

## Sport

## Josna betters her own mark

Sports Reporter



Josna Akhter of BJMC broke her own record in the javelin throw on the second day of the 19th national athletics championships now on at the Army Stadium, Barani.

She threw a distance of 37.94 metres which bettered her previous record of 37.86 metres set in 1990.

Teammate Josna Afroz who had had set the record last year in the discus throw, with a distance of 37.34 metres, was way below her best and managed a short 35.88 m only to earn the silver. Shaheen Azad of BTMC made the most of it with a distance of 36.90 m to bag the gold. Meanwhile, BJMC's Nellie Jesmine—who bagged the gold in the women's shot put, Monday—covered only 30.09 m and had to be satisfied with the bronze.

In the men's 200 m sprint Lance Naik Golam Ambia of Bangladesh Army, clocked 21.7 seconds for the gold followed by BJMC's Mehdi Hasan and L/Nk Farid Khan Chowdhury also of Bangladesh Army who settled for the bronze. The national record of the event still stands at 21.3 seconds set by former fastest men of South Asia, Shah Alam, set in 1988. Shah Alam had died last year in a tragic road accident.

Piroza Khatun of BTMC bagged the gold in the women's 200 m sprint clocking 25.6 seconds which however was below her national mark of 24.95 secs set last year. Teammate Nazma Haider Rafeza settled for the silver clocking 26.2 secs. Nabila Yasmin of BJMC who set the first and only record on the opening day of the competition in the women's long jump, yesterday, took the bronze with a time of 26.3 secs.

In the 10,000 metres run,



The women's 200 metre sprint with Piroza Khatun of BTMC (extreme right) bagging the gold followed by teammate Nazma Haider Rafeza (extreme left) taking the silver.—Star photo

Subedar Mustaque Ahmed clocked 32:20.8 to grab the gold and take the Bangladesh Army's total gold haul to four. He was followed by BJMC's Ajmol Hossain with a time of 32:35.9 who took the silver. The bronze went to Naik Md. Layek Sheikh clocking 32:39.9. The national mark in the event remains at 31:22.0 set by Mustafa Kamal in 1977.

Earlier, in the morning, in the 110 m men's hurdles, Md. Wajir Rahman of BTMC won the gold clocking 14:06 secs which was .05 secs short of the national record set by Abdul Khaleque in 1988. The silver went to Bangladesh Army's L/Nk Sulaiman Mujumdar who

clocked 15 seconds flat. Meanwhile Abdul Khaleque clocked 15.2 secs of the bronze.

In the men's shot put Naik Saleh Ahmed threw a distance of 13.35 metres to take the gold for Bangladesh Army. He was followed by teammate Rezaul Haque with the distance of 13.0 metres for the silver while Sheikh Jamaluddin of BJMC settled for the bronze with his throw of 12.72 metres.

Eleven events will be finalised on the third day, today with the women's 100 m hurdles beginning at 9:30 am and the men's 20 km walking at 5:45 pm.

Three hundred and fifty five athletes, including 138 women, from 17 teams are taking part in the four day meet.

## MEDAL TALLY

Medals table at the close of the second day:

Teams	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Bangladesh Army	4	3	3
BJMC	3	4	4
BTMC	3	2	1
Bangladesh Ansars	1	0	0
Bangladesh Customs	0	2	1
Bangladesh Railway	0	0	1
Bangladesh All Forces	0	0	1

## Morceli eyes Elliot's mark



NEW YORK, Feb. 12: Algerian Noureddine Morceli, who just missed the world indoor mile record on Friday, said he will turn his attention to the 1,500 meter indoor mark of Briton Peter Elliot, reports Reuters.

"It will be very easy to break the 1,500 world (indoor) record. It will be much easier than the mile," Morceli said at an Athletics news conference on Monday.

Morceli, the world's top-ranked outdoor 1,500 meter runner last year, has targeted a meeting in Seville, Spain, on February 28—his 21st birthday—for his assault on Elliot's indoor mark of three minutes 34.20 seconds, set last year.

Morceli predicted he can run the 1,500 in 3:31. The Algerian's confidence was inspired by a 1,500 meter split time of 3:35.30 in speeding to the world's third fastest indoor mile of 3:50.81 at the Meadowlands Invitational in

door athletics meeting on Friday.

The world indoor mile record of 3:49.78 is held by Eamonn Coghlan of Ireland.

"I am very confident about myself," Morceli said. "If I stay healthy and have no injuries I can (break the record)."

Assisting Morceli in his record bid will be two pace-setters. The first will take him through 800 meters and the second to about 1,200 meters. "If someone pushes him to the three-quarters mark, he'll

be flying," said Morceli's compatriot and training partner Bakir Brahima.

Morceli plans to compete at two meetings as tune-ups for his record setting attempt in Seville. He will run the 1,500 on February 19 in Stockholm and then attempt to win a third consecutive indoor mile three days later in New York.

But Morceli said he will not be gunning for world records at those meetings. "I will just run to win at both," he said.

## Amarjyoti demoted to Division II

Sports Reporter

Dhaka Wanderers Club completed the final rites when they registered narrow one wicket win over Amarjyoti Club who were relegated to Second Division in the Mirpur First Division cricket league match yesterday at the Mirpur Palladium ground.

Wanderers after this win now have ten points from eleven matches while Amarjyoti's collection stayed at four points from the same number of encounters.

Nirman Schools XI will be the other team to accompany Amarjyoti to the Second Division. Nirman Schools were beaten by 42 runs against Sadharan Bina on Monday last.

Amarjyoti Club put into strike plodded to 130 for the loss of nine wickets in 39 overs. In reply, Wanderers also struggled to score 131 for the loss of nine wickets in 35.2 overs.

## Div II cricket

Sports Reporter

Nabin Sangha and Spread Eagles posted victories in their respective matches of the Rank Xerox Second Division cricket league ties yesterday at the Dhanmendi cricket stadium and Dhanmendi Club ground respectively.

Nabin Sangha beat East End Club by seven wickets.

East End batting first scored 101 all out in 29.1 overs. Raja 19, and Arif 18 were the main East End batsmen. Sumon claimed four wickets for 23 runs and Sajit took three wickets for 31 runs for Nabin Sangha.

In reply, Nabin Sangha scored to 102 for the loss of three wickets in 15.2 overs. Shamol put scored with 42 runs, followed by Shabbir with 25 runs.

In another match Spread Eagles scored an exciting nine runs win over Azad Sporting.

Spread Eagles batted first and were bowled out for 186 runs.

Azad Sporting in reply managed 180 for the loss of nine wickets in 35 overs.

Lalbagh USC and Orient SC won their respective matches on Monday against Rayer Bazar and DOSH respectively.

## Johnson wins in Osaka



OSAKA (Japan), Feb. 12: Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson scored his second comeback win when he edged out Andes Simon of Cuba in the men's 60 metres at an indoor track and field meeting here on Monday, reports AFP.

The 29-year-old Jamaican-born Canadian, who returned to competition last month after a two-year ban for taking performance-enhancing drugs, caught up Simon after a slow start and both clocked 6.64 seconds.

The Cuban, whose left foot crossed the line first, was declared winner but the verdict was officially overturned when Johnson was seen on the finish-line photo to breast the tape first.

Third place went to Ray Stewart of Jamaica who timed 6.65 sec.

It was Johnson's fourth race after his comeback and second consecutive win, following his 55m triumph in Ottawa two weeks ago. He was second in his first two 50m races in Hamilton, Ontario, and Los Angeles last month.

"I feel pretty good," said Johnson, who was banned and stripped of his title and world record after setting a world mark in winning the 1988 Seoul Olympics 100m title.

"Simon and myself, both ran a good race and I'm very happy with that. This is my fourth race back, so I'm pleased with my time."

If the women's 60m, defending champion Evelyn Ashford of the United States beat world record holder Nellie

Cooman of the Netherlands with a time of 7.22 sec for her third straight victory here.

For Cooman, who was 0.03 sec behind, it was her first race since the deaths of her father and brother last July.

Noriko Masaki, a high schoolgirl from Japan, was third in 7.57 sec.

Kenny Harrison of the United States won the triple jump when he leapt 17.40m beating Khristo Markov of Bulgaria's 16.24m.

His compatriot Tim Bright took the pole vault with 5.60m. Asian Games gold medalist Kim Bong-Yoo of South Korea won the men's 1,500m with 3min 47.95 sec, while Cuba's Emilio Valle and Javier Satomayor won the 60m hurdle and high jump respectively.

## Bubka leads assault on world records



MOSCOW, Feb. 12: Four world indoor athletics records, including two at the Soviet national championships, were set at European meetings on Sunday, reports AFP.

Soviet pole vaulter Sergei Bubka led the assault on records by clearing 6.08 metres at the Soviet championships in Volgograd.

The Olympic and world pole vault champion broke his own record of 6.05 m, set in Donetsk in March last year. He also beat his outdoor world record of 6.06m, cleared in Nice, France in July 1988.

The second record of the day went in the 5,000m walk at the Soviet championships where Prant Kostakevich set a new mark of 18 min 27.89sec. This beat the 18.27.10 set by another Soviet, Mikhail Schennikov, in Budapest in March 1989.

The action then moved on to Nogen Surinse in France where Odile Lesage improved her own world record for the women's indoor pentathlon by

175 points during the French indoor combined event national championships.

She scored 4,451 points, to beat the record she set at Lievin in Northern France on January 20. Lesage improved her performance in all five events: 60 metre hurdles-8.59 sec, high jump-1.84 m, shot put-13.85 m, long jump-5.89 m, 800 m-2 min 19.87 sec.

## PIPPIG'S MARK

Meanwhile Reuter from Stuttgart adds: Germany's Uta Pippig set a fresh world mark for the women's indoor 5,000 metres at an international athletics meeting here on Sunday.

Pippig ran 15 minutes 13.72 seconds, easily beating the previous record of 15.22.64, set by American Lynn Jennings in Hanover, New Hampshire, in February last year.

Sonia O'Sullivan of Ireland ran 15.17.28 in Boston, Massachusetts on January 25 but her time awaits ratification.

"I absolutely wanted to run a world record and I would not have thought it was so easy,"

Pippig said. She took away 10,000 marks (8,800 dollars) in prize money from the event's total purse of 600,000 marks (498,000 dollars).

Britain's leading sprinter Linford Christie won the 200 metres in 20.90 seconds, ahead of compatriot John Regis, who clocked 20.94 in his first indoor appearance of the season.

Christie's 6.66 for 60 metres left him third behind top Americans Leroy Burrell, who clocked 6.57 and Mark Witherspoon, also 6.66.

## Hatkola badminton Sports Reporter

Five singles and one doubles matches was decided on the fourth day of the fourth Hatkola Sporting Club Open badminton championship, organised by the Hatkola Sporting Club yesterday at the Hatkola ground.

Sarwar, Shakil, Kochi, Amir Ali and Rana won their respective singles match while Rana and Hashem won their doubles

## Aussies off to Caribbean with high hopes

SYDNEY, Feb. 12: After humiliating England in Australia, Alan Border's team flew out today hoping to become the first in 17 years to defeat the West Indies at home, reports AFP.

The Australians retained the Ashes with a 3-0 defeat of England, but are likely to have a tougher job on their hands in the Caribbean.

The last side to beat the West Indies at home was Australia's 1973 team under Ian Chappell. It won the series 2-0.

But the West Indies have gone from strength to strength since then, and have not lost a series in Australia since 1976.

Led by Border and vice-captain Geoff Marsh, this year's Australian squad includes David Boon, top scorer in the Ashes series with an aggregate of 530, and Mark Waugh, who made 138 in his Test debut in Adelaide.

The 16-man squad also includes Waugh's brother Steve, Ian Healy, Dean Jones, Greg Matthews, Mark Taylor, Peter Taylor, Mike Veletta, and pace bowlers Terry Alderman, Craig McDermott, Merv Hughes, Bruce Reid and Mike Whitney.

## O'Donnell Aussie int'l cricketer of the year

SYDNEY, Feb. 12: One-day specialist Simon O'Donnell, who has not played a Test match in five years, has won Australia's international cricketer-of-the-year award, reports Reuters.

O'Donnell's win, announced at a dinner on Monday night, is a major surprise as he played no part in Australia's 3-0 defeat of England in the 1990/91 five-Test Ashes series.

Fellow Australians David Boon and Bruce Reid were strongly fancied for the award which earned O'Donnell a 60,000-dollar (45,000-US dollar) car.

Boon scored 530 runs against England while Reid took 27 wickets in just four Tests.

O'Donnell took part in all 10 World Series Cup games Australia played this summer. He was Australia's top wicket-taker with 13 and scored at over a run a ball.

The all-rounder recovered from lymph cancer, diagnosed after Australia's victory in the 1987 one-day World Cup, to become captain of his state, Victoria.

The award system ranks performances in one-day matches and Tests equally during the Australian season. The umpires and three judges drawn from the media vote after each match.

## Pioneer football Sports Reporter

Makim Bazar KC and Lalbagh Tarun Sangha recorded wins in their respective matches of the Pioneer football super league encounters at the Outer Stadium, yesterday.

Makim Bazar defeated Gulbagh KC 3-0 while Lalbagh TS scored a solitary goal victory over MSPCC.

Altogether a total of ten teams divided into two groups are taking part in the super league.

In Group 'A': MSPCC, Gulbagh KC, Kawan Bazar Pragati, Makim Bazar, and Lalbagh TS. While in Group 'B': Banani Naburun, Lalbagh KC, Gandaria Famous, Mirpur XI and Bashabo Tarun.

## DU volleyball Sports Reporter

Mohsin Hall moved into the final of the Dhaka University inter-hall volleyball championship beating Shahidullah Hall by 2-1 sets in yesterday's semifinal match.

In today's other semifinal match, Surja Sen Hall will meet Jashimuddin Hall.

## Biman fly high as Abahani crash

Sports Reporter



Surjo Tarun Chub yesterday sent reigning Navana Premier Division cricket league champions Abahani Kira Chakra crashing to their first defeat in five games by scoring 213 for seven wickets in reply to the champions 209 all out Monday.

Both teams made their scores in 73.4 of their stipulated 75 overs.

It was Surjo Tarun's second win in five outings.

Resuming at their overnight 47 for two wickets, Tarun's cause was helped to a great extent by fine batting from Zakaria who went on to add another 43 runs to his overnight 14 with the help of half a dozen boundaries. Arif with 38 not out Sri Lankan Aruna De Silva with 35 and Shaheen, who had made 21 Monday, all contributed well to the Tarun triumph.

Ali Ahsan Babu's three wickets for 41 and Effece and Nadir Shah's two each for 32 and 37 respectively made them Abahani's successful bowlers.

It was a victory Tarun thoroughly deserved, having reduced the champions to 59 for six. But for that brave III-run

seventh wicket stand between skipper Rafiqul Alam, who was last out after making a beligerent 82, and the lanky Nadir Shah, who made 51. Abahani would surely have lost the issue on Monday. Their batting totally let them down with Javed Omar Golla being the only other batsman to reach double-figures.

Suppi was Surjo Tarun's bowling hero with a haul of four wickets for 28 runs. Shaikat got two for 42.

Abahani can only blame themselves for the defeat. Their last chance in the game evaporated when Tipu dropped Arif with the score on 177, a costly lapse considering Arif, then on 12, went on to play an innings that was its weight in gold for Surjo Tarun.

## BIMAN'S SMOOTH FLIGHT

While the defending champions were going down at the Dhaka Stadium, away at the Dhanmendi Cricket Stadium former champions Bangladesh Biman continued their winning spree, posting a facile five-wicket win over winless Rupali Bank. Biman have won all five of their matches to top the league table as the only unbeaten side.

Needling another 97 runs to win after having made 99 for two in reply to Rupali Bank's modest 195 all out, Biman notched up the remaining runs for the loss of three more wickets.

Biman's score of 196 for five came off only 44.5 overs—their last 97 runs in 24.5 overs yesterday. Once again, Jahangir Alam, also known as Jahangir Jr., played a gem of a knock, topscoring with 54. His scores so far in the league read—138 not out, 47, 108, 31 and 54. Jahangir hit nine fours in his 53-ball knock.

Sumon got a good half-century, his fifty coming off 72 balls including six boundaries. Aminul Islam Bulbul capped a fine all-round effort, following up his figures of four Rupali wickets for 28 with a well-played 46, being a trifle unlucky not to have got his second successive half-century. In his last outing, against Brothers Union, Bulbul was unlucky to have missed a century, after making 92.

Ahmed Iqbal Bachechu was 23 not out when victory came.

Nripen returned figures of two wickets for 24 while Iskander, Billu and Babu picked up a wicket each.

## Koreas agree on jt team

PANMUNJOM (Korea), Feb. 12: North and South Korea, still technically at war, agreed today to form joint teams for the first time to represent the divided peninsula at international sports events, reports Reuters.

Forging an agreement first sought in 1984, the two Koreas agreed to send teams under one flag to a table tennis tournament in Japan in April and a soccer festival in Portugal in June.

If the agreement is implemented, it would be the first time any inter-Korean joint entity appeared under a Korean flag since the peninsula was divided in 1945 at the end of World War two.

Hostilities have never been formally ended since the two sides fought the bitter 1950-53 Korean war.

Talks aimed at forming a joint team for the 1988 Olympics in Seoul and the 1990 Asian Games in Beijing failed. North Korea boycotted the Seoul Olympiad and both countries sent their own teams to the Asian.

"We've exchanged the same feeling, that we must form a united team to the two Games," an official at Seoul's North-South dialogue office said.

## Azad, Stars win in basketball

Sports Reporter

Azad Boys Club and Five Stars won their respective matches in the Partex First Division basketball league yesterday at the wooden floor gymnasium.

Azad Boys outplayed Backs Strokes Boys 92-48 after leading 39-30 at the breather.

Akhlaque with 35 and Kamal with 24 points were the leading scorers for Azad and Back Strokes respectively.

In another match Five Stars recorded a comfortable 73-56 victory over Eagles Club at the same venue.

Lincoln 19 and Rumi 18 were the leading scorers for Five Stars while Tariq with 18 and Lutfur with 13 were the notable Eagles' scorers.

## TODAY'S MATCHES

Angels vs Josephites - (3:00 pm)

Winners vs Wanderers - (4:30 pm)

## Vita-rich soccer from Feb 14

Sports Reporter

The Vita-Rich Victory Club football tournament, organised by the Dhaka Football Players Association will begin on Thursday, February 14 at the Dhaka Stadium.

In a press conference, yesterday, it was disclosed that six teams consisting of players from different clubs will take part in the nine-day tourney. The teams are divided into two groups. In Group 'A': Blue, Orange and Green White in Group 'B' the teams are: White, Red and Yellow.

It is expected that players from Abahani and Brothers Union will play in Blue and Orange respectively. The White team will be studded with players from Mohammedan Sporting Club.

A purse of taka fifty thousand will be at stake for the champions and runner-up.

Vita-Rich Food products are the main sponsors of the tournament. Coca-Cola, ICL, Elite Paint, and PWD will provide gears and jersey for the players.

## Merdeka final today

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb. 12: China Monday beat Denmark by a goal to set up a meeting with Australia's Admirals Wacker in the final of the Merdeka soccer tournament here, reports AFP.

China's solitary goal was scored by Li Xiao in the ninth minute of extra time after both teams were scoreless at full-time.

China struggled to overcome Denmark for 99 minutes before substitute Li Xiao scored in from the left flank to score from close range past keeper Ameka Andersen.

The Austrian First Division side meanwhile outplayed a jaded Slovan Bratislava of Czechoslovakia 3-1 after being 1-1 at the interval in the other semifinal.

Both Austria and Czechoslovakia played listlessly before the Austrians opened accounts in the 20th minute.

The final will be played Wednesday.

## Lankans win

NELSON (New Zealand), Feb. 12: Sri Lanka beat New Zealand's Central Districts by seven wickets on the final day of a four-day cricket match today, reports Reuters.

Scores: Central districts: 353 and 244 (S. Prasanna 92, M. Pawson 54 not out, S. Duff 42, K. Wijegunawardene five for 65).

Sri Lanka: 419 and 179 for three (R. Kaluvitarana 61 not out, S. Jayasuriya 42 not out, D. Leonard 20 for 49).

## DU cricket Sports Reporter

Economics Department beat Political Science Department by three wickets in the Dhaka University inter-department cricket tournament match yesterday at the Jagannath Hall ground.

Political Science batting first scored 99 for nine wickets and in reply Economics Department scored 102 for the loss of seven wickets.

## School, madrassah winter sports on

Sports Reporter

The 20th winter season sports competition of the Bangladesh National Schools and Madrassah Sports Society began at the Government Physical Education College playground at Mohammadpur.

Presidential Advisor for Education Prof. Zillur Rahman Siddiqui inaugurated the five-day, 468-competitor meet.

Students from the four divisions of the country will be vying in 73 events in various categories.



Bangladesh Army's Subedar Mushtaque Ahmed (R) grabbed the 10,000m gold clocking 32:20.8 to remain the country's best middle-distance man.—Star photo.