

## Martina in quarters

NEW YORK, Sept 3: Using brains and brawn, Martina Navratilova beat Manuela Maleeva - Fragniere on Monday to reach the quarterfinals of the US Open tennis championships, reports Reuter.

"My body and my mind were working together, for a change," said the sixth-seeded Navratilova after edging the 10th-seeded Maleeva-



NAVATILOVA

Fragniere 7-6(7-5), 1-6, 6-2 to avenge last year's fourth-round US Open loss to the Swiss player.

Navratilova has struggled to find the right blend in her game this year, though she has won three tournaments.

She lost in the Wimbledon quarter-finals, the earliest exit there for the nine-time champion in 15 years. She has also suffered three other quarterfinal defeats this year.

"I started thinking too

much, was getting too intellectual and was getting too hesitant instead of letting the athlete come out and play," said the 34-year-old Navratilova, who is bidding for a fifth US Open title where she is seeded her lowest since 1974.

"Today I was able to think and still be athletic," said Navratilova, who will play fourth-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain in her 14th US Open quarterfinal appearance.

In the past, over-thinking has led Navratilova to nervous mistakes.

At Wimbledon she double faulted on match point to lose to Jennifer Capriati. In the 1987 French Open final loss to Steffi Graf, she also double faulted on match point.

Pressed by Maleeva-Fragniere's sharp passing shots and deep groundstrokes, this time Navratilova responded with cool winners.

At 3-3 in the tiebreaker, Navratilova made a great reaching backhand volley winner. She made two more volley winners and then after losing one set point, closed out the set by forcing a forehand error.

In serving out the match, Navratilova saved six break points before wrapping up the win with two winners.

"There was nothing shaky in her game," Maleeva-Fragniere said. "I can't remember an approach shot she missed."

Though pleased, Navratilova is not yet satisfied.

"I don't go into a tournament hoping to get the quarterfinals," she said. "I am waiting for the next one and anything can happen."

## Nat'l kabaddi zonals begin tomorrow

Sports Reporter

The Uttara Motors national kabaddi championship, organised by the Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation, tomorrow begins (September 5) at the Outer Stadium kabaddi court.

Four services teams—Bangladesh Rifles, Bangladesh Ansars, Bangladesh Police and the Fire Service will take part in the central zone competitions to be held in Dhaka on league basis.

Speaking at a press conference in Dhaka yesterday, the Federation President M Azrul Huq said that teams from the four divisions would take part in four zonal competitions to be held from September 19 to 21 on knock-out basis.

The zonal champions and runners-up would play in the final round in two groups on round robin league basis, he added.

The Federation President said, the matches of Chittagong Division will be held at Comilla, the matches of Dhaka Division will be held in Dhaka, those of Rajshahi Division will be in Rajshahi and Khulna would host the matches of Khulna Division.

Chairman of the tournament committee Qazi Anisur Rahman, tournament secretary Z Alam and director of the four divisions would take part in four zonal competitions to be held from September 19 to 21 on knock-out basis.

## Prosinecki on target

CADIZ, Spain, Sept 3: A high-energy debut for Real Madrid by Yugoslav international Robert Prosinecki provided most of the excitement in a dull 1-0 away win over Cadiz on the first day of the Spanish soccer season on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Yugoslav coach Radomir Antic has made the 22-year-old former Red Star Belgrade player the pivot of Real's attack after chairman Ramon

Mendoza's prolonged fight with the Yugoslav Soccer Federation to secure the transfer.

Prosinecki was everywhere, taking corners and making two good shots at goal. But the game was a damp squib after the promising fireworks of Real's 6-1 win over Chile's Colo-Colo in a pre-season friendly.

Cadiz, widely tipped for relegation this season, looked outclassed from the start but put up a dogged defence against early assaults led by Prosinecki. They held out until Michel Gonzalez tucked in Real's only goal after 34 minutes.

Besides the Yugoslav, who was substituted in the last five minutes by Adolfo Aldana, ex-Sao Paulo defender Ricardo Rocha and 21-year-old forward Luis Enrique from Sporting Gijon, the revelation of last season, were making their debuts for Real.

The match also saw the return of midfielder Luis Milla, who missed most of last season through injury. He came on as substitute for Enrique for the last half-hour.

The honour of scoring the season's first goal went to Uruguay midfielder Pablo Bengoechea, who netted for Sevilla against Athletic Bilbao in the 11th minute. Jose Saiguero's 52nd-minute penalty secured a comfortable 2-0 away win for Sevilla.

## PDB win in Ctg Div One soccer

CHITTAGONG, Sept 3: Power Development Board (PDB) defeated Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) by a solitary goal in the local First Division football league played yesterday at the local Niaz Stadium, reports UNB.

Shahid netted the match decider after dodging past two opponent defenders utilizing a pass of Rana in the 20th minute of the last half.

Prabat of BCIC was cautioned with yellow card for rough charging.

PDB FC: Bijon, Jony, Shohag, Ekram, Emdedul, Bakul (Lara), Rana, Didarul, Noman (Selim), Shahid and Jashim.

BCIC Club: Bappi, Patwari, Prodir, Prabat (Apu), Prodir, Kabir, Shapia (Zahir), Montu, Salam (Santosh), Prasanta and Yusuf.



The Mirpur Juba Sangha team which won the Dhaka kabaddi league title defeating Sonali Bank in final last Saturday (Aug 31) at Outer Stadium kabaddi court.

## PSV lead in Dutch league

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 3 PSV Eindhoven maintained their 100 per cent record with comfortable 3-1 away win over a lacklustre Sparta Rotterdam on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Last year's league champions, PSV opened the scoring in the 1st minute when Liberto Giga Popescu rifled in a 15-metre shot.

The team then seemed to lose their attacking edge until a halftime pep talk from trainer Bobby Robson restored the momentum.

"In the first half, the players were a bit slow and easy-going. In the break, we talked it over," said the former England manager.

Wim Kieft scored in the 56th minute and midfielder Erwin Koeman added the third five minutes later after Sparta's Michel Valke lost control of the ball.

Sparta striker Edwin Vurens scored a consolation goal shortly afterwards.

The result left PSV on six points from three matches, one ahead of Ajax Amsterdam who beat MVV Maastricht 3-0.

John Van Loen scored the first in the 37th minute and Denis Bergkamp added two more shortly after the interval. On Saturday, early season league leaders Roda JC Kerkrade suffered a crushing 5-1 defeat at home to FC Vordenam.

### SPANISH SCENE

Away, in Spain, Atletico Madrid kicked off their season on Sunday with an uninspired 2-0 win in the Spanish First Division against a nine-man Burgos team deprived of their first-choice goalkeeper after scuffles broke out on the pitch.

After a goalless first half, the match erupted in the 46th minute when Burgos goalkeeper Augustin Elduayen was sent off for a professional foul on striker Manolo Sanchez.

The referee awarded a penalty but his decision sparked an immediate protest and Burgos's Enrique Ayucar was sent off after a scuffle for kicking out at the Atletico players.

### Under - 16 TT

An under-16 table tennis competition, organised by the Government Employees' Community Centre of Azimpur Estate, will begin at Azimpur on September 19, reports BSS.

Interested players have been requested to send their entries for boys' singles and doubles to the Centre's office at Azimpur by September 12.

Entry fee for boys singles is Taka 10 and Taka 20 per the double.

Four minutes later, after Burgos had brought on substitute goalkeeper Miguel Baston as numerical replacement for midfielder Joseba Aguirre, the penalty was converted by Manolo.

Atletico, runners-up to champions Barcelona last season, made it 2-0 through Gabriel Moya 10 minutes from time after an outstanding pass from Portuguese striker Paulo Futre.

Bulgarian striker, Kristo Stoichkov gave Barcelona a good start with a seventh-minute goal against visitors.

Real Madrid had a lacklustre 1-0 away win over Cadiz on Saturday with Real's new Yugoslav midfielder Robert Prosinecki proving to be the pivot of their attacks.



Samuel Matete of Zambia parades for a cheering crowd at the National Stadium in Tokyo after clinching the 400m hurdles in a time of 47.64 seconds in the 3rd World Athletic Championships on Aug 27.

## Holmes sues promoters

ALLENTOWN, Sept 3: Former heavyweight champion Larry Holmes has sued the promoters of his first comeback bout, saying they reneged on their agreement and have tried to interfere in his boxing career since, reports AP.

The lawsuit filed in Northampton County Common Pleas Court, names LBA Associates Inc and Bob Rey, both of Newport Beach, Calif, and Jason Schlesinger of Lakewood, Calif.

Holmes signed a 10-month agreement for four fights with the three named in the suit. The deal started with his April 7 fight against Tim "Doc" Anderson.

The lawsuit alleges the three breached the agreement by failing to pay Holmes 35 per cent of the gross revenues exceeding \$100,000 from broadcast and other sales in the Anderson fight. The suit says they also failed to provide an account of the funds.

The breach, Holmes says, nullified the contract, and he broke with the promoters after beating Anderson. But they continue to interfere with the boxer's contractual relationship with other promoters, according to the lawsuit, which asks the court to declare the contract null and void.

Holmes received \$100,000 for the Anderson fight and would have, under the contract, received a total of \$1,500,000 more for the other three fights.

Holmes won his third comeback bout Sunday, knocking out Michael Greer with a series of right hooks 1:18 into the fourth round in Honolulu. He previously won a 10-round decision over Eddie Gonzales on Aug. 13 in Tampa, Fla. A message left on an answering machine at LBA Associates was not returned Friday night, and no telephone listing for Rey and Schlesinger could be found.

### Kajal champion

Alimul Huque Kajal of Protibha Krira Sangha won the Moitree Samaj Kallyan Sangha chess title, according to a press release issued yesterday.

Kajal, who defeated Reaz Ahmed in the seventh round, collected six points followed by Shawkat Hossain Pallob of Moitree Samaj Kallyan who earned five-and-a-half points to finish runner-up.

Rezaul Kabir Liton, who also earned five and a half points, finished third. Pallob beat Amir Hossain and Rezaul defeated Shyamal in the seventh round.

Reaz secured fourth position in the meet collecting five points followed by Amir Hossain, who became fifth.

## Powell lashes Lewis

TOKYO, Sept 3: Long jumper Mike Powell, whose record-shattering leap at the world

Championships here catapulted him into the history books, hit out at Carl Lewis on Saturday, reports AFP.

Lewis, unbeaten in the long jump for 10 years, said after Powell's new world record long jump on Friday night that it was a one-off fluke.

"He will probably never jump like that again," remarked Lewis, upset that Powell had beaten him in the quest to finally break the 23-year-old record set by American Bob Beamon in the 1968 Mexico Olympics.

Beamon, who cleared 8.90, never came near to repeating his record, and Lewis's suggestion that Powell would vanish from the world RPT athletics scene as quickly as Beamon clearly angered the 27-year-old.

"I'm ready to jump any time he wants to," said the former Southern California University student.

And Powell dismissed Lewis's boast of being unbeaten in the long jump for 10 years. "Jumping two or three times a year, padding your record and saying you're unbeaten. That's not a champion," he said.

"His unbeaten streak is over, and he's got nothing to say. I won last night and I am the world champion. I am the man to beat now," added Powell, who jumped an amazing 8.95.

He said he would continue to jump 15 to 20 times a year instead of cutting back and building up a winning streak.

Powell said that Lewis' attempt to write him off would only make him jump even further.

"Carl saying negative things about me just fuels my fire. I know I can jump nine meters. I have been a nine meter jumper for the past two years," he said.

Powell said he used to play a video of Beamon setting the record in Mexico over and over again at his home in Los Angeles to improve his jumping.

"It gave me motivation and inspiration. I told myself 'I can

do that. I can jump that far," explained Powell, who added that he was still hurt that Beamon refused to respect him as a great jumper.

Last year at a meeting in Los Angeles Beamon, who was in the crowd, got up and walked out as Powell was getting ready to start his run up.

"Don't talk out when I am about to jump. Don't do that! I said to myself, I will never forget that," said Powell.

Even when Beamon was



MIKE POWELL

told at his Florida home on Friday that his record had been broken he admitted he never thought it would be the modest Powell.

"I knew it was inevitable that someone would break my record, but like everyone else I had assumed it would be Carl Lewis," said Beamon.

Lewis did in fact leap past Beamon's 8.90 mark on Friday but the jump was wind-assisted, and when Powell made 8.95 Lewis became a co-star in the greatest long-jump competition ever seen.

Powell dismissed suggestions that he would change now that he had snatched the world record.

"It might change my bank account but when you look at it what do I do for a living — I run and jump into dirt," he said.

"This is my job. I love it. Even if I didn't get paid I'd be out there jumping anyway," he added.

## Fenech to fight Nelson

MELBOURNE, Sept 3: Jeff Fenech said on Tuesday he had agreed to fight a return world title bout against

super-featherweight champion Azumah Nelson in Melbourne in December, reports Reuter.

The World Boxing Council (WBC) had ordered a rematch of the Australian's controversial Las Vegas June which left the crown with the Ghanaian.

The result outraged the 15,000 crowd and prompted a rare protest to the WBC from the Australian National Boxing Federation.

"I've signed the contract. As far as I'm concerned the fight is on," Fenech, who has held world titles in three weight divisions, said. The date in December and the venue in Melbourne have not been fixed.

Local promoter Bill Mordey said total prizemoney for the December bill would be more than four million dollars (three million US), the richest ever in Australia.

Mordey said Nelson would be meeting American promoter Don King in New York

on September 12 to discuss the size of the champion's purse.

Fenech is currently training for a September 13 bout at Melbourne's National Tennis Centre against Argentine Miguel Francia, the WBC's eighth-ranked junior-lightweight.

## Doc calls Connors win miraculous

NEW YORK, Sept 3: One of the three doctors who treated Jimmy Connors after his nearly five-hour match in the US Open described his performance as a miracle, reports AP.

"I really think it was quite miraculous," said Dr Gary I. Wadler, an internist and specialist in sports medicine. "I challenge anybody to match the effort he just made at his age. I was in awe of his physical capacity. That's a horrendous effort for a 39-year-old to go through. It was an absolutely incredible performance."

Wadler described the quiet scene in the locker room when Connors walked in gingerly, away from the tumult in the stadium, after beating Aaron Krickstein in a fifth-set tiebreaker to reach the quarterfinals.

"He was very pensive," Wadler said. "I was extremely moved. It was a profound experience. I've never seen him that way and I've been here since 1980."

Connors worried about cramping, never sat or lay down. He received two liters of rehydration fluid intravenously while walking slowly around the trainer's room and pushing the pole that held the bottles. The process took about an hour and a half.

## Navy swimming

Five new final events of swimming and two water polo matches were held on the second day of the annual swimming championships of the Bangladesh Navy at the Naval headquarters complex swimming pool at Banani yesterday, an ISPR press release said, reports BSS.

S S Ahmed of the BNS Haji Mohsin team bagged the gold in 200m butterfly and 400m freestyle. BNS Haji Mohsin team also clinched the gold in 4x200m medley relay.



Matches of the Moitree Samaj Kallyan Sangha chess tournament, which concluded yesterday, in progress at Faridabad Club in Dhaka.