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For all your web casting needs
7-13 Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1209
URL: www.agni.net/axiom
Phone: 9128354-8, Fax: 9128359
e-mail: axiom@dhaka.agni.com

Star Sport

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Column One

SPORTS TALK



Richard Krajicek
(Dutch tennis player)
"I decided not to have surgery because I wanted to take part in the indoor season."
After winning the Stuttgart Open.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-107

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Win attractive prizes
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- Which country lifted the Wills International Cup?
S Africa W Indies India
- Who scored highest number of runs in the Wills Cup?
Kallis Cronje Wallace
- Who topped batting average in the Bangladesh-West Indies A One-day series?
Reifer Akram Javed
- Which team emerged champion in the national age-group swimming?
Khulna N'ganj Kushdia
- Who will lead Bangladesh at Asian Games hockey tournament?
Mamun Sadek Kamal

Name
Class Roll No.
School Address

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

ACB may discipline Warne

BRISBANE, Nov 20 (Reuters/Internet): Australian leg spinner Shane Warne is facing a fine or possible suspension after criticising an umpire's decision, the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) said on Thursday.

ACB chief executive officer Malcolm Speed said Warne had been asked to appear before the board after criticising umpire Randolph Woolridge during a recent Sheffield Shield match.

Warne said at that time that Woolridge had erred in adjudging one of his teammates out leg before wicket.

David down in the dumps

BRISBANE, Nov 20: England coach David Lloyd admitted England may pay dearly for missed chances on the opening day of the first test in Brisbane today, reports AFP.

The tourists might easily have finished the day with seven Australian wickets to their name, had Angus Fraser held on to a steeping catch at their man offered by Ian Healy and Nasser Hussain snapped up Steve Waugh via a sharp chance at slip.

Lloyd, asked whether England are going to regret the missed opportunities which also included an earlier chance to run out Waugh, fluffed by Alan Mullally, said: "Yes, very much so."

Those two chances were there to be taken. But they do not drop them on purpose, and you start again tomorrow.

"That's life, that's cricket — and it's gone now. They will be ruing it in the dressing room, but we will have pick ourselves up and start again."

"England had the ascendancy for the first two sessions, but those two Waugh and Healy, with all the experience they have, have pulled it round for the Australians."

"The story of the day is two dropped catches and the run-out — and those two lads who are in now."

Krirajagat's novice photographer is Bangkok-bound Bangladesh 'doctor' has no sports experience

Sports Reporter

The National Sports Council a few months back decided to send only fourteen athletes and officials to take part only in the Kabaddi event of the 13th Asian Games. But with the Bangkok Games only 18 days away the Bangladesh contingent has galloped to not less than seventy.

The Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) on Wednesday announced a 70-member Bangladesh squad to compete in eight disciplines in the biggest sporting carnival in Asia that begins in the Thai capital from December 6.

The change of standpoint to the country's ruling body of sports from an initially-wise nominal representation to the madness of the old trend in a meet where our stakes are virtually nil was a compliment to the cordial meeting in September between the State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader and a host of sports journalists.

In that meeting the sports supremo was convinced that the fourth state was not against sending more athletes and officials in different events at the expense of public exchequer. An apparently relieved Quader, who was criticised by a section of newspapers for saying that Bangladesh should take part only in events in which there was a realistic chance to win any laurel, did not hesitate to acknowledge the wisdom of the journalist community.

And if the proof of the pudding is in the eating then the inclusion of seven mediamen including a photo journalist in the whole caboodle was by any consideration a generous gesture from Mr. Quader.

However, the cast of characters came as a surprise because of the unknown yardstick that was followed; ability, experience and performance not being some of them. A photo-journalist, who was not even in the reckoning in the sports fraternity a couple of months back, got the nod ahead of hundreds of infinitely more qualified lensmen. The fortunate man is Ziaul Mohsin, known as a new recruit of "Pakkhik Krirajagat", a sports fortnightly published by the National Sports Council (NSC), the government's sports bureau.

Among the six print journalists, only two are going from leading national dailies. The other two are from new agencies and the two others are from two sports fortnightly periodicals, which again includes Mahmud Hossain Khan, the editor of Pakkhik Krirajagat. The other is from Pakkhik Krirajagat.

But perhaps Dr. Anupam Hossain has outclassed everyone in their bid to surprise. Better known at best as a rookie TV commentator, Anupam got the enviable tag of physiotherapist for the 47 Bangladeshi athletes—16 from hockey, 10 from kabaddi, three weightlifters, two boxers, four swimmers, four from track and field, four golfers and two billiards and snooker players. Believe it or not, it will be Anupam's first-ever assignment in a specialised job, in which he has no prior experience at any level.

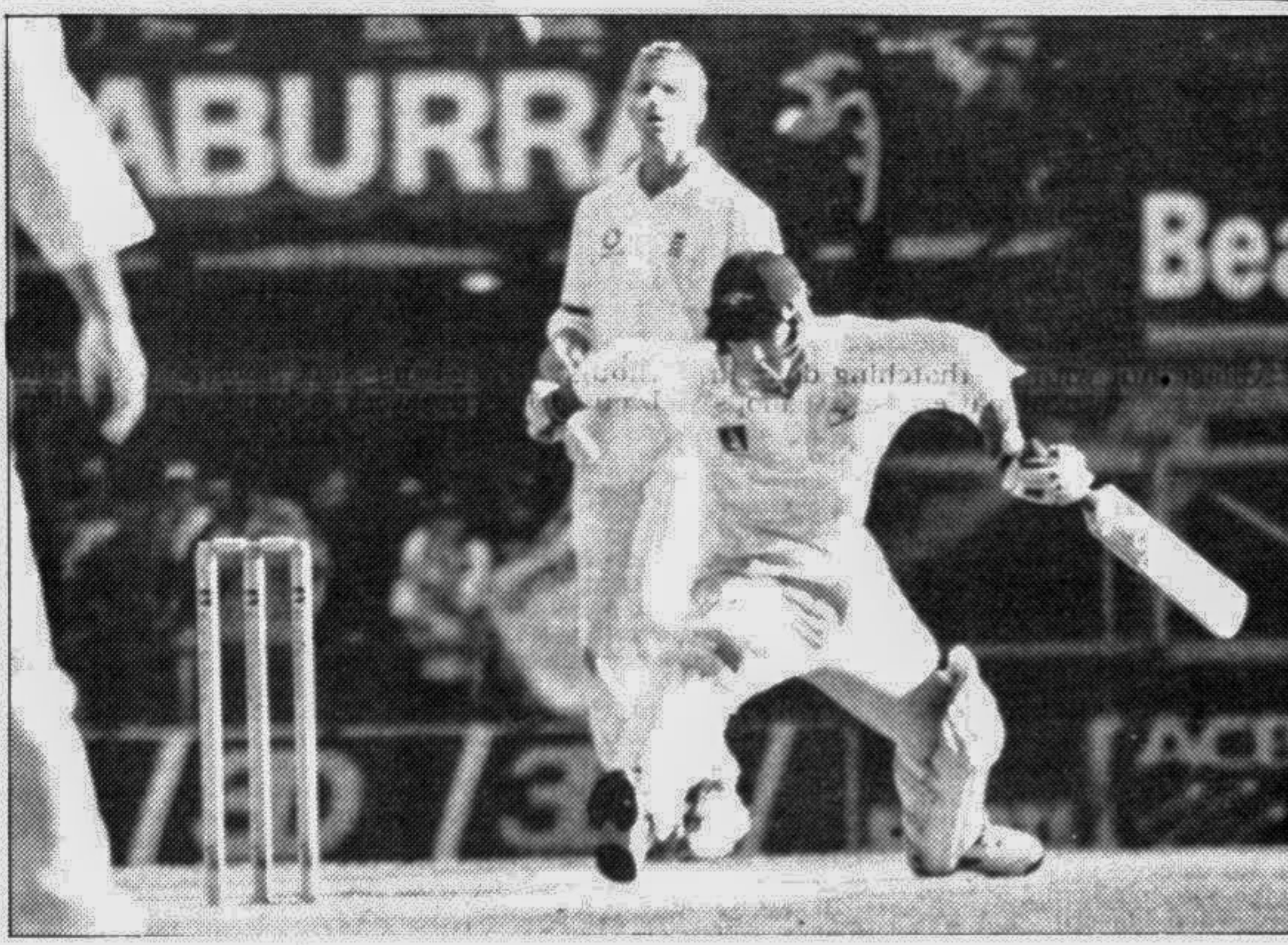
Moreover, this very gentleman was busy facilitating mediamen during the Wills International Cup after being ignored in the very large panel of doctors.

When contacted last night over telephone, a senior BOA official said that the BOA opted to send three journalists from the three journalists' associations and a photographer. But later on three other journalists were included by the NSC, the sole authority on overseas national tours.

"I have no idea how they have been included. The NSC has put forward their names and the Ministry, in a letter to BOA on November 15, has approved the list," said the BOA official on condition of anonymity.

About the team doctor and the ministry representative, he said that they were not nominated by the BOA and that he does not have any idea about them.

"I know Anupam is a doctor, who is mostly engaged in the sports arena in the capacity of a TV commentator. I don't know whether he is a qualified sports doctor or not," he added.



Australia's Ricky Ponting stretches to survive a run-out attempt during the first day's play of the opening Ashes Test at the Gabba yesterday. — AFP photo

Steve stabilises Aussies

BRISBANE, Nov 20: Steve Waugh survived a run-out to save Australia from a batting collapse on the first day of the first Ashes cricket Test against England today, reports Reuters.

Waugh finished the opening day at the Gabba unbeaten on 69 with Ian Healy 46 not out as the hosts battled their way to 246 for five when play stopped.

Waugh, as he has done on many occasions throughout his illustrious career, helped rescue his team from a middle-order collapse but was lucky not to have been given out on 29.

Television replays showed that he was stranded short of his ground while attempting a second run at the non-striker's end. But he was given the benefit of the doubt by third umpire Peter Parker because of confusion over whether or not the ball had hit the stumps.

Alec Stewart's throw from the batsman's end was on target but replays seemed to indicate, although not conclusively, that English bowler Alan Mullally had already dislodged the balls in an unnecessary attempt to intercept the ball.

Typically, Waugh, who averages more than 54 against the English, made the most of his left-off as he set about rebuilding the first innings.

He brought up his 50 off just 80 deliveries and continued scoring freely in the final stages to finish the day within sight of a 16th Test hundred.

England had played the better cricket for most of the first day but failed to ram home their advantage in the final session, letting themselves down with poor fielding.

Apart from missing the run out, England's fielders also grassed three catches, including two straightforward chances in the last half hour of play.

The tourists' gamble of playing five bowlers had earlier looked to have paid off when they reduced Australia to 106 for four an hour before tea.

They captured the vital wickets of Australia's in-form captain Mark Taylor and Mark Waugh within the space of three balls but claimed only one more victim on the day.

Taylor, playing in his 100th Test, departed for 46 when he edged Dominic Cork to Nasser Hussain at second slip while Mark was caught by England's wicketkeeping skipper Stewart for 31 off Mullally.

Mullally, who was born in England but grew up in Australia, had earlier dismissed Michael Slater for 16 in the first session when the Australian edged to Mark Butcher at third slip.

But he should have been out for 37 when he top-edged a simple catch to Angus Fraser at third-man only to see the ball dropped.

Then, in the final over of the day, Hussain, who had dropped Slater earlier on, split a chance from Steve Waugh when he was on 68.

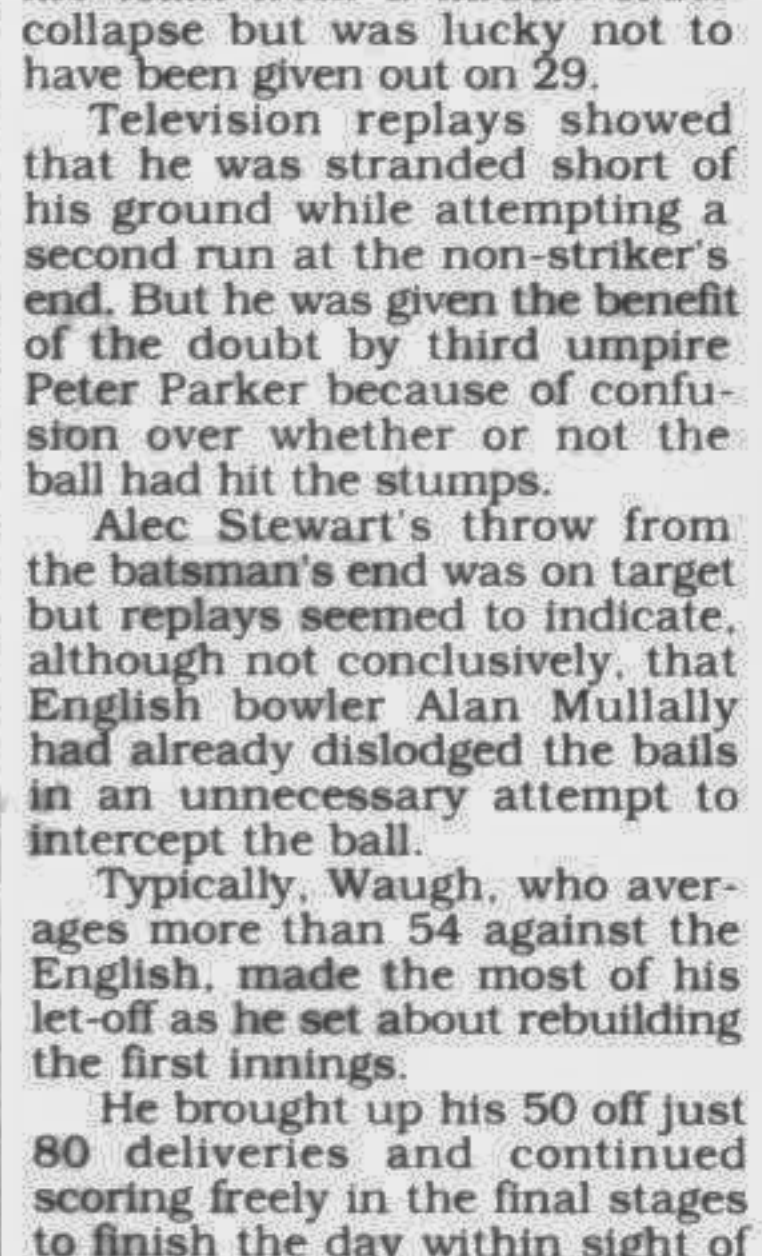
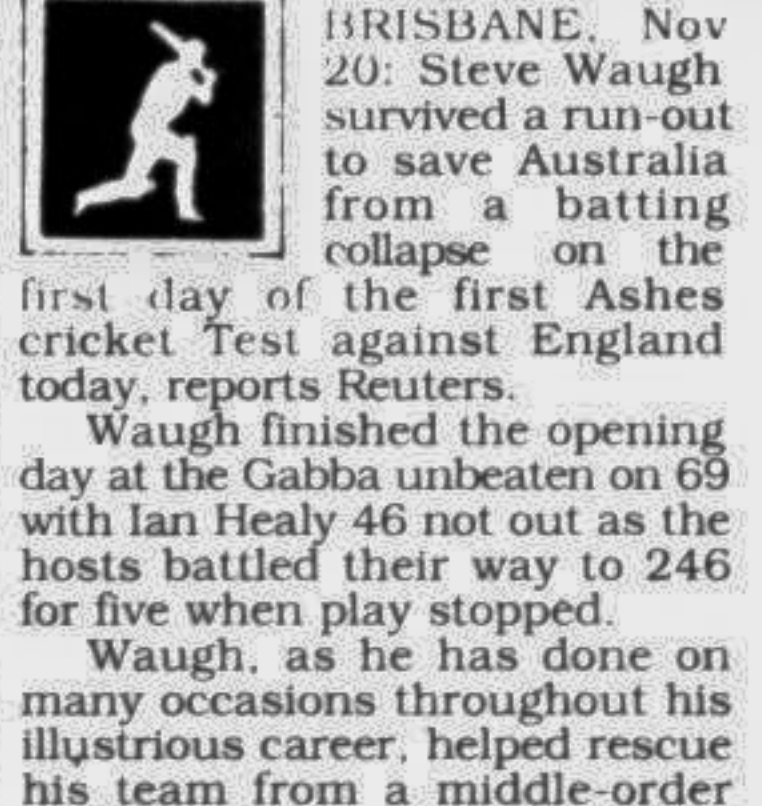
The opening day's play was cut short by one over even though it was extended by almost an hour. More than 35 minutes was lost after tea because of bad light.

Under International Cricket Council (ICC) rules, the umpires could have allowed play to continue with the use of floodlights if both teams had agreed but England rejected the idea out of hand before the tour began.

England's cricketers wore black armbands as a mark of respect after the death of Gough's grandfather.

Gough's grandfather Fred died on Wednesday in England, a spokesman for the team said.

The Yorkshire fast bowler was told of his grandfather's death on Wednesday night after he returned from a black-tie dinner to celebrate the start of the Ashes series.



TAYLOR ... 100th Test
Butcher also took a fine catch at extra cover to dismiss Ricky Ponting for 21 and give Cork his second victim while Darren Gough had trapped Justin Langer leg before wicket for eight.

Steve Waugh and Ponting began the fightback with a stand of 72 for the fifth wicket before Waugh teamed up with Healy to add 68.

Healy, who scored a career-best 161 not out against the West Indies here two seasons ago, hit six boundaries during an entertaining and adventurous

Nat'l rowing results

The Star 23rd national rowing competition was held near the China-Bangladesh Friendship Bridge on the river of Buriganga yesterday, reports APB.

Brahmanbaria Zilla-9 won the most prestigious 50-paddler sarengi boat while Sakhira Zilla-2 clinched the 50-paddler chip boat.

Bangladesh Ansars & VDP-2 grabbed the only women's event of the meet in 7-paddler. Uttaran Rowing Club won the men's category of this event.

Munshiganj Zilla-2 and Pabna Zilla won the 25-paddler and 50-paddler Kosha boat events respectively.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad distributed prizes among the winners as chief guest.

Earlier in the afternoon, State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader inaugurated the meet, participated by 77 boats from 15 district and 22 clubs.

Blind's WC cricket

Jan creates record

NEW DELHI, Nov 20: Pakistani batsman Masood Jan scored a record 262 in the seven-national tournament of blind cricketers being held in New Delhi, organisers said, reports AP.

It was the first double century in the history of blind cricket, and came as Pakistan defeated South Africa by 63 runs in an early round match Thursday. A double century is also a rare feat in sighted cricket.

Pakistan's Blind Cricket Council announced a cash award of 1,000 rupees (about 24 dollars) for Jan, who has had four centuries in domestic league play this year, the Time of India reported Friday.

In addition to Pakistan and South Africa, Australia, England, New Zealand, Sri Lanka and hosts India — all countries with teams among the international elite of the sighted cricket world — were competing for the Kamishka Trophy. The tournament started Tuesday and the championship will be played November 28.

Players who range from the partially sighted to the totally blind use special balls that emit a rattle to help batsmen direct their bats and fielders determine where the catch can be made. Bowlers shout "ready?" and wait for a "Yes" from batsmen before responding with a shouted "play" and flinging the ball.

Jan, a 21-year-old student from Peshawar, is partially sighted and has been playing cricket for a decade, scoring some 10 centuries in his career.

Blind cricket tournaments were being played in Sri Lanka as early as the 1940s. The Indian tournament is the first international championship for the blind.

Windies 101 for two at lunch

BLOEMFONTEIN, South Africa, Nov 20 (Reuters/Internet): Clayton Lambert scored his first half-century of the tour in the first session of their four-day tour match against Free State at Springbok Park in Bloemfontein on Friday.

At lunch on the opening day, the tourists were 101-2 with Lambert 57 not out - but with key batsman Philo Wallace and Brian Lara dismissed early.

Wallace was caught by Kosi Venter off the bowling of Victor Mpsang for 11 in the fourth over of the day, while Lara fell to wicketkeeper Morné van Wyk off Herman Bakkes for 10 in the 10th over.

Lambert, however, has played a solid but attacking innings and his half-century was on the board after 101 minutes and 75 balls, six of which he hit for four.

With him in an unbroken third-wicket stand worth 56 was Shivnarine Chanderpaul, 17 not out.

Fifteen minutes before lunch Chanderpaul, then on five, was dropped by Louis Wilkinson at first slip off Hansie Cronje's bowling.

Professionals' Cup scores

Nestle Bangladesh Limited, Babylon Group and BOC Bangladesh Limited won their respective JPLG Lights Professionals' Cup cricket matches played at different city venues yesterday.

Nestle handed British American Tobacco (BAT) Bangladesh Limited a 17-run defeat in a low-scoring game at the BUET ground.

Put into bat, Nestle scored 146 for seven in the stipulated 30 overs with opener Tareq Ali Khan hammering highest 35.

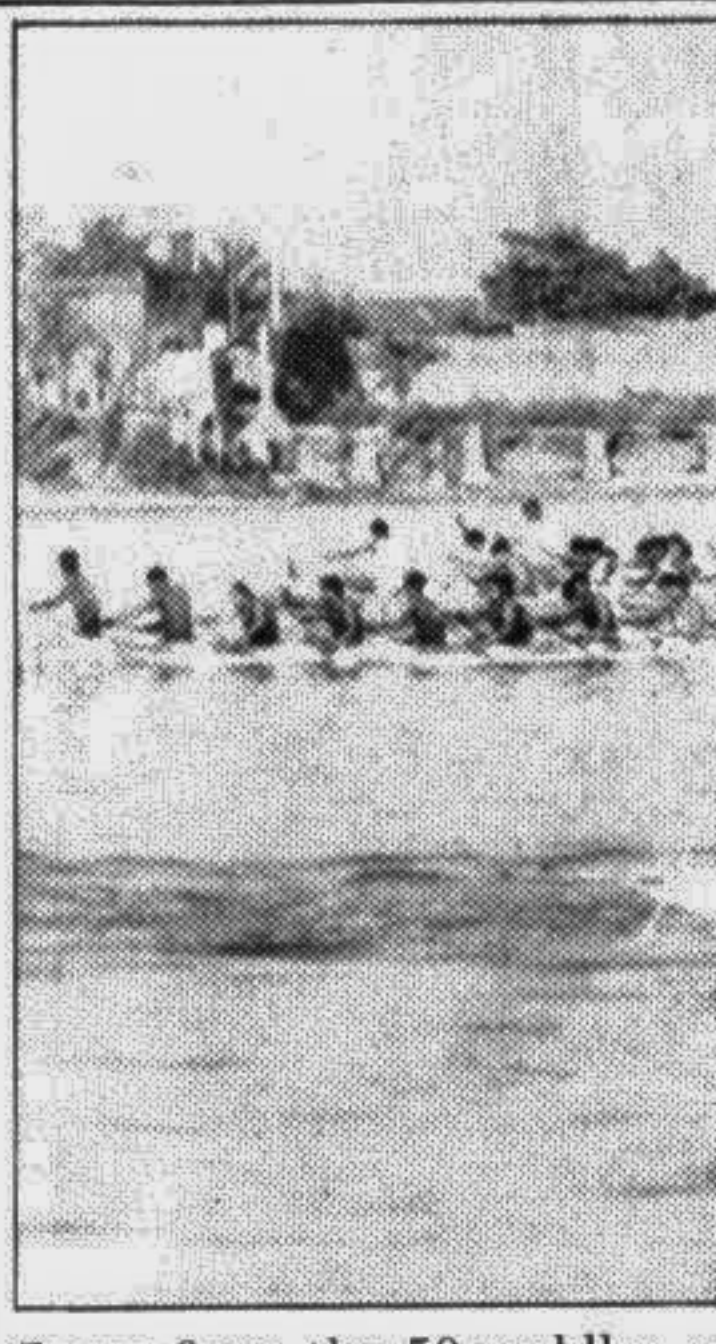
The right hander's 49-ball knock which added 71 runs for the first wicket with Moinir (24), included four boundaries.

Rashedul contributed 22 valuable runs.

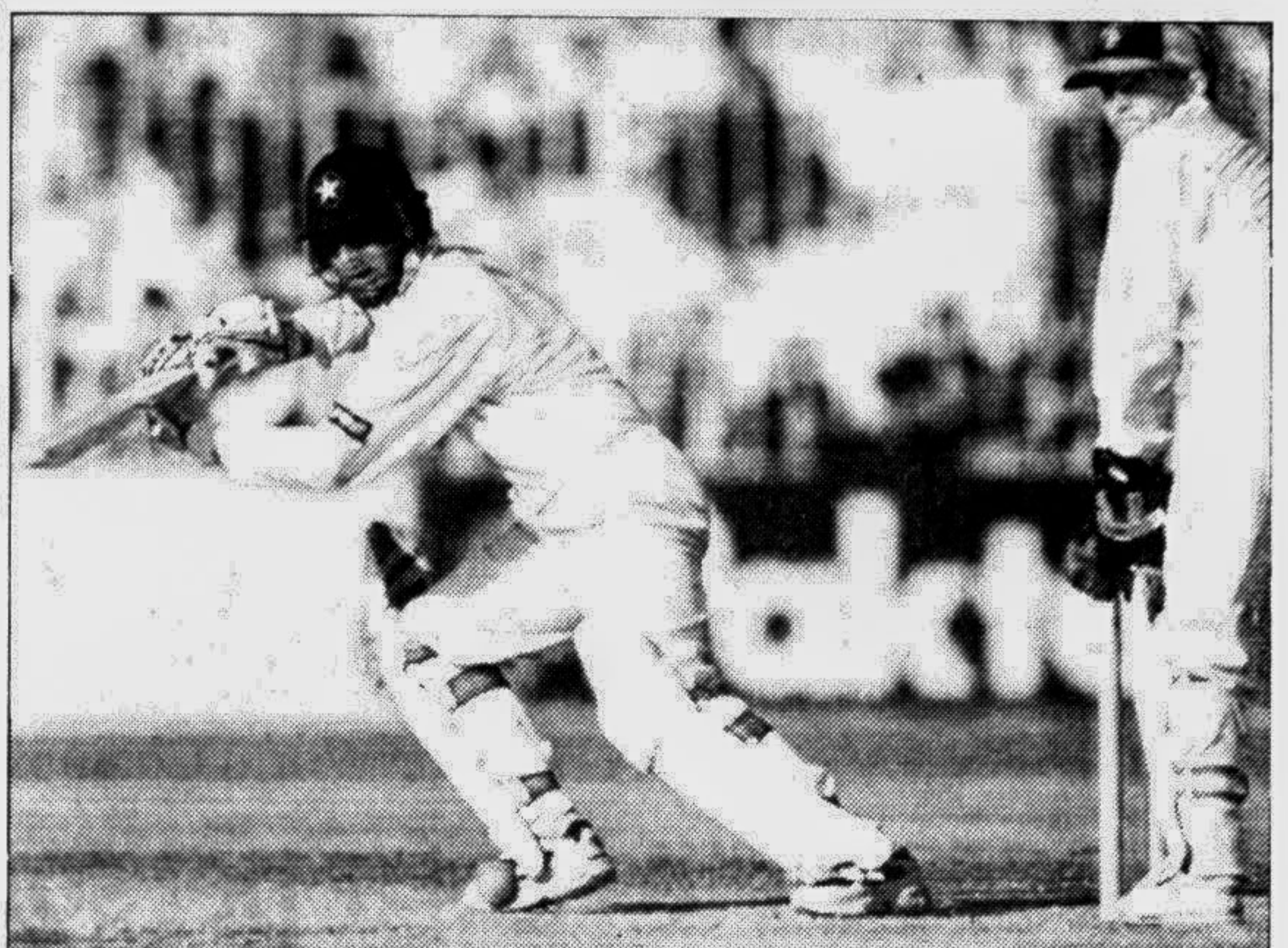
In reply, BAT were restricted to 129 after Sayeed Rahman and Khaled Ahmed shared seven wickets.

Sayeed ripped through the BAT tail to finish with four for 25 while new-ball bowler Khaled's three victims cost 28 runs.

Man-of-the-match Tareq



Scene from the 50-paddler race at the 23rd national rowing championships on the River Buriganga yesterday. — Star photo



Amir Sohail batting against Zimbabwe in their first one-day international at Gujranwala yesterday. The Pakistan skipper scored a brilliant 91 and was adjudged man-of-the-match. — AP/UNB photo

Yohanna lifts Pakistan

GUJRANWALA, Pakistan, Nov 20: Yousaf Yohanna continued his impressive form in one-day international by hitting an unbeaten 55 to steer Pakistan to a four-wicket victory over Zimbabwe on Friday, reports Reuters.

Yohanna, who scored his maiden limited overs century at Lahore 10 days ago in the series against Australia, shared crucial stands with his captain Amir Sohail and Moin Khan to pull Pakistan out of trouble.

The Pakistanis, having dismissed Zimbabwe for 237 in 49.3 of their 50 overs, won the first of three one-dayers at 241 for six with 14 balls to spare.

Yohanna twice led a recovery, first when he came in after his side had slumped from 60 for nought to 87 for three, and again at 145 for five after two wickets had gone while only four runs were added.

Pakistan had made a flying start as Sohail, man of the match for his 91 from 105 balls with nine fours and a six, and fellow opener Saad Anwar (19) put on 60 in 12.5 overs.

After the dismissals of Saad and Javed Ahmed (5) who fell to a stunning catch by Neil Johnson at mid-off Heath Streak, and Inzamam-ul-Haq (3), Amir and Yohanna added 54 in 62 balls for the fourth wicket.

Sohail, caught at short fine leg sweeping the left-arm spin of Grant Flower, and Shahid Afridi (2) then went in rapid succession.

Play was held up briefly as spectators angered by the cheap dismissal of Afridi threw water bottles and paper objects onto the outfield.

Yohanna then launched his second revival, this time with wicketkeeper Moin, the pair hammering 52 for the sixth wicket from 44 balls.

Moin fell lbw for 35, including four fours and a six from 26 balls, but Yohanna went on to his 55 in 80 balls, hitting two fours and a six, while Azhar Mahmood struck the winning runs in his 17 not out.

Zimbabwe's innings had faded after a promising start of 75 off 85 balls between top scorer Neil Johnson and Grant Flower, spin trio Saqlain Mushtaq, Afridi and Sohail doing most of the damage.

Saqlain finished with four for 35, Afridi claimed three for 45 and Amir one for 37 from his 10 overs.

Johnson hit his one-day best, of 74, surpassing the 72 he made against Sri Lanka in the recent Coca-Cola Trophy in Sharjah.

BP Eleven 114 runs ahead

Star Sportswatch

Indian Board President's Eleven took a 114-run lead at close of play in their three-day tour match against West Indies A at the Brabourne Stadium in Mumbai yesterday.

On the penultimate day, the hosts were 63 for two in their second innings after restricting the tourists to 209 in their first innings.

Off-spinner Harbhajan Singh celebrated his call up for the tour of New Zealand starting next month, claiming six for 63.

Earlier the home side resuming from its overnight 252 for seven added only eight more runs. Kanitkar and Khurasiya slammed half-centuries.

West Indies A fast bowler Pedro Collins has captured five wickets so far.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the first one-day cricket international between Pakistan and Zimbabwe on Friday:

ZIMBABWE

Johnson c Akram b Sohail	74
G Flower c Moin b Saqlain	26
Goodwin run out	16
Evans c Yohanna b Saqlain	5
A Flower lbw b Saqlain	4
Campbell c Akram b Afridi	42
Wishart c Moin b Afridi	4
Streak c Shoaib b Saqlain	17

Result: Pakistan won by four wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Amir Sohail.

Second match: November 22, Sheikhupura.

Third match: November 24, Rawalpindi.

BRIEFSCORES

DAY ONE

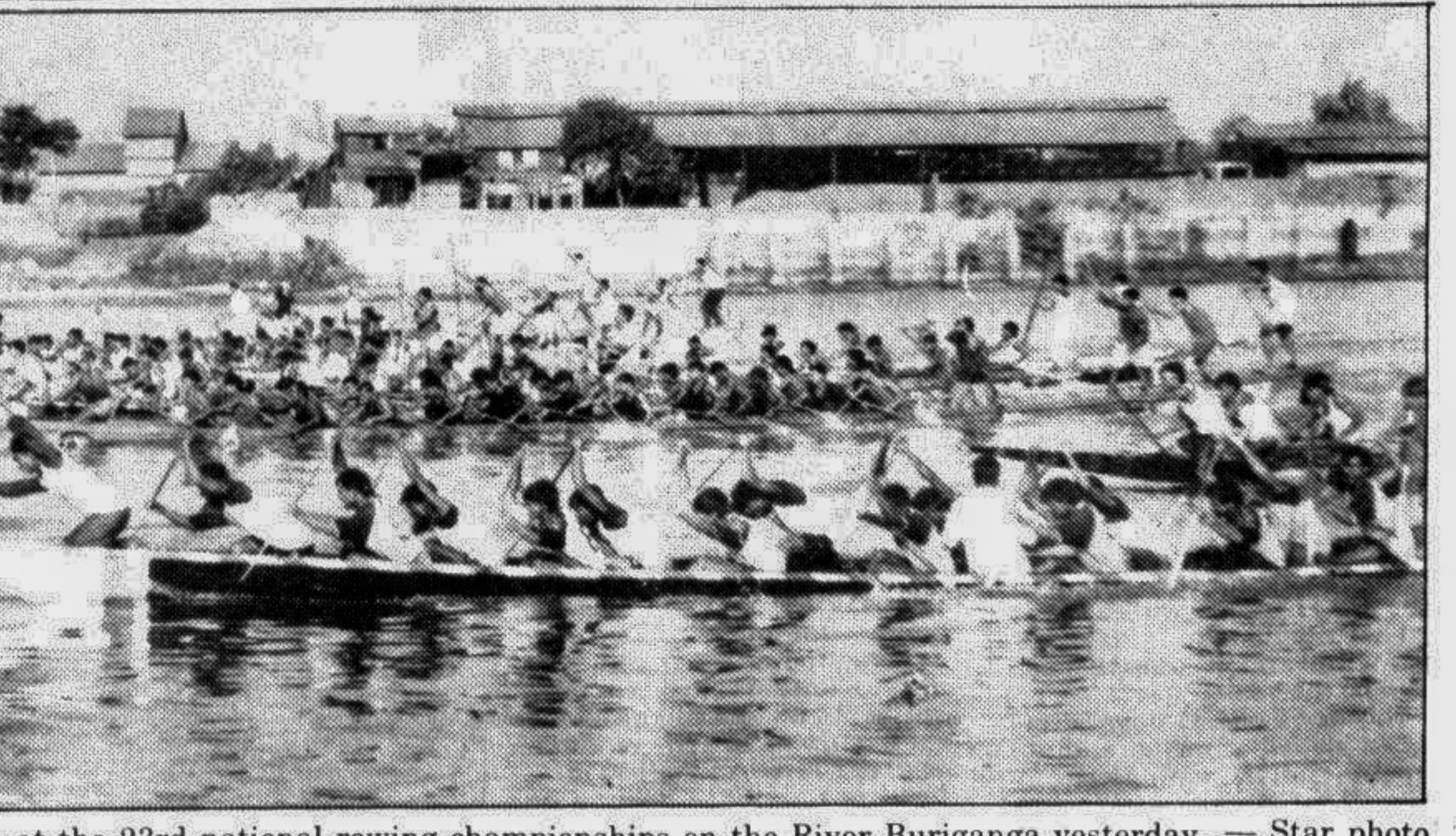
Board President's XI: First innings 252 for seven in 90 overs.

DAY TWO

Board President's XI: First innings 260 all out in 92.5 overs.

West Indies A: First innings 209 all out in 65.1 overs.

Board President's XI: Second innings 63 for two in 22 overs.



Scene from the 50-paddler race at the 23rd national rowing championships on the River Buriganga yesterday. — Star photo