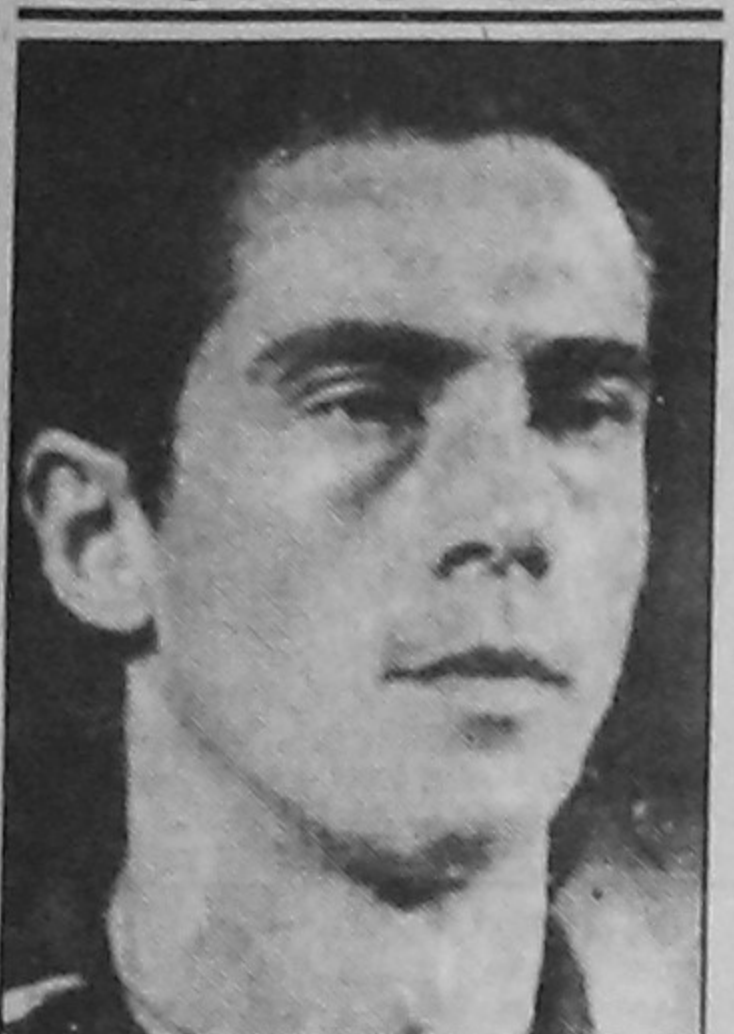


Column One

SPORTS TALK



Paulo Sousa
(Portuguese midfielder)

"I was even laughing on the bench when I saw their defenders heading back towards their own penalty area rather than trying to tackle Figo or Rui Costa."

On England's dismal defending in the 3-2 defeat by Portugal at Euro 2000.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-134

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

Competition closes at 8 pm
Aug 11, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

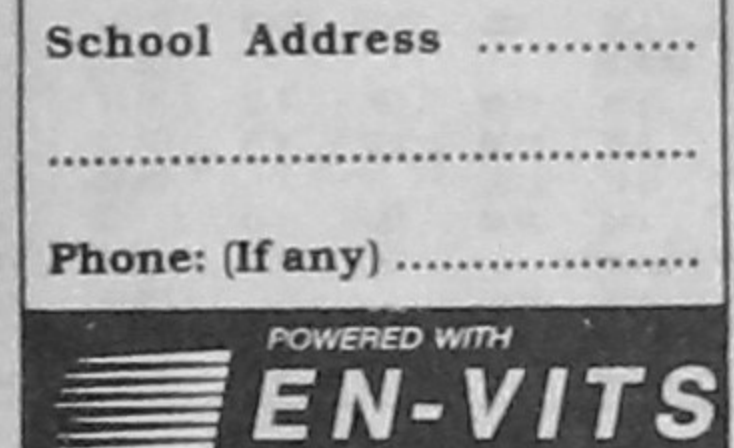
- Who is the world's most expensive football player?
Crespo Zidane Figo
- Who won the ICC Under-17 Asia Cup?
Pakistan Sri Lanka India
- Bagladesh's opening match in the second ICC Knock-out tournament is against:
South Africa West Indies England
- Who won the NatWest tri-series?
West Indies Zimbabwe England
- Name the winner of the British Open golf:
Faldo Woods Els

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)



Leics 333/7 decl against Windies

LEICESTER, England, July 29: Leicestershire declared their innings at 333 for seven wickets at lunch on the second day of the three-day tour match against West Indies today, reports Reuters.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at lunch on the second day of the three-day match between Leicestershire and West Indies on Saturday:

LEICESTERSHIRE: First innings (overnight 210-5).

D Maddy c Hinds b Rose	48
I Sutcliffe lbw b Rose	34
D Stevens c Hinds b King	12
D Dakin b Nagamootoo	11
B Smith c Jacobs b Ambrose	76
A Habib lbw b Nagamootoo	70
V Wells st Jacobs b Nagamootoo	84
D Williamson not out	21
C Crowe not out	3
Extras: (b-10; lb-4; nb-30)	44
Total: (For seven wks, decl)	333

Fall of wickets: 1-90; 2-113; 3-117; 4-129; 5-133; 6-285; 7-321.

Did not bat: P Griffiths, S Adshad.

Bowler:	O	M	R	W
Ambrose	26	2	86	1
King	18	1	89	1
Rose	18	3	50	2
Nagamootoo	23	3	68	3
Adams	8	0	24	0
Gayle	1	0	2	0

RU football

From RU Correspondent

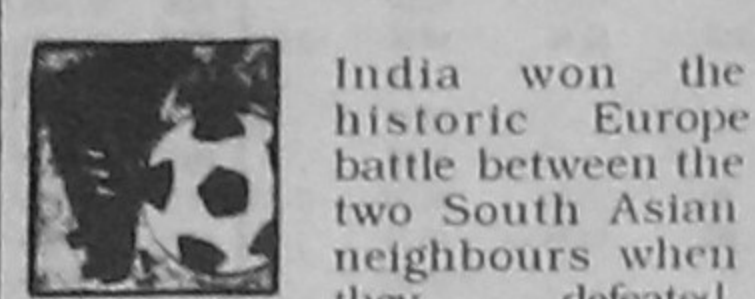
RAJSHAHI, July 29: The departments of History and Law moved into group final in the inter-department football championship of Rajshahi University today.

History blanked Chemistry 2-0 at the university stadium. In another match of the day, Law outplayed Bangla 3-0 at the same venue.

The winners will face each other in the group final scheduled to be held on August 1.

India win Europe battle

Sports Reporter



India won the historic Europe battle between the two South Asian neighbours when they defeated Bangladesh by a solitary goal at Filbert Street in Leicester City, England last night.

Veteran midfielder Jo Paul Anchieri struck the all-important goal in the 11th minute of the match amidst thunderous cheers from a capacity 32 thousand crowd at the home ground of English Premier League team Leicester City.

The victory completed a successful Indian tour to England, where they had lost to the big-spending First Division side Fulham by 2-0 and held West Bromwich Albion to a goalless draw.

On the other hand, it was Bangladesh's second defeat from as many outings in their first tour outside Asia. Reaching London on July 24, Bangladesh faced an English outfit on Wednesday as a build-up to the yesterday's match.

Although the partying strong band of Bangladesh officials seemingly tried their best to blackout the result of that friendly match against Huddersfield Town, an Internet

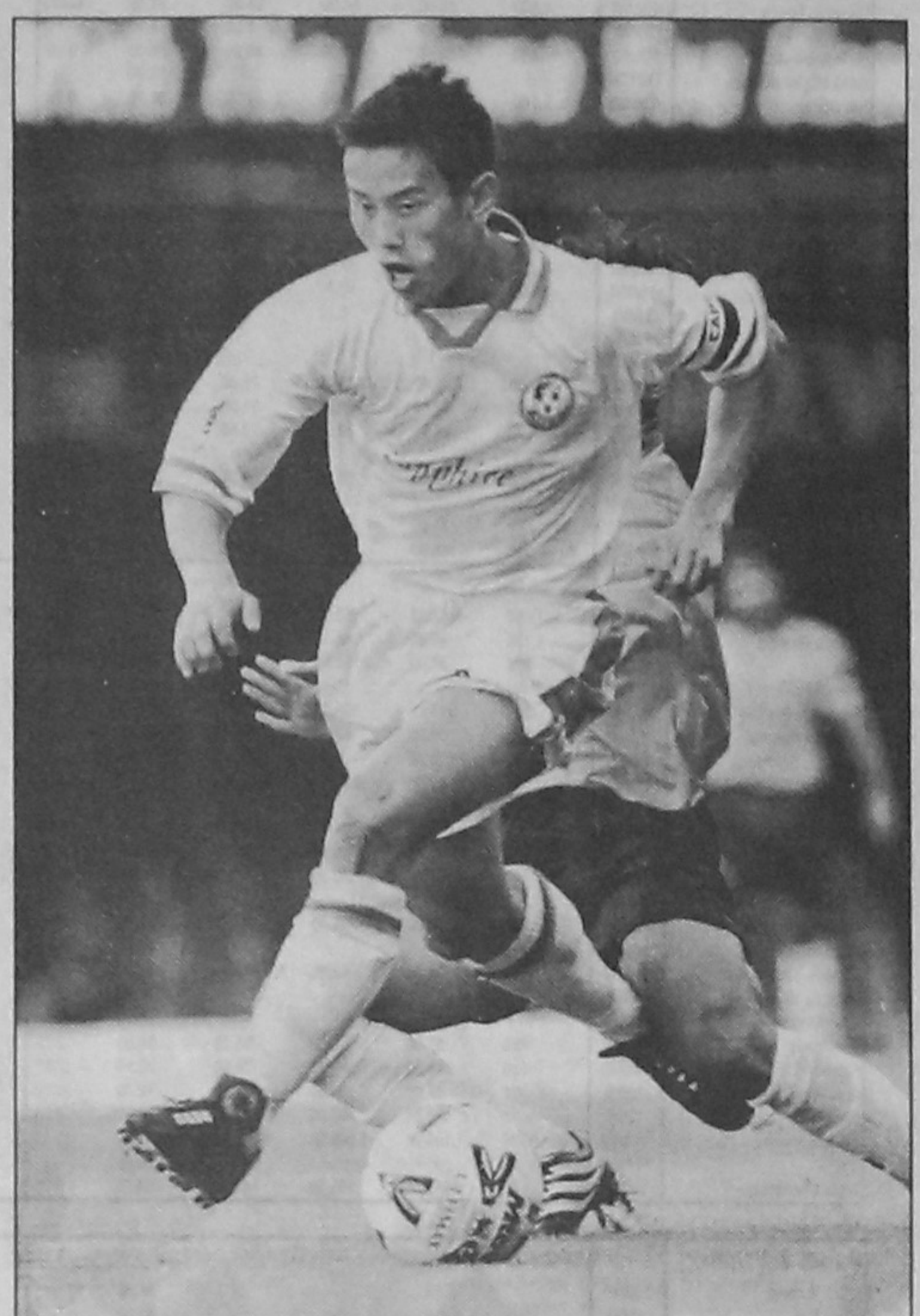
Taxmen open 2 more lockers

NEW DELHI, July 29: The Income Tax (IT) officials yesterday opened two more lockers here, sealed during the massive searches conducted by the authorities at the premises of top cricketers, administrators and bookies in the wake of match-fixing scandal, reports PTI.

With these the number of lockers opened since Tuesday goes up to nine. However, they refused to divulge the contents of these lockers saying those were being scrutinised.

The IT authorities had found jewellery worth 15 lakh rupees from the four lockers, belonging to a cricketer and a bookie which were opened on Tuesday and Wednesday.

IT authorities were ascertaining whether the jewellery had been included in the annual returns filed by the cricketer before initiating action against him, they said.



India captain Baichung Bhutia shrugs off a challenge by a Bangladesh defender during the friendly fixture at Filbert Street in Leicester City yesterday. —AFP photo

report revealed that the visitors lost to the First Division side by 5-0.

However, yesterday's victory exacted a sweet revenge for Sukhwinder Singh's India, who lost to Bangladesh by an identical margin in the eighth SAF Games in Kathmandu last year.

Bangladesh however got their share of opportunities after conceding the goal. They came close to levelling the match when Ranehan fired a scorching right-footer in the 30th minute, but his goal-bound shot was diverted by an outstretched Indian defender.

The last realistic chance lost to Bangladesh got five minutes from the short whistle when Motiur Munna came up with a blistering free-kick from the edge of the box. But the agile Indian custodian parried off his effort.

Although India won the battle by the barest of margin, Bangladesh defence had done a tremendous job to restrain star forward, Baichung Bhutia and his partner in the upfront IMC Bijayan. The lethal Indian pair was hardly allowed any space to test Bangladesh custodian Aminul.

Hegg goes to Lancs' rescue



LONDON, July 29: An innings of 75 from Lancashire wicketkeeper Warren Hegg gave his team a useful total on Day One of a crucial Roses English County Championship match at Headingley on Friday, reports AFP.

Hegg's resistance held up Yorkshire in the Division One top-of-the-table clash in which the visitors reached 267 all out, and then the White Rose combatants' reply was brought to a premature end by a downpour with just four runs and no wickets on the board.

The hosts had threatened to destroy their rivals, but Lancashire dug in until Matthew Hoggard eventually got the better of them with four for 70.

Elsewhere on the first day of a new round of matches, Jon Lewis ground out a century to steady struggling Durham's nerves against Somerset and help them finish the day on 215 for five.

Durham started badly and were 17 for two at one stage at Chester-le-Street, but Lewis hard-earned 113 not out from 246 balls steadied the ship and turned his team's innings around.

Derbyshire won the toss and elected to bat first in their clash with Kent at Canterbury and made slow but steady progress to finish the first day on 167 for five after 60 overs.

In Division Two, Mark Ramprakash sent a stark message to the England selectors with an unbeaten century as bottom club Middlesex were bowled out for 227 by Sussex at Southgate.

Having been left out of the England side for the third Test against the West Indies, Ramprakash bounced back to score 110 and hold Middlesex's together as wickets crashed around him and paceman James Kirtley took five for 50.

In return Sussex took their time to put runs on the board but eventually finished the day well-placed on 84 for two.

At Edgbaston, Northamptonshire won the toss and set about posting an impressive target in the first innings of their game with third-placed Warwickshire.

Helped by a score of 122 from Matthew Hayden the visitors looked in control as they closed the day on 296 for seven.

Worcestershire struggled to just 98 in their first innings in the mid-table battle with Gloucestershire at New Road as their batsmen were destroyed by a rampant Mike Smith.

Smith took four for 16 to add to three-wicket hauls from team-mates Ben Gannon and Ian Harvey to dismiss the home side.

But the wickets continued to fall when Gloucestershire took to the crease as Glenn McGrath took a brilliant four for 16 to leave the visitors on 57 for five when rain stopped play.

In a rain-interrupted tour

match at Grace Road, Leicestershire looked to be well on their way to an impressive total against the West Indies when bad light intervened.

Ben Smith's unbeaten 40 contributed to a 77-run partnership with Vince Wells (38) which took the hosts to 210 for five before play was called to a halt after 60 overs.

COUNTY TABLES

County Cricket Championship tables after the latest round of matches here on Friday (played, won, lost, drawn, batting bonus points, bowling bonus points, total points):

DIVISION ONE									
Surrey	11	6	2	3	26	26	136		
Lancashire	10	5	0	5	19	24	123		
Yorkshire	10	3	2	3	20	30	122		
Leicestershire	10	3	3	4	23	25	100		
Somerset	10	2	3	5	23	25	92		
Kent	9	3	2	4	8	24	84		
Durham	10	2	6	2	16	29	77		
Hampshire	10	1	6	3	9	30	63		
Derbyshire	10	1	4	5	10	27	61		
Derbyshire have been deducted eight points for a sub-standard pitch									
DIVISION TWO									
Glamorgan	10	4	1	5	12	23	103		
Essex	10	3	1	6	18	25	103		
Warwickshire	9	2	0	7	27	19	98		
Sussex	10	2	2	6	24	25	97		
Nottinghamshire	10	3	3	4	16	27	95		
Northamptonshire	10	1	2	7	24	28	92		
Gloucestershire	9	2	4	3	18	25	79		
Middlesex	9	1	4	4	15	27	70		
Middlesex have been deducted eight points for a sub-standard pitch									



Wasim Akram, captain of Asia Eleven, is ecstatic after getting rid of his Rest of the World counterpart Alec Stewart during the charity match at The Oval yesterday. —AFP photo

AB Bank TT Biman finish at the top

Sports Reporter

Defending champions Bangladesh Biman completed the first phase of the AB Bank Senior Division Table Tennis League with an all-win record when the national airline outfit defeated Armanitola JS 3-0 at the NSC Wooden-floor Gymnasium yesterday.

Although the audience expected a tough battle between Biman and last year's runners-up Armanitola, the match turned into a lop-sided affair when the paddlers of the old town outfit caved in meekly.

National number one Mahabub set the course of an easy sail for Biman when he defeated Hamlet in 21-16, 18-21, 21-19 sets.

Mostafa made it 2-0 with a consummate 21-12, 21-16 win over Manosh. Veteran Mosaddek Hossain Rachi then went on to win the third game against Gautam 19-21, 21-10, 21-10.

It was Biman's seventh win from as many first leg matches. On the other hand, Armanitola succumbed to their first defeat yesterday after six straight wins.

Both Biman and Armanitola had earlier ensured their places in the five-team Super League along with Wari Club, Engineers Club and Inter Sports Club.

Wari picked up their fifth win yesterday, defeating Swamibagh Boys by three sets to nil. It was Swamibagh's seventh defeat.

Meanwhile, in the other match of the day Engineers Club scored an identical 3-0 victory over Inter Sports. The victory enabled Engineers Club to finish fourth behind Wari in the eight-team race.

The Super League will start on August 3.

STANDINGS

Team	M	W	L	Pts
Biman	7	7	0	11
Armanitola	7	6	1	12
Wari	7	5	2	10
Engineers Club	7	4	3	8
Inter Sports	7	3	4	6
Brothers Union	7	2	5	4
Armanitola Junior	7	1	6	2
Swamibagh Boys	7	0	7	0

ROW prevail in Oval war

LONDON, July 29: The Rest of the World beat Asia Eleven by 15 runs in their 50 overs per side match here at The Oval on Saturday, reports AFP.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the match between the Rest of the World and Asia Eleven at The Oval on Saturday:

REST OF THE WORLD

Johnston c Mongia b Srinath	7
Stewart c Mongia b Wasim	5
Hussain c Kumble b Chopra	45
Astle b Saqlain	51
Thorpe c Azharuddin b Chopra	6
Law st Mongia b Saqlain	25
Cairns c Wasim b Saqlain	18
Holloake not out	23
Streak c Azharuddin b Saqlain	17
Mullally not out	0
Extras: (lb-19; nb-3)	22
Total: (For 8 wks in 50 overs) 219	

Did not bat: C Walsh

Fall of wickets: 1-16, 2-16, 3-113, 4-125, 5-127, 6-172, 7-182, 8-218

Bowler

	O	M	R	W
Akram	10	1	33	1
Srinath	10	2	30	1
Kumble	7	0	31	0
Prasad	5	0	24	0
Saqlain	10	0	45	4
Chopra	8	0	37	2

ASIA ELEVEN

Anwar c Cairns b Walsh	16
De Silva c b Cairns	35
Azharuddin c Stewart b Streak	33
Jadeja run out	29
Mongia c Holloake b Johnston	11
Akram b Mullally	15
Chopra c b Cairns	36
Kumble b Mullally	19
Mushtaq b Mullally	1
Srinath not out	3
Prasad b Cairns	1
Extras: (lb-7; w-1; nb-3)	11
Total: (All out in 48.5 overs) 204	

Fall of wickets: 1-50, 2-73, 3-107, 4-123, 5-139, 6-161, 7-198, 8-200, 9-201

Bowler

	O	M	R	W
Walsh	10	2	29	1
Streak	10	1	51	1
Mullally	9	1	41	3
Cairns	9.5	1	29	3
Holloake	3	0	19	0
Johnston	7	0	28	1

Result: Rest of the World side won by 15 runs.

Venus, Monica move into semis

STANFORD, California, July 29: Venus Williams outlasted Amy Frazier, 6-7 (7-5), 6-4, 7-6 (7-5), in the quarterfinals of the Bank of the West, reports AP.

The victory Friday put the second-seeded Williams into the semifinals against the winner of a late match between Anna Kournikova and Sandrine Testud.

Fourth-seeded Monica Seles also advanced into the semifinals with a 6-1, 6-2 victory over Zimbabwe's Cara Black.

The 10th-seeded Frazier forced Williams, the reigning Wimbledon champion, to go over 2 1/2 hours before she slammed home the tiebreaking forehand.

Don't give cricket a raw deal

Lenin Gani

No matter what cricket says or does 'big brothers of football' will always have the last laugh.

The just-concluded annual showdown between the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) and Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) over who would retain possession of the Bangabandhu National Stadium proved the point.

The argument that cricket took a giant step by becoming the tenth Test-playing nation was brushed aside when the State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader gift-wrapped the stadium to the BFF from July 15 to October 31.

The football authorities in their defence said they could not complete this season's Premier Division League within the originally specified two-and-a-half-month period ending September 30.

The minister, signing the hand over order in his capacity as National Sports Council chairman, was least concerned when he stated that "Even if there was no football this year it would not be a problem."

No sooner had Quader uttered these words than the club association of Dhaka and BFF threatened to go on strike. And, footballers even contemplated boycotting the historic tour to England if the transfer market was not opened on time.

May be the storm clouds over the once popular sport have passed. But what about cricket? According to BCB general secretary Syed Ashraf Hui, the decision to revert ownership to football would definitely be a

step in the wrong direction. To celebrate the historic June 26 declaration of Bangladesh's elevation to Full Membership of the International Cricket Council (ICC), the BCB planned to stage a tri-series tournament in November but now that will have to be scrapped.

"It's really a pity that cricket is still fighting for a permanent venue when other games have their own grounds," he lamented.

Sadly, the assumption is correct. Hockey, swimming, handball and even basketball have all secured permanent addresses. But will they be making headlines around the world? Perhaps never.

Ashraf's comment echoes the sentiments of those wishing to see the welfare of the gentleman's game.

Only a month has passed since the nation exploded into euphoria when the new No.1 sport took that giant step. Naturally the august occasion called for bold declarations to be made by all and sundry.

Even the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina did not miss the opportunity to announce on the floor of Parliament that Bangladesh would become world champions. But how come a game grows up to that standard when it does not even have one single exclusive venue in the whole country? Probably, none but the prime minister knows the answer.

Somehow there is a serious misconception regarding this

type of game. The beauty of Test cricket is watching two teams battle over five days. But the real contest begins with preparation of the actual wicket. That is the key to an excellent encounter between a batsman and bowler trying to showcase each other's talent.

In our case, the constant digging up of pitches to accommodate football matches will definitely have an adverse effect on the state of cricket.

Chief curator of Bangabandhu Stadium and BCB member, Alam Chowdhury voicing his disappointment over the handling of the issue, has warned that Dhaka wickets would not be up to Test standard for the next five years if the practice of cutting and repairing continues unabated.

In an effort to quell the discontent brewing between the opposing parties, the government is going to build a fourth national stadium exclusively for football in the heart of the city. Sports' ruling body in the country is however very reluctant to address its failure in Mirpur Stadium, the picturesque second national stadium which was built for football in late eighties to end the annual tug-of-war as well as to keep the busy commercial zone around Dhaka Stadium out of football fans' frequent violence.

But the 22 crore project turned into a total failure as football clubs and BFF refused to make any use of it citing numerous lame excuses.

See page 9

Lanka want to wrap it up



KANDY, Sri Lanka, July 29: Sri Lankans are keyed up to push South Africa over the edge by persisting with their policy of three spinners for the second cricket Test starting in here Sunday, reports AFP.

Already one up in the three-Test series, Sri Lanka's Sanath Jayasuriya's men are not prepared to lose the advantage they have on the South Africans after winning the first Test by an innings and 15 runs in Galle.



SANATH JAYASURIYA

"We cannot underestimate South Africa at any stage. They are capable of always winning and coming back," said Jayasuriya.