

Column One SPORTS TALK

Canada Cricket Association go down Nannu: willow & cherry-happy

Sports Reporter

BRIEF SCORES

BANGLADESH: 246 for nine in 50 overs (Athar 58, Rupom 39, Sajal 31 n.o., Nannu 28, Moini 27, T Gardinar 4/43, S Seeram 3/54)
CCA PRESIDENT XI: 158 for nine in 50 overs (Liburd 63, A Glegg 35, T Gardinar 15, Nannu 4/22, M Rafique 3/25)

captured four wickets conceding only 22 runs. The opening local pair were going great guns while chasing the huge Bangladesh total and they were about to reach three figures hitting all the visiting medium pacers with confident strokes. Specially opener Liburd was absolutely cool as he kept on punishing the



M A NANNU

Bangladeshi bowlers and reached fifty within a short span of his stay at the crease. But things began to change in Bangladesh's favour when skipper Akram handed the ball to his most senior comrade, Nannu, coming to rescue, sent both the openers - Liburd (63) and Glegg (35) - and one down D Pereira (0) in two successive overs transforming the total to 93 for three from 85 without loss.

This put the Canadian side in total jeopardy and all the remaining seven batsmen failed. They were finally restricted to only 158 for nine in their stipulated 50 overs. Nannu was equally supported by left-arm spinner Mohammad Rafique who took three wickets for 25 runs.

Earlier, put into bat, the visitors piled up a defendable 246 for nine with opener Athar Ali hammering highest 58 off 94 deliveries. Middle order Ziaur Rashid Rupom added 39 while promising all-rounder Sajal Chowdhury scored an unbeaten 31 of only 14 balls. Among others left-hand middle-order Enamul Haque Moini added 27 runs to the Bangladesh account.

A brilliant all-round performance by veteran Minhazul Abedin Nannu brought Bangladesh back into the winning run in the last phase of their North America tour when they recorded a huge 88-run victory over Canadian Cricket Association President eleven at the Toronto Cricket Club Ground, Canada, on Thursday. According to a faxed message received here yesterday, Nannu considered to be the best all rounder of the country, played the most significant role in his side's convincing win as he scored a quick fire 28 off as many balls to help his team reach the big total of 246 for nine after being put into bat. The handsome all-rounder then shone with the ball after the seamers failed to break through the Canadian opening duo in their initial spells. Nannu, with his slow medium pace, performed his duty with true professionalism as he

'99 World Cup draw held



LONDON, July 12: Champions Sri Lanka on Thursday were drawn in a tough group including India, South Africa and England for the 1999 World Cup in England, reports agencies. Only the top three teams in each group will advance to the next stage. Zimbabwe and an associate member of the International Cricket Council (ICC) were also drawn in the Group at the ceremony at Lord's.

Each of the teams in Groups A and B will play five round-robin matches, producing a total of 15 matches in each section. The top three teams in Group A will play the top three teams in Group B in the next stage to determine the final league positions. The top four teams then qualify for the semifinals, with first playing fourth and second against third, for a total of 42 games, including the final.

The important thing is, however, not that I didn't get the chairman's position, despite winning a majority, but that the institution of the ICC sorts out this issue. Dalmiya received the backing of three Test nations - Pakistan and Sri Lanka - after a third candidate for the chairmanship. South African Cricket Board president Krish Mackerdihji, withdrew following a first ballot.

Group B contains 1996 World Cup runners-up Australia, West Indies, Pakistan, New Zealand and two ICC associate members. Unlike the last World Cup where four teams from each group advanced to the secondary stage, organisers have changed the rules. So only the top three progress past the opening stage in England.

At the second ballot, England, Australia, New Zealand, West Indies and Zimbabwe all supported Gray and, with South Africa abstaining, Dalmiya was shut out. Each Test nation has two votes, with the 22 associate members having one vote each - 19 of them are thought to have backed Dalmiya.

Wiseman held stood for election as an "independent" after losing out to Richard when he bid to become the Premier League's official candidate. Wiseman has been on the council for three years and is a member of UEFA's club competition committee.

Nazar Mohammad passes away

ISLAMABAD, July 12: Former Test opener Nazar Mohammad, the first Pakistani cricketer to carry his bat through a Test innings, died today at the age of 75, reports Reuters. State television said the cricketer, whose brief playing career was ended by an injury, died in his home town of Lahore, capital of Punjab province, after a protracted illness. Nazar Mohammad carried his bat through the innings in Pakistan's Test match against India at Lucknow with his only Test century with 124 during the 1952-53 series. The feat was repeated by his son Mudassar Nazar, also against India, at Lahore with 152 runs during the 1982-83 series. Nazar Mohammad and Mudassar Nazar provide the only instance of a father and son carrying their bat through a Test innings.

Sohail savages Minor Counties

STONE, England, July 12: A century off just 85 balls by opener Aamir Sohail helped Pakistan crush the Minor Counties by 170 runs on Thursday, reports Reuters. The left-hander smashed 133 as the touring team - fielding a side not far short of Test strength - raced to 310 for seven off their 50 overs. Inzamam-ul-Haq hit 41 from 29 balls before retiring. The Minor Counties struggled to 140 for eight in reply after a middle-order collapse which saw them lose five wickets for 12 runs. An unbroken ninth-wicket partnership of 64 between Marcus Sharp and Laurie Potter salvaged some respect for the home side. Pakistan face Warwickshire and Kent in three-day matches before the first Test against England at Lord's starting on July 25.

Dolairpar retain schools kabaddi title

Dolairpar High School retained their title, beating Bangladesh Rifles School & College by 11-9 points in the final of the sixth Schools kabaddi tournament at the court next to Dhaka Stadium yesterday, reports UNB. The keenly contested match was locked 3-3 in the first session.

Russel, the skipper of Dolairpar High, was adjudged best-player-of-the-final. Maniknagar Primary High School received a special award as the most disciplined team of the tournament.

Kabaddi Federation president M Azizul Huq witnessed the final. TEAMS Dolairpar High School: Russel, Rashed, Jonny, Abul, Abu, Bakr, Anik, Babu and Habib. Bangladesh Rifles School & College: Sufian, Marmun, Monir, Matior, Alauddin, Jasim, Yasser, Ahad, Ariful and Sohel. Referee: Golam Hafiz.

ROLL OF HONOUR Year Champions

- 1988 : Bangladesh Rifles High School
1989-90 : Rifles Public School & College
1991-92 : Bangladesh Rifles School and College
1993 : Rifles Public School & College
1994-95 : Dolairpar High School
1996 : Dolairpar High School

Wiseman new FA chief

LONDON, July 12: Southampton vice-chairman Keith Wiseman was Thursday named to take over from long-serving Sir Bert Millichip as chairman of the Football Association, reports AFP. Millichip stepped down after 15 years in the job and Wiseman, a 51-year-old solicitor, was voted in after a four-cornered leadership battle.

Wiseman held stood for election as an "independent" after losing out to Richard when he bid to become the Premier League's official candidate. Wiseman has been on the council for three years and is a member of UEFA's club competition committee.

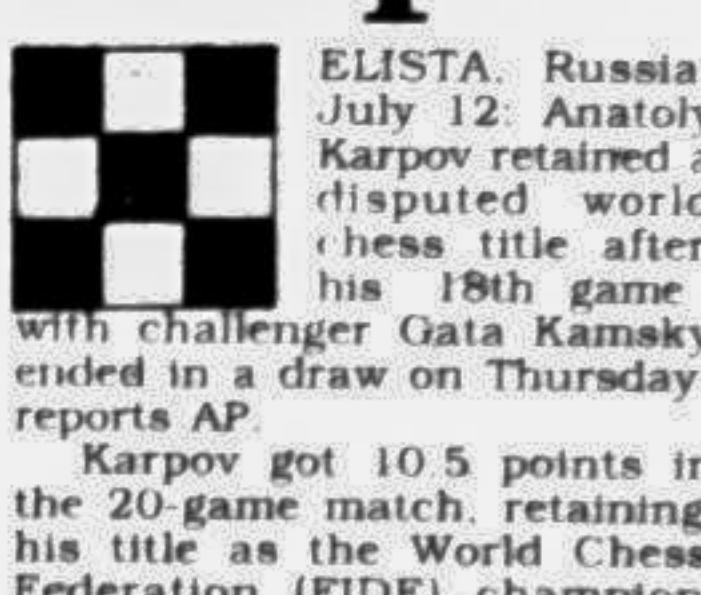
An Anglo-African initiative

LONDON, July 12: South African President Nelson Mandela and British Prime Minister John Major announced plans to boost the sports development initiative between the two countries on Thursday, reports Reuters. Speaking at a function in London attended by some of the countries' major sports figures, Mandela said he was delighted with the launch of phase two of the initiative. It will see the British government invest a further 200,000 pounds sterling (310,800 dollars) in the project.



The jubilant Dolairpar High School team, which won the sixth schools kabaddi title. - Star photo

Karpov keeps the crown



ANATOLY KARPOV

ELISTA, Russia, July 12: Anatoly Karpov retained a disputed world chess title after his 18th game with challenger Gata Kamsky ended in a draw on Thursday, reports AP. Karpov got 10.5 points in the 20-game match, retaining his title as the World Chess Federation (FIDE) champion and winning 937,500 dollars. Kamsky, who got 7.5 points, received 562,500 dollars.

Although Kamsky fared evenly in the second half of the series he was never able to close on Karpov's massive lead. The big advantage I got in the beginning of the game released Kamsky's energy and let him play freely, while I had to ward him off, which was very hard," Karpov said on Thursday. After winning the FIDE's match Karpov said he would like to play his old rival, Kasparov, again. Kasparov, the world's highest-ranked player and title-

holder in the breakaway Professional Chess Association, now is widely regarded as the true world champion. They may call Kasparov the highest-ranked player, but I'm the only world champion," Karpov said. "But taking into account this confusion with titles I would like to play with Kasparov to normalize the situation."

He contested Kasparov's claim that a draw in a 20-game title match, if he held it, would mean his victory. "It's silly," Karpov said. "If Kasparov wants to play a match, he shouldn't try to get a privilege."



Sprint start exercise

These exercise are effective, but the risk associated with them makes them potentially dangerous. An example is the sprint start position (as shown in the picture) when used for cardiovascular conditioning. Heart rate can definitely reach a training zone, but there are several risks associated with this position. Regardless of the fitness level of your participants, modify or remove these exercise from the program. Commonly used to stretch the calves and for aerobic work, this position has at least three potential dangers. There is a sustained con-



Models stretching the calves muscles. - Star photo

Appeal to Samaranch

WASHINGTON, July 12: A group of US Congress members wrote to Olympic committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch on Thursday calling for a ban on soccer balls produced by child labour, reports Reuters. The 38 members, led by Joseph Kennedy said that soccer balls to be used at this Summer's Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia, had been produced by bonded labourers as young as 6 years old. They said about 25 per cent of balls engineered and produced in Germany and shipped to Pakistan to be stitched, were stitched by children working under a system run by labour-contracting middlemen. "The children who stitch these balls are as young as six or seven years old," the letter said. "They work up to 80 hours a week, earning as little as six cents an hour."

'Super Eights' cricket on

KUALA LUMPUR, July 12: Australia A won the opening fixture of the 'Super Eights' cricket tournament by 33 runs against India here today, reports agencies. Opener Matthew Hayden set the tone by smashing an unbeaten 66 as the second-stringing Australia A side hammered a massive 205 for seven from their maximum 14 overs. India were restricted to 172 for six from their allotted 14 overs.

Each match in the six-team, three-day tournament lasts about two hours, about a quarter of the time it takes to complete a 50 overs a side game. Under competition rules, shots which clear the boundary are worth eight runs instead of the traditional six and each player, except the wicket-keeper, must bowl at least one over. A batsman must also retire.

if he scores 50 runs but he can return to the crease if all the other batsmen have been dismissed - as Hayden did against India. In devising the new format, the ACB hopes to appeal to an Asian audience which is unfamiliar with the intricacies of one-day or five-day test cricket.

Delhi wants to stage 2006 Asiad

NEW DELHI, July 12: New Delhi will bid to stage the Asian Games in 2006, Indian Olympic Association secretary general Randhir Singh said on Thursday, reports Reuters. Singh said Delhi's infrastructure would make it a front-runner to stage the games for a third time. The Indian city hosted the inaugural Asian Games in 1951 and the ninth in 1982.

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer. Includes crossword grid and cryptogram: I X B W X S C W S S V A G R A : O E A O W C A M E A X G D O W Z X P G H A D H A G B W X R V Z I S A H O E G X M Z H S P. Yesterday's Cryptogram: MAN, THE CHAP THAT INVENTED VELVET MADE A NICE PILE!