

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT you should be very careful about what you eat, particularly if you have a game on hand. What more important a game can there be a World Cup semifinal?

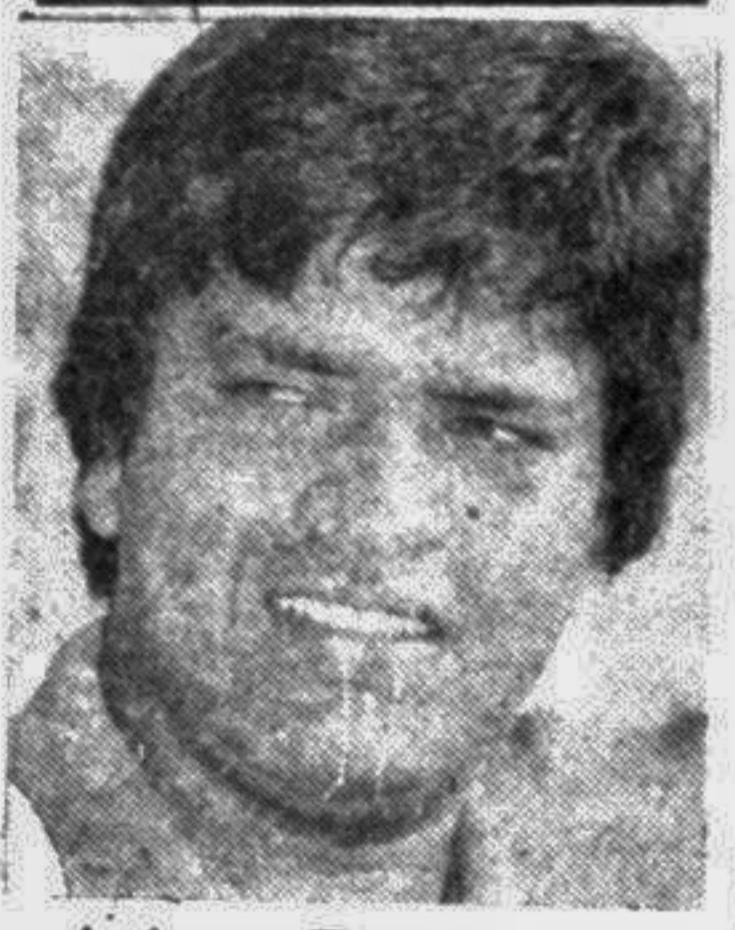
Well, perhaps not realising the import of the pre-match diet, Dilip Vengsarkar, India's middle order strength in the 1978 WC, had a hearty meal of Mackerel curry. And, this was on the eve of the semifinal against England.

Now mackerels are not known to be cricket-sympathisers. So, Dilip spent the day of the semifinal in the dressing room resting his tummy.

After England won the match with a little help from the non-playing mackerel, Mike Gatting, the English captain told reporters: "I can't believe that any player could be so foolish."

If the Australians knew this, they could have sent a truck-load of mackerels to the Sri Lankan hotel in Lahore.

SPORTS TALK



Arjuna Ranatunga
(Sri Lankan cricketer)
"I do not want to comment on the umpiring. You all say the game. You watched the TV replays, you all decide."

Commenting on the controversial dismissals of Hashan Tillakaratne and Kumara Dharmasena in the Singer Cup final against Pakistan.

Sports

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-34

✓ Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m.
April 19, 1996)

1. Sir Richard—
Yousuf Hadlee Ilangothu
2. The Atlanta Olympics begin from July 17—July 19—
3. Who has taken more Test wickets? Kapil Dev Imran Khan Ian Botham
4. Dhaka football is controlled by BIFP DMFA NSC
5. Aussie Rules Football resembles Cricket Rugby Hockey

Name: _____

Class: _____ Roll No. _____

School Address: _____

Phone: (if any) _____

Nirman schools

cricket

Sports Reporter

Motijheel Govt Boys' School, Hasnabad Kamuchan High School and Shahid Abu Taleb School won their respective 14th Nirman Schools cricket tournament (Dhaka zone) matches on Saturday.

Motijheel Govt Boys' School recorded a 4-wicket victory over Arab Mission Public School at the Dhamondi Cricket Stadium (West) while Hasnabad defeated Kakoli High School by 106 runs at the Mirpur Outer Stadium.

In the day's other match at Residential Model School ground, Shahid Abu Taleb School beat Wari High School by 28 runs.

Brief scores

(35-over matches)
Arab Mission School: 150 for eight in 35 overs (Sakib 46, Afzal 33, Extras 38, Rony 3/19).

Motijheel Govt School: 154 for six in 32.2 overs (Antu 74 n.o., Extras 32).

Hasnabad School: 210 for nine in 35 overs (Rabbi 37, Jahangir 34, Extras 56, Mohibur 4/46).

Kakoli School: 104 in 27.2 overs (Sayem 17, Extras 27, Hakim 3/14).

Shahid Abu Taleb School: 119 in 24.4 overs (Sabbir 19, Extras 30, Rahan 5/16).

Wari High School: 91 in 19.2 overs (Rajib 24, Tariq 4/28).

192 shuttlers enter Olympics

KUALA LUMPUR, Apr 13: Some 192 of the world's top badminton players qualified for the Atlanta Olympics, the International Badminton Federation announced Friday, reports AP.

The 186 qualifiers names have been sent to the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games.



Jubilant Mohammedan players and officials after clinching the Premier league cricket title yesterday. — Star photo

Fitting finale to Premier league

Mohammedans make it at last

BRIEF SCORES

BANGLADESH BIMAN: 180 all out in 46.5 overs (Nasir Khan 87 n.o., Rajique 20, Bulbul 2/37).

MOHAMMEDAN SC: 182 for 8 in 45.2 overs (Litu 49, Nannu 42, Bulbul 40 n.o., Zafar Iqbal 4/37; Antu 2/34).

Skipper Aminul Islam Bulbul played the role of a savior as Mohammedan Sporting Club clinched the coveted Premier cricket league title for the 1995-96 season with a sensational two-wicket win over title-chasers Bangladesh Biman at the Dhaka Stadium.

In a low-scoring affair, Bulbul scooped a priceless unbeaten 40 as Mohammedans, who were at one stage limping on 148/8, dug out themselves from a living nightmare to a wonderful evening for the celebration, thrilling victory.

Jubilation erupted the whole stadium arena when Hasnab Hossain Shanto, who put on an invaluable 34 runs for the undefeated eighth wicket with his skipper, drove the second ball of the 46th over off of spinner Jewle Hossain Mona for the winning runs with a massive sixer over long-on.

And the drama of the topsy-turvy league which fittingly climaxed in the finals saw the best team among the 12 elite

their chase for an easy target of 3.6 runs over.

Opener Nadeem Younis scored only 5 and one-down Selim Shahid, who is now a pale shadow of his former self, made 7 before both were dismissed by Biman's national left-arm seamer Anisur Rahman in quick succession leaving Mohammedans 16/2 in 6.2 overs.

Things turned grave when Jahangir Alam (3) followed them shortly with the addition of only six runs to the total, edging a simple catch behind the wicket off Zafar Iqbal.

After the fall of three quick-wickets, experienced Minhazul Abedin Nannu, joined Mustadur Litu to steadied the rocking boat, founding a potential match-winning partnership of 79 runs for the fourth wicket.

Nannu hammered a brilliant 42 off 45 balls inclusive of three fours before he was bowled around the wicket by off-spinner Mona while going for an intended sweep.

Young Litu, who was playing sensibly nudging and pushing all over the wicket, then added another 20 runs for the fifth wicket with Bulbul before the left-hander fell one run short of what would have been an well deserved fifty. He was run out in a terrible mix-up with his skipper while chasing a non-existing single.

The sad dismissal of Litu brought Biman back into the

match, and the pendulum swung on their way when Zafar Iqbal, returning in the 38th over, took two wickets from successive deliveries leaving Mohammedans in the dire strait with 127/7.

The Pakistani international had Sujon first caught by Nasir Khan at gully and then dismissed compatriot Shahed Mahmud for a first ball duck in his next delivery — magnificently caught by an airborne Rupom in the first slip.

Zafar Iqbal, who bowled with venom in his second spell, also claimed the wicket of Nasu to finish with 4/37 in his 9.5 overs before slipping off the ground with a groin injury.

Earlier, sent into bat, the Biman innings was built around a dazzling unbeaten 87 from their Pakistani opener Nasir Ali Khan.

The stout right-hander, fought a lone battle to guide his side to a respectable total until Shanto, the tall national new ball bowler, rattled up the wickets at the bowler's end with a direct hit from cover to mark the fall of the last Biman wicket with more than four overs to spare.

In his 125-ball innings Nasir cracked five fours, while Mohammed Rafique, the other notable run-getter, chipped in with a quick-fire 20 off 19 deliveries.

With this win Mo-

hammedans finished with highest 26 points from their quota of 16 league matches.

Brothers, who ended their campaign with 24 points, finished runners-up while Biman ended their campaign at per with last year's joint holders Abahani Krira Chakra, both having collected 22 points each.

A beaming Bulbul said after the match, "It was a great achievement of my career. Now we are the best among the 12 teams and I'm extremely happy for the way we won the title."

Replies to a query about Mohammedans' defeat at the hands of Brothers Union and Abahani that put their championship hopes in doubt, Bulbul said, "It was very disappointing for me. We could have run away with the title without any fuss. But we failed due to over-confidence and lack of motivation."

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