

Easy wins for Ajax, S Bima

GOPIBAGH FA: 123 all out in 41.2 overs (Sapu 37, Russel 34, Raju not out 12, extras 16; Bhola 4/18, Manna 3/23, Sumon Biswas 1/10 and Dola 1/16)
AJAX SC: 124 for 2 in 24.5 overs (Rawnak not out 60, Rafiqul not out 37, Babu 14, extras 9; Bipul 2/19)
Result: Ajax won by eight wickets.

DHAKA WANDERERS: 98 all out in 38.4 overs (Javed 17, Mahfuzur 12, extras 32; Deer 3/11, Minto 2/14, Moin 2/14, Badruddin 2/22)
SADHARAN BIMA: 99 for seven in 33.5 overs (Sujan 45, Litu 18; Tapu 2/27, Uzzal 2/38)
Result: Sadharan Bima won by three wickets.

Ajax SC beat Gopibagh Friends Association by eight wickets at the Mirpur City Club ground while Sadharan Bima KC defeated Dhaka Wanderers Club by three wickets at the U-tara Friends Club ground in Damal Smriti cricket matches played yesterday, reports UNB.

Youth WC cricket Kenya pick 27 members squad

NAIROBI, Oct 26: Thomas Odoyo, the 19-year-old seamer, who along with Tony Suji, shared a 7th wicket one-day cricket international record of 119 runs, was named on Saturday in the Kenyan squad for the World Cup youth tournament, reports AFP.

SQUAD
Thomas Odoyo, Mohammed Sheikh, Francis Otieno, Donald Oyeteko, Joseph Amadi, Joseph Irungu, Nimesh Modi, James Kamende, John Mayeka, Ali Sheikh, Edward Mboya, Premji Kalyan, David Otieno, Collins Otieno, Sajjad Noorani, Irfan Jamal, Neel Patel, Charles Otieno, Bharat Halal, Zeeshan Varsani, Arvind Karai, Andrew Mboya, Felix Otieno, Nitin Gopal, Imran Mughal, Abid Janmohamed.

Inquiry to indict none?

NEW DELHI, Oct 26: An inquiry into allegations of bribery and match-fixing in Indian cricket will not name any player as guilty, a former judge conducting the probe was quoted today as saying in a television interview, reports Reuters.
The report is expected to be submitted early next month, New Delhi Television (NDTV) quoted Y V Chandrachud, former Supreme Court Chief Justice, as saying in the interview.
A lot of evidence has been laid before me but no one has been able to provide concrete evidence that any particular player is involved in match-fixing, Chandrachud said.
There may be some circumstantial evidence but it is not enough, Chandrachud said in the interview scheduled to be broadcast on Star Plus cable television channel.

Biman sail, Brothers crawl

Sports Reporter

The first round of the 18th Damal Smriti cricket tournament came to a predictable conclusion as title contenders Bangladesh Biman and Brothers Union joined the other four heavyweights in the second phase eliminating their respective group league opponents at different city venues yesterday.
At the Dhaka Stadium, Bangladesh Biman recorded a facile seven-wicket win over a

though Biman bowlers bowled quite ordinary spells, the dicy wicket along with some senseless batting by the top and middle-order of Lalmatia eventually served the cause of the national finalists.
Lalmatia were at one stage reeling on 77 for nine before the last wicket partnership of 32 runs, the highest stand in their innings, between Lal Miah and Shipon ensured them cross the three figure mark.
Shariful Haq Plabon, one of the three wicketers of Biman, re-

BRIEF SCORES

LALMATIA: 109 all out in 48.5 overs (Lal Miah 23 not out Shipon 12; Plabon 3/14, Munna 2/22)
BANGLADESH BIMAN: 110 in 34.2 overs (Faruque 44, Sumon 40 not out; Morshed 2/19)

ORIENT SC: 158 all out in 45.4 overs (Jewel 40, Masum 20, Extras 45; Litu 3/28, Shuvro 2/27)
BROTHERS UNION: 162 for six in 48.4 overs (Sujan 45 not out, Litu 18; Tapu 2/27, Uzzal 2/38)

lowly Lalmatia to join last-year's runners-up Agrani Bank and losing semifinalists Kalabagan Krira Chakra in one of the two groups in the six-team second phase.

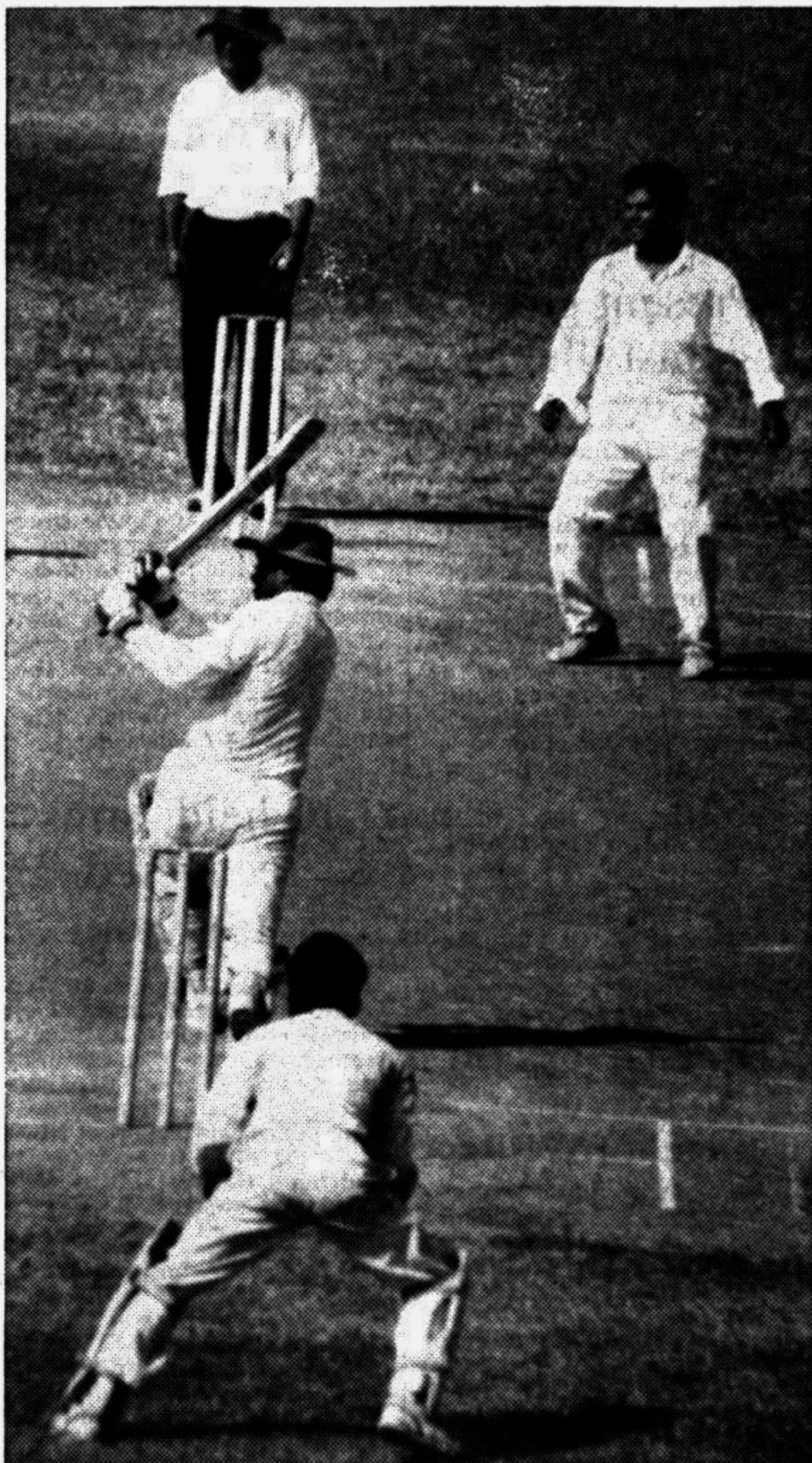
Meanwhile, Brothers Union, aided by an undefeated 70-run partnership for the sixth wicket between Sujan and Mustadir Litu at the Dhamondi Cricket Stadium, ran away with a four-wicket win over Orient SC. The victory earned the Gopibagh outfit a place in the other group along with holders Abahani Krira Chakra and Mohammed Sporting Club.

The second round of the season's curtain raiser, scheduled to commence at the Dhaka Stadium from October 28, will be played on round robin league basis from where top two finishers from each group will qualify for the criss-cross semi-finals.

But at the onset of the second phase, any high-scoring affair is expected to be impossible on the newly-laid natural turf at the Dhaka Stadium which many a cricket expert have described as 'underprepared'. The wicket, laid under the supervision of South African groundsman Phil Russell, behaves quite unusually and hardly helps strokemaking players.

The Dhaka Stadium wicket, widely considered as batsmen's paradise since its debut as a Test venue way back in 1955, is yet to produce 200 runs in an innings this season. This is certainly a matter of grave concern for the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), who sought South African expertise to prepare sporting wickets.

However, in the day's match, Lalmatia won the toss and opted to bat first. But their plan to impose a challenging total on the opponents soon backfired as they were bundled out for a meagre 109 in 48.5 overs. Al-



Biman's middle order bat Faruque Ahmed pulls Lalmatia's right-arm seamer over mid-wicket during their 18th Damal Smriti cricket tournament match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. The former national skipper scored 44 as Biman recovered from a horrible start to a resounding seven-wicket win.

Litu masterminded a squeaky win for Brothers Union against Orient SC.

In yet another low scoring affair, Brothers, who had earlier bowled Orient SC for a paltry 158, were in a deep trouble with 90 for six before Sujan and Litu saved the day for the Gopibagh outfit, putting on a match-winning partnership.

Sujan, who was dropped from the national team after the ACC tournament last year, remained unbeaten on 45 at the kill as Brothers struggled to reach summit (162 for six) in 48.4 overs.

Litu, who was instrumental in restricting Orient to a modest total claiming highest three wickets for 28 runs, scored a priceless 18 before being retired hurt.

Acid test for U-20 cricketers

Sports Reporter

The national U-20 team, who are taking part in a series of trial matches as part of their preparations for the forthcoming World Youth Cricket Championship qualifiers, will go on an acid test when they take on a tough opponent at the Dhamondi Cricket Stadium today.
With national skipper Akram Khan at the helm of the 12-man team, which includes three fast bowlers Hasibul Hossain Shanto, Safuddin Ahmed Babu and Shuvro, a solid batting line-up that reads a doughty Javed Omar Belim Golla, Sanvar Hossain, Hatunuzzaman, Mehram Hossain Ope and a portly Akram; a quite effective tweaker duo of Saikat and Mona, an all-rounder in Mofizur Rahman and an agile wicketkeeper in Atiar — it will certainly be a testing time for Sabir's young side against a virtual national team.

The 50-over-a-side match will start at 9 am.

The youth team has so far had mixed fortunes with one win against two defeats in their previous three exhibition matches against different selections of Bangladesh A.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has disclosed the fixture of the Youth Asia Cup, scheduled to begin in Hong Kong from November 30. Bangladesh, who have been placed in Group A long with Malaysia, Maldives and Nepal, will kick off their campaign against Maldives on the inaugural day of the meet, which will be treated as the qualifying tourney among the Asian associate-member nations for the World Youth Championship.

While hosts Hong Kong have been pencilled in Group B together with Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Singapore.

Bangladesh will play their second group league match against Malaysia on December 1 before facing Nepal the following day.

Boca owe Diego nothing

BUENOS AIRES, Oct 26: Diego Maradona returned after nearly one month out through injury as Boca Juniors beat arch-rivals River Plate 2-1 with a controversial goal on Saturday, reports Reuters.

But the ageing star's contribution to Boca's win was questionable. He only played for the first half, which ended with River deservedly leading 1-0. Boca turned the game around after Maradona had been replaced.

Maradona, banned for failing a doping test but allowed to resume playing after his lawyers contested the exam, was also picked for the doping test after the game.

Martin Palermo's 67th minute winner was greeted with furious protests as River players surrounded the referee claiming that goalkeeper Geraman Burgos had been fouled by Boca's Colombian defender Jorge Bermudez.

Maradona, who may retire after Saturday's game, had missed Boca's last five games through injury and his inclusion on Saturday had caused divisions among Boca directors, some feel the former Argentine star is simply playing when he feels like it.



Pakistan fast bowler Wasim Akram (L) appeals without success for a leg before decision against South African Brian McMillan on third day's play of the final Test in Faisalabad yesterday.

Win in sight of Pakistan

FAISALABAD, Oct 26: (AP, AFP) Pakistan were poised to win the first Test series against South Africa at home on Sunday, needing 142 runs with all their second innings wickets intact and two days to go.

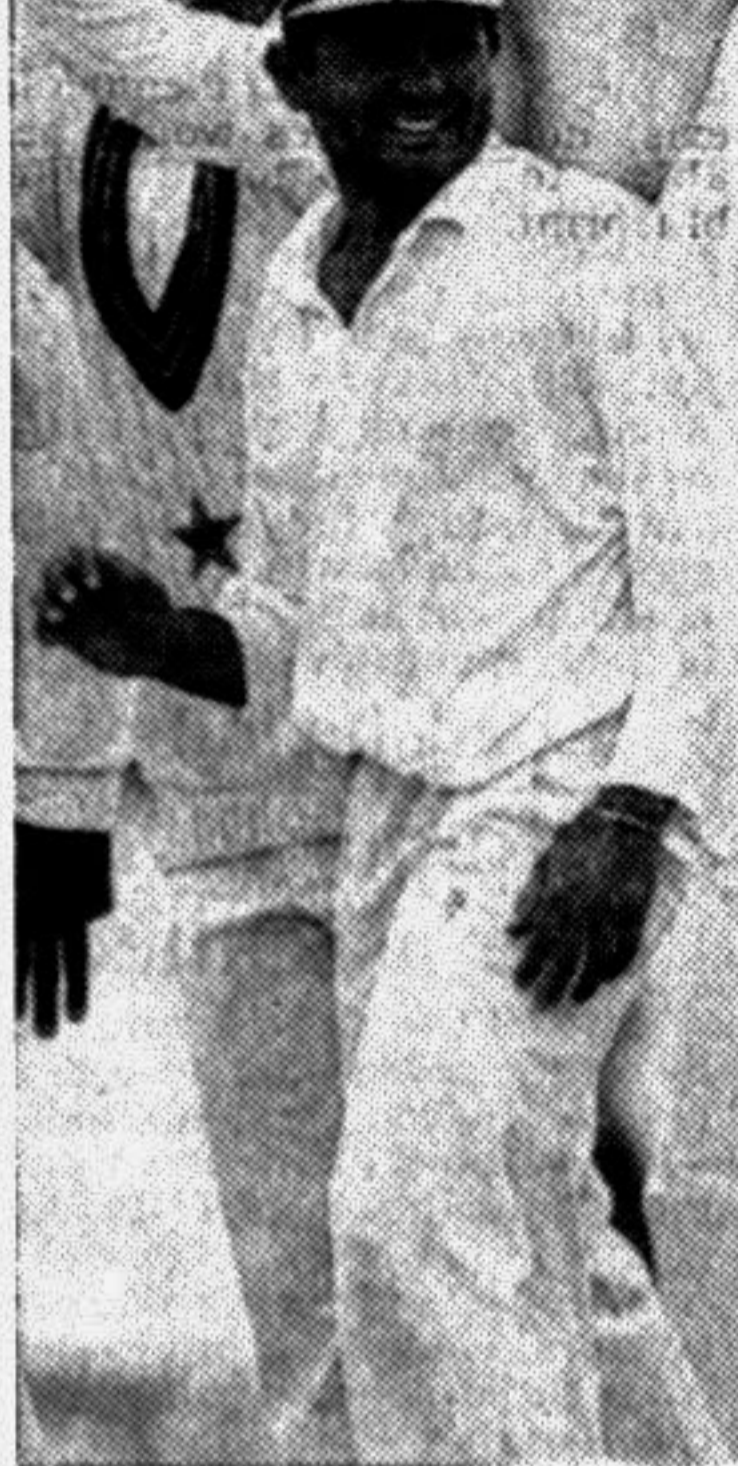
More than 15,000 partisan home crowd cheered leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed and off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq who bowled their side into a winning position, sharing seven wickets in South Africa's second innings.

Pakistan's star opening bowler Waqar Younis missed a hat-trick as South Africa suffered a middle-order collapse, losing three wickets at the total of 140.

On the third day of the third and final Test, Pakistan bowled out South Africa for 214 in their second innings.

Needing 146 runs for victory, Pakistan replied with four for no loss when poor light ended the day's play at the Iqbal Stadium.

A light drizzle early in the morning delayed the start of the proceedings by 50 minutes. The South African overnight pair of



MUSHTAQ ... 7/138

Brian McMillan and Pat Symcox defied the Pakistani bowlers before a controversial caught behind decision ended McMillan's knock.

A delivery from Mushtaq spun sharply and television replays clearly showed that McMillan didn't play it. However, the Pakistani umpire Mian Aslam thought otherwise and gave McMillan out caught behind by wicketkeeper Moin Khan.

McMillan was upset with the decision as he walked toward the pavilion. Nightwatchman Symcox was the mainstay of the South African innings as he confidently negotiated the awesome pace of Waqar and Wasim

Akram. He scored a half-century in each innings of the match.

Daryll Cullinan was lucky to win a reprieve when wicketkeeper Moin Khan failed to hold onto thick edge of Mushtaq's delivery. But he did not survive for long as the leg-spinner trapped him in front of the wickets for 15.

Captain Hansie Cronje and Symcox put on 43 runs for the fifth wicket before South Africa suffered a collapse, losing three wickets at the total of 140. Symcox fell to another doubtful decision by umpire Aslam who adjudged him leg before.

Symcox stayed at the crease for 171 minutes, hitting seven fours and a six in his knock of 55. The right-handed batsman faced 120 deliveries.

Waqar, who changed ends for the first time in the day, then claimed two wickets off successive deliveries. First Cronje was smartly caught low at square leg by Azhar Mahmood and then Waqar beat Dave Richardson with his pace to trap him leg before. Lance Klusener denied Waqar a hat-trick and whacked him for two boundaries. He also lifted Saqlain for two straight sixes in his brief onslaught of 38 runs off 36 balls.

But Klusener played Saqlain's straight delivery across the line just before tea which left his team tottering at 187 for eight at the break. Shaheen Pollock added 21 runs which enabled the visitors to get past the 200 mark and get a lead of 145.

Mushtaq took his fourth wicket of the innings when he wrapped up the South African innings by accepting an easy return catch to dismiss Paul Adams for naught.

"It was a fine performance by our bowlers especially Saqlain and Mushtaq. We will surely win the Test and I will tell my batsmen to play seriously and do not panic," Pakistan coach Haroon Rasheed said.

South Africa looked determined to make a match of it and set an aggressive field for the Pakistan openers. But they will have to bowl and field exceptionally well to turn the tables on the hosts.

Aamir Sohail opened Pakistan's second innings with Ali Naqvi and in fading light the South African captain started with spinners Paul Adams and Symcox. Ali Naqvi was on four and Aamir Sohail zero when play was called off.

Pakistan have won three Tests on this venue while chasing runs. Last year they beat Zimbabwe by ten wickets. The weather-disrupted first two Tests were both drawn.

SCOREBOARD
The third day of the third and final cricket Test between Pakistan and South Africa Sunday:
SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 239 (G Kirsten 100 not out, P Symcox 81; Wasim Akram 4-42, Mushtaq Ahmed 3-81)
PAKISTAN: First innings 308 (Inzamam-ul-Haq 96, Moin

Khan 80)
SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings (overnight 21-2)
Bacher lbw b Mushtaq 14
Kirsten c Mushtaq b Akram 4
McMillan c Moin b Mushtaq 21
Symcox lbw b Saqlain 55
Cullinan lbw b Mushtaq 15
Cronje c Mahmood b Waqar 21
Pollock not out 21
Richardson lbw b Waqar 0
Kluisener lbw b Saqlain 38
Donald b Saqlain 8
Adams c and b Mushtaq 0
Extras: (b-3, lb-13, nb-1) 17
Total: (69 overs) 214

Fall of wickets: 1-16; 2-21; 3-63; 4-97; 5-140; 6-140; 7-140; 8-157; 9-201

Bowling O M R W
Akram 11 0 46 1
Waqar 14 2 43 2
Mushtaq 22 6 57 4
Saqlain 15 6 36 3
Mahmood 7 2 16 0

PAKISTAN: Second innings
Naqvi not out 4
Sohail not out 0
Extras: 0
Total: (3 overs) 4

Bowling O M R W
Adams 2 1 4 0
Symcox 1 1 0 0
Umpires: Steve Dunn (New Zealand) and Mian Aslam (Pakistan)



PAT SYMCOX ... 55

Paris Open starts today

PARIS, Oct 26: A potential second-round match between top-seeded Pete Sampras and three-time champion Boris Becker highlights the Paris Open with the 2.1 million dollars event beginning Monday, reports AP.

Becker has won the Paris Open in the first year of the tournament, 1986 and added victories in 1989 and 1992. Sampras beat Becker in the 1995 final.

Queensland crush Kiwis

CAIRNS, Australia, Oct 26: (AP, Reuters): Queensland's Andrew Symonds hit 75 off 59 balls and Paul Jackson took 5-22 Sunday to set up a 127-run win over the touring New Zealand team in a limited overs match.

Symonds the former Gloucestershire batsman who set a world record with 20 sixes in a match in a county game in 1995, led Queensland to 252-8 off 50 overs.

New Zealand, who lost the four-day game against the hosts that ended Saturday, was bowled out for just 125 in 36.1 overs as it crumbled against

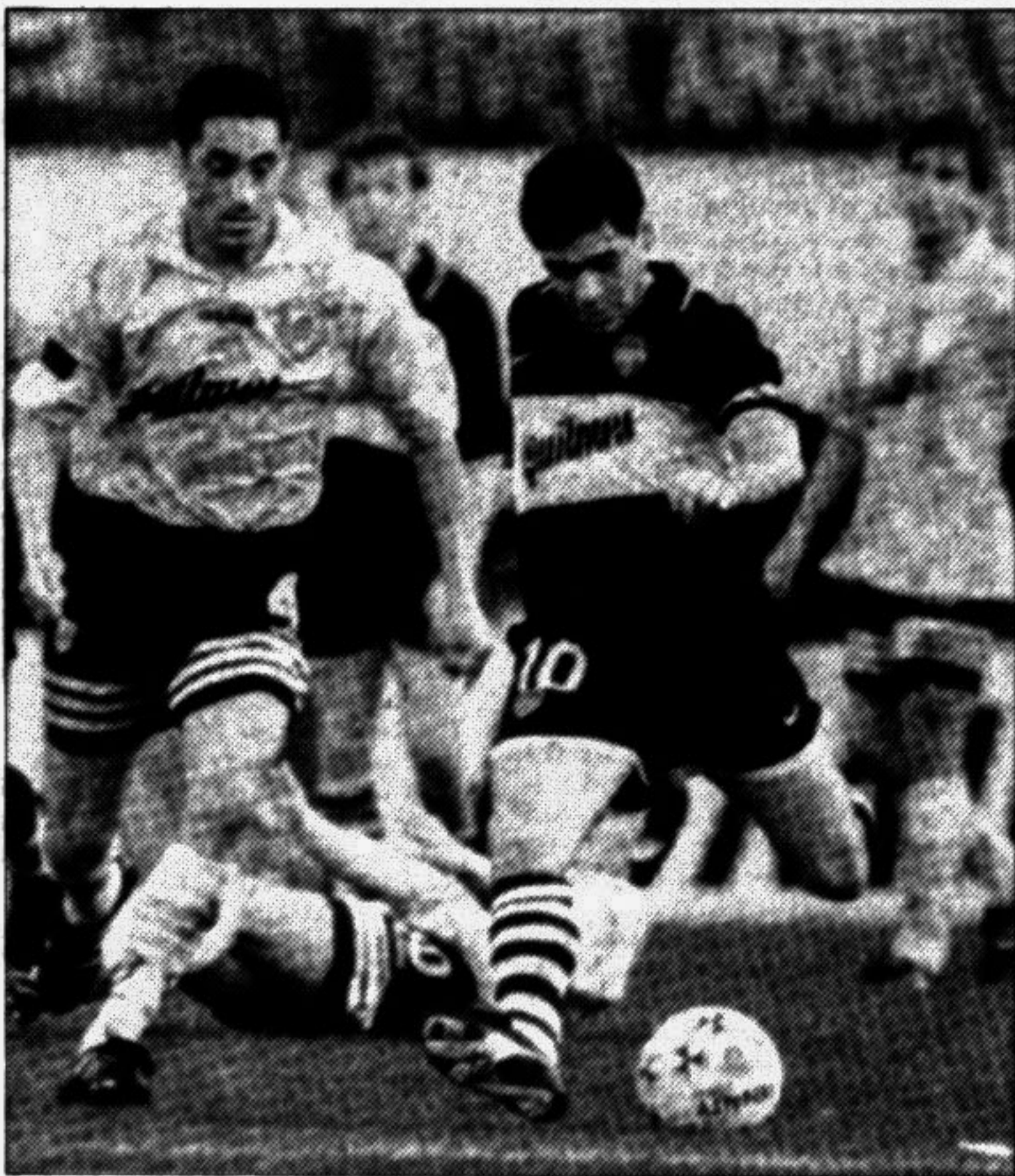
Jackson's eight overs of off-spin.

New Zealand coach Steve Rixon, a former Australian Test player, was disgusted with his team's performance.

The tourists face a one-day series against Australia and South Africa this season, as well as three Test matches against Australia starting November 7.

English-born Symonds, who was considered a Test prospect in that country before committing to Australia, is on contract to the Australian Cricket Board because of his notable one-day skills.

He hit seven fours and four sixes and took 26 off an over



Boca Juniors' Diego Maradona makes an attempt on goal in the Argentine derby against River Plate in Buenos Aires on Oct 25.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer Dhaka PWD Divn. No. IV 15, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka

Notice Inviting Tender

No. 27/VI of 1997-98

- 1. Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from Class-I (One) enlisted sanitary & plumbing contractors/firms under PWD and Class-II (Two) enlisted sanitary & plumbing contractors/firms under PWD Dhaka Zone, Dhaka for the undermentioned work and will be received by the undersigned as well as by the Executive Engineer, Dhaka PWD Division No. III, Dhaka, Eden Building PWD Division, Dhaka & Medical College PWD Division, Dhaka in their respective office chamber up to 12-00 Noon of 06/11/97 and will be opened on the same day at 12-15 PM in presence of the tenderers who may like to remain present. Each tender shall be in a sealed cover with the name of work superscribed on it. No tender form and schedule will be sold to the contractors/firms who has not VAT Registration and Tax Payers Identification Number (TIN).
2. Name of work : Proposed 18-storied building attached to IPGM&R, Dhaka (Sub-head: Construction of 2-0'(600mm) dia RCC sewerage line). During the year 1997-98.
3. Estimated cost : Taka 1,42,225/00
4. Earnest money : Taka 2,845/00
5. Time allowed for completion of work from the date of issue of work order: 25 (Twenty-five) days.
6. Earnest money as shown in SL No. 4 duly pledged in Pratirakha Sanchaypatra or 5-year BD Sanchaypatra or Bonus Sanchaypatra or TC or BD from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of the Executive Engineer, Dhaka PWD Division No. IV, Dhaka must accompany each tender. Those who have fixed deposit with this Deptt. are entitled to submit tender without depositing earnest money, but they must quote reference to that effect on the body of respective tender at appropriate place of Form No. 2911 enclosing certificate from the concerned Executive Engineer, with whom the deposit is lying issued not earlier than 90 (Ninety) days from the date of receiving of the tender stating the amount of deposit.
7. Contract documents consisting of BD Form No. 2911, schedule of items, special terms and conditions etc. can be seen and obtained from the office of the undersigned and from the Executive Engineers mentioned above in Para-1 on payment of usual charges (non-refundable) during office hours on all working days up to 05/11/97.
8. The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason.

Executive Engineer Dhaka PWD Divn. No. IV, Dhaka Telephone No. 9557108

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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CRYPTOQUIP
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D J G V X X R , R B W F J I X X
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Y V B D Y J B D I
Saturday's Cryptoquip: HOW, EXACTLY, WOULD YOU MAKE A MEXICAN CHILI? SEND HIM TO ALASKA!
Today's Cryptoquip clue: D equals G
The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.