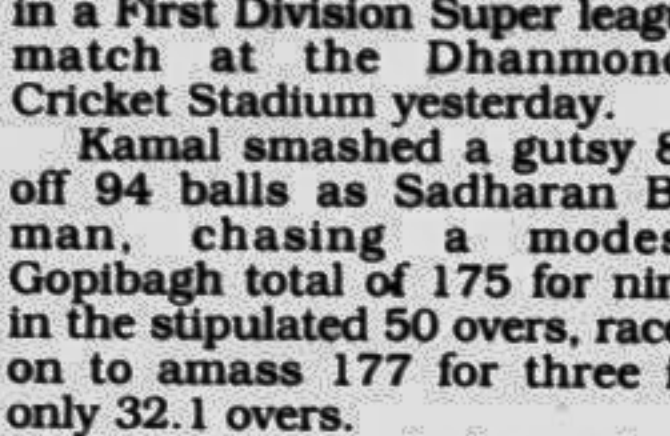


Div I cricket

Sports Reporter
BRIEF SCORES
GOPIBAGH FRIENDS: 175 for 9 wickets in 50 overs...

Shahriar & Saifuddin shine for Brothers' emphatic win
Biman lose, yet qualify

Sports Reporter
A brilliant half-century by opener Shahriar Hossain followed by a fiery bowling spell by national right-arm seamer Saifuddin Ahmed gave Brothers Union an impressive 38-run win over Bangladesh Biman in a crucial Premier Division cricket league match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.



Opener Kamal Ahmed hammered a swashbuckling unbeaten half century to propel Sadharan Bima to a facile seven-wicket win over Gopibagh Friends Association in a First Division Super league match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.



man could muster only 207 for seven in the face of some highly commendable bowling from Saifuddin, who ripped through the top Biman order to finish with three for 22 runs in his eight venomous overs.



Former national skipper Faruque Ahmed of Biman tries to glance a delivery from Brothers' Indian recruit Sanjeev Sharma during their Janakantha Premier Division league encounter at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.



SHAHRIAR... 76
Ehsan, a member of the Plate-winning youth team in South Africa, was caught and bowled by Biman skipper Ziaur Rashid. After the fall of Ehsan, Brothers received another blow when one-down Jahangir Alam returned for a duck, nicking a Shaiful off-spinner into the safe hands of Biman wicket-keeper Athar.

Windies 131 for five

Sports Reporter
West Indies were 131 for five in their second innings fifteen minutes into the post-lunch period on the third day of the third Test against England at Queen's Park Oval, Trinidad yesterday.

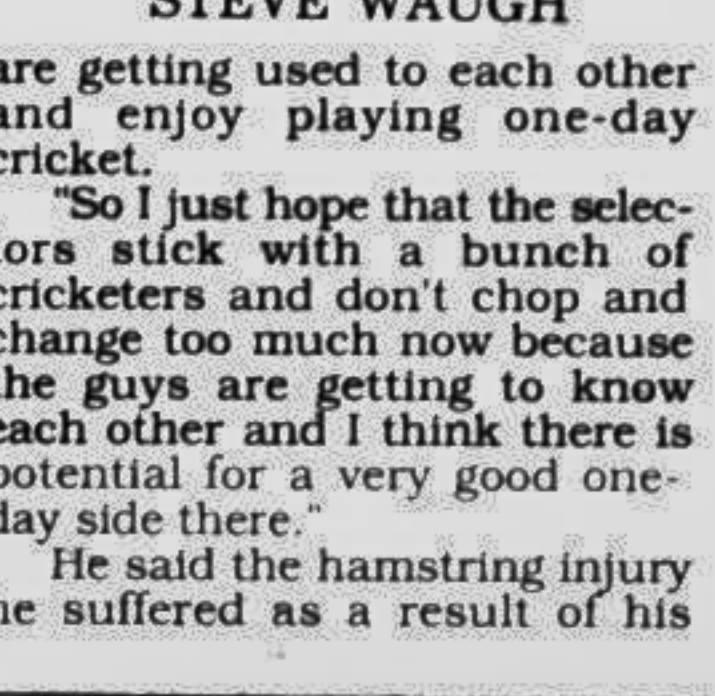
Canterbury hang on

TIMARU, New Zealand, Feb 15: Canterbury gave themselves a slim chance of saving the four-day cricket match against Zimbabwe with a stubborn batting performance on the third day at Timaru today, reports Reuters.

Steve's plea to selectors

MELBOURNE, Feb 15: Australian one-day cricket skipper Steve Waugh urged the selectors today to change his team after mixed results in the four-match limited-over series in New Zealand, reports AFP.

controversial mid-wicket collision with New Zealand bowler Dion Nash Saturday would take up to 10 days to heal but should not be a problem for the tour to India.

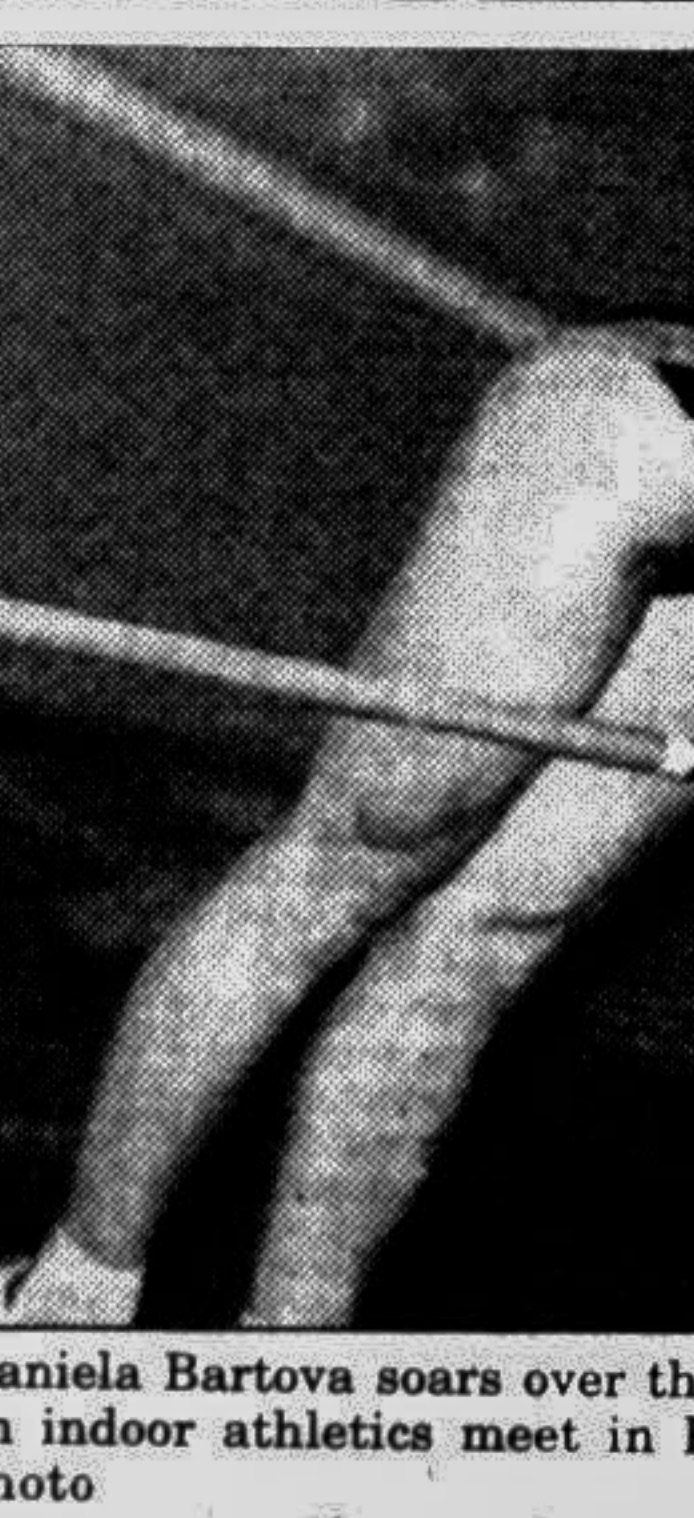


STEVE WAUGH

Waugh said he would get his injury iced today and consult with a physiotherapist tomorrow. "I would think it would be seven to 10 days and a should be right. It does not seem to be that bad, but it is an inconvenience at the moment."

An all-Spanish affair in Dubai

DUBAI, Feb 15: Spain's Felix Mantilla overcame a cramp to beat Wayne Ferreira on Saturday and win a place in the final of the one million dollars Dubai Open, reports Reuters.



Daniela Bartova soars over the bar on her way to creating a new world pole vault record at an indoor athletics meet in Prague on Feb 14. Bartova cleared 4.43 metres. — AP/UNB photo

Shocking indeed!

Sports Reporter
The hopes of introducing longer version matches in the domestic cricket this year suffered a severe blow as the chiefs of Dhaka clubs decided to put the plan for the much-needed change into the fridge.

The ominous move by the representatives of different city clubs will definitely hinder Bangladesh's bid for Test status.

BU-BIMAN SCORECARD

Table with columns for Team, Runs, Wickets, and Extras. Includes sections for Brothers Union, Bangladesh Biman, and Bowling details.

Rakib run continues

Bangladesh national junior champion Abdullah Al Rakib carried a sensational victory over Indian national champion IM Avhijit Kunte in the tenth round of the Goodrick International chess tournament in Calcutta Gurki Sadhan, reports UNB.

Mugging in SA Police probe faces problem

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 15: South African police probing the mugging of two key Pakistani cricketers say their work is being hampered as they cannot get access to the players, the Sunday Times reported here, reports AFP.



Scene from the first round of the 19th national women's chess qualifiers at the National Sports Council yesterday. — Star photo

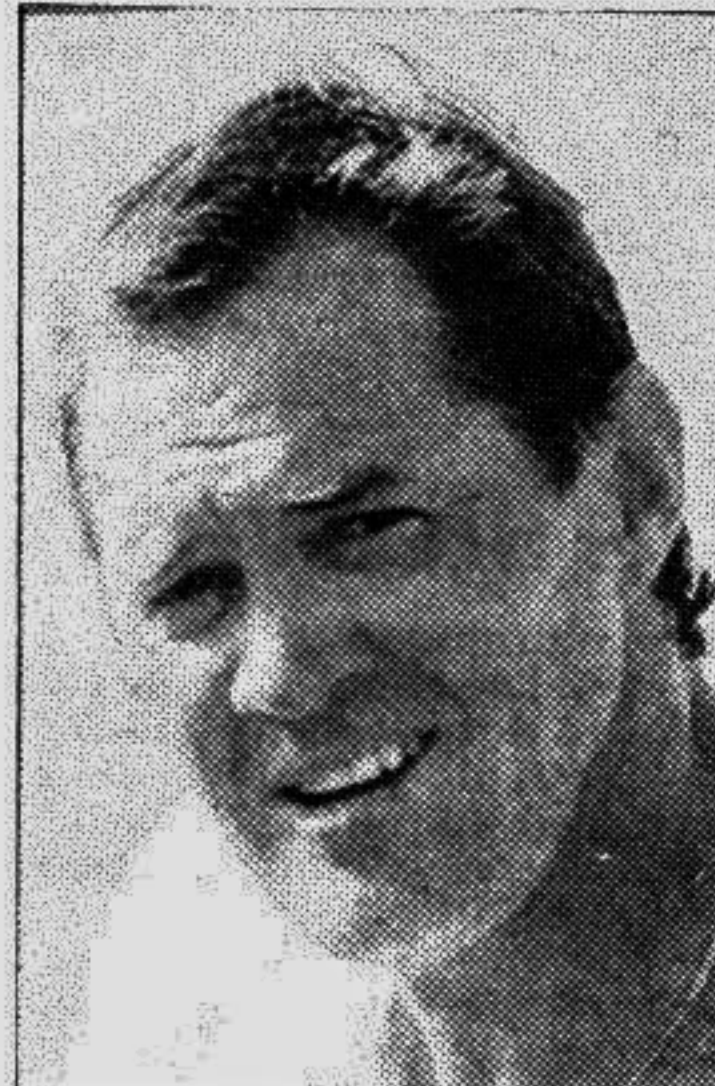
Symcox-Boucher pair sets world record
Tourists in deep trouble

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 15 (AP/AF): Pakistan were 91 for four when rain brought an early end to the second day's play of the first Test against South Africa at the Wanderers today.

130-run partnership after Waqar and Mushtaq reduced the Proteas to 166 for eight. The home side were 296 for eight when bad light stopped play after 84.2 overs.

padding up to a straight delivery from Mushtaq, South Africa had lost three wickets in five overs and were in deep trouble at 96 for five.

day's play of the first Test against South Africa at the Wanderers today. One down Ijaz Ahmed was batting on 24 while wicket-keeper Moin Khan was not out on tonight.



SYMCOX... 108

Early on, Pat Symcox hit a brilliant 108 and shared a world record ninth-wicket stand with Mark Boucher as South Africa scored 364 in their first innings.

Boucher, who hit a defiant 78 runs more than four hours, shared 195 runs with Symcox as the pair hit South Africa out of trouble from 166 for eight.

Symcox's maiden Test century in his 17th Test is only the third century by a No. 10 batsman in Test history.

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 15: Pakistan were 106 for four at the close of play on the second day of the first Test against South Africa at the Wanderers today, reports Reuters.

The ninth-wicket stand broke the previous world record of 190 between the Pakistani pair of Asif Iqbal and Intikhab Alam against England at The Oval in 1967.

Symcox and Boucher frustrated the Pakistani attack for 14 minutes under four hours to give the innings some respectability.

Mushtaq bowled well and had taken one for 19 off 14 overs before Hudson hit him for three boundaries in one over. He bowled unchanged for 22 overs in his first spell, taking three for 54. He finished the day with three for 66.

Boucher, 21, the youngest member of the side taking over from the retired Dave Richardson at wicketkeeper, hit his highest Test score of 161 balls. His innings included nine boundaries and a six.

Younis finished with 3-80 and leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed, who didn't bowl before lunch, had figures of 3-66.

When Herschells Gibbs

Harunur Rashid MP (L) and Ishtiaque Ahmed Karen, the newly elected president and general secretary of the Sports Federation General Secretary Forum. — Star photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Saffer

ACROSS 42 Modernist Broadway medium hit 11 Embellish 16 Kinsey subject 20 Enthusiast 21 'Animal House' group 22 Tra trail 23 Grooved on 24 Party for 27 Clear the tables 28 Americans' diet? 29 Sheriff's org. 30 Taylor's boy 31 Fax 33 Sandinista's foes 35 Libel 38 Quaff for two 40 Paid for 43 Happen 45 Needles 46 Examine, pre-heat 47 It takes the cake 48 Requisite 49 Schlep 53 A Bobsey twin 54 Through 55 Shade provider

Cryptogram puzzle grid with numbers and letters.

CRYPTOQUIP
A Y T R X M T J P T A A X O
V X Z X W J N A N X R E Z T O
C N P Y A W X X R V J N W X Q
E R Q X M E C X Q
Yesterday's Cryptogram: HEAR ABOUT THE PETULANT CIRCUS ACROBAT? HE HAD A CHAP ON HIS SHOULDER.