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Australia New Zealand England
- Who is European footballer-of-the-year?
Figo Zidane Shevchenko
- Who became Prime Bank Rating chess champion?
Rajib Rezaul Pallab
- Who became Americas' player-of-the-year?
Romario Ronaldo Batistuta

Name

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Biman batter Metropolis

Aminul, Hasanuzzaman run riot

GREEN DELTA NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE

Biman v Dhaka Metro

Leaders Bangladesh Biman thrived on twin tons from Aminul Islam and Hasanuzzaman to pile up a mammoth total against Dhaka Metropolis on the second of their four-day Green Delta National League match at the BKSP ground in Saver yesterday.



AMINUL ... 100

Aminul, not out on 67 at stumps on Wednesday, scored exactly 100 and Hasanuzzaman hammered a strokeful 111 as the national flag-carrier, racing on to 518 for eight at close. This is also the highest innings total in the National League so far. Interestingly, the previous best was Dhaka Metropolis' epic second innings run chase of 451 against Biman at the Dhanmouidi Cricket Stadium. Haunted by that dreadful day at Dhanmouidi, Biman set

Sports Reporter

out to give a fitting reply. And the manner in which first innings total was built was a carbon copy of their opponent's dramatic chase, which contained three centuries.

Taking a cue from opener Javed, who scored 102 on the first day, former national captain Aminul Islam transformed his half-century into a three-figure mark with the help of nine fours.

Hasanuzzaman, coming in to bat at number six, helped himself to a dozen fours and a couple of sixes for an aggressive hundred.

Incidentally for the trio, it was their second century in the ICC recognised first-class competition. Moreover for Aminul, the lone Test centurion of the country, it was his second successive ton after a superb 153.

Sawar also made a healthy 63 inclusive of ten boundaries. However, the declaration from Biman skipper Faruque Ahmed was yet to come.

For the Dhaka bowlers it was a leather hunting day. The only inspiring news was for Naimur Rahman. The national captain who bowls off-spinners was given a clean bill of health by visiting Australian Test Daryl Harper.

"I have seen him bowling perfectly all right. Perhaps, he was not bowling those deliveries," said Harper who is standing in the match alongside a local umpire. Naimur has recently come under ICC scrutiny for having a suspect bowling action and was given 6-weeks to correct his action.

Scoreboard on the second day of the four-day Green Delta National League match between Bangladesh Biman and Dhaka

Metropolis at the BKSP ground in Saver yesterday.

BIMAN: First Innings (over-night 263 for 3)
Javed c Anwar b K Mahmud 102
Faruque b Naimur 68
Bashar c K Mahmud b Naimur 1
Aminul c Tariq b Saikat 100
Sanwar c Anwar b Naimur 63
Hasanuzzaman c Tariq b K Masud 111
Ziaur lbw b K Masud 9
A Wasim not out 14



HASANUZZAMAN ... 111

Mokter b Ashraf 36
Extras: (b-5, lb-8, nb-1) 14
Total: (For 8 wickets in 204.4 over) 518
Fall of wickets: 1/133, 2/139, 3/222, 4/332, 5/358, 6/382, 7/480, 8/518

Bowler O M R W
K Mahmud 47.4 13 126 3
Mehrab 6 1 26 0
Naimur 44 4 139 3
Ashraf 13 3 36 1
Saikat 46 14 78 1
Mukul 36 10 88 0
Biplob 4 1 3 0
Tariq Mahmud 4 0 9 0

Again it's Enamul

GREEN DELTA NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE

Khulna v Ctg

The Enamul show continued unabated when the veteran all-rounder scored yet another glorious half-century to give holders Chittagong a crucial first innings advantage against Khulna on the second day of their four-day Green Delta National League match at the Comilla Stadium yesterday.

The southpaw hammered an aggressive 84-ball 78 as the hosts recovered from a shaky start to post 290 before being dismissed in 97.5 overs.

Resuming on 51 for one, Chittagong 141 for five before Enamul, who is perhaps playing the best cricket of his life, throttled his side to a lead of 79 runs. Khulna scored 211 in their first innings.

Enamul's dazzling display with the willow after his six-wicket haul once again bailed out the port city outfit, which is not functioning properly as a unit.



ENAMUL ... 78

Sports Reporter

One-down Ehsanul scored a defiant 49 off 140 balls but Nafis Iqbal, one of the bright stars to have emerged from this year's National League, suffered a rare failure by making only

19. Even though skipper Minhazul Abedin made 36, Chittagong couldn't build a lasting partnership until when Enamul joined wicketkeeper Murtaza to steady things. He scored a vital 27 off 50 balls.

Nahidul, the left-handed opener who scored 81, returned as the most successful Khulna wicket taker with three for 51.

The part-time slow bowler was again in the thick of things when Khulna started their second innings. Nahidul was batting on 29 and his side on 40 for no loss in 11 overs when the stumps were drawn. Sajjadul Hasan Setu was unbeaten on eight.

Scoreboard on the second of the four-day Green Delta National League match between Chittagong and Khulna at the Comilla Stadium yesterday.

KHULNA: First Innings 211 all out in 76.3 overs (Nahidul 81, Rana 41; Enamul 6/44, Shahed Mahmud 3/28)

CHITTAGONG: First Innings (over-night 51 for 1 in 16 overs) See page 15

SL solace stymies SA

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 18: Sri Lanka's spin bowlers wrecked South Africa's 10-match unbeaten streak here Wednesday, clinching a four-run victory for the tourists in the sixth and final one-day international at the Wanderers, reports AFP.

Faced with a modest target of 209 in 42 overs, five less than Sri Lanka's total in a rain-reduced match, South Africa were on target for victory when

over from Sri Lanka skipper and left-arm spinner Sanath Jayasuriya.

Muralitharan came back for his final spell and bowled Roger Telemachus. With 27 needed and one wicket left, South African captain Shaun Pollock hit sixes off Jayasuriya and Muralitharan.

Thirteen were needed off the last over but Pollock could manage only a single off Jayasuriya's third ball. Allan Donald hit a single and Pollock hit the penultimate ball for a straight six. He went for a big hit off the last ball but instead found Jayasuriya who ran out Donald.

It was a remarkable comeback by Sri Lanka who lost the first five matches of the series and were 21 for three after being set in when a violent thunderstorm stopped play for two hours.

When the players returned Marvan Atapattu and Russel Arnold made contrasting half-centuries as Sri Lanka made a strong recovery.

Atapattu, who launched the recovery in a fourth wicket stand of 65, made 55 off 83 balls, while left-hander Arnold hit out in the closing overs to make his unbeaten 65 off 56 deliveries. Arnold's master-blast performance earned him the man of the match award.

Fast-bowler Roger Telemachus took all three wickets for nine runs before the stoppage. He finished with the best South African figures of three for 25 in eight overs.

They proved to be important strikes because the three wickets lost before the interruption counted against Sri Lanka

when the Duckworth-Lewis tables were consulted.

It meant South Africa had to score five fewer runs than their opponents. If Sri Lanka had not lost any wickets before the stoppage the target would have been 220.

Sri Lanka suffered a blow when left-arm opening bowler Chaminda Vaas collapsed with a groin injury after bowling the fifth ball of his fifth over, one delivery after bowling Jacques Kallis.



KALLIS ... m-o-s

Vaas is likely to be a doubtful starter for the third and final Test starting at Centurion on Saturday.

South Africa were seeking their 11th successive win to equal a record set by the West Indies in 1984-85.

Scoreboard Final score from the See page 15

First-class!

Sports Reporter

The International Cricket Council (ICC) general secretary Syed Ashraf Huj revealed the on-going Green Delta National League as a first-class tournament.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) general secretary Syed Ashraf Huj revealed the on-going Green Delta National League as a first-class tournament. The eagerly anticipated news from the game's ruling body to a group of reporters at his office yesterday.

"Both the three-day and the four-day matches of the National League will henceforth be regarded as first-class matches," said a delighted Ashraf.

He also added that the participating eight teams — holders Chittagong, runners-up Sylhet, national champion Bangladesh Biman, Barisal, Khulna, Dhaka Metropolis and Rajshahi — playing against any of the nine Test playing countries or their club/provincial sides, then they would also be considered as first-class too.

Besides, he pointed out that Kenya's cricket team had been awarded first-class status.

Booters back and training

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh national football team returned home last night after participating in the Sahara Millennium Cup football tournament in India.

But instead of resting, George Cottan's charges shook off the effects of jet lag by training under lights at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

"The players were suffering from muscle stiffness. They had been travelling for the last two days. So, the coach deemed it to be good to flex their muscles before taking a break," said Bangladesh Football Federation assistant general secretary Badal Roy last night while confirming the extraordinary happening.

Bangladesh bowed out from the tournament losing both their Group A matches to Bosnia (0-2) and fancied Yugoslavia (1-4).

Bangladesh took part in the tournament as part of their preparations for the forthcoming World Cup qualifiers to be held in Saudi Arabia from February 8.

Milo U-15 cricket

Sports Reporter

Brilliant bowling by Asif Ne-zaw propelled Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP) to a massive 129-run win over Dhaka Rangers in a Milo Under-15 cricket tournament first round match at the Railway ground in Rajshahi yesterday.

Asif, the right-arm medium pacer, captured six wickets for 16 runs in seven overs Dhaka Ranger, chasing a modest BKSP total of 184 in 45 overs, were shot out for 55 in just 15 overs, earlier, electing to bat, BKSP scored 184 for nine in the allotted 45 overs with lower middle order Iftekhar hammering highest 38 not out.

Score in Briefs BKSP: 184 for 9 in 45 overs (Iftekhar 38 n.o., Maruf 23, Rafique 3/29)

Dhaka Rangers: 55 all out in 15 overs (Asif 6/16, Haq 2/34)

Result: BKSP won by 129 runs.

Milo U-13 cricket

Sports Reporter

Metro Greens registered an exciting one-wicket win over Sylhet Surma in one of the four Milo Under-13 cricket tournament first round matches at the Nasirabad High School ground in Chittagong yesterday.

Chasing Sylhet Surma's 184 in 45 overs, the winners reached 185 in 44 overs with one wicket in hand.

Chittagong Karnaphuli defeated Khulna Tigers by nine wickets at the MA Aziz Stadium.

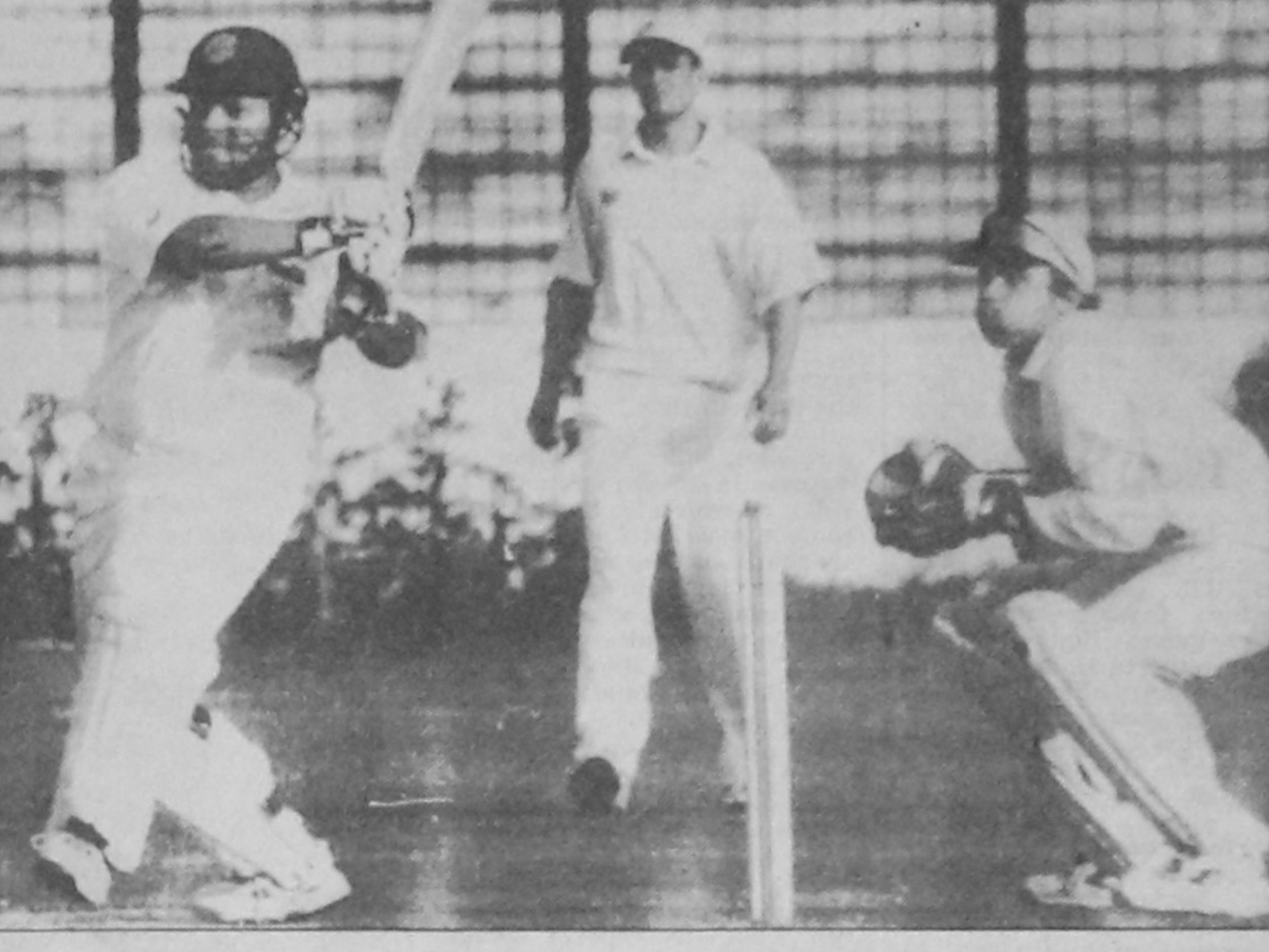
In the other two matches held in Dhaka City, Metro Blues beat Barisal Maroons by 54 runs at the Dhanmouidi Club ground while Chittagong Titans won against Khulna Rupsha by six wickets at the Kalabagan Club ground.

Score in Briefs Metro Greens v Sylhet Surma Sylhet Surma: 184 all out in 44.2 overs (Billan 74; Rakib 3/22, Shovon 2/28)

Metro Greens: 185 for 9 in 44 overs (Akeed 36, Martin 30)

Result: Metro Greens won by one wicket.

Chittagong Karnaphuli v See page 15



Mazharul Hoque of BCB President's XI plays a pull-shot on way to an unbeaten 97 on the second day of the four-day match against CBCA at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Mazhar, Anisur revive hosts

Sports Reporter

Top class batting from Mazharul Hoque and Anisur Rahman salvaged Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Eleven from a precarious situation to position of respectability on the second day of their four-day fixture against the visiting Commonwealth Bank Cricket Academy (CBCA) at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Mazharul ended the day three short of a hundred while Anisur returned after making 73 as the home side, in reply to CBCA's first innings of 301, shrugged off a forgetful start to reach 226 for six at stumps.

The early part of the morning belonged to Aminul Islam junior who wrapped up the academy tall by taking three wickets in four overs without conceding a run.

Resuming the day on 297 for 6, CBCA lost their last four batsmen for only four runs to an inspired Aminul.

Aminul the right-arm pacer had astonishing figures of 4-4-0-3 as the tourists faltered.

Aminul and Mushfiqur Rahman finished with four wickets each.

In their turn, the Board Eleven looked totally at sea when they lost three wickets in a row on 13 in three successive overs.

Opener Rashedul Haque was bowled on 8 in the 5th over while trying to play across an incoming delivery from right arm quick bowler Tim Welsford. His partner Hannan Sarkar (4) followed him in a similar fashion when he tried to drive an Andrew MacDonald in-swing in the next over while Welsford then showed one-down Rajib Saleh his way to the dressing in his next over by unsettling his stumps.

Things became more difficult when in-form middle orders Mushfiqur Rahman (9) and

Mosaddek Hossain (12) fell cheaply leaving the home side on 85 for five.

Then came the innings saving 129-run sixth wicket partnership between Mazharul and Anisur.

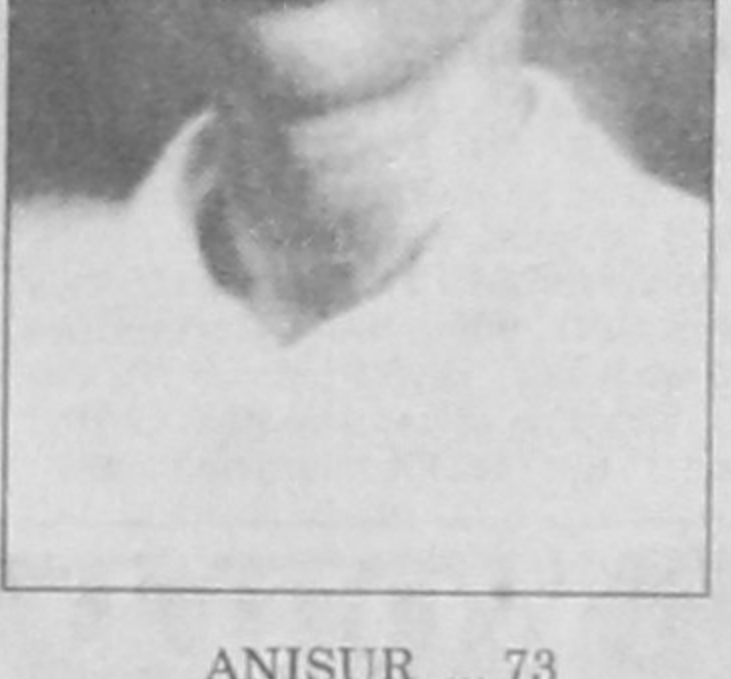
The duo, who came together at 106 for 5, not only consolidated but also launched a severe attack on the CBCA bowlers. Their stand lasted just 21.5

overs but it was total entertainment.

Right-liander Anisur was the first to go giving a return catch to left arm China-man bowler Adam Voges. He played 95 balls and hit a dozen boundaries.

After Anisur was out on 214, Mazharul added 12 more runs with his captain Khaled Masood before play was called off for the day.

Mazharul's innings was a highly responsible one where he performed the sheet anchor role. In his 245-ball knock, portly young right hander from



ANISUR ... 73

Scoreboard on the second day of the four-day exhibition match between Commonwealth Bank Cricket Academy (CBCA) and Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Eleven at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

BCB: First Innings (Over-night 297 for 6 in 90 overs)

Harris c K Masood b Aminul jr 14
Williams c K Masood b Mushfiq 23
Stanton lbw b Hasibul 45
Marsh c K Masood b Mushfiq 92
O'Brien lbw b Mushfiq 11
Kent c Rajib b Aminul jr 61
MacDonald c K Masood b Mushfiq 21
Voges c K Masood b Hasibul 15
Hartley c Mushfiq b Aminul jr 0
Welsford c Mushfiq b Aminul jr 0
Panda not out 0
Extras: (b-4, lb-6, nb-8, w-1) 19
Total: (all out in 97.1 overs) 301

Fall of wickets: 1/38, 2/40, 3/176, 4/190, 5/201, 6/276, 7/297, 8/297, 9/301

Bowler O M R W
Aminul jr 23 7 42 4
Hasibul 20.1 4 74 2
Mushfiq 26 6 73 4
Rafique 17 4 60 0
Fahim 8 2 30 0
Mosaddek 3 1 12 0

BCB Eleven: First Innings Rashedul b Welsford 8
Hannan b MacDonald 4
Rajib b Welsford 0
Mazharul not out 97
Mushfiq c Hartley b O'Brien 9
Mosaddek b Welsford 12
Anisur c & b Voges 73
K Masood not out 0
Extras: (b-2, lb-2, nb-16, w-3) 23
Total: (for 6 wks in 82 overs) 226

Fall of wickets: 1/13, 2/13, 3/13, 4/58, 5/58, 6/214

Bowler O M R W
Welsford 19 2 48 3
MacDonald 14 6 28 1
G Chaitra 8 2 24 0
O'Brien 21 6 55 1
S Panda 10 3 18 0
Voges 10 1 49 1

Hingis breezes thru

MELBOURNE, Jan 18: The stars struggled with their tennis and temperament Thursday on Day Four at the Australian Open.

Four at the Australian Open and reports AFP.

Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Venus Williams had run-ins with officialdom and were forced to dig deep for victory while seeds Franco Squillari and Amy Frazier tumbled out.

Not everyone hit hurdles though.

Martina Hingis continued her march to a fourth Open title with a 40-minute 6-1, 6-0 demolition of Belgian Els Callens and former boyfriend Magnus Norman took a leaf out

of her book, downing Frenchman Fabrice Santoro in straight sets.

And Lleyton Hewitt pumped himself up after his five-set first round marathon to beat a hamstring injury and Germany's Tommy Haas 7-5, 7-6 (7/5), 6-4.

Williams managed to get her outfit right but had to battle hard for a 6-3, 7-6 (7/3) win over compatriot Meghann Shaughnessy.

She also indulged in an uncharacteristic verbal altercation with the umpire over a disputed call in the 7th game of the first set.

The Wimbledon and US Open champion wore the same two-piece top that caused a stir

during her first round appearance on Tuesday but a few strategically placed stitches ensured a more discreet amount of cleavage was on show.

She insisted she was happy with both her performance and her outfit.

"I felt relaxed, comfortable and just beautiful," she said. "I played a lot better than in the first round."

Kafelnikov, a runner-up here last year, fought back to beat German Nicolas Kiefer in five sets but he too fell foul of the officials, being warned for ball abuse in the fourth set.

"It's a huge relief to come from two sets to one down. It's quite satisfying," said the Russian fifth seed.

"It was frustrating for me to lose the third set after having so many break points and the warning I got for ball abuse helped me settle down and in the fourth set I just let it go."

He eventually ran out a 6-2, 3-6, 3-6, 6-3, 6-0 winner in three hours seven minutes and will now play American Chris Woodruff.

The biggest casualty of the day was 11th seed Squillari who was downed by lowly Canadian Daniel Nestor in four sets.

American 16th seed Frazier was also ousted, by Rita Grande. The Italian won 6-4, 6-1 to set up a third round clash with Australian wildcard Evie Dominikovic.

Frazier was the third women's seed to fall after her compatriot Chanda Rubin (11) and former Wimbledon champion Conchita Martinez



Swiss superstar Martina Hingis plays forehand against Els Callens of Belgium in the second round of the Australian Open yesterday.

Patrick McEnroe

(US Davis Cup captain)
"I am very excited about it. It's something I'm very passionate about. I'll pour all my energy into it and try to win the Cup."

After he took over the captaincy from elder brother John McEnroe last month.

MA Rashid passes away

Sports Reporter

Noted sports personality and former secretary of the National Sports Council (NSC) M A Rashid breathed his last yesterday afternoon after suffering a cardiac failure. He was 65.

Rashid was a brilliant footballer and represented the Pakistan national team.

He was the recipient of the Dhaka University Blue for his sporting exploits.

In his professional capacity, Rashid, apart from his association with the NSC, served with aplomb in many other places.

He was also a former director administration of Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP).

Rashid also earned fame as a sports journalist and was an ex-president of Bangladesh Sports Writers' Association.

His namaz-e-janaja will be held at the Naya Palitan Jame Mosque after Juma prayers today.

GP U-17 cricket

Sports Reporter

BKSP won the lone GreenPhone under-17 cricket tournament first round match against Dhaka Rangers by 48 runs at the Mymensingh Stadium yesterday.

Score in Brief BKSP: 225 for 8 in 45 overs (Salahdat 87, Ayub 33, Arafat 3/43)

Dhaka Rangers: 177 for 8 in 45 overs (Robin 32, Bipul 29)

Result: BKSP won by 48 runs.

Pabna cricket

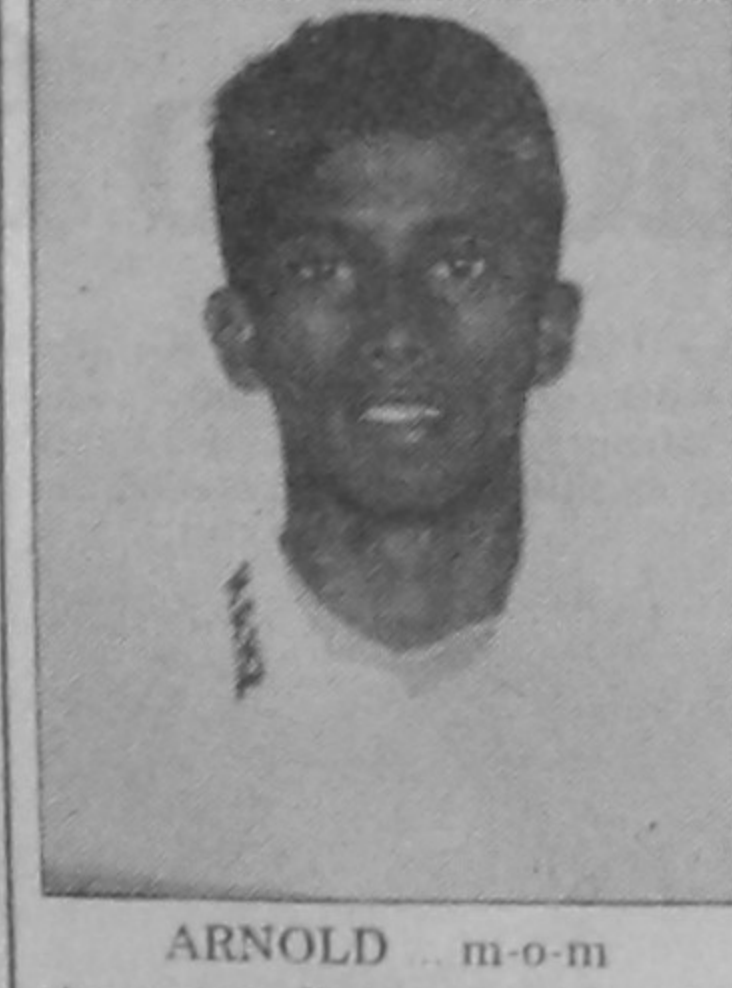
From Our Correspondent PABNA, Jan 18: Neemtala Crazy Club recorded a thumping ten-wicket victory over Renaissance Club in the Pepsi First Division Cricket League at the Edward College ground today.

Renaissance batted first and collected 107 runs in 12.3 overs.

In reply, Neemtala made 111 for none in 12.3 overs.

Brief Scores Renaissance Club: 107 all out in 12.3 overs (Selim 21, Lemon 14, extras 24; Babu 3/14, Manik 2/11 and Siju 2/15)

NEEMTALA CRAZY CLUB: 111 for no loss in 12.3 overs (Tuhin 44 not out, Masum 43 not out, extras 24).



ARNOLD ... m-o-m

they reached 169 for four with eight overs remaining.

But Jonty Rhodes missed a reverse sweep against Off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan to start a slide in which the last six wickets fell for 35 runs.

Off-spinner Aravinda de Silva dismissed Mark Boucher and Justin Kemp in the space of three balls and top-scorer Neil McKenzie was bowled for 47 by the first ball of the next