

Column One Sports WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Who won this year's British Open squash title? Jansher Nicol Eyles

SPORTS TALK



Harold Dickie Bird (Cricket's most honoured official)

Jabbar Bali Khela Kamal's hat-trick triumph

CHITTAGONG, Apr 25: Kamal Bali of Maheshkhali of Cox's Bazar became champion in the 'Jabbar Bali Khela' (wrestling Competition) at Lalbagh Maidan here today, reports BSS.

Police athletics

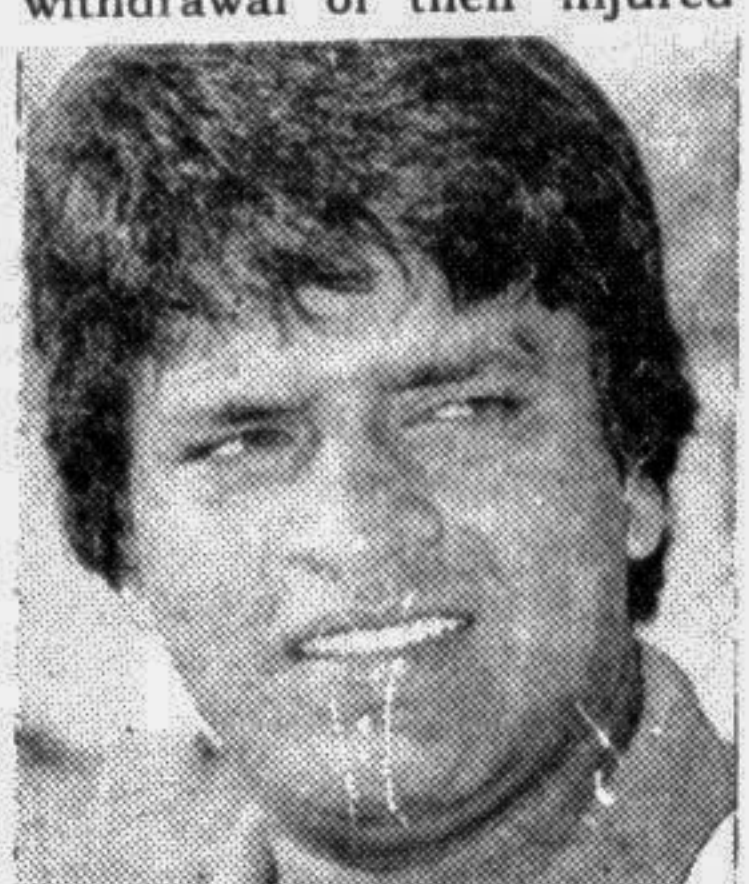
The combined annual athletics meet of the Armed Police battalions was held at Uttara armed police battalion lines yesterday, reports UNB.

Climber dies

KATHMANDU, Apr 25: Veteran Scottish mountaineer Malcolm Duff was found dead in his tent at Base Camp on the Nepali side of Mount Everest, Nepal's tourism ministry said, reports Reuters.

Final Test begins today

COLOMBO, Apr 25: Pakistan and Sri Lanka go into the second and final cricket Test here on Saturday



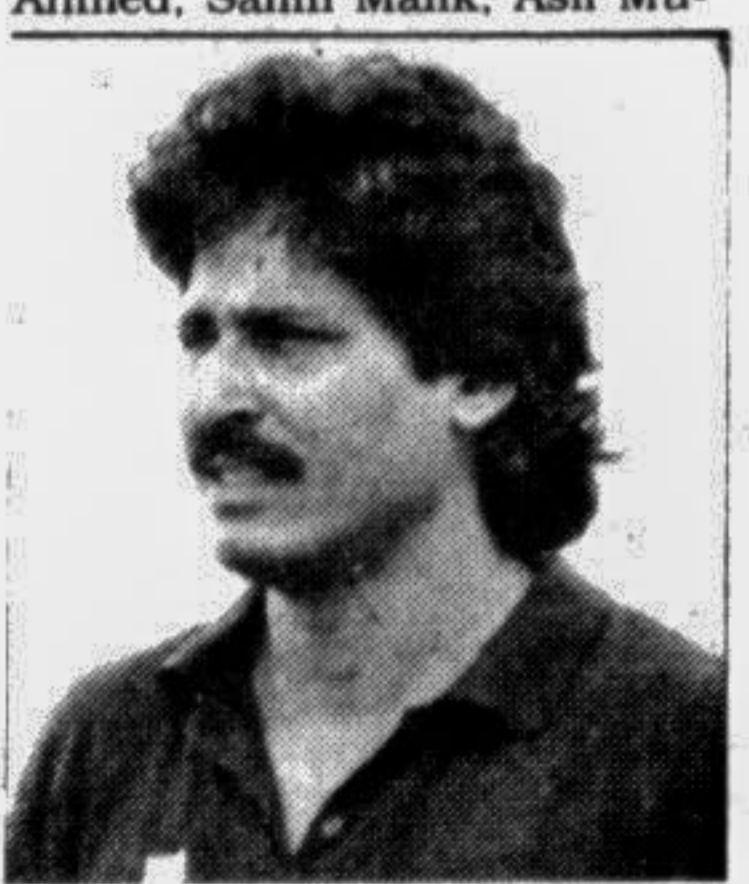
ARJUNA RANATUNGA pace duo of Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis, will be happy to return home unscathed after drawing the first Test on Wednesday.

old medium-pacer and a useful lower order batsman who flew in as a replacement for Younis, in place of a seamer or batsman.

TEAMS PAKISTAN (from): Rameez Raja (capt), Salim Elahi, Ijaz Ahmed, Salim Malik, Asif Mujtaba, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Moin Khan, Saqlain Mushtaq, Mustaq Ahmed, Shahid Nazir, Mohammad Zahid, Abdul Razzak, Mohammad Wasim, Mohammad Hussain.

But Pakistan have little to rejoice in the absence of skipper Akram and Younis who between them have captured 538 Test wickets in 116 matches.

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Saurav steers India

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Apr 25: A century from Saurav Ganguly inspired India to a 32-run win over the University of the West Indies Vice-Chancellor's XI in a 50-over limited-over benefit match on Thursday, reports Reuters.

Ganguly struck nine fours in making 101 off 141 balls and India made 274 for six after being sent into bat. Navjot Sidhu gave good support with an innings of 70 off 91 balls, including four fours and two sixes.

MSC's reception tonight

Mohammedan Sporting Club have arranged a reception for the Bangladesh cricket team, the ICC Trophy champions, at a city hotel tonight.

U-16 cricket camp

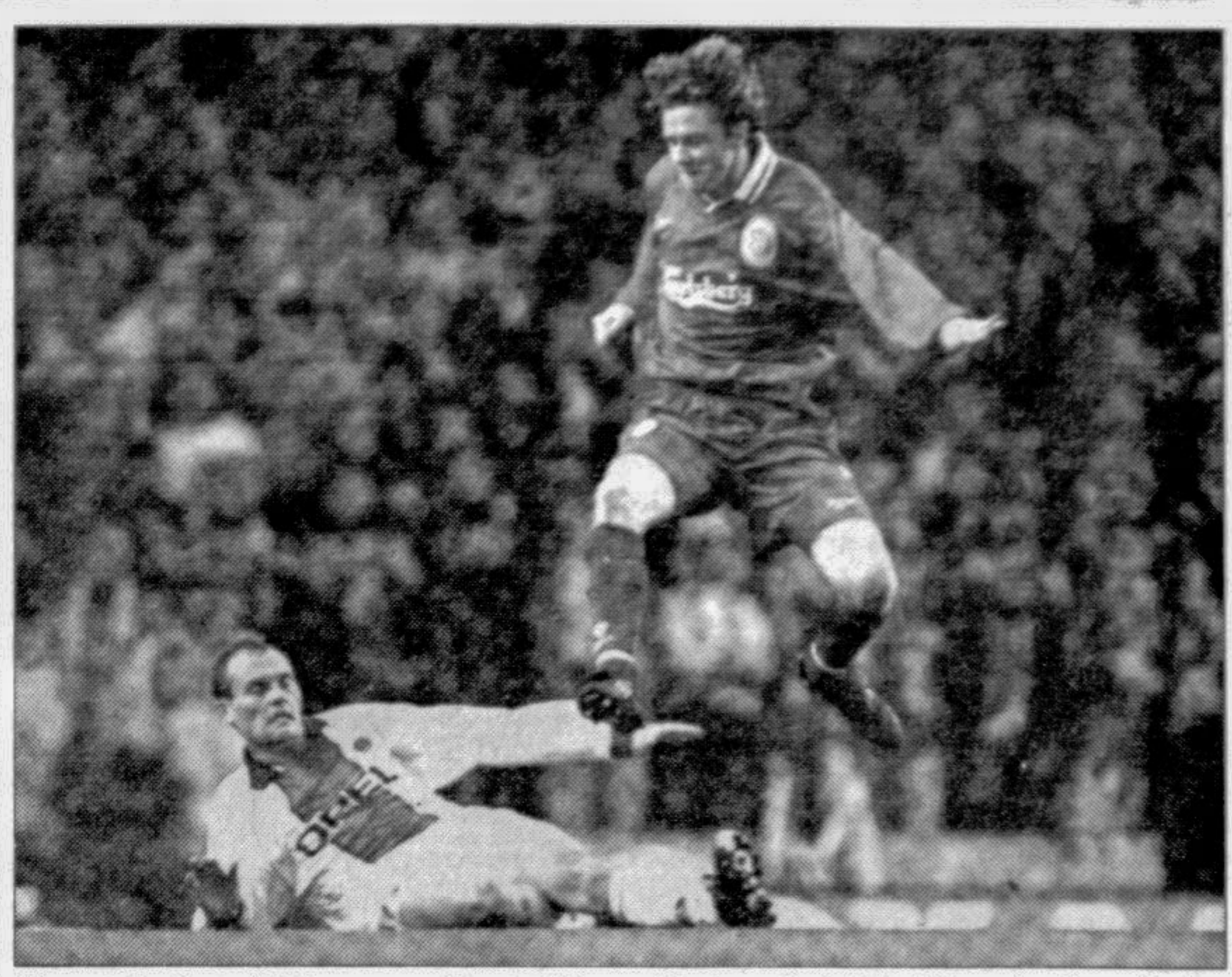
A cricket camp for the under-16s, designed to spot talents, will begin in Pirojpur from April 29. Abdul Hadi Ratan will supervise the camp, which is being organised Pirojpur District Sports Association.

Yugoslav squad against Spain

BELGRADE, Apr 23: Yugoslavia named a 22-man squad on Tuesday for their top-of-the-table World Cup Group Six qualifier against Spain in Belgrade on April 30, reports Reuters.

Turkey get into thick soup

ISTANBUL, Apr 25: Turkey's coach Mustafa Denizli may have to make substantial changes to the team who beat the Netherlands for their World Cup qualifier against Belgium next Wednesday, reports Reuters.



Liverpool's Steve McManaman skips a sliding tackle by a Paris-Saint Germain player during the European Cup Winners' Cup semifinal second leg encounter at Anfield, Liverpool on Apr 24. The home team won 2-0 but lost 3-2 on aggregate. — AFP/UNB photo

PSG's date with distinction

LIVERPOOL, Apr 25: Holders Paris Saint Germain lost 2-0 to a rampant Liverpool but clung on for a 3-2 aggregate victory to earn a place in the final of the European Cup winners Cup for the second successive season on Thursday, reports Reuters.

Even goalkeeper David James joined the attack in the final frantic minutes heading a corner over the bar, a goal then would have eased his won recent on-field problems and taken the match into extra time but PSG hung on.

Barcelona's Sergi, whose forehead was cut, and Ivan de la Pena were both hit by missiles. The incidents will almost certainly lead to sanctions being taken against the Italians.

The will now attempt to become the first club in the competition's 36-year-history to retain the trophy when they face Barcelona in Rotterdam on May 14, hoping their Spanish opponents offer a less relentless challenge than Liverpool.

The two powerfully-built men clashed throughout and it was an early tussle that went Collymore's way which created the goal for Fowler, Collymore played the ball back into space for the young English international to strike his 31st goal of the season.

Two quick goals in the first half, a header from Fernando Cuoto and a barrelling free-kick from Josep Guardiola, Banished Barcelona's disappointment at their 1-1 draw at the Nou Camp.

They then experienced a nerve-jangling final 10 minutes after Mark Wright had headed powerfully past goalkeeper Bernard Lama from a corner to give Liverpool a 2-0 lead.

The hard-running of Steve McManaman, the distribution of Michael Thomas and the utter conviction of the recalled Neil Ruddock all caught the eye as Liverpool relentlessly pressed forward, while PSG's heroes on the night were defenders Jimmy Algerin, N'Gotty and Paul Le Guen.

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That set up an even more intense last, few minutes with the home fans screaming for one more goal which just would not come.

Swedish referee Anders Frisk suspended the match for several minutes as coins and plastic bottles rained down in the second half.

It was a bitterly disappointing end for Fiorentina, who had been hoping to complete an Italian hat-trick by following Inter Milan and Juventus into a European Trophy final.

Eric stays at Old Trafford

MANCHESTER, Apr 25: Eric Cantona's future at Manchester United is not under threat, supreme Martin Edwards insisted here today, reports AFP.

The Old Trafford chief executive and chairman torpedoed suggestions that the 30-year-old Frenchman — inspiration of United's nineties revival — will be allowed to leave the club this summer.

He loves training, and he fits in easily to everything we want from a Manchester United captain.

No discussions have taken place (with Eric) because these matters are always reviewed in the close season," insisted Edwards.

Eric Cantona is under contract to us for another year, and there is no issue, no justification for this kind of speculation.

With a year left on his contract he could decide to see out his current deal, knowing he would then collect a personal fortune as a free agent in 1998.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer. Includes a crossword puzzle grid and a list of clues for across and down words.

CRYPTOQUIP. Includes a cryptogram puzzle and a list of words to be substituted with 'O' to solve the message.

Johan an eccentric genius

AMSTERDAM, Apr 25 (Reuters): Johan Cruyff raised a celebratory glass Friday to what once seemed an unlikely 50th birthday.

helped to secure three successive European Cup titles for the Dutch masters of 'total football'.

ington Diplomats. Returning to Europe, he played briefly with Spain's Levante before rejoining Ajax in 1981 to win two more league titles and raise his goal tally for the club to 204 in 275 games.

But he regularly appears on Dutch television and there are rumours of a managerial move to another big European club, possibly Real Madrid.

Single-minded and headstrong, Cruyff stunned the country in 1973 by announcing a move to Barcelona football club for what was then a world-

Even as a player Cruyff never held the World Cup. In perhaps an unporting tribute, one Dutch newspaper this week listed his top 10 career low points.

But he regularly appears on Dutch television and there are rumours of a managerial move to another big European club, possibly Real Madrid.

His arrival marked a revival of fortunes at 'Barca,' helping them to win the Spanish league title in his first year.

Not even a soccer legend is perfect.

Television images of his trickery, bamboozling defenders with his close control, his deft flicks and agility will be broadcast as long as the game is played.

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