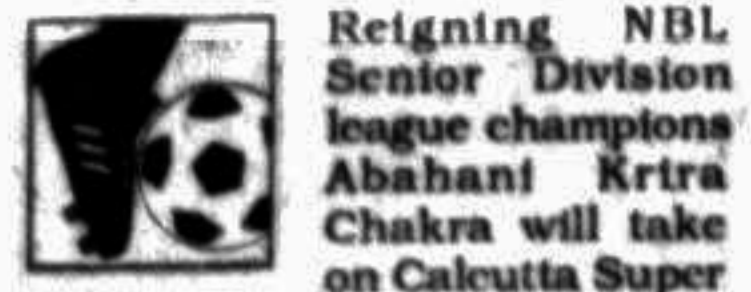


Abahani, E Bengal clash today

Sports Reporter



Reigning NBL Senior Division league champions Abahani Krira Chakra will take on Calcutta Super Division champions, East Bengal Club today in the first leg match of the second Asia Cup Winners' Championship at Dhaka Stadium.

The match will kick-off at 5 pm.

The return leg encounter will be held on November 9 in Calcutta at the massive Salt Lake Stadium.

The Indian team, which achieved a fine treble last season—IFA Shield, Durrand and Rovers cups—arrived in the capital last evening with sixteen players and eight officials. East Bengal, who lost to

organised by the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF), last June to raise funds for the victims of the April 29's devastating cyclone, will be looking to even the score today.

In a press briefing just after arrival at the BFF office yesterday, coach Naimuddin refused to disclose the formation which his team will be using in today's match.

The chief-de-mission of the Club Partha Sengupta and manager Pulak Rakshit also refused to make any comment regarding the outcome of today's encounter.

The Indian officials said their prolific striker Kuljit Singh and defender Alok Mukherjee could not accompany the team due to injury.

However, the East Bengal

S Prindville will be playing as a left-back, Neil Edmonds as centre-half while Peter Maguire will be playing as a striker.

The other East Bengal players are: Debashish Mukherjee, Sudip Chakravorty, Krishendu Roy, Iltas Pasha, Swarup Das, Tarun Dey, Mastan Ahmed, Mohidul Islam, Bikas Panji, Tushar Rakshit, Krishanu Dey, Darbara Singh and Ranjit Saha.

The winners of Abahani-East Bengal match will face the winners of Japan-Singapore tie in the second round.

The first leg of the second round will be held November 28-30 and the return leg December 6-8, also to be played on home-and-away

Sharma and Joshi Gopal Mukundu—and a match commissioner S. Manit of Thailand are already in the city to conduct the match.

The Radio Bangladesh will broadcast the running commentary of the match.

Abahani KC has already announced a list of 18 players for the match. They are: Mohain, Selim, Munna, Rehan, Ranjit, Ataur, Masud Rana, Nira, Manik, Yousuf, Alamgir, Rubel, Mamun, Zakir, Rumi, Ghaus, Aslam and Wasim.

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has, in the meantime, announced the rates of tickets for the match, VIP Gate No. 1 Tk. 200, VIP Gate No. 2 and 3/A Tk. 60, VIP Gate No. 2 (for players) Tk 20



Calcutta East Bengal Club after arriving in ZIA yesterday evening.

—Star photo

Abahani by a solitary goal in the semifinals of the BTC Club Cup charity tournament,

coach disclosed the position of their three English recruits who will be in action today.

Three Nepalese referees—Roushan Kumar, Rupak Raj

and gallery ticket Tk 20 each. The tickets will go on sale from 12 noon.

Eintracht on a goalscoring spree

BONN, Nov 2: Eintracht Frankfurt, inspired by German international midfielders Uwe Bein and Andy Moeller, crushed fifth-placed Duisburg 6-3 on Friday to open a two-point lead in the Bundesliga, reports Reuter.

Champions Kaiserslautern's 2-0 away win at Werder Bremen moved them from fourth place into second.

Struggling Bayern Munich, languishing in 13th place but now bolstered by World Cup-winning coach Franz Beckenbauer in an advisory role, were held to a 0-0 draw at lowly Wattenscheid.

Bein and Moeller dominated play and scored the first two goals as Frankfurt ended newly-promoted Duisburg's nine-game unbeaten run and inflicted their first home league defeat this season.

Lothar Sippel scored twice in the second half for Frankfurt, the league's leading scorers.

FIFA hopes to hold some of World Cup ties in NY

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey, Nov 2: A FIFA delegation said Saturday they hoped to stage 1994 World Cup soccer matches in the New York city area and endorsed a plan to transform Giants Stadium into a viable venue for the world's most popular sporting event, reports Reuter.

Stadium officials have bid to host all rounds of the 1994 tournament—the first ever to be held in the United States—including the championship game and opening ceremonies.

"We would feel sorry if the biggest event in world sports goes on without the biggest city in the world—New York," said FIFA press officer Guido Tognoni, spokesman for the delegation inspecting potential World Cup sites around the country.

"Without New York something would be missing," he said.

The 76,891-seat Stadium, located just across the Hudson River from New York city and home to the national Football League's New York Giants and Jets, currently has artificial turf and affords 10 metres too narrow to meet FIFA requirements.

The proposal calls for a raised platform to be built that would widen the field. The platform would be covered with soil and a natural grass field. Stadium officials estimated that approximately 5,000 seats would be lost to accommodate the enlarged playing area.

"It is a pragmatic solution," Tognoni said following the delegation's two and a half hour inspection.

Stadium officials said the estimated three million dollars necessary to transform the Stadium would be raised by corporate contributions.

Track queen to take to streets

NEW YORK, Nov 2: Florence Griffith-Joyner is set on making a return to the world of competitive athletics—but this time she will be running long distance road races instead of sprints, reports AFP.

Griffith-Joyner, who holds the world records in the 100m and 200m, will make her official transition from the track to the streets when she competes in a 5 km race in Miami on January 19.

"I've gone from the glamour of the track to the dirt of the streets," she said here Thursday.

Griffith-Joyner ran in two 5 kms races for practice last month and her best time of 20:53.37 was almost six minutes off the world record.

She plans to run in several more events before January 19, and expects her times to improve steadily.

"I wouldn't want to finish second or third," she said, adding: "I want to win."

After mastering the 5 kms, "Flojo" is planning to increase her distances with an eye on competing eventually in a marathon.



GRIFFITH-JOYNER

Pakistan's uphill task sans Khans

ISLAMABAD, Nov 2: World number one Jansher Khan of Pakistan will not play in the World Team Championship in Helsinki because of an injury sustained during practice, local television reported Friday, reports AFP.

Khan was injured in north-western Peshawar on Thursday, it said.

His compatriot, world number two Jahangir Khan, had already withdrawn.

The Pakistani team, which comprises Ehsanullah, Maqsood Ahmed and Shamshad, will have great difficulty successfully challenging the defending Australian team led by Rodney Martin, Chris Dittmar and Chris Robertson.

Marseille extend lead

PARIS, Nov 2: Champions Marseille overwhelmed bottom-of-the-table Nancy 4-0 on Friday to take a three-point lead over nearest rivals Monaco at the top of the French soccer league, reports Reuter.

England internationals Chris Waddle and Trevor Steven grabbed a goal each as Marseille took advantage of Monaco's dropped point in a 1-1 draw at Auxerre on Thursday.

Waddle opened the scoring from a direct free-kick in the eighth minute and set up Jean-

Runner held for cocaine possession

BOGOTA, Colombia, Nov 2: Police detained Colombian runner Jacinto Navarrete and his trainer on Friday after airport security officers found two kilos (4.4 lbs) of cocaine in luggage, police said, reports Reuter.

SOCCER SCENARIO

Al-Ahli beat Al-Ramtha

MANAMA, Nov 2: A goal after two minutes here by Ibrahim Issa gave Al-Ahli of Bahrain a 1-0 victory over Jordan's Al-Ramtha in Friday's first leg of their Asian Cup Winners' Cup first round tie, reports AFP.

Meanwhile in Beirut, Ash-Shebab of the United Arab Emirates held Lebanon's Ansar to a 1-1 draw on Friday and booked their place in the second round of the Asian Champions Cup soccer tournament.

Ash-Shebab, who had won the first leg 3-1, opened the scoring through Saad in the 33rd minute but Ansar's Alloush converted a penalty just two minutes after to make it all square on the day.

Petersen shines in Amsterdam's win

AMSTERDAM, Oct 31: Danish teenager Dan Petersen, playing his first full match for Ajax Amsterdam, shone in his team's otherwise uninspired 3-0 win over lowly Willem II Tilburg in the Dutch First Division on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

The 19-year-old striker, signed from Odense in the summer, scored Ajax's first goal just minutes into the game, striking the ball home firmly from a difficult angle after a half-saved effort from winger Brian Roy.

He also set up the second goal for the even more youthful Edgar Davis, an 18-year-old Amsterdammer who replaced Roy when he was carried off the field with a leg injury.

A second-half penalty from Dennis Bergkamp secured victory for Ajax after defeats by Utrecht and arch-rivals PSV Eindhoven in their previous two league matches.

PSV were lucky not to suffer their first league defeat of the season when mid-table MVV Maastricht went a goal up early in the second half and PSV seemed powerless to reply.

But they managed to salvage a point when a late onslaught produced a fine headed goal by Win Kieft.

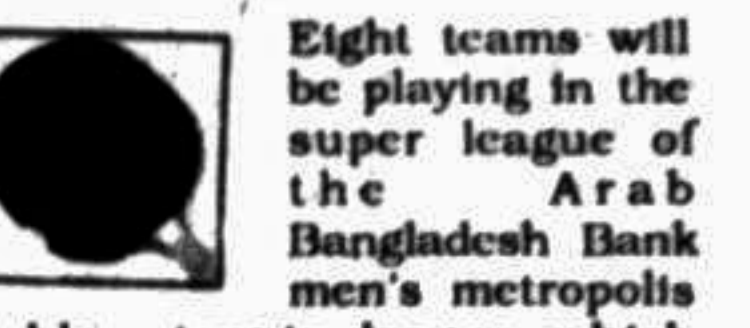
PSV now head the Dutch league with 20 points from 11 matches.



Action from yesterday's Second Division league match between Raktim Sangha and East End Club at the Hockey Stadium. Raktim Sangha won 2-0.

AB Bank super league from today

Sports Reporter



Eight teams will be playing in the super league of the Arab Bangladesh Bank men's metropolis table tennis league which begins today at the National Coaching Centre.

The teams are: — Group A: champions Armanitola JS and runners-up Village Defence Party (VDP). Group B: champions Bangladesh Biman and runners-up Azimpur Young Star. Group C: champions Armanitola Juniors and runners-up BTMC. Group D: champions Bangladesh Ansars and runners-up Wari Club.

On the inaugural day, Armanitola JS will play against Village Defence Party, Bangladesh Biman will take on Azimpur Young Star, Armanitola Juniors will face BTMC and Bangladesh Ansars

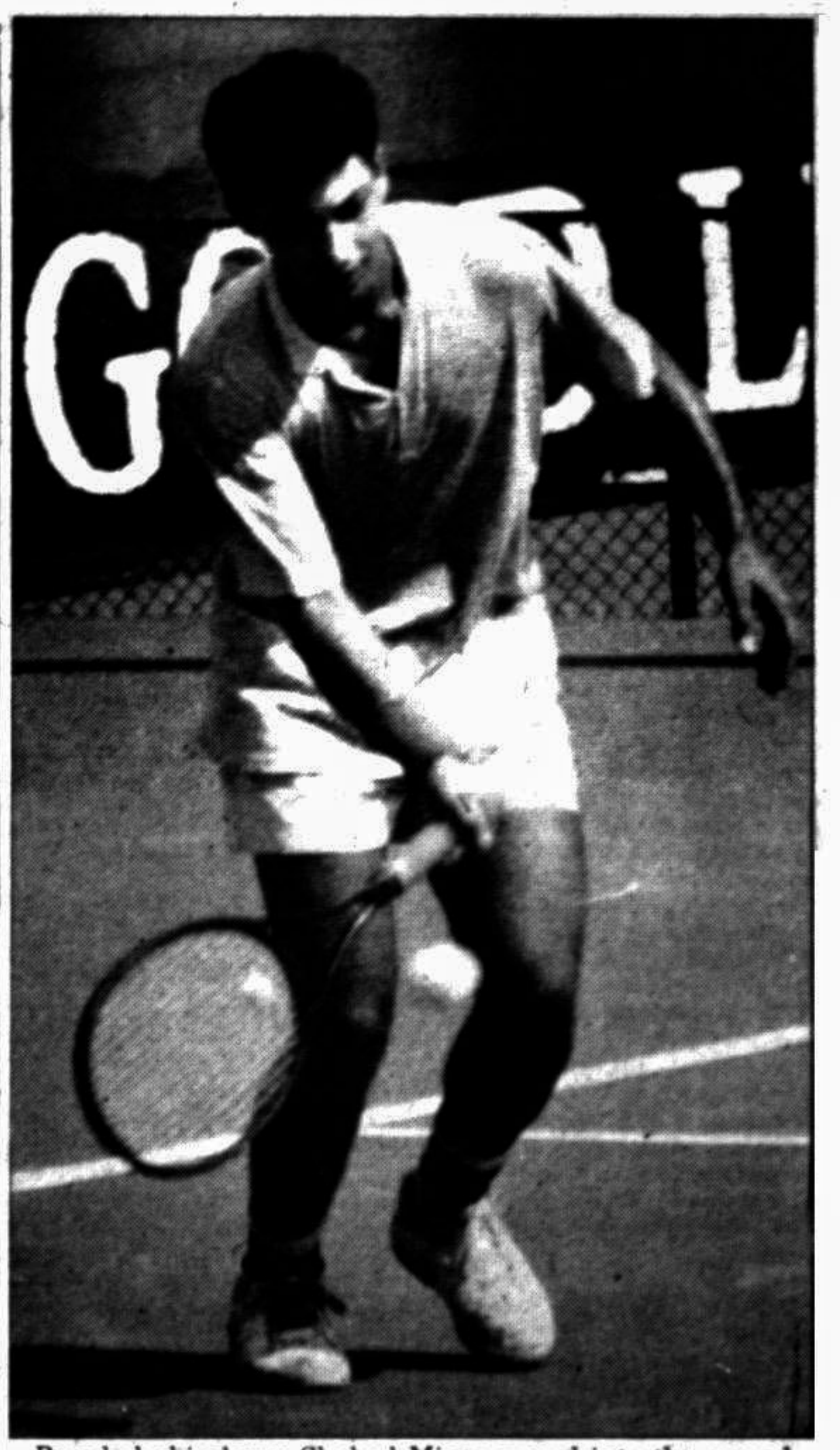
WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The women's AB Bank league, organised by the Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation commences this afternoon at the National Coaching Centre.

A total of seven teams from Dhaka metropolis will be taking part in the league to be held on round robin basis.

The participating teams are: Bangladesh Ansars, Village Defence Party (VDP), Victoria Sporting Club, Dhaka Mariners, Lalmita Club, Swamibagh TT and Zoom Express.

On the inaugural day, fancied Bangladesh Ansars will take on newcomers Zoom Express, VDP will meet Swamibagh TT and Victoria Sporting face a strong Lalmita Club.



Bangladeshi player Shahed Mirza moved into the second round of the qualifiers for the Dhaka leg of the ITF Satellite circuit meet beating compatriot Abdul Wahab Manju at the Tennis Complex yesterday afternoon.

Jones, Border strike it rich

SYDNEY, Nov 2: Two of Australia's batting trumps, Dean Jones and Allan Border, sent alarm bells clanging all the way to India with prodigious innings in the domestic Sheffield Shield cricket competition today, reports AFP.

On the second day of the opening four-day games of the season Jones clouted the fifth double-century of his career with an unbeaten 243 in holders Victoria's 434 for Eight declared first innings in Melbourne. Tasmania were 68 for two at the close.

In Brisbane, Border made it a worrying day for the Indians, who arrive in Australia for a five-test tour later this month, with a swashbuckling 196—breaking the Test skipper's two-year drought with his first century in two summers.

Border declared at a mammoth 588 for five with South Australia 169 for two at the end of play.

Jones was 122 not out after batting for five-and-a-half hours to steady Victoria's innings and lead them to 248 for five against Tasmania on the first day of their four-day game.

He reached his hundred in 282 minutes and had hit 10 boundaries by the close.

An earlier Reuter report said: Queensland opener Matthew Hayden hit a debut century also on the opening day of the season.

De Silva to skipper Lankans in Pakistan

COLOMBO, Nov 2: Former Sri Lankan cricket captain Arjuna Ranatunga was included today in a 16-member squad for a tour of Pakistan starting on December 7, reports Reuter.

Sri Lanka will play four Tests and three one-day internationals on their six-week tour.

Ranatunga, Sri Lanka's most experienced player and its leading run scorer, was omitted on disciplinary grounds from the side which toured England in August this year. England defeated Sri Lanka by 136 runs in the only Test.

Aravinda De Silva, who led the team against England, retains the captaincy of the Pakistan tour. Asanka Gurusinha will be the vice-captain.

All rounder Athula Samarasekera, fast bowler Pramodaya Wickremasinghe and wicket-keeper-opening batsman Ashley De Silva are included in the squad, which has four changes from the side that toured England.

Those omitted are opening batsman Brendon Kuruppu, reserve wicket keeper Ramesh Kaluvitarana, fast bowler Saliya Ahangama and Spinner Muthiah Muralighnan.

Test fast bowler Graeme Labrooy was unavailable for selection.

The squad: Aravinda De Silva (Capt), Asanka Gurusinha (Vicecapt), Roshan Mahanama, Chandika Hathurusinghe, Athula Samarasekera, Arjuna Ranatunga, Hashan Tillekeratne, Ramesh Ratnayake, Sanath Jayasuriya, Marvan Atapattu, Champaka Ramanayake, Don Anurastr, Kapila Wijegunawardena, Pramodaya Wickremasinghe, Ashley De Silva and Ranjith Madurisinghe.

Samuelson pursues elusive prize

NEW YORK, Nov 2: Joan Benoit Samuelson has won marathons in Boston, Los Angeles and Chicago, but the one big marathon that has eluded her is New York City's, reports AP.

On Sunday, the veteran American distance runner will try and add the New York City Marathon to her collection in an area that has not been kind to her racing career.

Last year, a back problem forced the oft-injured Samuelson out of the New York City Marathon days before the race. She had wanted to compete as a tribute to race director Fred Lebow, who was battling brain cancer. The 1990 New York race was dedicated to Lebow and raising funds for cancer research.

"I was disappointed that I lost the battle to run New York last year," Samuelson said Friday. "But Fred won his, and we're both here now."

Until now, Samuelson has been unsuccessful in the New York area. She has yet to win in four races in Madison Square Garden, nine in the women's mini-marathon and once in the 1988 New York marathon, finishing third.

Despite those failures, she doesn't think she's jinxed in New York and she hopes to erase any stigma in Sunday's marathon.

"I would mean more to me to win New York than to win another Olympics," the 34-year-old Samuelson said. "I would love for Fred to see me do well."

Lebow has said openly that he'll be rooting for Samuelson to become the first American women's winner of the New York marathon since Miki Gorman in 1977, and the first American winner, male or female, since Alberto Salazar in 1982.

When asked if he was being indiscreet, Lebow said, "I'm not discreet. I agree: Let the best person win. But I'm a human being, and I'd like to see Joan Benoit Samuelson win."



JOAN SAMUELSON

Samuelson won the inaugural women's Olympic marathon in 1984 at Los Angeles in 2 hours, 26 minutes, 24 seconds, her third-fastest time ever. She set the American record of 2:21:21, the second-fastest in history, at Chicago in 1985. She registered her first major marathon victory at Boston in 1979. And she won at Boston again in 1983 in 2:22:43, then a world best.

The Boston Marathon was a turning point for Samuelson again this year. Coming off some poor performances and years of debilitating injuries, she finished fourth in 2:26:54, her best time in six years.

"Going to Boston, I had a lot to prove," she said. "If it hadn't been a good race, then I would have quit. I would love to come back with another good marathon Sunday."

Brawling Bowe fined

WASHINGTON, Nov 2: Heavyweight contender Riddick Bowe was fined \$500 Friday for his role in a brawl that ended his fight with Elijah Tillery at the Washington Convention Center on Tuesday night, reports AP.

The District of Columbia Boxing Commission also fined Bowe's manager, Rock Newman, \$2,500 for grabbing Tillery around the neck and flipping him over the ropes after Tillery kicked Bowe.

Tillery, disqualified for kicking Bowe at the end of the first round, was fined \$12,000 earlier this week and given a one-year suspension, which means he cannot fight in Washington for a full year.

"I think the commission has been fair and I accept it as a learning experience," Bowe said. "In the future I will learn to control my emotions."

The fines were announced at a news conference called by boxing commission Chairman Jeffrey Gildenhorn and attended by Bowe and Newman. Tillery was not on hand.

"Gutter profanity was used to taunt Riddick Bowe. There was spitting at Riddick Bowe. Bowe then flicked a punch, returning Tillery's insults," Gildenhorn said. "The commission feels the flicking of a punch by Bowe at the end of the first round was not grounds for Tillery to respond by kicking, spitting and cursing."

Gildenhorn called Bowe "a professional, a class act and a role model," saying he believed the anger of the moment had clouded his better judgment. "He let his emotions slip. We're all human."

Newman said Tillery already has asked for a rematch, but his one-year suspension would make one difficult.

Meanwhile, the boxing commission also fined the match promoter, Spencer Promotions, \$150 for piping a recorded message from former Washington mayor Marion Barry into the arena without the commission's consent. Barry is serving a six-month prison sentence for a cocaine possession conviction.

"I'm being kind when I say it was in poor taste on the part of Spencer Promotions," Gildenhorn said, calling Barry's comments political in nature. "It was an embarrassment to the administration of this city."

O'Sullivan maintains his great form

BANGKOK, Nov 2: Top seed Ronnie O'Sullivan of England stormed back with another century break-100 in the fourth frame to win 4-0 over Shim Stak-Chong of Brunel in the Nescafe World Snooker Championship here Friday, reports AFP.

O'Sullivan, 15, remained unbeaten in five round-robin first-round matches in Group A.

He finished his match with scores of 87-10, 107-8, 73-26, 100-4 with breaks of 60, 83, 61 and 100 in respective frames.

In the most thrilling match of the day, 14-year-old Quenting Hann of Melbourne edged rival Chris Seulz of Papua New Guinea by a single point with the black ball in the seventh frame, to win the 3-4 frame with scores of 32-62, 75-31, 62-56, 29-63, 65-50, 21-86 and 66-65.

Third-seeded Michael Duffey, representing Northern Ireland, also had a remarkable 4-1 win over Peter Reynolds of the Isle of Man in Group C.