

Bangladesh rue defence lapses

Afzal H Khan from Seoul



Despite dominating the proceedings for the better part of the game Bangladesh lost their first match of the Barcelona Olympics Asian Group D qualifying first leg to Thailand by three goals to two at the magnificent Chamshil Olympic Stadium here Saturday.

Bangladesh trailed two nil at the break, both products of gross defence lapses.

The game began on a rather sombre note with the teams and the two thousand odd crowd observing a minute's silence in respect of the memory of the April 29 cyclone victims in Bangladesh.

Coach Hakim and manager Helal opted for a 4-4-2 formation for the side with skipper Shabbir playing as a withdrawn striker. The Bangladesh boys, not quite used to the slow, well-grassed pitch, started rather tentatively and took their time in settling down.

Goalkeeper Lahul was preferred to the taller but nervous Bijon Barua, himself betrayed his own nerves when in the very fourth minute he rushed out and handled the ball outside the right box, an action that could have proved very costly.

However, Lahul made amends immediately by brilliantly punching away Suracha's powerful freekick. That save appeared to have given Lahul the confidence he so badly needed and the young goalie from Khulna kept gain-

ing in strength as the game wore on, effecting at least a handful of brilliant saves.

That skipper Boonpleek gave his side the lead when he netted from goalmouth melee after overlapping leftback Chedical had misused from the left in the 23rd minute.

Bangladesh's right fullback Moon, who otherwise toiled hard, made an unpardonable blunder in the 33rd minute when he unnecessarily attempted a backpass to Lahul. His feeble pass was intercepted by the tall Thai centre forward Worrawoot who had all the time in the world to put the ball in the net past a helpless Lahul.

Bangladesh might have scored three minutes later but Romy's shot upon an Alamgir throw-in from inside the small box went just wide. Romy missed another one two minutes later after a beautiful move by Nakib, Alamgir and Mamoon.

In the 41st minute Shabbir's shot upon a corner lob was nervously gathered by the Thai Goalie Poomeat. Seconds from the short whistle Lahul brought off a magnificent save after defender Chedical had managed to rifle a fierce grounder.

Undaunted by the two-goal deficit, Bangladesh started the second session with renewed vigour and took the game to the Thai.

Five minutes after resumption, Bangladesh reduced the margin through their raw defender Masud Rana. Masud, a BKSP student making his in-

ternational debut, gave a superlative account of himself and, playing as left fullback, toiled ceaselessly, making goaline saves one minute, creating a scoring opportunity the very next. A goalmouth melee following two consecutive corners put our boys under considerable pressure and Masud Rana, after making miraculous goaline save with a header gained possession and set off on a long, overlapping run down the left flank.

His speed caught the sturdier Thai defence completely off guard and as rightback Sing rushed to charge, Masud sent a precision lob goalward that slipped goalie Poomeat's grip and entered the net to make it 2-1.

The goal transformed the boys and everyone pushed forward for the equaliser which should have come in the 73rd minute but again Romy's left footer from close went just wide.

With Bangladesh on the attack, the Thais earned a third goal, quite against the run of play. A delay on the part of Moon to rush to stopper Jewel's aid who missed a header inside the box left overlapping defender Chedical free to score from a hand-shaking distance.

Gaus replaced Nakib in the 78th minute, the second substitution after Zakir had been brought in place of totally off colour Munna in the 64th minute. Munna's inclusion in the first place now appears a questionable decision, given his quarrelsome attitude on

the field.

In the 82nd minute Lahul saved another dangerous situation.

Bangladesh's second goal came two minutes before time when Shabbir converted a penalty after Sing had brought down a charging Zakir deep inside the Thai box. Shabbir slotted home from the spot, placing the ball to the goalie's right.

Bangladesh should have scored again in the dying seconds of the game but Shabbir's free kick from just outside the top of the box was not effective.

For this correspondent, Lahul, Jewel Rana, Barun Dewan, Masud Rana, Alamgir and Mamoon played very well with Masud Rana and Alamgir being the pick of the lot.

Bangladesh's main handicap other than the slow pitch was the height of the Thai players. A couple of whom were over six feet with the 2 inch tall striker Worrawoot causing a constant worry. Ekram Rana, the original leftwinger cried off with a knee injury during Friday's practice.

Earlier, in the inaugural match of the competition, this afternoon hosts South Korea blanked Philippines ten nil, scoring five times in each half.

Bangladesh play Korea Monday at 1900 hrs local time.

Team: Lahul, Moon, Barun, Jewel, Masud, Romy, Munna (Zakir) Shabbir, Alamgir, Mamoon, Nakib (Gaus).

Ambassador Kazi Anwarul Masud and other embassy staff witnessed the game.

Spurs lift FA Cup

Sports Reporter

Tottenham Hotspur clinched the prestigious FA Cup for a record eighth time when they registered a nerve-wrecking 2-1 victory over arch-rivals Nottingham Forest in the final yesterday at Wembley, according to BBC monitored in Dhaka last night.

Spur striker Paul Gascoigne, the most celebrated player of the English league, was sent to hospital midway through the final with a severe injury sustained during the match.

Graf closer to her 5th German title

BERLIN, May 18: Steffi Graf moved a step closer to her fifth German Open title in six years on Saturday with a 6-3, 6-2 win over quarter-final opponent Radka Zrubakova of Czechoslovakia, reports Reuter.

Tyson-Holyfield bout possible this yr: promoters

NEW YORK, May 18: It's the fight everyone wants to see, according to Don King. For once, the master of hyperbole is right, reports AP.

Nothing concrete has been set for a bout between heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield and Mike Tyson, the former champion and top-rated challenger. But both sides are confident such a big-money fight will take place this year.

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Back to his best heroics

WORCESTER, England, May 18: Ian Botham celebrated his recall to the England cricket team on Friday with a stunning performance against West Indies, evoking memories of his youthful batting heroics, reports Reuter.

After learning of his inclusion in the one-day squad to play West Indies after a 21-month absence from international cricket, Botham tore into the bowling to score the fastest century in England this season and his first against

tween now and Thursday's first Texaco Trophy clash at Edgbaston.

A man who has delighted in proving the critics wrong throughout his career looks all set to do it again.

Botham, now 35, last represented England in the fifth Test of that disastrous home Ashes series of 1989 when winning his 97th cap. He has been ignored ever since and a combination of declining powers, advancing years and serious back injuries seemed certain to prevent him from reaching a century of appearances in either Test or one-day internationals.

Now, however, a new chapter in Botham's book of cricketing drama is just around the corner thanks to his fine start to this season which has brought a championship century against Lancashire, a dozen first-class wickets and a string of economical one-day bowling performances. He insists he is still the best all-rounder in England. Now comes the chance to prove it.

The other great attraction of Botham's recall is that it will take some of the heat off Hick. The Zimbabwean-born batsman, who will celebrate his 25th birthday and a maiden international appearance at Edgbaston, had been saddled with the task of single-handedly resurrecting his adopted country's cricketing fortunes, but now Hick will be joined under the spotlight by Botham.

Rampurkash's promotion from a tour party also offers exciting possibilities. A batsman who possesses the full range of attacking shots, he has now tightened up his defence and is ready to be tested at the top level.

He said: "I'm thrilled, delighted, I knew my name was being bandied about, but it is something I've tried to put out of my mind."

"I've been very happy with the way this season has started. The winter tour has helped enormously. Usually I'm a slow starter, but I've been playing well for Middlesex so far."

Botham and Fairbrother are not the only players to win international recalls. Essex all-rounder Derek Pringle is also brought back, but his return will probably only be temporary, as he is a one-day specialist.

Chris Lewis, Leicestershire's injury-plagued all-rounder, makes the squad, however, as do Northamptonshire batsman Allan Lamb and Lancashire left-hander Neil Fairbrother, who has slight injury problems.

Lewis said he was relieved

and delighted to be named in the England squad after missing three of Leicestershire's matches this season because of further back problems.

Lewis who was sent home from Australia in the winter with a stress fracture of the spine, took five for 35 against Glamorgan in his first championship match of the season before suffering more back trouble, but a bone scan revealed the problem was only muscular.

Lewis said: "That put my mind at rest and now it's a case of proving my fitness. Which I intend to do."

Fairbrother is optimistic of recovering from the abdominal strain which ruled him out of Lancashire's championship game with Derbyshire. "I should be ok," he said. "In fact, I hope to be in action on Sunday."

The left-hander admitted that his call-up was "a little bit unexpected." But he added: "I've scored a few runs early on and a couple of hundreds while Mickey Stewart has been watching. I was hoping to squeeze in. Now I've got a great chance to re-establish myself."

Hick said of his selection: "It was exciting to hear the news, but to say I am the saviour is ridiculous; you can't put that on one person."

Richard Illingworth, the slow left-arm, who is also included in England one-day squad for the first time along with Middlesex batsman Mark Ramprakash and Gloucestershire paceman David Lawrence, said:

"I just hope I can play to the best of my ability if I make the final XI. It's always nice when you have teammates with you in a representative side."

Lawrence is preferred to Devon Malcolm, but the Derbyshire fast bowler, not a one-day specialist, seems certain to return for the Test series.

Former England captain David Gower looks to be out in the cold for goods, though, unless he can produce some impressive county form with Hampshire.

The selectors have wisely chosen not to risk either Hampshire batsman Robin Smith or Middlesex seamer Angus Fraser, who are at various stages of recovery from illness and injury.

England squad: G.A. Gooch (captain), D.R. Pringle (Essex), I.T. Botham, G.A. Hick, R.K. Illingworth (Worcestershire), M.A. Atherton, P.A.J. DeRetras, N.H. Fairbrother (Lancashire), A.J. Lamb (Northamptonshire), R.C. Russell, D.V. Lawrence (Gloucestershire), C.C. Lewis (Leicestershire), M.R. Rampurkash (Middlesex).



IAN BOTHAM

a West Indian side.

The 35-year-old all-rounder hit 161 in Worcestershire's first innings total of 288, and reached his century off just 83 balls to silence critics who said he was beyond his best.

Botham smashed 21 fours and a six of an attack including West Indian Test cricketer Patrick Patterson and Courtney Walsh to register his second century in eight days and his highest first class score for the county.

Botham shared a fifth wicket partnership of 136 with captain Phil Neale, whose 34 was the second-highest score. He outshone his county teammate and now England batting hope Graeme Hick, who was out for only 11 on the day he was called up for his international debut.

Worcestershire were replying to a West Indian total of 409 for seven declared. The tourists were 36 without loss when the rain-interrupted three-day game ended in a draw.

AFP adds: It is Botham's name, however, which will dominate cricket chatter before the start of the season.

Prpic pips Cherkasov

ROME, May 18: Yugoslav Goran Prpic beat 11th seed Andrei Cherkasov of the Soviet Union 7-6, 7-5 in a rain-interrupted Italian Open quarter-final on Friday, reports Reuter.

They were level at 2-2 in the first set when a thunderstorm halted play on the red clay courts of Rome's Foro Italico Stadium for just over an hour.

The Yugoslav plays ninth-seeded Spaniard Emilio Sanchez, an easy 6-2, 6-2 winner against Australian Richard Fromberg.

TENNIS TIDINGS

Slow red clay suits Sanchez



Emilio Sanchez

ROME, May 18: Pete Sampras said it robbed him of his serve. Andre Agassi couldn't wait to get off of it. But Emilio Sanchez says the slow red Foro Italico clay suits him just fine, reports AP.

"I like it when it's dry," he said, after reaching the quarterfinals of the Italian Open on Thursday with a 6-2, 6-2 third round win over Wayne Ferreira. "The surface is slow, but it still travels fast, and holds a lot of spin. It lets me do what I do best."

While the players seeded above him were eliminated in the first three rounds, Emilio Sanchez has not lost a set while quietly qualifying for the quarterfinals. "It may look easy," he said. "But it isn't. The guy I played today has a very good game. He just has a tough time finding his timing on clay."

The three consecutive wins have boosted Sanchez confidence. "It feels good to have come this far," said the 25-year-old Spaniard. "Especially after I lost in the first round of my last two tournaments." But the memory that Sanchez would most like to cancel is not that of his recent losses at Monte Carlo and Hamburg. Nor is it the 1986 Italian Open, where lost in the final to Ivan Lendl. It is his dramatic, gruelling, three-set semifinal loss to Andrei Chesnokov in Rome last year.

Tossed ham sandwich costs Koevermans

ROME, May 18: A half-eaten ham sandwich tossed from the stands may have cost Mark Koevermans his match against Alberto Mancini and a place in the quarterfinals of the Italian Open, reports AP.

With Koevermans leading 5-4, 30-15 in the decisive third set Thursday night, the 23-year-old Dutchman fired a hard first serve to Mancini's backhand.

Rushing the net on the service return, Koevermans placed a forehead volley to the far corner. Scrambling, Mancini chased the ball down and batted a weak shot that Koevermans fired down the line for an easy winner, and apparently two match points. But a spectator at the Foro Italico had tossed the sandwich onto center court at the end of the point. According to umpire Richard Ings, it had interfered with Mancini's ability to play the ball.

Ings ruled the point a let. Koevermans went on to lose the point, his serve, and eventually the match 6-3, 4-6, 7-6 (7-1). "It's a judgment call," ATP supervisor Gayle Bradshaw said on Friday. "The umpire believes that the object impeded Mancini from hitting his shot, he has to call a let."

Koevermans was not of the same opinion, claiming that the sandwich had landed well after Mancini had hit his last shot. And a television replay seemed to support his case. "It's an unfortunate incident," Bradshaw said. "Unfortunately that this person in the stands decided that he had to become a part of the match at such a crucial time. But since it's not a ruling dispute but a judgment call, Koevermans cannot appeal."

Yzaga richer by \$40,000

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina, May 18: Seventh-seeded Jaime Yzaga, who last week defeated Jimmy Arias 6-3, 7-5, to win the US men's clay court championships here is now richer by about 40,000 US dollar, reports AP.

Yzaga, who had not won a tournament title since 1988, took home the 30,960-dollar winner's share before 5,049 fans at the Olde Providence Racquet Club. The 23-year-old player from Lima, Peru, did not lose a set all week on the green clay courts.

The frustration continues for No. 5 seed Arias, who has not won a title since 1983. He took home more than 18,000 dollars.

Maradona ends seclusion

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, May 18: Soccer superstar Diego Maradona has ended his seclusion and has been examined by a court-appointed medical team, according to Argentine news reports, reports AP.

The 30-year-old captain of Argentina's national team joined a surprised group of young soccer players for a jog around a park near his apartment in the outskirts of Buenos Aires.

Maradona had been in seclusion after his April 26 arrest on drug charges and his release on 20,000-dollar bond. Two friends were also arrested in the police raid.

Maradona was examined by physicians and psychiatrists for more than an hour Thursday, news agencies Telam and Diarios Noticias reported Friday. The examination, ordered by Federal Judge Amelia Berraz de Vidal, was aimed at determining the soccer star's current physical and mental status, court sources told Telam.

The results will be turned over to the judge, who also is awaiting results of blood and urine tests made immediately after the arrest in a Buenos Aires apartment.

Court sources reported Monday that a plastic bag tossed out of a window of the apartment at the time of the arrest contained 91 percent pure cocaine. The amount was not revealed.

Judge Berraz, who filed preliminary charges of drug possession and distribution against Maradona, has refused to discuss the case. Maradona's manager Marcos Franchi was not immediately available for comment.

Young members of the Argentine Herbrew Society soccer team told the agency Noticias Argentinas they were surprised Thursday when Maradona drove up, got out of his car and asked to join them for a jog around the park.

"He said Excuse me, I'd like to run with you, but let's not talk because if I do I'll get tired and won't be able to keep

up", one of the youngsters told the agency.

After a lap, Maradona began to take the lead and, after waving goodbye, ran on alone at a rapid pace, completing four laps of the park, the young jogger said.

The soccer star then embraced the youngsters' coach, Jorge Ghiso, got back in his car and drove away, the agency reported.

In another legal development, a Buenos Aires criminal court ruled Friday that local courts are competent to hear a slander suit brought against Maradona by former Argentine professional player Jose Sanfilippo.

Sanfilippo accused Maradona of slander for calling him a "traitor to his country" after Sanfilippo said publicly that Brazilian soccer legend, Pele was a better player than Maradona.

Maradona's attorneys had said that the suit should have been filed in Israel because Maradona made the statement while on a visit to that country.

Spurs' dilemma

LONDON, May 18: Tottenham Hotspur may lift the FA Cup today only to find the celebrations soured by the loss of the three men who masterminded their success, reports Reuters.

The names of mid-fielder Paul Gascoigne and manager Terry Venables have been on every fan's lips of late as likely leavers from the debt-crippled north London Club after Wembley. On Friday they were joined by striker Gary Lineker.

As if the players did not have enough distractions already on the eve of the showdown with Nottingham Forest, English newspapers reported that the club's England captain, top scorer at the 1986 World Cup in Mexico, had been put up for sale.

The north London club has debts of 18 million pounds sterling (31.5 million dollars) and they desperately need to win a trophy to bring some

money flowing into White Hart Lane. Gascoigne, Gazza to the media and a nation seized by "Gazzmania", looks set to pay off part of that debt by joining Italian club Lazio next season for a record transfer.

If he goes, Venables also looks like leaving since it will be the likely end of his efforts to take over the club.

Lineker, a man known for his courtesy who has never been sent off as a player at any level, refused to comment on reports of his planned sale — at least until after today's Cup final.

Captain Gary Mabbutt, whose steadiness in defence has sometimes been overshadowed by Gascoigne's exploits this season, cannot wait to erase the nightmare of his last final in 1987.

In that match, Spurs lost after he scored for both teams. He walked off with the opposing fans singing his praises.

SOCCER SCENARIO

Romario nets twice for PSV



Romario

AMSTERDAM, May 18: Brazilian striker Romario scored twice as PSV Eindhoven stayed top of the Dutch first Division with a 3-0 win at lowly Fortuna Sittard on Friday, reports Reuter.

The result gave PSV a two-point lead, but Arch-rivals Ajax Amsterdam could pull level again if they win at home to Feyenoord Rotterdam on Monday.

Romario headed PSV in front after three minutes after teammate Juul Ellerman struck the bar. Ellerman scored himself from close range midway through the second half.

In the dying moments he found Romario in space in front of the Sittard goal. Goalkeeper Ruud Hesp did well to parry Romario's first effort but had no chance when the Brazilian drove home the rebound.

Marseille's treble

PARIS, May 18: Marseille won the French soccer championship for the third successive season by beating Auxerre 1-0 on Friday, reports Reuter.

With one match remaining, the European Cup finalists gained a three-point lead over closest rivals Monaco.

Bayern close in on Kaiserslautern

BONN, May 18: Champions Bayern Munich stayed hot on the heels of German Bundesliga leaders Kaiserslautern by beating Borussia Dortmund 3-2 away on Friday, reports Reuter.

The victory took them to within a point of Kaiserslautern who have a game in hand. Bayern got off to a dreadful start, conceding a goal to midfielder Gerhard Poschner in the first minute. Seconds before halftime Roland Grahmmer equalised, but the champion fell behind again 10 minutes into the second half when former Bayern striker Michael Rummenigge scored.

Bayern's second equaliser came from Dane Brian Laudrup seven minutes later. Christian Ziege clinched a crucial victory for Bayern by scoring with two minutes left. Third-placed Werder Bremen saw their championship hopes nosedive when they lost 1-0 at home to VfB Stuttgart. They trail Kaiserslautern by four points.

Gunners win in a shootout

SINGAPORE, May 18: New English soccer champions Arsenal beat big rivals Liverpool on Friday in an exhibition match settled 4-3 in a penalty shootout after Arsenal equalised in the last minute of injury time, reports Reuter.

Arsenal's Nigel Winterburn capitalised on a defensive error to bring the full time score to 1-1 as Liverpool's concentration flagged in the final minutes. "We were the better team in the second-half but Arsenal kept coming forward," Liverpool manager Graeme Souness said. "We maybe went to sleep a bit in the last 10 minutes."

Liverpool striker Ian Rush had intercepted a back pass and chipped it beyond the reach of Arsenal goalkeeper David Seaman to score the first goal six minutes into the second half. "Both goals were mistakes by defenders and they were punished," Arsenal manager George Graham said.

Seaman saved two of the five Liverpool penalties in the shootout to give Arsenal victory.

No Lewis-Johnson clash in Seville

SEVILLE, Spain, May 18: Ben Johnson and Carl Lewis will both run in the 100 metres in the Expo 92 athletics meeting in Seville on May 30, but in separate series, a meeting spokesman said on Friday, reports Reuter.

"Johnson and Lewis will both run the 100 metres, but the event will be split into two separate series, with one of them in the first race and one in the second. There will be no final," the spokesman said.

Iraq asks FIFA, OCA to lift ban

NICOSIA, May 18: Iraq has asked the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) and football's governing body, FIFA, to scrap the sporting ban imposed after the invasion of Kuwait, reports AFP.

The move was revealed by Ali Turkli, head of the Iraqi Olympic Committee Saturday.

The Seville meeting had long been billed as the likely scene of a much-hyped rematch between Olympic champion Lewis and Canadian Johnson, who finished first in Seoul but was disqualified after failing a dope test.

A British newspaper on Friday quoted promoters as saying the clash would almost certainly happen in Seville.

French organisers said on Tuesday the two were contracted to race each other for the first time since Seoul on July 1 in Lille.

Leroy Burrell of the United States, on current form the world's fastest sprinter, is expected to run in the 200 metres in Seville.

King asks for a 55-45 split

NEW YORK, May 18: Representatives of heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield took the next step Friday in efforts to line up a bout with former champion Mike Tyson, reports AP.

Main Events-Monotor, which promotes the undefeated Holyfield, sent a letter to Don King, Tyson's promoter, seeking a meeting to begin negotiations for a bout in the fall. Holyfield has to make a mandatory defense by Oct 25.

Tyson was supposed to fight a rematch with Donovan "Razor" Ruddock on June 28, but King cancelled the fight earlier this week.

"We are taking Mike Tyson and Don King at their word," said Dan Duva, Holyfield's promoter. "They have indicated that the Tyson-Ruddock bout was cancelled in order for Tyson to pursue a mandatory fight with undisputed heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield. Evander and main Events-Monotor are quite eager to begin negotiations for the long-anticipated Holyfield-Tyson fight as soon as possible."

King had indicated this week that he hopes to begin negotiations next week. King also said the Tyson-Ruddock bout was cancelled to free Tyson of any obligations while such negotiations take place.

King also realized that purse bids would be conducted in early June by the IBF, whose turn it is to sanction the next title fight. With Tyson scheduled to fight Ruddock in late June, it presented a major obstacle to any negotiations with Holyfield.

Purse bids would require the champion to get 75 percent of the purse, the challenger 25 percent.

King, however, has asked the WBC, another sanctioning organization, to back his claim that Tyson should get 45 percent. The WBC will hold a show-cause hearing next Friday, asking Main Events to explain why the split should be 75-25 and asking King to show why it should be 55-45.

Huber humbles Sabatini

BERLIN, Germany, May 18: Argentina's Gabriela Sabatini, unbeatable in women's tennis during recent weeks suffered an extraordinary 7-5, 6-3 defeat by 16-year-old German Anke Huber in the German Open third round on Friday, reports Reuter.

Sabatini, seeking her 17th successive win after three consecutive tournament victories, was taken apart by her young opponent on a cold, showery afternoon as she lost her first match for two months.

Huber thoroughly deserved her moment of glory over the

Argentine, who was 21 on Thursday.

Dismantling Sabatini's serve at will, she clinched victory thanks to a fortunate net cord after squandering three match points.

The second-seeded Sabatini later laughed off enquiries about any birthday celebrations affecting her form.

"I just had dinner then I went to bed early," she said with a smile.

"It just wasn't a very good day for me. She played very well and didn't miss anything. That's life. You cannot play well every day."

Another surprise casualty was American Mary Joe Fernandez, the third seed, who was beaten 6-0, 5-7, 6-3 by France's Julie Halard.

In the two remaining third-round matches, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Jennifer Capriati qualified for the quarter-finals with straight-set wins.

Sabatini's demise might best be described as a tale of two cities.

In Rome last week she dropped only 13 games en route to the title and opponents felt she had seldom played better.

But here in Berlin, at least against the terrier-like Huber, there was none of the same fluency and class.

Weekly bridge

The following are the results of weekly pair duplicate bridge contest of Dhaka Metropolitan Bridge Association, held on Friday at the Bangladesh Bank Club premises, states a press release:

North-South: First - Sham-suzaman Kamal and Asaduzaman (64.01 percent); Second - Mobinul Islam and Natimul Hossain Topu (57.57 percent); Third-NG Saha and Abul Hossain (53.59 percent); East-West: First - M.A Mannan Miah and Rezaul Haque (59.28 percent); Second-Sayed Ahmed Robi and Quazi Habibul Haque (55.87 percent) and Third Md Israil (ii) and Mizanur Rahman (52.46 percent).

The next weekly bridge will be held on May-24 (Friday) at 3.30 P.M at the same venue.

Tile retained

COPENHAGEN, May 18: Manning Galoway of the United States retained his World Boxing Organisation (WBO) welterweight title on Friday when challenger Racheed Lawl of Denmark retired at the end of the seventh round.