

Dhaka DSA emerge champions

Sports Reporter

Dhaka District Sports Association emerged champions when they edged past Faridpur District Sports Association by a solitary

1983. It was a rewarding win for Dhaka as they finished runners up for the last two years. Faridpur DSA came to the match needing only a draw to clinch the title. As a result,

Faridpur's defensive approach went all-out for the goal. They gained eleven penalty corners, compared to Faridpur's one. Dhaka DSA received three corners while Faridpur got two.

earned a penalty corner and Khawja Fayaz scored the cherished winning goal for Dhaka with a powerful shot. Faridpur pressed hard for the last nine minutes and two scoring chances went begging.



Faridpur DSA's goalkeeper Radeh Sham, Ghiru, takes a fall deflecting the ball. —Star photo

goal in the crucial round robin league match of the Yuasa eleventh national youth hockey championship yesterday at the Hockey Stadium.

Dhaka DSA were declared champions for securing full six points from three matches while Faridpur DSA had to be satisfied with the runners up spot with four points from the three encounters.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Mirza Abbas witnessed the match and later gave away the prizes among the winners.

This was the fourth time Dhaka DSA lifted the National Hockey title. They won the inaugural title in 1975 and incidentally it was Faridpur DSA who became runners up that same year. Dhaka DSA won the title again in 1976, and became joint champions with Dhaka Education Board in

Year	Champion	Runners up
1975	Dhaka DSA	Faridpur DSA
1976	Dhaka DSA	Dhaka Education Board
1977	Dhaka Education Board	Dhaka DSA
1978	Not held	
1979	Dhaka Education Board	Dhaka DSA
1980	Dhaka Metropolitan SA	Nil
1981-82	Not held	
1983	Dhaka DSA and Dhaka Edn.	Board (Joint Champions)
1984-86	Not held	
1987	Faridpur DSA	Jessore DSA
1988	Patuakhali DSA	BKSP
1989	BKSP	Dhaka DSA
1990	BKSP	Dhaka DSA
1991	B.K.S.P.	Dhaka DSA
	Dhaka DSA	Faridpur DSA

They played a defence oriented game with most of the players falling back to help their defenders. Faridpur DSA nearly succeeded in their play by holding their rivals without giving a scoring opportunity till the 61st minute of play. Dhaka DSA frustrated with

Dhaka DSA pressed hard and earned a penalty stroke in the 59th minute of the same. DDSA's Meer Nazmul Islam stepped forward to take the penalty stroke and to everyone's dismay shot wide off the target. Two minutes later they

when their forwards failed to convert those into goals.

Faridpur DSA had one consolation when Musa Miah was declared the player of the tournament while Dhaka DSA's Lubraj Alam Shimul for his five goal earned the highest goal scorers award.

Yellow cards : Nazmul Islam, Nazmul Alam and Ehtesham of Dhaka DSA.

Dhaka DSA : M Imtiaz, Nazmul Islam, Khawja Fayaz, Latifur Rahman, Nazmul Alam, Hafizullah (Naser Bhutoo), Habibullah, Ehtesham, Lubraj Alam, M Azam (Danesh Kamal) and Javed Hossain.

Faridpur DSA : Radeh Sham Ghiru, Khairuzzaman, Salahuddin, Asad Bin, Musa Miah, Ishaque Miah, Gias Uddin, Dewan Shafique, M Sharief (Aminal Islam), Yousuf Ali and Shahidul Islam.

Rajshahi, RU in final

Sports Reporter

Rajshahi District Sports Association and Rajshahi University marched into the final round of the national cricket championship after winning their respective zonal finals yesterday at the Nilphamari and Joypurhat stadiums, respectively.

Rajshahi DSA crushed Rangpur District Sports Association by a big margin of 78 runs in the Zone 'D' match.

Rajshahi DSA electing to bat first were all out for 170 runs in 44.3 overs.

Pilot, 34, Shoaib, 32, David, 24, and Tamal, 23, were the

leading Rajshahi DSA batsmen. Shanta with four wicket for 33 and Sohel with three wickets for 31 were the most successful Rangpur bowlers.

In reply, Rangpur DSA were shot out for only 92 runs in 28 overs. Panu 26, and Pavel, 18, were the two Rangpur batsmen to reach double figures.

David was the wrecker-in-chief for Rajshahi DSA when he claimed four wickets for 19 runs while Bulbul with two for 14 and Nila with two for 18 were the other successful Rajshahi bowlers.

Deputy Commissioner of Nilphamari M. Sukkur Mohammed Pramanik was the chief

guest and gave away the prizes among the winners. In the Zone 'F' final match, Rajshahi University outplayed Sherpur District Sports Association by a massive margin of 194 runs.

Put into bat, Rajshahi University piled up 260 for the loss of six wickets in their allotted 41 overs.

Datu outscored with 58 runs followed by Montu with 57 and Shovon with 40 were the Rajshahi University batsmen to shine with the willow. Fifty five runs were also contributed to the Rajshahi University total as extras.

Sajjad with two wickets for

41 was the leading bowler for the Sherpur side.

In reply, Sherpur DSA were skittled out for a meagre total of 66 runs in 18.4 overs. Sajjad and Doudul with 13 runs each were the two Sherpur batsmen to reach double figures.

Kanak with a devastating spell claimed four wickets for three runs only. Sabu with three wickets for 18 and Chandan with two wickets for 27 were the other two successful Rajshahi University bowlers.

Mir Shahabuddin, Deputy Commissioner of Joypurhat attended the match as chief guest

Gaby poised to overtake Martina

Sports Reporter

AMELIA ISLAND, Apr 12: Gabriela Sabatini, who's on the verge of gaining the No. 3 ranking in women's tennis, isn't taking anything for granted in the Bausch and Lomb Championships.

The game's hottest player can move ahead of Martina Navratilova by reaching the final of the 350,000-dollar clay court tournament, but insists her only concern is beating Helena Sukova in today's quarterfinals.

"I think about each match. I don't look ahead," said Sabatini, who trounced Luanne Spadea 6-0, 6-1 Thursday night to stay on course for a possible showdown with top seed Steffi Graf for the title.

"I hope to play her in the final," she added. "But, of course, I have to keep winning."

Sabatini was nearly flawless against Spadea, who lost the first 10 games of the 69-minute match. The No. 2 seed came to Amelia Island Plantation after winning last week's Family Circle Cup tournament in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, and is looking for her fourth title this season.

Sukova, the No. 5 seed, moved into the quarterfinals with a 6-4, 6-7 (3-7), 6-2 victory over Ginger Helgeson. The Sabatini-Sukova winner will face either Arantxa Sanchez Vicario or Leila Meskhi in the semifinals.

Sanchez, the No. 3 seed, beat Halle Cioffi 6-3, 6-1 in the

third round, while Meskhi stopped Tami Whittingler 6-0, 6-1 to continue a string of impressive performances that includes victories over Navratilova, Jennifer Capriati and Natalia Zvereva last week.

"I think it's going to be a very good match," said



GABRIELA SABATINI

Sanchez, who has reached the final of one tournament and the semifinals of two others this year, but is still seeming her first title.

"I know (Meskhi's) playing well and beat some good players (last week), so it will be tough," Sanchez added. "But I think I'm playing well, too. We'll see what happens."

The other quarterfinals feature Graf against Zvereva, the No. 6 seed, and No. 4 Zina Garrison against Patty Fendick, who's ranked No. 72 and play-

ing her first major clay court tournament since 1983.

Sanchez handled Cioffi in one hour, 11 minutes, although Cioffi thought she could have just as easily won the match. She trailed 4-3 before Sanchez won five consecutive games to close out the first set and go up 3-0 in the second.

"I didn't think I played well at all," Cioffi said. "It might have been (Sanchez), but I really didn't think she was doing much with her ball."

"She didn't do anything different than what I saw in the first two rounds. She's good, but she's definitely playable and beatable. I just didn't put it together."

Zvereva, meanwhile, struggled before overcoming Veronika Martinez 1-6, 6-2, 6-1 to set up her match with Graf, who's trying to win this tournament for the fourth time in six years.

Garrison defeated Angeliki Kanellopoulou 6-2, 6-4 to secure her quarterfinal berth opposite Fendick, who eliminated Brenda Schultz.

Another report adds: Arantxa Sanchez Vicario isn't worried about her world ranking. She's too busy trying to win her first tournament of the season.

Sanchez, who has regained a spot in the top five again after ending a month-long lay-off, led a parade of high seeds into the quarterfinals of the Bausch and Lomb Championships. On Thursday she trounced Halle Cioffi 6-3, 6-1 at Amelia Island Plantation.

The 350,000-dollar clay court tournament is only the fourth event Sanchez has played this year. Winning the title would give her bid to climb even higher a solid boost.

"I haven't played much. What I need now is to win a



ARANTXA-SANCHEZ

couple of tournaments. Then I'll go up," said Sanchez, who has played only two tour stops since the Australian Open and slipped to No. 7 at one point. She has reached the final of one tournament and the semifinals of two others this year.

Meskhi has continued her strong play with a couple of impressive performances at Amelia Island. She dominated Andra Temesvari 6-0, 6-0 in the second round and stopped Tami Whittingler 6-0, 6-1 to reach the quarterfinals.

Spitz-Jager splash Saturday

Sports Reporter

BEVERLY HILLS, California, Apr 12: The interesting experiment that is Mark Spitz's comeback attempt is about to undergo its first lab test, reports AP.

On Saturday, the 41-year-old winner of seven Olympic gold medals will race competitively for the first time in 18 1-2 years. His opponent in the 30,000-Dollar 50-meter butterfly match race: Tom Jager, the fastest human in water.

The 26-year-old Jager is the world champion and world record-holder in the 50-meter freestyle.

Does Spitz really have any better chance than Jim Palmer did with the Orioles or George Foreman does with Evander Holyfield?

After a year and a half spent training to return to Olympian caliber, Spitz still doesn't know what to expect in the pool at Mission Viejo.

"I'm very nervous and apprehensive about trying to compete on a level at which people may expect me to compete," Spitz said Thursday. "I've set my goal to at least try to do the time I was at the 50-meter mark in Munich, which was 25.38 (seconds)."

Munich, in 1972, was where Spitz won his record seven gold medals, including one in the 100-meter butterfly,

the sport in which he hopes to compete at the 1992 Olympics.

The 50-meter butterfly isn't raced competitively, but the distance was chosen for the match race to enhance appeal to television viewers, said Spitz's coach, Ron Ballatore.

Spitz is confident and has worked hard with Ballatore, UCLA's swimming coach. But there are two reasons why Spitz probably can't win: his body and his start.

The problem with Spitz's body isn't just that it's 41 years old. It also matured without the years of weight training today's competitive swimmers undergo. Since Spitz began his comeback, he has incorporated weights into his training program.

But one look at Jager's sharply defined body, and even Spitz can see the difference.

In Spitz's day, starts were not the key race component they are today. While Jager is known for his strong start, Spitz has had to work on getting off the blocks quicker. That, Ballatore said, could be his biggest disadvantage.

"Spitz, when he swam, was a good starter, but nowadays the start has become so much more important," he said. But once he's in the water, Spitz will show he hasn't lost the world's greatest swimmer, his

coach vows.

"He can swim butterfly as well as he ever has," Ballatore said. "His stroke is still just as efficient."

Last September, Spitz sub-

jecting his stroke to a high-tech analysis in an underwater treadmill called the Flume, located at the U.S. Swimming training facility in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The verdict

of the 3 million-dollar gizmo: Spitz still has a great stroke. Jager hasn't swum the butterfly competitively since he was at UCLA, where under Ballatore he set a school record in the 100 that still stands.

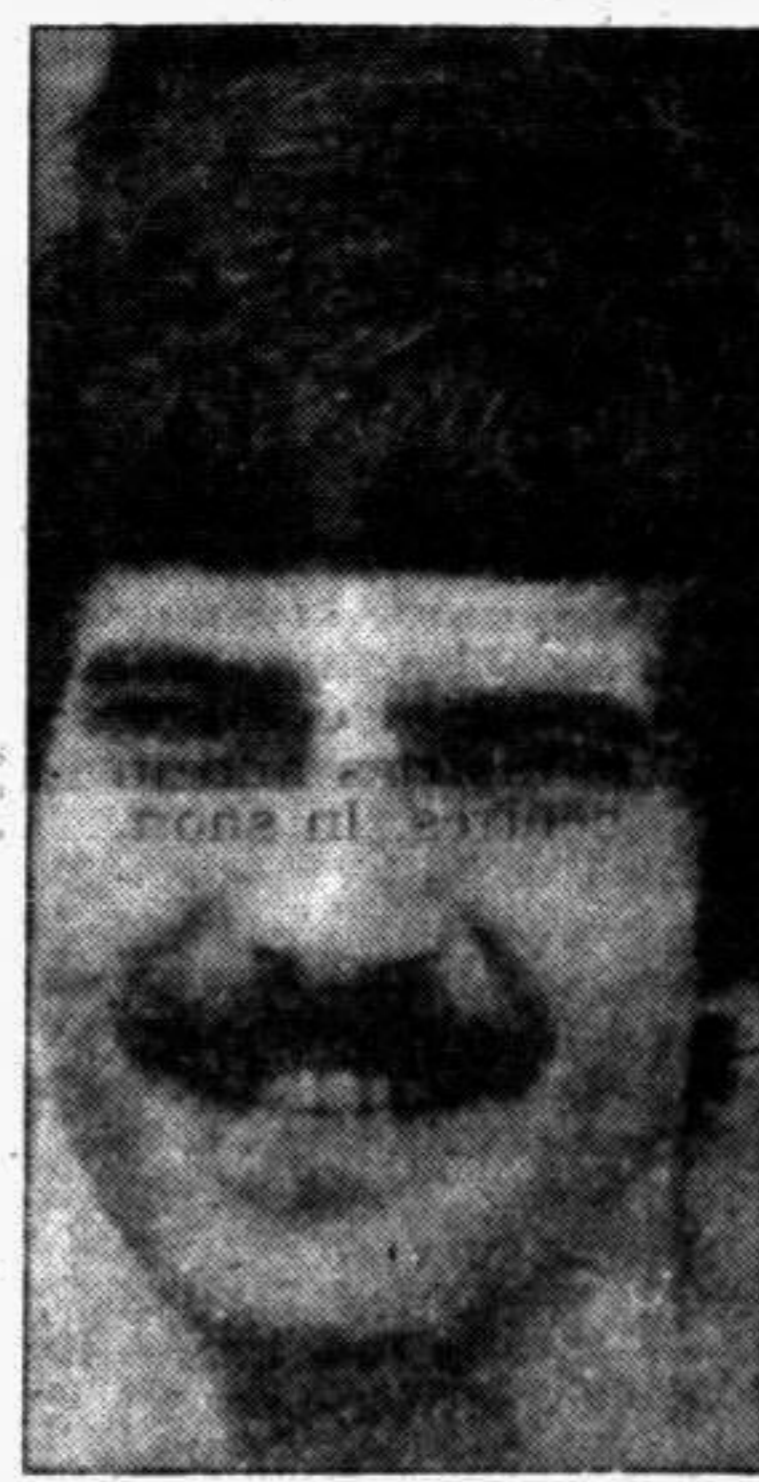
Winner of the race will earn 20,000 Dollars. The stakes for Spitz next race April 27 are higher, both competitively and financially. He will face Matt Biondi, who won a silver in the 1988 Olympics in the 100 fly. The winner gets 35,000 Dollars of the 50,000-dollar purse.

Jager said he's taking the race as seriously as Spitz is, but admits thinking initially that Spitz making the 1992 Olympics was the longest of the century.

Zubero's world swim record

GAINESVILLE, Florida, Apr 12: Swimming alone in his college pool, Spaniard Martin Zubero shattered the world 200-meter backstroke short course record, shaving more than three seconds off the previous mark, reports Reuter.

Zubero, a 21-year-old student at the University of Florida, swam eight 25-metre laps in one minute 52.51 seconds on Wednesday to eclipse the 1:55.93 record set earlier this year by Canadian Mark Tewksbury.



MARK SPITZ

McEnroe's sweet revenge

TOKYO, Apr 12: Defending champion Stefan Edberg dashed any hopes of Jimmy Connors in the 1.15 million Dollar Japan Open tennis tournament Thursday, while John McEnroe saved one match point before advancing to the quarter finals, reports AFP.

The top seeded Swede, who suffered a shock straight-set defeat to Connors in the 1989 US Open fourth round, gained revenge over the former world number one beating him 6-4, 6-7 (5/7), 6-1.

"This was probably one of the best matches we played against each other," Edberg said. "He (Connors) is one of the greatest tennis players in history and I needed to work hard to win today."

Sixth-seeded McEnroe also avenged his first round loss to Todd Witsken in Hong Kong last week storming back from a match point down in the second set to score a 3-6, 7-6

(7/5), 6-4 victory in an all-American match.

"I don't know if there was a difference except I won the match,"

McEnroe said referring to his disappointment in Hong Kong. "It was a better match this time and we both played better

Lamba appeals

NEW DELHI, Apr 12: Test batsman Raman Lamba appealed to India's High Court on Thursday against a 10-month ban imposed on him over a fight which sparked a riot by spectators in a showpiece domestic match, reports Reuter.

Lankan cricket official quits

COLOMBO, Apr 12: The assistant manager of the Sri Lankan cricket team has resigned from the executive committee of the Cricket Board amid charges of double standards, press reports here said Thursday, reports AFP.

tennis."

In the quarter-finals Friday McEnroe will take on his compatriot and fourth seeded Jim Courier, while Edberg will play seventh seed Michael Stich of Germany.

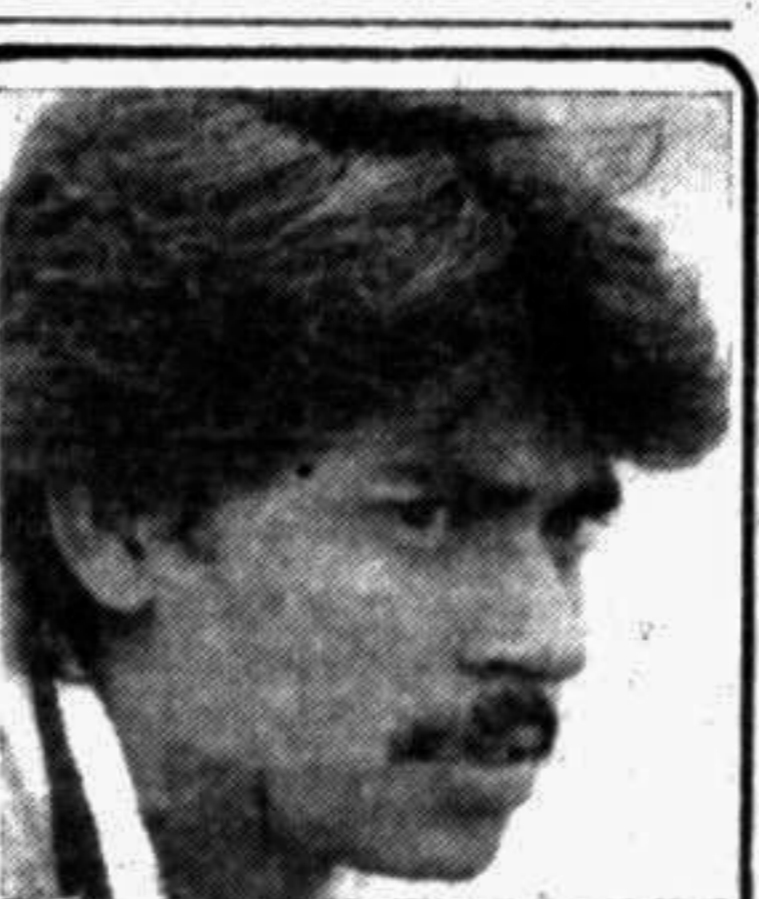
Ispahani cricket

CHITTAGONG, Apr 12: Chittagong Mohammedan routed Rafa Cricket Club by nine wickets in the CJKP Ispahani First Division Cricket League at the Chittagong Stadium here today, reports BSS.

Rafa batted first and were all out for only 68 runs in 26.1 overs. Dider with '16 and Saheed with 10 were the main scorers of Rafa.

National cricket team skipper Minhazul Abedin Nannu who played for Chittagong Mohammedan claimed three wickets for only 10 runs while Morshed took two for 20 runs.

In reply, Mohammedan scored 69 for one in 11.2 overs.



Aaqib to make county debut

OXFORD, Apr 12: Pakistan pace prodigy Aaqib Javed will make his debut for English county Hampshire here on Saturday against Oxford University, reports AFP.

The 18-year-old Test bowler, who has been signed to replace West Indies fast bowler Malcolm Marshall, has impressed Hampshire officials in pre-season training since being recommended by Pakistan captain Imran Khan.

Bruno still dreams of comeback

Sports Reporter

LONDON, Apr 12: Frank Bruno is still clinging to his dream of making a boxing comeback despite being told he may never fight again, reports AFP.

Eye specialist Professor David McLeod will next week operate on Bruno's torn retina but the former world title contender turned pantomime artist prefers to remain positive.

"I refuse to get completely down at the moment because there's still hope," said a defiant Bruno on Thursday. "But I'll be heartbroken if Professor McLeod tells me I'll never be able to fight again."

I've suffered a serious, really terrible upset. Everything's up in the air for me now and I've simply no idea of what's likely to happen."

Any decision on Bruno's future will be based on the views of the surgeon coupled with the medical investigations of

the British Boxing Board of Control and it could take as long as a year to reach a verdict.

The board having had their Cuban punchers win King's Cup

BANGKOK, Apr 12: Cuba displayed top class ability to emerge overall team champions in the 19 nation 17th King's Cup amateur boxing championships here Thursday.

Winning eight gold medals and two silvers out of 10 finals, Cuba scored a total of 54 points, reports AFP.

Defending champions the Soviet Union finished runner up with 22 points while Thailand A (Army) followed third with 18 points.

The best boxer title went to bantamweight Chaitree Suwanoyod (Thailand B First Army Region) while light heavyweight Klouk Sergei (USSR) was the "prospect boxer" title.

ingers burned when a second bout of eye trouble recently forced Bruno's friend and former stamete Gary Mason into retirement, are sure to be even stricter this time," Ian Whiteson, the board's chief medical officer, said. "Once everything has settled down after the Operation, we will study the report of Professor McLeod and other experts and it could all take up to 12 months."

"We were given the advice of two top specialists and allowed Mason to fight again and then something different happened to his right eye, which is difficult to legislate for."

Frank and his wife Laura are sensible enough not to take the risk if there is any. They will know if it will be necessary to say thanks, but no thanks.

"I went back to the gym to see if I still had the appetites I worked hard sparring with three different guys and I was very pleased with the way it

went."

"It was even harder to take in when Professor McLeod said I'd probably had the condition for some time."

Indian grapplers confident

NEW DELHI, Apr 11: Indian grapplers are confident of putting up a "good show" at the seventh Asian freestyle wrestling championships to be held here from April 17 to 19, reports Xinhua.

"We will perform much better than previous championships," said chief national coach Raj Singh on Wednesday. "Although it will be tough as the best wrestlers of the continent are taking part in the championships, we are hopeful of bagging six to seven medals including two to three golds," Raj Singh said.

Raj Singh, a former wrestler himself, recently took over as the chief coach.

Faldo eyes hattrick

AUGUSTA Georgia, Apr 12: Nick Faldo wasn't in any mood for talking, reports AP.

He didn't have much to say as he briskly moved toward the clubhouse from the putting green. He had begun his quest for a third consecutive Masters title with a par round of 72 on Thursday.

"I played good and I didn't make the most of it," he said. "What next?"

"Give it a go, give it a go," he said. Faldo then disappeared into the champions' locker room on the second floor of the Augusta National clubhouse. He resurfaced a few mo-

ments later, a manila envelope in one hand and two golf clubs in the other, heading toward the parking lot.

"What happened after the eagle on 13?" he was asked. "Nothing," he replied. "Have a nice day."

With that, he was gone, refusing to appear at the media interview area.

"He's just setting himself up," said Phil Mickelson, who earned the right to play with the defending Masters champion when the Arizona State junior captured the US Amateur crown last year.

"He's not thinking about one round," Mickelson said after posting a score that beat the two-time defender by three shots.



The two teams — Dhaka DSA and Faridpur DSA — is seen posing with State Minister for Youth and Sports Mirza Abbas. — Star photo

Lewis in the dock for drunk driving

HOUSTON, Apr 12: The attorney representing Olympic champion Carl Lewis said on Thursday that he hopes to cast doubt on evidence linking the track star to a drunk driving charge, reports Reuter.

"I intended to convince the jury that there is reasonable doubt," attorney Robert Ross told Reuters.

Ross said selection of the six-member jury is set for May 17 and testimony is scheduled to begin on May 20.

The Olympic 100 metres and long jump champion was arrested on January 11 after a Houston police officer saw his car hit a curb while making a turn. Police said Lewis's breath-alcohol level was 0.12 per cent, just above the state's legal limit of 0.1 per cent.

Ross said he expected that Lewis's reputation as an Olympic hero may work. "That would have a positive impact,"

Lewis failed a field sobriety test and was taken into custody. If convicted, Lewis would be sentenced up to two years in jail and a 2,000-dollar fine.