

Munira Rahman of BTMC swims to the 200m individual medley gold and yet another record in the 15-17-yrs age group on the last day of the four-day national swimming championships at the Dhanmandi Women's Sports Complex pool -Star photo by Shaffuddin Bitu yesterday. Munira won four gold medals --- all record-breaking efforts.

Ansars top medal table

Sports Reporter



The four-day national women's swimming championships concluded at the Dhanmandi men's Sports Complex pool yesterday afternoon with two dozen new records being set in the 37-event competition.

Swimmers young and old of the formidable Bangladesh Ansars stamped their overwhelming superiority by bagging 42 of the total 111 medals at stake. They topped the gold chase with a haul of 14 glittering medals to the 12 won by defending team champions Bangladesh Textile Mills

Corporation (BTMC). BTMC, whose long reign in women's swimming came to an end yesterday, collected a total of 25 medals to place second, just ahead of the fast improving Rajbari DSA who finished in third spot with a tally of 21 medals, eight of them golden.

Bandarban with two golds and Munshiganj with one placed fourth and fifth in the final standings among the 13 teams and more than a hundred competitors taking part. Narayanganj and Pabna were the only other sides to score

any success. Mahmuda Sharif of Bangladesh Ansars, whose performance on the very opening day of he meet must have inspired her teammates no end. emerged the champion swimmer among the women with a bag of four gold medals. Three of her four winning efforts also erased the former national marks - 100m and 200m breaststroke and the 200m backstroke. The versatile veteran, who made her debut in the nationals and age-group meets way back in 1975, and who has collected a staggering 110 gold medals in various meets since, also won the 100m backstroke.

Talking to this correspondent. Mahmuda said she was feeling confident about her prospects in the fifth SAF Games, to be held in the Sri Lankan capital Colombo later in December.

Latla Noor Milu of BTMC. the best woman swimmer of last year's nationals, also had a fairly rewarding meet this time around, winning three gold medals with record-shattering efforts - in the 100, 200 and freestyles, her pet event. Latla's sorrow knew no bounds when she was pipped for the 50m freestyle gold by Rehana Zaman of Ansars despite a timing of 33.39 sec which was inside her own former mark of 34.47 secs set last year.

The lean, lithe girl from Faridpur who made such a great splash in her age-group swimming debut in 1983. couldn't hold back her tears after being dethroned by Rehana Sunday as the country's fastest woman.

The silver medal was no consolation for the determined Laila Noor.

Munira Rahman of BTMC annexed the individual championship among girls between 15-17 years with a superlative four record-breaking feats.

A student of Class Ten from Tangail. Munira showed allround brilliance by rewriting the national marks for the 50m and 200m freestyle, the 200m individual medley and the 100m butterfly. She, too, feels more confident about a respectable showing at the coming SAF Games.

Munira's BTMC teammate. the more fancied Mahfuza Rahman finished second with three golds (all new records)

37.07 secs, .77 seconds quicker than the previous record. Ting Ting also won a silver, accounting for all three medals for her team.

> Sumona Akhter of Ansars finished runners-up among girls in the 11-12 age bracket behind Ting Ting with two golds, one bronze and a record to boot.

> Rahima Khatoon of BTMC emerged as the find of the meet by topping the girls under-10 years with one gold and one silver. Rokeya Begum of Munshigani DSA was the runners-up.

LAST DAY HIGHLIGHTS

Laila Noor Milu set a new record in the 100m freestyle yesterday with a time of 1 min. 13.16 secs against the old mark of 1:17.25 secs while silver medallist Rehana Zaman of Ansars, too, came home inside the old mark by timing 1:13.85 secs. It was sweet revenge for Laila who lost the mantle of



Ting Ting Mya, the 11-year-old from Bandarban, won all three medals for her district in the nationals --- two golds and a silver. -Star photo

and a silver.

.The little, unassuming Mita Rani Shome of Rajbari DSA a student of Class VIII finished the meet with a bag of four "gold medals and a bronze. She also created three new records for her 13-14-year-old age group, the third coming in yesterday's 50m freestyle final, a feat that established her as the fastest among her age. Her new record is 35.35 secs compared to the existing time of 35.37 secs.

Another Rajbari girl. Nibedita Das finished runnersup behind Mita Shome with two golds — both new records.

Ting Ting Mya of Bandarban DSA, the Marma tribal girl from the Hill District, won two golds - in the 100m and 50m freestyles. In the process she erased the old mark in the 50m race with a new time of

the fastest swimmer to Rehana in the 50m version Sunday. Sulekha Parveen of Ansars got the bronze.

Mahmuda Sharif of Ansars created her third record of the meet by breaking the 200m backstroke mark of 3:41.94 secs with 3:34.15 secs. Rokeva Begum of Narayangani DSA took silver and Subenoor Lalana of BTMC the bronze. Munira Rahman of BTMC

erased the 200m freestyle record of 2:54.26 secs with a time of 2:41.35 secs in the 15-17-years group. China Akhter of Ansars was second and teammate Laila Akhter third.

Munira's fourth record of the championships came in the 200m individual medley with a time of 3:02.51 secs better than the previous 3:31.63 secs. Putul Rani Ghosh of Rajbari took the silver and

Indian manager Sept 30: Former Test batsman Abbas Ali Baig was on Sunday named

Bedi sacked as

india's manager for the tour of Australia in November and next year's World Cup, reports Reuter.

Baig replaces Bishen Bedi, who was involved in controversy during last year's tour of

Bedi criticised his captain Mohammed Azharuddin for putting England in at the Lord's Test and also hit out at Sunil Gavaskar for refusing honorary life membership of the MCC.

Richardson new Windies skipper

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Sept 30: Hard-hitting 29-year-old batsmap Richie Richardson of Antigua has been named captain of the West Indies cricket team which will play in the World Series Cricket competition, a West Indies cricket official said on Sunday, reports Reuter.

A vice captain for the team is expected to be named later this week.

Richardson, captain of the Leewards Islands in the regional Red Stripe competition, replaces compatriot Viv Richards who has led the Caribbean team since 1985.

Richards had announced his pending retirement from Test cricket, but last week he announced his availability for the World Cup.

Shahar Banu of Ansars the

In the same age group.

Mahfuza Rahman of BTMC

shattered the 100m back-

stroke mark by clocking

1:26.50 secs against the old

time of 1:35.43 secs. Reshma

Parveen of Ansars and Putul

Rani Ghosh of Rajbari also

swam home inside the old

mark to make it a most keen

contest that enthralled every-

on the final day but space

doesn't permit us to detail all

FINAL MEDAL TABLE

Cricket camp

concludes

camp for young cricket fast

bowlers and wicket-keepers

concluded at the National

Stadium in Dhaka vesterday,

Dhaka and some other dis-

tricts took part in the camp,

organised by Dhaka Cricket

president of the Bangladesh

Cricket Control Board, attended the concluding func-

tion as the chief guest and

distributed the certificates

Players' Association Rogibul

Hasan, general secretary Gazi

Ashraf Hossain Lipu and BCCB

general secretary Aminul Huq

Japanese double

PORTLAND, Oregon, Sept

30: Japan's Tsuguo Sadakata, a

winner two years ago, domi-

nated the 20th Portland

marathon on Sunday when he

raced to victory in 19 mins 30

'double, Hiromi Yokoyama set a

course record in the women's

event by striding home ahead

of the field in 2:26:40. Sadakata, who was slowed

by a gusty headwind, admitted:

"I was getting so tired after 20

world's fastest marathon run-

ners in the late 1970s, fin-

ished in second place in

John Lodwick, one of the

And to complete a Japanese

President of the Cricket

among the participants.

Moni were present.

secs, reports AFP.

Players' Association.

In all, 100 cricketers from

Raisuddin Ahmed, vice

The five-week training

S

B Total

15

37 37 37 111

Ten events were decided

one at poolside.

the results.

B. Ansars

Rafbari DSA

Bandarban

Munshigani

Narayanganj

reports BSS.

BTMC

The West Indies Cricket Board of Control is expected to decide at its current meetings whether it will support South Africa's request to play in the World Cup competition in Australia and New Zealand early next year.

Bedi has been replaced by another former Test cricketer, Ashok, Mankad, for next month's Sharjah Cup and oneday series against Pakistan.

Itinerary for the one-day series Against Pakistan Bombay Oct 28, Madras Oct 30, Calcutta Nov 1, New Delhi Nov 3 day-night match Jalandhar Nov 6.

LILLEE IN DELHI

Meanwhile a PTI report from New Delhi said: Former Australian pace bowler Dennis Lillee made a rare appearance in Delhi today to take stock of his wards undergoing training in the MRF-Pace Foundation. Lillee came here last night

on his periodic visit to India to check for himself the progress of the dozen trainees and is holding a five-day camp for them at the Karnail Singh Stadtum here.

A spokesman for the foundation said today, the camp was shifted to Delhi from Madras as most of the trainees were here after playing the Wills Trophy and for the Irani Trophy which begins at Faridabad on Wednesday. "Since most of the boys

were here we thought it would be better to have the camp in Delhi when Lillee came on his visit this time instead of moving all the boys to Madras," he

As many as 11 medium pacers of MRF-Four dation were playing the Wills Trophy limited-overs competition.

Young new-ball bowlers including J Srinath, Venkatesh Prasad, Prashant Vaidya. Subroto Banerjee, Ashish Winston Zaidi, Shakti Singh. Sukhwinder Singh, Dewang Kapadia, Harvinder Sodhi bowled under the watchful eyes of Lillee, and MRFcoaches T A Sekhar and Vasu Pranjape.

Suleymanoglu's golden return

DONAUESCHINGEN, Germany, Sept 30: Naim Suleymanoglu, Turkey's pocketsized weightlifting hero, marked his comeback after two year of injury with a gold medal at the World Championships on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The Olympic champion lifted a total of 310.0 kgs to seal his fourth world title in the featherweight division (60 Yurik Sarkissain of the

Soviet Union took the silver. with a total of 302.5 kgs. China's He Yingquinang came third on 292.5. Suleymanoglu, nicknamed

as the ""Pocket Hercules' retired from top-class competition two years ago because of persistent hip problems. But after recent treatment

in Ankara, Suleymanoglu, who

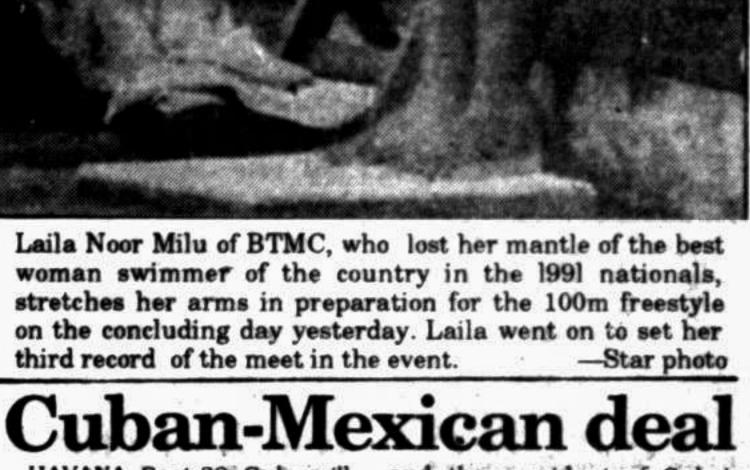
1986, decide to make a comeback and try to defend his title at next year's Barcelona Olympics.

defected from Bulgaria in

The Turk, who destroyed the competition at the 1988 Seoul Games, setting three world records, triumphed in both the snatch and jerk on Sunday with lefts of 137.5 and 172.5 respectively.

But he was below his world records of 152.5 and 190.0 in the two categories and his overall world best of 342.5, all of which he set in Seoul.

Suleymanoglu was treated like a prince when he won Turkey's first Olympic gold for 20 years. He owns 10 houses in three different cities and had to be protected by a team of bodyguards after his Seoul triumph because of his popu-



and the president of Cuba's HAVANA, Sept 30: Cuba will National Sports Institute, send 150 sports coaches to Mexico and the two countries Conrado Martinez. will send teams to compete in 80 bilateral competitions in 1992 under a major sports cooperations agreement signed

The accord, valued at more than a million dollars and the biggest of its kind between the two nations, was initialled on Saturday by the president of Mexico's National Sports Commission, Raul Gonzalez,

in Havana at the weekend, re-

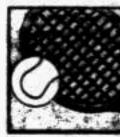
ports Reuter.

Martinez told reporters the

proposed exchanges of athletes, coaches and specialists, like sports doctors, would help Cuba and Mexico intensify their respective preparations for the 1992 Barcelona

Mexico would pay for the 150 Cuban trainers and nine sports specialists who will coach a variety of sports for at least a year.

Agassi looks to late season form



SYDNEY, Australia, Sept 30: As autumn falls on Andre Agassi's fifth season of professional ten-

nis, the 21-year-old American is looking to Australia's southern hemisphere spring for a few morsels of consistency, reports AP.

The good news for 1991 is that he's earned nearly a halfmillion U.S. dollars, own two tournament, and achieved his goal of "letting everyone get to know me a bit better." Two victories last week -

over Wimbledon champion Michael Stich and Carl-Uwe Steeb - to lead the United States over Germany in a Davis Cup semifinal also helped erase memories of what he considers a "horrible" season.

On the downside of his roller-coaster ride: still no Grand Slam title, despite reaching three finals, including this year's French Open.

And the U.S. Open, where Jimmy Connors at least helped everyone else forget that Agassi lost in the first round.

Agassi's appearance in the dirs i million Australian Indoor tournament that began Monday is his first in Australia as a pro. He's seeded fourth in the fournament, which also has Stefan Edberg, Ivan Lendl and Pete Sampras. "Earlier this year I decided

I was going to make more of an effort for people to get to know me better," Agassi said. "I feel good about what's being written, but you can't control it so, good or bad, I try not to worry about it." What Agassi would like

more control of is his game Hot and cold, black and white, mediocre and more mediocre - Agassi would like to put most of 1991 behind him. The elusive Grand Slam ti-

tle continues to be a sore point, if only because of the number of questions he has to

answer on the subject. On Monday, it was whether he thought he could even win

There's a good chance that I'd quit tennis if I felt that I couldn't," he said. "I won't be satisfied until I do."

Agassi has a first-round bye and could face powerful Yugoslav Goran Ivanisevic, the sixth seed, In Friday's quarter-

Reuter from Sydney adds: World number eight Andre Agassi, declaring his firstround loss in this year's US Open the lowest moment of his career, said on Monday he would guit tennis if he did not think he would one day win a Grand Slam title.

"I'll spend the rest of my career trying to do it," Agassi said before playing in his first Australian tournament.

"If you told me I couldn't win one, " I'd feel like there wasn't a whole lot out there for

me. There's a good chance I'd quit tennis if I thought I couldn't," the American said.

The 21-year-old Agassi, who has slipped from number four in the world at the end of 1990, has played in three Grand Slam finals, losing in the French Open twice and in

last year's US Open. But it was his first round defeat to Aaron Krickstein in straights sets in August.which hurt him most.

"It would probably go down as the most disappointing loss of my career," said Agassi,

Agassi said he had got his confidence back after helping the US Davis Cup team to beat Germany in the semifinals earlier this month.

Agassi opens his campaign on Tuesday, playing either Australian Jason Stoltenberg or Ctislav Dosedel Czechoslovakia in the second



Mahfuza Rahman of BTMC is all smiles after shattering the 100m backstroke record for girls in the 15-17 years group on the concluding day of the nationals at the Dhanmandi Women's Complex pool yesterday. -Star photo

Hlasek denies McEnroe BASEL, Sept 30: during the match



kilometers."

2:23:26.

Swit-zerland's Jakob Hlasek defeated John McEnroe of the United States 7-6 (7-

4), 6-0, 6-3 in the final Sunday of the dirs 750,000 Swiss Indoors tennis tournament, reports AP. Hlasek, the No. 6 seed, took just under 2 1/2 hours for the

straight-set victory over his eighth-seeded opponent. McEnroe, the defending title holder, started well. He broke Hlasek's service in the

first game and used his blister-

ing serve to maximum effect. But after a closely fought tiebreak, the 32-year-old McEnroe faltered. Hlasek, 26, ranked 18th worldwide, improved his returns and delighted the partisan crowd with brilliant slices and lobs. He broke McEnroe's service

three times in the second set. Hlasek served 12 acres McEnroe's eight.

"I just wish I'd played better," said McEnroe. Currently ranked 25th in the world, he has said he wants to play for the United States in the Davis Cup final against France in November.

It was the first title of the year for the Czechoslovak-born Hlasek. The victory earned him dirs 97,200 in first prize

It also narrowed his deficit in head-to-head matches against McEnroe to 3-4. Hlasek won their last encounter at last year's Paris indoor tournament.

McEnroe said after his easy defeat of old rival Jimmy Connors on Saturday that he plans to retire at the end of next year because he's "not satisfied being 15th or 20th" in the world. He said he hoped to play in the Barcelona Olympics before retiring.



MITA RANI SHOME - The brilliant Rajbari girl displayed her tremendous versatility by adding yesterday 50m freestyle gold for girls between 13-14 years to her 200m individual medley record set the previous day and earlier triumphs in 100m freestyle and butterfly.