

East Bengal Club, fresh from their triumphs in Calcutta Super Division football league and the prestigious Dur-

and Cup, arrive in Dhaka tomorrow, November 1, to play their first leg match of the second Asian Cup Winners Cup football championship against Dhaka's NBL Sentor Division league champions, Abahani Krira Chakra, on November 3 at Dhaka Stadium.

The return leg encounter will be held on November 10 in Calcutta

The winners of Abahani-East Bengal matches will take on the winners of Japan vs Singapore ties in the second round which are expected to

Star-studded Ba-

ngladesh Biman

finished top of

Group B in the

preliminary robin

eague of the AB

Bank metropolis table tennis

league at the National Coaching

determine the leaders.

Bangladesh Biman with the

help of their national stars,

turned the match almost into a

no-contest by outplaying Young

Stars in straight sets 3-0,

handing the Azimpur side

their only defeat in six robin

league encounters. Biman fin-

ished with a clean slate of six

feat notwithstanding, Azimpur

Young Stars have also moved to

the eight-team super league by

finishing second in their

seven-team cluster behind

Biman. The super league will

commence following the

completion of the 84-match,

four-group robin league this

But the intensity of the de-

win in as many games.

alternoon.

In another Group B en-

gagement yesterday, newcom-

ers Kashaitully posted their

second win by beating

Purbachal Parishad 3-0 sets in

the last group fixture.

Purbachal finished bottom of

the group, having failed to

the day, between Victoria

Sporting and newcomers

Dhaka Medical College and

Combined Sporting and debu-

tantes Swamibagh Boys saw

Combined earn their solitary

win in the league while for

Swamibagh Boys it proved a

fruitless maiden league cam-

paign. Victoria improved their

own final position in the group

Bata schoolgirls'

The other two matches on

score a single victory.

In the crucial Group B tie to

Centre yesterday.

Sports Reporter be held between November 28 to December 8.

Meanwhile, the Asian Football Conferderation (AFC) has appointed S Manit of Thailand as match commissioner for the Abahani-East Bengal ties.

The AFC, in a fax message to the BFF yesterday, named three neutral referees for the match. The referees will arrive tomorrow from Nepal. They are Roshan Kumar, Rupak Raj Sharma and Joshi Gopal Mukanda, all Nepalese.

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) will arrange the first class return air passage for the three Nepalese referees and the Thai match commissioner.

The BFF will also provide the local hospitality for the referees. They will be given 50

Biman unbeaten Group B leaders

Sports Reporter

- the third spot - with a facile

3-0 win over the medical stu-

dents who finished their first

venture in the league with a

The much awaited clash be-

tween Biman and Young Star,

both coming into the match

with an all-win slate after five

games each, proved to be an

anti-climax when the airlines

team outplayed their younger

opponents, clinching the issue

by winning both the opening

singles and the doubles.

Compared to the exciting

Group A match Tuesday be-

tween defending champions

Armanitola Juba Sangha and

VDP which went to five

thrilling sets, yesterday's

match disappointed the crowd

Musaddequl Haq Rochi of

Biman gave the airlines a flying

start by beating Manash of

Young Star 21-17, 21-11 in

the opening singles. Former

national number one Saidul

Haq Saadi gave Sagar of Young

champion

very much.

National

two win and four loss record.

US dollars per day as daily pocket allowances.

UNB adds: The All India Football Association has sent a 22-member players list of East Bengal Club. The team includes three English players - S Prindiville, Netl Edmonds and Peter Maguire.

Other members of the team

are: Debashis Mukherjee,

Sudip Chakrabarty, Bhuban Mukerjee, Krishendu Roy, Ilias Pasha, Swarup Das, Tarun Dey, Mastan Ahmed, Aloke Mukherjee, Bikas Panji, Mohiul Islam, Prasanta Benarjee, Tusher Rakshit, Sankar Sadhu,

Krishanu Dey, Kuljit Singh, Darbar Singh, Ranjit Saha and Rupak Chowdhury. The East Bengal booters

beat Tapan 21-10, 21-11 and

then Bright and Aminur

wrapped up the rubber by de-

feating Tapan and Rumi of

win of the league came when

Tushar beat Ripon of

Swamibagh Boys 21-15, 22-20

in the opening singles and

then Reno beat Bappa 21-16,

21-19. Reno and Kamal then

took the doubles against

Swamibagh's Ripon and

GROUP STANDINGS

6 3 3

6 2 4

6 0 6

6 3 3

6 1 5

.6 0 6

- Star photo

6 2

6 0

5 2 3

5 0 5

Armanitola Juniors

Young Pegasus

Swamibagh Boys

Bangladesh Ansars

Lalmatia Club

Cynthia Club

Brothers Union

NMS

Victoria Sporting Club

Dhaka Medical College

Combined Sporting Club

Dhaka Meriners Young Club 5 0 5

Armanitola Jube Shangha

Shabbir 21-14, 21-16.

Village Defence Party

Azimpur Young Boys

Bangladesh Bank

Paschim Jatrabari

Bangladesh Biman

Azimpur Young Star

Kashaitully Shamaj Kalyan

Swamibagh TTS

Palltma Sangshad

Purbachal Parishad

Ajax Club

Kalpataru

Group A

Combined Sporting's first

DMC 21-16, 21-9.

will be staying in Sundarban

Air India leaves overweight hockey team behind!

Mohammedans

off to Lahore

A 20- member football team

of the Dhaka Mohammedan

Sporting Club led by the club's

vice president Tanvir Haider

left Dhaka yesterday for Lahore

to play their return-legmatch

against Pakistan WAPDA in the

Asian Club Cup football cham-

pionship on November 1, re-

are: Kanan (Captain), Tuhin,

Jewel, Kaiser, Mantu, Barun,

Shamim, Tito, Johnny, Abul

Shabbir, Naquib, Ayaz Khan

Mizan, Roxy, Chandan, Reaz,

Nasser Hegazi (Coach) and

crushing 5-0 win over

Pakistan's champion side in

their home match in Dhaka on

Mohammedans scored a

Kaikobad (associate coach).

The members of the team

ports BSS.

October 26.

SINGAPORE, Oct 30: The Indian High Commission here came to the rescue of its national hockey team. which had been left stranded in a Sikh temple for one night because they could not afford to stay in a hotel, reports AFP.

The 19-member team, which arrived Monday night from New Zealand on its way to New Delhi, had now been transferred to a hotel, a High Commission spokesman said.

"The Indian government is meeting the expenses of the entire team for the duration of their stay at the hotel. They return home Thursday," the spokesman said.

The spokesman added the problem arose over a "technical hitch" when the team arrived from the Bangladesh Olympics qualifying tournament in New Zealand.

Because all the players had excess luggage of around 20 kgs (44 pounds) each, Air India had refused to allow to board their flight until they paid for it. The 17 players were

luggage of 550 kilos (1,212 lbs) and they refused to pay for the excess, an Atr India spokeswoman said. Attempts by the High Commission officials to persuade Air India to waive the

carrying total excess

excess baggage fees failed, leaving the players stranded at the airport. As they had no money to check into a hotel, Sikh temple officials put them up in

one of their temples. The High Commission transferred all 19 players and officials to the Imperial Hotel

India qualified for othe Barcelona Olympics after finishing runners- up to the Soviet Union in the 10-nation

tournament in New Zealand.

The Soviets beat India 1-0 in the final. New Zealand and Malaysia sinished third and fourth respectively.

WTA's top 20 ST PETERSBURG, Florida,

Oct 30 : The top 20 women's singles players according to rankings issued by the Women's Tennis Association on Monday:

Monica Seles (Yugoslavia) Steffi Graf (Germany) Gabriela Sabatini (Argen-

Martina Navratilova (US) Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (Spain)

Mary Joe Fernandez (US) Conchita Martinez (Spain) Jana Novotna (Czechoslovakia)

10. Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere (Switzerland) 11. Zina Garrison (US)

12. Katerina Maleeva (Bulgaria) 13. Nathalie Tauziat (France)

14. Anke Huber (Germany) 15. Leila Meskhi (Soviet Union

16. Helena Sukova (Czechoslovakia) 17. Judith Wiesner (Austria)

18. Julie Halard (France) 19. Natalia Zvereva (Soviet

Women's world

SYDNEY, Oct 30 : Defending champion Eva Fjellerup of Denmark moved into the lead after the fourth stage of the women's world Modern Pentathion championships here today, reports AFP.

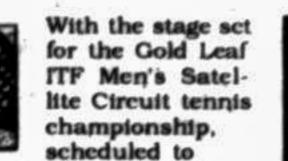
Fjellerup came third in the cross-country run and with only the show-jumping to come Thursday, she has 4,284 pentathlon points.

slipped from first place to second after coming 18th in the run, an event which saw two Danes and two Australians among the top seven. Current team champions

Poland are well placed to retain their title, with three women among the top eight overall placings.

Stage set for Satellite Circuit meet

Sports Reporter



start at the Ramna Tennis Complex next week, some of the participating foreign players are already in the city.

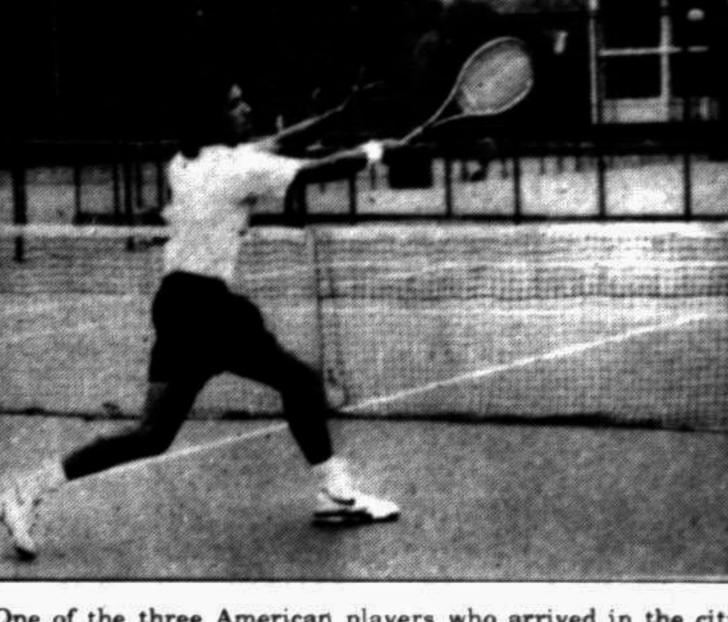
Three American players -Kenneth Lee, Thomas Pablo and Scoh Vowels - reached Dhaka Tuesday night and went for practice at the Ramna Complex courts yesterday afternoon. Two others -Yeroen Heinhuiz and Evert Yan Hulshof, both from the Netherlands - also arrived Tuesday.

Three others are scheduled to reach Dhaka from Brussels some time today.

International referee Peter Malik of India and umpire Laurens De Wals from the Netherlands are expected here by Friday, on the eve of the seven-day tournament. The two-day qualifying competition begins Nov 2 and the 32-man main draw programme starts Nov 4 and runs until Nov 8.

The two-leg Bangladesh part of the inaugural satellite circuit then moves to Rajshahi from Nov 10. After that the circuit moves to Pakistan, with the first leg scheduled for Lahore and the final leg in Karachi later next month.

Letf Dahlgren, development officer of the International Tennis Federation, is likely to reach here by Nov 3 to assess Bangladesh's capabilities to host international tennis tour



One of the three American players who arrived in the city Tuesday for the Gold Leaf - ITF Men's Satellite Circuit tournament beginning Saturday seen practising at the Ramna Tennis Complex yesterday.

The ITF-sanctioned ranking satellite circuit in Bangladesh and Pakistan is being held with funds provided by the Grand Slam Trust Development Fund which will provide the total prizemoney of 25,000 dollars for the four-leg meet.

Bangladesh Tobacco Company Limited are sponsoring the Dhaka tournament paying for the entire expenses of running the competition.

The satellite tourney is the biggest thing to happen to Bangladesh tennis todate and

will for the first time bring together professional players for the ATP ranking competitions in the men's singles and doubles events.

Tickets for the meet go on sale from four this afternoon at the Bangladesh Tennis Federation offices at the Ramna Complex. VIP season tickets are priced at Taka 300 cach, Western Gallery season tickets at Taka 50 each and daily tickets for the stands at Taka 10 each.

Top 20 seeds will play in the main draw along with four

layers - two each from Bangladesh and Pakistan who will get wild cards for different legs.

The remaining eight slots in the 32-man draw will be filled from the qualifying

round. Fifty-two players - 18 from Bangladesh, six from Pakistan and the remaining 28 from nine other countries will be playing in the qualifiers.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Tennis Federation in a press release yesterday announced the names of eighteen local players who will represent the country in the meet.

The players are as follow: Faiz Ahmed, Imtiaz Ahmed, Al-Khurshed, Hiralal, Moin Chisthi, Arun Kumar, Mustafa Sarwar, Abu Saleh Rabbi Masoodur Rahman, Bayazid Rashid, Khwaja Suja, Mohammed Tawfigul, Mohammed Babu, L Kashem, Samtur Razzaq, Sukumar Roy, Kawser Shaheen and Abdul Monju.

A UNB report from Rajshahi said: Preparation are almost complete for holding the second round matches of Bangladesh-Pakistan Satellite Circuit international tennis tournament scheduled to begin in Rajshahi on November 10.

Internationally renowned players from Bangladesh. Pakistan, USA, Italy, Germany, Holland, Sweden, Japan, Oman, Macao and Ireland will participate in the tournament.

computer and better known as

a doubles specialist, failed to

raise his game for the impor-

tant points in the late stages

on the second and third sets

Hogstedt quickly exploited the

trouble when he trailed 2-4 in

the first set tie-break. But he

opened his shoulders as the

Frenchman's concentration

wandered to complete a 7-6

Soviet Union, who nearly

didn't make it to the grass-

walled Bercy Stadium after ar-

riving at Roissy Airport without

a visa and with only a one-way

ticket, reached the second

round when he defeated 6ft

5in Swiss player Marc Rosset

immigration officers until the

tournament organisers inter-

vened, reached a second round

clash against 14th seed Brad

Gilbert of the United States by

champion Michael Stich was

forced to scratch from the

tournament because of tennis

who had been due to play

French wild-card entry Arnaud

Boetsch, aggravated his injury

playing doubles with compa-

triot Udo Rigelewski last night.

They lost 7-6, 7-5 to

Americans Charles Beckmann

and David Wheaton, losing the

been taken by South African

'lucky loser' Wayne Ferreira

His place in the singles was

The fourth-seeded German.

Earlier Tuesday Wimbledon

beating Rosset 6-3, 6-4.

Volkov, who was held by

Alexander Vokov of the

Kulti looked to be in serious

situation.

(9/7), 6-2 win.

in straight sets.

elbow.

Sampras, McEnroe stake Davis Cup claim suffered, a decline and missed places higher on the ATP



Pete Sampras and John McEnroe underlined their claims for

place in United States team for the Davis Cup final against France next month when they scored impressive victories at the two million-dollar French Open on

Tuesday, reports AFP. Sampras, 20 and displaying the sort of form which made him the youngest-ever winner of the United States Open last year, put out Andrei Cherkasov of the Soviet Union 7-6(7/3), 6-2 to reach the last sixteen.

And the 32-year-old McEnroe beat Christian Bergstrom of Sweden 6-1, 7-6 (7/4) in his first-round match. Sampras, hoping to be cho-

sen as the Americans' second singles player to Andre Agassi for the Davis Cup final in Lyon, hammered out a 7-6 (7/3), 6-2 victory to reach the last six-

Certainly American team captain Tom Gorman, who has hinted that French Open champion Jim Courier may not be selected as the second singles player alongside Andre Agassi because of the high bounce of the French choice of a synthetic surface, must have been impressed.

"Tom Gorman picks the team after this week and I hope I'm in it; said Sampras, who two weeks ago won his third tournament of the year at

"Winning in Lyon must help my chances of selection," said

Sampras, who has never before played Davis Cup tennis before. "Certainly I am feeling really

good. I feel fresh and strong and I have no injuries," said the player who won the Grand Slam cup last year but then the Australian Open because of On Tuesday Sampras serv

ing was colossal. He didn't only six points to reach the tic-break and hit 11 aces. Cherkasov, ranked 20th,

was by no means overwhelmed and he played defiantly from the baseline. But whenever the 20-year-old Sampras charged the net he invariably won the Sampras can now look for

ward to a rest day. In the next round he plays either hardserving Goran Ivanisevic of McEnroe reached that po-

The American, holder of

seven Grand Slam singles titles ception by the noisy Bercy Stadium crowd, got off to a flying start and pocketed the first five games before Bergstrom knew quite where

McEnroe's touch and timing were near-perfect and he

been McEnroe without display-

one, who hasn't won a tournament in seven years, became increasingly frustrated as the 41st-ranked Bergstrom began to climb back into the match, and in a tougher second set his concentration wavered.

slamming a ball into the rafters and flinging down his racket

and then became involved in a heated argument with the umpire when a vital line-call went against him in the tenth game to give Bergstrom two set points. McEnore promptly saved

both — although he was lucky not to have one of his deep forehands called out. After it was all over he reaf-

firmed that 1992 would be his last year in tennis. "Don't write me off in this year's tournament just yet," he

said. "I feel I'm playing well at the moment after what has been a difficult year for me, and whatever happens, I hope I'll be coming back here at least one more time." McEnroe said that unlike

his old rival Jimmy Connors he would definitely not be playing on until he was nearing 40. "I find it too difficult to lose

to 20-year-olds," he said. Swedish qualifiers Thomas Hogstedt and Nicklas Kulti marched into the secondround — but they will need to play the best tennis of their

careers if they are to make any

further progress. Hogstedt, a 28-year-old from Stockholm, reached a second-round berth gains Compatriot and World numberone Stefan Edberg after seeing off awkward American Jim Grabb, while Kulit, who survived a crisis in a first set-tiebreak to end the hopes of home player cedric pioline, now faces big-serving tenth seeded David Wheaton of the

United States. The 6ft 3in Hogstedt currently banked a modest 150th, may have lost most of his hair but he showed that he still has an excellent tactical brain as he surged back to defeat Grabb 3-6, 7-5, 7-6 (7/2).

who went out 5-7, 3-6 to Boetsch. The American, ranked 53

first set tie-break 13-11.

Aussie Open promises tough competitions

MELBOURNE, Oct 30: With all but two of the world's top 20 women tennis players lined up to play, January's Australian Open promises to be the strongest ever, organizers said-

"The competition will be intense," tennis Australia president Geoff Pollard said. "There are now at least 10 and probably even more women with a genuine chance to win."

They include title-holder Monica Seles and this year's Wimbledon champion Steffi Two years ago, when Graf

took her third successive Australian title, only four of the world's top ten women entered the tournament.

Last year, when Czechoslovakia's Jana Novotna ended Graf's record-breaking 179-week run as world number one, eight of the top 10

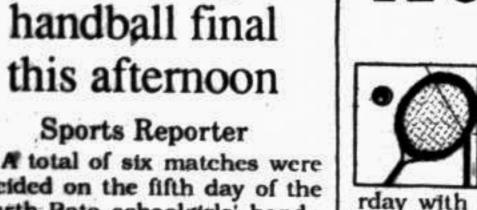
The exciting battle at the top of women's tennis has led to much greater interest in the women's game, especially in Grand Slam tournaments, Pollard said. The two-week tournament,

starting January 13, is the first Grand Slam event of the calendar year. The only two high-ranked

women players not intending to enter are former world champion Martina Navratilova and 24-year-old French woman Nathalie Tauziat. Navratilova, 35, was beaten

at last week's Fliderstadt tournament in Germany by 16year-old Anke Huber, who has confirmed that she will play in the Australia Open.

A day of no-contests



Sports Reporter A total of six matches were decided on the fifth day of the fourth Bata schoolgirls' handball tournament yesterday at Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex ground.

The six-day long tourney, organised by the Bangladesh Women's Sports Federation, will conclude this afternoon. State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahanara Begum will be present as the chief

Following are the results of yesterday's matches. Viquarunnissa Noon School beat Kalabagan Lake Circus School by 13-1 goals, Mohammedpur Preparatory School defeated Kamrunessa Girls School 7-3 and Bangladesh Rifles School outplayed Cosmic International

guest at the closing ceremony.

School 22-0 in the morning. In the afternoon, Dhanmondi Girls High School defeated Siddheswari Girls School 2-1, T&T School defeated Bashaboo Girls School 5-3 and Bangladesh Rifles School overcame Tejgaon Girls School by 13-5 goals.

Star no quarter, winning easily 21-16, 21-17. Then Rochi, partnering yet another former national champion Nasimul Hassan Kochi, won the doubles after conceding the first set 18-21 to Sagar and Shaon, eventually taking the following

two sets 21-10, 21-12. the Purbachal pair failed to

first singles against DMC's

Bangladesh Biman's Mosaddequl Hoq Rochi playing against Manash of Azimpur Young

Stars yesterday at the National Coaching Centre. Bangladesh Biman emerged Group B

champions defeating Young Stars 3-0 in the AB Bank metropolis table tennis league.

beat Purbachal Parishad 3-0 in the day's first fixture, Saifur beating Purbachal's Raquib 21-10, 21-16, Abid beating Royal 21-12, 21-18 and Saifur and Nabi getting a walkover when

Group C 1. BTMC Group D

Kashaitully Samaj Kalyan

TODAY'S MATCHES BTMC vs Armanitola Juniors NMS vs Lalmatia Club Cynthia vs Dhaka Meriners Victoria's Aminur won the Young Club Bangladesh Ansars vs Wari Sumon 21-11, 21-13, Shamim

Sports Reporter

The inaugural Federation Cup squash tournament entered its sixth day yesterday with eight more matches

All the matches yesterday were one-sided affairs with the fifth match of the day between Ram Jagadish and Ershad Hossain being the most insipid one.

In this encounter Ershad was no match to the tenacious Ram Jagadish who outclassed his less-experienced opponent in every department with his swashbuckling style, wrapping up the match 9-1, 9-0 in only 22 minutes. Sohel Hamid registered

another emphatic 9-1, 9-2 vic-

tory over Ram Jagadish's

in another completely one-

sided mis-match. The match,

the eighth of the day, lasted

only 28 minutes with Sohel,

namesake Jagadish Chowhan

like Ram, chalking up points National champion Bhola Lal shrugged off title-aspirant M Mamoon 9-3, 9-1 in the second match of the day.

Aminul Huq, another title contender, disposed of Rashed Chowdhury by an identical margin in the third match while Gopal of hosts Dhaka Club was the other convincing winner against a hapless Barun in the seventh outing of the

Ratan and Iftekharuddin tried to offer some resistance against Muhit Lal and Badal Chowdhury respectively but ultimately bowed down to their gritty opponents with the final scores reading 3-9, 5-9 and 1-9, 4-9 in the day's remaining two matches.

Z Alam's new role

Z Alam, secretary of the Referees Board of the Bangladesh Football Federation, has been made match commissioner for the Thailand- Singapore match in the Asian Club Cup Championship by the Asian Football Confederation, reports The match will be held in

Bangkok on November 2. Alam leaves Dhaka on November 1 for Bangkok.

Union) 20. Gigi Fernandez (US) Modern Pentathlon

Caroline Delemer of France

Seventeen countries are represented by a total of 63 athletes.

drop a single point in his first three service games, conceded

Yugoslavia or McEnroe. tentially explosive showdown

by getting off to a flying start against Bergstrom. and given a tremendous re-

he was or what was going on. constantly drew his opponent out of position with cleverly place drives and touch-volleys.

But McEnroe wouldn't have ing the more volatile side of his nature during the one and three-quarter hour encounter. The former world number-

He copped a warning after



American veteran tennis player Jimmy Connors fell on the ground, but went on to win in Paris on Oct 28. Connors won the match against Haitian Roland Agenor 5-7, 6-4, 6-2, in the Paris Open. - AFP photo