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Full points for MSC

Mizanur Rahman Don enabled holders Mohammmedan Sporting Club cross a big hurdle in the Premier Division Football League scoring the all important goal against Brothers Union Club at Mirpur Stadium today (Wednesday), reports UNB.

Promising striker Don scored the match winner in the 53rd minute utilising a Arman pass came his way through Al-

With the day's victory, the black and whites bagged 37 points from 16 matches, one point ahead of star-studded Muktijoddha, who have 36 from 15 ties.

The Gopibagh outfit remained at the fourth place behind Abahani, bagging 23 points from 16 encounters.

Yellow card: Joy (Mohammedan) and Gobindha (Brothers).

In the First Division League, BRTC played to a one-all draw with Shantinagar Club at the Army Stadium today.

Sangram scored for BRTC in the 76th minute while Siraj of Shantinagar restored the parity in the last minute.

Nat'l U-21 snooker from Feb 23

Sports Reporter

The 14th national snooker championship and the third Ashok Leyland national Under-21 meet will simultaneously be held at the Dhaka Club from February 23.

Interested players have been asked to send their entries through their respective affiliated clubs by January 31. Besides, players, who are not member of any affiliated club, can also take part in the meet.

But all the players must be registered with the Bangladesh Billiard and Snooker Federation (BBSF), the organisers of the meet said.

Div II cricket

Sports Reporter

Eskaton Sabuj Sangha, Nawabganj Sporting Club and Uttara Sporting Club won their respective Acme Second Division cricket league matches at different city venues yesterday.

Eskaton posted a comfortable six-wicket victory over Nirman Ekadash at the Dhamondi Club ground, Nawabganj beat Spread Eagles by 33 runs at the Mirpur Outer Stadium while Uttara registered a five-wicket victory at the Mahakali T&T ground.

Arsenal in last four

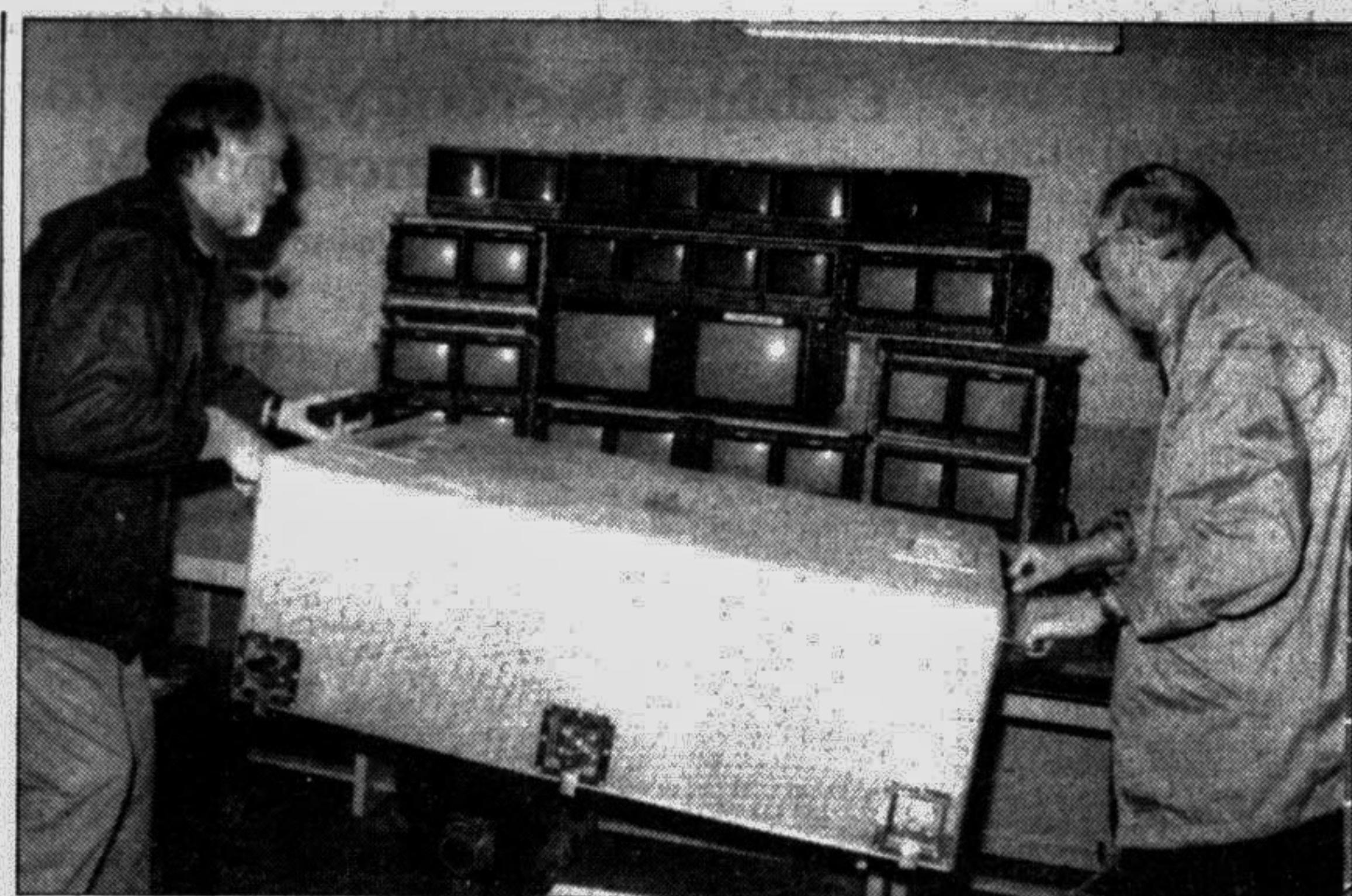
LONDON, Jan 7: West Ham paid dearly for a missed penalty by former Arsenal striker John Hartson on Tuesday, losing 2-1 to the north London side in the English League Cup quarterfinals, reports Reuters.

Hartson, who has scored 23 goals since moving to West Ham last February, stepped up for the spot kick after England goalkeeper David Seaman brought down Paul Kitson with 18 minutes gone.

But on a wet and muddy pitch he miskicked the shot and the lofty Arsenal keeper fell upon it.

Six minutes later it was the north Londoners who went ahead, England striker Lanz Wright, who has scored only once since October, accepted a neat pass from Dutch teammate Dennis Bergkamp and struck the ball in the back of the net.

Shortly after half-time Marc Overmars, Arsenal's other Dutchman, made it 2-0 following a mix-up in the West Ham defence.



Keith Mackenzie (R), the director of WorldTel, and his senior producer John Bodner (L) are fixing different equipments at the control room of the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. The WorldTel production team will provide live coverage of the Coca Cola Independence Cup which starts at the Dhaka Stadium from Saturday. — Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Anatoly go ahead

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, Jan 7: FIDE champion Anatoly Karpov, playing black, decisively outmanoeuvred his Indian challenger Viswanathan Anand on Tuesday to win game four of the World Chess Championship in 49 moves, reports Reuters.

The Russian now leads the six-game contest with two wins to Anand's one and can retain his title by drawing the two remaining games.

Div I v'ball

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Jan 7: Brothers Union Club defeated Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) by three sets to nil in the First Division volleyball league at the local stadium today.

Touch Video Club will take on Khelaghara Kalyan Samity at the same venue tomorrow.

Akram out in the cold?

KARACHI, Jan 7 (The Dawn): Former Pakistan captain Wasim Akram was not considered for selection in the 15-man team for the South Africa and Zimbabwe tours by the selectors, official sources said.

The chief executive of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), Majid Khan, said from Lahore that Wasim Akram had informed him that he was injured. "Since he is injured, he was not considered for selection," he said. The three-member selection committee met in Lahore to select a 15-man team for the tour that includes five Tests and at least nine one-day internationals.

The fate of Waqar Younis, whose selection also hangs in the balance, was also yet to be settled.

Majid stated that Akram had not informed him how many days he would regain his



fitness but emphasised that once he was injured, he was not considered.

When Wasim Akram was contacted late Tuesday evening, he said he had informed the board that he had a little muscular pain. "But I had also assured them that I would be fit in a week's time," he stressed.

Touch Video Club will take on Khelaghara Kalyan Samity at the same venue tomorrow.



Action from yesterday's Premier Division football league encounter between Mohammmedan Sporting Club and Brothers Union at the Mirpur Stadium. Mohammmedans won the match 1-0. — Star photo

Surrey recruit Saqlain

ISLAMABAD, Jan 7: Saqlain Mushtaq is set to sign a new season's contract with Surrey.

The county has offered him fifty thousand pounds deal for the 1998 season, it was learnt here on Monday, reports The Dawn newspaper of Pakistan.

The off-spinner said the deal is to be finalised within a few days.

To a question Saqlain said, the pitches prepared in Pakistan do not support spinners neither do they assist the fast bowling. "These pitches do not take turn, either they are assisting the batsmen most of the time or they are under prepared."

The spinner said that the authorities concerned should take stock of the situation and prepare better wickets so that cricketers could groom and sharpen their skills.

TODAY'S MATCHES**Premier Division Football League:**

Abahani KC vs Muktijoddha Sangsads KC (Mirpur Stadium, 2:15 pm)

First Division Football League: Dhamondi Club vs Wari Club (Army Stadium, 2:15 pm)

First Division Cricket League: Gopibagh FA vs Bangladesh Railway (City Club, 10:30 pm)

Top 20 20 counted

Exhibition h'ball

CHITTAGONG, Jan 7: Visiting Sporter Russ Sporter Club of Germany beat Chittagong Mahanagar Krira Sangsads 19-11 in an exhibition handball match held at Dampara Police Line ground here today, reports BSS.

The winners led the first half 7-6.

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