

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-117

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

Competition closes at 8 pm
July 19, 1999 and draw shortly afterwards

- How many matches have been scheduled for the World Cup 99?
40 41 42
- Pakistan beat New Zealand in the semi-final by
9 wks 10 wks 53 runs
- How many wickets did NZ bowler Geoff Allott capture in the World Cup?
18 21 20
- Saqain Mushtaq scored his hat-trick against which country?
Kenya Zimbabwe Bangladesh
- How many runs did Minhazul Abedin score in the World Cup?
120 140 140

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Jana Novotna

(Czech tennis star)
"You come here (to Wimbledon) and enjoy yourself, whether it's a first round match or something bigger."

Degree course and Sports Science at the BKSP

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Krira Shikhyia Protisthan (BKSP) will introduce degree course and the Department of Sports Science in order to provide opportunity of higher studies for athletes.

This was disclosed at a meeting of the Board of Governors today.

The lone sports institute of the country in Savar will also have a shooting complex. A new hostel is being constructed.

The BKSP is the only institution which is catering to training of sportsmen and women as well as training of trainers.

The meeting, presided over by the state minister for youth and sports Obaiddul Quader, congratulated the students of BKSP who performed well in the SSC examination.

Shooting honour for Jalaluddin



Jalaluddin

Sports Reporter

The International Shooting Sports Federation has awarded Jalaluddin Ahmed with the Diploma of Honour for his performance in the 1996 Atlanta Olympics and for his contribution to the development of shooting universally.

Ahmed has been instrumental in introducing Bangladesh to the international shooting arena.

The news was well received by shooters and shooting officials of the country.



An Abahani forward trying to outwit a Brothers Union defender during their Premier League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Sabir keeps Abahani on course

Sports Reporter

Title contenders Abahani Krira Chakra crossed their first major hurdle in the Keya Premier Football League when they recorded a lone-goal win over Brothers Union at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Sabir Pasha, the Indian recruit of the popular Diamond outfit, headed home the all-important goal 13 minutes into the second-half of an otherwise unimpressive derby between the two proven forces in the domestic circuit.

Although the Federation Cup champions tried their best to live up to their reputation, Brothers were only a pale shadow of their former reputed self, making the match eventually a no-contest much to the dismay of about ten thousand spectators at the big bowl.

Abahani had a wonderful first half, but the sky blues had to wait till the 58th minute before Sabir Pasha broke the evening's duck, heading home a nice floater from a hard-working midfielder Zakir Hossain.

With this win, their third from five outings, Abahani increased their points tally to 11, two points adrift from joint League leaders Muktiyoddha Sangsad and Mohammedan Sporting Club.

On the other hand, the defeat put a crucial nail in Brothers' hopes of running in the title race. It was the second defeat for the Gopibag outfit from five games. They are now holding the distant fifth place behind Farashganj who have seven points.

Back to the day's match, it was Abahani who enjoyed the territorial dominance, right from the word go. Although Abahani are still in need of a quality striker, they took no time to take firm control of the midfield with Iqbal and Zakir exelling on a fast green.

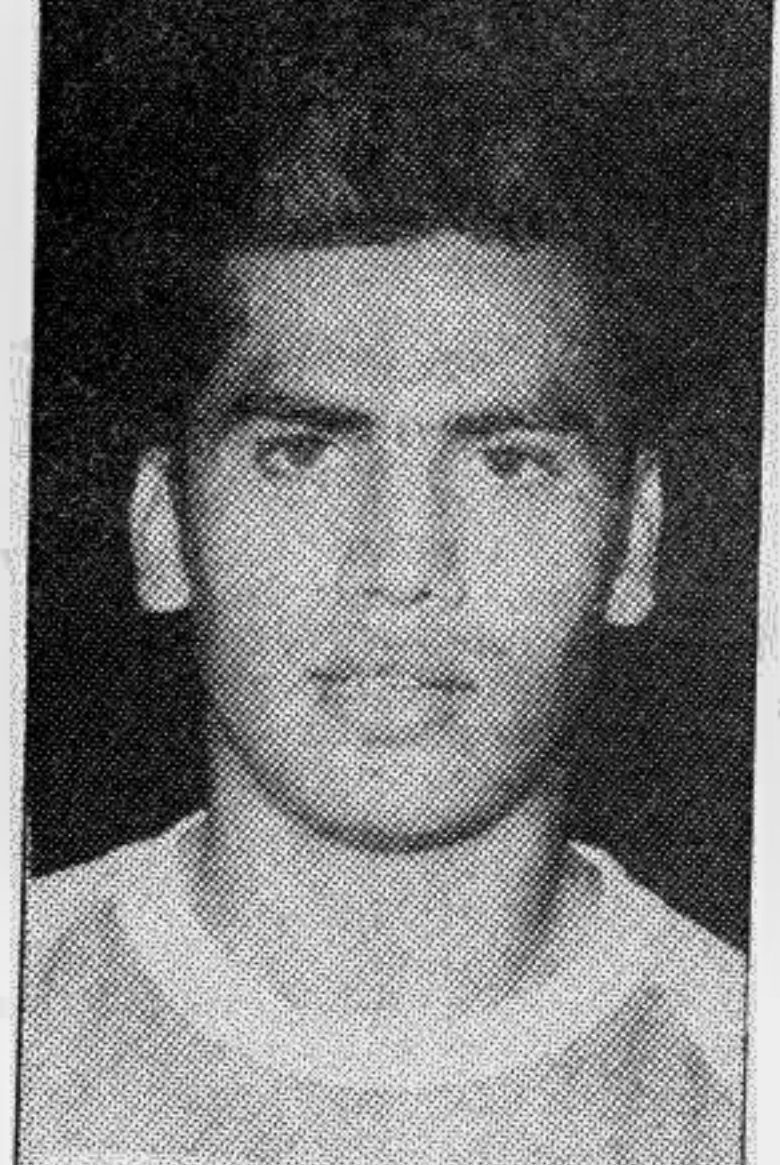
Abahani got their first scoring opportunity in the 31st minute when Mintu lobbed a perfect cross from the right, which Zakir headed wide off the mark.

Sabir Pasha, the discarded Indian national forward with a lethal left foot and a matured head, spoiled another chance in the 40th minute when he



SABIR PASHA

headed a Ranjan minus from the left past the far post. The frustration of the loyal sky blue supporters was exaggerated when Brothers' custodian



SABIR PASHA

Milton fisted away a point-blank Zakir volley for a corner. Abahani's disappointment, however, turned into joy when Sabir made amends of his previous blunder by nodding the ball into an empty net after Zakir's minus came his way over the Brothers' wall.

Brothers, who in the recent past earned the dubious reputation of aspirants-turned-pushovers, hardly had anything up their sleeves to cope with Abahani.

The only chance Brothers

got in the match was in the 42nd minute. But substitute Riaz muffed up the opportunity, shooting the ball miles over the bar with Abahani goalie Pannu at his mercy. Apart from the one-off chance, the traditional third force was a picture of dismal decline. They did possess a quality striker of the likes of Mizan, but the lanky forward passed most of his time idly as there was none in the middle to feed him. Although the defence was as vulnerable as ever, they were lucky to avoid a more humiliating defeat.

Amin Khan, a source of prolonged amusement for his poor defensive ability, was the lone Brothers player cautioned with the yellow card while Dulal and Sabir Pasha were the two Abahani booters booked by referee Ibrahim Nesar.

The man in uniform also had his uncalled for part in the play when, carried away by the sudden rush of blood, he called an off side and then revoked the decision. By the time he realised his mistake, Abahani were robbed of a fair chance.

Nesar, however, got away with the blunder since Abahani were leading by a goal at that time. But, like a riot police, he unnecessarily blows the whistle far longer than usual, either to drive away his own fear or to create panic among the players. The pious piper may be the cause of violence in the days to come.

TEAMS

Abahani KC: Pannu, Partho, Sohel Reza, Kingshuk, Dulal, Mintu, Iqbal, Sentu, Ranjan, Zakir and Sabir Pasha.

Brothers Union: Milton, Polash, Faiyaz (Riaz), Amin Khan, Asad, Shuvro, Abdullah Shereki, Barun, Zahid (Aamer Khan), Mizan and Jamal.

Referee: Ibrahim Nesar.

TODAY'S MATCHES

(Premier League)

Rahamatganj vs Badda Jagorani (3:30 pm)

Arambagh vs Mirpur Chalanika (5:30 pm)

Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium.

India to name captain on July 28

Sports Reporter

MUMBAI, July 15 (PTI): The Indian captain for the forthcoming triangular series in Sri Lanka is to be picked by the national selection committee at Nagpur on July 28.

India, hosts Sri Lanka and World Cup champions Australia are to contest the three-nation one-day series to be held at Colombo and Galle from August 22-31.

The names of the rest of the team members would be finalised in the first week of August, the board's secretary Jaywant Lele had announced a few days ago.

The tri-series is the first event for India after their disastrous campaign in the World Cup where the team was led by Mohammad Azharuddin, who subsequently underwent a shoulder operation in London and is recuperating.

Div I soccer

Victoria Sporting Club took solo lead in the Keya First Division football league after playing a one-all draw with East End Club at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Hasan put Victoria ahead in the 22nd minute while Robi of East End Club neutralised the margin in the 76th minute.

With the day's outcome, Victoria so far have secured 11 points from five engagements to top the list while East End bagged eight points from five matches.

BRTC SC will take on Dhaka Wanderers Club in today's lone match at 4 pm at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

Schools h'ball final today

Rajabagh Police Lines High School will take on Telgaon BAF Shaheen School in the final of the 10th Bata school boys handball tournament today at the Outer Stadium handball ground, reports UNB.

The final will begin at 2:30 pm.

Meanwhile, in the third place deciding match yesterday, Motijheel Model High beat Ansars and VDP High 24-22 after dominating the first half 8-7.

Div II hockey

Barnak Samaj recorded a comfortable 7-0 goals victory over Udit Club in the Green Delta Second Division hockey league at the Moulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

The first half score was 4-0. Anwar struck three field goals while Ibbar, Mamun, Farique and Delwar scored one each for the winners.

The day's other match between Uttara Hockey Club and Shisu Kishore Sangha ended in a 2-2 draw at the same venue.

Uttara dominated the first half by 1-0. Kalam and Liton scored for Uttara while Imron and Mahfuz netted for Udit Club.

Today's matches: Shantinagar SC Club vs Raktim Sangha (2.45), Dhaka Young Stars Club vs PWD SC (4.15).

BCUA AGM August 6

The Annual General Meeting of Bangladesh Cricket Umpires Association (BCUA) will be held at the conference room of the National Sports Council on August 6 at 9 am, reports BSS.

All members have been requested to attend the meeting.

Brazil sail past Mexico



CIUDAD DEL ESTE, Paraguay, July 15: Defending champions Brazil coasted into Sunday's Copa America Final with Uruguay, beating Central American guests Mexico 2-0 in a semi-final here Wednesday, reports AFP.

First half goals from Amoroso and Rivaldo proved enough for the five-times Copa winners and favourites in a match they territorially dominated.

Now only an inexperienced and transitional Uruguay can prevent Brazil from lifting the oldest surviving prize in international football on Sunday.

Mexico, who lost 2-1 to Brazil in a group match, were completely outplayed in their second showdown with Brazil, who must now be hot favourites to win their first tournament under the stewardship of new coach Wanderley Luxemburgo.

Brazil were quickly into their stride and Mexican goalkeeper Jorge Campos had to make a flying save from Emerson after a seven-man move.

From the resulting corner defender Antonio Carlos saw his header headed off the line.

Mexico's main threat in the early stages came from Cuauhtemoc Blanco, restored to the line-up after serving a ban. Twice he had the Brazilian defence on the backfoot with some superb dribbling skills.

But after 14 minutes Campos came to the rescue again for the underdogs with another good save from Ze Roberto.

And just a minute later Rivaldo produced the best stop yet from the colourful custodian.

Then Ronaldo screwed a shot wide after being set up by Antonio Carlos and Amoroso.

The striker was winning his

50th cap for his country - and at 22 he is the youngest Brazilian player ever to reach that milestone.

But then Mexico launched a raid and a superb run and shot from Blanco forced a save from Brazil keeper Dida.

But Brazil were stretching Mexico and it was no surprise when the defending champions went ahead after 25 minutes.

Emerson found Ze Roberto whose cross was headed out to Rivaldo whose header came back off the bar. But Amoroso reacted instantly to put the rebound into the net.

It meant that the man who recently left Udinese to join Serie A rivals Parma joined his strike partner Ronaldo as top scorer in the Copa with four goals each.

Then superb play by Brazil skipper Cafu set up Ronaldo whose shot wrongfooted Campos but was deflected wide by the trailing leg of a Mexican defender.

Then defender Rafael Marquez had Mexico's best chance yet but headed wide at the near-post from a Blanco corner with not a defender in sight.

Three minutes before the interval Brazil took a two-goal lead. Ronaldo held the ball up but was wrestled to the ground by his marker but - rather than wait for the freekick - Rivaldo raced in to crash the loose ball past Campos from the edge of the box.

After the break Brazil dominated possession.

But the first real fight for Mexico came when Cafu almost caught Campos in possession after the extrovert goalkeeper had dribbled out of the box.

Then in a rare Mexican sortie Marquez tested Dida with a better placed header than his first effort.

At the other end a superb ball from Amoroso released Ronaldo but Campos rushed out to deny the Inter-Milan striker at the expense of a corner.

Brazil were rampant and Campos did well to hold a low freekick from Roberto Carlos.

After a while a bit of com-

placency began to set in for the favourites and the whole defence backed off allowing Mexico's Ramon Ramirez to fire inches wide.

Still Brazil were dominating possession with Emerson, Rivaldo and Ze Roberto always busy in midfield.

Then a superb move saw Ronaldo set up Roberto Carlos who drove a cross across the face of the goal with Rivaldo just failing to get the vital touch.

Mexico's Miguel Zepeda narrowly missed the target from the edge of the box but even when they were shooting Dida was never really troubled.

Another Brazilian raid saw Amoroso set up Ze Roberto but a third goal was proving elusive for the dominant Brazilians and he missed the target.

With 15 minutes remaining Luxemburgo, aware that Ronaldo had received a yellow card already in the tournament and was risking a suspension, withdrew his striker bringing on his namesake Ronaldo Gaucho - also known as Ronaldinho.

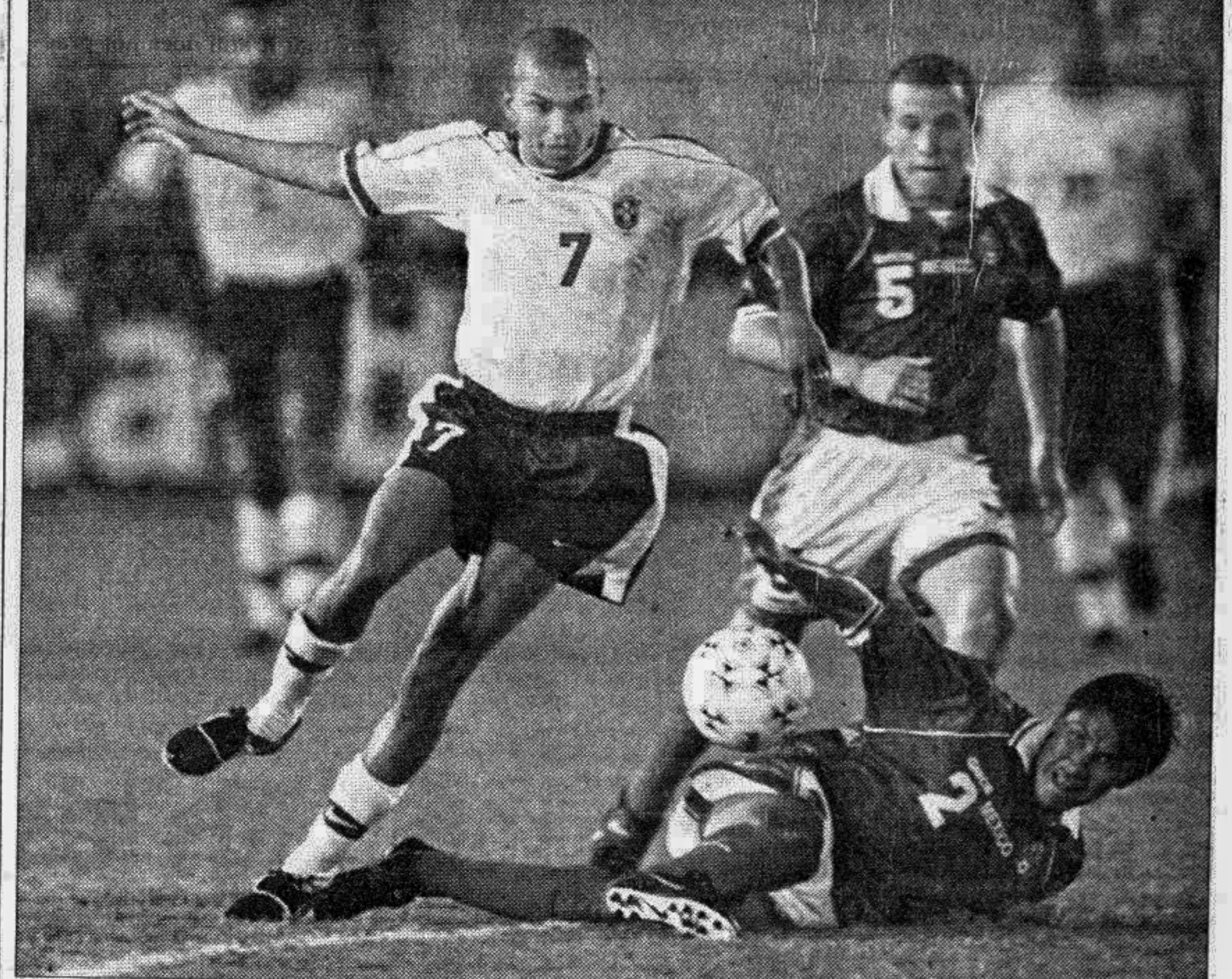
Luxemburgo also gave Flavio Conceicao and Amoroso an early bath, bringing on youngsters Beto and Alex.

Brazil seemed to take their foot off the pedal, conserving energy before Sunday's final, and Luis Hernandez almost set up Daniel Osorno with Dida just managing to smother the ball in the goalmouth.

Then Blanco had time and space to shoot but delayed allowing Brazil to scramble the ball away.

But Brazil's superiority could not be disputed and the side ranked by FIFA as the best in the world duly booked their place in Sunday's final in Asuncion.

As the game drifted into injury time a delightful chip from Ronaldinho set up Barcelona midfielder Rivaldo who lobbed Campos successfully but the referee from Ecuador Byron Moreno ruled out the goal out correctly - for offside.



Amoroso (No 7), the lithe Brazilian striker trying to gallop past veteran Mexican defender Claudio Suarez (No 2) at Ciudad Del Este yesterday.

— AFP photo

MU blank Soccerroos

MELBOURNE, Australia, July 15: Two pieces of opportunism kicked-started Manchester United's pre-season tour with a 2-0 win over Australia at the Melbourne Cricket Ground here Thursday, reports AFP.

The European Cup champions encountered some plucky resistance from a much-weakened Australian team to begin their campaign for the new season in just over three weeks' time.

Swedish winger Jesper Blomqvist cracked home a left-foot volley just before halftime to send United on the way and Nicky Butt thrilled the crowd with a Brazilian-style swerving volley to clinch the win in the 74th minute.

The English league and cup and European champions will back up against the Soccerroos at Sydney's Olympic stadium on Sunday, before heading to Hong Kong and Shanghai next week.

The Australians fielded just two of their first-choice team that beat the FIFA World Stars 3-1 in Sydney last month. Injury and failure to get a release from their European clubs kept the leading Australian players away.

Blomqvist scored in injury time of the first half with a cracking left foot volley after being found unmarked on the left of Australia's goal.

Up until that stage, Australia were giving as good as they were getting with defender

David May twice having to make diving lunges to prevent shooting chances for defender Simon Colosimo in the 41st minute and striker Aurelio Vidmar three minutes later.

The tackles went in and several times Australian referee Mark Shields had to whistle play to cool things down.

He gave a yellow card to French-based midfielder Ross Aloisi, brother of Coventry City striker John, for a heavy blocking tackle on forward Jonathan Greening in the 31st minute.

United's England midfielder Nicky Butt was given a talking to for lashing out at Brett Emerton after both tussled for the ball, while May received a lecture for his crunching tackle from behind on Vidmar.

Up until Blomqvist's sweetly-struck shot, Greening had the best chance when a ricochet sent him clear on the Soccerroos goal only to scuff his shot well to the left of goalkeeper Michael Petkovic.

Australian Mark Bosnich, who replaced Peter Schmeichel in United's goal last month, was called on to make a flying save to prevent Manchester City's Danny Tiatto's strike in the 23rd minute.

Bosnich collided with Vidmar going for a cross just after half-time and was left feeling his jaw while Vidmar limped away.

Vidmar missed a great chance 12 minutes after half-time off a Aloisi corner on the left. It was touched on by Brett Emerton but Vidmar missed

from about two metres in a joust with a United defender.

Greening got a yellow card for kicking the ball away after a run by Lazaridis, and Jordi Cruyff came into the game for Blomqvist in the 73rd minute.

Ryan Giggs got a roar from the crowd when he took off his tracksuit top to replace Greening with 15 minutes.

But no sooner was Giggs was on than Butt put United 2-0 up with a vicious swerving volley that eluded Colosimo guarding the left post.

Dutch international defender Jaap Stam came on for May with 12 minutes left.

TEAMS

AUSTRALIA: Michael Petkovic, Simon Colosimo, Stan Lazaridis, Hayden Foxe, Alex Tobin (captain), Stephen Laybutt, Brett Emerton, Vince Grella, Aurelio Vidmar, Ross Aloisi, Danny Tiatto.

Subs: Raimond van der Gouw, John Curtis, Michael Clegg, Ryan Giggs, Andy Cole, Wes Brown, Jaap Stam, Jordi Cruyff.

Referee: Mark Shield (Aus)

Kapil calms down

CHANDIGARH, July 15: Former India skipper Kapil Dev today said holding of the Sahara Cup cricket series between India and Pakistan could be reconsidered in view of the changing scenario following Pakistan's decision to withdraw infiltrators from the Kargil region.

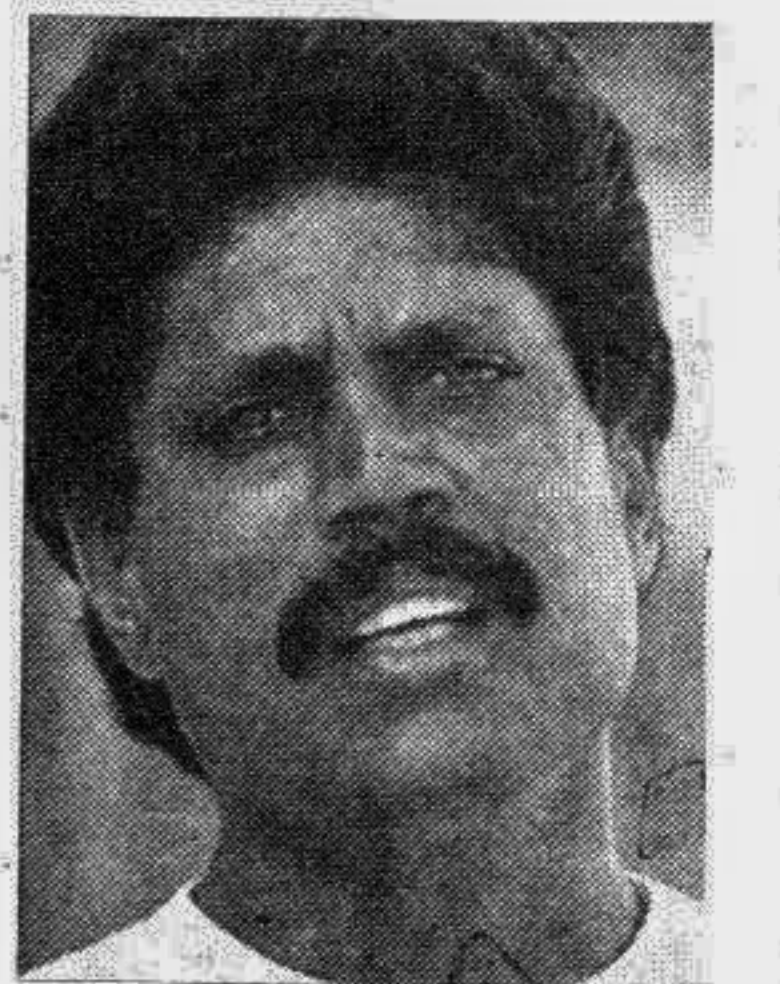
Kapil Dev, whose call to snap cricketing ties with Pakistan led to the cancellation of the annual series slated to be held in Toronto in September, told PTI here that India and Pakistan could resume cricket ties if normalcy was restored at the line of control (LOC).

He, however, said, "I still maintain India should not play with Pakistan as long as a war like situation prevails along the Indo-Pak border in Kargil and other areas of Jammu and Kashmir."

The situation in Kargil was expected to become clear in the next seven to 10 days due to the Pakistan move to withdraw infiltrators and other steps being taken to defuse tension. The final decision however had to be taken by the cricket board and the government, he said.

Kapil Dev said his call to snap all cricketing ties with Pakistan was spontaneous after his trip to Srinagar to visit injured jawans there.

The number of messages he



KAPIL DEV

received from his countrymen to his call were much more than what he got when he achieved the world Test bowling record, he said.

Kapil Dev, who was here to visit his aged mother, said she told him she was proud of his call not to play with Pakistan due to the Kargil crisis.

"I had a platform to express my views to my countrymen, but people, including children, expressed their views through me," Kapil Dev said, adding that he was flooded with telephone calls and letters with people expressing sentiments similar to his own.

People also expressed anger and anguish at the action of Pakistan which came a couple of months after the memorable bus ride of Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee to Lahore, the former all-rounder pointed out.

Kapil Dev said he felt elated and proud when he went on that trip in February, but the events that followed in Kargil had anguished him. When jawans die on the border in war there should be no matches, he noted.

He said the entire Indian cricket team and film stars, who also visited injured soldiers in Srinagar, responded positively to his suggestion to play the exhibition football match in New Delhi to raise funds for the jawans.

Once the situation returned to normal there was no reason why cricketing ties should not be resumed. Sports has always helped improve relations between countries, he added.