

## Column One

### Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN  
Competition-126

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

Competition closes at 8 pm  
Feb 25, 2000 and draw  
shortly afterwards

- How many centuries did Tendulkar score in the Tests series against Australia recently?  
One Two Three
- Who won the last ever European Cup Winners' Cup soccer?  
Lazio Barcelona Man United
- Who was named player of the cricket World Cup?  
Kluseker S Waugh David
- Where did Maurice Greene break the 100m world record?  
Athens Seville Toronto
- Who lifted the National Cricket League title?  
Chittagong Sylhet Khulna

Name .....

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

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....

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## SPORTS TALK



**Harsha Bhogle**  
(Cricket commentator)  
"Give one hundred per cent and accept the verdict. But for heaven's sake, give one hundred per cent."

His plea to Indian cricket team.

### Friendly against India Booters assured of 10,000 pounds

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh will get 10,000 pounds as appearance fee for a friendly football match against India scheduled to be held at the Villa Park stadium in Birmingham, England on July 30.

This was announced by Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) general secretary Harunur Rashid MP yesterday. Sapphire Enterprises Limited, a Worcestershire based marketing company, will sponsor the first ever tour of the national booters in Europe.

According to Harunur India, who will play three matches in England during the trip, will receive a little more in appearance fees than Bangladesh. Harun disclosed that they have asked the sponsors to arrange one or two practice matches in England before the July 30 encounter.

The BFF chief also confirmed that Bangladesh will take part in a four-nation meet in Maldives next May.

### Rajshahi cricket

From Our Correspondent  
RAJSHAHI, Feb 23: Bright Star Club defeated Friends Sporting Club by two wickets in the Rajshahi Premier Cricket League at Rajshahi Divisional Stadium today.

Winning the toss, Friends batted first and collected 148 runs for nine in the stipulated 40 overs. Pappa made 52 followed by an unbeaten 25 from Taher.

Peter took three wickets conceding 22 runs and Sohel, Nobel and Titas bagged one each.

In reply, Bright Star reached their target of 149 runs for eight in 37 overs. Shohag (2) made the highest 39 runs.

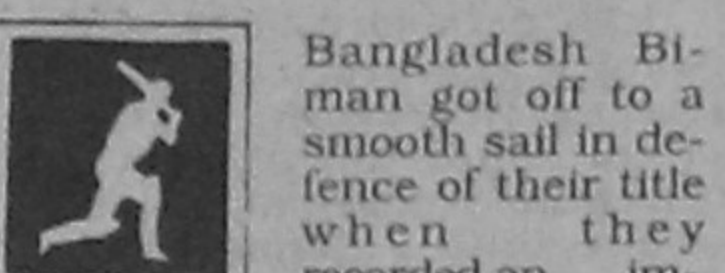
Shuja and Runu captured three wickets each and rose two wickets.

### FIRST DIVISION

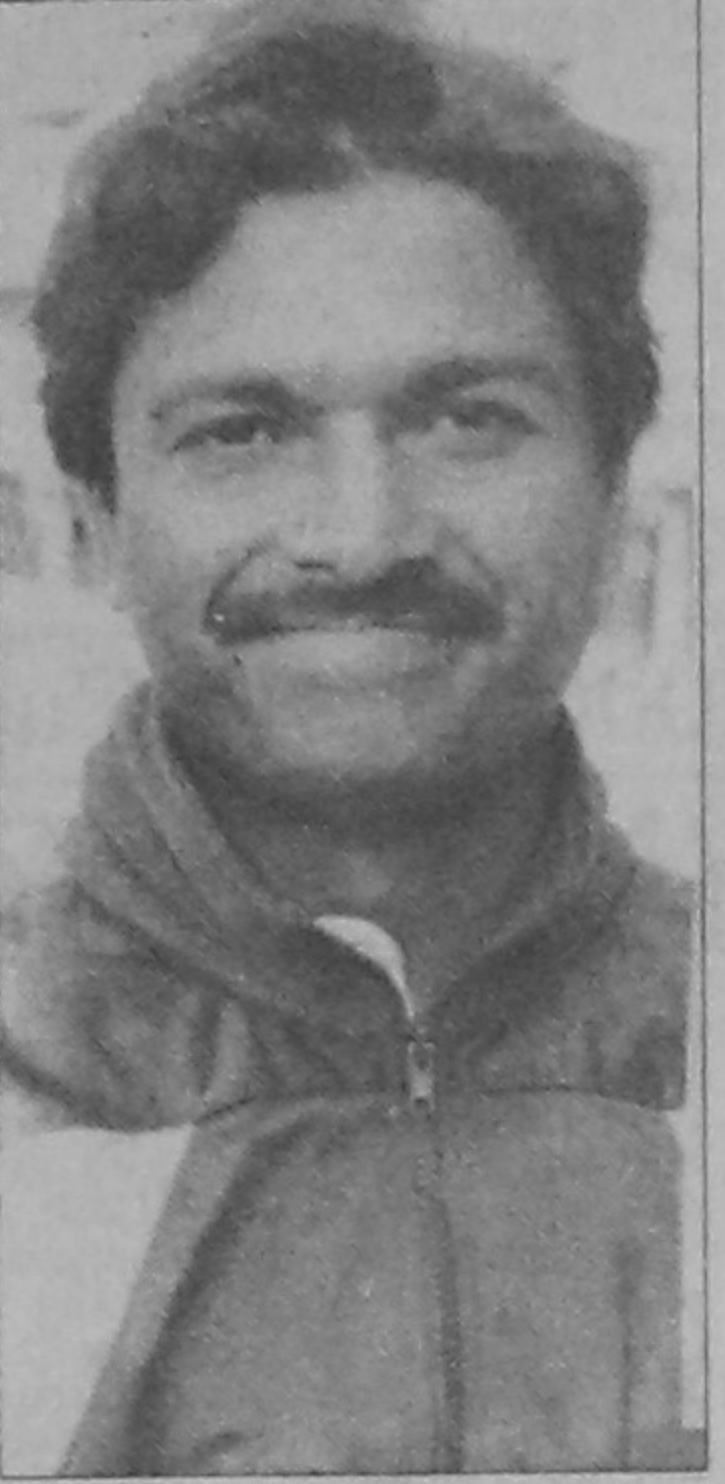
Kazihata Sporting Club and Alide Cricket Club won their respective matches in the First Division Cricket League today. In the first match held at Rajshahi District Stadium, Kazihata beat Agamani Krira Chakra by 54 runs.

## Biman take off smoothly

Sports Reporter



Bangladesh Biman got off to a smooth sail in defence of their title when they recorded an impressive 62-run victory over promotes City Club in the Janakantha Premier Division Cricket League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.



FARUQUE ... 80

In a heartening change to the ominous course of events where foreign cricketers are considered as kingpins by club organisers, the opening match of the most attractive domestic event experienced some fantastic performances of our local players yesterday.

Much to the delight of a believer of own gems, skipper Faruque Ahmed and a nimble Javed Omar produced 132 runs for the opening stand to put Biman in a strong position.

Promoted up in the batting order, Faruque responded gallantly with an aggressive 80 off 92 balls. A doughty Javed scored an equally impressive 74 as Biman, electing to bat after winning the toss on a slow and turning wicket, piled up a huge 254 for five.

City Club, in their chase, could manage 192 for six before exhausting their share of 50 overs.

Faruque's promising return to his old self since his retirement from international cricket after the World Cup also comforted the Biman officials, who were not quite convinced with the recent form of their captain. In his chanceless innings, the experienced right-hander hammered ten savage hits across the rope and smote a

huge sixer against left-arm spinner Masud Rana over mid-wicket.

Javed shrugged off his uncanny reputation of being a slow starter as he reached his 50 off 80 balls. He clubbed nine fours in his polished 105-ball knock.

One-down Habibul Bashar missed what could have been a well-deserved half-century for only three runs. Bangladesh captain Aminul Islam was the only disappointment among the Biman stalwarts. He was plumed in front of the wicket by Pakistani off-spinner Saifullah Magso after scoring only two.

Although Manzoor Akhter, the linchpin of Biman's success story last season, looked unimpressive with the bat, the Pakistani all-rounder bemused the local batsmen with his spinning web.

The leg-spinner mesmerised the City Club batters to finish with four for 35 in his 10 overs. As he did not get any vicious turn from the wicket, Manzoor concentrated more on his goosy and leg-break. Almost all the City Club batters invariably failed to read him correctly.

Manzoor started the City rot by dismissing opener Sohal Islam, who looked ominously dangerous as the match progressed. Sohal's 32 off 59 balls included a sweetly timed six against off-spinner Ziaur Rashid over long off.

Manzoor then went on to capture two wickets in succes-

### TODAY'S MATCH

Abahani v Gopibhai Friends (Bangabandhu National Stadium)

sive overs after Rawnak ran himself out while chasing a non-existing single, reducing City Club to 63 for four by the 21st over from where the Mirpur outfit could never recover.

Wahidul Islam scored an enterprising 63 off 73 balls, but that was not enough to avoid a defeat for the babes. The moody hard-hitting batsman hammered eight fours and a flat-batted six against Aminul Islam over mid-on.

Tofazzel Hossain, who shared 100 runs for the fifth wicket with Wahidul for the fifth wicket, remained unbeaten on 44 off 86 balls.

Although the national air-liners have started on an impressive note, they are destined to miss the services of their new Pakistani recruit Faruq Iqbal for the next couple of weeks. Iqbal, a middle-order bat and a left-arm spinner, bruised his left palm while attempting to get hold of a high catch offered by Wahidul at deep square leg.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Janakantha Premier Division Cricket League match between Bangladesh Biman and City Club at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

**BANGLADESH BIMAN**  
Javed run out 74  
Faruque lbw b Saifullah 80  
H Bashar c Tuhin b Saifullah 47  
Aminul lbw b M Rana 2  
Manzoor c Sajid b Saifullah 15



JAVED OMAR ... 74

F Iqbal not out 12  
Hasanuzzaman not out 7  
Extras: (b-2, lb-4, w-11) 17  
Total: (For 5 wickets in 50 overs) 254  
Fall of wickets: 1/132; 2/174; 3/186; 4/228; 5/231

**Bowler:**  
Al-Amin 10 1 53 0  
Rezaul Haq 10 1 42 0  
Masud Rana 10 0 55 1  
Jewel Hossain 10 0 55 0  
Saifullah Magso 10 0 43 3

**CITY CLUB**  
Sajid b Manzoor 12  
Sohal b Manzoor 32  
Rawnak run out 10  
Saifullah b Manzoor 63  
Wahidul b Manzoor 44  
Tofazzal not out 14  
Jewel not out 16  
Extras: (b-4, lb-7, w-5) 16  
Total: (For 6 wickets in 50 overs) 192  
Fall of wickets: 1/42; 2/54; 3/56; 4/63; 5/163; 6/181

**Bowler:**  
Aminul Islam Jr 10 1 23 1  
Jahangir Talukder 7 1 28 0  
Ziaur Rashid 10 1 40 0  
Manzoor Akhter 10 2 35 4  
Faruk Iqbal 7 0 25 0  
Aminul Islam 6 0 30 0

**Result:** Bangladesh Biman won by 62 runs.

## Hadi playing doubles

Sports Reporter

Abdul Hadi Ratan seems to be the busiest local coach as he has been assigned by two Premier Division clubs to guide their sides in the ongoing league.

Ratan, who had been coaching Sadharan Bima for the last ten years, is also helping out title contenders Mohammedan Sporting Club this season.

"I don't face any problem coaching two teams. I am a professional man," said Hadi yesterday when asked whether he was being able to fulfill his commitments to two teams at a time.

"I coach Mohammedans in the morning and then look after Bima in the afternoon," added Hadi who has assisted former national coach Gordon Greenidge and has also worked with present coach Eddie Barlow.

"Sadharan Bima is a team with which I have become emotionally attached for more than a decade. Apart from serving them as player and coach, I also look after the cricketing matters of the team."

But the assignment with Mohammedan is a challenge for me and I feel proud to be in charge. It will also help me economically," said Hadi.

Asked where his loyalty will lie when his two teams face each other in the league, a witty Hadi replied: "I may not turn up even for that match."

### Ijaz Jr joins Abahani

Sports Reporter

Discarded Pakistan Test player Ijaz Ahmed (Jr) arrived in the city yesterday to play for Abahani Krira Chakra in the Janakantha Premier League.

This is the second successive season the right-hander will be playing for the popular Dhanmondi outfit. With the inclusion of Ijaz, Abahani have completed their quota of foreign players for a match ahead of their opening match against Gopibhai Friends at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today.

Mohammed Hussain, a former Pakistani left-arm spinner, and Aamir Wasim are the other two imports for Abahani. Meanwhile, Surjo Tarun Club flew in Pakistan international Akhter Sharfraz to bolster their batting line-up against giant-slayers Wari Club. Finished second behind holders Biman, the new levitians have earlier signed Ramzan, a Pakistani Test cap.

Surjo Tarun, who also have a balanced combination in their local resource, looked very focused ahead of their meeting with Wari tomorrow. Wari created a sensation by signing former Pakistan fast bowler Ataur Rahman and promising all-rounder Hasnain this year.

### Scoreboard not so electric

Sports Reporter

The electronic scoreboard at the Bangabandhu National Stadium did not function on the opening day of the Premier league for some unknown reason.

A small manual scoreboard was installed at the eastern gallery but it was not visible to the majority of spectators present at the stadium.

When contacted, CCMD secretary Mahmud Ul Hqud could not give a satisfactory answer for this flap.

"The electronic scoreboard was supposed to be operative. I don't know why its operators did not turn up," said a visibly confused Mahmud.

### Div I cricket Easy win for Young Cricketers

Young Cricketers earned a comfortable 5-wicket victory over Bangladesh Boys Club in the Metropolitan First Division league at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Bangladesh Boys were all out for 165 in 49.5 overs after they were put to bat first.

Number four bat Tito was the top scorer for Boys making 47 off 82 balls with one boundary while opener Jonny scored 30.

Ripon and Pakistani Enamul Haq claimed three wickets each conceding 21 and 34 runs respectively while Lablu and Rajan took two wickets each for 23 and 43 runs.

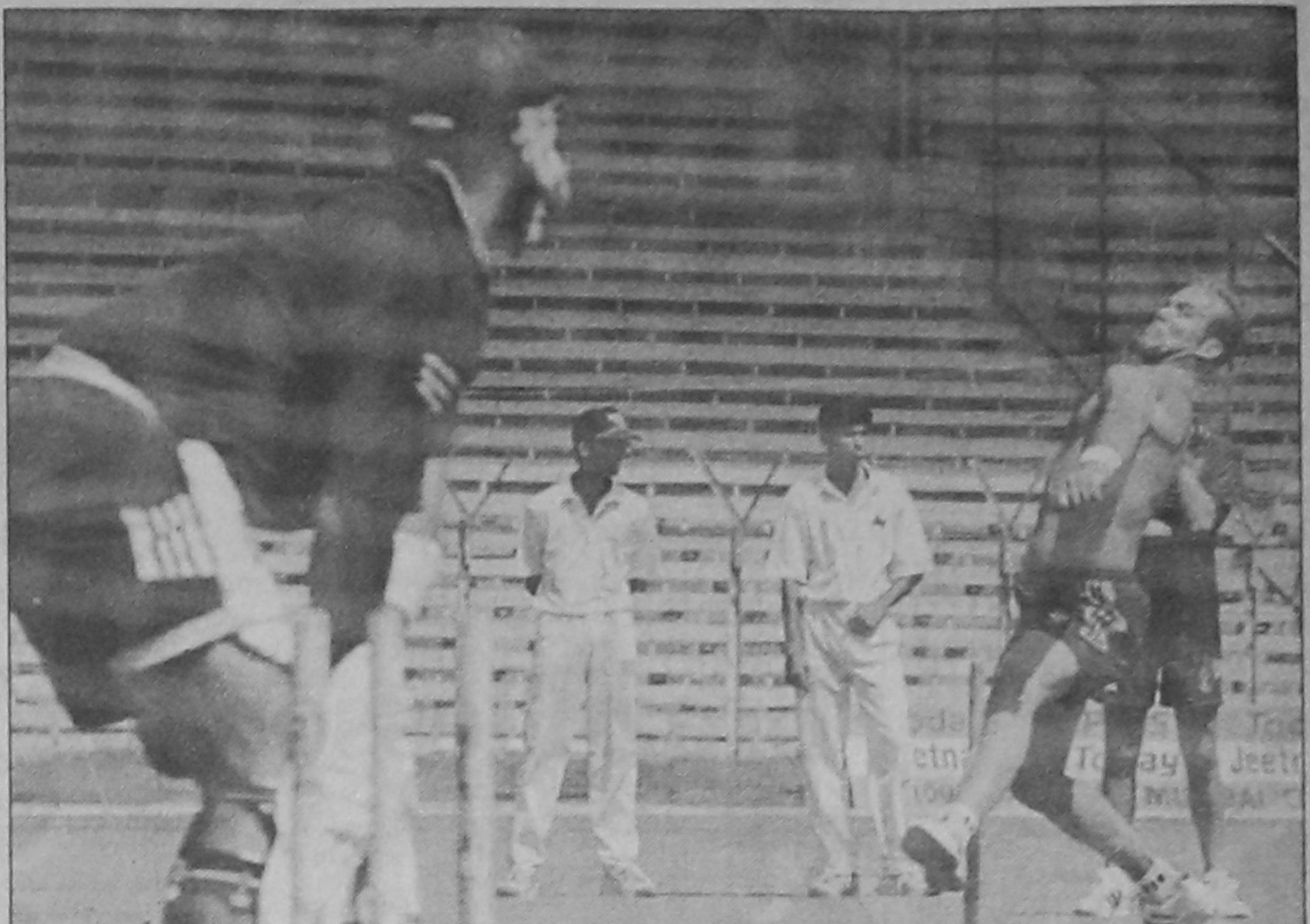
In reply, Young Cricketers reached the target making 170 for five in 44.3 overs with skipper Tinku scoring highest 47 off 46 balls that included six fours.

Adil contributed 34. Jonny picked up three wickets conceding 33 runs while Pakistani Majid took one.

### BRIEF SCORES

**BANGLADESH BOYS:** 165/10 in 49.5 overs (Jonny 30, Tito 47, Apollo 16, Sayeed 11, extras 34; Ripon 3/21, Lablu 2/23, Enamul 3/34, Rajan 2/43)

**YOUNG CRICKETERS:** 170/5 in 44.3 overs (Tinku 47, Enamul 19, Rezaul 28, Adil 34, Azmul 13, Palu 12 n.o., extras 16, Majid 1/30, Jonny 3/33).



South African all-rounder Jacques Kallis (R) and wicketkeeper Mark Boucher (L) practise at the Wankhede Stadium yesterday.

### Revengeful S Africa vs disturbed India

## Bombay Test starts today



BOMBAY, Feb 23: India's 13-year-reign on home soil has never looked so vulnerable as they prepare to clash with formidable South Africa in the first of two Test matches starting tomorrow, reports AFP.

The Indians, who have not lost a home series since 1987, are in disarray in the aftermath of the dismal tour of Australia and captain Sachin Tendulkar's stunning decision to quit the job after the current series.

Coach Kapil Dev's refusal to attend the selection committee meeting here on Sunday after being rebuffed by cricket board officials, has only added to the uncertainty clouding Indian cricket.

The morale-shattering Australian tour, where India lost all three Tests and seven of the eight one-dayers, ended just three weeks ago, leaving the team little time to regroup.

Tendulkar, however, stressed that the home team was determined to forget the past and make a new start. "That was a bad tour, but it's behind us," he said, adding his decision to step down as captain would not affect him or his teammates.

"That decision could only be taken off the field," Tendulkar

said. "But when I am on the field I am fully focused on the game."

Rival captain Hansie Cronje, desperate to avenge the 1-2 defeat on South Africa's previous Test tour of India in 1996, believed the crisis could benefit his team.

"It's not going to be easy for the Indians to forget Australia," Cronje said. "This might work in our favour. The past tends to sometimes influence the present."

The tourists, fresh from a 2-1 win over England at home, may be without star batsman Darryl Cullinan, who is not fully recovered from a groin injury suffered during the three-day tour opener here.

"Darryl has a 50-50 chance of playing," said Cronje, who may have to bat at number four behind Gary Kirsten, Herschelle Gibbs and all-rounder Jacques Kallis.

Cronje believes the early bounce on the dry Wankhede Stadium wicket will help the pace quartet of Allan Donald, Shaun Pollock, Lance Klusener and Mornantau Hayward, before it turns later in the match.

The fiery Hayward put the recalled Mohammed Azharuddin out of action with a broken thumb, while left-arm spinner Clive Eksteen's eight wickets in the three-day match pleased his captain.

"Clive will be a great backup

for the fast bowlers," Cronje said. "We are wiser and stronger after our previous tour of India. We will be ready for any situation."

The Indians may revert to their customary home strategy of opening with wicket-keeper Nayan Mongia to play five specialist batsmen and three spinners among the five bowlers.

Left-arm spinner Murli Karthik and off-break bowler Nikhil Chopra appear certain to make their Test debut as supporting partners for spin spearhead Anil Kumble.

The batting line-up will, however, only be decided tomorrow morning with newcomers Wasim Jaffer and Mohammad Kaif in contention against Venkat Laxman and the recalled Ajay Jadhava.

### TEAMS

**INDIA** (from): Sachin Tendulkar (captain), Venkat Laxman, Wasim Jaffer, Nayan Mongia, Rahul Dravid, Sourav Ganguly, Ajay Jadhava, Mohammad Kaif, Anil Kumble, Nikhil Chopra, Murli Karthik, Jagavir Singh, Ajit Agarkar.

**SOUTH AFRICA** (from): Hansie Cronje (captain), Gary Kirsten, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Pieter Strydom, Mark Boucher, Lance Klusener, Shaun Pollock, Clive Eksteen, Allan Donald, Mornantau Hayward, Nicky Boje.



Australian cricketers waiting for the crowd trouble following the dismissal of New Zealand's Adam Parore to be stopped during yesterday's one-day international at Dunedin.

## Aussies tame Black Caps



DUNEDIN, New Zealand, Feb 23 (AFP/Reuters): Australia held off a spirited challenge from New Zealand to win an entertaining third one-day cricket international by 50 runs here today.

New Zealand were on track to go close to Australia's mammoth total of 310 for four after a quick-fire third-wicket partnership of 121 off 112 balls between Nathan Astle and Roger Twose.

But both were dismissed at crucial times and the rest of the batsmen could not maintain the momentum, being dismissed for 260 off the last ball of the 45th over.

Five bowlers took two wickets each for Australia — Glenn McGrath, Damien Fleming, Shane Warne, Brett Lee and Damien Martyn.

Astle top scored for New Zealand with 81 off 83 balls before being bowled by leg-spinner Warne, while Twose scored 62 off 61 balls before part-timer Martyn trapped him leg before wicket.

When Astle was out it was 187 for four in the 29th over, but New Zealand lost their next six wickets for 73 runs.

period of can and bottle throwing after Adam Parore's dismissal in the 40th over to a very fast, short delivery from Lee.

The crowd and Parore believed the ball — which knocked his helmet on to the stumps, was a no ball but the umpires didn't agree, provoking a hail of rubbish from the crowd of 11,500. The embankment side of the field took 10 minutes to clear before play could resume.

There were no centuries scored in the game but the tone

was set by a 114-run opening stand by Australian pair Adam Gilchrist and Mark Waugh after their team were invited to bat by New Zealand skipper Stephen Fleming.

They scored the runs off 125 balls, with Gilchrist ending on 77 and Waugh 75.

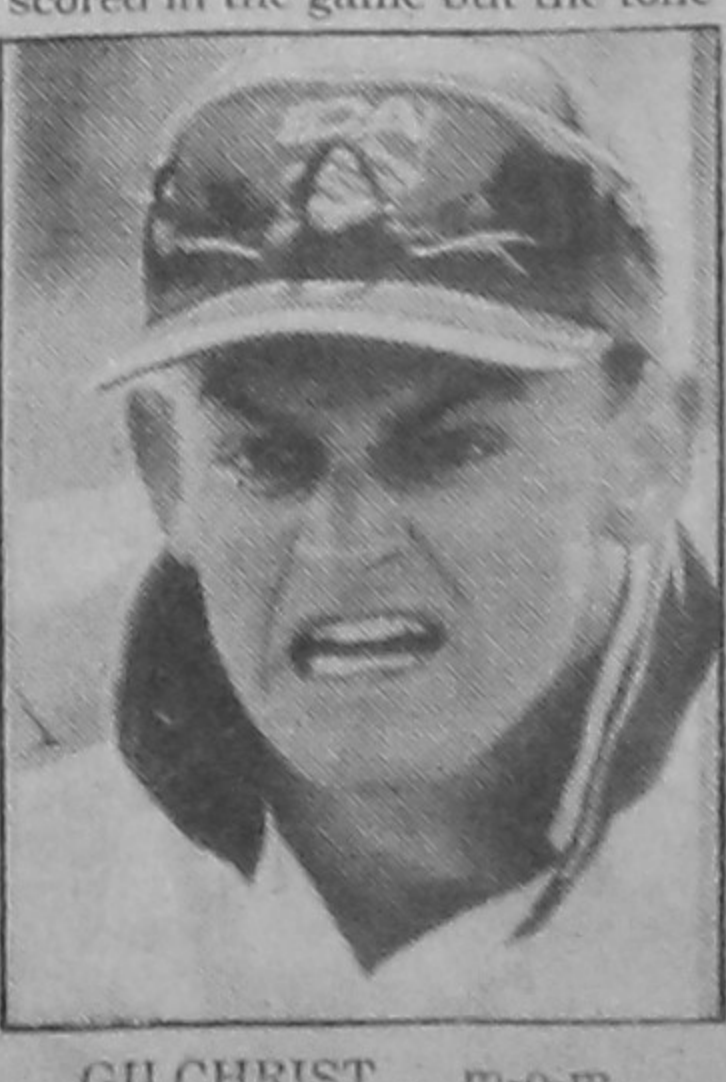
Michael Bevan and Steve Waugh then added 85 off 61 balls before Waugh was hit by a Chris Cairns full toss and twisted his ankle, forcing him to retire hurt.

New Zealand total was their highest against New Zealand, the previous best being 302 for eight in Melbourne in 1982-83.

Waugh later took the field with his teammates but left after four overs, leaving Waugh to take over the captaincy. Waugh said he hoped to be back for the next game in Christchurch on Saturday.

"It was a pretty good performance again," Waugh said. "The batting was tremendous and even though we lost our discipline with our bowling it was a pretty good performance all round. Once again the pitch was tremendous."

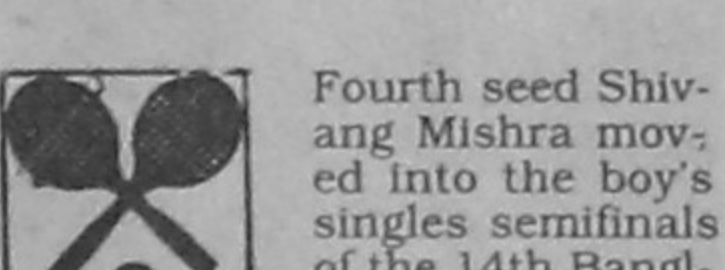
New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming, who was guilty of throwing his wicket away after scoring 24 off 15



GILCHRIST ... m-o-m

## 14th Bangladesh International Jr. Tennis Semifinals today

Sports Reporter



Fourth seed Shivang Mishra moved into the boy's singles semifinals of the 14th Bangladesh International Junior Tennis Championships with a straight set victory over compatriot Chandrashekar Mohanty in the quarterfinal played at the National Tennis Complex in Ramna yesterday.

After winning the first set at 6-3, Mishra faced some resistance from his counterpart in the second set which ended 7-5 in his favour.

In today's semifinal, Mishra will face Dane Resmus Noerby who eliminated Marutyun Sofyan of Armenia 7-5, 1-6, 6-4.

The other semifinal will be held between Canada's Stephen Timu and Japan's Taichi Wada. In the quarterfinals, Timu beat Yu Hui Tung of Hong Kong 7-5, 6-2 while Wada edged past Indian Pranatap Chaturvedi 6-2, 3-6, 6-1.

In the girls' singles, South African Karin Coetzee will face her compatriot Chani Scheepers in today's first semifinal while Japan's Kumiko Iijima will meet Hsieh Su-Wei of Chinese Taipei in the other semi.

In the yesterday's quarterfi-

### NBL v'ball

Wari Club beat Bangladesh Bank Club by 20-25, 25-23, 25-22, 16-25, 16-14 points in a crucial match of the National Bank Metropolis Premier Division League at the Dhaka Volleyball Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

In the First Division League, East End Club defeated East End Boys by 25-9, 25-5, 25-19 points while Fire Service beat Nabajagarani Sangha by 24-26, 25-21, 25-16, 25-20 points at the same venue.

Earlier on Tuesday, Titas Club beat Power Development Board by 26-24, 25-10, 25-15 points; Water Development Board defeated Police AC by 25-19, 25-19, 25-26 points and Dilkushe SC beat Sonali Bank Club by 25-11, 25-20, 25-9 points in the Premier Division League matches.

nals, Coetzee beat Thai Praruyawan Ratanakrong 1-6, 6-3, 7-6, Iijima defeated Japan's Humamura 7-6, 6-2, Su-Wei beat Thailand's Rattiya Hirarat 4-6, 7-6, 6-1 while Scheepers earned a bye against injured Thai girl Pichaya Laosirichon.

The semifinal line ups for the boys and girls' doubles were also finalised yesterday.

In the boy's section, American Chris Kwon and his Canadian partner Stephen Timu will take on Japanese duo Go Soeda and Taichi Wada in the first

semifinal while in the other match, Danish pair S Spanner and Noerby will meet Sinul Kumar of India and Pakistan's Ahmed Wahla.

Japan's Humamura and Thai Hirarat will face South African Scheepers and Coetzee in the first semifinal of the girls' doubles while Japanese duo Iijima and Kasuya will take on Su-Wei and Chon Ning of Chinese Taipei in the other semifinal of the day.

The finals are scheduled to be held tomorrow.



South African Coetzee Karin in action against Thai Ratanakrong during their fixture in the 14th Bangladesh International Junior Tennis Championships at Ramna yesterday.