

# Calcutta giants in town

Sports Reporter

clusters with the top two finishers in the robin league qualifying for the semifinals scheduled for June 4 and 5.

The final is billed for June 7. On the inaugural day East Bengal will take on Brothers Union in the first match at 4:30 pm while in the second encounter of the day Mohun Bagan will face Calcutta Mohammedan at 6:30 pm.

BFF and organising committee officials, briefing newsmen at the Dhaka Stadium conference room yesterday evening, explained the details about the tournament's expenses and other related aspects. They disclosed that none of the participating teams will charge any guarantee or appearance money considering the noble cause for which the meet has been arranged. The officials also expressed their gratitude to the IFA and Indian club authorities for their prompt and sympathetic response to the invitations at such short notice. They also appreciated the Indian football authorities gesture regarding the

rescheduling of the Calcutta League calendar, which has facilitated the holding of the present tournament.

Sponsors Bangladesh Tobacco Company will dish out Taka eight lakh but organisers hope to reap in another 26 lakhs from the gates. Besides, a successful finalisation of a deal today between the BFF and Bangladesh Television for the live coverage of all the nine matches could fetch another five lakh taka or so.

Addressing the press conference a spokesman for BTC said the tobacco multinational is studying the prospects of a three-year deal with the BFF for this club cup or some such tournament.

The Calcutta teams, which arrived at 5:30 pm yesterday afternoon, have been lodged at the Sundarban Hotel and will have practice sessions today.

Meanwhile, the BFF has made it clear that there would no complementary passes and everyone including officials and participating teams will have to buy tickets.

The tournament committee

in the meantime has finalised the grouping and fixture of the tournament.

Group A — Mohunbagan, Calcutta Mohammedans and Abahani KC.

Group B — East Bengal, Dhaka Mohammedans and Brothers Union. Dhaka Mohammedans will face Brothers Union at 4:30 pm while Calcutta Mohammedans will take on Abahani KC at 6:30 pm on June 1. On June 2 Mohunbagan will meet Abahani KC at 4:30 pm while East Bengal will play with Dhaka Mohammedans at 6:30 pm.

The semi-final matches will be held on June 4 and 5 at 6:30 pm while the final match will be played on June 7 at 5:30 pm.

Rate of gallery tickets has been fixed at Tk 20 each, VIP Gate No-2 Tk 70, Gate No 3/A Tk 50 and Gate No 3/B at Tk 30 each.

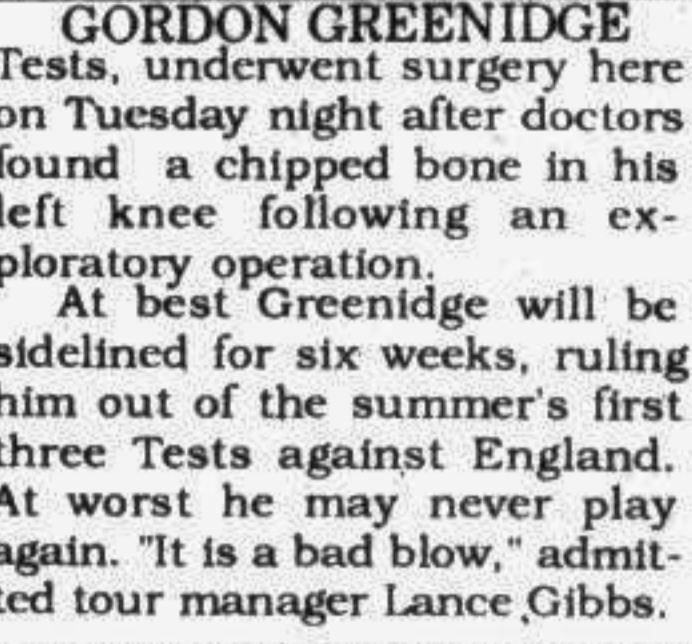
For the final the rate of gallery ticket will, however, be Taka 25 each while that of other tickets will remain unchanged.

# Greenidge may never play again

LONDON, May 29: West Indian batting great Gordon Greenidge may be forced to retire by a knee injury, reports AFP.

The 40-year-old Barbadian opener, who has played in 108 Tests, underwent surgery here on Tuesday night after doctors found a chipped bone in his left knee following an exploratory operation.

At best Greenidge will be sidelined for six weeks, ruling him out of the summer's first three Tests against England. At worst he may never play again. "It is a bad blow," admitted tour manager Lance Gibbs.



GORDON GREENIDGE Tests, underwent surgery here on Tuesday night after doctors found a chipped bone in his left knee following an exploratory operation.

# Waqar in fine fettle

LONDON, May 29: Pakistan pace prodigy Waqar Yousif inspired a thrilling Surrey victory over Hampshire in the English county championship at Bournemouth on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

Surrey won by one wicket off the last ball after being set 256 in a minimum 59 overs, with man-of-the-match Waqar aptly striking the winning run.

Half-centuries from Rehan Alikhan (53), Graham Thorpe (58) and captain Ian Greig (61) laid the foundation for the victory charge after Waqar had continued his amazing run of form with another five-wicket haul to give him match figures of 11 for 133. Hampshire had declared on 209 for six.

Kent, second from bottom of the championship last season, scored a much easier victory, maintaining their revival with a convincing 208-run victory over Derbyshire at Canterbury.

Resuming a massive 329 runs in front, they hammered another 46 before declaring on 372 for three to set Derbyshire 376 in a minimum 90 overs. They were never in the hunt after captain Kim Barnett went for a duck and with Tony Merrick, Chris Penn and

Richard Davis claiming three wickets apiece, Derbyshire quickly collapsed to 167 all out.

Needing to bat all day, South African Opener Jimmy

# Mudassar's feat

BOLTON, England, May 29: Pakistani Test all-rounder Mudassar Nazar has become the first player to reach 500 runs this season in the Bolton



MUDASSAR NAZAR Association, the league in the north-west of England, reports AFP. Mudassar, who is in his first summer as a professional with Bolton, has notched unbeaten centuries in his last two innings.

Cook led the way with a three-hour 89. He received able support from captain Peter Robuck (49) as their first wicket partnership realised 145.

Champions Middlesex are still without a win this season in the championship after Somerset ground out a draw at Taunton. Although Middlesex captured four quick wickets to revive hopes of victory, it was not to be, Richard Harden hitting an unbeaten 58 as Somerset finished on 269 for five. Yorkshire came much closer to their first championship success of the campaign, Northamptonshire ending on 138 for eight cashing 266 at Headingley. Opener Ashley Metcalfe hammered 53 in just 79 balls, including two sixes and five boundaries, to set up their declaration at 199 for four.

Allan Fordham and Nigel Felton gave the visitors a solid start with an opening stand of 49, but they were always behind the required rate as veteran slow left-arm Phil Carrick captured four wickets. Nottinghamshire, kings of the Sunday league this season, should have beaten Leicestershire as well, but surprisingly they could not manage 206 in 40 overs at Grace Road.

# Brazil blank Bulgaria



UBERLANDIA, Brazil, May 29: Brazil unleashed its patented sparkling, aggressive soccer to beat Bulgaria 3-0 on Tuesday and give the Brazilians their first victory in a full international since beating Scotland in a World Cup soccer match last June, reports Reuter.

Brazil received two goals from captain Neto and one from Joao Paulo, but the winners easily could have doubled their score as they ran rings around the weary and weakened Bulgarians with the type of soccer reminiscent of their heyday.

Brazil went straight into the attack, creating four clear

scoring chances before Neto gave them the lead in the 17th minute, following a pass from Joao Paulo. Eight minutes later Joao Paulo, who caused the Bulgarian defence enormous problems with his dribbling throughout the match, increased Brazil's lead by dribbling past three defenders and wrong-footing goalkeeper Niklov before booting the ball into the empty net.

Careca 11 missed two clear chances to add a third goal before half-time, heading one effort straight at Niklov and seeing another cleared off the line by a defender with Niklov's biter. Joao Paulo and Careca II both missed chances early in the second half before Neto scored in the 69th minute,

beating a defender and shooting into the far corner of Nikolov's goal after another pass from Joao Paulo.

Bulgaria, which arrived on Monday following a 24-hour journey and played with virtually a reserve team, barely threatened Sergio in the Brazilian goal.

## TEAMS

Brazil — Sergio, Mazinho (Odair 67), Wilson Gotardo, Marcio Santos (Julio Cesar 76), Branco (Lira 70), Valdir, Marcio, Neto (Dener 74), Almir (Luiz Henrique), Careca II, Joao Paulo (Valdier 76).

Bulgaria — Nikolov (Ganchev 87), S. Angelov Dimitrov, Slavichev, Kirjakov, Metcov, Todorov, D. Angelov, Iordanov (Alexandrov 66), Danov, Kirov.



BFF and BTC Club Cup soccer tournament organising committee officials addressed a press conference at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

# Graf, Agassi move ahead

PARIS, May 29: With aggressive, near-perfect tennis in near-perfect weather, Steffi Graf and Andre Agassi on Wednesday became the first seeds to reach the third round of the French Open, reports AP.

The second-seeded Graf demolished Petra Langrova, a 20-year-old Czechoslovak ranked 80th in the world, 6-0,

6-1, in just 45 minutes. Agassi, the men's No 4 seed, won almost as easily, eliminating Petr Korda of Czechoslovakia 6-1, 6-2, 6-2, and setting up a possible third-round match with John McEnroe's younger brother, Patrick.

The men's field lost its fifth seed through injury. Spanish clay-court specialist Sergi Bruguera, who beat Boris Becker in the Monte Carlo Open final last month, with-

drew because of back problems while leading Italy's Omar Camporese 6-1, 6-2, 4-6, 0-1.

Graf repeatedly attacked Langrova's weak serve and said she was "especially eager to play well" after a relatively difficult 6-3, 7-6 first-round victory over Magdalena Maleeva. Her ultimate goal here is a championship that could reclaim the world No 1 spot from top-seeded defending titlist Monica Seles.

The second round of the two-week tournament got underway in cloudless, balmy weather, with local fans buoyed by the early success of French players. In the men's field, eight of 14 Frenchmen survived the first round, compared with nine of 21 Americans. A year ago, the two men's seeds barely had time to unpack before they were bundled out of the tournament. This year, Stefan Edberg and Boris Becker look like they plan to be around a while.

Top-seeded Edberg and No 2 seed Becker displayed peak form from Tuesday in qualifying for the second round. Neither got that far in 1990.

Becker, who crushed first-round rival Jordi Arrese of Spain 6-2, 7-5, 6-2 after four weeks away from tournament play, was scheduled to be back in action against Australian Todd Woodbridge in one of Wednesday's feature matches. Edberg, who has a day off, routed Belgium's Bart Wuyts 6-2, 6-2, 6-3. Like Becker, he suggested that conditions at Roland Garros stadium's clay courts are better suited this year for their type of power game.

The big guns in the women's field also served notice they're on track for second-week showdowns. Seles, along with No 3 seed Gabriela Sabatini, won easily Tuesday. Sabatini and Graf each could dethrone Seles as the No 1 women's player by winning the French Open.

# Fairbrother could find himself back out in the cold England name Test side tomorrow

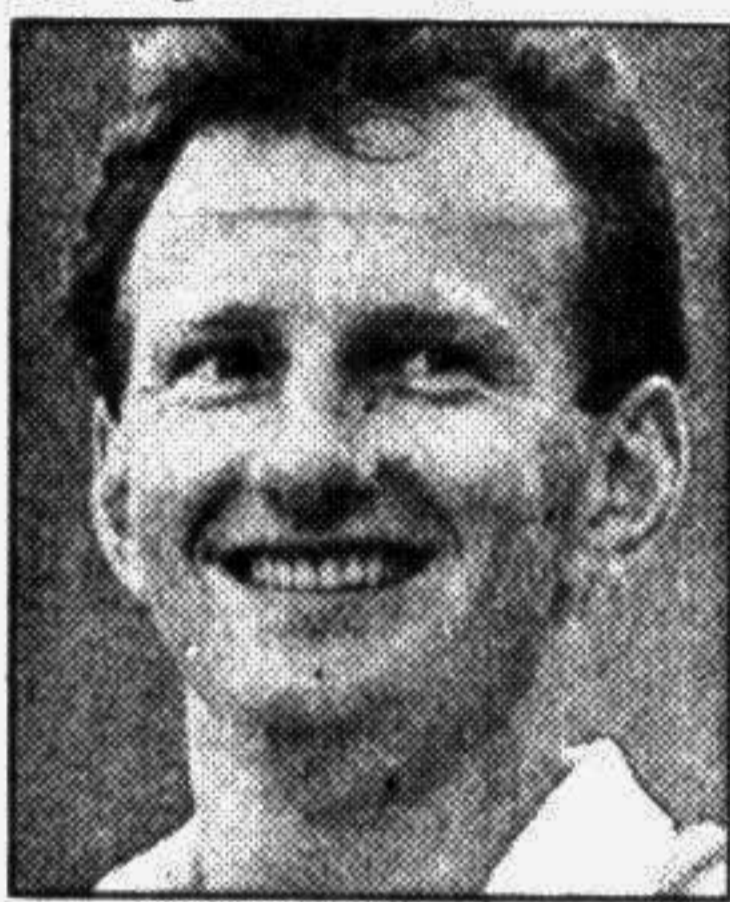
LONDON, May 29: Neil Fairbrother, England's match-winner in their one-day rout of the West Indies here on Monday, is likely to be ignored for the first Test starting next Thursday, reports AFP.

The Lancashire left-hander was publicly congratulated by West Indies skipper Viv Richards, applauded every step of the way on his return to the pavilion by a capacity Lord's crowd of 28,000 and later praised by England captain Graham Gooch after his explosive 113.

But, come Friday, Fairbrother could find himself back where he has spent much of the past four years — out in the cold. Until the 27-year-old puts right a Test record which shows an average of eight from nine innings, critics can claim there is a flaw in his game.

Friday's announcement of England's first Test squad will reveal just what the selectors think about him. Fairbrother was almost preparing himself for the worst on Monday night, when he said: "I don't mind being labelled a one-day

specialist. If that's what people want to call me, then fine. "I just try my best whatever the situation and love playing for England at any level," he



NEIL FAIRBROTHER — possible victim of a fair-minded selection

said. The selectors paved the way for making difficult decisions for the Tests when they named their Texaco Trophy squad, stressing that the party was assembled to win a limited-overs competition and provide hints for next year's World Cup.

And Gooch, though delighted to celebrate a 3-0 one-day clean sweep over West Indies, confirmed that approach by saying: "You have to divorce one-day cricket from Test cricket." With Robin Smith almost certain to be reinstated on Friday following complete recovery from a hernia operation and Allan Lamb likely to report fit after bruising his foot, only one batting place will be up for grabs at Headingley.

Fairbrother deserves long and hard consideration, but the final vote may go to Mark Ramprakash, who outshone his rival on last winter's tour of Sri Lanka. With Graeme Hick's contribution an unbeaten 86 to England's Lord's triumph, they are spoilt for choice at present, so far as middle-order batsmen are concerned.

"I was keen to get a bit of a start of my England career in this one-day series," said Hick. "But Test cricket is the real thing and I'm sure the West Indies bowlers won't be holding back. I expect to cop my fair share of attention from them."

While Fairbrother and Hick were Monday's star performers,

the three Texaco Trophy contests have produced a welcome measure of success all round for England after last winter's miserable performances in Australia. There was Mike Atherton, Ian Botham and Richard Illingworth at Edgbaston, Atherton, Gooch and Allan Lamb at Old Trafford, and, as impressive as anyone over the past few days, Phillip DeFreitas, now bowling better than at any time in his stop-start international career.

Add the performances at Lord's of David Lawrence, who conceded 67 of the West Indies 264 runs but grabbed four of their wickets, and Warwickshire's Hong Kong-born all-rounder Dermot Reeve, who deserved a victim or two, and life looks pleasant enough for England just now.

But Gooch needs no reminding that West Indies also lost the 1988 Texaco series 3-0 and then won four of the five Tests which followed. They have their problems at the moment, notably the absence through injury of openers Desmond Haynes (back) and Gordon Greenidge (knee), but the summer has only just begun.

# SOCCER SCENARIO

## BKSP continue to win charity ties

SATKHIRA, May 29: Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Pratishthan (BKSP) beat Satkhira district team 2-0 in a charity football match played here on Sunday to raise fund for the cyclone and flood affected people of the country, reports UNB.

The goals were scored by Taleb and Rashed. Local MP Farida Rahman inaugurated the match, played at the local stadium in the afternoon.

## Fiji to discipline its booters

SUVA, May 29: Four soccer players who were sent off during an Olympic qualifier against Australia at the weekend will be disciplined, Fijian Football Association said Wednesday, reports AFP.

Sheikh Sahib, Jope Lomu, Josefa Masilagi and goalkeeper Josefa Vosaboto were sent off for kicking and punching in Sunday's under-23's match in Melbourne. The home side won 7-0.

Australian striker Michael Michalakopoulos needed stitches to his chin after being struck by Vosaboto. FFA secretary Jitendra Maharaj said: "We will have to take disciplinary action against them," and the players will appear before a disciplinary committee Sunday.

## Sadek Hossain felicitated

THE Dhaka Metropolitan Junior Division Football Club Samity and the Dhaka First Division and Second Division volleyball club officials have congratulated Sadek Hossain Khoka, on his appointment as the State Minister for Youth and Sports, reports BSS.

The clubs officials have called on the State Minister at his residence to greet him. They also presented him a bouquet. They discussed with the Minister about the matters of mutual interests.

The clubs officials included Shamsuddoha Khan Majlish, Rezaul Islam Mantu, Azhar-uz-Zaman Sohrab, Moshirur Rahman, Sirajuddin, Abdullah al-Mamun, Siddiqur Rahman Bhuiyan.

## Japanese girls keep winning

FUKUOKA, Japan, May 29: Japan scored the second straight win here yesterday in a qualifier for the first World Women's Football Championships in China in November, reports AFP.

Midfielder Asako Takakura netted a pair of goals to lead the Japanese eleven to a 4-1 victory over their Hong Kong counterparts at Hwetadai stadium in the southern Japanese city. Ace attacker Kaori Nagamine and forward Takako Tezuka each scored a goal for Japan.

Japan beat North Korea while Hong Kong outplayed Singapore on the opening day Sunday in the Group B competition in which five teams, including Malaysia, are taking part. North Korea overwhelmed Malaysia 12-0 Tuesday. It was Malaysia's first play in the 10-day eighth Asian women's football championships.

## WC orgs hear oral representations

LOS ANGELES, May 29: Organisers of the 1994 World Cup soccer championship heard oral presentations last week from 24 US communities bidding to host Games, the organising committee said yesterday, reports Reuter.

The presentations supplementing bid documents submitted earlier this month, were made last week to a 12-person panel and will be reviewed over the summer. World Cup USA 1994 chief executive officer Charles Cale said in a statement.

Final selection and announcement of 1994 World Cup venues will occur before the end of the year, the statement said. Two communities New York city and New Jersey will meet organisers later, the statement said. Las Vegas and other communities seeking to hold the December 1993 final draw will also make presentations later.

Bidders making presentations were Atlanta Boston, Foxboro, Charlotte, North Carolina, Chicago, Columbus, Ohio, Dallas, Denver, Detroit/Pontiac, Honolulu, Houston, Kansas City, Missouri, Knoxville, Tennessee and Los Angeles/Pasadena.

Others making presentations were Miami, New Haven, Connecticut, New Orleans, Orlando, Kissimmee-St Cloud, Florida, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland/Corvallis, Oregon, San Francisco, Bay Seattle, Tampa Bay and Washington DC.

# Shooters off to Germany

An eight-member Bangladesh shooting team left Dhaka yesterday for Germany to participate in the UIT World Cup competition, reports UNB.

The Olympic qualifying round will be held in two phases, in Germany and Switzerland, respectively. The first phase has already begun from May 26 in Munich, while the second phase begins from June 2 in Zurich.

The Bangladeshi shooters are — Atiqur Rahman, Haider Ali, Asif Hossain, M Ferdous, GM Haider, MA Gaffar, Emran Chowdhury and Faridul Islam Mohsin. They will compete in their respective events next Friday and Saturday.

# Shah Alam — our national pride

The first death anniversary of late Shah Alam, the former fastest man of south Asia, was observed here on Wednesday, reports BSS.

Chairman of the National Sports Council Major General Mahbubur Rahman was the chief guest at the function held in this connection at the conference of the NSC.

Recalling the performance of and the contributions made by late sprinter Shah Alam, the speakers said he was a national pride. They said, his fellow athletes should put in their best to uphold the dignity Shah Alam had won for the country.

Shah Alam died in a road accident at Dariapukur, 40 kilometres from Pabna on May 29 last year. He became the fastest man of South Asia in 1985 in the second SAF Games in Dhaka and retained the title in the third SAF Games in Calcutta in 1987.

Shah Alam got the gold medals in 200 m sprint for seven times from 1984 to 1990 in the national meets and 100 metre's gold for three times in 1985, 1987 and 1988. The ace sprinter represented Bangladesh 15 times in the international competitions including Olympics, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games, SAF Games, Islamic Solidarity Games.

# Bridge results

The following are the results of special pair duplicate bridge contest, organised by Dhaka Metropolitan Bridge Association on May-27 last at the Bangladesh Bank Club premises, states a press release.

North-South: First — Shamsuzzaman Kamal and Ivan (59.81 per cent), Second — M. Wailui Haque and A. K. Feroze Ahmed (57.13 per cent); East-West: First — M. A. Mannan Miah and Haasan Ali (58.33 per cent) and Second — Md. Nurul Islam and A. K. M. Azizur Rahman (54.07 per cent).

# Platt may replace Matthaeus at Inter

LONDON, May 29: England's star midfielder David Platt is being lined up by Italian giants Inter Milan as a replacement for German ace Lothar Matthaeus, reports AFP.

Matthaeus has told Inter that he wants to be released from the remaining year of his contract so that he can sign a 1.45 million-pound agreement with Spanish super club Real Madrid, who are willing to pay a 4.5 million-pound transfer fee. Inter want to keep him, but they are nevertheless expected to make a bid for the Aston Villa midfielder man, who outplayed Matthaeus when they met in the UEFA Cup at

Villa Park last season.

Platt recently rejected a five million-pound move to another Italian side, Bari, because he felt it was not right for him. But Inter would be a different story. They are likely to face competition from Italian league rivals Sampdoria, long term admirers of the 24-year-old, and Roma.

As for Paul Gascoigne, Platt's England colleague, Platt's England colleague Mark Wright is reported to have agreed a move to Tottenham playmaker's on-off move to Lazio. Stein says the two clubs have agreed a record 8.5 million-pound transfer for Gascoigne, with Lazio agreeing to put down a four million-pound deposit to ensure that Gasza will join them when his full fitness is confirmed.

Gascoigne himself expects to go to Rome in late July, though Stein says he does not expect to sign for Lazio until he is match-fit, which would allow the Italian side to sign another foreign player for at least the start of the 1991-92 season.

Meanwhile, Platt's and Gascoigne's England colleague Mark Wright is reported to have agreed a move to Tottenham playmaker's on-off move to Lazio. Stein says the two clubs have agreed a record 8.5 million-pound transfer for Gascoigne, with Lazio agreeing to put down a four million-pound deposit to ensure that Gasza will join them when his full fitness is confirmed.

# Ruddock will fight Tyson, after all

NEW YORK, May 29: Dono van "Razor" Ruddock decided to go ahead with his cancelled rematch with Mike Tyson next month because his promoter is getting justice and "for the love of boxing and the opportunity to knock out Mike Tyson," his promoter Murad Muhammad said on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

The June 28 fight in Las Vegas will take place regardless of the result of a Nevada State Athletic Commission hearing on Wednesday, Muhammad said. Muhammad is appealing against a one-year suspension and 25,000 dollar fine imposed on him for

brawling in the ring last March after the referee stopped the first Tyson-Ruddock bout in the seventh round and awarded victory to the former world heavyweight champion even though Ruddock did not appear hurt.

Spokesman for Don King, Tyson's manager, said they could not confirm the rematch was on until King himself said so, but the Mirage Casino Hotel said it had resumed selling tickets to the fight on Monday after getting the go-ahead from Muhammad. A variety of reasons have been given for the cancellation last May 15 of the rematch.

Muhammad said Ruddock had refused to fight in the rematch until his promoter got

justice. "My boxer stood up. He felt he was not going to fight if his promoter was stripped of his rights, Muhammad said by telephone from Las Vegas. But now they were satisfied that Muhammad would get a fair hearing and the promoter's side would be heard for the first time, Muhammad said.

Spokesmen for King had said Ruddock stepped aside to allow Tyson to challenge Evander Holyfield for the heavyweight title but the champion's manager, Dan Duva, said that "Holyfield's next fight never had anything to do with Ruddock-Tyson." A spokesman for Duva said Tuesday that the Ruddock fight's revival was unlikely to affect negotiations on how the purse for a Tyson-

# Marsh gets Nevada licence

LONDON, May 29: Terry Marsh, England's ex-world lightweight champion who is banned from fighting in Britain because of an epilepsy scare four years ago, is to return to the ring next month, reports AFP.

The 33-year-old, who was cleared of attempting to murder manager Frank Warren last year, has been declared fit to fight by American doctors and granted a licence by the Nevada State Athletic Commission. Marsh plans to attempt to win two World Boxing Organisation (WBO) world crowns in a punishing three-month schedule. He will have a warm-up light-welterweight contest in Phoenix on June 29 against an as yet unnamed opponent.

Marsh then hopes to move up and challenge American's world welterweight champion, Manning Galloway in London and, if successful, he will then bid for the WBO's light-welterweight crown. Marsh told the Daily Mirror newspaper: "With my Nevada licence I can fight anywhere. If the WBO want to stage a title fight in London, or anywhere in the world, they can."

However, the British Boxing Board of Control refuse to recognise that Marsh can automatically fight anywhere under his newly-acquired licence

# An Aussie-Soviet basketball final

ADELAIDE, Australia, May 29: Australian will meet the Soviet Union in the women's international basketball challenge final here Wednesday after defeating China by the narrowest possible margin and with 24 seconds to spare AFP.

Holyfield fight would be split, negotiations that he said were now at a standstill. "It's not an amiable negotiation by any means but it's not dead," spokesman Mike Boorman said. He said Duva was awaiting a decision from the World Boxing Council this week following a hearing last Friday on King's request.

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