

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT according to recorded history, Hedley Verity of Yorkshire conceded the fewest runs in taking all ten wickets in an innings. He gave away only ten runs while piloting through the Nottinghamshire innings at Leeds on July 12, 1932.

Jim Laker's achievement perhaps merits higher eyebrows, for the legendary Englishman took 19 wickets for 90 runs (9 for 37 and 10 for 53) in a Test match against who-else-but Australia at Old Trafford, Manchester, from July 27-31, 1956.

Both the umpires were English and the Australians did not feel intimidated or cheated, nor did they raise any complaint against the standard of umpiring. Those were the glory days of cricket.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-110

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Feb 5 '99 and draw shortly afterwards

- The margin of Australia's recent Ashes series win was
3-1 4-1 4-0
- Who is the number one player in women's tennis at the moment?
Hingis Lindsay Venus
- The final of the 1st Asian Test Championship will be held in
Dhaka Calcutta Colombo
- The eighth SAF Games will be held in
India Sri Lanka Nepal
- How many teams are taking part in the Janakantha Premier cricket league?
10 12 14

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH EN-VITS ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK

Javed Miandad

(Pakistan cricket coach)

"My job is coaching, which I am performing."

While declining suggestions that he was involved in team selection.

Rajib yet on top

Enamul Hossain Rajib overcame a stiff Debraj Chattarjee to hold on to his solo lead in the 20th national youth chess tournament at the end of the seventh round yesterday, reports APB.

An opportunist, Rajib won the match in 53 moves with white piece when his rival performed poorly in the ending game.

With this win, Rajib consolidated his claim for the crown with seven wins in as many as outings in the nine-round meet.

Aminur Rahman and Nakiul Haq Udas are following the leaders with 6 points. Aminur beat Firoz Ahmed while Udas outwitted Mofazzal Hossain.

Rahul Islam and Debraj are jointly in the third position having 5.5 points each.

WOMEN'S CHESS

Meanwhile, Masuda Begum, Zakia, Afsana Parveen, Nazra Khan Iva and his sister Farzana Khan Ava and Fayzunnisa Poly qualified for the final round of the 20th national women's chess tournament.

The final round of the meet will begin on February 6 with the qualifiers joining International Master Tariq Hamid, Tanima Parveen, Shabana Parveen and Afroza Kanam in the nine-round Swiss league meet.

Mohammedan at the Catch 22

Biman close in on title

Sports Reporter



When Bangladesh Biman, aided by a century from opener Javed Omar, appeared well on course to lift the coveted Janakantha Premier League title, no-hoppers Mohammedan Sporting Club were struggling to save their blushes against babes Sadharan Bima in one of the stipulated 80 overs against Victoria.

The diminutive national opener hammered his first ton of the season with the help of 10 boundaries as Biman, sent into bat, reached an unassailable position in their bid for a fifth title.

The national airline outfit, who are enjoying much superior run-rate (lead) than their nearest challengers — holders Abahani and last year's runners-up Brothers, must have heaved a sigh of relief after demonstrating yet another solid performance from their top-order.

With Javed returning among the runs after a struggling season, his partner Habibul Bashar scored 44 in a 105-run first wicket stand to lay the foundation of a huge Biman total.

One-down Faruque Ahmed scored a captain's knock of 61 off 118 balls embellished with five fours and a huge sixer. He shared 125 runs for the second wicket with Javed before being bowled by left-arm spinner Mustadhir.

Although national captain Aminul returned for a first ball duck, caught at point off Mustadhir, Biman's run-machine Manzoor Akhter kept on going with an amazing consistency. The Pakistani right-hander celebrated his back-to-back century with a fluent 55 off 45 balls before being outfoxed by his compatriot Rashid Hanif, who drew the former Pakistan Test cap out of the crease with an intriguing loop in the air.

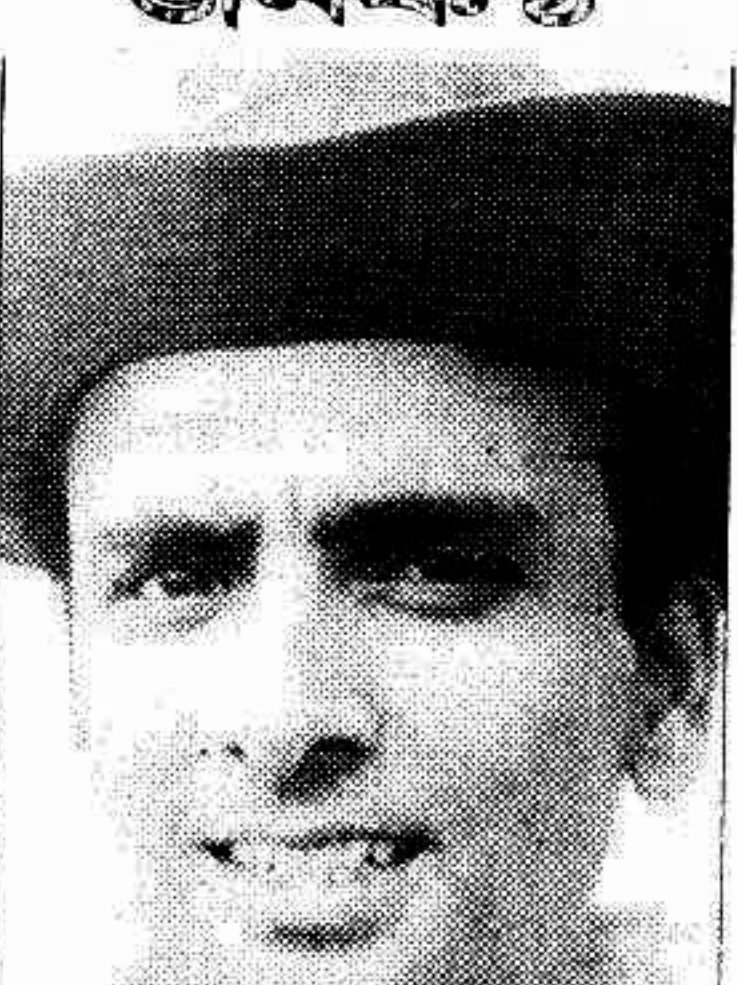
While Biman had had a happy harvesting at Dharmamundi, runs were hard to come by at the Bangabandhu National Stadium where an injury-plagued Mohammedan were bunched out for only 204 in 73.4 overs.

The popular Motijheel outfit, thrown out of the title race after conceding a nerve-tangling 11-run defeat at the hands of arch-rivals Abahani in the previous match, were at the Catch 22 against the promoters. Mohammedan took the field without their two Kenyan recruits — Steve Tikolo and Maurice Odundo, who left the city on Monday at the expiry of their contract. Besides they also missed the services of hard-hitting opener Imran Hamid, who is nursing a twisted ankle.

But an under-strength Mohammedan, who caved in before the tea-break, seemed to have retrieved after the batting slump, as they reduced Biman to 2/27 in 12.3 overs when stumps

were drawn for the first day. Although the top-order made a healthy contribution to the total, but Mohammedan, for an umpteenth time, haplessly watched their fickle tail perishing quickly, nibbling at deliveries better to be left alone.

Young opener Reshadul Haq made 57 off 87 balls. Skipper Rafique, who opened the innings with Rashid, chipped in



JAVED OMAR...111

with 25. Selim Shaed, batting at number three, scored a patient 44 off 105 balls. Halim Shah, promoted up in the batting order, made 24 and Nasirul, the last recognised Mohammedan batsman fell for 11.

But the score of the tail-enders was a six-digit telephone number which read 4-0-1-7-5-6. And the man, responsible for the collapse, was veteran left-arm spinner Abdul Hadi. Called in the national camp to assist Gordon, Hadi perhaps ended his last appearance as a coach-cum-player with excellent figures of 13.4-7-14-4.

Away at the BKSP in Savar, Agram Bank piled up a commanding total of 301 for eight against a relegation-threatened Ajax.

The Agram total was built around a dazzling 91 from their Pakistani recruit Shahin Malik and a polished 45 from opener Sajjad Kadir.

Shahin clubbed eight fours and a six in his 123-ball knock before being adjudged leg before off the bowling of seamer Aminul Islam at nervous nineties.

SCOREBOARDS

Scoreboards of the three Janakantha Premier League matches at the end of first day's play at different city venues yesterday:

MOHAMMEDAN VS SADHARAN BIMA

(Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium).

MOHAMMEDAN				
Rashedul run out	57			
Rafique b Rajinder	25			
Shahed run out	44			
Halim lbw b Monir	24			
Nasirul c Babu b Tasifur	11			
Sohel c Babu b A Hadi	0			
S Mehmd c Babu b A Hadi	0			
Mortaza c Babu b A Hadi	1			
Zakir c Babu b Tasifur	7			
Ashfaq b A Hadi	5			
Manjurul not out	6			
Extras: (b-1, lb-6, w-13)	20			
Total: (All out in 73.4 overs)	204			
Fall of wickets: 1-56; 2-112; 3-102; 4-166; 5-179; 6-179; 7-181; 8-189; 9-190				

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Saiful Islam	6	1	19	0
Faruque	2	0	11	0
Ismael Islam	6	0	27	0
Rajinder Singh	16	2	48	1
Tasifur Islam	16	4	51	2
Abdul Hadi	13	7	14	4
Moniruzzaman	14	2	27	1

SADHARAN BIMA

Moim not out

Faruque b S Mehmd

Ismael b Rafique

Extras: (w-2)

Total: (For 2 wickets in 12.3 overs)

Fall of wickets: 1-24; 2-27

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Zakir Hossain	3	0	11	0
Monjurul Islam	4	2	5	0
Ashfaq Ali	3	1	5	0
Shahed Mehmd	2	0	3	1
Rafique	3	0	3	1

BIMAN VS VICTORIA

(Venue: Dharmamundi Cricket Stadium)

BIMAN

Javed st. Aftab b Mustadhir

Habibul c Mustadhir b Sabir

Faruque b Mustadhir

Aminul c Rashid b Mustadhir

M Akhter st. Aftab b Rashid

Hasanuzzaman c Monir

b Mustadhir

N Shawkat c Imran b Rashid

Atar c Al-Amin b Rakib

Ziaur not out

J Talukder not out

Extras: (lb-1, nb-5, w-23)

Total: (For 8 wickets in 80 overs)

Fall of wickets: 1-105; 2-230; 3-230; 4-253; 5-296; 6-346; 7-359; 8-365

Bowler **O** | **M** | **R** | **W** || Rakib Hasan | 8 | 0 | 44 | 1 |
Al-Amin	6	1	28	0
Rashed Hanif	16	1	67	2
Monzoor Elahi	11	0	53	0
Sabbir Khan	15	0	50	1
Mustadhir Litu	15	0	73	4
Jewel Hossain	9	0	47	0

AGRAM BANK VS AJAX

(Venue: BKSP)

AGRAM BANK

Chayan c Ronok b Nayan

Sajjad lbw b Ripon

Rajin c Ronok b Aminul

Ziauddin run out

S Malik lbw b Aminul

Molizur c Hafiz b Labbu

Zakaria lbw b Labbu

Uzail b Imran

S Aftab not out

Sajid not out

Extras: (b-2, lb-2, nb-5, w-19)

Total: (For 8 wickets in 80 overs)

Fall of wickets: 1-16; 2-43; 3-85; 4-119; 5-136; 6-227; 7-256; 8-293

Bowler **O** | **M** | **R** | **W** || Aminul Islam | 16 | 2 | 54 | 2 |
Nayan	16	4	45	1
Haider Ripon	14	1	55	1
Labbu	9	0	31	2
Azim Uddin	4	0	20	0
Rizwan Islam	8	1	32	0
Imran Parvez	7	1	36	1
Nayeem Haliz	6	0	24	0

SAARC bridge begins today

The second SAARC bridge competition '98 begins today at Hotel Sheraton at 5 pm, reports BSS.

Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad Humayun Rashid Chowdhury will inaugurate the tournament while Minister of State for Youth and Sports Obaidul Qader will be present as the chief guest.

This is for the first time an international bridge event is taking place in Dhaka. The competition was earlier scheduled to be held on December 10 last year but was postponed because of devastating floods gripping the country. The first SAARC bridge competition was held in Mumbai in India in 1997.

In the open team event 14 teams will take part and six teams will take part in ladies team event. India will send six teams, Pakistan three, Sri Lanka two, Nepal one and hosts Bangladesh six. Maldives and Bhutan are yet to confirm their participation. Besides the competition SAARC friendship pairs competition will also be held.

SAF football

Practice starts at BKSP today

Sports Reporter

The residential camp of Bangladesh football team for the forthcoming SAF football championship begins at Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Prosthana (BKSP) in Savar this morning.

Twenty nine booters out of 31 called for the camp moved to BKSP last night along with Iraqi coach Samir Shakir.

Shimul of Victoria Sporting Club has taken leave for his academic commitments while defender Masood Rana, who is now coaching Sirajganj under-19 team in the ongoing under-19 championship, will join the camp on February 6.

The second SAF football tournament, involving Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Maldives, will begin in the Indian city of Goa from April 19.

The following 29 booters reported at BKSP last night: Aminul Haque, Biplob, Tony, Hasan Al Mamun, Jewel Rana, Rajani, Prodeep, Parvez Babu, Lajuk, Givinda, Nazrul, Alifaz, Iqbal, Zakir, Rakib, Matir Muna, Masud Haider, Pavel, Monwar, Arman, Sourav Raju, Tushar, Nakib, Don, Amin Rana, Walid, Tipu, Moni and Khokon.

Div II kabadi

Brothers Union Club, Sabuj Sena, Ali Sports and Shaheen Matur Club reached the semifinals of the Metropolitan Second Division kabadi league yesterday, reports UNB.

In the semifinals today Brothers Union will meet Habibpur Sabuj Sena at 3:30 pm while Ali Sports will play Shaheen Matur Club at 4:30 pm at the Outer Stadium.

Brothers Union emerged group champions to reach the final by beating Dhalpur Krira Chakra by 43-12 points with three losses.

In the day's other group match, Shaheed Matur Club beat Shikhhak Palli Krira Sangha by 40-11 points with four losses and also emerged group champions.

Mymensingh cricket

MYMENSINGH, Feb 3: County Club defeated Renaissance Club by 4 wickets in the local First Division cricket league at the Circuit House ground here today, reports UNB.

Batting first, Renaissance scored 125 for nine in the stipulated 40 overs.

Jhantu made the highest 29. Mahsin took two for 18 runs.

In reply, County reached their winning target of 126 losing six in 34 overs.

Rabin hit 42 runs, Rabbi claimed four for 19 runs.



Usha Narayanan (2nd from R), wife of Indian President K R Narayanan, is flanked by Pakistan skipper Wasim Akram, his Indian counterpart Mohammad Azharuddin and star batsman Sachin Tendulkar during a presidential reception at New Delhi on February 2. — AP/UNB photo

Big guns not fully fit, but shout battle cry



NEW DELHI, Feb 3 (AFP): Injuries to superstars Sachin Tendulkar and Wasim Akram cast a shadow over arch rivals India and Pakistan as they prepared for the crucial second Test starting here on Thursday.

Tendulkar, who suffered back spasms during his valiant knock of 136 in the Madras Test on Sunday, had a light workout today after missing India's training session the previous day.

Akram, the Pakistan captain, was still hobbling after aggravating a recurring hamstring strain during the tense final moments of the first Test which his team won by 12 runs.

Both players were, however, determined to play the Test, which Pakistan need only to draw to win their first series on Indian soil in 12 years.

"I am much better now after treatment and a few days' rest," Tendulkar said. "I will play for sure."

Akram, hoping to emulate his mentor Imran Khan's feat of winning a Test series in India, said: "Nothing would stop him from taking the field."

"This is the most important series of my life and there is no way I am going to sit out," the versatile all-rounder said.

Tendulkar's recovery is vital for skipper Mohammad Azharuddin, whose record of not losing a home series since 1993 is in danger of being eclipsed.

Indian coach Anshuman Gaekwad played down the de-

feat in the first Test, saying the narrow 12-run margin reflected the "water-thin" difference between the two teams.

"The match could have gone either way," he said. "We paid for not batting well against Akram and Saqlain Mushtaq. I am certain that will not happen again."

Gaekwad stressed the new opening pair of Sadagopan Ramesh and Venkat Laxman, who managed a measly five runs in the crucial second innings at Madras, would not be disbanded.

It means India will once again field just four bowlers in a must-win situation. The only change being discussed is left-arm spinner Sunil Joshi paving way for teenage off-spinner Harbhajan Singh.

Pakistan are also considering one change, bringing in veteran leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed in place of left-arm Nadeem Khan who went wicketless in Madras.

Both teams will name their playing elevens just before the toss after having another close look at the bone-dry wicket, which was dug up last month by Hindu militants protesting the tour.

With unseasonal rains last week hampering curator Radheyshyam's preparations, the usually run-filled pitch at the Ferozeshah Kotla Stadium sports thin cracks, raising fears it may not last the distance.

"I have done my best, but the rains have not helped," Shyam said.

TEAMS

PAKISTAN (from): Wasim Akram (capt), Shahid Afridi, Saeed Anwar, Ijaz Ahmed, Salim Malik, Inzamamul Haq, Yousuf Youhana, Moim Khan, Waqar Younis, Nadeem Khan, Saqlain Mushtaq, Mushtaq Ahmed, Azhar Mahmood.

INDIA (from): Mohammad Azharuddin (capt), Sadagopan Ramesh, Venkat Laxman, Rahul Dravid, Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly, Nayan Mongia, Javagal Srinath, Venkatesh Prasad, Anil Kumble, Sunil Joshi, Harbhajan Singh, Laxmi Shukla, Hrishikesh Kanitkar.

Umpires: Steve Bucknor (West Indies), A V Jayaprakash (India).

Pakistanis dominate Day 1

Sports Reporter



Holder, Taimur Hasan from Pakistan and his compatriot Tareq Mahmood were jointly leading the 14th Bangladesh amateur golf championship 1999 table after the day one at the Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday.

On the inaugural day of the four-day meet organized by Kurmitola Golf Club, the Pakistani duo occupied the top slot having scored 72 points each, one point less than compatriots Ahmed Ali Shah who finished the day with 73 points (+1).

Myanmar's Zaw Piang scored 75 points (+3) to finish the day in third spot while two Bangladeshi golfers — Shawkat-uz-Zaman and Tareq Taher — were sharing the crowded fourth spot along with Myanmar's Zaw Zaw Latt having scored 78 points (+6) apiece.

Earlier, Chief of Army Staff and president Kurmitola Golf Club Lt Gen M Mustafizur Rahman BB inaugurated the tournament in the morning by releasing two spotted deer calves and a few birds at the golf course.

A total of 150 participants including 19 foreigners from India, Myanmar, Pakistan and Nepal are taking part in the tournament which is scheduled to conclude next Saturday.

Bangladeshi golfers are mostly from Kurmitola Golf Club, Bhartiary Golf and Country Club, Savar Golf Club and Malmamati Golf Club.

LADIES' PARTICIPANTS

Mrs A Isphani, Mrs G Rashid, Mrs Shaheen Khan, Mrs Farzan Islam, Mrs Kosaka, Mrs Rajini Amalan, Mrs K Kooreeda, Mrs Philip, Mrs M S Cho, Mrs K S Park, Mrs J S Park, Mrs M S Kang, Mrs H S

Lee, Mrs E H Lee, Mrs Y S Seo, Mrs S George, Mrs G Narayan, Mrs Rani Padamsee, Mrs E Zulkifly, Mrs J S Yoon, Mrs V H Lee, Mrs H S Han, Mrs Wan-hini Noal, Mrs K A Dixon, Mrs B Bada.

AN APOLOGY

In our report yesterday, it was mentioned that the prize-giving ceremony would take place on Friday. In fact, the prizes will be distributed on Saturday (February 6).

The leaders after the first day's game