

Sport



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Dhaka derby ends 0-0

Holders Mohammedan Sporting Club and Abahani Krira Chakra played out a goalless draw in a crucial return-leg clash of the Premier Division football league at the Mirpur Stadium, reports UNB.

In the first twenty minutes, the two sides could not put together any good attacks. Abahani played a little better in the first half, but the two chances that came their way were squandered by defender Tipu and striker Rumi.

Mohammedans were fired up in the second half and got some easy chances. But Rumi missed a half chance in the 50th minute while about 10 minutes, striker Alfaaz spoilt two easy chances in quick succession.

Abahani tried their heart and soul to score in the last 15 minutes, but some solid defence by Mohammedans kept them at bay.

With this, Mohammedans lead the league table with 41 points from 18 matches while Abahani having 37 points from same number of outings find themselves in a hopeless situation.

Another title contenders, Muktijuddha Sangsads Krira Sangsads collected 37 points from 17 matches.

Red card: Ladi Baba (Mohammedan).

Yellow card: Moti Munna and Bode Baba (Mohammedan), Barun and John (Abahani).

TEAMS
MOHAMMEDANS SC: Poni, Faisul, Nazrul, Monwar Munna, Joy (Ruhul Amin), Arman, Moti Munna, Ladi Baba, Bode Baba and Alfaaz.

ABAHANI KC: Biplob, Manu Joardar, Barun, Partha, Prodip, Raju (Jahangir), Zakir, John (Mizan), Senthil (Liton), Rumi and Tipu.

Referee: M A Mansur Azad.

England 179 for five

MONTEGO BAY, Jamaica, Jan 17: England's batsmen were made to struggle against a spirited but inexperienced Jamaican bowling attack on the first day of the opening match of their Caribbean tour here Friday, reports AFP.

When rain ended play with seven overs still to be bowled, England were 179 for five. Left-hander Graham Thorpe was unbeaten with a top score of 41. Wicket-keeper, and fellow left-hander, Jack Russell was not out.

Electing to bat, England captain Mike Atherton would have been concerned with the unpredictable nature of the pitch, especially early on.

Atherton lost his opening partner Alec Stewart for one in the fourth over. He provided a catch to Gareth Bresne off fast bowler O'Neill Richards.

Richards was afforded the opportunity to play since former West Indies captain Courtney Walsh, along with his Test counterpart Franklyn Rose, have chosen to rest for this match.

In their absence, Kirk Powell, a 25-year-old, also took advantage to take two wickets for 19 off 14 overs.

He removed Atherton, who was third out for 28, and then the dangerous Adam Holloake, who hit an enterprising 40 before edging to the wicketkeeper.

Holloake and Thorpe put on 62 for the fifth wicket after England had slumped to 77 for four.

John Crawley was run out just after lunch for 25 after he and Atherton added 53 for the second wicket.

Atherton followed soon afterwards as did his vice-captain Nasser Hussain, who made just 15 before he was caught off the off-spinner Gareth Bresne.

The four-day match continues Saturday.



The Pakistan cricket team going to the nets at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday to limber up for the Independence Cup final encounter against India. — Star photo

Dhaka to stage 7th Asia Cup cricket in '99

Sports Reporter

The seventh Asia Cup cricket tournament will be held in Dhaka March next year while the ACC Trophy in Nepal in November this year.

This was disclosed after a special committee meeting of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) at a local hotel yesterday.

With the president of the International Cricket Council (ICC) Jagmohan Dalmiya in the chair, the extraordinary meeting also adopted a resolution to table Bangladesh's bid for Test status in the next meeting of the game's governing body. It is expected that Pakistan will place the proposal and India will second the motion when the ICC meets at Lord's next June.

This is the second time Bangladesh will host the Asia Cup, which will feature India, Pakistan and world champions Sri Lanka. Bangladesh had earlier staged the third version of the game back in 1988.

But the awarding of the ACC Trophy to Nepal is going to be a unique incident. For the Himalayan kingdom this will be their maiden international cricket tournament. It will be held immediately after the ICC special World Cup, scheduled to begin in Dhaka on October 4.

The meeting was also attended by the president of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Saber Hossain Chowdhury, chief executive of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Majid Khan, secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Jayanta Lele, ACC secretary Tryphon Mirando, Asif Iqbal, Ehsan Mani and Syed Ashraf Haq.

FIXTURES

The fixtures of the final round of the under-19 World Cup cricket tournament after the draw here on Friday following the preliminary matches:

SUPER LEAGUE

Date	Match	Venue
Jan 21	South Africa v Zimbabwe	Port Elizabeth
Jan 22	New Zealand v Sri Lanka	Port Elizabeth
Jan 25	New Zealand v New Zealand	Cape Town
Jan 26	Sri Lanka v Zimbabwe	East London
Jan 28	New Zealand v Zimbabwe	Bloemfontein
Jan 30	South Africa v Sri Lanka	Durban

Basil D'Olivera Pool

Jan 19	England v Pakistan	Centurion
Jan 20	India v Australia	Kimberley
Jan 23	Pakistan v Australia	Benoni
Jan 24	India v England	Cape Town
Jan 27	England v Australia	Durban
Jan 29	India v Pakistan	Wanderers
Feb 1	Final	

PLATE LEAGUE

Rushdie Majeti Pool	Kenya v Bangladesh	Potchefstroom
Jan 19	Ireland v Papua New Guinea	Lenasia
Jan 20	Kenya v Ireland	Fochville
Jan 22	Bangladesh v Papua New Guinea	Johannesburg
	Kenya v Papua New Guinea	Benoni
	Bangladesh v Ireland	

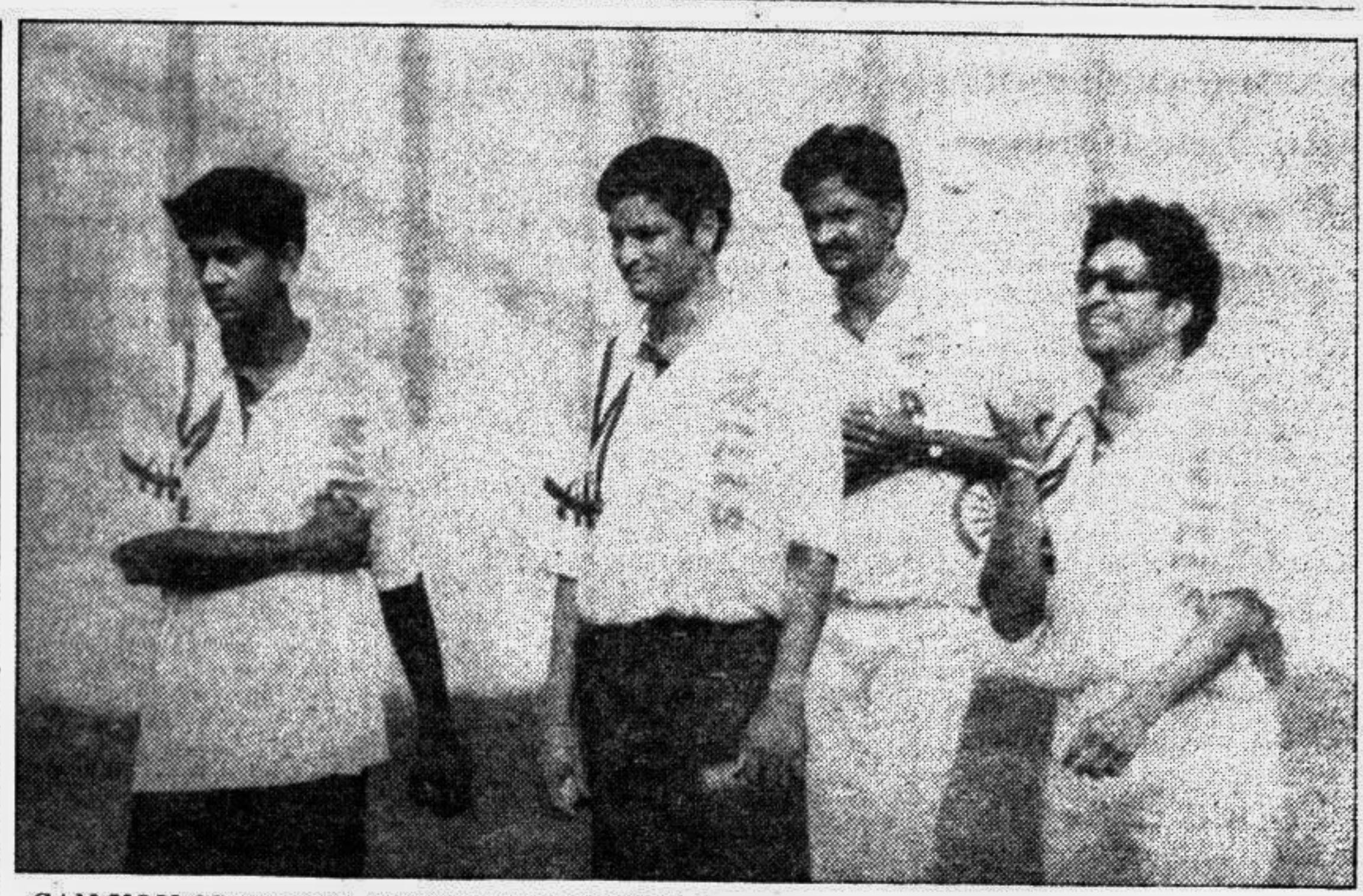
Mike Procter Pool

Jan 19	Scotland v Namibia	Kempton Park
Jan 20	Denmark v West Indies	Pretoria
Jan 22	Scotland v Denmark	Kempton Park
	Namibia v West Indies	Boksburg
	Scotland v West Indies	Fochville
	Namibia v Denmark	Johannesburg
Jan 24	Final	Fochville



Action from yesterday's crucial Premier Division football league match between Mohammedan Sporting Club and Abahani Krira Chakra at the Mirpur Stadium. — Star photo

Steve back at the helm



CAN YOU SPOT THE CONFIDENT SMILE? The pugnacious Sachin Tendulkar (R) is in a jovial mood while practicing with teammates (L-R) Sairaj Bahutule, Hrishikesh Kanitkar and Javagal Srinath at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

Steve back at the helm



PERTH, Jan 17: Australian one-day captain Steve Waugh returns Sunday for his country's tri-series clash against South Africa at the WACA ground here, reports AFP.

But there is a good chance champion leg-spinner Shane Warne will be rested from the sell-out game expected to attract 29,000 fans.

Waugh was declared fit this morning after completing a rigorous last-minute test under the watchful eyes of chairman of selectors Trevor Hohns and physiotherapist Errol Alcott.

"I felt pretty good and I will play," said Waugh, who missed Australia's last match in the contest against New Zealand in Sydney three days ago, because of a strained right hip.

He revealed Warne, who acted as captain in his absence, would probably not play.

"There's no way in the world he will wrestle because he does not want to jeopardise his relationship with the Nevada boxing commission."

Tyson will declare his intentions Monday night on the federation's wrestling programme. "Raw is War," on the USA network. The show is being broadcast out of Fresno, California.

Wrestlemania XIV will take place at the Fleet Centre in Boston on March 29.

Although still barred from boxing, Tyson has begun training for a possible rematch with Evander Holyfield, saying he doesn't want to go down in boxing history just as a fighter who bit off a chunk of Holyfield's ear in their championship meeting last June 28.

Rogich said Tyson viewed the Wrestlemania appearance as an opportunity to get in shape.

Rios rallies past Fromberg

AUCKLAND, Jan 17: Chile's Marcelo Rios of Chile fought back from a set down to win the final of the BellSouth Open tennis tournament against Australia's Richard Fromberg on Saturday, reports AP.

The top seed in world No. 10 scored a 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7-3) victory.

It was tough, and it was close and he was serving really big," Rios said. "But I was returning the ball well and the crowd out there really helped me."

Lennart stakes his claim

GHENT, Belgium, Jan 17: The battle for the biggest job in the biggest sport opens Saturday with the official announcement of Sweden's Lennart Johansson that he is going after the job of his long-time rival Joao Havelange, the president of the FIFA world soccer federation, reports AP.

As president of the UEFA European federation, Johansson chose the preliminary draw of the 2000 European Championships here this weekend to announce his bid, but showed his backing went beyond Europe with messages of support from the heads of the Asian, African and Oceania federations and the International Olympic Committee.

Highlighting his long opposition to Havelange's 24-year rule over soccer, Johansson said in his election platform he

will aim "to strengthen the democratic spirit and establish a fair and accountable system" at FIFA.

The FIFA president will be elected at a Congress in the days ahead of the June 10-12 World Cup in France. No other clear challenger has emerged but Havelange, 81, has said his secretary general Sepp Blatter of Switzerland would make an ideal candidate.

Together with the IOC, FIFA wields the most power in sports. But Johansson said that as FIFA president, he would shed as much power as possible to the continental confederations and limit FIFA's presidential terms, underscoring his criticism that FIFA is now run on a feudal basis where everything is decided at the top.

Much has already been decided for the next decade, with Havelange announcing last month he will leave his success-

or four billion dollars to spend, including television deals totaling 930 million dollars in 2002 and rising to 1.15 billion dollars four years later.

FIFA also clinched a marketing deal of 636 million dollars for the next two World Cups. And clearly, those have been seen as successes of the aging Havelange.

"Soccer has a glorious past and a wonderful present, but the success stories of the past are of little relevance to the problems of tomorrow," Johansson said.

With the advent of increasing professionalism, soccer has often been criticised of being aloof to the concerns of the common fan. Nowhere has this been clearer than in the fight over television rights, where fans are no longer assured of seeing their national team on free TV as of the 2002 World Cup.

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Ek Raja Ek Rani 8:30 Hm Apke Hain... Woh 9:00 Liberty 11:10 Pop Countdown VJ Sandhya Mridul 9:30 Chat Aur Nafrat 10:30 The Zee Horror Show 10:30 Serial: Chandni 11:00 Zee News 11:20 Zee Business 11:30 Colgate Top Ten 12:30 Jhota Sach 1:00 Baat Ban Jaaye 1:30 Shapat 2:00

Zee Arabia: Dastaan 2:30 ZEE Business 11:30 Matinee 12:30 Take Five 1:00 Current Booking (Film Magazine Show) 1:30 Pehchan 2:00 The Raso Show 2:30 Cine Matinee 11:00 Ilu Ilu 11:30 Cill Cut Zone 12:00 On Line 12:30 Right On (Pop Show) 1:00 Satin Mere Chal 1:30 Tele Brand/Gujarati Samachar 2:00 Hindi Feature Film 5:00 TSN 5:30 Kalakar Ek Rang Anek 6:00 Key of David 6:30 Bangla Programme 7:00 Bangladeshi Prog: Prio Shilpi 7:30 Bangladeshi Prog: Chakra 8:30 Star World 9:00 Spring the Wheel 9:30 Star Hot 2:30 Songs 10:30 Once More-Hindi Film Trailer Show 11:00 Gajal/Suranjali — Film Songs 11:30 Maina Dekha Tune Dekha 12:00 Hum Kis Se Kam Nahi (Game Show) 12:30 Heart To Heart 1:00 Home Shopping 1:30 Bangladeshi Film 4:00 Hindi Feature Film (B/W)

Sunday Ki Sunday 12:30 Take Five 9:00 Once More-Hindi Film Trailer Show 10:00 Fashion Funda 10:30 Stardust Court 11:30 Matinee 11:00 Ilu Ilu 11:30 Cill Cut Zone 12:00 On Line 12:30 Right On (Pop Show) 1:00 Satin Mere Chal 1:30 Tele Brand/Gujarati Samachar 2:00 Hindi Feature Film 5:00 TSN 5:30 Kalakar Ek Rang Anek 6:00 Key of David 6:30 Bangla Programme 7:00 Bangladeshi Prog: Prio Shilpi 7:30 Bangladeshi Prog: Chakra 8:30 Star World 9:00 Spring the Wheel 9:30 Star Hot 2:30 Songs 10:30 Once More-Hindi Film Trailer Show 11:00 Gajal/Suranjali — Film Songs 11:30 Maina Dekha Tune Dekha 12:00 Hum