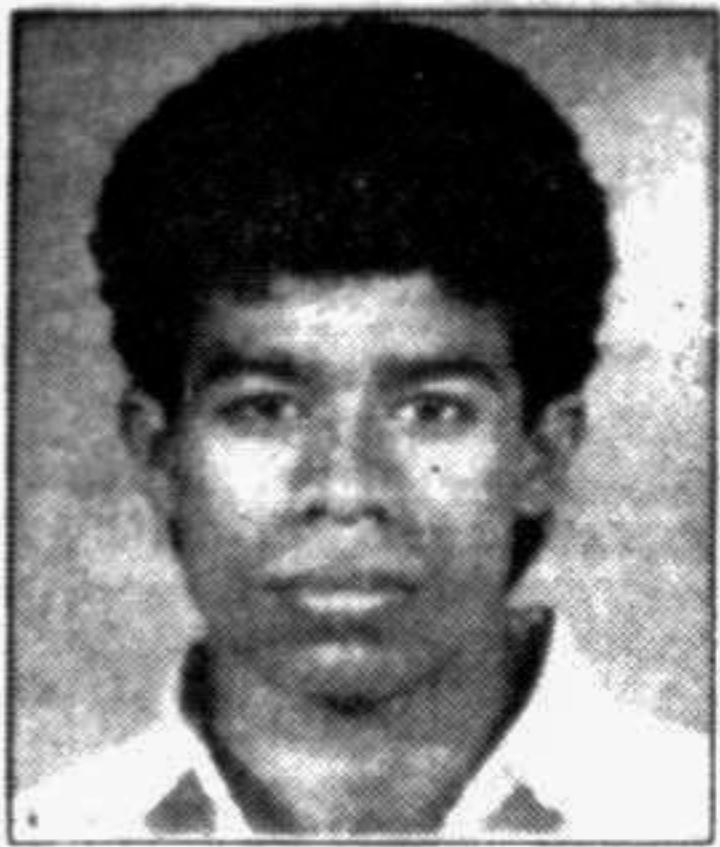


Shabbir named captain

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) yesterday announced a 25-man national squad for the pre-Olympic soccer qualifiers starting in Seoul next week.

Sadeq Hossain Khoka, MP, and a Vice President of the BFF has been named chief de mission of the squad which includes 20 players, four officials and a journalist nominated by the Bangladesh Sports Journalists' Association.



SHABBIR

Syed Ruhman bin-Walid Shabbir of Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club the nippy feet-footed midfielder, has been named captain of the under-23 side which includes three goalkeepers, six defenders, as many midfielders and only four strikers.

Bangladesh is placed in Group D, a five-team cluster that includes South Korea, Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines. The Koreans are the obvious bet to qualify for the group for next year's Olympic Games in Barcelona, Spain. The two-leg qualifiers will be hosted by South Korea and Malaysia. The first leg of the competition starts in Seoul from May 18 and runs until May 26 while the second leg starts in Kuala Lumpur from July 1 and runs until July 8.

The team reads: Goalkeepers—Abdullahul Lahul (Rahmatganj MFS), Bjoon (Wari Club) and Mohsin (Mohammedan Sporting). Defenders—Moon(Brothers)

captain), Jewel Rana (Muktijoddha), Sohel (Rajshahi Division) and Jamrul (BPWD). Midfielders—Shabbir (Mohammedans), Roxy (Arambagh KS), Alamgir (Abahani), Munna Jr. (Abahani), Zakir (Mohammedans), and Gaus (BPWD). Forwards—Ekram (Muktijoddha), Mamoon (Victoria Sporting Club), Naqub (Mohammedans) and Samrat (Brothers). Anwarul Haq Helal, a Joint Secretary of the BFF, is the manager with Khairul Anwar Pearu as his deputy while Md. Abdul Hakim is the coach.

Talking to this correspondent, a BFF selector said that national team player Tito, a promising midfielder who plays for Mohammedan Sporting and who was in the

under-23 camp which has been undergoing extensive training at the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan under a German coach, has written to the BFF asking to be omitted from the final squad for what he termed "family reasons". He is a most notable omission from a side which looks a bit weak in its striking power.

Judging from current form and reputation, the first eleven that takes the field against Thailand in Bangladesh's opening game on May 18 could look something like this: Lahul, Moon, Aman, Jewel Rana, Sohel, Shabbir, Roxy, Zakir, Munna Jr, Naqub and Mamoon.

Bangladesh is likely to adopt a 4-4-2 formation with emphasis on defence.

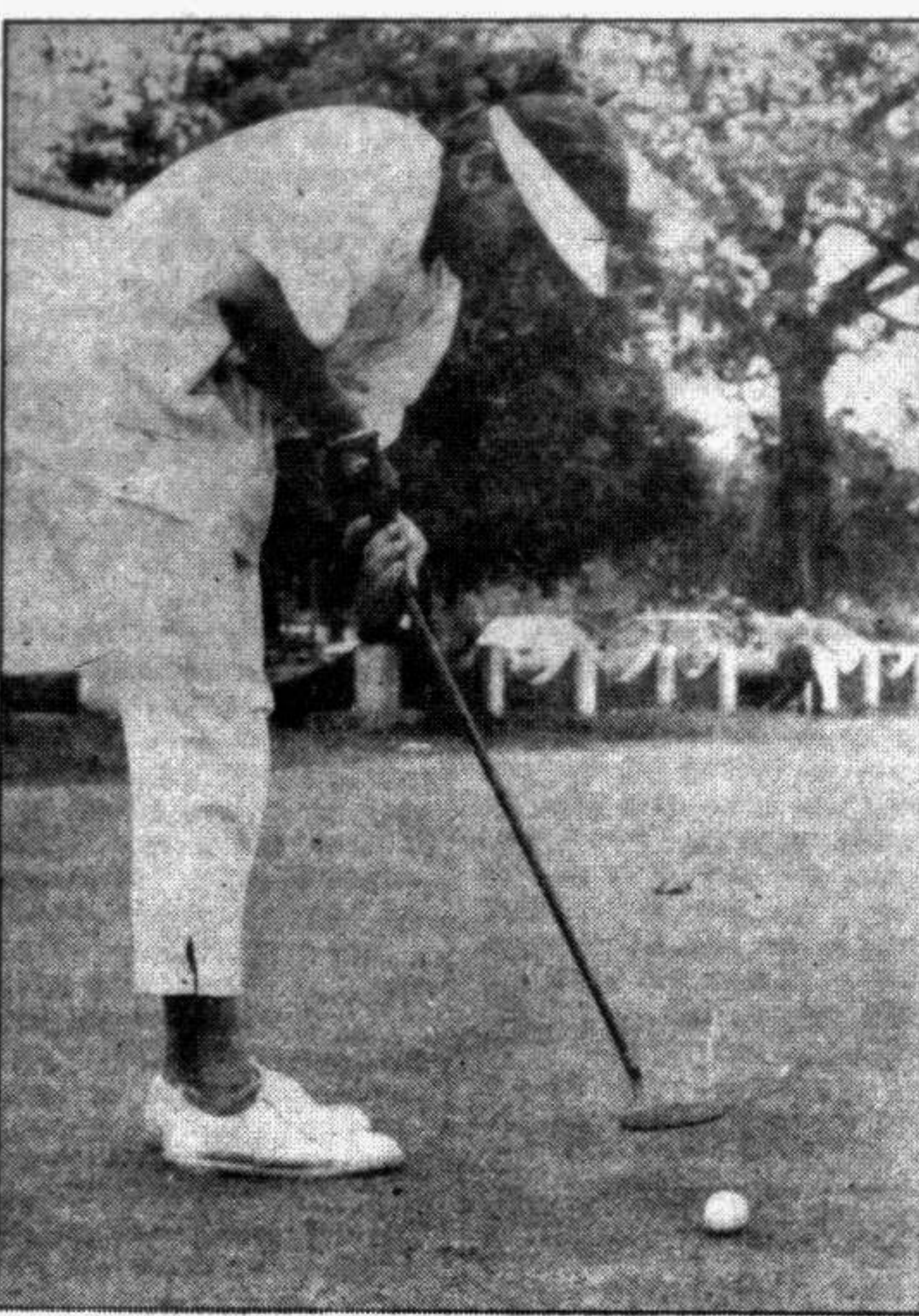
FIXTURE

Following is the fixture for Bangladesh's games:

- May 18 vs Thailand
 - May 20 vs South Korea
 - May 22 vs Malaysia
 - May 24 vs Philippines
- The second-leg fixture for Bangladesh is as follows:
- July 1 vs Thailand
 - July 3 vs South Korea
 - July 5 vs Philippines
 - July 7 vs Malaysia

The squad leaves for Bangkok en route to Seoul on May 15 by Biman Bangladesh Airlines and will return home on May 27.

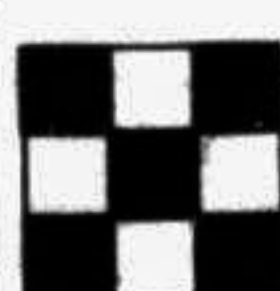
Under IOC rules only players under 23 years of age can represent their countries in Olympic soccer.



Shaheena Khan, one of the participants in yesterday's Singapore Airlines golf tournament at the Kurmitola course, attempts a putt.

Lodhi's late charge

Sports Reporter



Pakistan's International Master Mahmood Ahmed Lodhi brightened his title prospects when he scored an impressive victory over Bangladesh's Almasur Rahman in the United Insurance International Masters' chess championship yesterday at the National Coaching Centre's chess room.

Lodhi, the highest ranking player of this meet with a rating of 2415, is now leading the points table with nine points from twelve matches. Five times national champion of Pakistan, Lodhi is now almost certain to clinch the title as his rival in the 13th and last round today, Bipin Shenoy of India, is now lying in hospital

after suffering chest pains last week. Bangladesh Fide Master Younus Hasan yesterday won both his encounters against Indian rivals, Younus, like compatriot Syed Tahmidur Rahman, is now only a point away from earning his first IM norm.

Today Younus will meet Fide Master Jamilur Rahman while Tahmidur Rahman will be facing compatriot Fide Master Zillur Rahman Cham-pak today.

Younus, Tahmid and T.N. Parameswaran of India were jointly placed in second position with 8.5 points each from twelve games.

Yesterday, Younus beat International Masters

Parameswaran and Neeraj Kumar Misra.

V. Koshi of India is in third spot with eight points, Neeraj Misra, with 7.5 points is in fourth position, Zillur Rahman is fifth with seven points, Vishal has 6.5 points, Reazul Haque 6, Almasur Rahman 4.5, Jamilur Rahman and Maroof Ahmed 3.5 each, Bipin Shenoy 2.5 points while Ashraf Hossain Nannu is placed at the bottom with only half a point to his credit.

In today's other matches, Parameswaran will be playing against Koshi, Misra against Maroof, Sarcen against Reazul Haque while Almasur Rahman will face Ashraf Hossain Nannu. The tournament offers Tk 65,000 in prize-money.

Revised charity soccer fixture

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Football Federation, to unexpectedly, has revised the fixture for the charity soccer matches arranged in aid of the April 29 cyclone victims.

At a meeting yesterday, the BFF has halved the remaining four games in view of the unpredictable late afternoon weather at this time of the year and also because of the under-23 national Olympic squad's scheduled departure next Wednesday for the pre-Olympic qualifiers in Seoul.

As a result, under the new fixture, the under-23 selection will take on Brothers Union tomorrow, May 12 while the local giants and arch-rivals Abahani and Mohammedans clash the following day, May 13.

Though bond-holding fans effectively own the seats in the stands, they still will have to pay between 330 and 400 dollars a year for season tickets to enter the stadium and watch the games.

Work on the new section will start at the end of next season as part of a plan to make the stadium all-seater by 1994. Dein said its capacity will then be 37,000 compared with 44,000 now.

After the 1989 Hillsborough tragedy in which 95 Liverpool fans were crushed to death at a domestic cup semifinal, the government introduced regulations that all major grounds should be converted to all-seater.

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'92 Olympiad in Manila

MANILA, May 10: The Philippines are to host the 30th World Chess Olympiad here June 6-25, 1992. World Chess Federation (FIDE) President Florencio Campomanes announced Friday, reports AFP.

A record 130 countries are expected to take part in the biennial event, last held in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia in 1990. Campomanes, himself a Filipino, told a press conference.

The Soviet Union, which has won 18 golds since the event was first staged in London in 1927, is expected to again be the favourites with the United States — silver medalists in 1990 — and England the dark horses.

The Soviet Union has won the last six Olympiads.

The Hungarians are out to defend their crown in the women's division, with the Soviet Union and rising Asian chess power China expected to be the main contenders.

The men's Olympiad is a team competition with each nation fielding its best players over four boards, with two

players in reserve.

The Philippines, being the host nation, are allowed to field two teams. Campomanes said. He said the world's two top players champion Gary Kasparov and Anatoli Karpov, are to be in the Soviet squad.

The women's teams are composed of three players and one reserve each. The competition will adopt the Swiss system of determining pairings.

The Olympiad will be held here simultaneously with the 63rd congress of FIDE. Campomanes said.

He said the congress is to take up the pending applications for membership by the breakaway Baltic republics of the Soviet Union, whose players and officials have sought FIDE's permission to represent their respective republics in future FIDE sanctioned tournaments.

Mr Campomanes said FIDE was still awaiting the official reply of the Soviet Chess Federation on the issue. He said that depending on the political developments in South Africa, that country may be allowed to take part in future chess Olympiads.

Pakistan thrash Wales

AMIENS, France, May 10: Pakistan mercilessly thrashed Wales 5-1 here on Thursday, the second day of the French hockey tournament, reports AFP.

Pakistan, barely recognisable from the side which crashed to Australia on Wednesday, had to struggle against some dogged Welsh defending before the flood gates opened in the second half.

Tahir Zaman put Pakistan 1-0 up after 10 minutes, finishing off a nice move from a short corner. The heavy pressure quickly followed, but even the wizardry of Pakistani left-winger Wazem Feroze failed to impress the Welsh defence.

The Asian breakthrough finally came in a three-goal burst in just five minutes.

Shahbaz Ahmed started the decisive move with Zaman, who laid the ball on for the powerful Qamar Ibrahim to Khalid Bashir, taking full

score in the 38th minute. Advantage of two short corners, made it 3-0 a minute later and scored his second in the 43rd.

The Pakistani coach, Is-huddin accurately judged the match to have been already won and fought on three substitutes, much to the relief of the Welsh who found the going slight easier against the revamped team.

Wales finally wived of the offensive, led by a lively performance from Anthony Colclough, and were rewarded with a penalty goal from David Haker 12 minutes from the end.

Pakistan, stung by the Welsh comeback, scored their fifth with a superb solo effort from Shahbaz Ahmed in the 64th minute.

Meanwhile, Australia made a similarly late breakthrough to beat France 4-0, scoring three times in the last 15 minutes.

Sorely missing their star striker Mark Hager, the Aussies struggled to find a way

through a well-organised French defence, which kept Warren Birmingham and Jay Stacy at bay throughout the first half.

Pascal Florin, the French goalie, had to pull off two particularly superb saves to stop rifling shots from Stacy and Stephen Davies as the Australians stepped up the heat.

The French finally cracked after Luc Zaragoza had made a desperate clearance on the line to stop Stacy scoring from a short corner. The home team had no answer to a solo effort by Davies making it 1-0 to Australia just before half time.

Davies was the trouble-maker again in the 56th minute — but this time he was hauled down in the danger zone by Florin and Birmingham gratefully converted the penalty.

Four minutes later, Lee Boidimeadow sent a thundering drive into the roof of the net and Paul Lewis completed the rout with one minute to spare.

150-yr deal for Arsenal fans

LONDON, May 10: Newly-crowned English soccer champion Arsenal is proud of history and tradition, reports AP.

Now the 105-year-old club has something futuristic to offer its faithful fans — the chance to buy a seat in the stands for every home game staged at Highbury in the next 150 years.

Arsenal fans don't normally grow that old. But the club's owners have found a way to pay for part of the building of a 34 million dollar section of the stadium. They are offering the fans the chance to buy a bond which can be sold at a profit or handed down to sons and daughters.

For up to 2,500 dollars a bond, fans will have their names printed on the seats in the 12,000-capacity section and the ownership with

stay with their families for 150 years, Arsenal vice-chairman David Dein said.

The club aimed to raise 28 million dollars in bonds, he said.

Though bond-holding fans effectively own the seats in the stands, they still will have to pay between 330 and 400 dollars a year for season tickets to enter the stadium and watch the games.

Work on the new section will start at the end of next season as part of a plan to make the stadium all-seater by 1994. Dein said its capacity will then be 37,000 compared with 44,000 now.

After the 1989 Hillsborough tragedy in which 95 Liverpool fans were crushed to death at a domestic cup semifinal, the government introduced regulations that all major grounds should be converted to all-seater.

'Women have all the shots'

ROME, May 10: Women's tennis has come a long way toward attaining economic parity with men's tennis. But many tournaments, including Wimbledon and the French Open still maintain separate pay scales for men and women players, reports AP.

"It is definitely unfair," No. 1-ranked Monica Seles said Thursday at the Italian Open in Rome. "Even when you are looking for a job employers are always penalizing women."

"Women's tennis is great now. We have the power, and all the shots. Men's tennis is going through a phase of stagnation. After the Australian Open equal prize money on all the Grand Slams, I definitely hope this changes."

Said Martina Navratilova, who has battled for equal prize money and equal treatment for women throughout her career: "The tournament organizers claim that since the men play three sets out of five and the women two sets out of three, the men are on the court longer and deserve to earn more."

"We said that we were willing to play five set matches, in the finals, semis, in the opening rounds. And the tournament organizers said no. At one time people thought that women didn't have the stamina to play five sets. Today, we know that's not true."

"And besides," she added, "you pay for quality, not quantity."

Both Seles and Navratilova were upset about the establishment of the men's Grand



NAV RATILOVA

"We're not going to accept this Grand Slam Cup unless we get equal money," Navratilova declared. "This isn't a boycott. We just don't accept the proposal."

Former US tennis pro Billie Jean King was the first woman player to fight for equal pay in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

"Billie Jean lit the torch for us," said Navratilova. "Chris (Evert) and I sort of kept the ball rolling. It's encouraging now that the younger players are starting to speak up."

For Seles, achieving parity with the men is not a question of how but when. "Two Grand Slams are now offering equal prize money for men and women," she said.

"Personally, I think the others will change. But it will take some time, and it is difficult to say how much time. It is like when a baseline player changes to serve and volley. You have to get used to the idea."

Edberg keeps winning

HAMBURG, Germany, May 10: World number one Stefan Edberg took great satisfaction from his second successive win on his least favourite surface on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Finally coming to terms with the requirements of clay, on which he suffered a first-round defeat in Monte Carlo two weeks ago, Edberg reached the last eight of the German Open with a 6-2, 6-1 victory over Haitian Ronald Agener.

It was a good match for me. I did the right things to play good clay-court tennis. Edberg, the top seed, said.

I seem to be finding my rhythm on clay. My game is getting better and better. I haven't won two clay-court matches in a row since 1989.

Wimbledon champion Edberg, whose big serve-and-volley game is more suited to hard, fast surfaces served superbly and took just 52 minutes to finish off Agener.

Yugoslav fourth seed Goran Ivanisevic also showed no signs of the last of concentration that has dogged his game of late in a comprehensive 6-1, 6-3 victory over Soviet player Alexander Volkov.

The 19-year-old world number seven now under the guidance of Boris Becker's former coach Bob Brett, failed to make the later stages of clay court events in Monte Carlo

and Munich in recent weeks complaining that his mind has been wandering during matches.

My mind would go to the beach or somewhere and suddenly the match would be over, Ivanisevic said. But I have never worked so hard on my game as I am now.

NOAH IN QTRS

Earlier, France's Yannick Noah, plying his first tournament of the year, continued his remarkable run at the Open with a 1-6, 6-4, 6-3 third-round victory over Italian Renzo Furlan.

But the day proved less successful for American third seed Pete Sampras and Spanish fifth seed Sergi Bruguera, winner in Monte Carlo last month.

Sampras, the US Open champion, was beaten 6-4, 6-2, by Czechoslovak Karel Novacek. Bruguera went down 6-4, 6-3 to Dutchman Mark Koevermans.

Noah, the 29-year-old former French Open champion, battled from one set down to earn a surprise place in the quarter-finals by beating Wednesday's conqueror of world number three Ivan Lendl.

Noah has hardly practised this year after concentrating his efforts on his move into the rock music business and his new role as France's non-playing Davis Cup captain.

But since coming here to

tune his game for the French Open later this month, Noah has victories over Australian Richard Fromberg, Swede Magnus Larsson and Furlan.

"I am surprised to have reached the quarter-finals. I hardly expected to win a set here," he said. "I just wanted to have a good time and play a tournament."

Noah, who has hinted his trip to Roland Garros — the scene of his greatest triumph in 1982 — may be a swansong, said his mental freshness had helped him to Thursday's victory.

"After the months when I hardly practiced I was physically tired. But I kept trying today and I felt fresh in my head," said Noah, who meets Swede Magnus Gustafsson in quarters.

Lendl pulls out

ROME, May 10: World number three Ivan Lendl is to miss the million dollar men's ATP tournament here this month because of a painful hand injury, reports AFP.

The Czech star will have surgery on his right hand and will be out of action for about 10 days, according to the organisers of the Campionati Internazionali Italia, being held here on May 13-19.

Lendl had earlier been forced to pull out of a doubles campaign in Hamburg with Sweden's world number one Stefan Edberg.



Winners of the Singapore Airlines golf tourney seen with the guests at the fund-raising dinner for cyclone victims at a local hotel last night

India, Brazil Davis Cup clash in Sept

NEW DELHI, May 10: India will meet Brazil in the Davis Cup World Group qualifier, according to Mr. R. K. Khanna, Secretary-General of the All India Tennis Association, reports PTI.

Mr. Khanna, who received the information immediately after the draw was made at the International Tennis Federation office in London, said the tie would be played on September 20, 21 and 22 and the choice of venue would be with Brazil.

India made it to the World Group Qualifier after defeating South Korea 3-2 in the second round of the Asia-Oceania Group Two here on Sunday.

SOCCKER SCENARIO

Cruyff's new crusade



Johan Cruyff

BARCELONA, May 10: Barcelona soccer coach Johan Cruyff, a chain-smoker until he required heart by-pass surgery in February, is urging Spaniards to kick the habit in a television advertisement for the Catalan government, reports Reuter.

"I'm Johan Cruyff," he says in the Catalan-language advertisement presented on Thursday. In my life I have had two big vices: smoking and playing football. Football has given me everything in life, but smoking nearly took it all away."

The 43-year-old former Dutch international then kicks a cigarette packet out of sight.

Cruyff, who made the advertisement free of charge at the request of the doctor who treated him for a mild heart attack, said he now chews gum whenever he feels like a smoke.

"The doctors said to me all the time 'if you smoke you will die,'" he said. "I am not stupid enough to carry on, knowing that, when I smoked I said it was to stop me being nervous, but it doesn't make any difference."

Britain's new anti-hooligan law

LONDON, May 10: A bill aimed at clamping down on football hooliganism was given an unopposed second reading by Britain's upper chamber, the House of Lords, here Thursday and is due to be made into law later in the autumn, reports AFP.

The measure is based on the recommendations of a judicial enquiry into football crowd control held after the 1989 Hillsborough disaster when 97 people died in an incident at a football stadium.

Labour's Lord Dean of Beswick, introducing The Football (Offences) Bill, said that missile-throwing, racial abuse and pitch incursions had diminished considerably in recent years without legislation, thanks to the efforts of the football clubs. But he said the bill would give the police the power to act against remaining hooligans where it was still needed.

ROK booters in Pyongyang

SEOUL, May 10: South Korean soccer players crossed into North Korea today for trial games leading to the first unified Korean soccer team in an international competition, reports Reuter.

It was the first time a South Korean soccer delegation had entered North Korea through Panmunjom, the only crossing point along the heavily-fortified border between the hostile Koreas.

The 18 players in the 70-member delegation will compete in a second round of trials for the unified squad. A first round was held in Seoul this week.

The unified team will be selected next week and will train in both countries for the sixth world junior soccer championship in Portugal in June.

North and South Korean national soccer teams played in Seoul and Pyongyang last October. The South Korean team arrived in the northern capital from Beijing, where it had played in the Asian Games.

This is the second inter-Korean team to participate in an international event. A unified table tennis team played at the world table tennis championships in Japan last week, with team members evidently friendly towards each other.

Peruvian booter killed in bomb blast

LIMA, May 10: A Peruvian soccer player was killed Thursday and four others injured when a bomb exploded in stadium locker room in suburban Lima, authorities said, reports AFP.

Hector Matei died on the operating table at the police hospital after losing an arm and suffering other injuries in the blast, hospital sources said.