

Bima baffle  
Azad  
Sports Reporter

**AZAD SC:** 107 all out in 34 overs (Biplob 32, Extra 36, Nakib 2/22, Niaz 2/18, Jawad Ali 2/12).

**SADHARAN BIMA:** 108 for six in 28.5 overs (Gary 29 n.o., Manu 26, Rais Ahmed 5/22).

Sadharan Bima recorded a consummate win in the First Division cricket league thrashing Azad SC by four wickets at the City Club ground yesterday.

After winning the toss and electing to bat, Azad SC were bundled out for a meagre total of 107, losing all of their wickets in 34 overs. Middle-order bat Biplob staged a lone battle with 32 in the face of some accurate bowling from the Bima bowlers. Pakistani import Rais Ahmed raised a glimmer of hope for Azad scalping five Bima batsmen for only 22 runs in his miserly nine overs.

**FA Cup results**

LONDON, Jan 5: First Division Reading caused the biggest upset of the day when they beat Premier League Southampton 3-1 in the third round of the FA Cup on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Southampton, bottom of the Premier league with just one win in their last nine league matches, finished a nightmare afternoon with nine men after Francis Benali and Robbie Slater were sent off in the last 14 minutes.

Second Division Wrexham held Premier league West Ham to a 1-1 home draw. But it was a day of few upsets for the romantics to enjoy.

Sheffield Wednesday beat First Division Grimsby by 7-1, Middlesbrough, who had Craig Hignett sent off, beat Third Division Chester 6-0 and Nottingham Forest beat First Division Ipswich 3-0.

There were also wins for Liverpool who beat Second Division Burnley 1-0, Blackburn, who beat First Division Port Vale by the same score, and Chelsea, who ousted First Division West Brom 3-0.

In the only all-Premier league clash Arsenal and Sunderland drew 1-1.

Only 14 of the scheduled 27 matches were played because of bad weather. Four matches are due to go ahead today with one already scheduled Sunday game already postponed.

**Samaranch holds up spirit**

TOKYO, Jan 5: International Olympic Committee (IOC) president Juan Antonio Samaranch has promised financial support to a proposed Olympic like sport festival for youths, a newspaper reported today, says AFP.

But a four-member IOC committee which has been studying the feasibility of the so-called Olympic Youth Games since late July is divided over the proposal initially made by Samaranch, the Yomiuri Shimbun said.

In an interview with the newspaper, Samaranch also said the inaugural edition of the Youth Games could be held in Sydney in 1999 as a pre-Olympic event if the idea is approved by the IOC general meeting in September.

The 76-year-old Spanish Olympic president also said the idea would be first examined by the IOC executive board in March.

According to an initial concept, the Youth Games will bring together between 2,000 and 3,000 athletes in 10 Summer Olympic sports for seven to 10 days, the newspaper said.

Entrants must be no older than 18 and have not taken part in Olympics.

The regular Olympics are usually held for 16 days with as many as 10,000 competitors taking part.

The Youth Games will be a quadrennial event to test Olympic facilities as a year before the actual Summer Olympics, Yomiuri added, quoting Samaranch and other members of the study committee.

Samaranch told the newspaper that up-and-coming juniors tended to be sidelined from the Olympics as the career span of top athletes had been prolonged.

"The main goal is to promote sport among the depth of young athletes," Samaranch was quoted as saying by the newspaper.

IOC vice president Kim Un Yong who heads the Youth Games study committee, estimated the cost at between 20 million and 30 million dollars. Yomiuri said.

The Junior Olympics could help boost the image of the IOC which has been under fire for pushing commercialism in the Olympic movement. Kim was quoted as saying.

Of the four members of the study committee two were supportive of the Youth Games concept while one was negative and another was undecided, the newspaper said.

Belgian Jacques Rogge, one of the members told Yomiuri, that European nations are behind the junior festival as if it would be beneficial for budding talent and organisers of the Olympics.

But another member Pal Schmid of Hungary pointed to the possibility of doping high prize money and other Olympic problems spreading to younger athletes, the newspaper said.



Action from yesterday's Bangabandhu Cup Group C match between Indonesian Ujung Pandang and Eastern All Star of Thailand at the Dhaka Stadium. Ujung Pandang won 4-2 to get through to semifinals.

Sport

**Tough task awaits India**

CAPE TOWN, Jan 5: India was in deep trouble when stumps were drawn at the end of the fourth day with India at 52 for three and chasing 427, reports AP.

India lost both openers and their number three batsman. At the crease was first innings centurion and captain Sachin Tendulkar on 6 not out and Saurav Ganguly on 11 not out.

India, who came to bat shortly after South Africa declared at 256 for six just after tea, started cautiously with openers Wooker Ramam and Nayam Mongia taking their time before opening their accounts.

Mongia, the wicketkeeper, was the first to go, bowled by Allan Donald inswinger for 2, with the score on 7. Second to depart was Ramam, caught behind by wicketkeeper Dave Richardson for 16 — his highest Test score against South Africa — off the bowling of Shaun Pollock. The score was 26.

Eighteen runs later, unorthodox left-arm leg-spinner Paul Adams had Rahul Dravid controversially caught behind by Richardson for 12. Television replays showed his bat had not connected with the ball, but umpire Rudi Koertzen ruled it had.

With 90 overs still left on the final day, India need a monumental effort from Tendulkar, VVS Laxman and Mohammad Azharuddin to gain respectability and hold out for a draw.

**SCOREBOARD**

Scoreboard at the end of the fourth day of the second Test between South Africa and India:

**SOUTH AFRICA:** First innings 529-7 declared (B. McMillan 103 not out, G. Kirsten 103, Le Kusen 102 not out, D. Culinan 77).

**INDIA:** First innings (S. Tendulkar 169, M. Azharuddin 115)

**SOUTH AFRICA:** Second innings (overnight 24-2)

Hudson b Srinath 55

Kirsten lbw Ganesh 0

Bacher lbw Srinath 0

Klusener c David b Srinath 12

Cullinan b Kumble 55

Cronje c David b Kumble 18

McMillan not out 59

Pollock not out 40

Extras (b-4 lb-12 w-1) 17

Total (six wickets, 72 overs) 256

Fall of wickets: 1-6; 2-7; 3-33; 4-127; 5-133; 6-155.

**Bowling:** O M R W

Srinath 18 5 78 3

Ganesh 10 3 38 1

Kumble 25 4 58 0

Pollock 7 1 16 0

Ganguly 2 0 5 0

Raman 10 0 45 0

Referee: Ehsanul Haq (Bangladesh).

**GROUP C FINAL STANDINGS**

TEAMS M W D L GF/GA Pts

Ujung Pandang 2 1 1 0 5/3 4

Bangladesh 2 1 1 0 2/1 4

Eastern All Star 2 0 0 2 2/5 0

Referee: Hossainul Haq (Bangladesh).



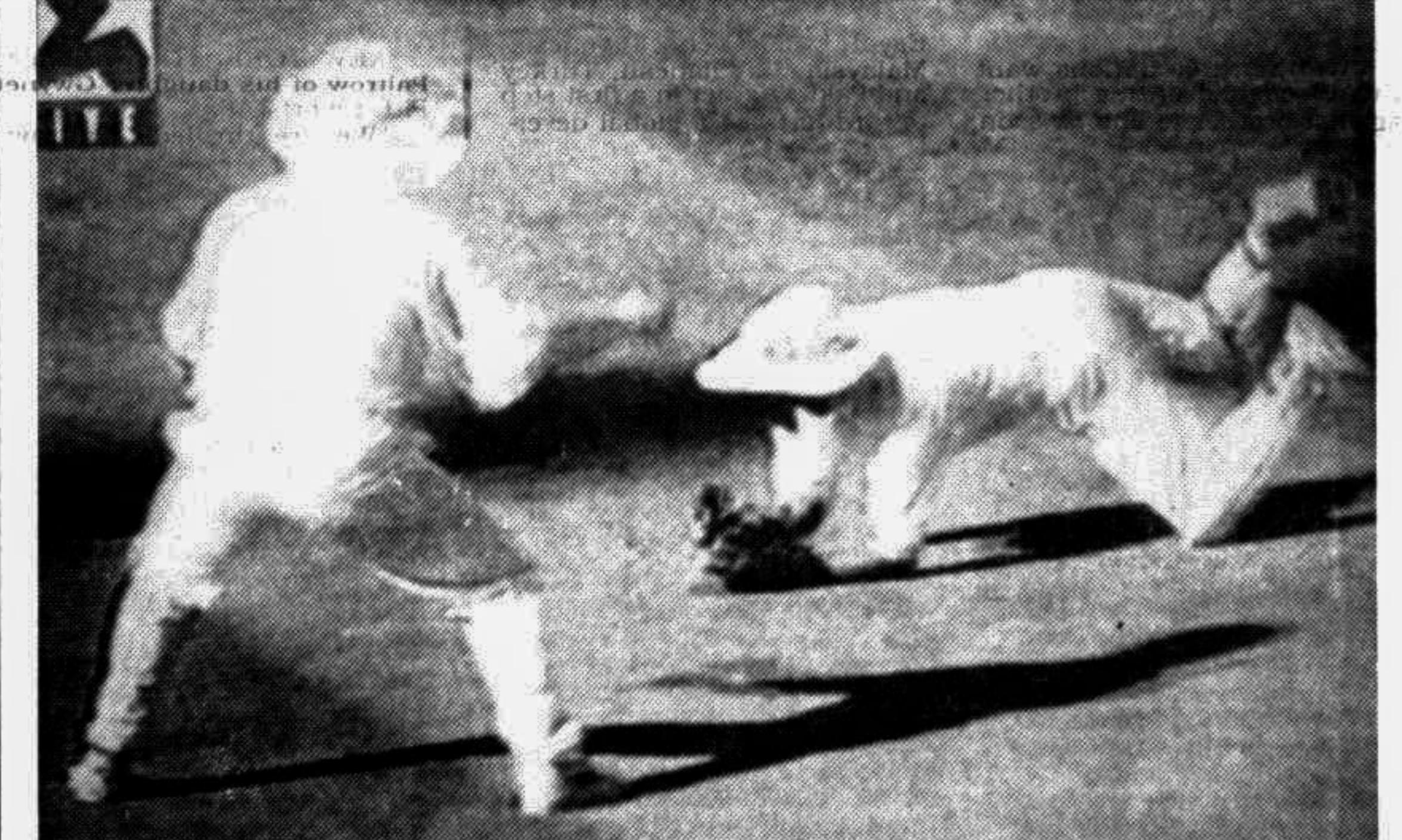
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Indian Rahul Dravid takes a diving catch at forward short-leg to send South African skipper Hansie Cronje (not in the picture) back to pavilion during fourth day's play of the second Test at Newlands, Cape Town yesterday. — TV photo by Tawfiq Aziz Khan

**Biman back on song**

**MSC stick the course**

Sports Reporter

**BRIEF SCORES**

**WARI CLUB:** 140 all out in 48.3 overs (Amir Wasim 29, Tuhin 26; Sumon 3/17, Nannu 3/22, Shahed Mehboub 2/25).

**MOHAMMEDAN SC:** 141 for four in 40.1 overs (Sanwar 54 n.o., Bulbul 40, Tariq Mehboub 2/26, Saifuddin Ahmed 2/27).

**VICTORIA SC:** 125 all out in 45 overs (Aslam 45, Sajid Hassan 22; Nasir Shawkat 4/19, Hasanuzzaman 3/32, Md Rafique 2/24).

**BANGLADESH BIMAN:** 126 for one in 31.1 overs (Nasir Khan 11.65, Habibul Bashar Sumon 41 n.o.).

**Mohammedan Sporting Club** extended their impressive all-win record to seven at the cost of Wari Club while Bangladesh Biman, who after dismal showings in their last two engagements, bounced back into winning ways with a thumping nine-wicket victory over Victoria Sporting Club in yesterday's Premier cricket league matches at different city venues.

At the BKSP in Sava, Sanwar Hossain hammered his second successive half-century to propel Mohammedan Sporting Club to a resounding six-wicket win against Victoria SC.

The little middle-order bat scored an unbeaten 54 as Mohammedan, chasing a modest Victoria total of 140 in the stipulated 50 overs, rattled up

Sumon, who ripped through the middle-order, finished with a fantastic figure of 10-3-17-3. On the other hand, Nannu, the experienced national all-rounder, with 3/22 was equally impressive with his gentle medium pace.

Among the Wari willow-wielders, Pakistani opener Amir Wasim with a sedate 29 and lower-order bat Tuhin, who scored a patient 22, were the only 20-plus contribution to the total.

Meanwhile, in the other match of the day, Bangladesh Biman, aided by a century partnership for the second wicket between Pakistani Nasir Khan and one-down Habibul Bashar Sumon, recorded a thumping nine-wicket win over Victoria SC.

The tall Pakistani scored an unbeaten 65 while Habibul Bashar Sumon hammered 41 as Biman, chasing a paltry Victoria total of 125, reached the summit using only 31.1 overs.

Earlier, Wari sent into bat Nasir Shawkat, who came as a first change in Biman bowling attack, ran havoc in opponents' batting line-up with Hasanuzzaman. Together the two seamers shared seven wickets.

Earlier, Wari, sent into bat by Mohammedan skipper Aminul Islam, were skittled out for a paltry 140.

Left-arm seamer Moshed Ali Khan Sumon and Minhal Abid Nannu, who were responsible for Wari debacle, evenly shared six wickets among them. While Pakistani leg-spinner Shahed Mehboub with two wickets for only 25 runs in his nine overs, provided able support from the other end.

Sanwar, whose patient 106-ball knock featured five sweetly-timed hits across the rope, then guided Mohammedan to victory without further damage sharing the required runs with left-hander Mustadir Litu.

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