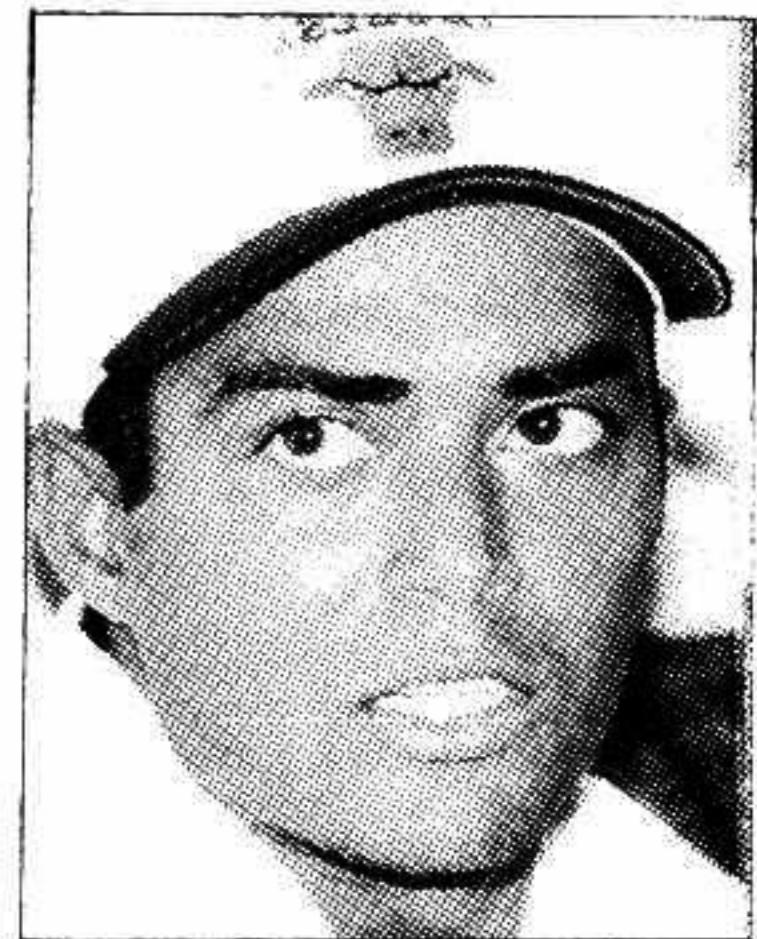


Column One
SPORTS TALK

Leander Paes

(India's number one tennis player)

Most of my injuries are healed. But the shoulder is still a little sore. I have to be patient and play smart."

On the eve of India's Davis Cup match against South Korea, recently.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-112

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizesCompetition closes at 8 pm
March 12 '99 and draw
shortly afterwards

1	Who is the new Real Madrid soccer coach?	Huidink	Toshack	Sachi
2	Pakistan won the hockey series against India by	5-1	6-3	4-3
3	Who is the first woman referee to officiate a First Division soccer match?	Danielle	Carolina	Janet
4	Who won the boys' singles title in the ITF tourney in Rajshahi?	Chang	Weaver	Wala
5	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)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

Nat'l cricket

Bangladesh Biman made 189 against Dhaka University on the first day of the two-day zonal final of the 25th national cricket championship at the Dharmodhi Cricket Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

In reply, Dhaka University were 21 for 9 in 9 overs at stumps. Sohel and Sezan were batting with 10 and 5 respectively.

Left-arm pacer Jahangir Alam Dulu and Munna picked up the two DU wickets.

Earlier, winning the toss, Biman decided to bat and made the moderate total in 77.2 overs.

Hasanuzzaman scored highest 39 off 120 balls that included eight boundaries while Dulu contributed 35 off 73 balls with five fours.

Habibul Bashar added 22 off 35 balls with four boundaries while Plabon 21 off 58 deliveries that featured two fours.

Bappi claimed four wickets giving away 53 runs while Sezan and Sohel took two wickets each for 23 and 43 runs respectively.

At the Mymensingh Stadium, a magnificent 133 not out by Sajjad Ahmed guided Tangail to earn a massive 190-run victory over Narsingdi.

Opted to bat first, Tangail scored a mammoth 321 losing seven wickets in the stipulated 50 overs.

Sajjad played only 102 balls while Sushanta made 42 and Saib 40 runs.

Shariful picked up three wickets for 57 runs and Mahtab took two wickets conceding 42.

Chasing the high target, Narsingdi were bundled out for only 131 in 39.5 overs.

Shariful scored the team highest 27 and Piplu added 24 runs.

Saikat captured three wickets for 15 runs while Russell took two for 20.

Away at the Comilla Stadium, the hosts smashed Brahmanbaria by six wickets.

Sent in to bat first, Brahmanbaria managed to score a meagre 156 runs for nine wickets in the stipulated 50 overs.

Imtiaz made 28 while Jewel scored 23 runs.

Hasan claimed three wickets for 24 while Sumon and Babu took two wickets each for 16 and 23 runs respectively.

Chasing the victory target of 157, Comilla easily reached home making 159 runs losing only four wickets in 34.3 overs.

Asian Test Championship
Tickets on sale March 9

Sports Reporter

Tickets for the Coca-Cola Asian Test Championship finale and three-nation one-day series will go on sale from March 9 through eleven branches of Al-Baraka Bank.

The Asian Test will be held at the Bangabandhu National Stadium from March 12 followed by the tri-series involving Zimbabwe, Kenya and hosts Bangladesh, which starts at the same venue a week later.

The branches are as follows: Dilkusha, Principal Office, Kawran Bazar, VIP Road, Gulshan, Mirpur Road, Imanganj, Islampur, Bangshal, Narayanganj and IDB booth at Agaon.

For the convenience of spectators, the Dilkusha branch will remain open on the first day of the Test from 8 in the morning till 12 noon.

The rate of tickets will be the same for the Test and a match for the tri-nation tournament. Only AC and non AC hospitality boxes will be sold for the entire Test final and the tournament while the other tickets will be for each day.

Rates of the tickets: Hospitality Box (AC) - 1,25,000/-, Hospitality (non AC) - 10,000/-, Club House (West) -

Pakistan due on March 9

Sports Reporter

Pakistan who have already qualified for the Asian Test finale will arrive in the capital on March 9.

Pakistan are now playing Sri Lanka in Lahore in the third and deciding match for the final of the Asian Championship. India are the other team involved.

Bangladesh Cricket Board general secretary Syed Ashraful Huq said yesterday both the finalists will stay at the Sonargaon Hotel during the final.

Match referee Cammie Smith of West Indies and tournament director Duleep Mendis will also fly in to the city on the same day along with two umpires designate - David Shepherd of England and Doug Cowie of New Zealand. The third umpire, which is yet to be named, will be nominated from the country which will not qualify for the final.

According to the BCB general secretary, 2000 tickets will be distributed free of charge to the school children everyday during the five-day final.

AF Rafiqul Islam, the chairman of Al-Baraka Bank, Anwar Ahmed, executive president of Al-Baraka and BCB vice-president Tanveer Mazhar Islam were also present.

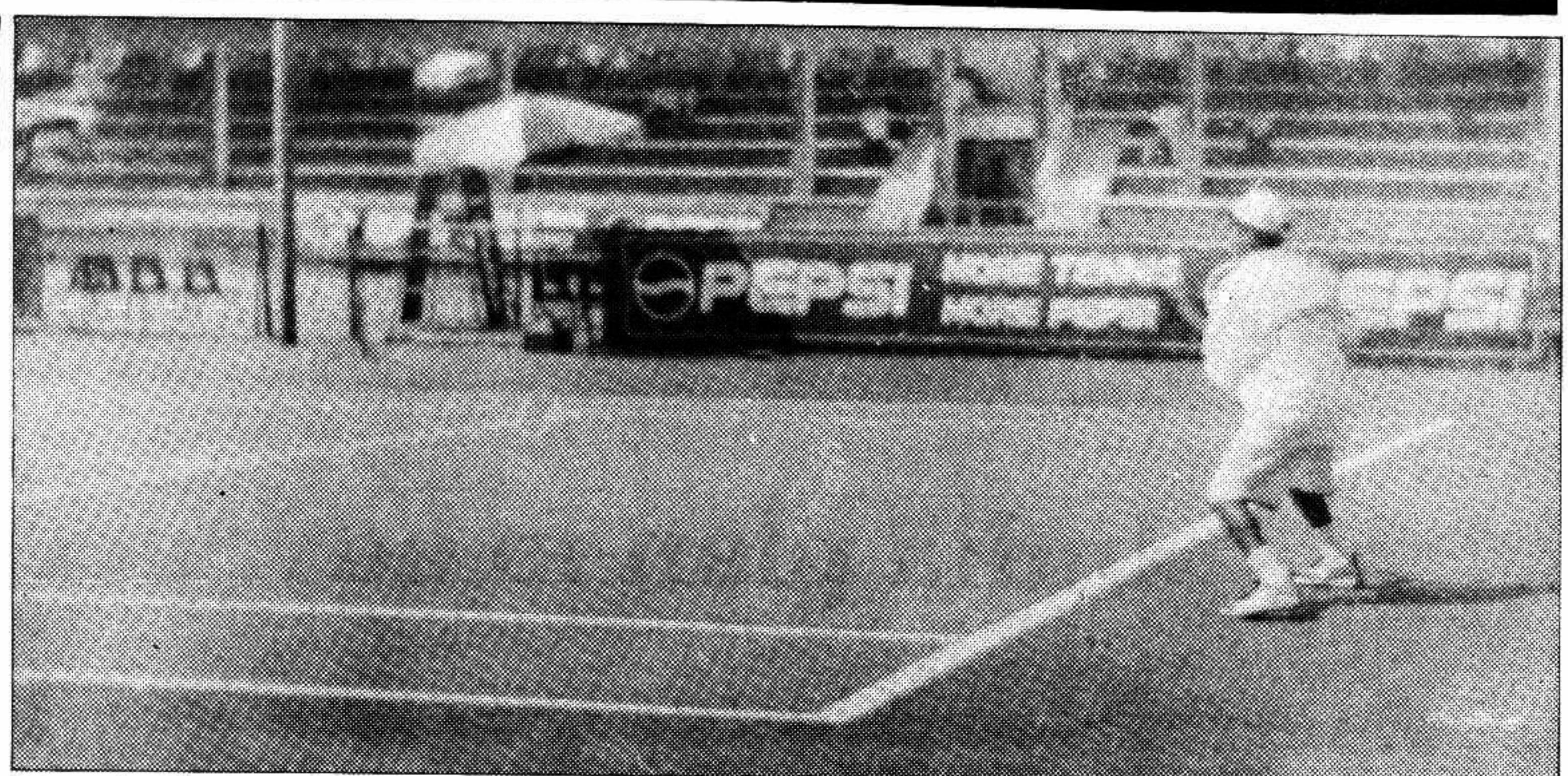
400/-, Club House (East) - 350/-, VIP - 700/-, Special Enclosure (for players and officials) - 50/-, International Gallery - 300/-, Gallery - 50/-.

There will be 24 non AC and 20 AC hospitality boxes for sale. However, talking to the local press during a briefing yesterday, Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) general secretary Syed Ashraful Huq said that some boxes would be reserved for Asian Cricket Council (ACC), BCB and other sponsors.

There will be 350 tickets for the western Club House while the Club House East will accommodate 1400 spectators. In the VIP Gallery, there will be 375 tickets while the International Gallery will contain 2200 tickets. Besides, there will be 1400 seats in the Special Enclosure apart from 30000 gallery tickets.

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International junior tournament in full swing.

— Photo taken by the writer

Beyond the capital

Rajshahi

Tennis Complex: A success story

Rabeed Imam

organising junior level tournaments.

Talking to The Daily Star, secretary of the Rajshahi Tennis Complex, Moshtaq Ahmed, stressed that it has all been a labour of love.

We started off from a very

humble state but sincerity and hardwork of local tennis enthusiasts have ensured Rajshahi to become a proud owner of an internationally recognised tennis complex."

Moshtaq, who is also joint secretary of the Bangladesh

Tennis Federation, informed that they are in constant touch with the ITF.

The ITF is extremely pleased with the progress this complex is making and I feel it has shown its confidence in our capabilities by giving us the opportunity to hold international events regularly," he said.

Moshtaq however feels a bit let down by the attitude of the Bangladesh Tennis Federation towards Rajshahi.

Probably they think that the Rajshahi Tennis Complex is a threat to the popularity of the National Tennis Complex in Dhaka, and that is largely true.

We have better facilities here and also more sincere organisers. The authorities in Dhaka are running a campaign of harassment against Rajshahi.

They have been blocking satellite circuit tournaments since 1996 even though we are always prepared to hold that particular event.

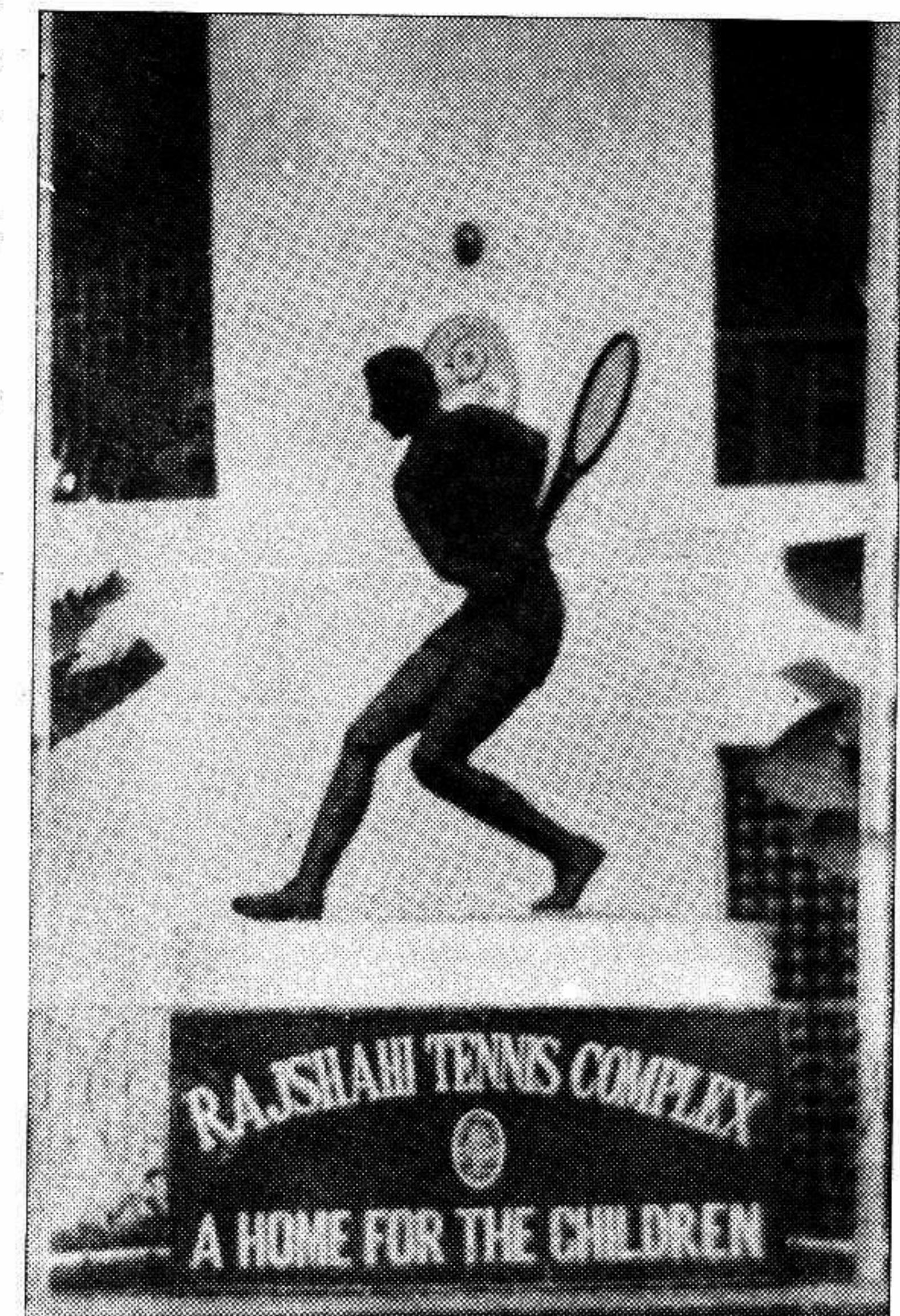
But for some mysterious reason, the ITF was informed of Bangladesh's inability to organise that tournament and the Dhaka authorities didn't even bother to take our opinion," Moshtaq complained.

Both Zafar and Moshtaq conceded that funds were at a premium in Rajshahi.

Definitely money is a stumbling block. However we have managed to strike sponsorship deals with Uttara Motors and the BEXIMCO Group, who are helping the development of the tennis complex," said Zafar.

There can be no doubt that tennis is beginning to catch the imagination of the locals. This correspondent observed that a large number of fans regularly filled the galleries during the recently completed International Junior (U-18) competition '99.

"We have the dream of bringing the Davis Cup to Rajshahi but first of all we want the satellite circuit back," said Moshtaq. Will Bangladesh Tennis Federation give Rajshahi its due?



Entrance to the complex. — Photo taken by the writer

Premier Division

hockey starts

March 7

Sports Reporter

The inaugural Premier Division hockey league, sponsored by Green Delta Insurance Company Limited, starts at the Moudana Bhasan Stadium on Sunday morning.

Top eight teams from the 1997 First Division will be featured in the two-tier league which is expected to conclude at the end of April.

Although, all matches of the league will be played in the afternoon, the opening encounter between First Division champions Mohammmedan Sporting Club and Azad Sporting Club will start at 10:30 am for special reasons.

Teams: Mohammmedan SC, Usha KC, Abahani, Mariner Young's Club, Ajax SC, Sadharan Bima KS, Farashganj and Azad SC.

Fixture (First week)

Match Time

Mar 7: Mohammadan 10:30 am

SC v Azad SC 3:30 pm

Mar 8: Usha KC v Farashganj SC 3:30 pm

Mar 9: Abahani v Sadharan Bima 3:30 pm

Mar 11: Mariner Young's v Ajax SC 3:30 pm

Mar 12: Usha KC v Azad SC 2:15 pm

Mohammmedan SC 4:00 pm

Mar 13: Abahani v Ajax SC 2:15 pm

Mariner Young's 4:00 pm

v Sadharan Bima

Mar 15: Mariner Young's v Sadharan Bima 3:30 pm

Mar 16: Usha KC v Mariner Young's 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 17: Abahani v Farashganj SC 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 18: Farashganj SC v Sadharan Bima 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 19: Farashganj SC v Mariner Young's 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 20: Mariner Young's v Farashganj SC 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 21: Farashganj SC v Sadharan Bima 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 22: Sadharan Bima v Mariner Young's 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 23: Mariner Young's v Farashganj SC 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 24: Farashganj SC v Sadharan Bima 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 25: Sadharan Bima v Mariner Young's 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 26: Mariner Young's v Farashganj SC 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 27: Farashganj SC v Sadharan Bima 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 28: Sadharan Bima v Mariner Young's 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 29: Mariner Young's v Farashganj SC 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 30: Farashganj SC v Sadharan Bima 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 31: Sadharan Bima v Mariner Young's 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 32: Mariner Young's v Farashganj SC 3:30 pm

SC 3:30 pm

Mar 33: Farashganj SC v Sadharan Bima 3:30 pm