

KB Rai U-13 cricket

Ankur redden hosts
Manikganj win

Sports Reporter

Ankur Cricketers and CCS Manikganj won their respective matches of the 2nd KB Rai Memorial U-13 cricket tournament at the Kalabagan Club ground yesterday.

In the first match of the day, Ankur Cricketers recorded a convincing 30-run win over Kalabagan CA (Red).

Sent into bat, the Ankur boys scored 152 for five in the stipulated 25 overs. Captain Abid made a breezy 51 while one down Rafi hammered a 37-ball 50 in an absorbing second-wicket stand of 98 runs.

In reply, the Reds of the hosts Kalabagan, could manage 122 for six in their share of 25 overs. Opener Ibrahim scored 50.

In the other match of the day, CCS Manikganj handed a five-wicket defeat on Cricket Coaching School (CCS).

In a low-scoring affair, the Manikganj boys, chasing CCS's 108 for nine in the stipulated 25 overs, reached the victory target of 109 in 22.4 overs with Rocky notching an unbeaten 36.

Pak Judge to wait till WC

RA WALPINDI, Apr 6 (Reuters/Internet): A Pakistani judge investigating alleged match-fixing in cricket said on Monday he might delay his report until after the World Cup because he was 'too busy' conducting the trial of opposition leader Benazir Bhutto.

'But the delay in the finalisation of the report is not deliberate,' Justice Malik Mohammad Qayyum of the Punjab's province's Lahore High Court told reporters.

'I am too busy with Ehtasb (accountability) cases,' he said, referring to a two-judge accountability bench that he heads and which is trying Bhutto and her husband on charges of corruption relating to the time Bhutto was prime minister.

Qayyum said he was devoting to the cricket inquiry whatever spare time was available to him after other court hearings and that he had received 'concrete evidence' in the matter.

Qayyum made the remarks in response to reporters' questions about what one of them called the general impression that the inquiry report would be available after the World Cup beginning in England on May 14.

The judge appeared pleased by recent performances of the Pakistan team, which beat India on Sunday in the final of a triangular one-day series.

'The results of the inquiry have started appearing,' he said. 'They (players) must be feeling that somebody is watching them,' he said.

'(Captain) Wasim Akram appears more committed now.'

Qayyum was named in late August last year to investigate allegations of betting and match-fixing against members of the national cricket team and was initially given two months to complete the report.

The last time the report was put off was in December after Australian players Mark Waugh and Shane Warne admitted taking money from an Indian bookmaker for providing pitch and weather conditions during a 1994 tournament in Sri Lanka.

The two, who together with fellow Australian Tim May had accused former Pakistani captain Salim Malik of offering them bribes to play poorly on a 1994 tour of Pakistan, were questioned by another Pakistani judge sent to Australia by Qayyum in January.

Qayyum's report, to be made to Pakistan's President Mohammad Rafiq Tarar, will include recommendations on what action, if any, should be taken against players suspected of involvement in match-fixing.

Qayyum's bench is hearing a case brought by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's government against Bhutto and her jailed husband, Senator Asif Ali Zardari. They are accused of receiving kickbacks from a Swiss cargo inspection group.

Bhutto and Zardari deny the charge and accuse the government of victimising them and the judge of being biased against them.

Heyns rates Japan highly

HONG KONG, Apr 6: Watch Japan that was the message from South Africa's double Olympic breaststroke champion Penny Heyns after Japanese women dominated in the World Short Course Championships here, reports AFP.

Heyns, the gold medalist in the 100m and 200m breaststroke in the 1996 Atlanta Games, was forced to play second fiddle to rising Japanese star Masami Tanaka in Hong Kong.

Tanaka powered to a clean sweep in the breaststroke events winning gold in the 50m, 100m and 200m, before helping Japan's 4x100m medley relay squad to gold and a new world record on Sunday night.

Tanaka also set a new world best in the 200m event to add further lustre to a glittering championships for the Japanese who finished second in the medal standings with six golds.

The medal haul came as no surprise to Heyns.

'We've been at meets before and seen their coaches videotaping other swimmers to get information about technique and all that,' said Heyns.

'I'm sure they've looked at swimmers like myself and learnt from it. You've got to give credit to them because they've done their homework and it's been paid off here,' the South African star said.

Langer, Waugh defy WI

ST JOHN'S, Antigua, Apr 6 (AP/AF): Justin Langer and Mark Waugh hit unbeaten half centuries as Australia took control of the fourth and final cricket Test against the West Indies on the third day Monday.

Only former Australian captain Allan Border, 12 times in 156 matches, and fellow West Indian Garfield Sobers,



M WAUGH ... 60 n.o.

10 times in 93 Tests, have matched Hooper's count.

McGrath wrapped up the innings by trapping Courtney Walsh leg before for three.

Corey Collymore resisted briefly in a forthright, unbeaten 11, his highest score in his brief first-class career.

Colin Miller took two for 39 from 17 overs, Adam Dale captured two for 67 from 18 overs, and MacGill grabbed two for 52 from 14 overs.



Australian batsman Justin Langer playing a lofted drive on Monday. —Internet photo

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close of play on third day of fourth and final Test between West Indies and Australia on Monday:

AUSTRALIA: First innings 303 (S Waugh 72 n.o., Langer 51, Ambrose 5-94).

WEST INDIES: First innings (Overnight 197-6)

Campbell c Waugh b Miller 8

Griffith c Healy b Miller 9

Joseph lbw b Dale 28

Lara c Healy b McGrath 100

Hooper run out (McGrath) 47

Adams c Healy b Dale 0

Jacobs lbw b MacGill 4

Perry b McGrath 6

Ambrose c Ponting b MacGill 0

Collymore not out 11

Walsh lbw b McGrath 3

Extras: (b-6, nb-6) 6

Total: (All out in 76.2 overs) 222

Fall of wickets: 1-19; 2-20; 3-

136; 4-176; 5-178; 6-192; 7-205; 8-206; 9-213.

Bowler O M R W

McGrath 27.2 9 64 3

Dale 18 7 67 2

Miller 17 5 39 2

MacGill 14 3 52 0

AUSTRALIA: Second innings

Blewett lbw b Ambrose 7

Slater b Walsh 44

Langer not out 84

Waugh not out 60

Extras: (b-2, w-1, nb-11) 14

Total: (For two wickets in 79 overs) 209

To bat: S Waugh, R Ponting, I Healy, A Dale, C Miller, S MacGill, G McGrath.

Fall of wickets: 1-15; 2-76

Bowler O M R W

Ambrose 17 4 46 1

Walsh 21 5 49 1

Hooper 14.4 4 28 0

Adams 4.2 2 7 0

Collymore 15 1 49 0

Perry 7 0 28 0

N'castle, Spurs share points

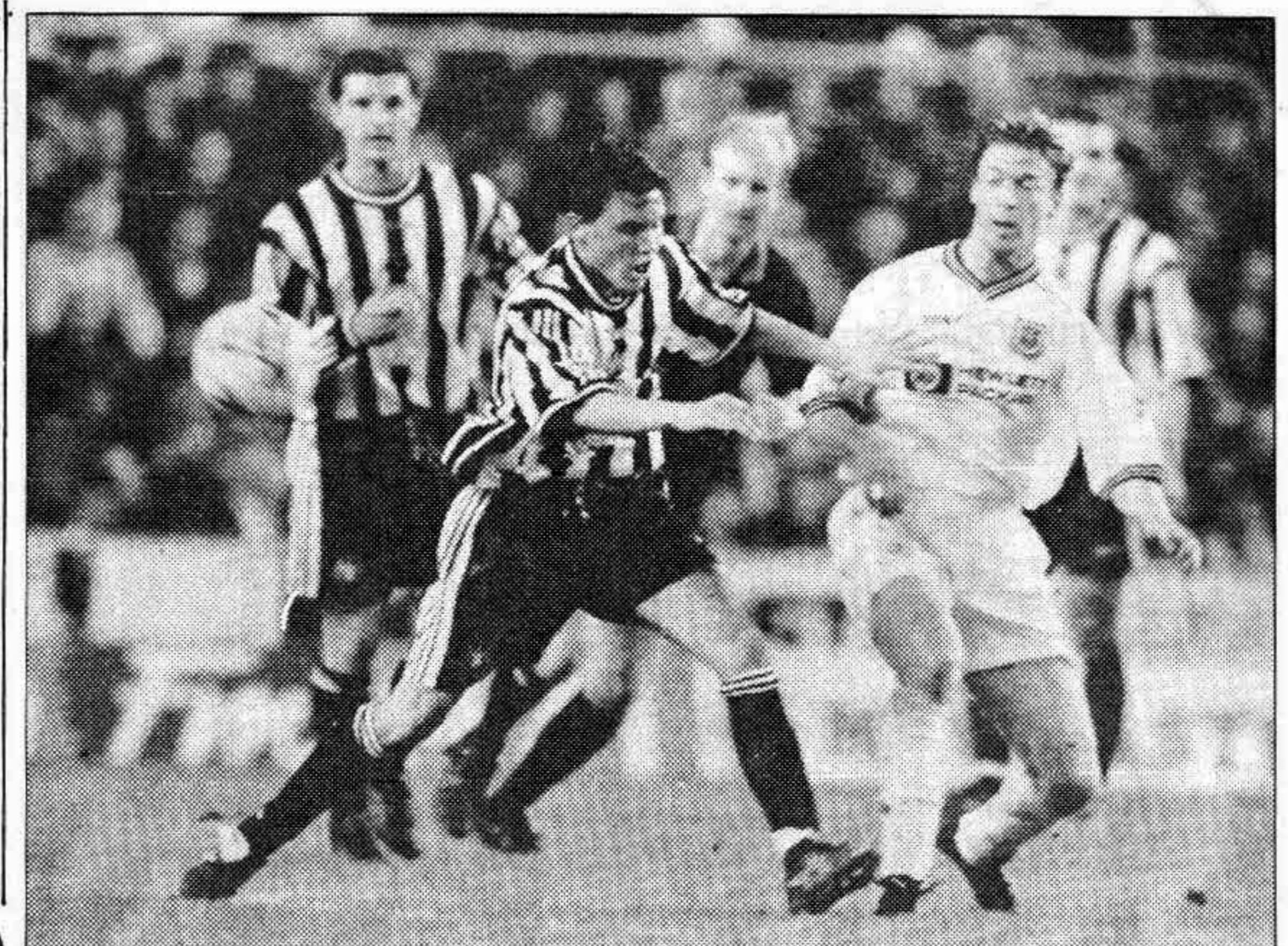
LONDON, Apr 6: Georgian striker Temuri Ketsbaia smashed in a 25-metre goal in the 77th minute to earn Newcastle United a 1-1 home draw with Tottenham Hotspur in an FA Cup semifinal warm-up on Monday, reports Reuters.

Neither side was able to claim much of a psychological boost ahead of next Sunday's semifinal between the two sides at Old Trafford although Tottenham had more of the game.

Spurs rested French midfielder David Ginola and Newcastle did the same with England captain Alan Shearer for the Premier League game.

The Londoners were kept at bay in the first half by three good saves from Shay Given but they went ahead with a 49th minute Darren Anderton penalty after halftime substitute Warren Barton brought down Stephen Carr.

Newcastle rarely threatened until Ketsbaia's shot from out of the blue ripped past Spurs' keeper Ian Walker.



Scene from the English Premiership match between Newcastle United and Tottenham Hotspur at St James' Park on April 5. — AFP photo

Trouble with telephone

LONDON, Apr 6 (Reuters/Internet): frantic late telephone calls to players before a match to get a team together is often part of local amateur soccer but English first division West Bromwich Albion were forced to adopt the tactic at the weekend.

Dutch striker Fabian DeFreitas missed his team's 5-1 defeat by Crewe on Monday afternoon because he thought the game was an evening kick-off. British newspapers reported on Tuesday.

As the clock ticked down to the 3pm start, officials from the Midlands club tried to reach DeFreitas on the telephone but could not get through because his girlfriend was on the line. The player now faces a heavy fine for the mistake.

DeFreitas thought it was an evening kick-off, manager Dennis Smith told the Birmingham Post newspaper. 'We tried to get in touch with him but his girlfriend was on the phone.'

'We got through at 2.20 pm but by then the team sheet was in... To say I'm not very happy is an understatement.'

Nagano residents sue IOC

TOKYO, Apr 6: Residents of Nagano sued the IOC and its president Juan Antonio Samaranch on Tuesday, demanding the return of 831 million yen (6.9 million dollars) in taxpayer money used in the bid for the 1998 Nagano Winter Games, a court official said, reported AP.

Shigeru Tomidokoro, a spokesman for the Tokyo District court, said the plaintiffs were three citizens, led by Kaoru Iwata, a former town assemblyman in Nagano, 179 kilometers (112 miles) northwest of Tokyo.

Iwata said the lawsuit is 'the only way to impeach the injustice' since the International Olympic Committee and Samaranch will not punish nine IOC members suspected by the Japanese Olympic Committee of violating IOC rules by receiving 'excessive' entertainment.

In Lausanne, Switzerland, IOC marketing director Michael Payne said he was 'slightly surprised' to hear of the suit, given the amount of financial support that the IOC gave the organizing committee during the Games.

Japan spent 2 billion yen (16.7 million dollars) on its campaign to win the right to host the Games. Nagano state and local governments put up 831 million yen (6.9 million dollars) of that total, while the rest came from private or corporate contributions.

The plaintiffs argue that the IOC should not have allowed its members to accept the allegedly 'excessive' entertainment knowing that it had come from taxpayers.

The plaintiffs want the IOC to pay to back the amount taxpayers contributed.

Iwata's group has already sued Nagano Prefecture Governor Goro Yoshimura, the chairman of the Japan Olympic Committee, Hiroshi Furuhashi, and the mayor of the city of Nagano, Tasuku Tsukada, to force them to further specify how the money was spent.

IOC Secretary-General Yushiro Yagi, who led an investigation into Nagano's bid, said on February 12 that the nine might have broken IOC rules while visiting Nagano during the city's successful bid for the Winter Games.

Yagi refused to name the nine or detail their conduct, although he said at that time that he would report it to IOC headquarters in Switzerland.

PARIS, Apr 6: Valery Lobanovskiy's Dynamo Kiev will look to foil the European continent's in-form side Bayern Munich in the European Cup semifinals on Wednesday while Manchester United boss Alex Ferguson knows he will never have better chance of reaching the final against Juventus, reported on Tuesday.

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE DYNAMO KIEV-BAYERN MUNICH

Ukraine's Dynamo Kiev hope the scientific approach of Lobanovskiy will undo Bayern Munich.

Lobanovskiy forged his approach in the mid-70s with friend and colleague Oleg Berezov and young Bohdan Anatol Zelentsov, and 25 years on the trio are still putting the Dynamo into Kiev.

The Troika devised a system using mathematical analysis to provide the coach with vital information about his players.

The 60-year-old coach has fashioned a string of championship-winning sides stretching over three decades with his trailblazing formula.

The hair-hair manager also masterminded some of the best team displays by the Soviet Union, taking his players to the European Championship final in 1988.

The man nicknamed 'sunflower' during his playing days in the 1960s, has another psychological advantage, Kiev twice beat Bayern Munich to clinch the European Super Cup in 1975 and the European Cup quarterfinal in 1977.

So successful has the Lobanovskiy system been that Marcello Lippi, the new coach of Italian giants Inter Milan, admits drawing on the Ukrainian master's teachings during his successful stint at Juventus.

With Andrei Shevchenko up front, Kiev will be a formidable obstacle for Bayern, chasing a European Cup, Bundesliga and German Cup treble, with only two defeats this season making them the from the horses of Old Trafford in the first leg.

Like Inter, Juventus are walking in a trough, seventh in the league after a 1-0 defeat to Serie A's bottom club Empoli on Saturday.

And like Inter's superstar Ronaldo, Juventus has a serious fitness doubt over their star player French World Cup hero Zinedine Zidane.

Ronaldo missed the first leg of the quarterfinal against United with a knee problem, and Zidane also has a knee injury which threatens his participation at Old Trafford.

Ferguson, on the other hand, hopes to have a clean bill of health, with Dutch defender Jaap Stam back in training after an ankle injury and both Ryan Giggs and Jesper Blomqvist back in action.

The Scot who sent brother Martin to watch Juventus' defeat, knows United are on the brink of winning his 'holy grail'.

'I don't think we're far away,' Ferguson said though he recognises the gap between his side and Juve is negligible.

'It'll take some little break.'

there's nothing to choose between the two sides. We'll keep our nerve,' he added.

History is against United, in six appearances in the