

# Goalkeeper goofs as Bangladesh lose

Afzal H Khan from Seoul

A gross goalkeeping error by Abdullah Lahul sent Bangladesh crashing to their third consecutive defeat in the Asian Group D pre-Olympic soccer qualifiers, this time against Malaysia at the Chansil Olympic Stadium in Seoul Wednesday afternoon.

Azman Adnan scored the only goal of the match for Malaysia in the 38th minute after Lahul stood frozen on the goal line instead of rushing out to clear a common ball outside the Bangladesh box. While Lahul stood his ground, as if in a trance, Azman Adnan got enough time to run in from the right and slot the ball home from a handshaking distance.

At the risk of banality, let it be said that once again the Bangladesh boys allowed their opponents to get despite dominating the pattern and pace of play. Bangladesh have only

themselves to blame for not scoring at least half a dozen times, thanks to their goal-shy forwards who often incredibly chose to shoot either inches wide of the target or worse, straight into the waiting grasp of Malaysian goalie Chong Kim Boon.

Striker Nakib, invariably finding himself all alone up front with none of his teammates coming to his aid missed two sitters in the seventh and 41st minutes, and again in the 31st minute of the second session. In addition, at least five of his headers upon some good crosses were collected brilliantly by the Malaysian custodian who had a very busy day.

In contrast there were just four scoring attempts against Lahul and he goofed up on that one occasion to deny his side two deserving points from an encounter that everyone present at the ground including some high officials of the Asian Football Confederation as well as the Malaysian coach Chow Kwai Lam conceded that Bangladesh were unlucky to lose.

To make matters worse, Bangladesh were denied two certain penalties, once in the 70th minute and again in the 84th minute when first defender Lee Moon Seok and then Kang Chul handled the ball inside the Malaysian box. Protests by the Bangladesh players were ignored by the referee.

Farouk Bouzo, a retired Syrian General who is now an AFC vice president and technical commissioner for the current meet, later consoled the

Bangladesh camp by saying that since both incidents had been unintentional it was entirely within the referees discretion to decide.

Playing 4-4-2 and leaving out defender Moon for an extra midfielder in Zakir from the side that lost to South Korea Monday, Bangladesh launched attack after attack but all their sorties were aborted with the forwards failing to pack punch in their shots from close range.

Towards the latter stages of the game the Malaysians, in their bid to hang on to the slender lead, packed their deep defence and crowded out our boys, making a series of scrambling saves from dangerous goalmouth melees.

Bangladesh team officials and the coach could not help criticising some dubious decisions by the Chinese referee who tended to be more benignly disposed towards the Malaysians, ignoring several serious professional fouls and tough tackles.

On the contrary, he cautioned Nakib and Alamgir for disturbing the Malaysian goalie when the latter was attempting passed goalkicks with his defender.

Munna replaced Zakir in the 60th minute on the left wing.

The Bangladesh defence performed well with Jewel, Sohel and Masud Rana making up of the occasional lapses by Barun Dewan who had an off day as did skipper Shabbir whose repeated wrong passing inside the Malaysian Zone often helped fuel quick counter attacks by the opponents.

Honestly, we should have won 4-0. But that wasn't to be.

In the second match of the day, an inspired Thailand gave hosts South Korea a run for their money, going down by the odd goal in three after a barren first half.

Star World Cup striker Seo Jung Won gave them the lead in the 51st minute while Thai skipper Boonpleek equalised in the 67th.

It wasn't until the 82nd minute that substitute Han Jung Kook gave his side the winning goal. The Thais had to suffer the mortification of seeing two of their shots return to play off the crosspiece with World Cup goalie Kim Bong Soo totally beaten.

Bangladesh now play Philippines Friday to decide the wooden-spoonists of the first leg and will hope to salvage some of their lost pride by beating the Filipinos who have conceded 15 goals in their two games to date.



Sports clubs, athletes, and business sponsors collaborate closely as sports events are unable to do without advertising in the stadiums and on the jerseys of performers. Many associations and clubs cannot do without these revenues from business sponsorships. Businesses, in turn, reckon with the sales-boosting impact of such advertising. Football teams in Germany's first division, the Bundesliga, are among the premier targets of sponsorships. Shown here, in photo center, is Bodo Ilgner (FC Cologne), goalie of the German national side. —INP photo

## Thais, Malaysians may take part in Club Cup soccer

Two foreign club — one from Thailand and the other from Malaysia may take part in the Club Cup charity soccer tournament scheduled to begin May 28 at the Dhaka Stadium.

Three leading Calcutta teams, Mohun Bagan, East Bengal and Calcutta Mohammedans have already confirmed their participation in the eight-day tourney.

## Argentines pinning hope on new Diego

BUENOS AIRES, May 22: Soccer-mad Argentina, shocked by the downfall of Maradona, is pinning much hope in another talented midfielder named Diego, reports Reuter.

These days, when fans in the packed stands roar for Diego, they are cheering the nimble-footed Diego Latorre.

Latorre, 21, is slightly taller and much slimmer than his namesake.

His ball control, shooting and passing looks just as good but he is not as much of a scrapper when it comes to tackling.

Although both were obvious

choices for Argentina's team, neither could join the national side on a three-match tour to the United States and England.

Maradona has been banned amid a drug scandal. Latorre was needed by his Boca Juniors Club for the semifinals of the South American Libertadores Cup.

With only two full caps, Latorre was sorry to miss the tour.

"What bothered me most is that I missed playing at Wembley. You don't get to play there very often," he said.

After beating the US 1-0 in California at the weekend, the Argentines play the Soviet Union of Thursday and England on Saturday in a triangular tournament.

## Goethals — a right man in right place

PARIS, May 22: Raymond Goethals knows exactly why he succeeded in taking Marseille into the European Cup final, reports Reuter.

"They're crazy, and I'm crazy too" he said of the French champions when he replaced Franz Beckenbauer as coach last December.

The Belgian, who claims to be 67 although the records show he was born in 1921, may not be as famous as his predecessor.

But he seems to have what it takes as Marseille head into the final against Red Star Belgrade in Bari on May 29, aiming to be the first French team to lift the trophy.

"It is the hardest challenge in my whole career, especially as Marseille coaches are usually short-lived", he said.

Since the club turned professional in 1932, Marseille have had 45 coaches — three of them this season in Gerard

Gilli, Beckenbauer, then Goethals.

"I've known Beckenbauer for years. There are no feelings. Two won't be too many to win the European Cup", he said when taking over.

Unlike Beckenbauer, Goethals is the right man in the right place, first, he speaks French, even though his Brussels accent is hardly understandable in the south of France.

"With Beckenbauer you had unemployed journalists, unable to get quotes", he said.

"Second, he can claim 32 year's experience as a trainer, whose tactics have hardly changed through the decades.

Since he started his coaching career in St. Truiden in 1959, Goethals had always relied on a solid defence. "When you build a house, you don't start with the 10th floor", he explained.

He applied the theory to Marseille, bringing sweeper Basile Bolt turned into a winger by Beckenbauer, back

into defence.

Two months after he joined, Marseille beat holders AC Milan in the quarter-finals. In the two legs, Milan's strikers found themselves caught off-side every time they attempted to break through.

"It is nothing new, records show that, 30 years ago, a leading Belgian team went offside 32 times in a match against St. Truiden", he said.

"Marseille have a great tactician. His name is Raymond Goethals," Milan's coach Arrigo Sacchi acknowledged after his team's defeat.

Since the St Truiden days, Goethals, who started soccer as a mediocre goalkeeper in Hannut, near Brussels, has proved his ideas were right.

He first led St Truiden to the Belgian League title in 1966 before taking Belgium to the World Cup finals in 1970, earning one of his many nicknames, "Raymond the wizard".

Others include "Colombo" because he always wears a shabby raincoat, just like the

television detective.

With Anderlecht, he won the European Cup Winners' Cup twice, in 1976 and 1979, before reaching the final with Standard Liege in 1982.

He soon became a soccer Red Adair, coming to the rescue of Brazil's Sao Paulo, Portugal's Guimaraes and France's Bordeaux.

"I should have stopped long ago. But it seems there will always be a team who want instant results to offer me a job".

In Marseille, Goethals brought his coat, his two daily packets of cigarettes and his obsession with efficiency.

"Victory is what matters. If I could win by one half-zero, it would be alright by me," he said.

To achieve this, Goethals does not compromise. He had his problems with Marseille, when he decided to do without local heroes Eric Cantona and Philippe Verzyssae, two of Beckenbauer's favourites.

## Most of the seeds fail to sprout

ROME, May 22: The Italian Open, boasting eight of the top 10 in men's tennis before it began, ended with the ninth seed beating a qualifier inside the distance in Sunday's final, reports Reuter.

Emilio Sanchez is a worthy champion but a final curtailed by injury to Argentine Alberto Mancini seemed an appropriate if sad end to a week of controversy.

The Spaniard won 6-3, 6-1, 3-0 as a pulled hamstring forced Mancini out of the contest.

"I have urged tournament director Franco Baroni to press the ATP to modify their rules," Italian Tennis Federation President Paolo Galgani said after six of the top eight seeds had gone by the end of the second round.

"I'm saddened by the be-

haviour of some players who didn't fight," Galgani said.

"I think (Andre) Agassi discarded Rome and Monte Carlo as tournaments at which to score points.

"The public doesn't know that, according to ATP (Association of Tennis Professionals) rules, the players can choose their 14 best results in the season for their final ranking," he said.

World number two Boris Becker withdrew on the first day with back pains, joining an injury list that included double Italian champion Ivan Lendl and Frenchman Guy Forget, ranked fifth in the world.

Americans Agassi and Pete Sampras, seeded two and three behind Becker, were eliminated in the first and second rounds respectively.

Sampras admitted he did not have the patience for clay and that he only came to Rome because of a contract with a

sponsor.

"I can understand the withdrawals of Lendl and Becker, I don't think they were on purpose," Galgani said.

"(But) players who behave like Agassi are not worthy of being called professionals," he said.

Agassi turned in a limp performance as he slumped to defeat against Germany's Eric Jelenc in the American's defence, the match did not start until late evening in cool, murky conditions — scarcely the ideal time to begin playing.

Former Italian Davis Cup players Adriano Panatta, champion in 1976, said there should be 12 tournaments on the ATP tour of a similar points standing to the Grand Slam events.

The calendar does not favour the Italian Open, many players treating it as a warm-up for Roland Garros which starts only a week later.

Tournament director Baroni seemed unperturbed.

"It's the (leading) players' problem if they lose. It means they haven't practised enough on clay," Baroni said.

"People come to watch tennis," he said, implying that the exodus of seeds was of secondary importance.

Figures seem to bear him out with a record 4,500 block tickets and 202,000 ordinary tickets sold in the fortnight, including the women's event, for a gate of 2.9 billion lira (2.4 million dollars).

Although Foro Italico crowds are behaving better, a ghost from the past revealed its ugly head when a roll of bread thrown from the crowd hit Mancini.

Bjorn Borg and Spantard Jose Higuera have had coins thrown at them in previous years while Lendl vowed in 1988 never to return after constant heckling.

## Taylor seems to have brought luck into his 'stewardship'

LONDON, May 22: England beat the Soviet Union 3-1 in Tuesday's friendly international here, reports AFP.

Mark Wright made a dreadful blunder after just nine minutes in his first match as the England captain when he put into his own goal, but Arsenal striker Alan Smith equalised for the home side seven minutes later.

Aston Villa's David Platt put England clear with a penalty just before half-time and then put the issue beyond doubt with his second goal of the match two minutes from time.

It was a dramatic end for the small crowd tempted out on a balmy evening for the first in the traditional end-of-season triangular tournament for the England Cup which will reach its climax against World Cup finalists Argentina on Saturday.

The visitors took the lead after Igor Kolyvanov's cross was chested down by Italian-based star Alexei

Mikhailchenko for Vladimir Tararchuk to fire goalwards.

Goalkeeper Chris Woods looked to have it covered but Wright flicked out his right boot and diverted the ball home.

But the Russians were quickly pegged back. Goalkeeper Uvarov punched Paul Parker's free kick off the head of Wright but the ball went straight to Geoff Thomas.

His volley looked as if it might go wide but Smith was in the right place to correct its course into the roof of the net from eight yards.

Taylor certainly seems to have brought a crucial element of luck into his stewardship.

Predecessor Bobby Robson enjoyed only five penalties in his 95 games but Taylor's first six matches have already produced two and he got his third in the 44th minute.

Chelsea winger Dennis Wise ran into an impasse on the right but Platt saw the smallest of openings developing, dashed for it and was sent crashing by Akhrik Tsevia's challenge.

He dusted himself off to

send Uvarov the wrong way for his fifth goal in 17 games.

Woods, seeking to establish himself as first choice after David Seaman's three-game 'trial', showed his class in the 55th minute to claw away a powerful header from substitute Alexander Mostovoi.

John Barnes, keeping going despite having his shirt pulled back by Andrei Chernishkov, set up a chance for Smith which he headed straight at the goalkeeper, but Platt put the result beyond doubt in the 88th minute to give Taylor the best win of his seven-match reign.

**Teams**

England: Woods, Stevens, Dorigo, Wise (Batty 70), Parker, M. Wright (Cap), Platt, Thomas, Smith, I. Wright (Breardley 70), Barnes.

Soviet Union: Uvarov, Chernishkov, Kulkov, Tsevia, Galiamin, Shalimov (Korneyev 67), Mikhailchenko, Kanchelskis, Kolyvanov, Tararchuk (Mostovoi 51), Kuznetsov.

Referee: Emilio Aladren (Spain).

## Ban on Ruddock's manager to be reviewed next week

LAS VEGAS, Nevada, May 22: A rematch between former world heavyweight champion Mike Tyson and Donovan "Razor" Ruddock, cancelled last week, may be on again pending a ruling which Nevada's top boxing official said on Tuesday could come within a week, reports Reuter.

Nevada State Athletic Commission Chairman James Nave said the panel could meet as early as Friday but was more likely to convene early next week to review its one-year suspension of Ruddock's manager, Murad Muhammad.

He said Muhammad was offering new evidence to try to overturn the suspension and 25,000 dollar fine levied as punishment for Muhammad's role in a melee after the controversial end to the first Tyson-Ruddock fight last March.

The rematch, scheduled for June 28 in Las Vegas, was cancelled last Wednesday, spokesman for promoter Don King said when that Ruddock had stepped aside to allow Tyson to challenge Evander Holyfield for the heavyweight championship.

But Holyfield's manager, Dan Duva, told Reuter in New York on Tuesday that "Holyfield's next fight never had anything to do with Ruddock-Tyson."

"It was a complete lie... But then Don King has never been mistaken for George Washington," Duva said.

"We don't have any timetable for Mike Tyson," Duva said.

He said Holyfield's next fight was likely to be in the autumn. "If Mike Tyson's available, fine. If not we'll find somebody else."

As for the Tyson-Ruddock rematch, Duva said: "It's not officially on yet but you can bet that it's on. They just need the stamp of approval from the commission."

"Don King, (Las Vegas casino owner) Steve Wynn and Muhammad Murad have sufficiently threatened the commission. I'm sure the commission is going to capitulate."

Nave, a veterinarian in his second one-year term as Nevada Boxing Commission Chairman, said the panel in its ruling would try to protect Muhammad's rights, preserve the rights and integrity of the state and do what was good for boxing.

In a hint of independence from the pressures of boxing promoters, he added: "In the past the attitude of this commission has been to help bring big fights here."

"But this commission believes there will always be more big fights, and plenty will be coming in if this commission is honest, fair and impartial."

Wynn issued a statement on Monday that indicated the June 28 rematch hinged on a favourable ruling by the commission, saying that "perhaps we can pull the event back to-

gether in time" if Muhammad's appeal, "based upon substantial new information," received the commission's consideration.

Referee Richard Steele stopped the first Tyson-Ruddock bout in the seventh round, awarding it to Tyson even though Ruddock appeared not to be badly hurt. That set off a melee as Ruddock supporters, including Muhammad, rushed into the ring and brawled with Tyson's cornermen and security people.

Raverman, director of boxing operations for Don King Productions, denied reports published in Las Vegas and Toronto that he had said the Tyson-Ruddock rematch was definitely on.

"Nothing is official," he said in New York. "It's not official until Don King says it."

Asked about quotes attributed to him that he was sure the commission would approve Muhammad's appeal "so as to allow the fight to go on," Raverman said: "I've heard 40 different things from 40 different people."

## Camacho avenges defeat on Haugen

RENO, Nevada, May 22: Hector "Macho" Camacho avenged the only loss of his professional career and regained the World Boxing Organization junior welterweight title Saturday night with a split decision over Greg Haugen, reports AP.

Camacho (40-1) commanded the early rounds and won a big eighth round before visibly tiring toward the end of the 12-round fight.

Judge Dave Moretti scored the fight 114-113 for Camacho, while judge Doug Tucker had it for Camacho and judge Burt Clements for Haugen by the same scores of 115-112.

The AP scored the fight 115-113 for Haugen.

Both fighters scored to the head throughout the fight and largely ignored the body.

Haugen was cut over the left eye in the second round, but did not seem affected by the injury.

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## Pak-England one-day series next summer

LONDON, May 22: England will play a five-match one-day series at home for the first time when Pakistan tour next summer, reports AFP.

The 1992 Texaco Trophy will be extended by two games effectively to compensate for a sixth-test — the Pakistan series being contested over five matches, as it was in 1987 when they last visited this country.

It is proposed that two internationals will be played before the first Test and the remaining three in late August.

Alan Smith, the Test and County Cricket Board's chief executive, said: "Next year Pakistan will be the only visitors and it was felt this would provide a good opportunity to study whether a split of five one-day internationals and five Test matches will be beneficial to the game as a whole, both financially and from a playing viewpoint."

## S African athletes in '94 C' wealth Games likely

VANCOUVER, May 22: South African athletes are expected to join those from 55 other nations competing at the 1994 Commonwealth Games in Victoria, British Columbia, the Games' chief organiser said on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

"I think it's a fair prospect. It's something we have to keep in our heads when we do our planning," said Ron Longstaffe, president of the Victoria Commonwealth Games Society.

South Africa last competed in the 1958 Games and has been excluded from participation since 1961 when it was asked to leave the Commonwealth because of its apartheid policies.

Longstaffe said in an interview from Victoria he expected the world's sporting community to allow South Africa back into international competition within the next two years.

But South Africa faces additional hurdle if its athletes are to compete in Victoria.

"Even if South Africa competes in the (1992) Olympics, they'd still have to rejoin the Commonwealth for them to be admitted to the Commonwealth Games," Longstaffe said.

Longstaffe said planning for the Victoria Games, which has a budget of 138 million dollars (US) was progressing on schedule.

He said organisers did not feel the August 18 to 28 Games would be hurt by beginning just 10 days after the European Athletics Championships in Helsinki.

Fears have been voiced that top athletes might choose the lucrative European athletics circuit over a chance to win Commonwealth medals.

"I think it may affect just a handful of British and possibly Kenyan athletes," Longstaffe said.

"It will have a very small impact. A Commonwealth Games medal is still very much a medal to be prized."

## Graf tipped to regain No 1 position

BERLIN, May 22: Steffi Graf, victorious in the German Open tennis final on Monday, can reclaim the women's world number one spot at the French Open starting next week, reports Reuter.

The Women's Tennis Association (WTA) confirmed on Monday that Graf would regain her former status if she lifted the title in Paris for the third time.

"If Graf wins at Roland Garros, she will be number one ahead of Monica Seles," A WTA spokeswoman said.

"Even if she just reaches the final she could still do it if other top players are knocked out early."

Graf, who was overtaken by Seles in mid-march, revealed on Monday she is looking forward to the French Open far more than last year.

"Much more, there's no doubt about it," she said. "Last year I had other thoughts away from the tennis. I think I've found my game again."

The 21-year-old German was beaten by Seles in the final at Roland Garros 12 months ago.

She was dogged by breathing difficulties for much of the tournament plus intense newspaper speculation about her father Peter's personal life.

This time Graf plans to take two days off and travel to Paris on Thursday. She then hopes to fit in two or three days practice on the Roland Garros centre court.

Argentine Gabriela Sabatini, the world number three, could also topple Seles if she wins the French Open.

Her points average has been assisted by five successive wins over Graf in the pair's last five matches.