



Leader of the Opposition and BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia welcomes members of the Bangladesh ICC Trophy-winning team at a reception hosted by her party in the city yesterday. —Star photo

Ijaz steps into stew

COLOMBO, Apr 27: Pakistan's Ijaz Ahmed has been fined 20 per cent of his match fee for misbehaviour on the field after an altercation with the Sri Lankan captain on the first day of the second Test in Colombo, report agencies. Cricket officials said today that match referee John Reid of New Zealand had also warned Ijaz that he would be barred from playing Test cricket if he repeated the offence in the next five months. Ijaz reportedly abused Arjuna Ranatunga as the Sri Lankan captain was walking off the field when he was dismissed for four runs off the bowling of Saqlain Mushtaq on Saturday. Reid later conducted an inquiry and imposed the fine on Ijaz, officials said. The statement added that Ijaz was also placed on a 30 per cent match fee suspended fine which would take effect from July 1 and run over a five month period if another breach of conduct occurs. Reid said in the statement that the second suspended fine of 30 per cent was imposed after Ijaz was found to be "a stranger to the truth."

Pakistanis patching up

COLOMBO, Apr 27: Middle-order batsmen Inzamam-ul-Haq and Asif Mujtaba pulled out Pakistan from a seemingly hopeless situation, taking the side to 146 for 6 in reply to Sri Lanka's 331 on the second day of the second and final Test here Sunday, report agencies. Inzamam and Mujtaba came together with Pakistan struggling at 83 for 4 and prevented further losses in a partnership that lasted 138 minutes before poor light conditions brought a premature end to the day's action with 6.3 overs left. Resuming from a tea-break score of 113 for 4, the pair played defensively for most of the time in the final session, as home team skipper Arjuna Ranatunga set an attacking field while the spinners operated. Inzamam made 43 in 161 minutes of batting stroking just three balls to the fence while Mujtaba struck four boundaries for a contribution of 32. The Sri Lankan new-ball attack of Chaminda Vaas and Sajeeva de Silva initially put



INZAMAM ... 43 n.o.

Pakistan on the defensive knocking out top-order batsmen with the visitors taking lunch at 30 for 2. Opener Salim Elahi was caught at first slip by Hashan Tillekeratne off paceman Vaas, who batted for 94 minutes to score 17 in a 76-run stand for the eighth wicket with De Silva, was caught at silly point off Saqlain Mushtaq. Sajeeva de Silva lasted 36 minutes without scoring a run, while last man Jayantha Silva was run out by a direct throw from Salim Malik to leave De Silva stranded at the other end. De Silva mocked at the defensive fields set by Pakistani stand-in skipper Rameez Raja to hit 19 boundaries during his 273-minute stay at the crease. SCOREBOARD

Table with cricket scores for Sri Lanka and Pakistan, including batting and bowling statistics.

Gordon leaves for Malaysia Thursday

National cricket coach Gordon Greenidge leaves Dhaka on Thursday for Kuala Lumpur, reports UNB. Sources close to Greenidge said the former West Indian Test opener will spend a week in the Malaysian capital on personal business.

Budapest Open Coetzer's

BUDAPEST, Apr 27: Second-seed Amanda Coetzer of South Africa took advantage of Sabine Appelmans' errors Sunday for a straight-sets win in the 107,500 dollars Budapest Open clay-court tournament, reports AP. "It was a last-minute decision for me to come and play in Budapest, but it was worth it, and gave me a good start to the clay-court season," said Coetzer, the WTA's 12th-ranked player, after defeating Appelmans 6-1, 6-3. The two players had split four previous meetings, all in three sets. The victory brought Coetzer a first prize of 17,000 dollars and more than 100 WTA points.

Chang, Stafford in final

FLORIDA, Apr 27: Top seeded Michael Chang battled back to beat Australia's Jason Stoltenberg 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 Saturday night and move into the final of the US men's clay court championships, reports AP. "It was a last-minute decision for me to come and play in Budapest, but it was worth it, and gave me a good start to the clay-court season," said Coetzer, the WTA's 12th-ranked player, after defeating Appelmans 6-1, 6-3. The two players had split four previous meetings, all in three sets. The victory brought Coetzer a first prize of 17,000 dollars and more than 100 WTA points.

Sino paddlers reach qtrs

MANCHESTER, Apr 27: Defending titlist China moved closer to winning the two team titles again at the World Table Tennis Championship when their men finished top of their group Sunday and emulated the women by going straight into the quarter final in the quickest possible time, reports AP. The men did that by securing their fifth successive win, 3-0 over Croatia, which means they have dropped only two encounters through the whole of stage one.

Army hockey

JESSORE, Apr 27: Dhaka Infantry, Mymensingh Area, Savar Area and Air Defence Artillery won their respective matches of the Bangladesh Army hockey championship at the Jessore Cantonment today, reports UNB. Dhaka Infantry beat Rangpur Area by 2-0 goals. Mymensingh defeated Savar Area by 2-1 goals. Air Defence Artillery overwhelmed Dhaka Engineers by 2-1 goals and Chittagong Area outwitted Jessore Area by a solitary goal.

BHF ignores match-fixing issue Hockey league begins today

The Green Delta Insurance First Division hockey league involving eighteen clubs begins in the capital today. The league, the most attractive event in the calendar of the Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF), was suspended for the last two seasons due to what the authorities reasoned as 'the non-availability of a suitable ground.' And this year, of course for the first time, league matches will be played on the newly-laid artificial turf at the Hockey Stadium. Defending champions Mohammedan Sporting Club, the winners of the coveted title in 1993-94 season, will feature in the inaugural match of the single league phase against promotees Victoria Sporting Club. The league will kick off at 2:15 pm. Besides, Sadharan Bima KS and Azad, the two mediocre outfits, will be pitting in the second match of the day, scheduled for a 3:15 pm start. The league committee, which arranged a press briefing at the BHF office last evening, disclosed that it would introduce Premier Division league from next year involving the top-down eight teams of this year's league. Like previous editions, winners will be awarded with three points and teams in a drawn affair will be given one point each. Regarding the participation of foreign players in the league, the authorities have decided to follow the earlier rules which states that each team will be allowed to sign and field a maximum number of four foreign players. The committee, however, made some amendments in its bye-laws to fight out perennial problem of hooliganism. "We have made some amendments in the bye-laws which states strict measures against those who involve in any unsporting activities," said the league committee chairman Naim Ahmed, the DC (East) of police. "If a player is found guilty of manhandling the main-in-uniform he will be banned for life. And, if necessary, the disciplinary committee can suggest the authorities to file a criminal case against the culprit," said Naim. But, for an umpteenth time the BHF has failed to come up with any punitive measure to stop the unhealthy arranged-affairs, a common practice in the local sports arena. Not only that, the authorities did not even feel the necessity for including any provision against the open-secret practice among all the clubs. Regarding this serious issue Shamsul Bari, the long-standing general secretary of the BHF, appeared to have been philosophical while replying to a query about match fixing. "Match-fixing is a widely practised culture across the globe. Till to date none of the sports bodies in the world has been able to come up with a suitable solution against the unholy practice," said Bari in a half-witted attempt to justify their failure in this regard. The league committee, however, decided to bring foreign umpires to officiate some crucial matches of the league. The press briefing was also attended by a vice-president of the sponsors Green Delta Insurance Company, who has signed a three-year contract with the BHF to carry the names in both the First and Second Division leagues. They are providing Taka 20,000. Meanwhile the league committee has fixed the rate of gallery ticket at Taka 10 per day. With two matches billed for a day, the league is expected to be completed within the first week of July. The participating teams are: Mohammedan Sporting Club, Abahani Krira Chakra, Usha Krira Chakra, Dhaka Mariner Youngs' Club, Ajax Sports Club, Sonali Bank S & RC, Wari Club, Sadharan Bima KS, Azad Sporting Club, Bangladesh Railway, Police Athletic Club, Farashganj Sporting Club, Bangladesh Sporting Club, Bachelors SC, Dhaka Ansar and Victoria Sporting Club.

UAE move into next round

SHARJAH, Apr 27: Goals by Adnane Taliyani (28th minute) and Khemis Saad on the stroke of full time enabled the United Arab Emirates to earn the points in an Asian Zone Group Three World Cup qualifying match against Jordan here on Saturday, reports AFP. The Emirates finished unbeaten and topped the table with 10 points from four games to advance to the next round. Final Standings of the World Cup Asian Zone Group Three (Tabulated under played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points): UAE 4 3 1 0 1 10 Jordan 4 1 1 2 4 4 Bahrain 4 1 0 3 9 3 and Victoria Sporting Club.

Table with final standings of the World Cup Asian Zone Group Three, showing teams, matches played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, and points.



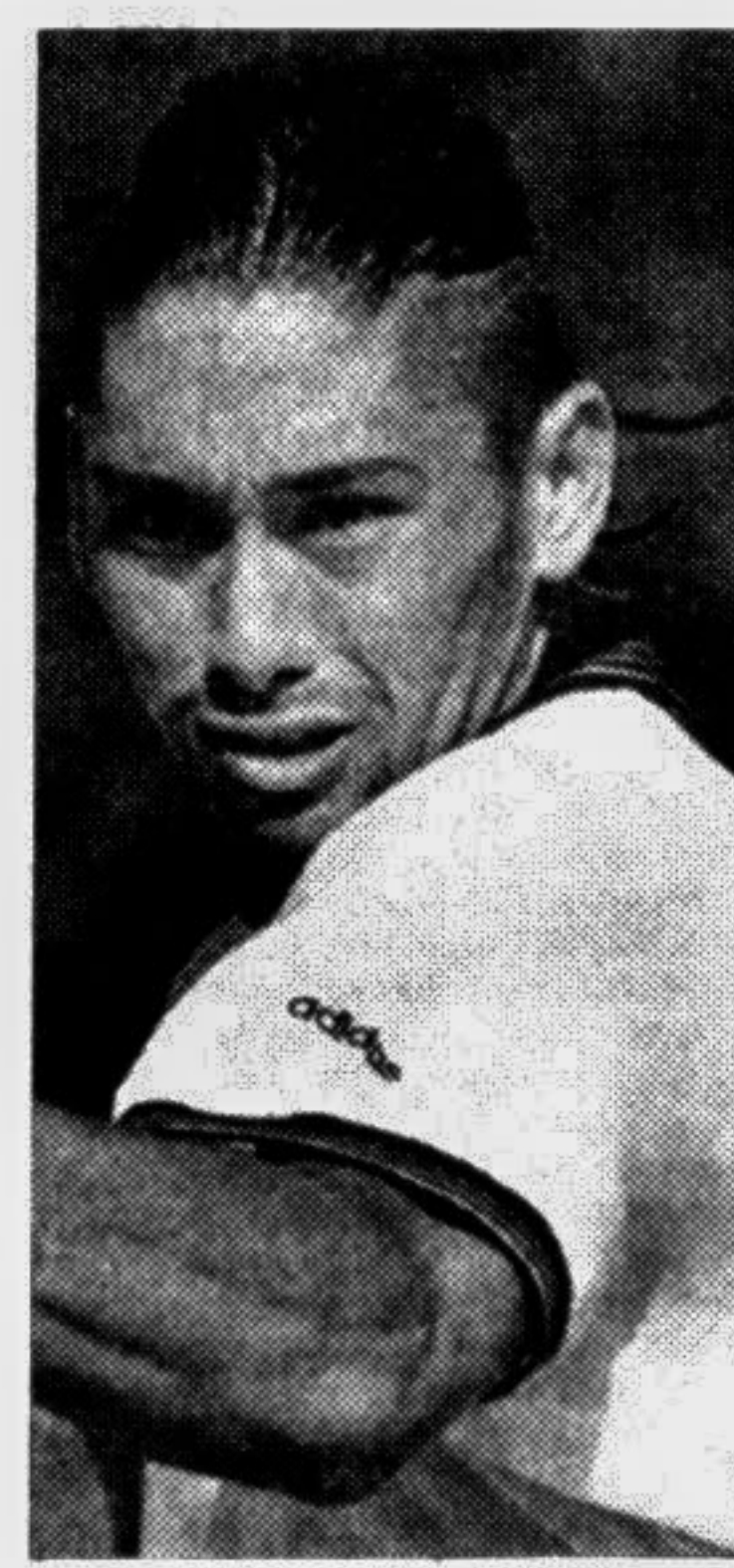
League committee chairman Naim Ahmed (2nd-L), the DC (East) of Police, addresses a press conference in connection with the Green Delta Insurance First Division hockey tournament at the BHF office yesterday. —Star photo

Rains reign in counties

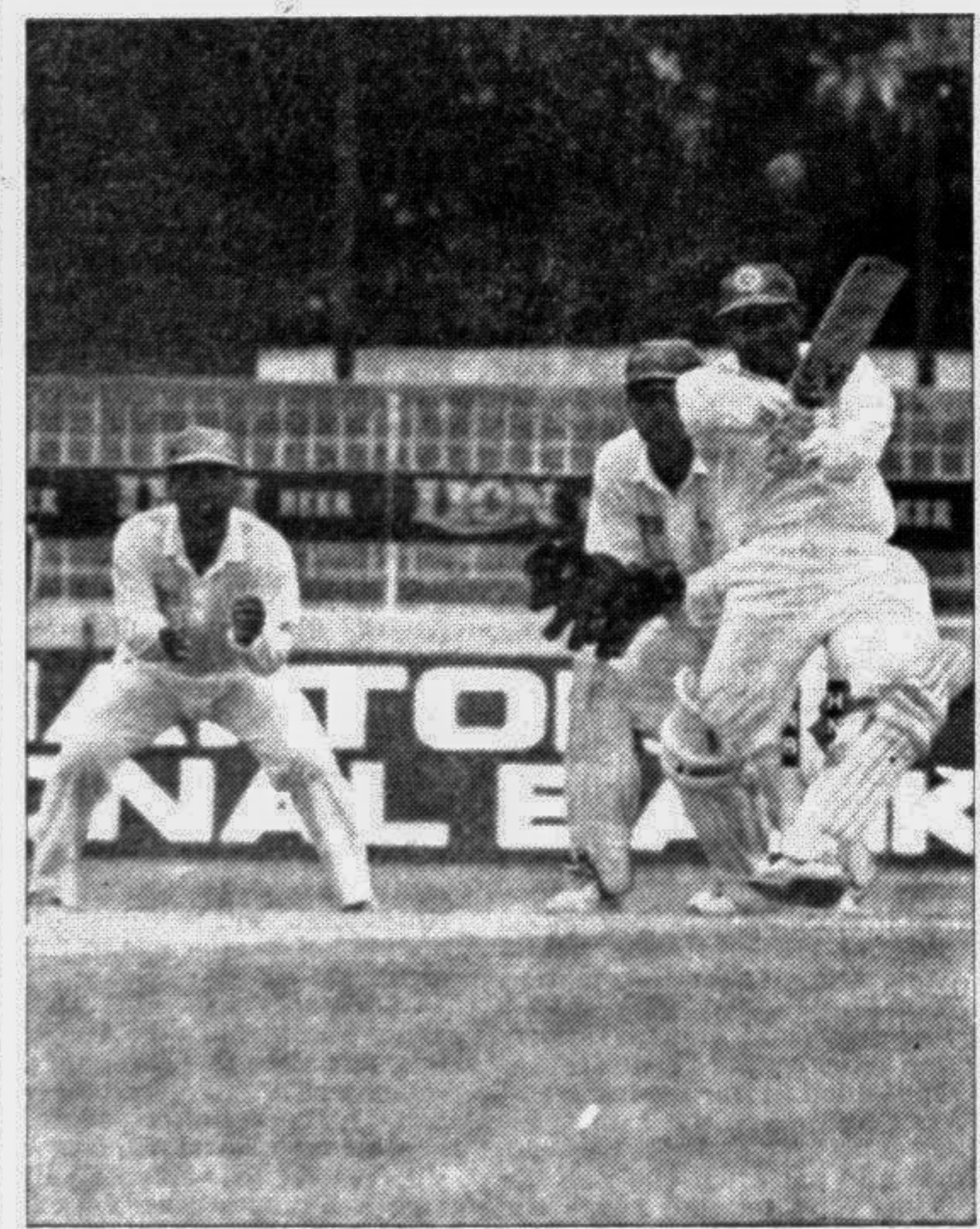
LONDON, Apr 27: Heavy rain nationwide meant play was only possible in three English county championship games on Saturday, with all seven matches eventually abandoned as draws, reports AP. Centurion Chris Adams and inspirational Australian Dean Jones brought Derbyshire within 90 runs of a remarkable victory over Kent, before the rains predictably had the last say. Adams (108) and Jones (99 not out), who came together with Derbyshire in trouble at 14 for the third wicket, as they closed in on an improbable second-innings victory target of 337 on the final day. Adams, whose ton came up in just 118 balls and contained their 13 fours and a six, was finally caught by Nigel Long, of Martin McCague. But Jones, who had helped keep the score ticking over at more than four an over, still had scent of victory and found a new ally in Vince Clarke. The pair continued the chase, and Derbyshire, at 248 for three, were suddenly looking strong favourites to pull off the win, needing just another 89 runs from a minimum of 26 overs. That, though, was as much as the weather would allow, and when the rains returned in mid afternoon, Kent and Derbyshire's best efforts went the way of the day's other championship matches, abandoned as draws. Hove and Chelmsford were the only other grounds to witness any play. There was time at the former for Northamptonshire openers Richard Montgomerie and Mal Loye to make 41 without loss in the second innings, before having to call it a day. Sussex had declared on their overnight 411 for seven in an attempt to resurrect some hope of a result — but there was to be little entertainment for the south coast faithful. At Chelmsford, Essex took the honours, reducing Hampshire to 64 for two in their second innings, to add to their 161 all out first time round. Rising batting star Jason Leney's poor start to the season continued, as he was bowled by Mark Ilett for four, and his captain John Stenhouse could make only 20, before falling lbw to Ronnie Irani. Overseas signing Matthew Hayden made an encouraging 35 not out, but Hampshire were a massive 463 behind and needing the help from above when the rain duly forced the abandonment. Meanwhile, rain prevented any play between Glamorgan and Warwickshire at Cardiff, Lancashire and Durham at Old Trafford, Leicestershire and Gloucestershire at Leicester, Nottinghamshire and Worcestershire at Trent Bridge and Surrey and Somerset at the Oval. Yorkshire's hopes of giving new Australian signing Darren Lehmann a debut in a one-day match against the British universities in the parks were washed out without a ball being bowled.

Marcelo's moment of joy

MONTE CARLO, Monaco, Apr 27: Marcelo Rios took the first major title of his career by beating Alex Corretja 6-4, 6-3, 6-3 to win the Monte Carlo Open title Sunday, reports AP. Rios, who reached the Monte Carlo semifinal last year, won the fifth title of his career but it was the first ATP Tour Super Nine Victory. The Chilean will move up to No. 8 in the rankings after being No 10 last week and seeded seventh. Corretja pushed Pete Sampras to a grueling five sets at last year's US Open, but was no match for Rios on the clay. The 2-hour, 14-minute match was full of steady, if not spectacular, tennis as the players barely approached the net. Most of the points were baseline rallies that were decided on an error, either forced by a good deep approach shot or Corretja's spraying forehand. The encounter was marked by a number of service breaks. At one time in the second set there were five consecutive breaks of service. That set ended with Corretja losing his service game at love with two unforced errors and a double fault before he was easily passed with a rare winner by Rios. The third set was decided in the fourth game when Corretja wasted a 40-0 lead. Rios scored five consecutive points — three on unforced errors by Corretja — to go up 3-1 and hold the lead from there. The final points of the match were typical of the affair. Rios wasted four match points and Corretja squandered three break points with a variety of bad misses. Then Rios got to another match point with a deep forehand winner. He finally ended the match with an easy smash. He had already missed two on previous match points. Rios won his biggest paycheck with 337,000 dollars. Corretja received 177,000 dollars. Before the final, the 100th anniversary of the tournament was celebrated with a number of former champions, including Bjorn Borg and Andrei Chesnokov on crutches. Chesnokov broke his leg on court during a match in February.



MARCELO RIOS



Sri Lankan batting maestro Aravinda de Silva is in full cry during the second day's play of the final Test against Pakistan in Colombo yesterday. De Silva slammed 138 not out. —AFP/UNB photo

Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh Headquarters, Kurmitola, Dhaka Extension of Time for Submission of Tender Due to unavoidable circumstances, the receiving date of tender for the work "Supply and Commissioning of 1(one) Crash Fire and Rescue Vehicle for use in Chittagong International Airport" has been extended up to 15.5.97. Other terms and conditions will remain as usual. DFP-9797-23/4 Chief Engineer G-1219 Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh

সংজ্ঞা দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি ১। দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং : ১৫৫/মানিকগঞ্জ অব ১৯৯৬-৯৭ইং। ২। কাজের নাম : ১৯৯৬-৯৭ইং অর্থ বৎসরে মানিকগঞ্জ সড়ক বিভাগের অধীনে ঢাকা-আরিচা মহাসড়কের ৮৮তম কিঃমিঃ-এ অবস্থিত ৫ নং ফেরি এপোচ সড়কের বিজ্ঞপ্তি অংশে ব্রিক পেভমেন্ট-এর কাজ। ৩। প্রাকলিত ব্যয় : টাকা ২,৯৫,৮৫০/-। ৪। ব্যয়নার টাকা : টাকা ৫,৯১৮/- নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অনুকূলে যে কোন সিভিলিটাল ব্যাংক হইতে ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/ট্রেজারী চালান/পত্রিকার সমন্বয়পত্র এবং বোনাস সমন্বয়পত্রের মাধ্যমে। ৫। কাজের বরাদ্দকৃত সময় : ১০ (দশ) দিন কার্যাদেশ ইস্যুর তারিখ হইতে। ৬। ঠিকাদারের যোগ্যতা : 'এ' হইতে 'ই' সাধারণ শ্রেণীর (সংজ্ঞা) অধিদপ্তরের ঠিকাদারবৃন্দ। ৭। অফিসের নাম : নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (সংজ্ঞা), মানিকগঞ্জ/ঢাকা সড়ক বিভাগ, ঢাকা/নরসিংদী/নারায়ণগঞ্জ/মুন্সিগঞ্জ/গাজীপুর/পূর্ব/দক্ষিণ/বিভাগীয় প্রকৌশলী (সংজ্ঞা), মানিকগঞ্জ/নরায়ণহাট, মানিকগঞ্জ সড়ক বিভাগের অধীনে। ৮। দরপত্র প্রার্থীতা : তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (সংজ্ঞা), ঢাকা সড়ক সার্কেল, ঢাকা/প্র্যানিং, মনিটরিং এন্ড ইন্সপেকশন সার্কেল, ঢাকা/নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (সংজ্ঞা), মানিকগঞ্জ সড়ক বিভাগ এবং উপ-বিভাগীয় প্রকৌশলী (সংজ্ঞা), মানিকগঞ্জ/নরায়ণহাট, মানিকগঞ্জ সড়ক বিভাগের অধীনে। ৯। দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ : ০-৫-৯৭ইং অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত। ১০। দরপত্র গ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ ও সময় : ৪-৫-৯৭ইং দুপুর ১২-৩০ মিনিট। ১১। দরপত্র বোন্ডার তারিখ ও সময় : ৭-৫-৯৭ইং বিকাল ১-০০ ঘটিকায় নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (সংজ্ঞা), মানিকগঞ্জ সড়ক বিভাগের কার্যালয়ে। ১২। ব্যয় বাতিল : ১৬-আরিচা। ১৩। লটারীর তারিখ ও সময় : ৮-৫-৯৭ইং বিকাল ১-০০ ঘটিকায়। ১৪। প্রাকলন অনুমোদন-কারী কর্মকর্তা : তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (সংজ্ঞা), ঢাকা সড়ক সার্কেল, ঢাকা। এ কে এম রেজাউল হক নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (সংজ্ঞা) মানিকগঞ্জ সড়ক বিভাগ, মানিকগঞ্জ। ডিএফপি-৯৩০০-১৫/৪ ডি-১২২৩