

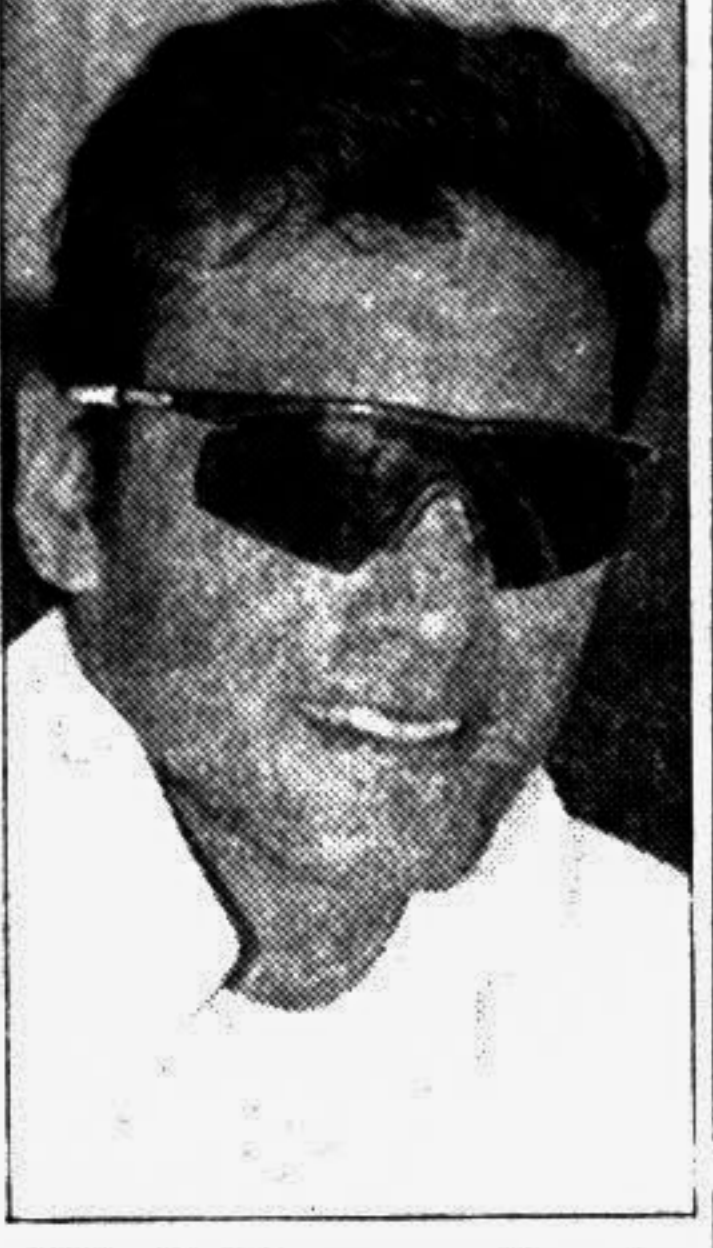
Sport

Column One

DID U KNOW? (The Professor does)

THAT field hockey despite not being popular in Holland, has brought the country many international laurels. In fact, it is secondary to football, cycling, ice skating, equestrianism, gymnastics, tennis, bowling, badminton, etc.

SPORTS TALK



Mark Ramprakash (England Test batsman) "My preparation for an innings? I like to sit quietly before I bat or perhaps watch a bit of television, but that doesn't mean to say I am getting too tense."

SPORTS WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-22

Table with 5 questions and multiple choice answers for the Sports Whizz Kid competition.

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

Gurusinha reprimanded

PERTH, Jan 13: Sri Lankan batsman Asanka Gurusinha was reprimanded by match referee Graham Dowling on Friday for bringing the game into disrepute during the World Series Cup one-dayer against Australia at the WACA Ground, report agencies.

Wari chicken out to AKC

BRIEF SCORES

ABAHANI KC: 289 for seven in 50 overs (Durjoy 73 not out, Partho 59, Manzoor Akhter 40, Rahul 34, Sajib Das 3/34) WARI CLUB: 134 in 37.5 overs (Moniruzzaman 76 not out, Bappi 3/27)

against Agrani Bank in their inaugural league match. In his whirlwind undefeated knock Durjoy, the stocky right-handed bat who



MONIRUZZAMAN ... 76 n.o

successfully captured the Bangladesh U-19 team against the visiting Caribbeans counterparts last year, clubbed four fours and two sixers including a hurricane 21 runs from the last over of the innings which featured three four and one huge six over long-on off one spinner Saiekh Ahmed, who finished with expensive figures of 71/0 in his ten overs.

when they were reduced to 33 for two in 8.3 overs before Manzoor Akhter, the fresh Pakistani recruit of the Dhanmondi outfit, steadied the innings sharing 95-runs for the third wicket with make-shift opener Imran Hamid Partha.

Partha, the robust left hander, justified his promotion in the batting order with a breezy 59 off 73 balls punctuated with five firmly hits to the rope and two massive sixes.

On the other hand Manzoor scored a polished 40 off 56 deliveries before Sajib Das, the most successful Wari bowler with three for 34, sneaked one through the defence of the Pakistani right-handed bat for his second scalp.

For Wari, who faced a daunting task of scoring a little less than six runs per over, only opener Moniruzzaman with a gritty unbeaten 76 off 116 deliveries fought a lone battle with the willow.

In his marathon 173-minute stay at the crease Moni, who helplessly watched wickets fall at the other end at regular intervals, clubbed four fours in his undefeated knock.

Among the Abahani bowlers left-arm seamer Jahangir Talukder Dulu who struck in the very first over victimising Wari skipper Masudur Rahman Mukul (1), finished with two for 16 in his seven economic overs.

But it was young Rakib Bappi who stole the show with the cherry claiming three wickets for 27 while Rahul, who had earlier shone with the willow, did one better with the ball returning with two for 19.

Miandad to make it six times

ISLAMABAD, Jan 13: Javed Miandad, Pakistan's oldest cricketer at 38, will be in the line-up for Pakistan in next month's World Cup tournament, becoming the first person to play in all six World Cup events, report agencies.

"I hope our cricket team will be able to retain the World Cup," Arif Abbasi, cricket board chairman told Pakistan Television on Saturday.

All-rounder Wasim Akram will lead the side which will gather for a training camp beginning on January 24 in Lahore, chief selector Zafar Altaf told reporters.

Miandad has played 228 one-day matches for his country since making his debut 20 years ago. Only Allan Border and Desmond Haynes have made more appearances and only Haynes has scored more international runs in the abbreviated form of the game.

Aamer Sohail, an aggressive opening batsman and useful slow left arm bowler, was named the vice-captain. Saeed Anwar will be Pakistan's other opening batsman.



JAVED MIANDAD

Pakistan's middle order batsmen will include Rameez Raja, a useful and seasoned batter; Malik; Ijaz Ahmed who also is one of Pakistan's best fielders; Inzamam-ul-Haq, Pakistan's star batsman in the 1992 World Cup tournament.

Also named to the team was Waqar Yousif, allegedly world's fastest bowler.

Rounding out the line-up is Aaqib Javed, an unsung hero who generally comes through for Pakistan as a fast medium bowler; Aatur Rahman as a fast medium bowler; Mushtaq Ahmed, one of the few right arm leg-break googly bowlers; and Saqlain Mushtaq, a useful off-spinner.

RESERVES: Moin Khan, Mohammad Akram, Salim Elahi, Shahid Anwar.

PCB's cause of concern

ISLAMABAD, Jan 13: Pakistani cricket authorities voiced concern today at the uncertainty over television coverage of World Cup matches in India and said the games might have to move to venues in Pakistan and Sri Lanka, reports Reuter.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said it had asked its counterpart, the Board of Control for Cricket in India, to try to resolve urgently a dispute with Indian state television over satellite uplink rights for coverage of the tournament which begins on February 14.

"Members of the Pak-India-Lanka Management Committee (PILCOM) are very concerned that unless this uncertainty is removed very quickly, there is likely to be a huge impact on the viability of the event," the PCB said in a statement.

It said failure to provide proper television coverage of matches to be played in India, co-hosting the tournament with Pakistan and Sri Lanka, could prevent PILCOM from meeting its commitments to international broadcasters and could result in very large claims being lodged against PILCOM.

The PCB described the potential losses as unacceptable.

"In the event a satisfactory resolution of the dispute is not achieved, consideration will be given to moving the matches scheduled in India to Pakistan and Sri Lanka," it added.

India's state Doordarshan television approached the Supreme Court last week after the Delhi High Court rejected its petition challenging the sale of broadcast rights to media Baron Rupert Murdoch's Star television.

Star acquired its rights from WorldTel, the firm that bought the rights from PILCOM, the World Cup organising committee, after WorldTel rescinded a deal signed in 1994 with Doordarshan on the grounds that its payments were delayed beyond schedule.

School sports

The annual sports meet of the Adamjee Cantonment Public School concluded at the school premises at the Dhaka Cantonment yesterday, reports BSS.



Durjoy yesterday ... 21 in one over, 73 not out.

Shaky start for Kiwis

HAMILTON, New Zealand, Jan 13: A moment of poor judgement by Stephen Fleming proved costly as New Zealand reached 68 for two on a rain-shortened first day of the first cricket Test against Zimbabwe today, report agencies.

Fleming was run out attempting a quick single when on 49, three balls before rain stopped play for the rest of the day in Hamilton.

The number three batsman stroked a ball to extra cover and called Roger Twose through for the single, but he was caught well short of his crease by former track athlete Henry Olonga who swooped on the ball and hit the stumps from side-on.

After a late start because of overnight rain, Zimbabwe won the toss and put New Zealand in to bat.

The new-look Kiwi team featured four new caps and batting reshuffle in which Twose was promoted to open and Fleming was elevated to number three.

The hosts started disastrously when Craig Spearman fell to the third ball of the day, edging a ball from Heath Streak to wicketkeeper Andy Flower with no score on the board.

Fleming and Twose scraped their way to lunch at 22 for one with Fleming on 13 and Twose on six.

After lunch, Fleming cut loose and he raced to 49 while Twose—in a subdued,

supportive role—crept to 12. Fleming hit nine fours including three in one over from Olonga to move from 37 to 49.

Olonga's misery embellished—by three no balls was lifted two overs later when his sharp throw ended what should have been Fleming's best innings in 17 Tests.

A ball after Fleming's dismissal, Twose was lucky to survive a confident leg before wicket appeal by Streak.

At the close Twose was on 13 after 89 minutes and 58 balls while Parore had yet to face a ball.

Streak bowled accurately in his seven overs without getting much help from a lifeless pitch. He shared the new ball with leftarmer Bryan Strang whose sagging accuracy earned him six maidens from nine overs.

Olonga, in his first Test since being called for throwing in his debut against Pakistan a year ago, was a little erratic, surrendering 27 runs in four overs.

In four overs Saturday in the first Test against New Zealand, he showed no sign of bowling with a bent arm, though he was no-balled three times for overstepping the crease.

Olonga, 19, was confident he was only overstepping, and not throwing when the first no ball was called.

"I had no worries at all," Olonga said. "It's nice to be back on the field again and bowl fairly normally."

Olonga's only concern with his bowling is that he

went for 27 runs in four overs, including one maiden. He had troubled bowling to left-handers Stephen Fleming, who hit him for three boundaries in one over, and Roger Twose.

"I struggle against left-handers because I push it across them too much."

On a windy day, the slightly built former 100-metre sprinter struggled for his rhythm and found a slowish pitch to be of little assistance.

But he was confident Zimbabwe had the attack to trouble New Zealand, who resume Sunday at 68 for two.

"I don't think the pitch is too bad for bowlers like Heath Streak and Bryan Strang, who hit the seam regularly. Today, I think we bowled too many four balls especially me and we would have been happier if the score was a lot less."

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard table showing runs, wickets, and extras for both teams.

Chang: Calm & composed

MELBOURNE, Jan 13: World number five Michael Chang finalised his preparations for the Australian Open by capturing his second successive Colonial Classic title with a straight sets victory over Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov today, reports Reuter.

The 23-year-old American declared himself ready to mount a strong challenge to compatriots and tournament favourites Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi for the first Grand Slam title of the year which starts on Monday.

"I think I am a better player than I was last year," Chang told reporters after his 7-5, 6-1 defeat of Kafelnikov, 7-5, 6-1 defeat of Kafelnikov, an upset winner over Agassi on Friday, in hot and humid conditions at Kooyong.

"To come here and win three tough matches against Yevgeny, Stefan Edberg and Jim Courier is great for my confidence," said Chang.

"Hopefully I can go on now to the Australian Open and go two better than I did last year," said Chang, a semi-finalist at Flinders Park in 1995 before he lost to even-

tual runner-up Pete Sampras, the current world number one.

The American Davis Cup player insisted the gap between Sampras and Agassi, the world's number two ranked player and defending Australian Open champion, and their closest rivals could be bridged.

"I personally do not think that the gap is as wide as some people think it is," said Chang, who will meet David Rikl in the Czech Republic in the first round of the Australian Open before a scheduled semifinal showdown with Agassi.

"Although Pete and Andre played very tough tennis last year, it does not mean that they are unbeatable. They are a little bit above the rest of us at the moment, but we are all working hard to knock them off."

Kafelnikov said, he could not read too much into the result today because he was not trying as hard as he could.

"To be honest, I was not trying 100 per cent. It is to close to the Open to give it 100 per cent," said the 21-year-old world number six.

Agassi claimed third place at Kooyong by beating compatriot Courier, the world number eight, 6-4, 6-2 later in the day.

"I thought I was moving very well and striking the ball cleanly," said Agassi, who added that he would benefit from the experience of competing at the Australian Open for the first time last year.

"I have become used to what to expect as far as the weather and courts are concerned. The fact that I have done it before helps give me confidence that I can go out and do it again."

Death condoled

The Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation has consoled the death of Md Habibur Rahman, a former member of the federation, says a press release.

The federation at a condolence meeting on Thursday, also conveyed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

Habibur died of cancer on January 4. He was 52.

Boys in semis, eves in final

Third seed Omar Faraz Rahman crashed out of the boys' singles event of the ongoing national junior tennis championships when he unexpectedly lost his quarterfinal bout at the Ramna Tennis Complex yesterday. Visibly tired from his three setter doubles match in the morning, Omar went down 6-7 (7-9), 2-6 to as yet unheralded Salahuddin Tofazzal.

semifinal berth. The result averted a potential cliffhanger between Omar and his doubles partner and second seed Moammer Hassain Obhi, disappointing many spectators.

Obhi made his way to the last four, easily disposing of Shaque 6-2, 6-3 and will meet Salahuddin at 2:30 this afternoon. The other semifinal, to be held simultaneously, will see top seed Tofazzal, Hossain taking on fourth seed Faisal Saifullah.

Tofazzal was taken to three sets for the second successive day as he beat Manik 4-6, 6-3, 6-0. Faisal, in a disappointing one-sided affair, thrashed Fahim Ahsan Rumi 6-0, 6-1.

In boys' doubles engagements, top seeds Obhi and Omar were given a scare by the unknown duo of Alim and Mohsin when they lost the first set 4-6. But the seasoned campaigners got their act together to win the next two 6-3, 6-2.

They were joined in the semifinal stage by second seeds Tofazzal and Jamil who easily overcame a meek challenge from Manik and Selim 6-2, 6-4.

The duo of Momi and Salahuddin carried off somewhat of an upset when they uprooted the strong pairing of Faisal and Upol 6-2, 6-3, while Rumi and Shaque completed the semifinal fixture beating Kaysan and Collins 6-2, 5-7, 6-2.

The boys' doubles semis will begin at 9 this morning. Meanwhile, Sathi Sarkar, who seems to be around under-18 for a long time now and Ishrat Jahan Iti have reached the finals of the girls' singles event.

Sathi defeated Roushan Kabir 6-4, 6-1 while Iti routed Taslima Khatun 6-0, 6-1. The girls' title will be decided at 2-30 pm today.

Gascoigne sidelined

GENEVA, Jan 13: Rangers midfielder Paul Gascoigne will miss his club's next two matches in European competition following his sending off against Borussia Dortmund in December, reports Reuter.

The England midfielder was sent off for receiving two yellow cards in a 2-2 draw against Dortmund in a Champions' league match on December 6.

Now he will be banned for two matches if, as expected, Rangers enter European competition at the start of next season.

UEFA press spokesman Massimo Gonella said, "I cannot confirm the decision of the disciplinary committee yet, at least not until the club and the relevant national football association have been notified."

But his ban completes a dismal disciplinary record for the Scottish champions in Europe this season with a string of players sitting out games, including other red card culprits Alan McLaren and Alex Cleland.

Firoz earns solo lead

Sports Reporter Firoz Ahmed earned solo lead in the 16th national junior chess championship after beating Hasnain in his fifth round encounter at the chess room of the Bangladesh Chess Federation yesterday.

This was the fifth successive win for Firoz from which he earned five points.

Adnan Faisal and Abu Suifan Shakil, who faced each other in yesterday's round and shared half-a-point apiece with a draw, are in the second spot with 4.5 points to their respective account.

Eight players—Enamul Hossain Rajib, Sabir Ahmed, Ruhul Islam Bobby, S Ahmed Santu, Mohammad Zayed Ibrahim Hossain, Mahbubul Alam Sumon and SM Rahman Rony—were sharing the third position with four points each.

Div II soccer

Sports Reporter Mirpur Chalanika Sporting Club recorded a victory in the Sonali Bank Second Division football league as they defeated Muslim Institute 2-0 at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

Striker Mizan netted both the goals for the winners in the 23rd and 24th minute of the first half.

Diy III soccer

Sports Reporter Kadamtala Sangsad began their Progoti Insurance, Third Division football league campaign on a winning note when they registered a 2-1 victory over Maghbazar Kisholy at the Rajuk ground yesterday.

"The first half was locked 1-1. Faruk Hossain put Kadamtala ahead early in the fourth minute while Kisholy's Gausul Haque levelled the tie in the 30th minute.

Striker Yasin Sheikh scored the match winner for Kadamtala two minutes into the second half.

Earlier in the day's first encounter, Moti'heh T&T club beat Mirpur Eleven 1-0. Zillur Rahman Dear scored the lone goal for the winners 10 minutes into the first half.

High-tech to settle score

PERTH, Australia, Jan 13: Controversial Sri Lankan bowler Muralitharan—no-balled for throwing 14 times in less than three weeks—has been filmed by high-speed cameras here as the tourists continue their bid to provide his action is legitimate, reports AFP.

experience of English' conditions. In the tests, experts from the university's department of human movement captured Muralitharan's action from six angles as he bowled his off-spinners for more than an hour.

The 23-year-old bowled in a singlet (vest), leaving his arm bare so the camera could have an uninterrupted view of his shoulder, elbow and wrist.

Ranatunga said the tests were the latest move in the tourists' bid to prove Muralitharan did not throw. Foster said the film had been sent to Melbourne for processing and results should be known next week. "Then we will be able to make some judgements on the legality of his action," Foster said.

"The Sri Lankans will get full report on the tests. I do not believe Muralitharan throws, but that is just a personal opinion."

Sri Lanka are keen to have the youngster cleared quickly so he can be included in the 14-man squad for the World Cup one-day tournament to be held in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka for the middle of next month.

Muralitharan was no-balled seven times in three overs by umpire Darrell Hair on the opening day of the second Test in Melbourne on December 26.

Eight days ago, umpire Ross Emerson called him another seven times in a World Series one-day game against the West Indies in Brisbane.

Steven strides into semis

AUCKLAND, Jan 13: Local favourite Brett Steven broke his Auckland jinx Friday, advancing to the semifinals of the US \$28,000 dollars Bell South Open tennis tournament for the first time, reports AP.

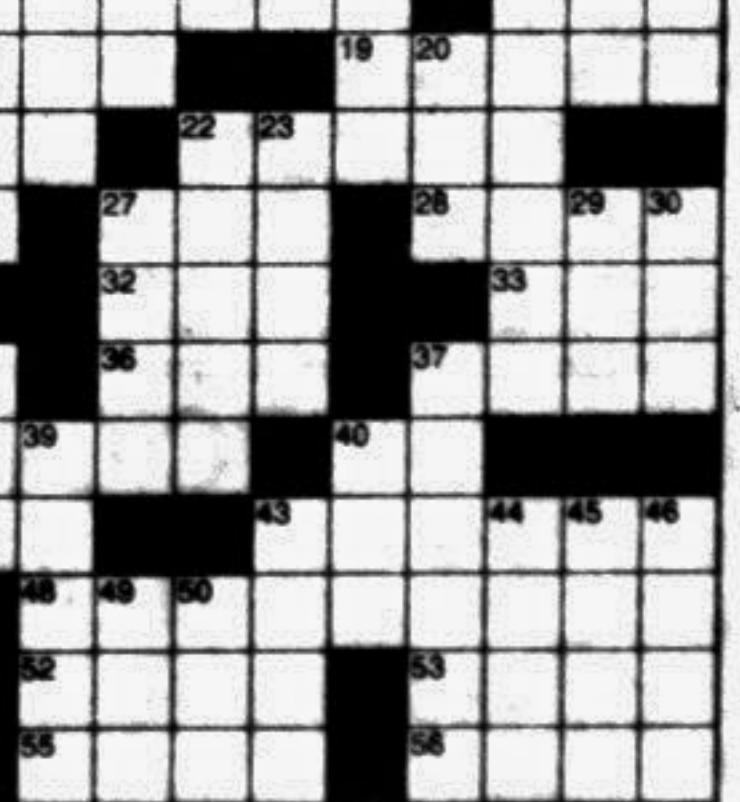
A quarterfinalist on his home court for the past four years, the fifth-seeded Steven outlasted hard-hitting David Rikl of the Czech Republic in a tight match 6-4, 7-5.

"It's a great relief," Steven said of making the last four. "It's just like the theory Jeff (Simpson, his coach) instills in me, that is, it's like hitting a rock. You keep hitting it until it breaks and I've finally broken it."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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CRYPTOQUIP

F U R N T W H A X F U W Y Y R L C R N P F D P R N D E R E R W F T W H Y C L H A E W L H R D Y X

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: EVER HEARD HOW SOGGY MAIL SIMPLY GOT DELIVERED WITH POSTAGE DEW? Today's Cryptoquip clue: L equals W