

iranian champions Estegh-lal Club made an impressive start in the 10th Asian Club Cup football

championship when they outplayed North Korean champions April 25 Club by the odd goal in three in the second match of the opening day yesterday evening at the Dhaka Stadtum.

The winners led 2-0 at the breather.

The taller, sturdier Iranians who are one of the joint favourites of lift the AFC Trophy along with defending champions Liaoning FC of China, played a confident, even relaxed game against their Korean opponents and dominated the proceedings for most of the match.

The white-jersied Iranians, some of them sporting a beard which has become so common in Iran since the Islamic revolution, were the more competent side compared to the blue-jersied Koreans who opted for a rather defensive strategy, especially in the first

gold beating North Korea by a solitary goal, was a vital fixture of Group B which also includes Dhaka Mohammedans and That champions Bangkok Bank Sports Club. After seeing all four teams of the group in action on the inaugural day, it now looks as if the semifinalists from the group have already been decided with Esteghial likely to finish top of

the lot and April 25 just be-

hind them. While the Koreans opted for safety-first, the Iranians chose to play a bit of cat-and-mouse, often ten of them pushing up. just behind the centre line, baiting the Koreans to attempt attacks with just goalie Ahmed Reza Abedzadeh at their mercy. Yet the Koreans refused to bite, preferring to let the Iranians do the running.

After more than half an hour of waiting and seeing, the Iranians quite suddenly broke the stalemate when Shahrukh Bayani unleashed a powerful shot at the Korean goal from nearly 30 yards. Goalie Kim Chung did well to block it but instead of punching it away for a corner he tried to grab the The match, a sort of repeat ball only to let it rebound off tried to draw level the Iranians of last year's Asian Games final his chest. In a flash Abdus also attempted a few breakin Beijing when Iran won the Sarkhab rushed in from away counter-attacks, none of

nowhere to slot the ball home (1-0). This was in the 34th minute.

Three minutes later, before the Koreans could recover from that first shock, Sadegh Varmazyar raced down the right and sent a crisp minus inside the box and Abdul Samad Marfavi made no mistake, slamming it into the net with all the defenders caught

on the wrong foot (2-0). The Koreans changed their tactics for the second session, putting more emphasis on attacks and this soon paid dividends when four minutes after the resumption the Iranians gave away a freekick after fouling a Korean forward just outside the penalty zone. Pak Myung-Hun, taking the freekick, stunned not only the Iranian defenders but the 15 thousand-odd crowd with a gem of a goal. Pak's curling. power-packed kick saw the ball sail clear over the Iranian wall and then dip into the top corner of the net, to the right of goalie Abedzadeh who was

frozen on his feet (2-1). For the remainder of the encounter, while the Koreans

which bore fruit. In the end the Iranians managed to hold on to their slender one-goal

lead. Two Iranian players had to be carried off the pitch on stretchers after getting hurt in the course of play.

Sung Chol-U of April 25 received a yellow card caution from UAE referee Binhazim Saeed Salim for a cynical foul.

TEAMS Esteghlal Club :- Ahmed Reza, Shahin Bayani, Reza Hassanzadeh, Amtr Mussavinya, Sadegh Varmazyar, Mehdy Fonunizadegan, Majid Namjumutlagh (Jafar Mukhtarifar), Shahrukh Bayani, Apdeshir Ghalenoii, Abus Sarkhab (Abdul Ali Changis) and Abdul Samad Marfavi.

April 25 Club :- Kim Chung Li Ryong Chol, Chong Young Jun, Ryu Gnaha Chol, Sung Chol U. Kim Sang Gil. Kona Myona Chol, Pak Myona Hun, Kang Jong Chol, Choi Won Nam and Li Chang Gyu.

TODAY'S MATCH

PS Pelita Jaya of Indonesia will take on Al-Nasr Club of Oman in the today's only match, starting at 6.00 pm.

Ticket for today's match will cost Taka ten each.



Mohammedan goalkeeper Kanon(R) looks back in despair as Apirak(third from right) rejoices after equalising for Bangkok Bank Sports Club in yesterday's opening match of the 10th Asian Club Cup football championship at Dhaka Stadium. The teams drew 1-1. Story on Page 1. - Star photo

IAAF readmits South Africa



July 19: South Africa readmitted to the world athletics governing body on Thursday, but the country's

Olympic chief cast doubt on South Africa's participation at next month's World Championships, reports AFP.

The International Amateur Athletics Federation announced in Rome that the South African Amateur given provisional membership.

agreed at the IAAF congress in Tokyo just before the World Championships start in Japan on August 22. That would end 15 years of extle because of

the final official obstacle to participation at Tokyo, an IAAF official said a team of 30 athletes had been invited. Sam Ramsamy, chairman of the National Olympic Committee of South Africa, said South Africa

MAHWAH, N J. July 19:

Monica Seles held a news

white tent Thursday. It was an

appropriate setting for an

event that resembled a circus.

first time since pulling out of

Wimbledon last month, Seles

got the kind of superstar at

tention usually reserved for

reporters, dozens of photogra-

phers, 16 microphones and

one barking dog, the world's

top-ranked woman tennis

player defended her decision

to drop out of sight and avoid

the press after withdrawing

from Wimbledon just three

days before the tournament

mistake," she said. "I felt a lot

of pressure, a lot of pressure

inside myself. ... I was con-

fused. I just wasn't ready to

"I don't think I made a

started on June 24.

Speaking in front of 200

one of her idois - Madonna.

Meeting the press for the

reports AP.

conference under a blue-and

was not yet ready to compete. Ramsamy said the decision was premature and added, "Athletics is not unified yet."

the situation is still pretty confusing and I'm sure we haven't heard the last word on going to Tokyo", said Javelin thrower

Too much for Gascoigne

LONDON, July 19: England's injured football super-star Paul Gascoigne claims he will only be happy when he quits football and says the game is

my own" said the controversial and often emotional 24-yearold striker for whom Italian club Lazio has offered a reported 4.8 million pounds.

Speaking in a pre-recorded interview for a Friday morning radio programme. Gascoigne says: "I just want to be happy and that won't be until I've packed the game in."

MONICA SELES

most a month to finally issue a

statement explaining that she

didn't play at Wimbledon be-

cause of shin splints and a

stress fracture in her left leg?

and other querulous questions

during the 30-minute news

conference. Seles sounded like

a confused teenager who

couldn't quite figure out what

she avoided the press and WTA

officials after Wimbledon was

because she was as puzzled as

everyone else about her injury.

Seles claimed she saw six doc-

tors in three countries before

finally getting a correct diag-

nosis from Dr Richard

Steadman, an orthopaedic

She said the main reason

all the fuss was about.

Pressed to answer these

And why did it take her al-

Association ?

team member has applied for South African citizenship and is a medal contender if South Africa goes to the World Championships. . Ramsamy said though that

NOCSA would consult with officials of the newly-formed SAAAA when they return from Rome. "I will be talking to the athletics administrators and

The Tottenham player was

quick to point out what the

pressures had done to

Ireland's George Best whose

serious drink problems sur-

upset BBC viewers while ap-

pearing on an evening chat-

trouble is they are trying to get

me to be like him. And I'm

have I been able to enjoy

spending it? when I go out I

get paranoid, people are always

not. I'm just me."

pestering me."

specialist in Vail, Colo.

"I kept getting all these

different answers," said Seles,

whose rambling responses

were interrupted several times

by the barking of her dog, a

Yorkshire Terrier named

surgery, another said it was

just shin splints and another

said it was OK for me to play. I

press had a field day speculat-

ing about her whereabouts.

motives and physical problems.

One British tabloid hinted she

was pregnant, while others al-

leged that she skipped

Wimbledon to protect a big

bonus from her racket sponsor

that might have been in jeop-

ardy had she lost her No 1

she hid out after Wimbledon.

dismissed the pregnancy ru-

mour as "way out of line" and

bonus no matter what I did at

Wimbledon," she said. "In fact,

I would have gotten a lot more

money for winning Wimbledon.

money and I never will."

But I've never played tennis for

the six-figure fee she's getting

for appearing in the Pathmark

exhibition, in which she was

scheduled to play Andrea

Leand on Thursday night. It

would be Seles' first match

since beating Arantxa Sanchez

Vicario in the French Open fi-

Still, Seles won't turn down

"I would have gotten the

refuted the bonus allegation.

Seles wouldn't reveal where

ranking in England.

didn't know what to think."

"One doctor said I needed

While Monica was mum, the

Seles opens up

"Look at George Best. The

"I've had money - but when

faced again recently when he

the SAAAA. "If they decide it's right to send a team to Tokyo that's fine with me, but we've got to be very careful about rocking the unity boat," Rautenbach

athletes themselves to look for

a solution and I am sure we

will come to a collective

agreement", Ramsamy added.

tional selector and Chairman

of the South African Coaches

Association said the final deci-

sion for participation lay with

Steve Rautenbach, a na

Petranoff and Rautenbach expressed concern that some South African athletes would not be ready for the Tokyo Championships, especially because the South African season ended in April this year.

Several athletes have qualified for the World Championships on their performance in the 1990/91 sea son, Rautenbach said:"If only the World Championships were six months away, we'd have so much more time to prepare."

nal on June 8.

Seles is also scheduled to play for Yugoslavia in the Federation Cup next week at Nottingham, England. But she said that will depend on how she feels after playing in Mahwah.

"I want to test my leg before making a decision," Seles said. Seles said she is undergoing therapy three times a day and that she will wear special orthopaedic insoles in her sneakers.

"I don't know whether it helps my leg, but it sure helps me mentally," she said of the therapy. "My leg feels great. But I'm going to take it slow. don't want to push myself before I'm ready.

Many followers of the tennis tour feel Seles was victimized by bad advice from her family and business representatives. But her brother-manager, Zoltan, and her agent, Bob of International Management Group, said Seles was the one who wanted to remain silent during the con-

"We're not the boss. She's the boss," Kain said. "We ad vised her, but she made the final decision."

Although the news conference was dominated by serious questions, there were a few light moments.

Tournament director Hohn Korff gave Seles a large cake with her first name and No 1 spelled out in icing. Korff also handed Seles a blue T-shirt liest. that read : "Rome, Paris, Wimbledon. Mahwah. Wimbledon was crossed out with a black line.

After hesitating for a moment, Seles held up the shirt for photographers and smiled.

8 more hockey players will change colours

Sports Reporter Eight more players sought transfer on the fifth day of the hockey players' transfers for the Delta Life First Division

league yesterday at the Hockey

Federation office at Dhaka

Stadium. So far a total of 58 players have decided to change their colours while 139 others have collected tokens till yesterday. The last date of this year's hockey transfers is July 22.

24 share lead

Sports Reporter

Twenty-four players are jointly leading the points' table with each full two points after the completion of the second round matches of the 12th national junior chess championship yesterday at National Sports Councils chess room.

Fide master Ziaur Rahman Fide master Riffat bin-Sattar, Khondokar Kayes Hasan, Jahangir, Ruhul Kabir, Tanima Parveen and Farhadur Rahman among the leaders who won their respective matches yesterday.

Burrell has a sore back

HOUSTON, July 19: Leroy Burrell, the world recordholder in the 100 meters, is suffering a sore back and a hamstring injury in his left leg, his coach says, reports AP.

University of Houston track coach Tom Tellez told the Houston Post that Burrell left the European circuit and returned to Houston on Thursday to begin treatment. He went through some stretching exercises and light jogging Thursday and is day-to-day on his training status. "(Burrell's) leg is very tight

and his back is bothering him a bit," Tellez said Thursday. "He Just needs some rest and therapy, and hopefully he'll be all right."

Burrell first began complaining about his back and leg after a July 12 meet in London. where he competed in the

Five Argentine booters banned

SANTIAGO, July 19: All five of the players sent off during Argentina's brawling 3-2 victory ever Brazil in the Copa America on Wednesday night have been suspended, reports

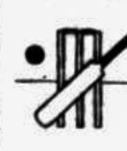
Argentina's Carqos Enrique picked up the severest punishment — a three-match ban - for a vicious foul on Brazilian defender Mario, who was banned for one match for retaliating.

Mario, along with teammate Mazinho, also suspended for one game, will miss Friday's match with Colombia but will be available for Brazil's last tie of the tournament with Chile on Sunday.

Brazil's Careca 11 was banned for two matches, and like Enrique will now miss the rest of the Copa.

Argentina's Caniggia was banned for one match and therefore misses Friday's clash with Chile — but should be playing in Sunday's tie with Colombia.

England may recall Botham



LONDON, July 19 lan Botham's vast experience and will to win could clinch him a Test return for

Indies in next week's fourth cricket Test at Edgbaston. reports AFP. The 35-year-old allrounder's name is certain to be

England against the West

discussed at length when England's selectors run through their options. And, with the series now balanced on a knife-edged fol-

Indian win in Nottingham, Botham's influence and largerthan-life personality could be crucial at Edgbaston. He has boosted England once there already this season contributing significantly to an opening Texaco Trophy vic-

lowing an emphatic West

That injury ended Botham's hopes of starting a Test series

while batting.

he is desperate to play in. On sheer performance.

there is little reason to recall him now.... two years after his 97th and last cap — but Botham remains the one player most likely to produce something really special for his country.

As for the top batting positions, only captain Graham Gooch and Robin Smith are certainties - provided Smith can prove his damaged finger will be no handicap.

Mike Atherton, struggling for runs and clearly worried by a nagging stomach muscle strain, seemed likely to be dropped earlier this week. But, with Hugh Morris bagging a pair for Glamorgan against West Indies, the Lancashire opener might yet continue his alliance with Gooch at Edgbaston.

tory by claiming four wickets Graeme Hick — 55 runs in before tearing a hamstring his first five innings for England — is another who looked down and out after Trent Bridge. But a gold

award-winning knock of 88 in last Saturday's Benson and Hedges Cup final followed by a century for Worcestershire against Hampshire on Tuesday might persuade the selectors to give him another chance.

As for Allan Lamb, with five fatlures behind him, only reputation and a magnificent record of success against the Windies over the years can save him. Both Hick and Mark Ramprakash have shown it takes time to adjust at the highest level while David Gower - now back to something like his best form - has class and experience to commend him.

As for the bowling attack, neither Devon Malcolm nor David Lawrence have threatened to win England a Test this summer.

One of them, probably Lawrence is likely to play at Edgbaston but the selectors just might consider Warwickshire's Gladstone Small on his home ground.



before the kick-off of the 10th Asian Club Cup yesterday. State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeq Hossain is also seen. - Star photo

Malik heroics go in vain down by an innings and 34 age as Lancashire slumped



Essex crashed to a 112 run defeat against Kent on Thursday and threw away a

chance of closing the gap on English county championship leaders Warwickshire, reports

Graham Gooch used joke bowlers to hand Kent 159 runs and encourage a declaration. But it was no laughing when Essex were bowled out for 200 to suffer their second successive championship defeat.

They have now used up their two games in hand and are still 21 points behind Warwickshire.

Essex were set 313 in 52 overs and went boldly for it but wickets were sacrificed in the run chase with Alan Igglesden claiming four victims. Salim Malik, who topscored with 51, was Essex's hero.

Lancashire, who lost their title as one-day kings with defeats in both knockout competitions last week, endured more misery as they went

runs to Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge.

Spinners Eddie Hemmings and Andy Afford did the dam-

Pak juniors leave for Sri Lanka KARACHI, July 19: A

Pakistan junior cricket team left here Thursday on a monthlong tour of Sri Lanka where it will play three unofficial Tests and three one-day matches. reports AFP.

The 14-member team is led by wicket keeper-batsman Moin Khan.

Team manager Ghaffar Ali Khan said his team would play "aggressive but positive" cricket, adding, "We are going with a will to win." The team: Moin Khan.

Ghulam Ali, Inzamamul Haq. Tanveer Mehdi, Muhammed Zahid, Nadeem Afzal, Zahid Fazal, Aamir Hanif, Amir Sohail, Aman Ullah, Ather Laig. Ataur Rehman, Iqbal Sikander and Saeed Anwar.

from 133 for one to 199 all Hemmings returned a mag-

nificent six for 46 to finish

with match figures of nine for

96, while Afford's two wickets

on Thursday gave him a match of six for 108. Derbyshire were indebted to Karl Krikken, who survived for 35 overs to frustrate

Yorkshire's victory bid at Scarborough Needing 176 to avoid an innings defeat. Derbyshire were in trouble at 138 for six but Krikken steered them to

Graham Dilley was another immovable object. He batted through two hours and 27 overs to make sure Worcestershire escaped with a draw against Hampshire at

Portsmouth. Worcester were only 16 ahead with five wickets left when play began late in the afternoon, but Dilley's presence allowed them to extend their lead to 110 for the loss of

only one more wicket. Suspensions, injuries hit Argentina

SANTIAGO, July 19: Argen tina have emerged as a strong favourites to win the South American soccer championship but it probably will have to do it without star forward

The Diego Maradona-less Argentines moved into a commanding position in the final round of the America Cup with a 3-2 victory over the defending champions Brazilians on Thursday night.

But that opening final-round victory was costly, as Caniggia was ejected in the first half of the match, requiring him to sit out Brazil's next game against Chile on Friday and possibly Sunday's match against

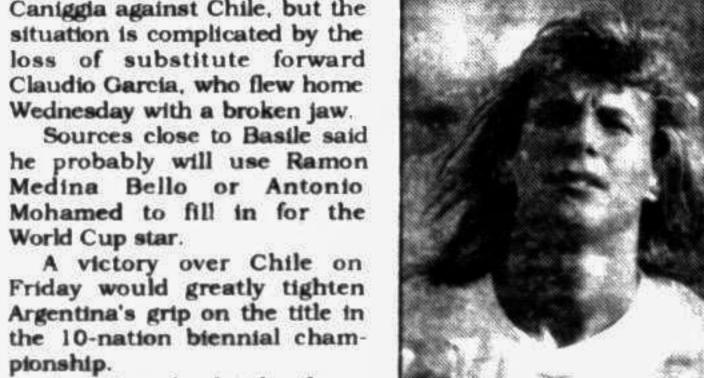
Caniggia, the long-haired winger of Italian first division club Atalanta, was red carded in the first half for shoving defender Mazinho. "They kick me 20 times per

game and nothing happens." Caniggia said. "But when I get the fastest 200-meter breaststroke qualifying time by mad, they send me out." The ejection automatically

carries a one-game suspension. but South American soccer confederation officials have increased that to two games for the America Cup depending on hind. the severity of the foul. Officials met on Thursday without announcing a classification of the foul and a decision on Caniggia was not expected until Friday at the ear-

China's world champion, In the violence-plagued game, Paraguayan referee also ejected Argentine midfielder Carlos Enrique and Brazilians Mazinho, midfielder Marcio and attacker Careca III. Argentine coach Alfio Bastle

did not say who will replace Uwe Dassler of Germany.



Colombia, who drew 1-1 in

Caniggia against Chile, but the situation is complicated by the loss of substitute forward cludes Sunday. Claudio Garcia, who flew home

Claudio Caniggia, reports AP. he probably will use Ramon Medina Bello or Antonio Mohamed to fill in for the World Cup star.

A victory over Chile on Friday would greatly tighten Argentina's grip on the title in the 10-nation biennial championship.

Argentina leads the fourteam round-robin final with points. Chile and

ver medalist Garv O'Toole pushed ireland closer to its first medal of the 16th World University Games Friday by cruising to

19: European sil

two seconds, reports AP. O'Toole covered the four lengths in 2 minutes, 16.95 seconds with American Ty Richardson 2.15 seconds be-

in other swimming heats Friday, Canada's Guylaine Cloutier beat world champi onship bronze medalist Elena Volkova in the women's 100meter breaststroke.

Qian Hong, had the best qualifying time in the women's 100-meter butterfly and Poland's Artur Wojdat, the former 400-meter world record holder, beat a fleid that was missing world champion



CLAUDIO CANIGGIA

O'Toole clocks best in 200m

The US 400-meter freestyle SHEFFIELD. July relay quarter of Keith Anderson, Alyn Towne, Joshua Davis and Eric Hansen, sprinted away from the Soviets to earn the fastest qualifying

> All five finals were to be held later Friday with O'Toole gunning for the 8-year-old Games record of 2:15.93 owned by Soviet Robertas Zhulpa.

The largest field outside of the Olympics - 5,500 competitors from 111 countries - are contesting 11 sports, swimming, track and field, gymnastics, volleyball, basketball, tennis, fencing, field bockey, soc-

cer, diving and water polo. A glance at the scoreboard before his last dive might have brought American Dean Panaro a gold medal in the men's 1-

meter springboard event. But Panaro, a 20-year-old from the University of Miami did not notice he was within striking distance of China's Lan Wei

Wednesday's second game, have one point each. Brazil has none. The final round con-

The situation appears even more difficult for Brazilian coach Paulo Falcao, who will have to find substitutes for his three ejected players. Star sweeper Ricardo Rocha and left winger Joao Paulo are nursing injuries and also may be sidelined.

"We can say Joao Paulo is probably out, but Ricardo should may recover." Falcao said. "But I'm still hopeful, and we will fight through the end." Brazil plays Colombia on

Friday. Another concern for Basile is the injuries to key midfielders Leonardo Rodriguez and Diego Simeone.

"Simeone should be fine to play against Chile, but Rodriguez' situation is more complicated. He has a badly swollen right ankle," Bastle

The situation looks better at the Chilean and Colombian camps, although Chilean coach Arturo Salah said forward Ivan Zamorano is nursing a cold and had a fever Thursday morning.

he should be well by tomorrow," Salah said. Zamorano and Argentina's Gabriel Batistuta are the tournament's top scorers with five

"But it doesn't look serious,

goals each. Colombian head coach Luis Garcia will get a boost against Brazil with the return of forward Anthony de Avila, who had to sit out Wednesday's game because of an ejection against Brazil in the first

round.

old then go into seclusion, apparently hiding out in Florida.

Sitting in sweltering heat under an open tent in the Pathmark Tennis Classic, Seles frequently wiped her sweaty brow with a paper towel. Seles, wearing black jeans and a flowered tank top, also felt the heat of probing questions from a press corps eager to get a full explanation for her bizarre be-

haviour in recent weeks. Why, for instance, did she originally have her agent issue a vague press release saying she withdrew from Wimbledon because of a minor accident? And why did the 17-year-

wearing wigs as a disguise and

refusing to answer phone calls

from anyone, including the

head of the Women's Tennis

Athletics Association had been A full application should be

apartheid. Though the IAAF move lifts

Tom Petranoff. The former US Olympic

"running" his life, reports AFP. "I feel I haven't got a life of

"Although very interesting.