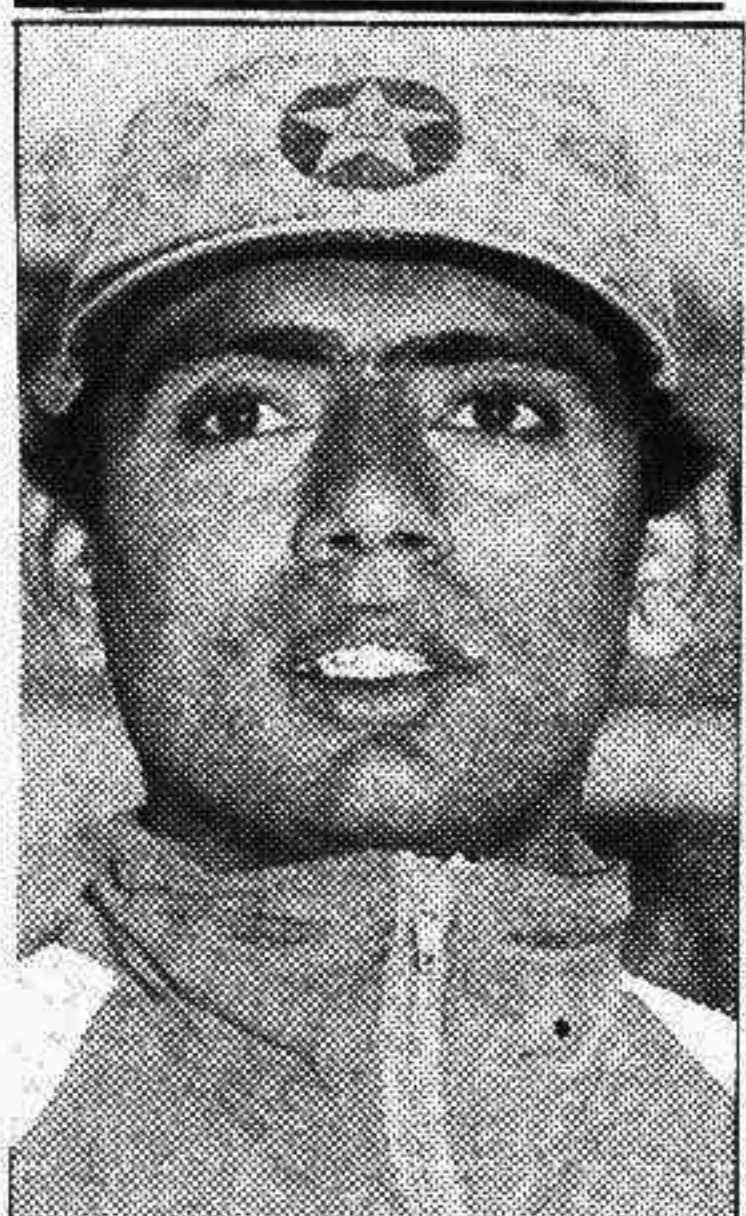


Column One SPORTS TALK



Saqlain Mushtaq (Pakistan off-spinner) 'I personally feel Mushtaq Ahmed is the best leg-spinner in the world. He treats me like his younger brother. He is my Guru. He has taught me so many things.'

Roost sports WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-111 Tick the Correct Answers Post to Clive Lloyd Star Win attractive prizes Competition closes at 8 pm Feb 19 '99 and draw shortly afterwards

Table with 3 columns: Question, Answer 1, Answer 2. Questions include 'Who was the man-of-the-match in the first Indo-Pak Test?' and 'How many Test matches has Mark Taylor played?'.

Registration form for the Roost Sports Whizz Kid competition, including fields for Name, Class, Roll No., School Address, and Phone.

GM tourney begins today

The fourth United Insurance Grand Masters chess tournament begins at the NSC chess room today, report agencies.

The number draw for the tournament was held yesterday afternoon in the presence of United Insurance chairman Mayeedul Islam.

Thirteen players - seven Grand Masters, five International Masters and one rated player - will take part in the competition. According to the draw, the first round engagements are: GM Nigel Short (England) vs IM Ziaur Rahman (GM Sergeev-Iev (Uzbekistan) vs GM Jaan Elfvist (Estonia); IM Reefat Bin Sattar vs GM Wojtkiewicz (Poland); GM Yuri Suleman (Belarus) vs GM Niaz Mureshd; IM Abdullah Al Rakib vs IM Neelotpal Das (India); and Enamul Hossain Rajib vs IM Avijit Kunte (India).

ITF jr tennis Bad day for Bangladeshis

RAJSHAHI, Feb 18: The girls' singles and doubles competitions advanced to the semis while boys' singles and doubles moved into the quarterfinal stages in the ITF International Junior tennis tournament on the third day here today, reports UNB. Local players made early exits.

In the girls' doubles, Bangladeshis Sifat Nushrat Baisshaki and Ishrat Jahan Et lost to D Olga and K Valery of Kazakhstan 0-6, 1-6. In the boys' doubles, Chinese Taipei's Chang H Yang and LC Chi beat Nadim Kamran Khan and Fahim Ahsan Rumi 6-2, 7-6 (6-3) while Karen Doctor and Alok Bedi of India defeated Babu Lal and Kanchar 6-2, 6-2.

Semifinals of girls' singles and four quarterfinals of boys' singles will be held tomorrow morning. Twenty-five matches including eight boys' singles, four quarterfinals of girls' singles, eight boys' doubles and five girls' doubles matches were decided today.

It's Saeed-Srinath show

CALCUTTA, Feb 18: Pakistani opener Saeed Anwar carried his bat for an unbeaten 188 today after Indian seamer Javagal Srinath had grabbed eight wickets to leave the Asian Test wide open, reports AFP. Anwar's eighth Test century helped the tourists to 316 in their second innings to set India 279 to win the opening match of the championship at Eden Gardens.

The Indians picked up four of those runs without losing a wicket from five Shoaib Akhtar deliveries before bad light ended the absorbing third day's play an over early.

Pakistan were set for a bigger score when a 115-run stand for the fourth wicket between Anwar and Yousuf Youhana (56) lifted them to 262-3 shortly after tea.

But Srinath hit back with the second new ball. Pakistan lost their last seven wickets for just 54 runs in a dramatic final session before 85,000 enthralled home fans.

Srinath, who claimed six of those wickets, began the rout by removing Youhana and Shahid Afridi off successive balls in his second over with the new ball.

Salim Malik survived the hattrick when an edge off a half-volley fell short of Saurav Ganguly at first slip. But Malik managed only nine before he was trapped leg-before by the fired-up Srinath.

The lanky seamer also dismissed Azhar Mahmood and skipper Wasim Akram, while Venkatesh Prasad picked up Moyn Khan through one of wicketkeeper Nayan Mongia's five catches in the innings.

Srinath, who took 5-46 in the first innings in which Pakistan slumped to 26-6 within the first hour, claimed 8-68 in the second for a haul of 13 wickets in the match.

But there was little the Indians could do to remove Anwar, who hit 23 boundaries and a six during more than seven hours at the crease. The 30-year-old surpassed

his previous best of 176 against England three years ago but was left stranded as wickets tumbled at the other end towards the end. Until Srinath's late burst the Indians had struggled to strike on the increasingly slower track that promised to play true for the remainder of the match.

Leg-spinner Anil Kumble, who created history earlier this month by bagging all 10 Pakistani wickets in the New Delhi Test, returned unflattering figures of 0-91 from 27 overs. Pakistan, starting the day at 26-1, lost just one wicket in each of the first two sessions to move to a commanding 203-3 at tea.

Nightwatchman Saqlain Mushtaq held up his end for 100 minutes to add 68 valuable runs for the second wicket with Anwar after Pakistan had lost Wajahatullah Wasti for nine the previous evening.



SRINATH ... 8-wkt haul

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Nightwatchman Saqlain Mushtaq held up his end for 100 minutes to add 68 valuable runs for the second wicket with Anwar after Pakistan had lost Wajahatullah Wasti for nine the previous evening.

Saqlain made 21 before falling to a disputed decision by South African umpire David Orchard, who declared him caught at the wicket off-spinner Harbhajan Singh. Television replays showed the ball go off the shoulder to Mongia as Saqlain attempted a sweep.

Ijaz Ahmed put on 53 for the third wicket with Anwar before he was caught behind off Srinath midway through the afternoon session to make it 147-3. Youhana, who reached 50 with his sixth boundary, added just six more runs with the second new ball until he hooked Srinath into Rahul Dravid's hands at fine leg.

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BKSP in final

RANGPUR, Feb 18: BKSP entered the final of the Suhrawardy Cup under-19 national football championship defeating holders Tangail 2-0 in the semifinals here today, reports APB.

Syed Hossain put Bangladesh Krira Sikkhya Prothisthan (BKSP) ahead in the 79th minute while Sakib delivered the margin in the 83rd minute.



For his outstanding performance, Shah Alam of Tangail was adjudged the best-player-of-the-match. Later, secretary of the tournament committee Fazlur Rahman Babul distributed prizes.

Comilla enter DC Cup final

CHANDPUR, Feb 18: Comilla today moved into the final of the first Divisional Commissioner Cup cricket tournament defeating Brahmanbaria by 169 runs in the semifinals at the local stadium, reports UNB.

Batting first, Comilla piled up 220 in 43 overs. Shimul made 37 for the winners.

In reply, Brahmanbaria were bundled out for 61 in 23.1 overs.

Mamun top-scored with 20 for the losers. Zakir of Comilla was adjudged man-of-the-match as he captured three wickets giving away 21 runs.

Rani retains her crown

Veteran Rani Hamid retained her title when she defeated Shabana Parveen Nipa in the playoffs of the 24th national women's championship at the NSC chess room yesterday, reports APB.

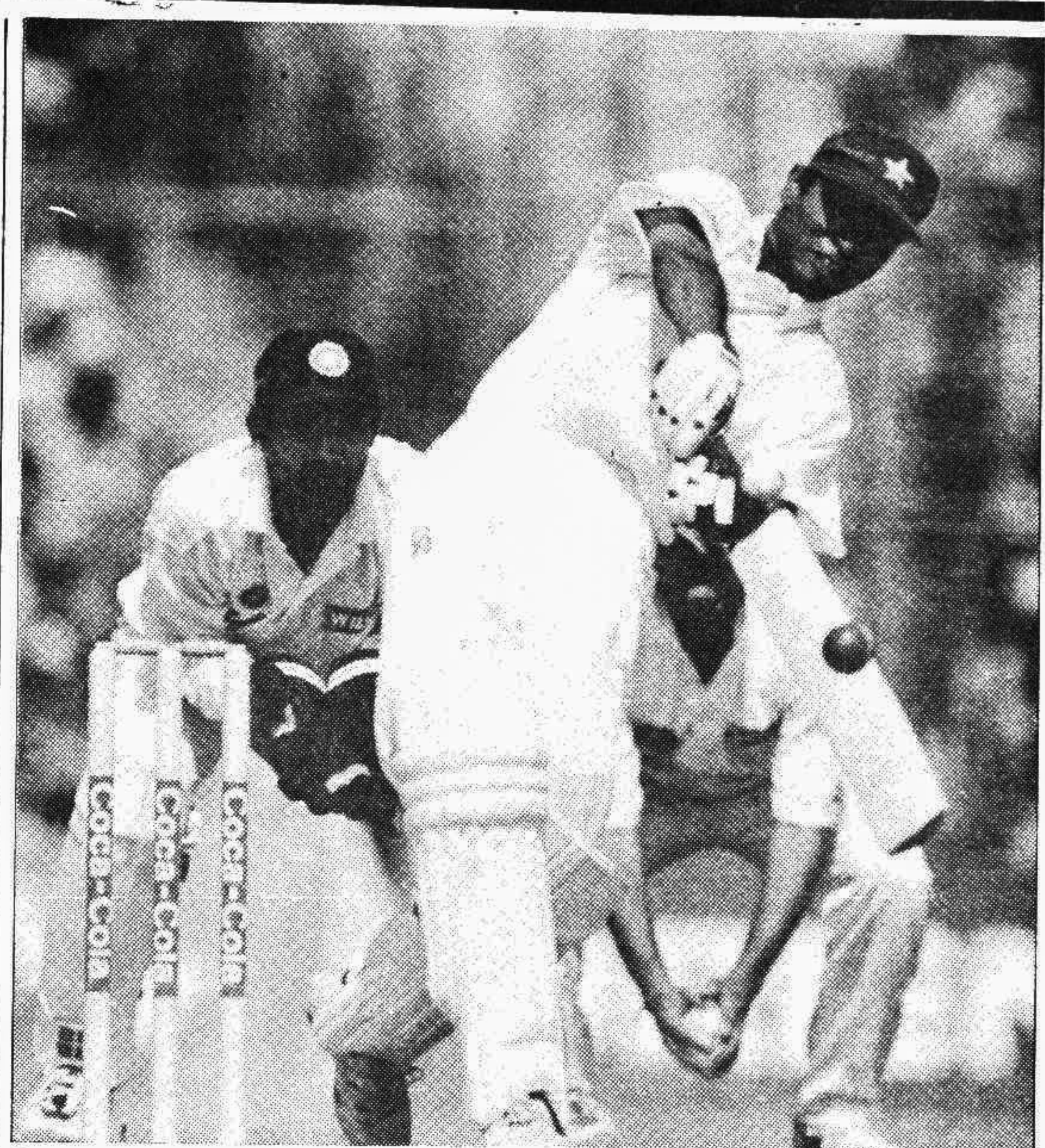
The country's only female International Master clinched her eleventh crown taming her opponent in 24 moves in the second match after drawing the first one to win by 1.5-0.5 points.

Nipa can only blame herself as she was in good position in both games, but made some costly mistakes that allowed Rani to grab the coveted title.

The play-offs had to be held as both players ended the nine-round league with 7.5 points each. Tamima Parveen finished third with 7 points, Zakia fourth with 5. Afsana Parveen fifth with 4.5. Afroza Khanam sixth, Masuda Begum seventh, Nazrana Khan eighth, Faizunnesa ninth while Farzana finished last.

ROLL OF HONOUR

Table with 2 columns: Year, Champion. Years range from 1979 to 1999. Champions include Rani Hamid, Shabana Parveen, Tanima Parveen, and Rani Hamid.



Dashing Pakistani opener Saeed Anwar pulls Harbhajan Singh (not in picture) for maximum during the third day's play of the first match of the Asian Test Championship at Eden Gardens in Calcutta yesterday. Anwar hit an unbeaten 188 in his team's second innings total of 316. — AFP photo

Calcutta Clippings

CALCUTTA, Feb 18: Saeed Anwar carried his bat throughout the second innings of the first Test cricket match at Eden Gardens today, reports APB.

At the Eden Gardens today, the elegant opener blasted an unbeaten 188, his highest score in Test cricket, but was left stranded at the other end before scoring his maiden double ton. Anwar's previous best was 176, scored against England at The Oval in 1996.

In the history of Test cricket only two other openers attained the rare feat of being invincible throughout an innings. And, incidentally, with the joining of Anwar, it remains an all-Pakistani club.

Nazar Mohammad and his son, Mudassar Nazar, achieved the feat before the left-hander. More interestingly, all of them did the fabulous deed against their arch-rivals India.

Nazar Mohammad earned the distinction in Lucknow on Pakistan's first tour of India way back in 1952-53 while Mudassar emulated his father at Lahore in 1982-83.

Anwar, however, also became the first Pakistani to score a century at the Eden Gardens. The Asian rivals have played five Test matches so far here in Calcutta.

It was Anwar's eighth Test century. His previous seven tons are: 169 v NZ at Wellington (93-94), 136 v SL at Colombo (94-95), 176 v England at The Oval (96), 149 v NZ in Rawalpindi (96-97), 118 v South Africa in Durban (97-98), 145 v

From Hasan Masood

Aus in Rawalpindi (98-99) and 121 n.o. v Australia in Peshawar in the same season.

After the end of third day's play, an understandably tired Anwar termed the innings as the best of his life.

When asked whether he was disappointed for not being able to score a double hundred as wickets kept tumbling at the other end, Anwar said, 'Well the India-Pakistan match is always a pressure match. It can happen in any time. But I am very happy that I could carry the bat throughout the innings.'

It was Srinath who made all the difference with his brilliant bowling today. But I think what ever we scored in the second innings is a fighting one,' he added.

Although Anwar was available for the press, but a tight-lipped Srinath, who finished with his career best haul of 8 for 86, left the stadium putting the index finger on his lips.

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one-match (for both one-day and Test) suspended ban for three months for showing dissent after he was adjudged lby by South African umpire Dave Orchard on Wednesday.

The left-handed opener, who made his debut in the first Test against Pakistan in Madras last month, refused to leave the crease immediately after receiving the lby verdict. Instead he raised the bat in a bid to indicate that he made a contact with the ball.

A hearing was held last night by match referee Cammie Smith, and Ramesh was found guilty under the Clause 3 of the ICC's code of conduct.

Taking into account that this was his first offence, Smith gave Ramesh a suspended sentence for three months from Feb 18 to May 17, 1999. During the period if Ramesh repeats the same, he will be suspended for a match. Test or ODI which ever comes first.

FURIOUS KAPIL Former Indian skipper Kapil Dev does not want to get involved with India's cricket administration because he is not that keen.

Talking to this reporter, Kapil, the World Cup winning captain said that all the cricket administrators in India belong to 'right' houses and according to the present system no one can remove them from the top posts.

'You see they have only money. They never played cricket at its highest level. And I feel ashamed to be attached with them,' said the world record holder for the highest haul of Test wickets.

He also gave his opinion about playing cricket in India during summer.

'I don't like this idea because the players are go through lot of heats during summer and the officials would never understand that sitting inside the AC boxes.

BARRY'S WINDIES WORRY Former South African batsman Barry Richards wants ICC to take immediate steps to raise the dwindling standard of West Indies cricket which has hit its lowest ebb recently.

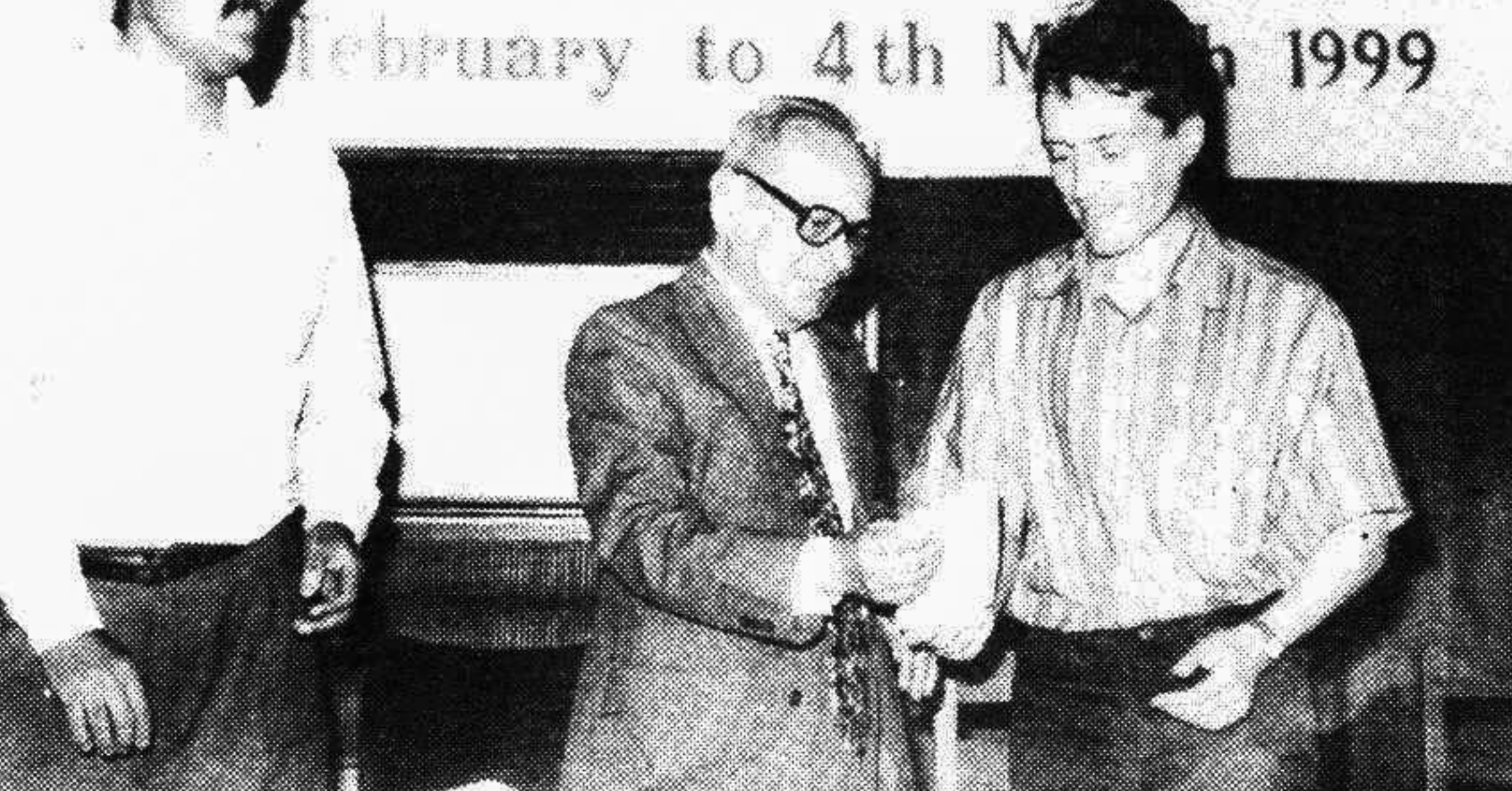
'Without West Indies, cricket will lose its charm and that is not wanted by anybody who loves the game,' said Richards. 'Their 0-5 defeat to South Africa is very painful for me because I always enjoyed their cricket. It is about time ICC ought to come up with some plans to save cricket in the Caribbean. Otherwise this game will be lost there,' Richards said.

M'SINGH cricket MYMENSINGH, Feb 18: Panditpara Sporting Club posted an easy seven-wicket victory against Shapla Krira Chakra in the First Division Cricket League at the Circuit House ground here today, reports UNB.

Batting first, Shapla KC were shot out for 56 in 26.1 overs. Bilu made highest 17 runs for the losers. Russel took three wickets giving away six runs while Suman two for 10.

Panditpara replied with 58 for three in 18 overs. Sajjad made 39 while Saiful captured two wickets giving away 19 runs.

United Insurance Grandmasters Chess



Mayeedul Islam (C), chairman of United Insurance company, conducts the number draw ceremony of the Fourth Grand Masters' tournament. — Star photo

Div I cricket roundup

Gopibagh FA and Dhanmondi Club won their respective matches in the Metropolis First Division Cricket League at different city venues yesterday, reports UNB.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Gopibagh FA posted a massive nine-wicket victory over City Club.

It was the fifth victory for Gopibagh from six matches while City Club suffered their first defeat.

City Club were bundled out for 112 in 41.3 overs. One down Pakistani batsman S Magsi hit a breezy 35 off

52 balls with five boundaries and opener Tinku added 16 from 29 deliveries with three fours.

Shahin, Ripon and Shamsul claimed two wickets. In reply, Gopibagh FA reached the target losing only one wicket in 25.3 overs.

Opener Shamsul hammered an unbeaten 86-ball 52 with six fours and his partner Russell added 29 runs off 40 balls with four boundaries and a six. Magsi took one-wicket for 24 runs.

Away at the City Club ground, a century by Anisul

Hakim guided Dhanmondi Club to score a three-wicket victory against Azad.

Dhanmondi have earned six points from six matches while Azad bagged four from the same number of outings.

Azad scored 225 for five in 50 overs. Mahfuz made 55 off 85 balls, including seven boundaries, and Razzak added 53 off 66 balls.

Tariqul and Nakib picked up two wickets each. In reply, Dhanmondi reached 229 for seven in 49.1 overs. Hakim hammered 108 off 133 balls, featuring 12 fours and an over-boundary, and Zawauddin was 61 not out.

Razzak captured three for 38 and Farid two for 35 runs respectively.

Lloyd bares his soul

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Feb 18 (Reuters/Internet): West Indies manager Clive Lloyd has said he is totally disheartened following the disastrous tour of South Africa where they were thrashed 5-0 in the Test series.

Lloyd made his comments as acknowledged world test cricket champions Australia were flying in at the start of a two-month tour.

'I am not enjoying this at all. It is disheartening to witness all that we have worked for over the years fall away so swiftly without a fight,' Lloyd said in a newspaper interview.

'While there are no plans to leave before my term is up, there is so much happening that I am not happy about.'

Lloyd's contract is due to expire in October after the Australian tour and the World Cup in England.

Lloyd said it had been a mistake to go ahead with the South African tour, in which they also lost the one-day series 6-1, following the players' protest over pay and conditions which delayed their departure by almost a week.

'It was a bad start, and quite frankly what we should have done was either tell the players 'we will sort it out later', or just cancel the tour,' Lloyd said. 'No other country would have gone on with a tour after all the lost playing time and discord at the beginning. I must have aged over 10 years on this tour. It has been so stressful, it is unbelievable. Worse is we know how much the people of the West Indies must be so hurt.'

The prize-giving ceremony of the Lancer Cup golf tournament will be held today at the pool side of Kurmitola Golf Club at 7.30 pm, says a press release. Managing Director of Rangis Limited A Rouf will distribute trophies as the chief guest.

Lancer Cup golf Prize-giving ceremony today

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Managing Director of Rangis Limited A Rouf will distribute trophies as the chief guest.

Quader visits cricket camp at BKSP

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader visited the training camp of the Bangladesh World Cup cricket squad at BKSP yesterday, reports BSS.

The minister enquired about the facilities and talked to the cricketers. The camp started earlier this month.



Her majesty Rani Hamid ... reigning queen of chess — Star photo