

Column One
SPORTS TALK



Kevin Keegan
(England soccer team's stop gap manager)

"Some people think my style is naive, but I think my track record is good."

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

1	Who is the new Real Madrid soccer coach?	*
	Hiddink Toshack	Sacchi
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

Barisal storm into final round

Barisal District Sports Association (DSA) reached the final round of the 25th National Cricket Championship posting an innings and 11 runs victory over Jhalakati DSA at Barisal Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Resuming with an overnight 426 for five in 94 overs, Barisal completed their first innings raising the total to 490 for nine in 99.4 overs.

Earlier, Jhalakati completed their first innings scoring 268 runs.

Faruque made a century playing only 52 balls while Tufan hammered 71 off 46 deliveries for Barisal.

Earlier on Tuesday, Manju made another ton of 130 runs for and adjudged man-of-the-match.

Jibon and Zabir picked up three wickets each for 54 and 93 runs respectively.

Jhalakati were all out for 210 in 68.3 overs of their second innings on the last day of the three-day final.

Number six batsman Rabi was the top scorer for Jhalakati making 43 off 56 balls while number seven Jony added 21 off 79 balls.

Shaheen claimed three wickets for 41 while Nahid, Shahid and Monu captured two wickets each for 15, 35 and 39 runs respectively. Manju took one wicket for 31 runs.

Asian zonal chess

Rajib stuns Dibyendu

FIDE Master Enamul Hosain Rajib stunned Indian GM Dibyendu Barua in the third round match of the Asian Zonal Chess Championship in Mumbai on Tuesday, reports APB.

With the win, Rajib managed 1.5 points from three matches.

Leading International Master of the country, Ziaur Rahman is in the second position of the meet with 2.4 points from three outings. In his third round tie, Zia drew with Anup Deshmukh.

GM Pravin Mahadev and IM Avizit Kunte of India are leading the points table with full three points.

Another campaigner Rakib has one point from three matches.

Experiment with youngsters part of WC strategy
Sri Lanka decry media for questioning aptitude

Hasan Masood

youngsters.

"After our last game, two of those key players -- Aravinda and Chaminda -- got fit and that's why we have included them for the final," said Mendis, the former Sri Lankan captain and manager.

Mendis also confirmed that Arjuna Ranatunga, the injured Sri Lankan captain, will lead Sri Lanka in the World Cup in England two months later.

About the recent poor performance of Sri Lanka, manager Ranjith Fernando was rather philosophical.

"Yes, we must say that we had a bit of a lean run. But if you really analyse our cricket --

On the bonus point system Fernando was quite satisfied

a better show in England," Fernando said.

About the bowling strength, Sri Lankan coach Roy Dias said that his side was missing Muralitharan like anything.

"He is our main strike bowler specially when it comes in terms of Test cricket. But anyway he is injured. I think the bowling this time will be a bit more powerful than that of the Lahore Test because Chaminda Vaas is playing here. I'm also happy with the way Wickremasinghe bowled in Lahore and got six wickets," said Dias.

According to BCB vice-president Tanveer Mazhar Islam, tickets worth about Taka 14 lakh were sold till yesterday. All the tickets of the five-day match is valued at more than two crore Taka.

According to local cricket experts, the picture would have been different had the final been played between India and Pakistan.

BCB rue poor sale of tickets

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), hosts of the inaugural Asian Test Championship final, is unhappy with the disappointing sale of tickets over the last two days. The tickets of the five-day match between Pakistan and Sri Lanka, scheduled to start at the Bangabandhu National Stadium tomorrow morning, are on sale through eleven branches of Al Baraka Bank.

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Quader, Saber inspect Bangabandhu

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader and Deputy Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives and President of Bangladesh Cricket Board Saber Hossain Chowdhury visited the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday, reports BSS.

The ministers inspected the facilities at the stadium themselves and talked to the concerned officials. Both Quader and Saber expressed their satisfaction at the preparations taken to hold the final of the Asian Test Championship and the tri-nation one-day series.

Officials at the National Sports Council and BCB were present.

No captain as yet

Windies name WC probables

ST JOHN'S, Antigua, Mar 10: West Indies have selected an initial squad of 19 players for this year's World Cup in England without naming a captain, reports Reuters.

Brian Lara has been chosen as captain for the first two Tests of the current four match series against Australia.

West Indies lost the first Test by 312 runs after they were dismissed for 51 in their second innings.

A final squad of 15 will be named before March 31.

SQUAD

Brian Lara, Carl Hooper, Keith Arthurton, Ridley Jacobs, Raw Lewis, Jimmy Adams, Courtney Walsh, Suruj Ragoonath, Stuart Williams, Junior Murray, Mervyn Dillon, Curtly Ambrose, Shivanarine Chanderpaul, Reon King, Neil McGarrell, Dave Joseph, Henderson Bryan, Clayton Lambert, Phil Simmons.

Cricket camp from March 18

A 10-day "cricket development programme," jointly organised by International Cricket Council (ICC) and Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), will begin at Savar BKSP on March 18, reports APB.

State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader will inaugurate the camp. Deputy Minister for LGRD and BCB President Saber Hossain Chowdhury will be present on the occasion.

Under the programme, 45 local boys and 15 from associate member countries of Asia will undergo coaching to be conducted by former Pakistan Test captain Mustaq Muhammad.

The BCB chief will distribute certificates among the participants on the concluding day of the camp on March 23.

The programme also includes a course for umpires from March 17-23 under Mahboob Ali Shah. Twenty-five umpires, including 15 from Bangladesh, will attend the course.

Besides, a coaching clinic for schoolboys in the 10-13 age group and a mini-cricket match will be held at Dhamondi cricket stadium on March 20-22.

Symcox acquitted

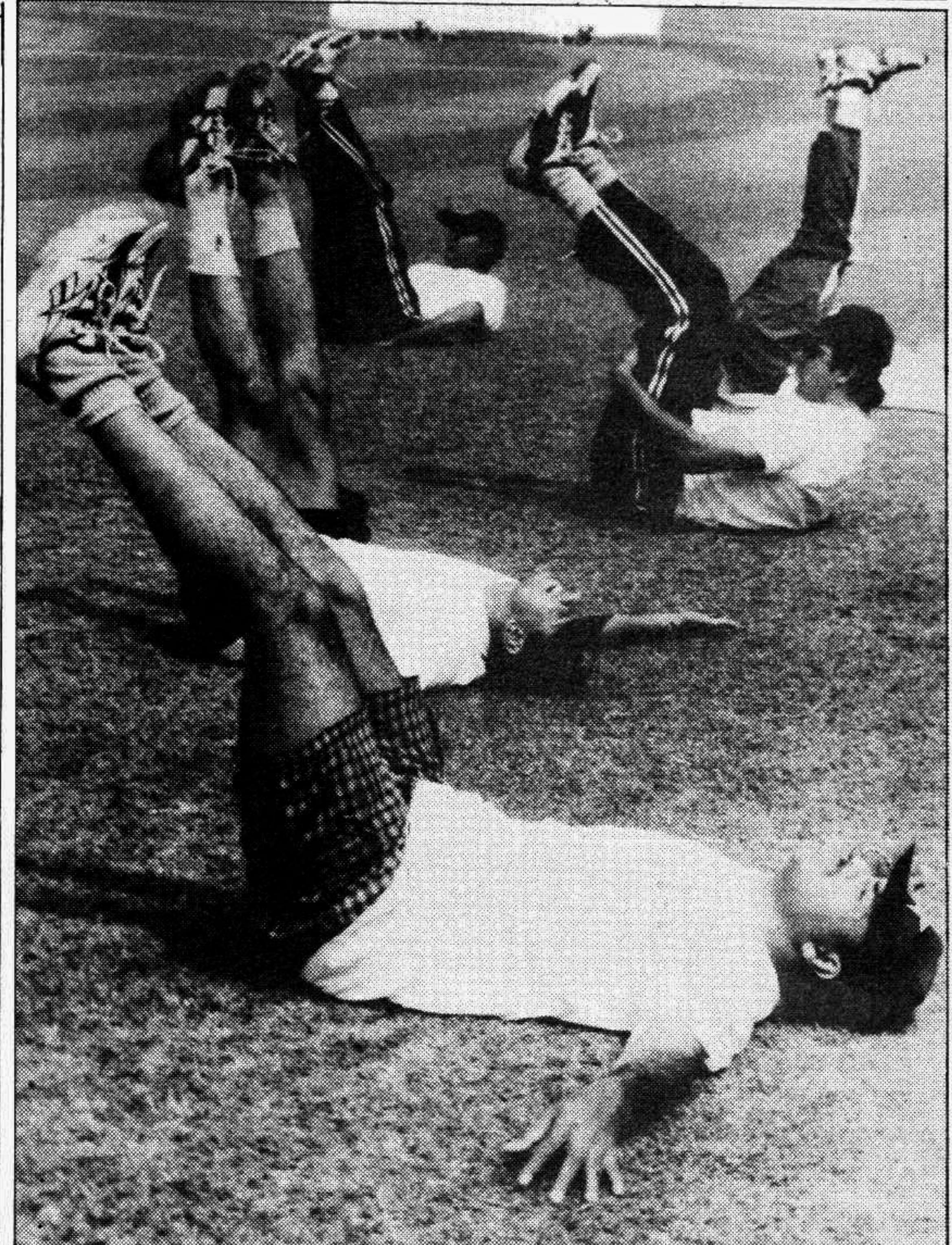
JOHANNESBURG, Mar 10 (APF/ Internet): The United Cricket Board of South Africa late Tuesday cleared recently-retired veteran off-spinner Pat Symcox of allegations of misbehaving on a flight home last month.

A board disciplinary committee heard from Symcox and South African Airways staff but was "unable to establish exactly what transpired, and accordingly, Pat Symcox is exonerated," it said.

Cabin crew had complained that Symcox, 38, was rude and aggressive to them on a flight to South Africa on the way home from New Zealand, where he had played in one-day internationals. Symcox denied the allegations.

Earlier this month, only days after the claims came to light, Symcox announced his retirement from international cricket, despite being named in the country's provisional 19-man squad for the World Cup.

He cited family reasons for the shock decision.



The Pakistani cricketers stretching it out at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

—Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Asian Test Championship final

None shall be equal

Sports Reporter



Five options have been kept to decide the winners of the First Asian Test Championship final between Pakistan and Sri Lanka. provided neither can win the match outright.

According to the rules of the championship, organised by the Asian Cricket Council, if the match is drawn and the first innings of both teams have been completed, the team that accumulates higher bonus points in terms of batting and bowling in the first 100 overs of the first innings shall be declared winners.

Or, if still equal, the team having a better run-rate in the first 100 overs of the first innings shall be the winners.

Or, if still equal, the team that has claimed maximum wickets in the first 100 overs of the first innings shall be the winners.

Or, if still equal, the team having a better net run-rate in the first 100 overs of the first innings it had batted and bowled shall be the winners.

Or, if still equal, the team that calls the coin correctly shall be the winners.

Bonus points for batting and bowling in the first 100 overs of the first innings will be awarded as follows:

BATTING

Runs scored

150-224

225-299

Points

1

2

3

4

5

11:30 am to 12:10 pm
3 300-349
12:10 pm to 2:10 pm
4 350 or above
2:10 pm to 2:30 pm
5 WICKETS claimed
2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

UMPRIES

1 David Shepherd (Eng)
2 Douglas Cowie (NZ)
3 Third umpire:
VK Ramaswami (Ind)
4 Match Referee:
Carmine Smith (WI)



Englishman David Shepherd (R) and New Zealander Douglas Cowie, the umpires designated to officiate the Asian Test Championship final, pose at their hotel in the city yesterday.

—Star photo

Davis Cup Group 3

Happy outing for the hosts



Hosts Bangladesh began their Davis Cup Asia/Oceania zone Group-3 campaign on a winning note beating Syria 2-1 in one of three opening ties as the international tennis tourney kicked off yesterday at the Ramma Tennis Complex, reports UNB.

With this creditable win, Bangladesh brightened their chances to stay in the Group-3 of the ITF tournament.

From the ongoing seven-team Davis Cup Group-3 fray, two top teams will be elevated to Group-2 while two bottom teams relegated to Group-4.

Post and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim inaugurated the five-day tourney.

The meet has been organised

STANDINGS

Standings after yesterday's matches: (Tabulating under teams, points, matches won, sets won, set lost, games won and games lost).

Group A:

Country Pts MW SW SL GW GL

Bangladesh 1 2 4 4 42 39

Malaysia 1 3 6 1 42 32

Hong Kong 0 0 1 6 32 42

Syria 0 1 4 4 39 42

Group B:

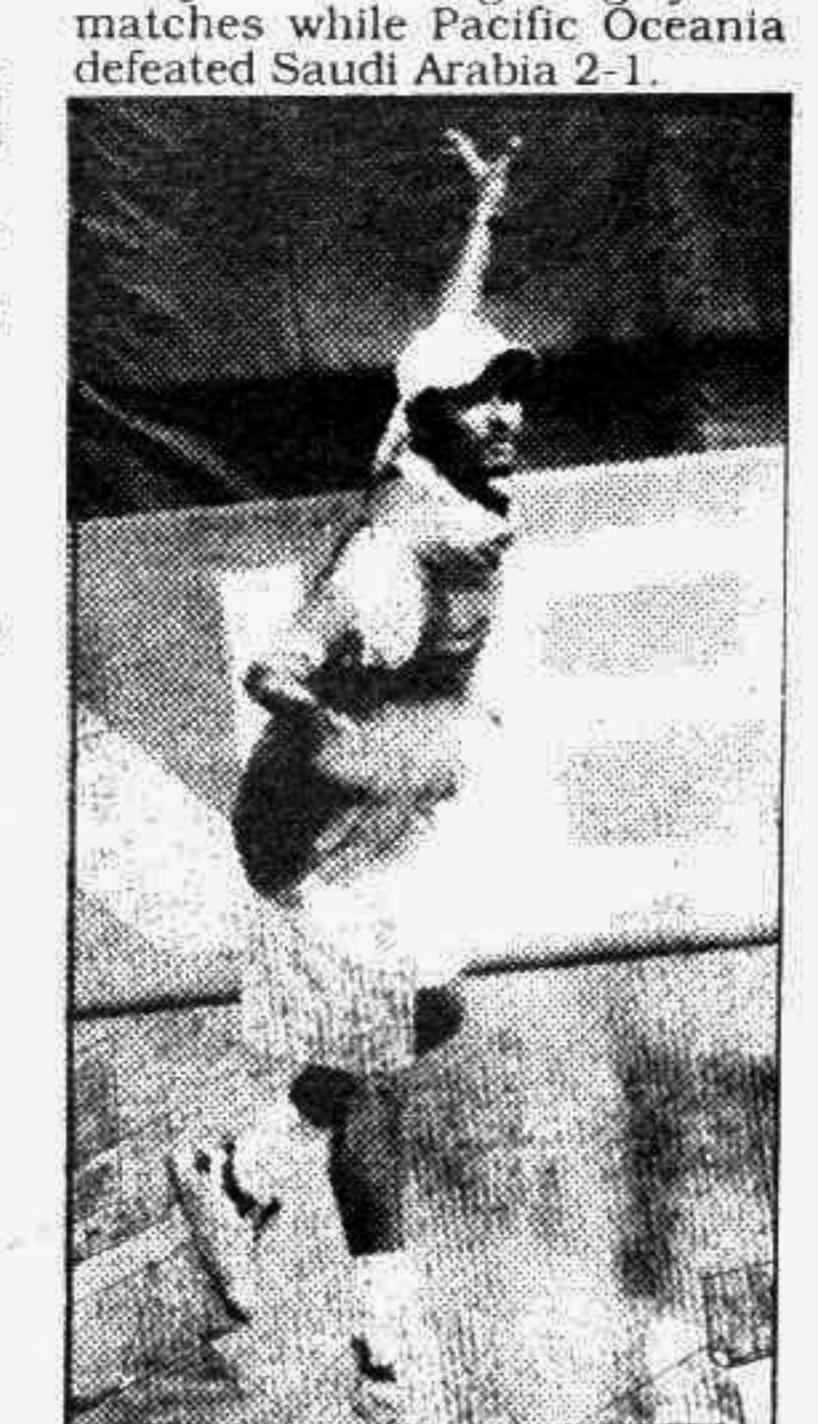
Pacific Oceania 1 2 4 2 29 30

Saudi Arabia 0 1 4 4 30 29

Tajikistan 0 0 0 0 00 00

ber one Shovan Jamaly snatched victory defeating Samir Saieddin and Rabi Bou Hassoun 4-6, 6-1, 8-6.

In the day's other fixture, Malaysia beat Hong Kong by 3-0 matches while Pacific Oceania defeated Saudi Arabia 2-1.



WALIULLAH JHELAN