

Giants now clash tomorrow

Sports Reporter



The first semifinal of the eleventh Federation Cup football tournament between arch-rivals Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club and Abahani Krira Chakra, originally scheduled for this afternoon, has been postponed by a day owing to inclement weather.

spot of the four-team Group B of the robin league, pitching them against defending Federation Cup champions Mohammedans who easily topped Group A, ahead of Fakirerpool Youngmen's Club. The second semifinal, between Group B champions Brothers Union and Fakirerpool, will now be held on Wednesday Oct 16.

A press release of the BFF late last night said the remaining matches of the Fed Cup — the two semifinals and the final — will be held at the Mirpur Stadium. However, the timing for the matches — earlier scheduled for a 5:00 pm kick-off — may be changed in view of the fact that some seasons ago it was generally agreed by all concerned, including members of the media, that given the potential for crowd trouble and even violence during such vital matches involving the top teams of the country, their ties should preferably be held during daylight hours. According to BFF sources, the timings for the three games will be finalised at its executive committee meeting this evening.

The BFF release last night also said that all passes and tickets issued for the Dhaka Stadium for the current meet will remain valid for the Mirpur venue as well. Besides, Taka 50 VIP tickets (daily) will also be on sale from a counter at the Mirpur Stadium. The daily tickets will go on sale on match days from 2:00 pm at the stadium ticket booths.

Tomorrow's clash between Mohammedans and Abahani will be their 46th clash since independence. Of the 45 games to date, Mohammedans have won 17 to Abahani's 13. Fifteen ties have been drawn, including a couple of abandoned encounters owing to crowd violence.

While three of last year's four semifinalists have made this year's semis — Mohammedans, Abahani and Brothers — only Muktiyoddha have yielded their place to Fakirerpool this year.

Mohammedans sign up Iranian stars

Sports Reporter



Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club, who finished second behind their traditional foes Abahani Krira Chakra in the NBL Senior Division football league last time it was held in the 1989-90 season, have reportedly signed up two Iranian strikers to strengthen their title challenge in the coming 1991-92 season.

With the lifting of the ban on foreign players from the coming season, it was generally expected that the top teams of the city especially the Big Three — Mohammedans, Abahani and Brothers Union — would recruit some leading foreign players for their sides. Already, Bangladesh PWD has stolen a march over the others by signing up former Abahani star Packer Ally of Sri Lanka as player-cum-coach.

Mohammedans are said to have signed up Sharoukh Bayani, the brilliant midfielder who gave such a fine account of himself for the champion Iranian club side Esteghal who annexed the 10th Asian Club Cup championship in Dhaka last July. Bayani is expected to arrive in the city on October 22.

Mohammedans have also reportedly finalised negotiations with another Iranian, striker Asghar Moudi Rosta. Rosta, who plays for the Iranian national team and is currently touring Algeria, was the highest goalscorer in the Iranian domestic league last year. He is expected in Dhaka by the end of this month.

The addition of these two players should give the Dhaka giants a big boost in strength and morale for the coming league programme, scheduled to commence early next month.

Mohammedans are learnt to have struck their deals with these two players through Nasser Hegazi, their Iranian coach who played for his country as a goal-keeper in the 1970 World Cup.

Ansar and VDP High School win

Sports Reporter

Ansar and VDP High School defeated Baonia Abdul Jalil High School by 22-15 goals in the only match of the fourth Bata schools handball tournament at the handball court of Outer Stadium yesterday afternoon.

The winners led the first half 12-6. Zakir scored 10, Zahid 4, Faruque and Zafar 3 each for the Ansars and VDP while Bellal netted 7 and Arafat 5 for the Baonia School.

The other match of the day between Loretto School and Rifles High School was not held as per schedule due to rainfall in the afternoon.

KL Jubilee School and College will take on Shaheed Smriti High School at 3 pm and Cosmic International School will face Bhasantek High School at 4 pm today.

Zia juvenile soccer in Nov

Sports Reporter

The Shaheed Zia Smriti Sangshad of Dakshin Badda will organise the Shaheed Zia Smriti juvenile football tournament next month.

Entries close on Oct 22. Teams interested in taking part have been advised to contact Sayeed Hassan Khan, the Dhaka Mohammedans and national team goalkeeper, at Ba-7, Dakshin Badda, Dhaka-1212 or over telephone No. 601640.

Evert blessed with a boy

FT. LAUDERDALE, Florida, Oct 13: Six-time US Open champion Chris Evert gave birth to a baby boy early on Saturday morning, the tennis star's publicist said, reports Reuter.

The child, Alexander James, was the first for Evert and her husband, Andy Mill.



CHRIS EVERT, 38, a former Olympic skier. The couple have been married three years.

"All three of us are doing fine. It was a great day," Evert said in a prepared statement released by her spokeswoman, Peggy Gossett.

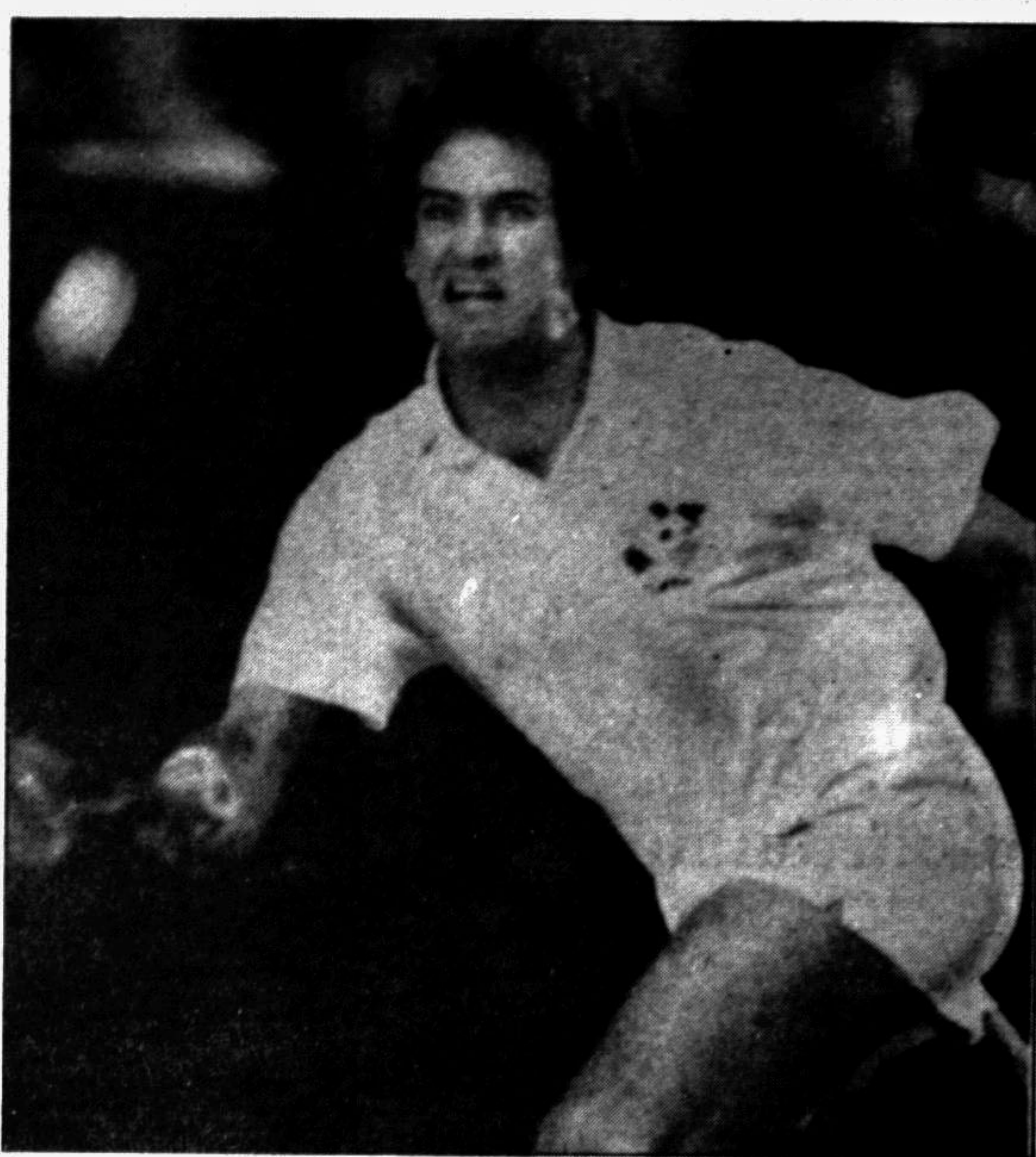
The brown-haired, blue-eyed boy was born at 5:01 (09:01 GMT) and weighed in at eight pounds, six ounces (3.9 Kg) at Broward General Hospital. It is the same Ft. Lauderdale Hospital where Evert was born.

Evert, 36, retired from tennis in 1989 after a 19-year professional career which saw her win 157 titles and earn more than eight million dollars in prize money.

In addition to winning the US Open six times, Evert won three Wimbledon, seven French Opens and two Australian Opens. She was ranked number one in the world from 1975-78 and 1980-81.

McColgan's threat

LONDON, Oct 13: World 10,000 metres champion Liz McColgan said on Wednesday she was prepared to miss next year's Olympic Games if British athletics officials tried to force her to run in their official trial, reports Reuter.



Derrick Rostagno of US returns a base line volley from Ivan Lendle of Czechoslovakia in Seiko Super semifinal on Oct 12 in Tokyo. Rostagno lost to world No 1 Stefan Edberg of Sweden in yesterday's final. — AFP photo

Kambli forces his way into Indian squad for Sharjah

NEW DELHI, Oct 13: A former schoolmate of Indian's young batting sensation Sachin Tendulkar was Sunday included in the national squad for the three-nation tournament in Sharjah this week, reports AFP.

Vinod Kambli, 18, a ferocious left-handed stroke-maker, forced his way into the Indian team with a string of high scores in recent domestic tournaments.

Kambli, nicknamed "Des" by team-mates because of a self-confessed obsession with West Indian opener Desmond Haynes, and Tendulkar studied together in a Bombay school and now work for the same textile company.

Confident Windies off to Sharjah

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Oct 13: The West Indies cricket team under new captain Richie Richardson left on Saturday for the Sharjah Cup series in optimistic mood, reports Reuter.

"The team is a young one and we are confident of doing well," Richardson said as the team left for London on their way to the series against Pakistan and India.

Vice-captain Gus Logie said plans to spend a few days practising in Barbados had to be scrapped. "The team was announced so late that we had to cancel those plans," he said.

"We look forward to the tour and have a good chance of victory," Logie praised Pakistan fast bowler Waqar Younis: "Waqar is one of a kind. He is a big strong young man."

He runs in fast and really lets go... But we have dealt with good bowlers before and we will deal with him too."

West Indies face Pakistan in the opening match next Thursday.

The two friends were talked of in equal terms, but Tendulkar surged ahead of the



MOHD AZHARUDDIN...the skipper

Inconsistent Kambli in the last two years to take the cricket world by storm.

Kambli sealed his place in the Indian squad with a match-winning 89 for Wills Eleven against Pakistan's Habib Bank in the annual Super Wills Cup match here Sunday.

"Kambli is an exciting prospect with tons of talent," said former Test cricketer Ashok Mankad, the team's

Wills Eleven win Super Wills Cup

NEW DELHI, Oct 13: Wills XI (India) defeated Habib Bank (Pakistan) by two wickets to win the super wills cup limited-over cricket match here today, reports PTI.

Scores: Habib Bank — 232 for four in 45 overs (Aamer Sohail 121, Salim Malik 32, Javed Miandad 25 not out, Naved Anjum 27 not out).

Wills XI — 236 for eight in 44.3 overs (Vinod Kambli 89, Mohd Azharuddin 79; Anjum three for 32, Ejaz Ahmed three for 46).

manager for the Sahrjah tournament.

Medium-pacers Javagal Srinath 21, and Subroto Banerjee, 24, are the two other new faces in the 14-man squad being led by Mohammad Azharuddin.

India, Pakistan and the West Indies will contest the Wills International Cup limited-overs tournament in Sharjah from October 17 to 25.

The Indian team: Mohammad Azharuddin (Captain), Ravi Shastri (Vice-Captain), Woorkeri Raman, Navjot Singh, Sanjay Manjrekar, Sachin Tendulkar, Kapil Dev, Kiran More (Wicket-keeper), Manoj Prabhakar, Anil Kumble, Venkatapathy Raju, Javagal Srinath, Vinod Kambli, Subroto Banerjee.

India won't oppose SA in W Cup

NEW DELHI, Oct 13: The Indian Cricket Board has an open mind on South Africa's inclusion in the World Cup, its president, Madhavraj Scindia, said on Saturday, reports Reuter.

"If there is a consensus in admitting South Africa among ICC members, India will have no serious objection to the decision," he said.

"Our Board has an open mind on the issue."

A special meeting of the International Cricket Council (ICC) is to be held in Sharjah on October 23 to decide whether South Africa can play in the limited overs tournament in Australia and New Zealand early next year.

Scindia said he would discuss the issue shortly with India's Foreign Minister Madhavsinh Solanki.

The government was unlikely to object to the Cricket Board's stand as African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela had supported the South African case, he said.

France in European meet finals

SEVILLE, Spain, Oct 13: France swept into the finals of the European Soccer Championship, defeating Spain 2-1 on Saturday to make it seven wins in seven matches in qualifying Group One, reports Reuter.

France, European champions on home soil in 1984, extended their unbeaten run to 18 games and maintained the only 100 per cent record in all the qualifying groups to become the first team to earn their place in next year's finals in Sweden alongside the automatically-qualifying hosts.

Luis Fernandez and Jean-Pierre Papin put France 2-0 up inside 15 minutes and dispatched Spain to their first defeat in Seville in 69 years.

Fernandez, a member of the French side which beat Spain 2-0 in the 1984 final, scored in the 12th minute with a spectacular right-foot volley from just outside the area after defender Manuel Sanchez failed to clear to safety with a header.

Papin made it 2-0 three minutes after, outstripping defender Abelardo Fernandez into the areas and steering the ball to the left of diving goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta.

Spain reduced the deficit in the 33rd minute when midfielder Rafael Martin Vazquez sent a free-kick from the right across the goalmouth for an unmarked Abelardo to head into the left corner.

France, with their last group match to follow against Iceland next month, had needed just one point to reach the European Championship finals through the qualifying competition for the first time — they were hosts in 1984 and were spared the qualifying tournament.

The event provided a happier outcome than their last excursion in Seville when they were beaten by West Germany in an epic 1982 World Cup semifinal.

France dominated the first half. Striker Papin was always dangerous and the team com-

bined well with touch passes which had the Spaniards scrambling on the wet turf, sussed by hours of rain.

It was a different story in the second half when Spain came out fighting for midfield control and pressurised the French in their own half until they tired in the last quarter of an hour.

Time and again striker Emilio Butragueno found himself with the ball in the penalty area but superb marking by French defender Laurent Blanc frustrated the Real Madrid star.

Eusebio, substituted for Solozabal in the second half, gave Spain far more direction and drive in midfield and the home team came close to scoring on several occasions.

Spain, humiliated 2-0 in Iceland last month, got the ball in the French net five minutes before the interval but Austrian referee Hubert Forstinger saw midfielder Ricardo Bango had steered it there with his left fist.

But as the Spaniards pushed forward in the second half, France began to pierce their stretched defence with sharp

counter-attacks, with Zubizarreta twice saving from point-black range in as many minutes from Didier Deschamps and Papin.

Papin almost made it 3-1 in the last minute when a lunging kick by defender Cristobal Parralo diverted the Frenchman's shot over bar.

In a keenly-contested game French midfielder Christian Perez was booked for hacking down Sanchis, who himself was shown the yellow card for bringing down Eric Cantona.

It was not only Spain's first international defeat in Seville in 28 matches since 1923 but also the first time they had conceded two goals there.



JEAN PIERRE PAPIIN

Soviets book Stockholm tickets

MOSCOW, Oct 13: The Soviet Union virtually assured themselves a place in the European Soccer Championship finals when they drew 0-0 with Italy in a Group Three qualifier on Saturday, reports Reuter.

The draw preserved the Soviets unbeaten group record and left them needing just one point from their final match away to Cyprus still seeking their first point of the competition — to qualify for the finals in Sweden.

Italy, needing a victory to keep alive their own hopes, played their part in a highly entertaining match watched by a crowd of 92,000.

But they were unable to breach a well-organised

Soviets defence. Both sides scorned chances but the worst miss was perpetrated by Soviet full-back Andrei Chernyshev in the 37th minute.

He shot straight at goalkeeper Walter Zenga from five metres after Alexei Michalichenko had set him up with a headed pass.

Italy's Ruggiero Rizzitelli came closest to breaking the deadlock in the 64th minute when he struck a post.

But two efficient defences meant that direct shots on goal were few and far between.

Soviets manager Anatoly Byshovets said: "The stakes were very high and the nerves of the players were on the edge. That is why there was no score."

His Italian counterpart

Azeglio Vicini said: "If a miracle does not happen in Cyprus, the Soviet team will win the group."

SOVIET UNION — Stanislava Cherchesov, Andrei Chernyshev, Vasily Kulokov, Oleg Kuznetsov (Akhrlik Tsvetba, 48th minute), Dmitri Galyamin, Igor Shalimov, Alexei Mikhailichenko, Andrei Kanchelskis, Sergei Aleinikov, Oleg Protosov (Dmitri Kuznetsov 70th), Igor Kolevanov.

ITALY — Walter Zeng, Franco Baresi, Ciro Ferrara, Pietro Vierchowod, Paolo Maldini, Massimo Crippa, Fernando De Napoli, Giuseppe Giannini (Roberto Mancini 70th), Gianluigi Lentini (Attilio Lombardo 65th), Ruggiero Rizzitelli, Gianluca Vialli.

Ukraine loath to play under Soviet flag

MOSCOW, Oct 13: A row is brewing here between Ukrainian athletes and the Soviet Olympic Committee over their wish to use the republic's flag and anthem at medal ceremonies during next year's Barcelona Games, reports AFP.

But on Thursday they ran up against Alexandre Kozlovski, vice-president of the Soviet Olympic Committee.

He added that the Ukrainians, wishes were the International Olympic Committee's affair but what the international sporting committee wants is a common USSR team.

"On September 13, the republics, sports organisations met in Moscow and confirmed

their wish to compete in a national Soviet team" he said.

The Soviet committee would whoever be willing to discuss the use of small republican flags or inscription on the Ukrainians' sportswear.

After readmitting the three Baltic states, following the United Nations recognition of

their independence, the IOC is unlikely to admit the 12 remaining Soviet republics as separate teams to next year's Games.



Action from yesterday's Bata schools handball match between Ansar and VDP High School at Outer Stadium handball court. Ansar and VDP School won 22-15. — Star photo

Lerby's Bayern in limbo

BONN, Oct 13: Soren Lerby's career as coach of Bayern Munich began in disastrous style on Saturday when the Bavarians were beaten 3-0 by Borussia Dortmund, their fourth home league defeat this season, reports Reuter.

The former Danish international, who began his first coaching job this week after the dismissal of Jupp Heynckes, saw goals from Michael Rummenigge and Flemming Povlsen and an own from Markus Muench relegate Bayern to 13th place.

Bayern, Germany's richest and most glamorous club who have won the title five times in the last seven seasons, are now six points adrift of leaders Eintracht Frankfurt after 13 games.

Eintracht remain top despite a goalless draw at home with Borussia Moenchengladbach on Friday.

They have a two-point lead over newly-promoted Duisburg, who drew 1-1 at Cologne on Saturday.

Bayern Leverkusen, who went down 2-1 at reigning champions Kaiserslautern, are third, level on points with Duisburg.

Heynckes lost his job after more than four years at Bayern following last week's humiliating 4-1 defeat at home by newly-promoted Stuttgart Kickers.

After Saturday's performance, the 33-year-old Lerby, who was a member of Bayern's championship-winning teams of 1985 and 1986, will have no illusions as to the size of the task he faces.

Borussia always looked more capable of producing goalscoring chances.

Rummenigge, a former Bayern player, gave the visitors a 1-0 half-time lead with a goal in the 25th minute.

Two minutes after the interval Danish international Povlsen stretched Borussia's lead after midfielder Gerhard Poschner caught the Bayern defence cold with an intelligent pass.

Muench's own goal four minutes before the end killed the contest and gave Lerby

much food for thought after just three days in the most prestigious club trainer's post in Germany.

Muench's unusual own goal summed up the luck Bayern are having this season.

Goalkeeper Gerald Hillringhaus sprinted out of his penalty area to clear a through ball but his fiercely-struck clearance ricocheted off Muench's legs and rebounded back some 30 metres into the Bayern net.

"Like everyone at Bayern I am very disappointed," Lerby said. "We were hoping for a better result. But the players did too little in the first half."

"Our biggest problem was we keep losing the ball early. There is a lot of work to do," he added.

Lerby, who has the additional problem of injuries to several key players, was heartened to learn that German international midfielders Olaf Thon and Thomas Strunz could resume training on Monday.

A spectacular last-minute winner from Danish midfielder Bjarne Goldbaek from 20 me-

tres out earned Kaiserslautern victory over Bayer Leverkusen.

The south-west club moved three places up the table to fifth, three points behind the leaders.

Earlier Leverkusen had taken just one minute to cancel out Kaiserslautern's 60th-minute opening goal from striker Marcel Witczek, with Jupp Nehl heading the equaliser.

Hooliganism raised its ugly head again in the former East Germany with trouble at games in Leipzig and Magdeburg.

More than 100 police had to intervene when fans started trouble on the terraces at VfB Leipzig's second division game against 1860 Munich.

A policeman was badly injured when he was hit on the head by a flare fired by fans at Magdeburg's home game against Union Berlin in a regional amateur league match. More than 30 fans were arrested.

Before the game Berlin fans had started fighting in the ground and 120 youths were also involved in trouble later in the city centre.