

## Column One

### Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN  
**Competition-112**

✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to The Daily Star  
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm  
March 12 '99 and draw  
shortly afterwards

- Who is the new Real Madrid soccer coach?  
Hiddink Toshack Sacchi
- Pakistan won the hockey series against India by  
5-1 6-3 4-3
- Who is the first woman referee to officiate a First Division soccer match?  
Danielle Carolina Janet
- Who won the boys' singles title in the ITF tourney in Rajshahi?  
Chang Weaver Wala
- How many players are taking part in the United Insurance GM chess tourney?  
10 13 20

Name .....

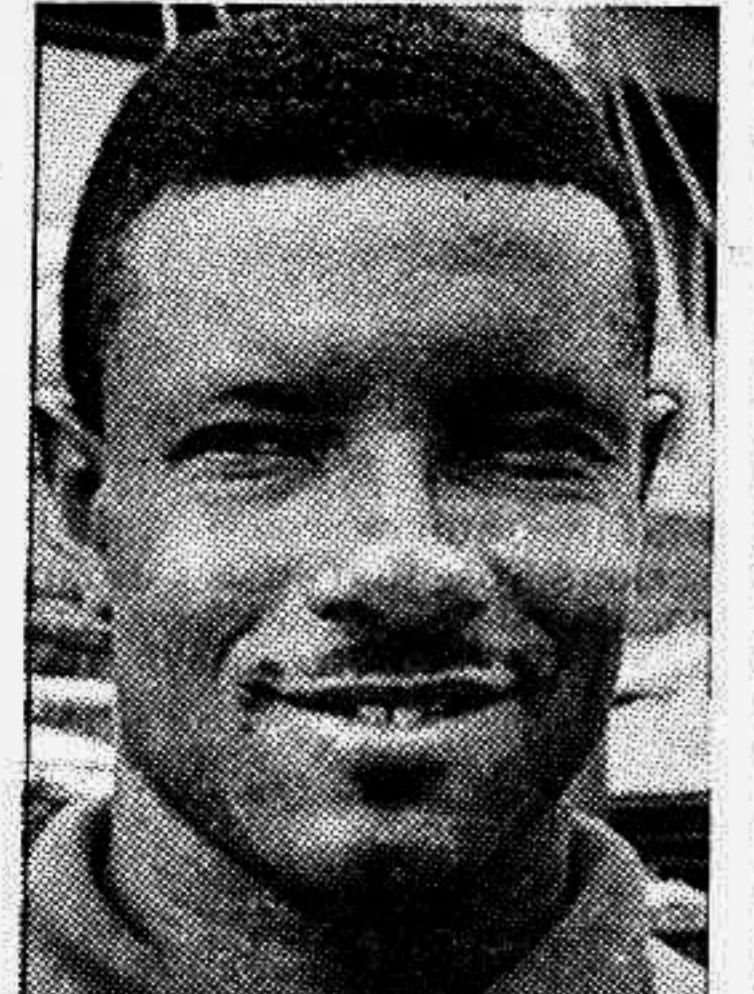
Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....



## SPORTS TALK



### Richie Richardson

(Former West Indies captain)

"We still do have a lot of talent. But in an era of professionalism, every game needs a scientific approach which is lacking."

### Habibul powers Biman

An unbeaten century by Habibul Bashar helped Bangladesh Biman to earn a massive 192-run victory over Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) in the 25th National Cricket Championship yesterday, reports UNB.

Sent into bat Biman scored 287 for four in 50 overs at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Bashar made an unbeaten 115 off 123 balls that featured eight fours and a six while Hasanuzzaman hammered 70 runs off 75 balls with four boundaries and an over-boundary.

Opener Atiar Rahman played another notable innings of 64 from 74 deliveries with nine hits across the rope.

Hiron, Dola and Shuvo took a wicket apiece.

In reply, BUET were bundled out for 95 in 41 overs.

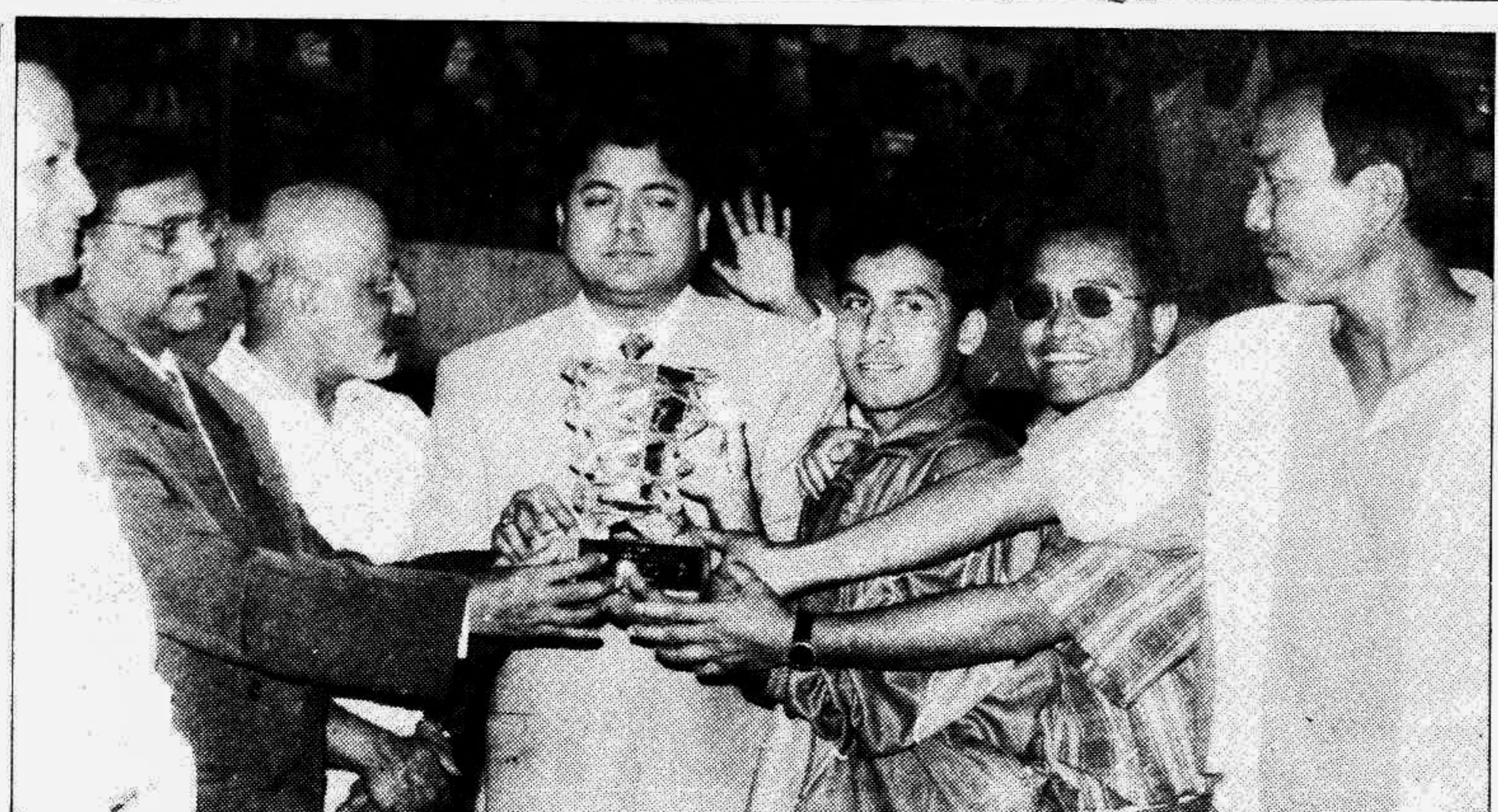
Opener Selim Ahmed scored 20 off 65 balls with two fours while Swapan made unbeaten 20 facing 74 balls that included three boundaries.

Plabon and Rupom shared seven wickets to destroy the BUET batting line up. Plabon took four for 15 while Rupom claimed three for 17.

### Wanderers outplay Azad

Dhaka Wanderers Club earned an impressive 53-run victory against Azad SC in the Metropolitan First Division Cricket League at the Mirpur City Club ground yesterday, reports UNB.

Wanderers Club piled up 268 for six in 50 overs.



State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader (2nd from L) hands over the champions' trophy of the Cotton Group Shaheed Smriti tournament to Abahani skipper Alamgir Alam (3rd from R) after the final yesterday. — Star photo

## Mahboob Harun player-of-the-tournament Pillay delights Abahani with golden goal

Sports Reporter

Dhanraj Pillay struck the sudden-death golden goal to help Abahani lift the Cotton Group 9th Shaheed Smriti hockey trophy with a 2-1 victory over arch-rivals Mohammedan Sporting in the final at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

The fleet-footed Indian forward punched in the match winner in the ninth minute of extra time with the ding-dong battle locked 1-1 after the regulation 70-minute of an absorbing combat.

Pillay's one-stroke brilliance gave Abahani their fourth title since the introduction of the tournament way back in 1973. Abahani also won the meet when it was last held in 1983, making them holders of the title for more than fifteen years.

A regular visitor to Dhaka for the last couple of seasons, India's Pillay could not think of a better way to prove a point against yet another outstanding performer Pakistani Tahir Zaman in what appeared to be a more testing battle within a battle.

While Mohammedan banked on their four-pronged Pakistani recruit, Pillay was the linchpin of a more colourful Abahani line-up that included two Indians and as many Pakistanis. And the ploy of having a mixed bag clicked again in the repeat clash following Abahani's win over Mohammedan by an identical margin in the first round.

Pillay, who scored the match-decider in the previous meeting of the two crowd-pullers, did it again when the black leopard slipped past his marker only to clip a defence slicing cross from Imran Yousuf past a bemused Mohammedan custodian Javed.

The goal only epitomised the class of the dark Bombayite, who needed only a few seconds of wayward approach from his marker Sharafat to find the space to kill off the Mo-

ammedan resilience.

Apart from the last-minute blunder, Mohammedan fought neck-and-neck in a match which was also marked by crowd violence. The match came to a grinding halt twice in the first-half, enforcing a ten-minute lay-off due to brick-bating from rival galleries.

Although the match started on a positive note, the turbulent first-half, marked by foul play and random flashes of cards, belonged to the unruly crowd.

Abahani took an early initiative with Dhanraj forming a perfect ally with compatriot Sabu Verky, playmaker Mahboob Harun and right-in Rubel. Besides, Pakistani Imran, who was instrumental for the second goal, gave Mohammedan a torrid time with his speed and imaginative crosses.

On the other hand, the black and whites focused on Tahir Zaman, Kamran Ashraf, Rana Atif and Mohammad Khalid. Although Tahir lived up to his brilliant self and Khalid with a conspicuous moustache did a good job both in defence and up front, striker Kamran Ashraf was a pale shadow of his reputation.

After the lemon break, Abahani took the lead in the 51st minute when Indian recruit Sabu Verky blasted the board. Rubel, after receiving the ball from Harun, ran through the right flank and broke the Mohammedan defence before passing to Sabu, who struck from close range.

Undaunted by the mishap, Mohammedan maintained their positive game and got the reward 14 minutes later when veteran Pakistani Tahir Zaman won the ball inside the crowded Abahani box. The former Pakistan skipper then moved through the left side before beating Abahani custodian Asir with a superb angular hit.

In the remaining time, both teams played an attacking game but failed to score because of over-caution and the tense situation.

After surviving several close-

calls from Mohammedan, former Indian captain Dhanraj finally gave Abahani the much-sought-after golden goal in the 9th minute of extra time.

"It was good to score the golden goal for Abahani. Last year I could not make them champions in the league, so it was a sort of consolation for me," said Dhanraj after the match.

State Minister for Youth and Sports, Obaidul Quader, witnessed the final and distributed prizes among the winners.

Tahir Zaman, who scored seven goals for Mohammedan in the tournament, received the top scorer's award while Abahani midfielder and former national skipper Mahboob Harun was named player of the tournament.

### Women's athletics Ctg become champions

Chittagong emerged champions in the women's athletics competition securing 21 points at the Sultana-Kamal Women's Sports Complex in Dhanmondi yesterday, reports UNB.

Nazmun Nahar of Noakhali became individual champion in collecting 10 points.

State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader inaugurated the competition as chief guest while Editor of sponsors Dainik Akeer Awaz M. Abu Yousuf was present at the special guest.

A total of 142 athletes from 28 districts took part in the 10-event meet.

### FINAL RESULTS

- Discus Throw:** 1st - Nina Parveen (Chittagong), 2nd - Mukta Akhter (Munshiganj), 3rd - Rokshana Begum (Netrakona).
- 200 metres:** 1st - Nazmun Nahar (Noakhali), 2nd - Nazmun Nahar (Rajshahi), 3rd - Shirin Sultana (Munshiganj).
- 400 metres:** 1st - Nazmun Nahar (Noakhali), 2nd - Shirin Sultana (Munshiganj), 3rd - Kalpana (Kishoreganj).
- Javelin Throw:** 1st - Nargis (Dhaka), 2nd - Tarvina Akhter (Rajbari), 3rd - Nazma Akhter (Meherpur).
- 800 metres:** 1st - Nazmun Nahar (Noakhali), 2nd - Chameli (Rajshahi), 3rd - Kalpana (Kishoreganj).
- 100 metres:** 1st - Fatema Begum (Chittagong), 2nd - Shamun Nahar (Noakhali), 3rd - Nazmun Nahar (Rajshahi).
- High Jump:** 1st - Rozina Akhter (Jessore), 2nd - Shamun Nahar (Kishoreganj), 3rd - Tasnuva Haq (Rangpur).
- Shot Put:** 1st - Mukta Akhter (Munshiganj), 2nd - Nina Parveen (Chittagong), 3rd - Tania (Nilphamari).
- Long Jump:** 1st - Fatema Begum (Chittagong), 2nd - Lucky (Dhaka), 3rd - Majeda Khatoon (Rajbari).
- 5x100 metre relay:** 1st - Rajshahi team, 2nd - Chittagong team, 3rd - Kishoreganj team.

PILLAY POWER: Abahani's Indian hockey superstar Dhanraj Pillay (top) is the toast of his teammates after his goal won the Shaheed Smriti trophy for the Dhanmondi powerhouse. — Star photo by Anisur Rahman

## Day of draws as the end draws near

### Zia upsets GM Wojtkiewicz

Sports Reporter

The day's most notable performance came from Bangladesh International Master Ziaur Rahman, who upset Polish Grand Master Aleksander Wojtkiewicz in the penultimate round at the NSC conference room yesterday morning.

Playing with white pieces against the Sicilian defence of Kunte, the match ended after only 21 moves when the two opponents shook hands without going into further complicity.

The young Belarus Grand Master needs only a victory in today's final round against teenager Indian International Master Neelotpal Das to bag the champion's purse of US\$ 2,000.

With yesterday's draw, Shulman raised his personal tally to eight points, half a point more than former world runner-up and England Grand Master Nigel Short, who had a rest day on Tuesday. Both players have played 11 games each. If Short wins his final round clash against Hungarian Grand Master Peter Szekeley and Shulman manages a draw, the winner of the meet will be decided through tie breakers.

Ehlvest, in this round, was beaten by Szekeley while Zagrebly managed a draw with local out-of-form Grand Master Niaz Murshed.

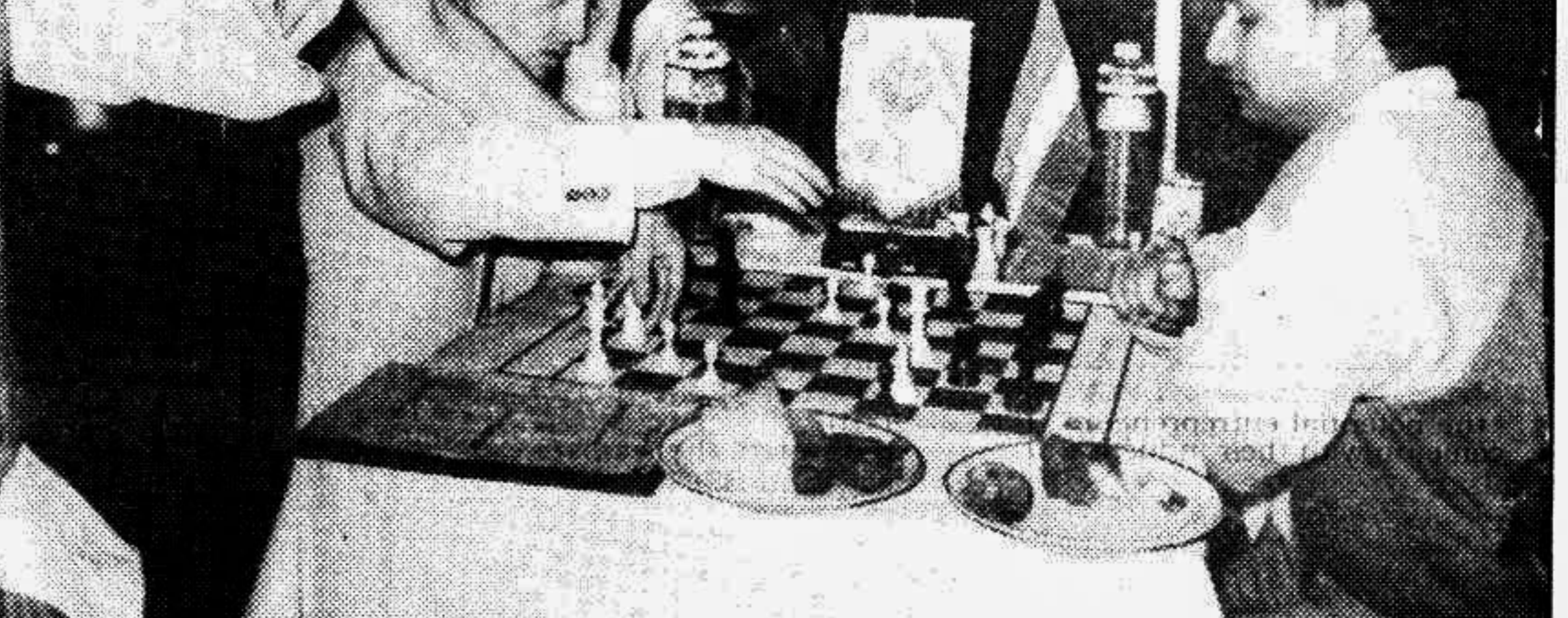
The day's other two games—International Master Reefat bin-Sattar against Indian Neelotpal Das and International Master Abdullah Al-Rakib against FIDE Master Enamul Hossain Rajib also ended in dull draws.

The final round of the 13-player meet involving seven Grand Masters, will start at the same venue today at 10 am.

Standings (all the players have played 11 games except as otherwise mentioned): 8 points—Shulman, 7.5 points—Short, 7 points—Ehlvest, Wojtkiewicz and Zagrebly, 6.5 points—Zia, 5 points—Kunte, 4.5 points—Reefat and Rakib, 4 points—Niaz, Szekeley and Neelotpal, 3 points—Rajib (12 games).

### TODAY'S MATCHES

- Kunte v Rakib
- Shulman v Neelotpal
- Niaz v Reefat
- Wojtkiewicz v Zagrebly
- Ehlvest v Zia
- Short v Szekeley



Belarusian Grand Master Yuri Shulman (standing) giving Uzbek Sergei Zagrebly some tips after the latter's engagement against Bangladeshi GM Niaz Murshed yesterday. — Star photo

## President's XI lost in MacGill maze

Arthurton and last man Marlon Black threatened to force Australia to bat again. But after adding 24, the third highest stand of the innings, Arthurton edged a cut at MacGill into Healy's gloves to end the innings and the match with over a session and a day to spare.

MacGill, from New South Wales, bettered his previous best first-class haul of seven for 50 against England in the fifth and final Test of the Ashes series against England in Sydney in January.

Vice-captain Warne again played second fiddle to MacGill, taking three for 82 off 20 overs. Both wrist spinners are now expected to play in first Cable and Wireless Test of the four-match series, which begins at the Queen's Park Oval in Port-of-Spain on Friday.

### Stuart gives selectors a reminder

PORT OF SPAIN, Mar 2 (AFP) Internet: Leg-spinner Stuart MacGill ripped through the West Indies President's XI on Monday to give Australia victory by an innings and six runs at Pointe-a-Pierre and present the Australian Test selectors with a difficult choice.

MacGill took seven for 29 in the second innings, to give him match figures of 13 for 74, as Australia dismissed the hosts for 185 in their second innings.

MacGill's introduction to the attack was the turning point on the third day of the four-day match - the President's XI was none for 88 when captain Steve Waugh gave MacGill his chance.

Eight overs later, MacGill had taken three for two and President's XI went on to lose all 10 wickets for 86 runs.

Glenn McGrath, Jason Gillespie and Shane Warne all bowled before MacGill, but were unable to break through.

Warne, however, provided good back-up once his protegee was introduced, taking the other three wickets for 82 runs off 20 overs.

MacGill's success means it is virtually impossible for him to be left out of the Australian side for the first Test against the West Indies, which starts at Port of Spain on Friday.

This leaves the four selectors - skipper Steve Waugh, Warne and coach Geoff Marsh - with a thorny problem: whether to leave out Warne and play three pacemen, or play two spinners and leave out a fast bowler.

If the selectors choose the second option, swing bowler Adam Dale may be the unlucky man.

### SCOREBOARD

Final cricket match between Australia and the West Indies President's XI at Guaraacara Park Monday.

WEST INDIES: First innings 177 (D Joseph 64; MacGill 6 for 45)

AUSTRALIA: First innings 368 (M Waugh 106, S Waugh 57; King 5 for 75, McLean 4 for 111)

WEST INDIES: Second innings (overnight) 33 for no wicket

Ragoonath st Healy b MacGill 53  
Ganga c M Waugh b MacGill 29  
Roberts st Healy b MacGill 0  
Rampersad c Blewett v Warne 0  
Joseph st Healy b MacGill 13  
Arthurton c Healy b MacGill 38  
Phillip lbw b Warne 3

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### Mamun Joarder opts to 'pool' out

Sports Reporter

Ac footballer Mamun Hossain Joarder has requested Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) to omit him from the 25-member national footballers' pool.

Through a press release on Tuesday, the former national winger said that he was going through injury problems for the last two years and was never considered for the national team during that period. So it was obviously a surprise when he came to know about his pool inclusion.

"This is a big threat for my career as no big club will be interested in me now because of my poor performance for the last two years. This is to kill me and my football career. I want to get rid of this and play football," said Mamun Joarder in the release.

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