

## Column One

### SPORTS TALK



**Michael Holding**  
(West Indian fast bowling great)  
There is not one, but two batsmen who I thought were technically sound and I enjoyed bowling to them — Greg Chappell and Sunil Gavaskar.

## Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-133

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

Competition closes at 8 pm  
July 28, 2000 and draw  
shortly afterwards

1 Which country will host 2006 football World Cup?  
South Africa England Germany

2 When did Germany host its last World Cup?  
1968 1974 1978

3 Who led the German bid for 2006 World Cup?  
Beckenbauer Matthäus Müller

4 Where did the voting for 2006 World Cup take place?  
Italy Belgium Switzerland

5 Who conducted the voting?  
UEFA AFC FIFA CONCACAF

Name .....

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

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

POWERED WITH  
**EN-VITS**  
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

## Football fans clash in Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent  
SYLHET, July 20: Around 30 fans were injured when rival supporters clashed during a local First Division football game between Mohan Bagan Sporting and Kazitola Welfare Society at the Sylhet Stadium today.  
The trouble started with minutes remaining of the match which Mohan Bagan were leading 1-0. Some Kazitola fans pelted stones into the Bagan gallery whose supporters also retaliated.  
It took the police nearly half an hour to bring the situation under control.  
Among the injured, five were admitted to the MAG Osmany Medical College Hospital.

## Office b'ball

AK Khan & Company moved into the semifinal of the Metropolitan Office Basketball tournament eliminating Dhaka International Church of Christ by 94-56 points at the Dhanmondi basketball gymnasium yesterday, reports UNB.  
They will play semifinal with Toras Styles.  
In the day's first match, AK Khan dominated the first session by 43-28. Leo and Farhan caged 22 each. Blaiz 20 for the winners while Richard contributed 20 and Scot 13 for the losers.  
In the day's other match, New Classic Sports defeated BCS (Economic) Officers Association by 88-72 points after leading the first half by 54-23.

## Siraganj cricket

From Our Correspondent  
SIRAGANJ, July 20: Siraganj Oviyatrik Ekadosh defeated Ullapara Showkhin Club by 18 runs at the Shaheed Shamsuddin Stadium today.  
Winning the toss Siraganj Oviyatrik decided to bat first and scored 120 runs losing all wickets in 29.4 overs.  
In reply, Ullapara Showkhin managed 102 runs losing 9 wickets in 30 overs. Regan of Oviyatrik was adjudged man-of-the-match.

## Exhibition match against India BFF names 19 booters

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) yesterday named 19 players for the Bangladesh team which will take on India in a one-off exhibition match at Leicester, England on July 29.

The selection was made out of 31 booters who took part in a month-long camp at the BKSP in Savar under the supervision of coach Hasanuzzaman Khan Babu.

Although BFF initially said that they would select 20 booters for a 25-member team with five officials, but later one more official was included at the expense of a player.

Three players Sourav Majumder Raju, Anwar Hossain and Bipal Bhattacharyya are missing from the squad which took part in four-nation meet in Maldives in April. Defender Hasan Al-Mamun and midfielder Mustafa Anwar Parvez

Babu have been recalled. The team includes five players -- Firoz Mahmud Hossain Tito, Monwar Hossain, Asadur Rahman, Rokunuzzaman Kanchan and Tanveer Chowdhury -- who represented the under-19 team in the recently concluded Asian Youth qualifiers in Rajshahi, have been drafted into the squad.

The 25-member team will fly to London on late Sunday night and are scheduled to play a practice match on July 27 before they meet India, led by Baichung Bhutia on July 29 at Filbert Street, home of Premier Division Leicester City.

Bangladesh beat their South Asian arch-rivals by a solitary goal in the SAF Games semifinal in Nepal last September. The last meeting between the two neighbours ended 1-1 in Maldives.

The team is expected to return on July 31. BFF president and Dhaka Mayor Mohammad Hanif will

accompany the squad as team-leader while BFF treasurer Shamunuzzaman Basunia is his deputy.

BFF member and chairman of Dhaka Mahanagari Football League Committee (DMFLC) Abdul Rahim will also go in the capacity of an official. Shah Alam Chowdhury and Kurshid Alam Babul will act as manager administration and football respectively.

Doordarshan Sports will show the match live.

### SQUAD

Aminul Haque, Nizam Majumder, Rajani Kanta Barman, Pavel Mahmud, Abu Faisal Ahmed, Hasan Al-Mamun, Firoz Mahmud Hossain Tito, Matur Rahman Munna, Iqbal Hossain, Mustafa Anwar Parvez Babu, Monwar Hossain, Asadur Rahman, Alifaz Ahmed, Mizanur Rahman Dawn, Saidur Rahman Moni, Rokunuzzaman Kanchan and Kazi Nazrul Islam.

## Bahrain badly treated

Shafaq in for injured Sharif

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh recorded their second win in the first round of the ICC Under-17 Asia Cup when they thumped down a ten-wicket defeat on lowly-rated Bahrain at the National Bank of Pakistan Sports Complex ground in Karachi yesterday.

Chasing a paltry Bahrain total of 52 in 45 overs, openers Nafees Iqbal and Mohammad Ashraful took only six overs to score 53.

Skipper Nafees plundered 32 runs off 22 balls with the help of a quartet of fours while Ashraful, who scored 102 against Nepal on Wednesday, was not out on 12 off 16 balls.

Earlier, electing to bat first, Bahrain were shot out for 52 with Shariful Islam returning with figures of 3-1-2-4. New-ball bowler Talha Jubair also had a good hunting as he took three wickets for 25 runs from his four overs. Among others, Ali Arman captured two wickets for five runs.

Talha's opening partner Mohammad Sharif was ruled out of the tournament due to injury. He fractured his left leg while fielding against Nepal in the previous match on Wednesday.

Shafaq-al-Zabir will fly to Karachi today to join the Bangladesh team. Shafaq, a six-foot three-inch tall left-arm seamer, was a member of the

Bangladesh Under-15 team that toured Malaysia recently. He was picked ahead of four stand-by players as coach Gollam Faruq Chowdhury asked for the BKSP student, said a Board official.



NAFEES ... 32 n. o.

Bangladesh, who suffered a one-wicket defeat to Pakistan and then beat Nepal by 143 runs, will take on Kuwait in their last Pool A match at the United Bank Sports Complex in Karachi today.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the ICC Under-17 Asia Cup Pool A match between Bangladesh and Bahrain played at the National Bank of Pakistan ground in Karachi yesterday.

BAHRAIN

Rizwan b Talha	0
Anand c Kuntal b Talha	1
Haroon run out	35
Roshan lbw b Talha	0
Malinda b Shariful	2
Tayab c Talha b Shariful	0
Thantrige b Ali Arman	1
Sami b Ali Arman	1
Asif b Shariful	5
Khalid lbw b Shariful	0
Saqib not out	8
Extras: (lb-2, w-6)	8
Total: (All out in 13.4 overs)	52
Fall of wickets: 1/1: 2/11: 3/11: 4/44: 5/45: 6/45: 7/45: 8/50: 9/52	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Talha	4	0	25	3
Mahub	3	0	18	0
Ali Arman	3-4	2	5	2
Shariful	2-4	1	2	4

NAFEES ... 32 n. o.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Haroon	3	0	19	0
Anand	1	0	12	0
Rizwan	1	0	13	0
Sami	1	0	9	0

Result: Bangladesh won by 10 wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Haroon Naseer (Bahrain).

Today's match: Bangladesh v Kuwait.

## AB Bank TT Biman off to a flier

Sports Reporter

Defending champions Bangladesh Biman got off to a flying start in the AB Bank Metropolitan Senior Division Table Tennis League when the national airline outfit outclassed Engineers Club by 3-0 in the opening match at the NSC wooden-floor Gymnasium yesterday.

Biman ensured their victory before going into the third game after Mostafa and Mahub defeated their respective opponents by straight sets.

Mostafa scored a 21-15, 21-18 win over Badal while Mahub posted a 21-18, 21-12 victory against Munna.

Engineers Club however found a good fighter in Baban, who went down fighting against veteran Mosaddequl Haq Rachil by 19-21, 21-13 and 21-11.

Meanwhile, four matches of the First Division League was held earlier on the day with Dilkusha SC, Arka and Barna TTS posting identical 3-0 victories against Khelaghar SK, Monsur Sporting and Swambagh TTS respectively.

The only match on the opening day that raised chances of an upset was between Mariner Young and Uttara Sporting. Mariner won the grueling five-setter 3-2.

## S Asian women's h'ball Chinese Taipei arrive July 23

Chinese Taipei will be the first team to arrive in the city to take part in the sixth Asian Women's Junior Handball Championship beginning at Shaheed Suhrawardy National Indoor Stadium at Mirpur on July 25, reports BSS.

Defending champions South Korea, China, Japan, Chinese Taipei, India, Nepal and hosts Bangladesh will participate in the seven-day tournament.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is likely to inaugurate the championship.

The 21-member Chinese Taipei team including 16 players will reach Dhaka on July 23 noon. A 23-member Japanese team, including 17 players, is due at 10-30 pm the same day.

The 17-member Korean team are due on July 24. Two referees each from Pakistan and Chinese Taipei will arrive here on July 23 to conduct the matches.

Besides, two technical delegates -- Dr Ahmed Abu Al-Lail and Zaki a Khodury and two referees -- Issam Hassan Abu and Saqar Mohammad Ali from Kuwait will arrive on July 22.

The teams, split into two groups, will play in a round robin league. South Korea, Chinese Taipei, Nepal and India have been placed in Group 'A' while China, Japan and Bangladesh belong to Group 'B'.

The top two teams of each group will play in the semifinals, set for July 29 followed by the match between the third place holders of each group on July 30 for fifth and sixth positions.

The final and the third-place play-off will take place on July 31.

Bangladesh will take on China in the inaugural encounter.

Top three teams will qualify for World Youth Championship to be held in Hungary in 2001, officials said.

Bangladesh Television and Bangladesh Betar are expected to broadcast the running commentary of the matches from the indoor stadium, they said.

A sum of Taka 71 lakh is estimated to meet the expenses of the tournament. Taka 23.37 lakh will be reimbursed through Asian Handball Federation for the food and accommodation expenses of the participating teams.

## RU soccer

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAH, July 20: Department of Islamic History and Culture and Economics won their respective matches in the university inter-department soccer championship.

Islamic History blanked Finance and Banking 6-0. Mahub and Arif made hat-tricks at the university stadium today.

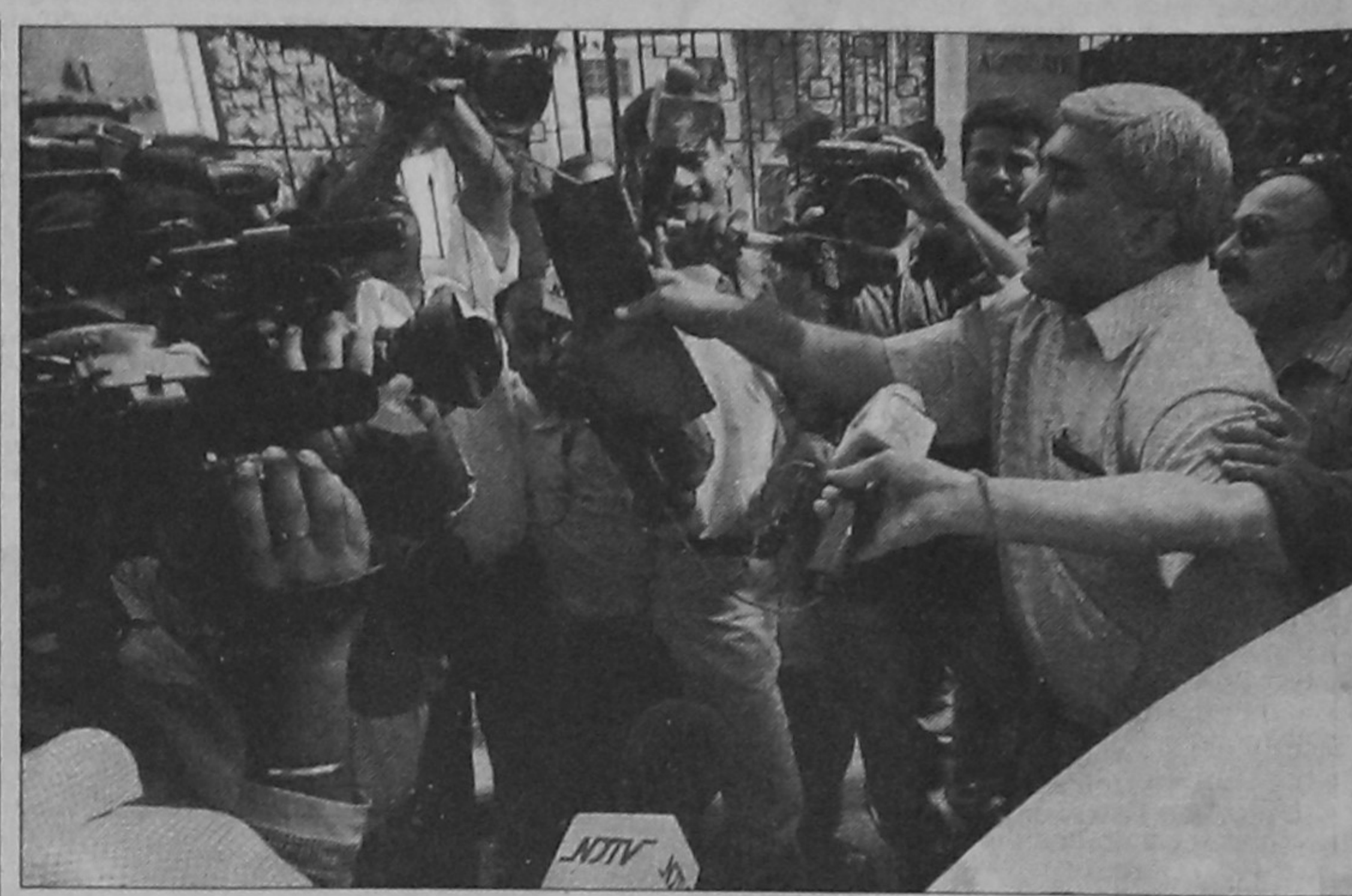
In another match of the day, held at the same venue, Economics beat Geography 3-1.

## Army aquatics conclude

Jessore Area emerged champions with 186 points and Comilla Area became runners-up with 159 points in the annual swimming championship of the Bangladesh Army which concluded at the Army Swimming Complex at Banani yesterday, says a press release.

UP Lance Naik Muhammad Abu Bakkar Siddik of Jessore Area was adjudged the best swimmer of the meet.

Meanwhile, Comilla Area became champions defeating Jessore Area by 3-2 goals in the final of the Water Polo Championship.



An Indian income tax official is surrounded by reporters as he comes out of the residence of Kapil Dev in New Delhi yesterday. —AFP photo

## Taxmen raid Indian houses

BOMBAY, July 20 (AP/AF): Income tax investigators raided houses, secret properties and bank lockers

of Indian cricketers, officials and bookies Thursday as they probed a match-fixing scandal.

They searched the houses of player and former captain Mohammad Azharuddin in Hyderabad and Bombay, coach Kapil Dev's home in New Delhi and his in-laws' residence in Bombay, and the home and office of Jagmohan Dalmiya, former president of the International Cricket Council.

"We are carrying out the operations in about 90 different places. In some places, we are making searches and in others surveys," said SC Parja, director general of income tax investigations.

"We are co-ordinating with the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). We have called them in a couple of hours after our raids. They will be looking at the criminal angle, while we will investigate the undisclosed incomes," Parja said.

"By tomorrow, all the details will start coming out."

In the southern city of Hyderabad, an AFP reporter on the scene saw six tax officials enter Azharuddin's house in the up-market Banjara Hills suburb at 11:00 am (0530 GMT).

Two officials left the house carrying a suitcase, which eyewitnesses said they took to a local bank before returning and rejoining the search.

Azharuddin was reportedly away in London for a charity match when the officials

swooped at his two homes in Bombay and Hyderabad. The Bombay house of Azharuddin's in-laws — actress Sangeeta Birla's parents — was also raided.

Other cricketers' whose homes were raided included Ajay Jadeja, Nikhil Chopra, Navjot Sidhu and Ajay Sharma, Income Tax Department officials said on condition of anonymity.

"Countrywide searches and seizures under the Income Tax Act are being carried out at business and residential premises of renowned cricketers and high profile officials associated with cricket, along with certain bookies," said P K Sarma, director-general of Bombay tax department.

Sarma told AFP that 10 spots had been raided in the city, where a number of top cricketers live.

"It is very, very early to say what we have found or how long the raids will last," Sarma said.

"We are going to scan the papers and bank accounts of all these people," he added.

Income Tax authorities in India are allowed to raid homes and investigate when citizens appear to have more wealth than their declared incomes can justify.

The raids started simultaneously in several cities at 8-30 am time (0300 GMT) and continued for 11 hours. The investigators also searched houses that were earlier not known to belong to the cricketers and their families, said Sarma.

Sarma said investigators also searched the offices of a

company which has broadcasting rights for several international matches, but he would not name the company. Jewelry worth 1.1 million rupees (26,200 dollars) was seized from a bookmaker's residence, he said.

"The department has sealed bank lockers and identified the bank accounts," Sarma said in a statement. "Incriminating material on papers and computer floppies has been identified and is being scrutinised."

Based on taped phone conversations, New Delhi police in April charged former South African cricket captain Hansie Cronje and his teammates Herschelle Gibbs, Nicky Boje and Pieter Strydom with fraud, conspiracy, deceiving and defrauding spectators.

Cronje admitted receiving about 10,000 dollars and said he had "forecast" some matches, but he denied fixing them.

Cronje later said, Azharuddin had introduced him to an "Indian bookie" — a charge the former Indian skipper denied.

The Central Bureau of Investigation, India's equivalent of the FBI, has questioned top Indian players and some officials in the past month as part of a preliminary inquiry into the match-fixing scandal.

The CBI probe was ordered by the federal government.

Manoj Prabhakar, a former Indian cricket player, has accused national coach Kapil of offering him 2.5 million rupees (57,340 dollars) as a bribe to underplay during a 1994 match against Pakistan.

Kapil has denied the accusation.

## Arjuna to go after SA series

COLOMBO, July 20: Sri Lanka's Arjuna Ranatunga, who led the country to a cricket World Cup victory four years ago, announced his retirement Thursday, exactly a year after he was sacked as team captain, reports AFP.

Ranatunga, 36, said it was difficult for him to retire from cricket after completing the current three-Test series against South Africa under the

captaincy of the younger Sanath Jayasuriya.

"This has been a painful decision," he said in a letter to the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka. "I arrived at it after a great deal of consideration and thought."

His team went from World Cup tops in 1996 to World Cup flops in 1999 with fans turning angry over his performance and blaming him for not quitting earlier with honour and dignity.

From the most successful of

captains, he fell from grace overnight despite an impressive 10 years leading the Sri Lankan team.

Ranatunga has captained Sri Lanka in 193 one-day matches. He won 89, lost 95 with ending in no result and one tie.

He has played a total of 91 Test matches, being captain in 56 of them to win 12, lose 19 and draw 25.

During the World Cup last year, Ranatunga crossed swords with his chief bugbear, Shane Warne, who said Ranatunga should leave the game.

"Ranatunga might be a shrewd, experienced leader, but his batting is not what it was and he is terrible in the field," Warne said. "Frankly, Sri Lanka — and the game overall — would be better off without him."

Yes, there is plenty of animosity between Ranatunga and myself. I don't like him and I'm not in a club of one.

Ranatunga, speaking after his reigning champions had lost the opening match of the World Cup to England, said: "I'm not really worried what they say. It shows more about Shane Warne and Australian culture rather than about me and our culture."

"We have a culture that is 2,500 years old — I think we all know where they (Australians) come from."

Last year, Ranatunga made it clear that he wished to stay on in the team. "What I do wish to say is that it is my firm belief that I do have a few years of cricket left in me and if my services are wanted I am willing to represent my country in whatever capacity."

In the recently concluded Test series against Pakistan in June, Ranatunga became the first player in the history of the game to appear for his country in its inaugural Test and its 100th Test.

Ranatunga made his Test debut while still a student at Sri Lanka's prestigious Ananda College at the age of 18, against England at the Saranamuttu Stadium in February 1982.

He scored his country's maiden Test fifty in that game. Since then he has played a



Sri Lanka's Arjuna Ranatunga walks back to the pavilion after his dismissal on the first day of the first Test against South Africa in Galle yesterday. Ranatunga announced that he would retire from international cricket after the current three-Test series. —AFP photo

## MSC-Sonali Bank opener

Green Delta League starts tomorrow

Sports Reporter

Holders Mohammedan will take on Babes Sonali Bank in the inaugural match at the Green Delta Stadium tomorrow.

Senior Division Hockey League begins at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium tomorrow.

Sixteen teams, nine in Premier Division and seven in First Division, will take part in the two-tier league which is expected to end by September.

Apart from Mohammedan and Sonali Bank, Abahani Krira Chakra, Usha Krira Chakra, Mariner Youngs Club, Ajax Sporting Club, Azad Sporting Club, Farashganj Sporting Club and Bangladesh Sporting Club will take part in the Premier Division.

The First Division league will feature Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha, Bachelors Sporting Club, Railway, Wari Club, Victoria Sporting Club, Dhaka Wanderers and Mukta Bihanga Tarun Sangha.

Top two First Division outfits will earn promotion to the Premier Division while the bottom side of the Premier League will play in next season's First Division.

Each team will be allowed to register a maximum of three foreign players and field two at

a time. But none of the 16 teams have registered a single player so far.

Out of 17 national pool players, Mohammedan and Usha have roped in highest five players each.

Abahani have four while Mariner collected two followed by Ajax with one.

For the first time, Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) is going to introduce match commissioners for every match of the league. A panel of 18 former hockey players has already been finalised for the purpose.

This was disclosed by league committee secretary Nurul

Amin at a press conference at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

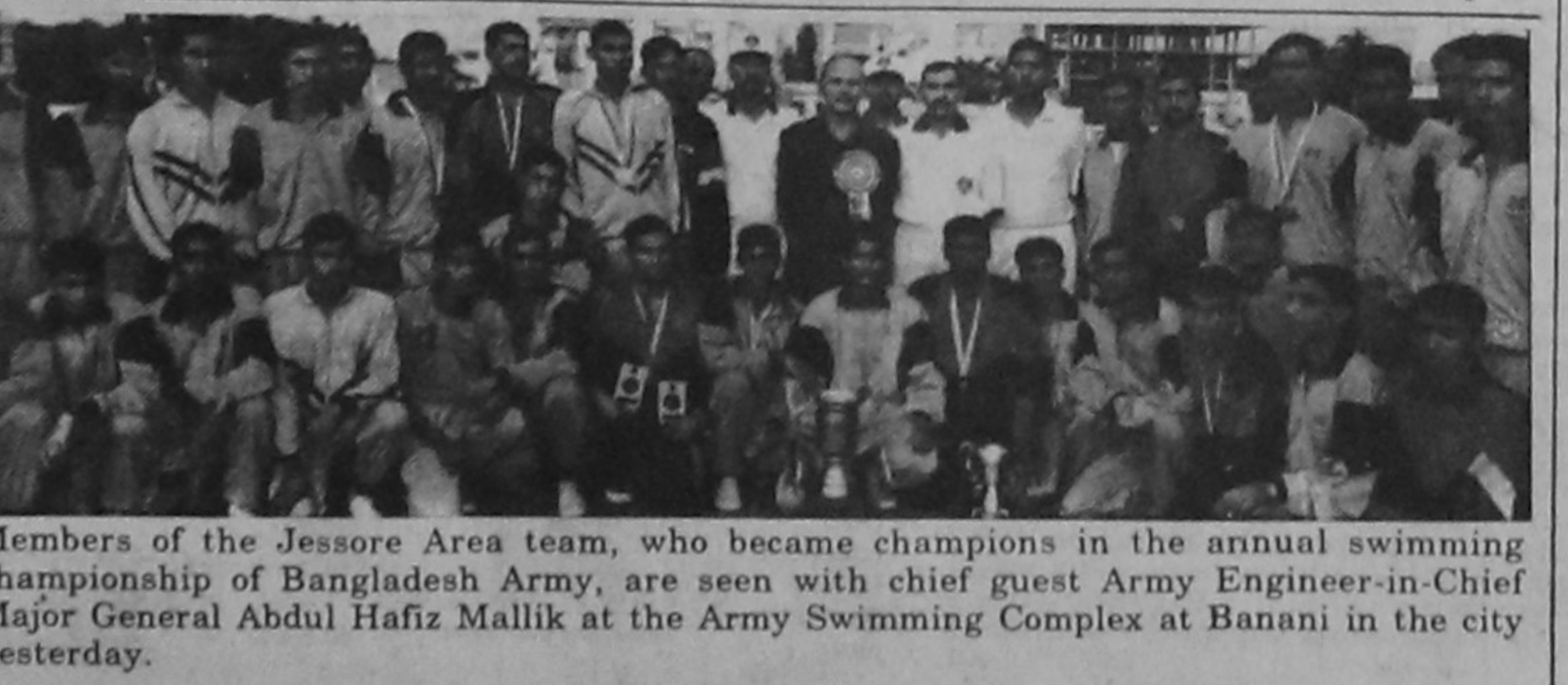
Chaired by league committee vice-chairman Sheikh Nurul Islam, BHF general secretary Shamsul Bari and Nazim Tajik Chowdhury, the executive vice-president of Green Delta Insurance Limited, were also present during the briefing.

Nurul Amin revealed that a budget of Taka 2.47 lakh has been earmarked for the league.

He also informed that the rate of gallery tickets have been fixed at ten taka.

Incidentally, this season ends the sponsors' three-year deal worth Taka 20 lakh.

Date	Match	Kick off time
July 22	Mohammedan SC v Sonali Bank	4 pm
July 23	Sadharan Bima v Mukta Bihanga	2:15 pm
	Abahani KC v Bangladesh SC	4 pm
July 24	Bachelors SC v Dhaka Wanderers	4 pm
	Usha KC v Farashganj SC	2:15 pm
July 25	Railway v Victoria SC	4 pm
	Mariner Youngs Club v Azad SC	2:15 pm
July 26	Wari Club v Mukta Bihanga	4 pm
	Mohammedan SC v Bangladesh SC	2:15 pm
July 27	Sadharan Bima v Dhaka Wanderers	4 pm
	Abahani KC v Sonali Bank	2:15 pm
July 28	Bachelors SC v Mukta Bihanga	4 pm
	Ajax SC v Azad SC	4 pm



Members of the Jessore Area team, who became champions in the annual swimming championship of Bangladesh Army, are seen with chief guest Army Engineer-in-Chief Major General Abdul Hafiz Malik at the Army Swimming Complex at Banani in the city yesterday.