

Triangular int'l charity cricket in Dhaka likely

Sports Reporter
A two-member Bangladesh delegation, led by Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) General Secretary Manzar Tahir and BCCB Joint Secretary B A Mamun, will leave for London tomorrow to attend the International Cricket Conference's (ICC) meeting to be held July 9-11 at world's cricket headquarters, Lord's. Besides attending the meeting the Bangladesh team will also attend the executive committee meeting of Asian Cricket Conference (ACC) on July 9 at the same venue. Mr Manzar, while talking to reporters yesterday, disclosed that BCCB is trying to organise a triangular international charity cricket tournament in Dhaka in November to raise funds for the April 29 Cyclone victims of the country. BCCB further said that they will try to persuade Pakistan, and West Indies to come to Bangladesh just after Sharjah Cup.

National hockey from July 25

Sports Reporter
The fourteenth national hockey championship, organised by the Bangladesh Hockey Federation will begin from July 25 at the Dhaka Hockey Stadium.

Nat'l jr swim from Oct 22

The 11th national junior (age-group) swimming championships, organised by the Bangladesh Swimming Federation, will begin from October 22 at the Dhaka Stadium swimming pool.

All the interested participants have been requested to send their entries by October 2.

Bridge results

The following are the results of annual pair duplicate bridge tournament of Victoria Sporting Club, Dhaka held at the Club premises on Friday, states a press release.

First-Mobinul Islam and Mizanur Rahman (61.39 percent); second-Md Abul Hossain and N G Shaha (57.61 percent) and third-MA Qudus and Shamsuzzaman Kamal (56.04 percent).

Basketball refs' clinic from today

Sports Reporter
A referees' clinic, under the aegis of the Bangladesh Amateur Basketball Federation, begins in the city today. Two Indian basketball referees — Milon Dutta and Subhash Mitra — arrived in the city yesterday to conduct the five-day clinic for local refs ahead of the 15th national championships which start July 5. The clinic will be held at the wooden-floor gymnasium.

Bangladesh face Thailand today



Sports Reporter
Bangladesh national under-23 side face Thailand in today's second-leg match of pre-Olympic qualifying Group D tournament in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Bangladesh, which is grouped with four other countries, namely favourite South Korea, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines. Despite producing some encouraging performances, the national Olympic squad managed to finish fourth with a solitary win against the Philippines in their last encounter of the first-leg tourney in the Korean capital of Seoul.

EC to renew link with SA

LUXEMBOURG, June 30 : European Community leaders decided Saturday to allow a renewal in sports contacts between its 12-member states and South Africa because of 'important progress' made in abolishing apartheid, reports AP.

"Where sports are clearly integrated in South Africa, then that sport should be readmitted to the international game," said British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd.

"This is imminent as far as cricket is concerned — I hope," Hurd said.

The leaders said in a declaration, "while respecting the independence of sporting organizations, to support the principle of renewing sporting contacts at the international level on a case by case basis, where unified and non-racial sporting bodies have been set up."

In the past few months, South Africa's white-led government has abolished the main legal pillars to apartheid, the nation's system of racial separation.

South Africa was not allowed to compete in the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo and was barred from the International Olympic Committee in 1970 because of apartheid. Many other non-Olympic sports likewise adopted the policy of isolating South Africa, including rugby and cricket — two sports that South Africa was especially competitive internationally.

South Africa's segregated cricket unions merged this month, setting the scene for a return to England following Saturday's decision.

"We look forward that a real team from Africa will be giving the MCC ago," said African envoy to EC Bhadra Ranchod. The MCC is the Marylebone Cricket Club, a synonym for the English national team and at one time was the governing body for the sport worldwide.

"That would be splendid, wouldn't it," concurred Hurd.

A non-official English cricket team was forced to cut short a visit to South Africa in February last year after anti-apartheid demonstrators disrupted the tour.

Tyson at 25 is lot tougher

LAS VEGAS, June 30 : The critics who say Mike Tyson has lost his edge will probably raise their voices again after the former world heavyweight champion's victory on points over Donovan "Razor" Ruddock on Friday, reports Reuter.

Ruddock became the first man to go the distance with Tyson for over three years and only the fifth in Tyson's 41-1 career.

But few of Tyson's opponents have been as formidable as Ruddock.

Ruddock, as Tyson has acknowledged, "hits like a mule," and can take a very good punch.

Ruddock, 27, took a severe beating from Tyson, who knocked him down twice, sending him to the hospital for X-rays on suspected broken jaw.

Many fans appear dissatisfied if Tyson — once the youngest heavyweight champion in history — fails to annihilate opponents.

But Tyson, no longer a precocious youngster, appears to be achieving a maturity in his style as he approaches his 25th birthday today.

"Whoever said Tyson's going back, doesn't know what he's talking about," said Howie Albert, one of Ruddock's cornermen.

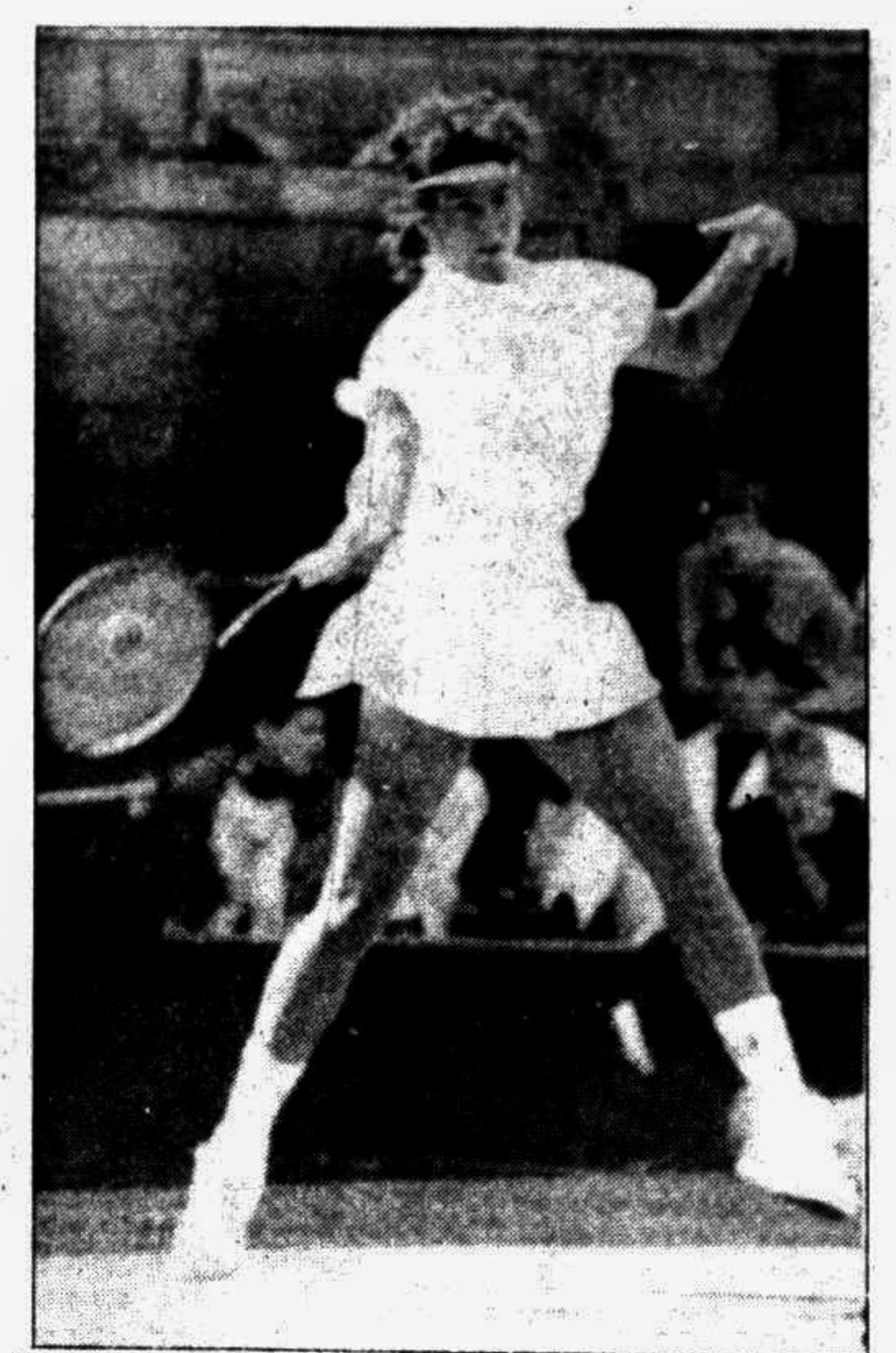
Bangladesh lost 2-3 to the Thais, 0-1 to Malaysia and 0-6 to the South Koreans who topped the table with seven points earned from three victories and a goalless draw against the Malaysians.

Bangladesh side which lost to Thailand 2-3 in the first-leg, due to some faulty goal keeping and some unpardonable defence lapses will be more determined this time against the spirited Thai side.

The probable side for today's match is as follows: Lahol, Masood Rana, Jewel Rana, Barun Moon, Shabbir, Roxy, Alamgir, Naquib, Mamoon and Zakir.

World number three and No. 2 seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina in action on Court 1 during her second round ladies' singles match against French opponent Karine Quentrec at Wimbledon on June 29.

— AFP photo



World number three and No. 2 seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina in action on Court 1 during her second round ladies' singles match against French opponent Karine Quentrec at Wimbledon on June 29. — AFP photo

Brown, Champion strike blows

LONDON, June 30 : A soccer-loving Frenchman and an English no-hoper struck notable blows for tennis's lesser mortals on Saturday at the Wimbledon tennis championships managed a totally rain-free day for the first time, reports Reuter.

The names of Thierry Champion and Nick Brown may not survive long in the limelight but, for one day at least, it was the big names who suffered.

Former Wimbledon champion Pat Cash, last year's semifinalist Goran Ivanisevic and US Open champion Pete Sampras were all dumped out of the tournament in eventful second-round matches, opening up some intriguing gaps in the men's singles.

Top two seeds Stefan Edberg and Boris Becker advanced without dropping a set but an unexpected path could be clearing for two of Wimbledon's prodigal sons — John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors.

Both safely made it into the third round and could conceivably meet in a 'thirtysomething' quarter-final which would defy just about every rule about growing older.

Ivanisevic had claimed no British player was capable of taking a set off him and was less than generous when the unthinkable happened. "I played the worst match of my life," said the 19-year-old from Split. "What do I think of British tennis now? Not much."

Brown, a wild card entrant who travels to Wimbledon every day on the back of a friend's motorbike, now meets Champion in an unlikely third-round tussle, following the Frenchman's remarkable five-set defeat of 1987 champion Cash.

Champion saved two match-points at 9-8 in the final set but, helped by a Cash double fault on break-point at 10-10, recovered to win 7-5, 6-7, 4-6, 6-1, 12-10. The match went on so long that Ivan Landl's scheduled match had to be postponed until Saturday.

There were no such unscheduled difficulties for Edberg, never a man to go looking for a crisis. The Swede disposed of American David Pate 6-2, 6-2, 6-3 in a match full of smoothly efficient kills at the net.

Becker too looked to have plenty in reserve, removing Swede Peter Lundgren 7-6, 7-5, 7-5. The German slammed nine aces down in the final set and expressed himself satisfied afterwards.

Andre Agassi, rechristened the 'prince of lightness' since his much-publicised switch to Wimbledon-friendly white kit, won his second match on grass in as many days, downing Yugoslav Goran Prpic 7-6, 3-6, 6-6.

Women's seeds Jana Novotna and Natalia Zvereva both lost but it was the men's draw which once again caught the imagination of the sun-basking crowds.

The first major casualty was Sampras, caught off guard and out of sorts by fellow American Derrick Rostagno who upset the eighth seed 6-4, 3-6, 7-6, 6-4.

Moments later it was Ivanisevic's turn to admit defeat against the inspired Brown, ranked 591st in the world but a different man in front of a partisan home audience.

The 29-year-old Englishman, who gave up professional tennis for five years in his mid-20s for coaching, won 4-6, 6-3, 7-6, 6-3 to give the 10th-seeded Yugoslav cause to regret some recent impolite comments about the ability of British players.

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Hick flops again

LONDON, June 30 : England cricketer Graeme Hick flopped again ahead of next week's third Test against West Indies when he was out for a third successive duck on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Hick, who failed to score in his only innings in the drawn second Test and has made just 12 in three Test knocks, was trapped lbw in Worcestershire's three-day county championship match against Leicestershire.

Captain Phil Neale made an unbeaten 69 to rescue Worcestershire from 83 for five to 200 for six declared in reply to Leicestershire's 305 for seven declared.

Mark Ramprakash, who like Hick made his England debut in the current series, was in better form, making an unbeaten 70 off 86 balls as Middlesex raced to 254 for two declared against Essex on the second day of their match.

Former England captain Mike Gatting smashed an unbeaten 138 as the pair put on 163 in 29 overs.

Essex, 303 for five declared in their first innings, were 86 for two in their second with current England captain Graham Gooch 45 not out. Gloucestershire fast bowler

David Lawrence, included in the England squad for the third Test at Nottingham, strengthened his bid to oust Devon Malcolm with another wicket on Saturday to finish with return of six for 67 against Northamptonshire.

Dermot Reeve, called in to the England Test squad for the first time, hit Malcolm for two sixes in his 66 for championship leaders Warwickshire against Derbyshire.

The all-rounder, who played in the third one-day international but was overlooked for the first two Tests, produced Warwickshire's top score as they recovered from 146 for six to make 250 in reply to Derbyshire's first innings 260.

Malcolm took just one for 86 off 27 overs as Derbyshire finished 169 ahead after reaching 159 for three in their second innings.

Discarded England batsman Neil Fairbrother scored 107 not out to lift Lancashire from 38 for three to 252 for five declared against Glamorgan.

Fairbrother, who made a century against West Indies in a one-day international but was dropped for the Tests, shared in stands of 80 with Mike Atherton and 94 with Nick Speak to lead second-placed Lancashire past their follow-on target of 244.

Ambrose stops Robin Smith

LONDON, June 30 : Robin Smith, whose unbeaten century saved England in the second Test, tore into the West Indies bowling again on Saturday but was again forced to retire with an injured hand, reports Reuter.

Paceman Curtly Ambrose, who did the damage to Smith, ended with four for 70 as Hampshire subsided to 202 all out. The West Indies were 82 for two at the close on the first day of the three-day game.

Smith followed up his brilliant 148 not out in the second Test at Lord's by hitting 62 from 79 balls.

The South African-born batsman launched a stunning attack on Ambrose after lunch and the fast bowler conceded 33 runs from his first three overs of the session.

But Smith left the field nursing his knuckles after being hit by an Ambrose full toss.

Smith was struck on the same hand which was broken during the Antigua Test on England's tour to the Caribbean last year.

Smith had painkillers and ice treatment and did not bat again, although he is in no doubt for the third Test starting on Thursday.

Ambrose's fellow paceman Patrick Patterson, who broke down with a calf injury at Northampton two weeks ago, sent down a fierce spell of seven overs but went off "as a precautionary measure" after dismissing Paul Terry.

Y'slav cagers Euro champs

ROME, June 30 : Yugoslavia boosted national pride by retaining the European men's basketball title in final against Italy 88-73 here on Saturday, reports AP.

Yugoslavia were without Jurij Dzevic who was banned from playing in the side by the authorities in the breakaway Slovenia Republic, but still proved stronger than the host nation.

It is the fifth time the Yugoslavs have won the European championship.

Spain stretched their 11-year unbeaten run over France to win the third place play-off 101-83.

Liverpool, 4 others quitting League

LONDON, June 30 : Five more teams, including Liverpool, on Saturday joined the 15 English First Division soccer clubs who are quitting the Football League to form a super league, reports Reuter.

The clubs decided on Friday to tender a three-year obligatory notice to resign from the Football Association's (FA) plans to create a premier division collapse in court.

Only Nottingham Forest and Manchester United have not joined the breakaway group, said Rick Parry, a consultant and spokesman for the First Division clubs, but are expected to later. He said the clubs were so committed to the idea of a super league that they would either go along with the FA's scheme or go it alone.

"If they cannot follow the FA plan they are ready to break away on their own. They are asking why the court case involving the FA and Football League is still going ahead and why legal fees are going to be paid."

Touts forced to refund customers

LONDON, June 30 : Ticket touts have been forced to refund customers who filed to get into the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, tournament officials said on Saturday, reports Reuter.

A statement giving details of a "tout-busting" operation introduced for the first time this year also revealed that more than 100 black-market tickets had been confiscated.

"In some cases people have been refused entry or removed from the grounds."

Skoff fined for swearing

LONDON, June 30 : Flery Yugoslav Goran Ivanisevic, who vowed to swear on court in his own language after receiving a caution for doing it in English, may not have picked a safe play, reports Reuter.

German Horst Skoff tried it at Wimbledon and paid the price on Saturday — 500 dollars for a code violation.

"Having lost point, Mr Skoff loudly and clearly said 'scheisse', the referee's official statement reported on an incident in the Austrian's first-round match against Frenchman Guillaume Raoux on Friday.

Tournament referee Alan Mills said a player would be fined for swearing if the umpire understood what was said. Ivanisevic got into trouble for swearing in English at a tournament in Manchester nine days ago.

British team disqualified

FRANKFURT, June 30 : A disastrous last baton change in the 4 x 100 metres relay ruined Britain's perfect start to the defence of their men's European Cup athletics title on Saturday and could cost them the two-day team event, reports Reuter.

The British relay squad, heading for victory, were disqualified after anchor-leg runner Linford Christie in an untidy handover only got the baton from Marcus Adam outside the permitted box.

The disqualification meant the loss of eight points which could be crucial in today's final reckoning.

After a clean sweep of all five individual men's track events, Britain led at the end of the first day with 58 points, one ahead of the Soviet Union.

Without the disqualification Britain would have had a useful 10-point lead going into Sunday.

In a close competition certain to be decided by a narrow margin, Britain will struggle to make up for the lost points and retain the title they won on home soil in Gateshead two years ago.

Nine events remain today. Britain's lead was later boosted to two points after France won an appeal against disqualification in the relay.

The world record holders were originally ruled out along with Britain, also for an illegal last baton change.

But the French were later confirmed as winners in 38.67 seconds ahead of the Soviet Union in 38.87, with Italy third in 38.89.

The Soviet's demotion to second place put them on 56 points with Germany in third on 53.5.

Before the relay, the last event of the day, Britain had made a perfect start on the track with Christie taking the 100 metres and hurdler Kris Akabusi, 400 metres start Roger Black, 10,000 metres runner Eamonn Martin and 1,500 Olympic silver medalist Peter Elliott all winning their events.

Elliott and Black were both pushed all the way to the line in tight, dramatic finishes.

The 28-year-old Elliott held off a late sprint finish from Germany's European champion Jens-Peter Herold to win in three minutes 43.39 seconds, eight hundredths of a second ahead of Herold.

European champion Black, with the disadvantage of running in the outside lane, needed to grit his teeth all the way down the final straight to hold on in the 400.

Black finished in 44.91 seconds, ahead of Frenchman Olivier Nioiro who clocked 45.18.

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In the Women's event triple European champion Katrin Krabbe had a disappointing day as Germany, bidding for the title won by former East Germany in 1989, trailed the Soviet Union by three points after eight disciplines.

Army aquatics

L/Nk Md. Nurul Islam of the host Savar Area team clinched the first gold in 100 metre breast stroke at the annual Army aquatic meet, now in progress, at the BKSP swimming pool in Savar, reports BSS.

Winners of gold in two other events, finalised so far, were Hav. Kazi Abdul Mannan of the Savar Area team in 200 metres back stroke and the Jessore Area team in 4X100 metre free style relay.

Meanwhile, seven qualifying matches of water polo were decided.

The host, Savar Area team beat Chittagong Area team by 5-2 goals and the Dhaka Infantry team by 9-0 goals, the Rangpur Area team outplayed the Anti-Aircraft Artillery team by 21-0 goals, Comilla Area team outplayed Dhaka Engineers' team by 19-1 goals.

Ruddock's jaw broken in Tyson fight

LAS VEGAS, June 30 : Donovan "Razor" Ruddock suffered a broken jaw in his losing fight against former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson, Ruddock's manager said on Saturday, reports Reuter.

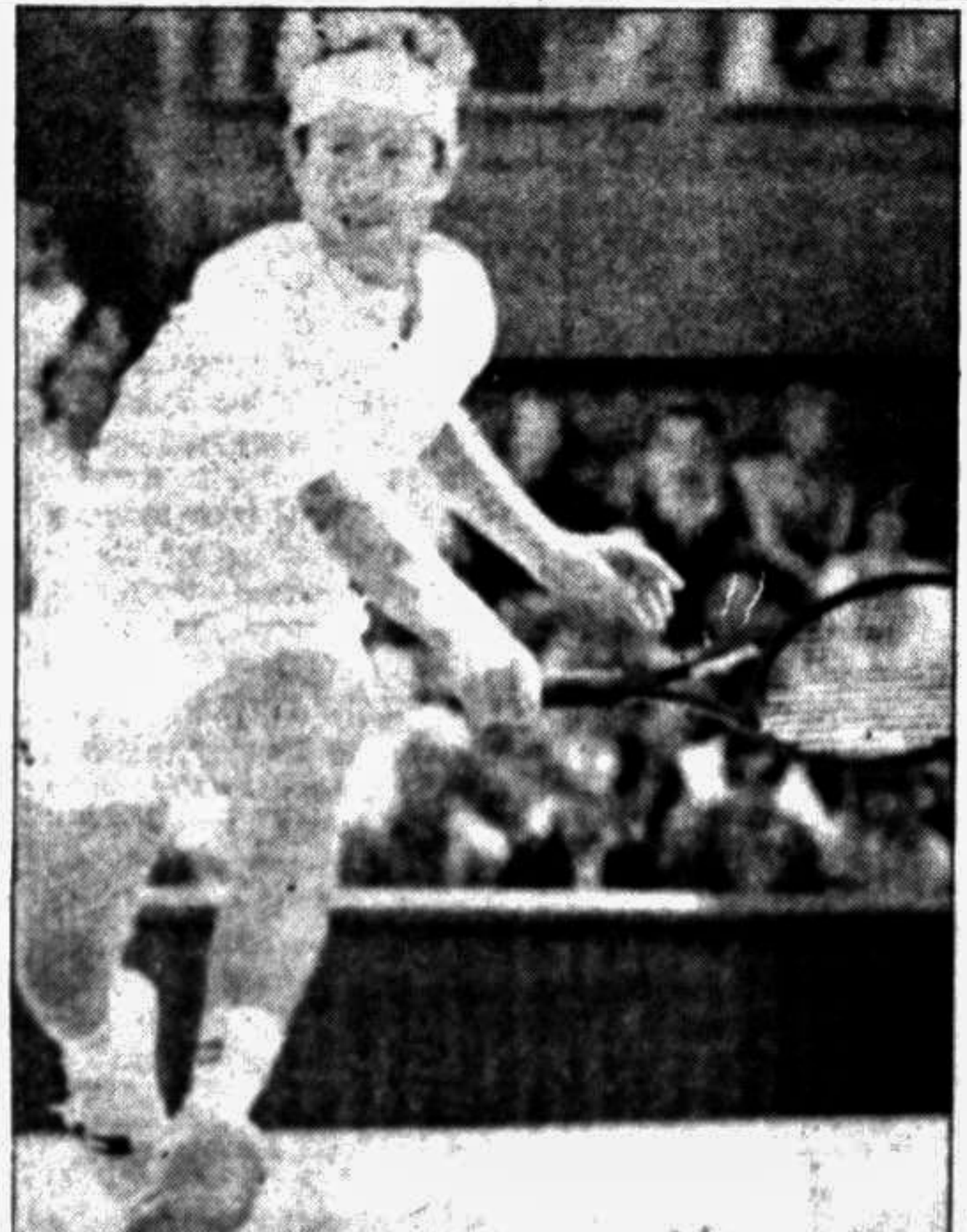
"The lower part of his jaw was broken and the doctors reset the jaw," Mured Muhammad said at a news conference on Saturday. He said Ruddock had fractures on both sides of his jaw and as of Saturday morning was still in the hospital. Earlier in the morning, Muhammad said Ruddock had been treated and released.

Muhammad said Ruddock's jaw had been wired shut and would stay that way for six weeks.

One source said very early on Saturday morning that Ruddock had taken three stitches to the inside of his lip. Muhammad said he thought Tyson had broken Ruddock's jaw when Tyson knocked out the Canadian's mouthpiece. That was in the fourth of the 12-round fight that Tyson won on a unanimous points decision.

Ruddock, who did not deserve any accolades for staging a smart fight, as he threw few jabs and did not box Tyson or move much, certainly deserves credit for fighting eight rounds with a broken jaw against one of the strongest punchers in boxing.

"If Donovan 'Razor' Ruddock didn't do anything else, he proved that all the experts are not experts. He has a lot of heart. He didn't go in the first or second round [when many people predicted Tyson would



Former Wimbledon champion John McEnroe of the US at full stretch to meet a return from his Australian opponent Sandor Stolle during the 2nd match on Centre Court at the Wimbledon on June 29. — AFP photo

SOCCER SCENARIO

Atletico win Spanish Cup

MADRID, June 30 : Sweltering temperatures of 36 degrees in Santiago Bernabeu Stadium took much of the fire out of the match when Atletico Madrid won its seventh Spanish Cup on Saturday, beating modest Real Mallorca 1-0 after extra time, reports Reuter.

Mallorca, who ended 15th in the league and playing in their first Cup final, dominated in the first half through intelligent control of the midfield. While not creating any real goal opportunities for themselves, they put up a spirited defence against revived Atletico after half time. Their Moroccan international goalkeeper Ezaki Badou foiled Atletico's only serious attempts in the second half, by stars Bernd Schuster of Germany after 46 minutes and Paulo Futre of Portugal in the 62nd minutes.

Japan lead Asian Group F

OHMIYA, Japan, June 30 : Forward Toshihiro Yamaguchi scored two goals to give Japan a 2-0 victory over Taiwan here Saturday and the lead in the Asian Group F Olympic qualifying competition, reports AP.

The Japanese, who beat the same opponents 3-0 a week ago in Taiwan, took an early lead with a header by Yamaguchi from a corner kick by Masaaki Sawanobori in the 12th minute.

Japan has six points from four games with three wins and one loss, while Taiwan has one point with three defeats and a draw in the four-team round robin.

Soviets finish third

PORTO, Portugal, June 30 : The Soviet Union beat Australia 5-4 on penalties on Saturday to secure third place in the sixth World Youth Soccer Championships in Portugal, their best result to date, reports Reuter.

The score was level 1-1 after 90 minutes and the shoot-out followed immediately, since under the rules in a third place play-off no extra time is played.

Luck ran out this time for Australia who had managed to reach the last four by beating Syria, their best achievement since the championships began in 1981.

Defending champions Portugal play Brazil in the final in Lisbon later today.

Balboa's late charge lifts US

PASADENA, California, June 30 : Marcelo Balboa's tie-breaking goal with two minutes remaining lifted