

Column One SPORTS TALK

Kalabagan down Biman

Sports Reporter



Ian Botham

(Former England Test all-rounder)

It's wrong for journalist to criticise before the players have had time to settle down in a new environment.

Sports

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports Whizz Kid competition-62

Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes : 8 pm Jan 31, '97

- 1 The name of Imran Khan's son is... 2 The current South African cricket coach is... 3 The captain of PIA hockey team... 4 The number of hattricks recorded in ODI cricket till now are... 5 Which team won the Bangladesh Cup football trophy early this month?

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

Acme Div II cricket results

Sports Reporter

PWD SKS: 112 all out in 34.1 overs... Dhanmondi Progoti Sangha won by seven wickets.

KHELAGHAR SKS: 181 all out in 39.1 overs... Indira Road KC: 134 all out in 38.4 overs.

Dhanmondi Progoti Sangha and Khelaghar Samaj Kalyan Sangstha won their respective Acme Second Division cricket league matches yesterday.

US Cup soccer Hosts lose the opener

SAN DIEGO, Jan 18: Defending champions Mexico defeated Denmark 3-1, while Peru spoiled opening night for the hosts with a 1-0 victory over the United States in the kick-off matches for the US Cup soccer tournament Friday, reports Reuter.

Benjamin Galindo, dribbling in the middle of the field, sent the ball to Enrique Alfaro, whose 30-metre shot passed over the left shoulder of goalkeeper Mogens Krogh.

A valiant 93-run partnership for the undefeated eighth wicket between skipper Saiful Islam helped Kalabagan hold on to their recent winning streak when they humbled Bangladesh Biman by three wickets in a Premier cricket league match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

This was Kalabagan's third giant-killing act in a row following their triumphs over defending champions Mohammedi Sporting Club and Abahani Krira Chakra.

BRIEF SCORES

BANGLADESH BIMAN: 188 all out in 49.3 overs... KALABAGAN KC: 198 for seven in 45.3 overs.

cessive half-century with breezy 57 off only 43 deliveries while Saiful scored a rapid-fire 34 off 39 balls.

Portugal's purification act

LISBON, Portugal, Jan 18: Mired in debt and allegations of bribery and match-fixing, Portuguese soccer already is under investigation by UEFA and under new scrutiny by the federal government, reports AP.

UEFA is probing allegations of top-level corruption among club officials and referees, and a new law aims to make top soccer brass pay if they don't adopt better finance control of their clubs.

Club chairmen, who decide not to incorporate under the new system, will be held personally responsible for their team's debts, meaning they could forfeit houses, cars and personal fortunes.

Chelsea served a stunner

LONDON, Jan 18: English Premier league side Chelsea tried to bring Italy defender Paolo Maldini to London but were put off by AC Milan's "ridiculous" asking price, player-manager Ruud Gullit said on Friday, reports Reuter.

"I heard the rumours that Milan were ready to sell a whole lot of players and I wouldn't be doing my job well if I don't ask for Maldini," Gullit said.

clouted three fours in his chanceless 39-ball stay at the crease. Together the two played in a way as if they were chasing a huge target and ultimately led Kalabagan to reach the summit with more than four overs to spare.

Apart from the late blitzkrieg by Monzoor and Saiful, the other notable contribution in Kalabagan innings was a fine 53 by opener Harun-ur Rashid Liton.

Biman's new-ball bowler Nazimuddin Manna, responsible for the early Kalabagan debacle, ripped through the top-order to eventually finish with three for 34 in his nine economic overs.



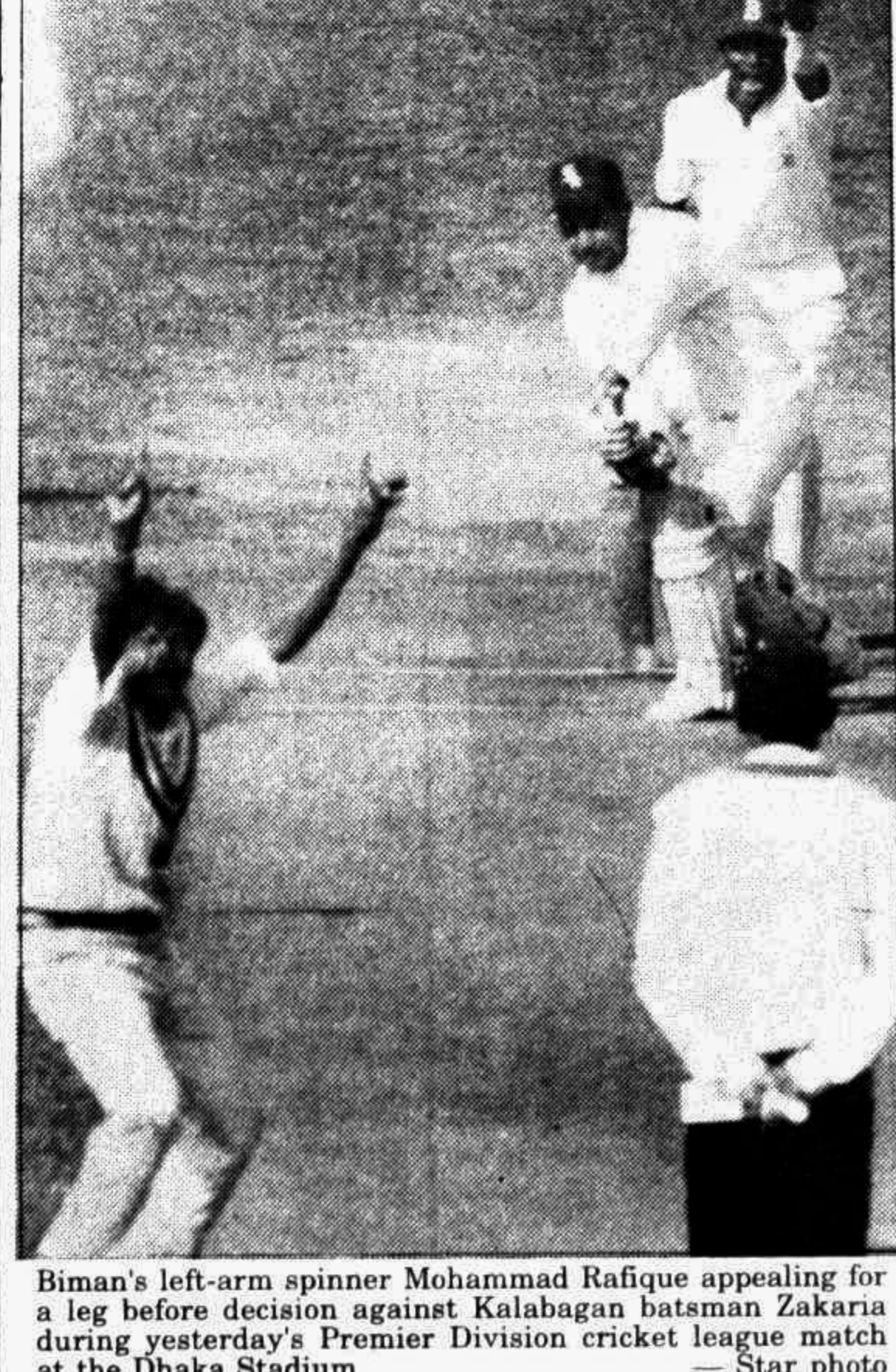
Saiful (L), Manzoor Elahi... 93-run unbeaten partnership.

Imon takes solo lead

Former champion Syed Mahfuzur Rahman Imon earned a solo lead in the 18th national junior chess championship after winning his sixth match on the trot at the NSC chess room yesterday.

In the sixth round of the nine-round Swiss league format, Imon defeated Tofazal Hossain Runu and moved to the top of the table with a point lead over Abdullah Al Rakib, Enamul Hossain Rajib, Showkat Hossain Pallab, Tofazal Hossain Runu, Abu Sufian Shakeel, Ruhul Islam Bobby, Tipu Sultan and Matiar Rahman who all had five points each at the end of yesterday's round.

Rakib beat Zaved, Rajib defeated Ibrahim, Shakeel overcame Sumon, Bobby outplayed Parag, Pallab outmastered Debraj, Tipu beat Kohen while Matiar won his board against Kamrul.



Biman's left-arm spinner Mohammad Rafique appealing for a leg before decision against Kalabagan batsman Zakaria during yesterday's Premier Division cricket league match at the Dhaka Stadium.

Ranatunga in city Titans lock horns today

Sports Reporter

Defending champions Mohammedi Sporting Club and their arch-rivals Abahani Krira Chakra will be desperately looking for a win when the two giants in the domestic circuit lock horns in a crucial Premier cricket league match at the Dhaka Stadium today.

The 50-over-a-side affair between the crowd-pullers will commence at 9 am.

With the title hopes under threat for both Mohammedians and Abahani following their successive defeats, the penultimate league engagement between the two perennial foes is going to be a do-or-die battle.

SAARC cricket from Feb 19

The third SAARC cricket tournament will commence in the capital from February 19.

The international cricket carnival, an annual event in the calendar of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), will feature second string sides from three sub-continental giants - India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka - and hosts Bangladesh.

The decision to hold the tourney in the second week of February came after a board meeting at the BCB office last evening. Besides, the BCB has also decided to send a team to take part in the Wills Cup as both the meets are to proceed on almost same time.

Portugal's purification act

To help pay the bill, top clubs have transferred lots of home-grown talent.

Porto was also accused of financing a 1995 Brazil vacation for a first division referee. The club said the payment was a "lapse" and later sent the referee to Romania.

Many fans argue for taking the referees out from under the control of the Portuguese league, which until last year was headed by Pinto da Costa.

Olympic Solidarity course

A five-day Olympic Solidarity sports leadership course began at the conference room of the NSC yesterday.

Thirty-five sports organisers are taking part in the course. Mohammed Faruq Khan MP, a senior vice-president of the Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA), inaugurated the occasion was international course director Dr W K Low.



PIA centre-forward Kamran Ashraf (L), who scored four goals in his side's 12-0 whitewash of Sri Lankan Army, looks on as his teammate Zeshan makes his way past an opponent defender during an international hockey tournament match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

PIA book final berth MSC hopes laid to rest

Sports Reporter

Mohammedi Sporting Club's hopes for a berth in the invitational international hockey tournament final ended when Indian Airlines handed them a solitary goal defeat in one of yesterday's two matches held at the Hockey Stadium.

Ravinder Singh scored the decisive goal for the Indian outfit 20 minutes into the first half that condemned the locals to suffer their second defeat in row.

In front of a large partisan crowd, Mohammedians, who have enjoyed a mixed fortunes in the five-team tourney so far starting with a 7-1 victory over Sri Lankan Army followed by a 4-5 loss to favourites PIA, failed to live upto expectations.

The Indians on the other hand, who earned only one point from their previous two matches, displayed an attacking style from the outset and remained in control throughout.

The match winner was the result of forward Altafur Rahman's penetrating run from the left flank into the Mohammedian defence and sending a neat cross to Ravinder who flicked the ball home past the custodian Ahmedul Haque (1-0).

After conceding the goal, Mohammedians tried their best to level the scores with a series of counter attacks in the remaining 50 minutes.

Mohammedians' best opportunity came in the 62nd minute. But forward Kamal muffed the

Passarella snubs Gabriel

Buenos Aires, Jan 18: He was the captain but Gabriel Batistuta won't be part of Argentina's World Cup qualifier against Colombia, reports AP.

Argentine national team coach Daniel Passarella left the Fiorentina striker and the squad's all-time leading scorer off the 20-man roster announced last Thursday for the Feb. 12 clash between the South American powers in Barranquilla.

Passarella has never been considered a major supporter of Batistuta.

Passarella was the coach at River Plate when Batistuta started his First Division professional career there and promptly transferred to the would-be star to Boca Juniors.

CROSSWORD BY Eugene Sheffer. Includes crossword puzzle grid and clues for Across and Down.

PIA kept their opponents almost cornered in their own half and conjured up three goals with Kamran scoring twice in the 60th and 66th minutes while Salman adding the other inbetween in the 61st minute.