Mark Foster broke his own world short-course record in the 50m butterfly on Friday, with a time of 23.45 seconds, reports Reuter.

BRIEF SCORES

**WARI CLUB: 140 in 46.2 overs (Hasan 65, Ehsan 28, Sajal 2/18, R Hanif 2/25, Salauddin 2/28).**  
**BROTHERS UNION: 144 for 3 in 39.1 overs (A Hanif 77 not out, Shovon 24 not out).**



A brilliant performance with the willow by Pakistani batsman Abid Hanif helped Brothers Union Club to lift the Shaheed Jewel-Mushtaq Memorial cricket trophy with a convincing seven-wicket victory over Wari Club in the final held at the Dhanmondi Cricket stadium on Saturday.

Hanif, who came to open his team's chase of 141 runs to win in 50 overs along with Shahriar Bidyut, scored 77



Brothers Union skipper Ziauddin Ahmed Shovon receives the Shaheed Jewel-Mushtaq Memorial cricket trophy from Suraya Khan (R), elder sister of martyred Jewel, after his team's win over Wari Club by seven wickets in the final at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium on Saturday. — Star photo

Bosman kicks up a storm

BIRMINGHAM, England, Dec 17: UEFA president Lennart Johansson said soccer was "left in a mess" by Friday's court

Shaheed Smriti cricket final today

Sports Reporter

Gopibagh Friends Association will take on Ajax Sporting Club in the final of Shaheed Smriti Cricket tournament at the City Club ground, Mirpur this morning.

In the first semifinal on Saturday, Gopibagh defeated Dhanmondi Club by nine wickets.

Chasing a paltry 95 to win in 45 overs, the Gopibagh outfit reached their target in the 25th over losing the wicket of opener Imran Parvez Ripon (13).

ruling that showed the red card to the sport's system of transfers and limits on foreigners, reports Reuter.

A five-year legal fight by Belgian player Jean-Marc Bosman led to the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg ruling that current restrictions broke European Union (EU) laws and that soccer players were entitled to the same freedom of movement as other EU workers.

It said the transfer system, under which clubs can charge money for their players even at the end of their contracts, restricted this freedom.

Johansson, the Swedish head of European soccer's ruling body, said at a news conference at the end of a UEFA executive committee meeting here: "the whole thing will create a mess for football."

"I am glad to see that

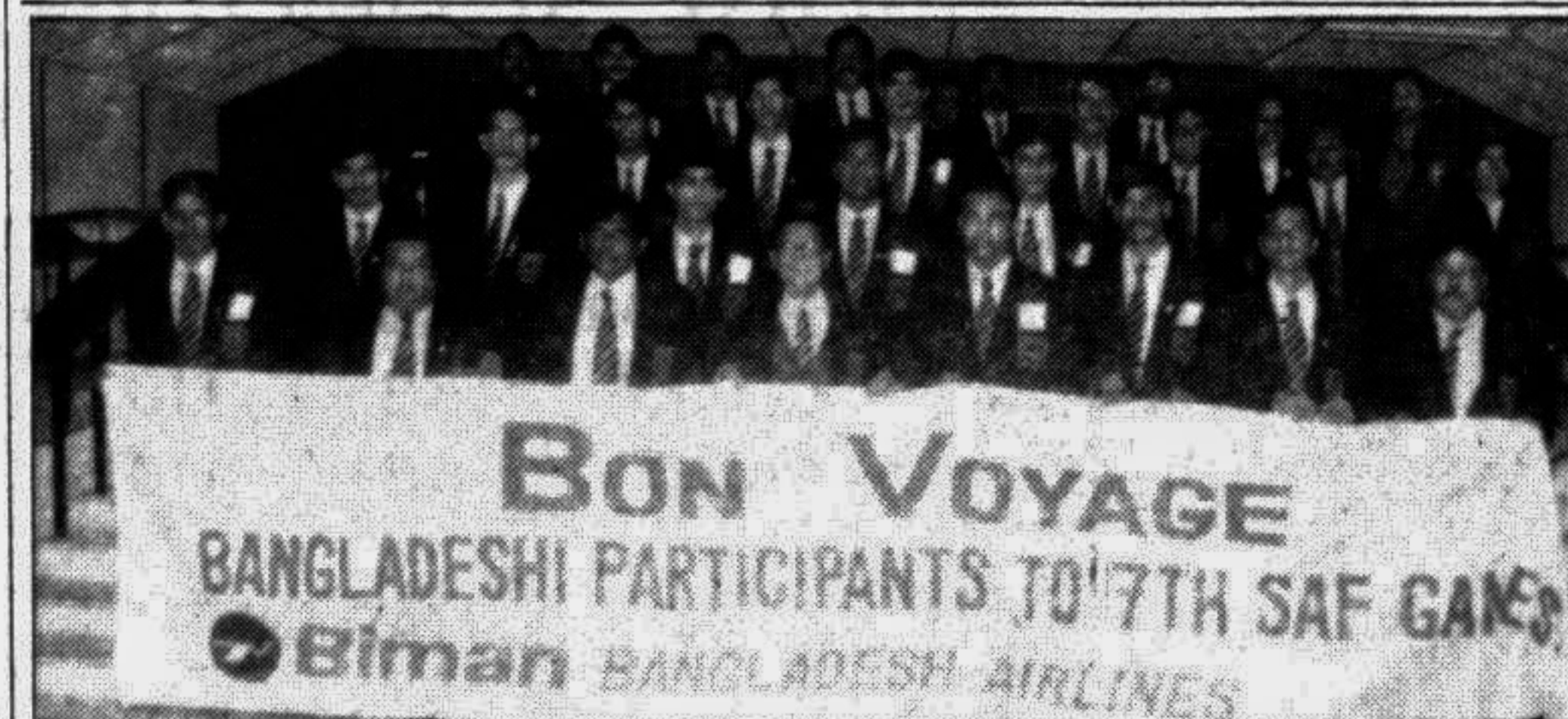
most of you understand this is an attack on football and we have implications we cannot foresee. It can mean that we destroy the transfer system we have had for 100 years.

Today the players are an asset on their clubs' balance sheets who have paid billions for them. Tomorrow they will not be assets."

As well as defining that an out-of-contract player is free to move from one EU state to another, the Luxembourg decision also means there are no longer restrictions on the number of foreign players a team can field in a domestic match.

But such restrictions still apply to matches in the European Cup Champions' league, the UEFA Cup and Cup Winners' Cup.

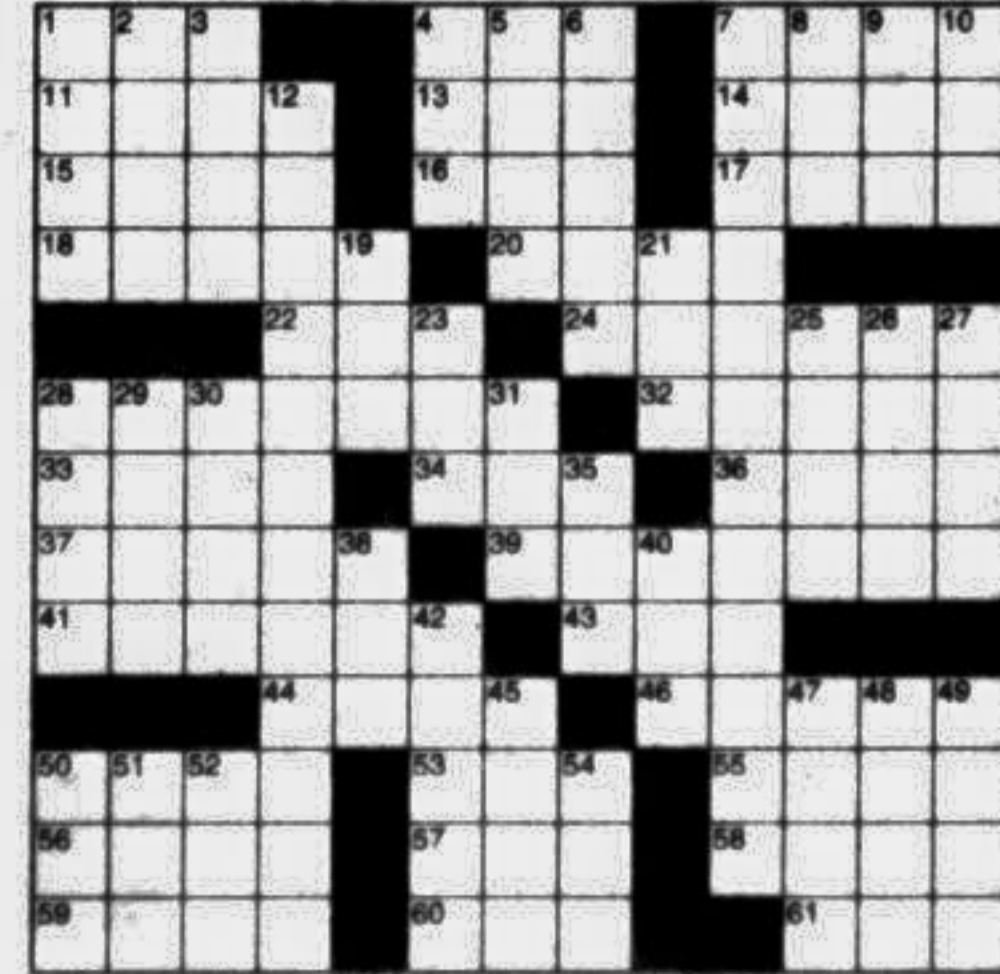
Reaction around the rest of Europe, not to mention inside FIFA headquarters, was generally less enthusiastic.



Bangladesh Biman contingent for the 7th SAF Games in Madras pose for photograph at the Zia International Airport prior to their departure on Dec 16. — Star photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**  
1 Cleo's slayer  
4 Stomach muscles, briefly  
7 Melt  
11 Borscht base  
13 Prune  
14 Long lunch?  
15 Jazz's home  
17 Egg-yung link  
17 The yoke's 57 Wall climber  
18 Beat  
20 Take to the skies  
22 Wish undone  
24 Rosy?  
28 Counter-stroke  
29 "heyright" Pirandello  
33 "— ben Adhem"  
34 Matter-horn, e.g.  
36 Merriment  
37 — ransom  
39 Mid-May honoree
- DOWN**  
1 Wife of Ahasuerus  
43 Hangout for Andy Caop  
44 Equitable  
46 They don't carry a lot of weight  
50 Hirt hill  
53 Monologue component  
55 Labyrinth  
56 Lab assistant?  
57 Live on them  
58 They're spotted in casinos  
59 Mitchell  
60 Rep's rival  
61 Witnessed  
62 DOWN  
1 Touch  
2 Cain's brother  
3 Bose or Anjou  
4 TV alien  
5 Greet the villain  
6 Parody  
7 Race-horse, e.g.  
8 Spiff  
9 Live  
10 Took top  
12 Road  
13 Kramerden's wheels  
21 The whole enchilada  
23 Plato's H  
25 Anger  
26 Antiquing apparatus  
27 Campaign promises?  
28 Profligate  
29 Sacred bird of Egypt  
30 "Eveque cheese"  
31 Shade source  
35 Ice cream on a stick  
36 Word with change or chest  
40 Yank  
42 Unyielding  
45 Four-star review  
47 W.W.II losses  
48 Isinglass  
49 Fret  
50 Leprechaun's dance  
51 Past  
52 Erich — Stroheim  
54 P.E.



CRYPTOQUIP

P G S I X F Y H S C S E Z I T E T P G  
Q T C C P C Q P U H Q F I I U  
F X S I E Y I S G Z S X S G Z H  
Saturday's Cryptogram: YOU COULD SAY A SPOILED CHILD HAS SIMPLY RECEIVED TOO MUCH SMOOTHLY LOVE.

Today's Cryptogram clue: X equals V

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 words. Solution is by trial and error.