Action from yesterday's Fed Cup first round match between Bangladesh Army and newcomers Police at Dhaka Stadium. Army won 10-2. — Star photo

Mujib's double hattrick in Army's goal glut

Sports Reporter

Mujibar Rahman's brilliant double hattrick helped national champions Bangladesh Army to go on a rampage against a pathetic Bangladesh Police side 10-2 in a completely one-sided mismatch of the Federation Cup football tournament yesterday at Dhaka Stadium.

The second match of the day between Dhaka Division and BJMC needed a tie-breaker to decide the fate of the game with Dhaka Division winning 3-1 to move into the group 'D' semifinal.

The Dhaka crowd, who saw only eight goals being scored in the first six matches held in the first three days, enjoyed to see yesterday fancied Armymen run amok blasting ten goals past the helpless Police side to reach the Group-D final.

The Army booters charmed the crowd with their matchless skill which their rivals Policemen had no arsenal to contain.

They dominated the game in every department and their forwards scored at their own sweet will.

Striker Shafique opened the flood-gate for Army when he nicely nodded teammate Mukhtar's lob from a free kick in the tenth minute of the match.

Army's prized striker Mujibar Rahman started his double hattrick campaign in the 15th minute when he dribbled past a host of Police defenders with a solo effort to make it (2-0).

Then striker Sadrul made a good use of Ershad's pass to slam home (3-0) in the 19th minute and eleven minutes later Sadrul with a fierce drive scored Army's fourth goal.

Two goals were scored within two minutes from half time. First Mukhtar off Hamid's cross scored with a neat placing while Mujibar showing his speed raced down to tap the ball inside the goal when the ball slipped from the Police goalkeeper Bashar's hand off a shot taken by Shafiq (6-0).

Army came back in the second half in a relaxed mood.

Lulu of Police was brought inside the box and Mukul, from a penalty kick, reduced the margin (1-6).

Mujibar completed his first hattrick eight minutes into the second half after dodging past a couple of defenders (7-1).

The Army goal machine started his second hattrick programme with a beautiful header in the 65th minute (8-1).

Ashutosh of Police reduced the margin with a well-taken kick (2-8).

Mujibar — the goal hungry soldier — added two more goals with the last one coming a few seconds before the final whistle.

Army will now play against the winners of Farashganj SC and Dhaka Division match on October 5.

DHAKA DIVISION WIN

Dhaka Division struggled to beat BJMC 3-1 in a tie-breaker after both sides failed to score in the regulation time.

Shibu, Jhulan and Babul scored for Dhaka while Sukumar was the lone BJMC player to convert his penalty kick into goal. Milan, Mollah and Minar missed their penalty shots for BJMC.

Dhaka Division will play their next game against Farashganj SC on October 2.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Wari Club vs BRTC SC (4 pm).

Agrani Bank vs PWD SC (6 pm).

Happy day for Customs men

CHITTAGONG Sept 30: Two customs clubs — Sea Customs and Land Customs — earned full points from the two matches of the CJKP Elite Paint First Division football league at the Chittagong Stadium yesterday afternoon, reports BSS.

Sea Customs beat Brothers Union 2-1. Aslam and Khasru scored once each for Customs while Jashim scored for Brothers.

Sea Customs have collected five points from four matches.

Land Customs have four points from five matches.

Bout called off

RENO, Nevada, Sept 30: A broken rib will prevent Edwin Rosario of Puerto Rico from defending his World Boxing Association (WBA) light-welterweight title against Japan's Akinobu Hiranaka as scheduled here next weekend.

Seles proudly shows off her latest trophy after beating America's Mary Joe Fernandez in two straight sets in the final of the Nokia women's masters tournament in Essen, Germany on Sept 29. — AFP photo

Seles' success

ESSEN, Germany, Sept 30 : World number one Monica Seles beat American Mary Joe Fernandez 6-3, 6-0 here on Sunday to win the 500,000 dollar Nokia tennis masters — Europe's richest women's tournament, reports AFP.

The Masters do not count for the WTA tour, but the trip was clearly worthwhile for the Yugoslav teenager as she picked up a cheque for 200,000 dollars.

Savchenko's title

ST. PETERSBURG, Sept 30: Larisa Savchenko of the Soviet Union won the dlrs 100,000 St. Petersbug Cup women's tennis tournament Sunday, defeating Germany's Barbara Rittner 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, reports AP.

Rittner won the Wimbledon girls' singles title this year. Savchenko is one of the Soviet Union's top players.

The tournament is the only WTA event in the Soviet Union.

Riffat in lead

Sports Reporter

National junior champion Riffat bin-Sattar was left clear at the top of the 16-player 17th national chess championships after the third round matches at the NSC chess room yesterday.

Biman's Riffat, who beat Sheikh Shahadat Hossain Ratna of Bogra in 41 moves yesterday, now has three full points having won all three of his matches.

Playing white, Riffat opted for a French defence opening.

Former national women's champion Rani Hamid, also of Biman, who had shared the top spot with Riffat after Round Two Sunday, yesterday slipped to the second position following her drawn encounter with Ziaul Kader Tuhin of Dhaka Metropolis. The tie, which lasted 34 moves after a Sicilian opening, gave the International Woman Master a tally of two and a half points.

Reigning champion Syed Tahmidur Rahman, another Biman star who was held to draws by lesser opponents in his two opening games, at last regained his winning touch yesterday when his opponent Shamsul Kabir Chowdhury ran into trouble with the clock and was forced to concede defeat. None the less, the Bogo-Indian opening had left Tahmid in a position of strength. Tahmid now shares the third spot with two others — Ziaul Kader Tuhin and Anisur Rahman who each have two points to their credit.

Former national champion Jamilur Rahman, beaten in his first two encounters, rediscovered the winning formula to beat Rezaul Haq of Biman. Reza was another player who had trouble with the clock and failed to make the necessary number of moves in his game with Ansars' Jamil despite playing white in a Dutch opening. The win gave Jamil his first point of the 15-round Swiss league competition. Rezaul Haq, Shamsul Kabir and Shahabuddin also have a point each.

Anisur Rahman of Dhaka Metropolis, playing the King's Gambit declined, conquered his teammate Shahinoor Hossain in only 29 moves.

Shabana Parveen Nipa, the only other woman in the 16-strong field, opened her account in the meet with half a point from her drawn game with Shahabuddin Ahmed of Sylhet.

The matches involving last year's runners-up Younus Hassan of Ansars and Mainuddin Mamoon of Dhaka Metropolis, and Sheikh Anwar Hossain of Dhaka and Khandaker Kayes Hassan of Ansars were still in progress at the time of filing this report last night.

Xie wins Game 3

MANILA, Sept 30: Chinese challenger Xie Jun beat title holder Maya Chiburdanidze of the Soviet Union to take a 2-1 lead after the third game of the Women's World Chess championship here Monday, reports AFP.

The 31-year-old Georgian, playing black, surrendered after 28 moves of a Ruy Lopez.

Xie, a 20-year-old sports student from Beijing, needs to score at least 8.5 points in the 16-game series to wrest the title from Chiburdanidze, who only has to score eight points to retain her crown.

The series began Thursday and the first two games both ended in draws. The fourth game will be played Wednesday with Chiburdanidze playing white.

Xie's second International Master Ye Jiangchuan, said the challenger's victory was bolstered by a novel 15th move on a well-trodded defence. This enabled Xie to build a decisive attack, he added.

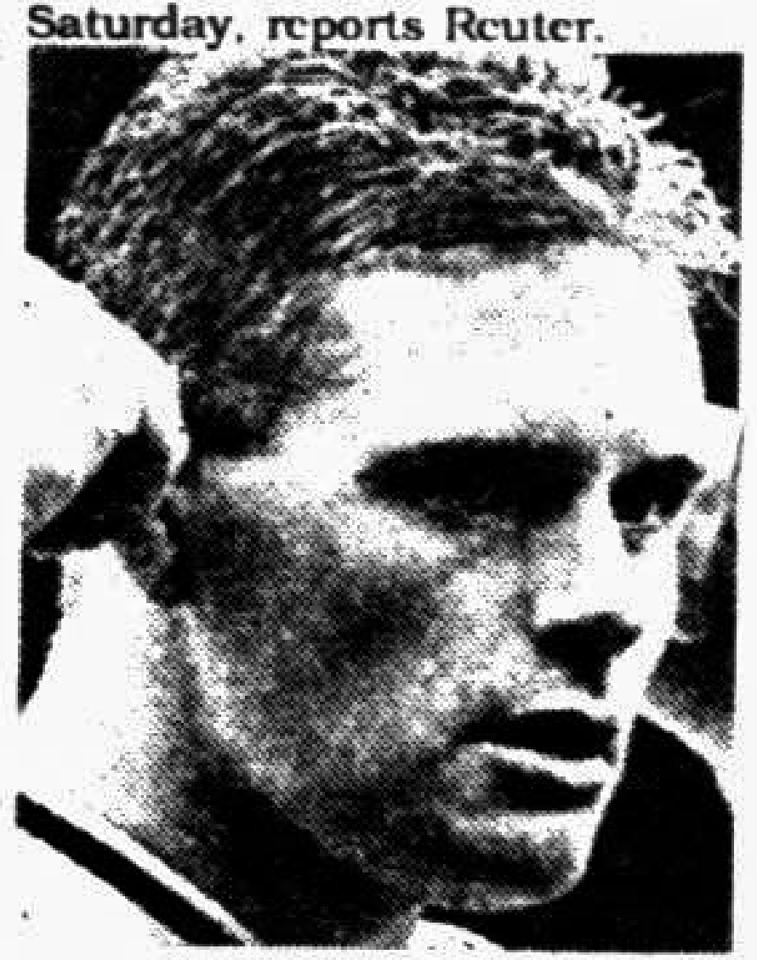
Xie was threatening mate after her 28th move, and Chiburdanidze's Queen would have to vacate a vital square to have a Chinaman's chance.

Xie is the first Asian to challenge for the Women's World chess championship after 64 years of dominance by Soviet players.

She gained the distinction by trying for first place in the candidates matches and then winning a seven-game play-off against Alisa Maric in Belgrade and Beijing in February.

Gascoigne badly hurt

LONDON, Sept 30 : British soccer Star Paul Gascoigne has aggravated the knee injury which threatened his career after being attacked in a night club in northern England on Saturday, reports Reuter.



PAUL GASCOIGNE

Gascoigne was punched in the face in a night club in his home town of Newcastle and fell to the ground, hurting his knee, police said on Sunday.

The incident also left Gascoigne with a bruised face and a broken back tooth. Police said he was travelling to London for treatment and advice from his club physiotherapist at Tottenham.

"The attack appears to have been unprovoked," a police spokesman said.

The England midfielder tore a knee ligament in the English F A Cup final in May, putting him out of soccer for at least nine months and cast doubt on an 8.8 -million dollars transfer to Italian club Lazio.

The transfer is due to go ahead next year if he is fit.

Gascoigne, who is facing assault charges for an incident outside a restaurant in Newcastle in July, said last month he hoped to be playing again by the end of January.

Soccer tourney

Nabarun Sabuj Sangha will organise a football tournament at the Science Laboratory Quarters ground for juveniles under 5ft 5 inch in height, reports BSS.

Intending teams have been requested to send their names along with a fee of Taka 300 by October 5 to Setu, Sentu at the Science Laboratory Staff Quarters.

Inter Milan end Lazio reign

ROME, Sept 30: A goal in the opening minute by internazionale was enough to end Lazio's brief reign at the top of the Italian First Division on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The Rome team's 1-0 defeat dropped them to sixth while Juventus took over the lead with league champions Sampdoria close behind after their second 4-0 victory in two weeks.

Milan dropped out of immediate contention after their home match was rained off five minutes into the second half when they were 1-0 up against Genoa.

Lazio, who reached the top last week for the first time in 17 years, again lived up to their reputation as a team who play better away from home.

The game, which featured five German internationals, was decided when defender Riccardo Ferri headed home a free kick from Andreas Brehme.

Lazio, spearheaded by their Hamburg signing Thomas Doll, were unable to penetrate a much tighter Inter defence than that which let in four goals last week.

Neither were they able to draw inspiration from the return in the second half of Karl-Heinz Riedle from injury.

The other Germans on the Olympic Stadium pitch were Inter's Brehme, Jurgen Klinsmann and Lothar Matthaeus.

Sampdoria scored all four of their goals in a first-half rout of bottom-of-the-table newcomers Ascoli.

Strikers Roberto Mancini and Gianluca Vialli notched two apiece and Vialli, last season's leading marksman, moved back to the top of the goalscorers' list with five this year.

Sampdoria, who thrashed Inter 4-0 last week after a poor start to the season, opened the scoring through Mancini after 12 minutes.

On the half-hour, winger Attlio Lombardo was brought down in the area and Vialli scored from the penalty spot.

Two minutes later Mancini headed home a cross from Lombardo and Vialli was credited with the fourth on 39 minutes when he deflected a shot from Pietro Vierchowod.

Juventus had an easy time against Bari, striker Roberto Baggio converted a penalty after 10 minutes when Salvatore Schillaci was felled in the area and German international Jurgen Kohler scored the second after a solo run 20 minutes later.

Napoli moved up to third place with a 3-1 win over shaky newcomers Verona while Roma took the fourth spot by winning a dull game at Fiorentina 1-0.

Beenhakker for Real Madrid

AMSTERDAM, Sept 30: Leo Beenhakker indicated on Sunday he would be returning to Real Madrid as manager, not coach, reports Reuter.

Beenhakker quit Ajax Amsterdam on Saturday in favour of the club he led to the Spanish league title in 1987 and 1988.

The 49-year-old Dutchman told a television station on Sunday he was moving because he had received a good offer for the remaining year.

"I have had an offer which will let me work at a very high level of soccer in the coming year," he said.

The Dutchman felt he had to look beyond working with a team from the bench. "I hope to stay with Real and do other work as kind of team manager," he said. "It's like the last years for a 30-year-old player. He looks for a good contract.

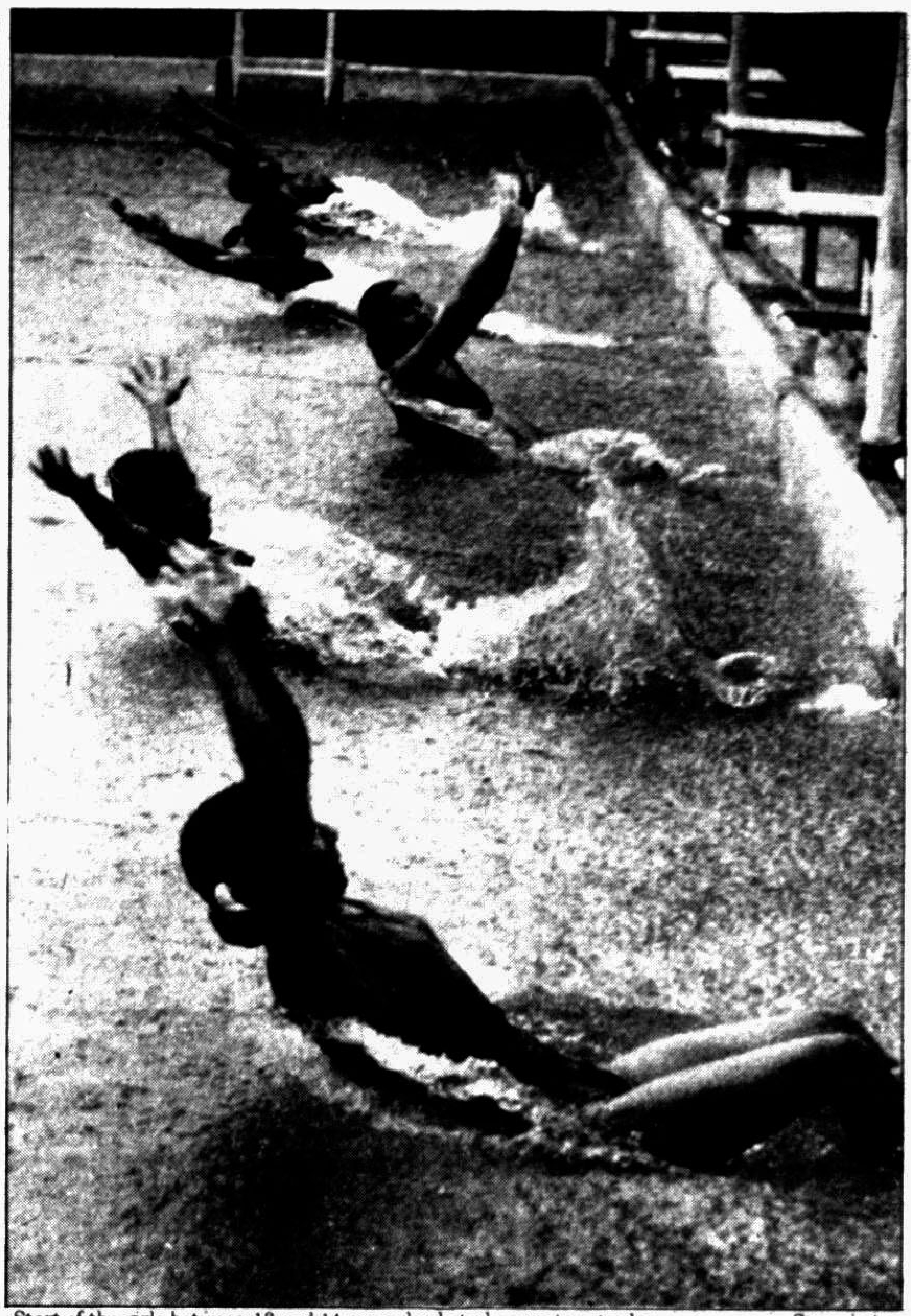
Yugoslav coach Radomir Antic has been in charge at Real since March. The club have made an excellent start to the current league season with four wins from four games.

Spanish media suggested Antic was doing so well it would be impossible to replace him at the present time.

Beenhakker has not disclosed terms of his Real contract, thought to be for two-and-a half years, but said he would personally pay an unspecified amount of compensation Ajax wants for breach of contract.

He added that he had tried to discuss a smooth departure from Ajax and was sad that the split had been unpleasant.

Club chairman Michael Van Praag angrily announced the news at a the press conference on Saturday, describing it as "a breach of trust."



Start of the girls between 13 and 14 years backstroke event yesterday. — Star photo

Watson undergoes another operation

LONDON, Sept 30 : British boxer Michael Watson, who fell into a coma eight days ago after losing a punishing world title fight, has undergone a third operation, doctors said on Sunday, reports Reuter.

They said the brain-damaged fighter was in stable condition after surgeons replaced a probe inserted inside his head to monitor pressure changes.

Watson, 26, collapsed at the ringside with serious injuries during his World Boxing Organisation (WBO) super-middleweight title bout last Saturday with Briton Chris Eubank.

The fight raised an outcry in Britain and prompted calls from some politicians for the sport to be banned.

Surgeons at London's St Bartholomew's Hospital had to operate twice to remove blood clots which formed on his brain.

A hospital statement on Sunday said X-ray scans showed Watson's brain was still swollen but his condition was stable. The operation was a routine replacement of a small filament inserted into Watson's brain during his first operation.

The probe is used to warn of any rises in pressure inside his head, which could cause further brain damage.

Maleeva's title

BAYONNE, France, Sept 30: Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere overcame some aggressive play from Leila Meskhi of the Soviet Union to win the Bayonne women's tennis final 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The top-seeded Swiss was powerless against a blistering opening attack by Meskhi, who raced to a 3-0 lead before taking the first set.

Bubka eyes 6.20m

VICHY, France, Sept 30: Soviet pole vault phenomenon Serge Bubka has set his sights on 6.20m as part of his bid to become the greatest vaulter of the modern era, reports AFP.

The world champion and record holder at 6.10m, who was visiting this SPA town last weekend, said "To vault 6.20m, it's a dream and also a goal."

"At Tokyo, I was told that a computer had calculated I could do 6.38m."

Also on Bubka's agenda is to be the century's number one record maker.

"I want to beat the record of Finland's Paavo Nurmi, who broke 29 world records. I've broken 28 — eight of them this season" he said.

Nurmi, who died in 1973, was a star 5,000 m and 10,000 m runner during the years between the two World Wars.

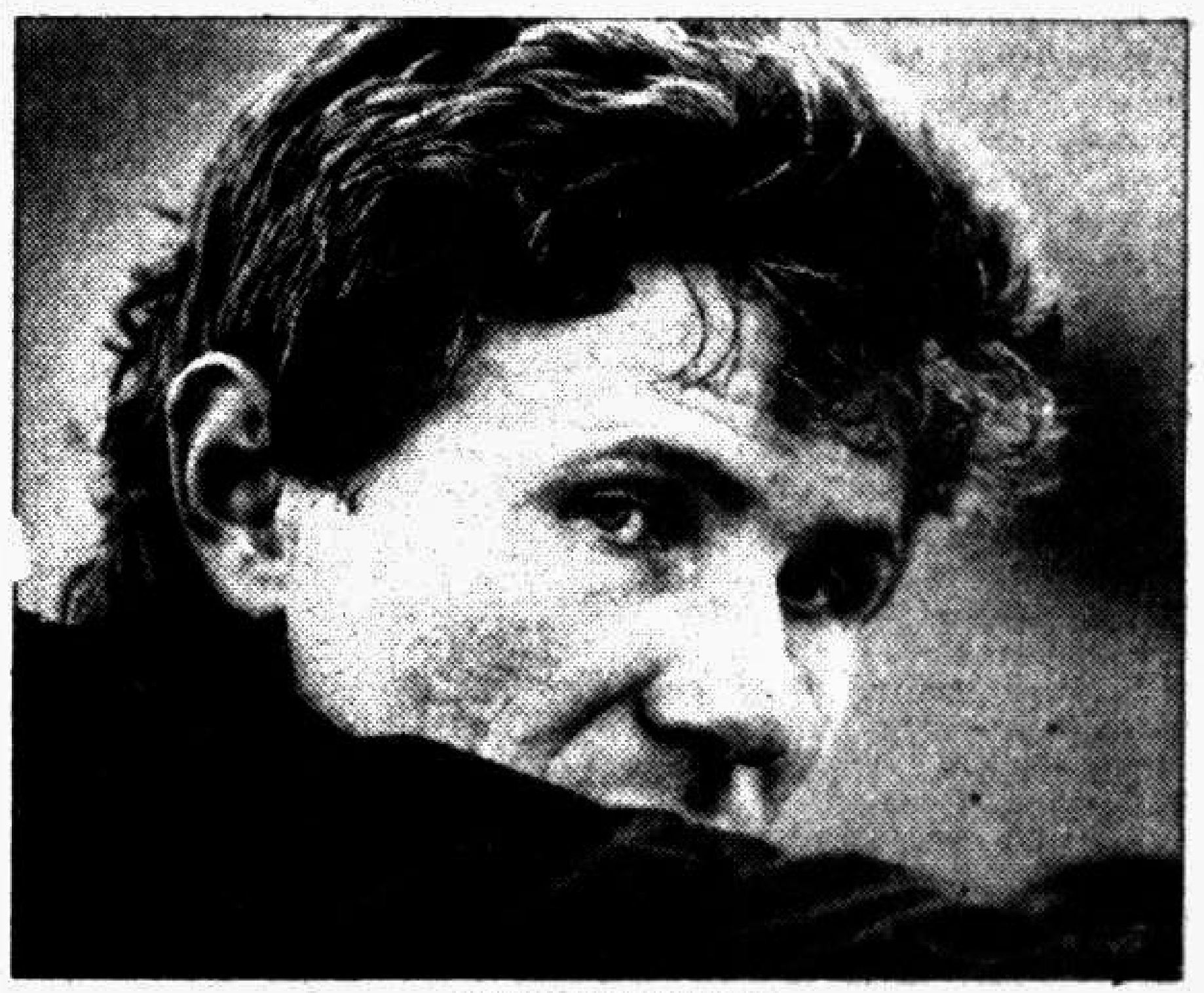
Bubka's third ambition is to conquer the Olympic gold next year in Barcelona.

Although his Polish manager Andrzej Kulikowski said "The exact training programme hasn't been worked out yet." Bubka will not attend too many meetings this winter and start intensive training two months before the Games.

During this period, the Bubka family's new home will be in Berlin, after several other cities tried to lure the world champion.

"It wasn't the money which made we choose it. Berlin is the city which offered me the best training facilities, both summer and winter. And Berlin is at the centre of Europe," he said.

The Germans also went to make Bubka an informal ambassador for their future capital in its bid to host the Olympics in 2000, Kulikowski said.



SERGEI BUBKA

Americans win Ryder Cup

KIAWAH ISLAND, S.C, Sept 30: The Europeans still feel they're the best golfers in the world. They don't have the hardware to prove it, though, reports AP.

"I said when I came here last week we had the greatest players in the world," European captain Bernard Gallacher said. "I think next week we'll still have the best golfers in the world."

But the United States has the Ryder Cup. The Americans beat the Europeans 14 1/2 to 13 1/2 on Sunday in the biennial event.

"It's a feeling of joy, " Paul Zainger said after the Americans ended the Europeans' six-year hold on the 19-inch gold trophy. "But it's also a feeling of relief."

"The Europeans flat out side, 'We're better.' We want the credit for being better," Azinger said. "We were out to prove that American pride in this war year is alive and well. There was a tremendous pressure on our team, but we came through."

Had it gone in, Langer would have beaten Hale Irwin and the match would have ended in a tie, as it did in 1989, meaning the Europeans would have retained the Ryder Cup.

"I read the putt left lip, but there were two spike marks between the ball and the hole on that line," Langer said. "My caddy suggested I hit it left-center firmly, and that's what I did. And that's why I missed."

It may have been appropriate that the tournament came down to a missed putt. While the golfers fought fiercely, play wasn't always sterling on the par-72, 7,303-yard (6,573-meter) Ocean course built by Pete Dye for the Ryder Cup.

With the wind blowing the sand over the dunes and marshes of this tiny resort island, the greatest golfers in the world often missed shots and opportunities.

ROK shuttlers top US meet

IRVINE, California, Sept 30: South Koreans won three of the five titles at the United States badminton Open of Sunday, reports AFP.

Shim Eung-Jung won the women's singles and then joined forces with Seung to win the women's doubles. Bok and Jung won the mixed doubles.

The men's singles title went to Britain's Steve Butler and the doubles crown was won by the Sidek brothers from Malaysia.

Khulna sector top BDR wrestling

The inter-sector wrestling competition of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) organised by Dhaka sector, concluded in Dhaka yesterday (Monday) afternoon.

Khulna Sector obtained the first position with 3 gold and 1 silver medals while Dhaka and Rajshahi Sector got the second spot with 2 gold and 2 silver medals each.

Jamal Uddin of Rajshahi Sector was adjudged the best wrestler of the championship.