

Nat'l youth cricket scores

Sports Reporter

Mymensingh DSA, Narayanang DSA, Kushtia DSA, Comilla DSA and Rajshahi Education Board moved into their respective zonal finals of the 16th national youth cricket championship yesterday.

At the Dhaka Stadium, Mymensingh beat Gazipur by five runs in their Zone 'cha' encounter.

Put into bat, Mymensingh were all out for 100 in 33.3 overs.

Gazipur bowlers Iqbal and Mamun captured three wickets each conceding 13 and 14 runs respectively.

In reply, Gazipur were bundled out for only 95 runs in 37.5 overs.

In Jhenidah, Narayanang edged past Faridpur by nine wickets in a Zone 'umo' match. Electing to bat, Faridpur were all out for 56 in 24.5 overs with Bappi scoring highest 20 runs for his side.

Narayanang Sajal grabbed three wickets for only eight runs while Shaymol and Tapu took two wickets each.

In reply, Narayanang reached home in 10.3 overs with nine wickets in hand.

Munna (24) and Pappu (22) were the leading Narayanang scorers.

In Pabna, Kushtia outplayed Natore by 49 runs in their Zone 'kha' engagement.

Put into bat, Kushtia were all out for 147 in 32.2 overs with Shimul scoring highest 34 runs.

In reply, Natore succumbed in 26.1 overs with 98 on the board.

In Chandpur, Comilla handed Sylhet a huge 106-run defeat in Zone 'gha'.

Electing to bat, Comilla piled up 264 all out in 42.4 overs. Mustafa scored highest 84 runs while Habib, Faisal added 26 and 22 respectively to the Comilla account.

In reply, Sylhet were all out in 38.2 overs.

Hadi (50) and Abu (18) were the leading Sylhet scorers.

In zone 'ka', Rajshahi Education Board beat Pabna by 34 runs at the Dinajpur Stadium.

Electing to bat first, Rajshahi Board scored 192 for seven in the stipulated 45 overs and booked their counterparts in 41.3 overs with 158 on the scoreboard.

Biman football

Sports Reporter

Habiganj, Satkhira and Bandarban, who got an walk-over, moved into their respective zonal finals of the Biman 14 national youth football championship yesterday.

Satkhira edged past Magura by the odd goal in three to earn a place in the final from Jessore Zone. Nazmul and Mullick were the scorers for the winners while Bishwajit pulled one goal back for Magura in the 55th minute.

In Maulvibazar, Habiganj prevailed over Sylhet 3-0 in the tie-breaker after the match ended in a one-all draw.

Meanwhile in the other billing of the day, Narasingh defeated Munshiganj by a solitary goal in Munshiganj with Selim scoring the match decider in the 32nd minute.

While in Pabna, Natore also recorded a identical 1-0 win over Rajshahi to move into the next round.

Away in Nilphamari, Gaibandha recorded a 4-3 tie-break win over Kurigram after the stipulated 70-minute encounter ended in a 1-1 draw.

In Tangail, two second half goals from Shajahan and Masum guided Narayanang to the semifinal with a 2-0 win over Gazipur.

Salah wins Belgrade marathon

BELGRADE, Apr 20: Djibuti's Ahmed Salah won the ninth Belgrade Marathon on Saturday, finishing just ahead of Kenyan Hussein Mbarak and Vladimir Kotov of Belarus, reports AP.

Salah was fastest with a time of 2 hours, 14 minutes and 16 seconds. Mbarak finished in 2:14:30 and Kotov's time was 2:14:36.

Kotov was last year's winner of the marathon which Salah missed. An obvious favourite despite his relatively advanced age of 39, he was the leader from the start Saturday.

Salah's best result was 2:07:07, achieved in 1988 in Netherlands. That was the third-best ever time. He has won the Paris marathon twice and took the bronze medal at the 1988 Olympics.

Isabella Zatorska from Poland was the fastest woman for the second consecutive year in Belgrade with a time of 2:36:48 minutes. Back 17 seconds was Yugoslavia's Suzana Ciric. Third was Rima Dubovik from Russia, who finished in 2:37:35.

The marathon began and finished in the centre of the town, in front of the Parliament building, after winding through different parts of the relatively hilly Serbian and Yugoslav capital. The event was sponsored by the Belgrade-based Soko Stark food concern.

Belgrade has experienced an exceptionally long and harsh winter, but the temperature Saturday had reached 20 degrees Celsius by noon.

The full marathon distance of 42.195 kilometres marathon track was attempted by 257 runners from 35 countries, while 1,740 others from 14 countries participated in the half marathon.



Victorious South African skipper Hansie Cronje poses with the Pepsi Cup after the final in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates on April 19. South Africa beat India by 38 runs.

— AFP/UNB photo

Nirman schools results

Sports Reporter



(Dhaka zone) in the 14th Nirman schools cricket championship after eliminating their semifinal opponents at different city venues yesterday.

But, with most of the umpires as well as the official scorers, staying off their job on the day following a row with the tournament committee secretary, the officials had a torrid time to fix things with the amateurs.

As a result most of the scoreboards, provided to the press by the BCCB, were incomplete and erroneous.

However, at the Mirpur Outer Stadium, Moghbazar handed a crushing 61-run defeat on Nabakumar Institute to earn a final berth from Group B.

Electing to bat in the morning, the Moghbazar boys raced on to amass a commanding 170 with Kiron hammering an unbeaten 41 before they were all out in the final over of the 35-over-a-side match.

Babu with a plucky 39 was the other notable run-getter for the winners while Tariq and Monir, who ran havoc in Moghbazar batting, claimed three wickets apiece.

In reply, Nabakumar were skittled out for only 109 in 31.3 overs in the face of some accurate bowling. Opener Sohel with 11 was the only dou-

ble-figure score from bat while extras contribute highest 38 runs to the Nabakumar total.

Biddiut, Rony and Forosh, who bowled nippily, evenly shared six wicket among them.

On the western strip of the Residential Model School (RMS), Masum cracked a run-a-ball 85 to inspire Fariduddin High School to an impressive 77-run win over Santibagh

High School.

Batting first, Fariduddin High School rode on the brilliance of Masum to compile a commanding 201 before being all out in 34.3 overs. In his whirlwind innings Masum hammered 11 hits across the fence. He was well supported by opener Riton, who clubbed seven fours in his patient 60-ball 46.

In reply, Santibagh, facing a daunting task of scoring more than 5.7 runs per over, were shot out to a paltry 124, though this information was not carried in the official scoreboard. Besides, the bowling analysis of Fariduddin was also missing in the sheet.

Away at the City Club ground, Udayan School defeated Dhanmondi Govt High School by four wickets. In a low scoring affair, Udayan, chasing a modest Dhanmondi total of 105, reached home for the loss of six wickets and with 14 overs to spare where extras contributed highest 28 runs to the winners total.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Sayem Kabir captured four wickets for only 14 runs to power National Bank Public School to a thumping nine-wicket victory over Mitai Vidyapith.

Batting first, Mitai Vidyapith were bundled out for a meagre 67. In reply National Bank rattled up the required 68 for the loss of one wicket with Bhasanullah (21) and Ahsan Kabir (32) sharing 60 runs for the undefeated second wicket.

Div III soccer

Sports Reporter

East End Boys Club moved further in their chase for a promotion in the upper division when they recorded an impressive 2-0 win over Fire Service and Civil Defence SC in one of the two Progoti Insurance Third Division football league at the Rajuk ground yesterday.

In a see-saw encounter, Kamal struck the first salvo for the old-town outfit in the 29th minute before Azad confirmed East End's fourth win with strikes in the 39th minute.

With this win East End boys maintained their solo lead in the eight-team super league with 11 points from five outings. On the other hand it was Fire's fifth consecutive defeat.

In the day's other match, Praetie KC enjoyed a goal-fest 4-2 win over Moghbazar KC with Mazhar, Amin, Shik and Ashik notching one goal apiece for the winner.

For the vanquished Moghbazar Tamjid and Anis pulled two goals back.

SA kick-boxer dead

DURBAN, South Africa, Apr 20: World kick-boxing champion Clinton Marchand was found dead at his home here on Friday, police said, reports AP.

The welterweight champion was shot once in the head, according to the Sapa news agency. Police do not suspect foul play.

Marchand was preparing to defend his world kick-boxing association title for a record fee next month.

He also held another championship belt and was regarded as South Africa's best kick-boxer. He is survived by his wife and two young daughters.

V'ball Olympic qualifiers

TOKYO, Apr 20: South Korea and Japan scored a victory apiece in the men's volleyball qualifying round on Saturday, giving them identical records before their final clash for a ticket to the Atlanta Olympic Games, reports AP.

The Korean team whose hopes revived when the Japanese lost to China in three sets on Friday, coasted to a 15-10, 15-5, 14-16, 15-9 victory over the Chinese in the four-team round robin.

The Japanese were 15-7, 15-1, 15-7 winners over Australia for an identical 4-1 win-loss record with South Korea.

The winners of a match between Japan and South Korea on Sunday will be eligible for the Atlanta Olympics.

China stood with two wins against three defeats, ahead of winless Australia.

Office cricket league Apr 24

Sports Reporter

The Office cricket league (1995-96) will begin at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium from April 24.

A total of seven teams will play in the round robin league phase divided into two groups.

Top two teams of each group will qualify for the semifinals.

In the opening day, Partex Group will take on Eastern Bank in their Group A opener. Acme Laboratories are the remaining team in the group on the other hand. Regensea Lines, Biman, Acumarine and Bank Indosuez are placed in the other group.

Div One h'ball

Sports Reporter

Old Ideals Club continued their impressive run in the Ashraf Real Estate First Division handball league with a flattering 23-13 goal win over Progoti Boys Club at the court adjacent to the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

With Nayan leading the charge scoring highest 12 goals in the lop-sided affair, Old Ideals were hardly troubled to breeze past an helpless Progoti after leading the breather 12-5.

In the other match of the day, Dhaka Mariner Young Club won a cliff-hanger by the skin of their teeth when they edged past Victoria SC 16-15.

Sweden to appeal fine

STOCKHOLM, Apr 20: The Swedish tennis federation is set to appeal a 5,000-dollar fine for comments made by its players and officials on the run-up to their Davis Cup quarterfinal against India earlier this month, reports AP.

Jan Francke, president of the Swedish federation, said the decision to fine the team was not sufficiently backed up. Francke believed Sweden's non-playing captain Carl-axel Hageskog had not been given the opportunity to explain.

Hageskog had said Indian customs had confiscated some of its stuff to try and put them off before the April 5-7 match.

And a Swedish official responsible for security told the players not to go outside their luxury hotel as they might become upset by the poverty.

And twice Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg had already pulled out of the tie for fear of contracting a disease.

The International Tennis Federation fined the Swedish federation on Thursday for these comments which they believed brought the game into disrepute.

Sweden's appeal will be heard at the ITF annual meeting in Lausanne at the beginning of June.

Leroy living in a hope

ATLANTA, Apr 20: The head of the Olympic movement in the United States said on Wednesday he hoped this Summer's Atlanta Games would revitalise the flagging popularity of athletics in the host nation, reports AP.

Leroy Walker, president of the US Olympic Committee (USOC), said he welcomed the Atlanta Grand Prix, to be held next month at the still-unfinished Olympic Stadium as a shot in the arm for the sport.

"It's going to give a boost to what some people might say is the sagging popularity of track and field," Walker said.

Walker blamed track and field's lowly rating among US sports fans on a dramatic fall in the number of events on the domestic calendar and poor television exposure.

"There are not enough competitions to become meaningful to the spectator," he said. "With basketball you can watch it all night on television and it's the same with football."

The USOC chief was speaking in the shadow of the 85,000-seat stadium where work is at fever pitch to get it ready for the May 18 Grand Prix meeting.

An officials opening ceremony will be held during the competition, which will provide non-US athletes their only chance to try out the Olympic facility before the centennial Games. The Americans will get another chance to check out the new track when they hold their Olympic athletics trials there in mid-June.

Some 200 athletes from more than 30 countries are scheduled to appear in the Atlanta Grand Prix among the US stars will be world champion Michael Johnson, who has his eye on both the 200 and the 400 metres titles and Olympic champions Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Gwen Torrence and Gail Devers.

Among the international competitors will be Irish miler Marcus O'Sullivan, British triple jump world record holder Jonathan Edwards and Maria Mutola of Mozambique, last year's 800 metres Grand Prix champion.

The Atlanta meet is one of only two US events on the International Amateur Athletics Federation Grand Prix outdoor calendar, which culminates in the September 7 final in Milan, Italy.

Jimmy's tweaks tame Kiwis



BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Apr 20: The subtlety of Jimmy Adams' left-arm spin bowling shattered

New Zealand's confidence on the opening day of the first cricket Test here on Friday, reports AP.

Adams, whose bowling should hardly cause batsmen a restless night's sleep, captured a career-best five for 17 off nine overs to send New Zealand tumbling for an inadequate first innings total of 195 after being sent in to bat.

Left with 26 overs of the daily quota to negotiate, Sherwin Campbell and Brian Lara made sure that the West Indies maintained a formidable position in an unbroken second wicket stand of 52 that carried them to 98 for one by the close.

The West Indies innings was given a flourish start by Campbell and Robert Samuels, the first left right West Indies opening pair in 19 years and the seventh West Indian partnership in the last five years, who gathered 46 in the first ten overs.

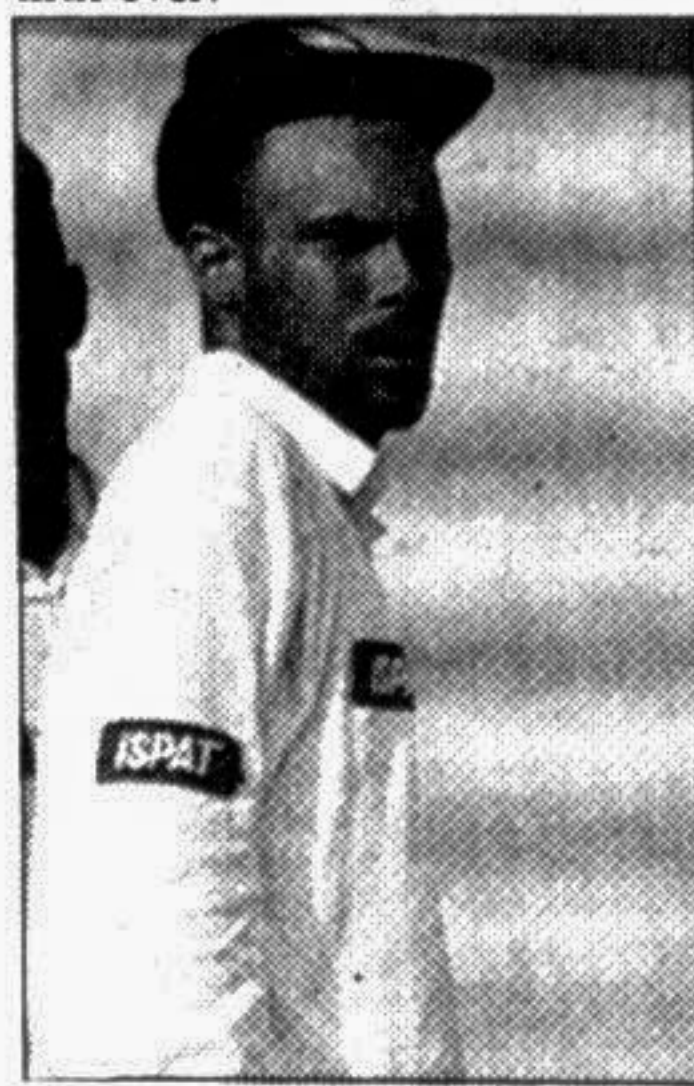
The diminutive Campbell was brutal against fast bowler Robert Kennedy, whose first two overs cost 22 runs. By the close of play Campbell was unbeaten on 47 with eight hits to the rope.

In his first Test Samuels lasted half-an-hour before being trapped lbw by Gavin Larsen. His place at the crease was taken by Brian Lara who was unbeaten on 32 at the close.

Earlier Nathan Astle scored an authoritative half-century for New Zealand as did Adam Parore.

Astle hammered 54 off 52 balls to rescue his side who had slumped to an embarrassing six for three wickets after a disastrous start.

First opening batsman Craig Spearman, driving at a full-pitch delivery from fast bowler Courtney Brown, edged a catch to wicketkeeper Courtney Brown off the last ball of the fifth over.



JIMMY ADAMS ... 5 for 17

Four balls later Roger Twose steered a short ball from Courtney Walsh outside the off-stump to third-slip Samuels and then Walsh had Stephen Fleming held by Shivarine Chandepaul at backward short-leg.

Astle and Parore shared 80 in just over an hour for the fourth wickets in a period when fast bowler Patterson Thompson, making his Test debut, and Ian Bishop were wayward and expensive.

Thompson nevertheless took the wickets of Astle and Harris before Adams mopped up the lower-order.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the opening day of first cricket Test between the West Indies and New Zealand in Bridgetown on Friday:

NEW ZEALAND: First innings
Spearman c Brown b Ambrose 0
Twose c Samuels b Walsh 2
Fleming c Chandepaul b Walsh 1
Parore c Simmons b Adams 1
Astle c Brown b Thompson 54
Harris c Lara b Thompson 50
Vaughan c Bishop b Adams 44
Gerron c Chandepaul b Adams 0
Larsen st Brown b Adams 12
Morrison not out 4
Kennedy c Brown b Adams 0
Extras: (lb-1, w-1, nb-17) 9
Total (all out) 195

Fall of wickets: 1-2; 2-2; 3-6; 4-86; 5-87; 6-154; 7-157; 8-186; 9-193

Bowling:
Ambrose 13 4 33 1
Walsh 17 6 30 2 (nb2)
Bishop 10 3 36 0 (nb1)
Thompson 8 0 582 (nb13)
Simmons 3 0 11 0
Adams 9 4 17 5 (nb1)
Chandepaul 2 0 9 0

WEST INDIES: First innings
Campbell not out 47
Samuels lbw b Larsen 2
Lara not out 32
Extras (lb2, nb5) 7
Total (for one wicket) 98

Fall of wicket: 1-46

To bat: P Simmons, S Chandepaul, J Adams, C Brown, C Ambrose, I Bishop, C Walsh, P Thompson

Bowling:
Morrison 5 1 17 0
Kennedy 5 0 34 0
Larsen 8 0 25 1
Vaughan 4 0 9 0
Harris 4 2 11 0

Waiting a grand opening



ATLANTA, Apr 20 (AP): While not quite on the scale of an Olympic opening ceremony, a big event is planned when the main stadium of the Summer Games opens next month for a track meet.

Organisers said Wednesday that rhythm-and-blues singer Tavo Campbell will perform, high school marching bands will play and 96 people will be selected at random from the stands to cut a giant gold ribbon in a 40-minute ceremony before the Atlanta Grand Prix on May 18.

The hoopla should take some of the heat off the problems that have beset the 230 million dollars stadium. Chief among them are the fatal collapse of a light tower truss under construction last year, a recent, lower-level, roofed engineering mistake and the organising committee's refusal to pay millions of dollars of overtime to the stadium designers.

"Centennial Olympic Stadium is the single largest legacy of Atlanta's decade-long Olympic effort," said Billy Payne, president of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games.

It is only fitting that the people of Atlanta do the ribbon cutting and that this world-class facility be christened by the best of the best in track and field.

The international competition is the first of two events that will be held at the 83,500-seat stadium before the Olympics. The US Olympic track and field trials will be held there June 14-23.

Among those attending the Grand Prix will be IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch and Primo Nebiolo, head of the international track and field federation. The TNT cable network, which is presenting 3 1/2 hours of live coverage of

the competition, will show taped highlights of the opening celebration.

The Atlanta meet, one in a schedule of 18 Grand Prix events staged worldwide this year by the International Amateur Athletic Association, is not officially an Olympic event. But Atlanta organisers are treating it just as they did a series of ACOG-run test events last year to identify any bugs that need to be worked out before the games.

"We're involved up to our eyeballs," said Dave Maggard, ACOG sports director.

US officials also are hoping the track events leading up to the Summer Olympics will

help rekindle enthusiasm in this country for the sport, which has waned in the past decade.

Tickets to the Atlanta Grand Prix, priced from dollars 10 to dollars 15, went on sale Wednesday through Ticketmaster.

Leroy Walker, president of the US Olympic Committee, said the dearth of major track and field events in the United States had made it impossible for the sport to compete for attention with professional team sports.

"We haven't had enough... so individuals in this region could have a viewing opportunity of this great sport," Walker said. "With this great meet and the trials and the Olympics itself, individuals will be able to add this to the arsenal of sports that they like to attend."

UEFA does Kiev a favour

GENEVA, Switzerland, Apr 20: Ukrainian champions Dynamo Kiev had their European ban lifted by UEFA here on Friday, report AP.

Kiev were thrown out of the Champions' League for bribing a Spanish referee in their match against Panathinaikos and were also barred for a further two seasons from European competition had they qualified.

UEFA also gave the go ahead for European Championship squads to have 22 players instead of the original 21.

UEFA had come under pressure from England coach Terry Venables and others to increase the squads.

The measure will now allow the squads to include three goalkeepers.

It called on FIFA to allow Japan and South Korea to co-host the 2002 World Cup.

FIFA and Japan have already ruled it out. FIFA president Joao Havelange said it is not feasible under FIFA rules for two countries to co-host the Cup.

Romanian Open in limbo

BUCHAREST, Apr 20: This year's Romanian Open tennis tournament, under serious threat following a financial row between the ATP and the event's intended sponsors, reports Reuters.

Troubled banker Sever Muresan has confirmed the ATP has stripped his company SM Invest Group of its rights to the tournament, although the event may yet be staged in Romania.

ATP press chief Nathalie Doutrout told Romanian national television the licence had been withdrawn because Muresan had not met financial terms. She said it was possible another sponsor would emerge.

The licence for the Romanian Open has been withdrawn from the owner of the rights but not from Romania (as host), she said.

A former tennis star, Muresan was the figurehead of Dacia Felix Bank, as star of the post-communist Romanian economy, which has now been put under central bank control and

banned from foreign exchange activity. Muresan allegedly owes the bank more than 300 million dollars but says he is the victim of a conspiracy.

The Romanian central bank last month banned Muresan and other Dacia Felix personalities from holding any post in the local banking industry for five years.

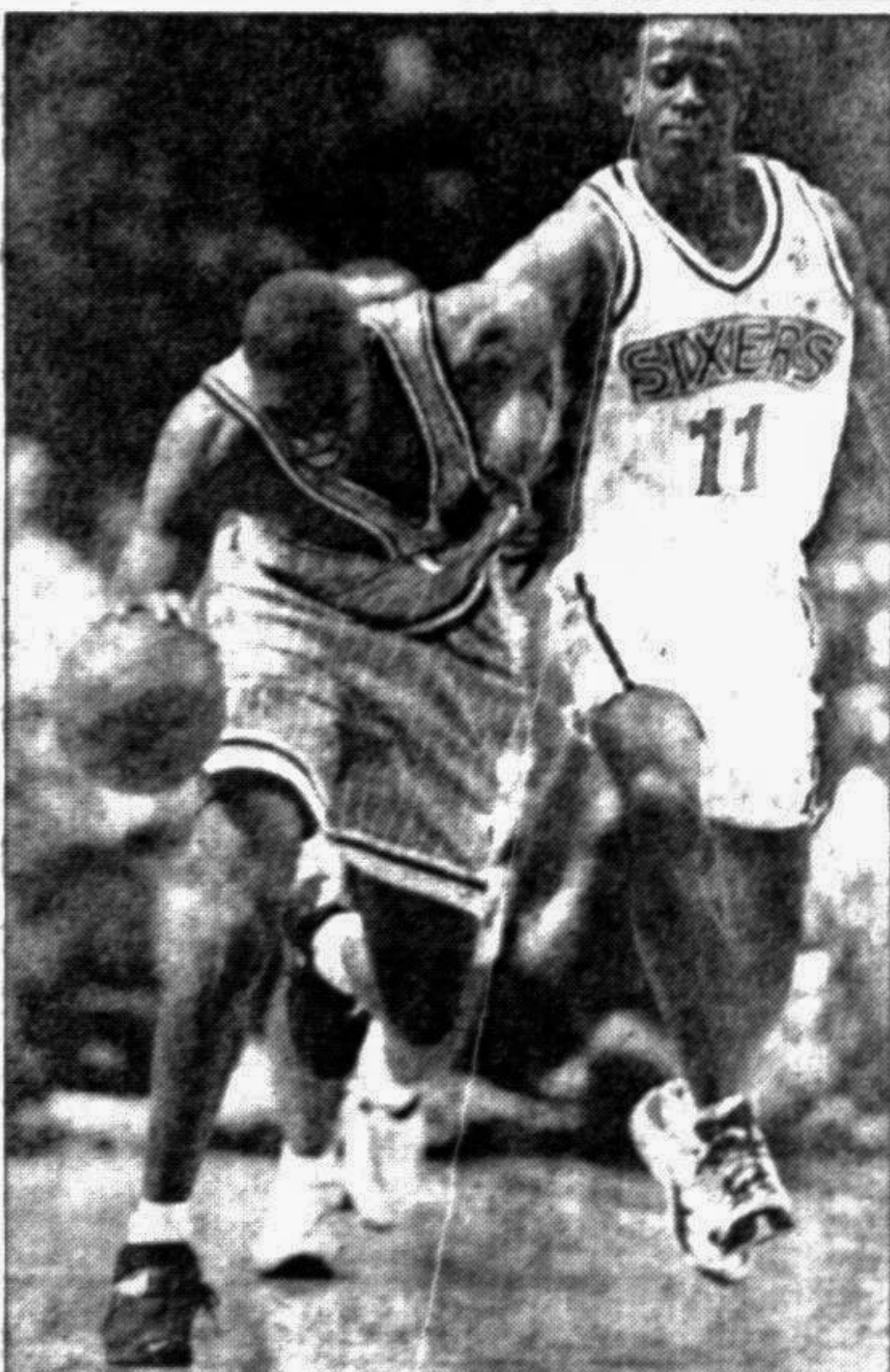
The Open was scheduled to be held in Bucharest between September 9-15. It had total prize money of 1.35 million dollars and was billed as the fifth-biggest clay tournament in the world but Muresan confirmed the ATP were keen to see the five-year-old event continue.

"It's not lost forever because a final decision will be made in June during Wimbledon when the ATP will decide who will be the owner of the tournament," he said.

Army b'ball

Four teams won their respective matches in the Army annual basketball championship at the Mirpur Cantonment yesterday, reports AP.

Rangpur Area defeated Air Defence Artillery 83-80, Dhaka Infantry outplayed Dhaka Signals 80-46, Chittagong Area beat Momen Shahi Area 92-59 and Comilla Area overpowered Dhaka Engineers by 120-82.



Vernon Maxwell (R) of the Philadelphia 76ers tries to slow down Orlando Magic's Brian Shaw by pulling his shirt during their NBA game in Philadelphia on Apr 19. Orlando won 112-92.

— AFP/UNB photo



Rapid Vienna's Christian Stumpf puts the ball away as Feyenoord's keeper George Boateng looks on during their Cup Winners' Cup second leg semifinal encounter in Vienna on April 18. Vienna won 3-0.