

Five local lads in last 16

Sports Reporter

Five Bangladeshi boys made it into the pre-quarter-finals of the sixth Bangladesh International junior tennis championships after the second day's competition in the week-long meet at the Ramna Tennis Complex yesterday.

National junior champion Shibu Lal, runner-up Dilip Passia, S. M. Wajullah Jilani, and Faisal S. Haq all won their second-round matches yesterday while another local lad Sree Arjun made the last 16 by virtue of a walk-over against his Egyptian opponent Amr Ghoneim who, along with another Egyptian boy and two girls, had not arrived even until yesterday.

The championships, originally boasting a sixty-plus field with boys and girls from 13 countries including Bangladesh, have lost some of the lustre with several players — and nations — failing to reach the city. Aside from the Egyptians, a two-boy Saudi team and a boy and a girl from the Georgian Republic of the Soviet Union and an Austrian boy also have not reported for the tourney. Besides, several other players from the countries which are taking part have also pulled out at the eleventh hour, thereby seriously affecting the playing schedule.

Tournament organisers Bangladesh Tennis Federation, given little time to revise the fixtures, have decided to go by the original schedules, as a consequence of which there have been several instances of walk-overs on the first two days of the championships which run until Nov 24. Even the seedings for the boys' singles event have been disturbed following the non-arrival of Indian fifth seed Vikram Singh Safua. As a result, these have been revised with number six becoming five and so on, while Thai Jirapone Rajanavasi has been made the new eighth seed.

Talking about the seeds, one bit the dust yesterday — the first day they were seen in action after having received first round byes on Monday.

Stipka Bartlomiej of Poland, originally seeded seventh, took a tumble against Bangladesh's S. M. Wajullah Jilani, going down 3-6, 2-6. Jilani will now face Pakistani second seed Asim Shafiq today. Shafiq disposed of another Bangladeshi Alam Hossain 6-3, 6-0.

Austrian Robert Witz, seeded eighth initially, set new eighth seed Jirapone Rajanavasi of Thailand clear for the next round by failing to turn up for his match, thereby adding to the long list of walk-overs.

All the other seeded players had easy sailing yesterday except for German fourth seed Thomas Sascha Winkler who was extended 6-7 (7-2), 6-1, 6-4, by Bangladesh's Newaz Amin Khan.

The German, who arrived late for the tournament, needed all his reserves of skill and endurance to rally from behind after his unranked Bangladeshi opponent had set the stands abuzz by taking the first game 7-6.

Top seed and tournament favourite Atip Chotyanwong of Thailand dispatched Pakistan's Shah Mohammad Khan 6-1, 6-4. The Pakistani had won his first round match yesterday by default when his compatriot Raja Asaf cried off with an injury despite leading 7-5, 2-0.

Third seed Vikram Venkataraghavan of India beat another Pakistani Hassan Mahmood in quick time 6-2, 6-3 while Vikram's compatriot Vasudeva Reddy, the sixth seed, defeated Jirasiri Siricort of Thailand 6-1, 6-4.

Two other Indians moved into the round of sixteen yesterday, Suhel Malhotra proving too good for his local opponent Shamim A. Ronnie, winning 6-0, 6-1, and Anirban Baruah beating Iranian Alex Shalchi 6-0, 6-3.

In other matches, Faisal Syed Haq of Bangladesh beat his countryman Shihabuddin Ahmed Fityaz 6-3, 6-3. Dilip Passia beat Jong Soon-Lee of South Korea 7-5, 7-5 in a thrilling contest. Shibu Lal trounced fellow-Bangladeshi Junaid 6-1, 6-2 while another South Korean boy Sung Jin-Won best, S. Fazal Uddin of India 7-5, 6-3.

Poland's Aleksander Mierzwiński white-washed Indian Devarshi Mitra 6-0, 6-0.

DOUBLES RESULTS

Nine boys' doubles matches were also decided yesterday. The top seeded pair of India's Vasudeva Reddy and Thailand's Atip Chotyanwong beat Indians Anirban Baruah and Suhel Malhotra 6-4, 7-5 to move into the pre-quarters.

Second seeded Asim Shafiq of Pakistan and India's Vikram Venkataraghavan beat the Indian pairing of Anirban Baruah and S. Safuddin 6-3, 6-4. However, the Bangladeshi pair of Faisal S. Haq and Newaz Amin Khan, seeded third, were eliminated after losing 3-6, 4-6 to the Pakistanis Hassan Mahmood and Khalid Siddiq.

Shibu Lal and S. M. Wajullah Jilani moved into the next round beating fellow Bangladeshis Bijoy and S. Islam 6-1, 6-2.

Third day's programme begins at eight-thirty this morning.

More draws in hockey league

Sports Reporter

The saga of drawn matches continued for the second day yesterday when both the super league fixtures of the Green Delta Second Division league ended in tame draws at the Hockey Stadium.

Cantonian Sporting Club and Mukta Bihanga scored a one-all draw in the first match of the day.

After a barren first half, Mukta Bihanga shot into the lead via Wahab's goal.

Enamul drew level for the Cantonians three minutes from the final whistle when he converted a penalty corner.

In the second encounter of the day, Barnak Samaj and Shishu Kishore Sangha played out another identical 1-1 draw.

Dilip scored for Barnak Samaj in the 48th minute while in the 56th minute Shishu Kishore equalised through Shaheen's goal.

TODAY'S MATCHES
PWD vs Uddy Club (2 pm)
Farashganj vs Young Star (3.15 pm)

BDR kabaddi

The Inter Sector Kabaddi Competition of Bangladesh Rifles-91 concluded at Jessore 2 Rifle battalion ground yesterday, reports UNB.

Champions Khulna sector collected 26 points while Dhaka sector finished runners up with 12 points.

Sepoy Mohammad Rafiqul Islam of Dhaka sector was adjudged the best player.



South Korean girls Ki-Jung Chung and Seok-Eun Sah watching the action at the Ramna Tennis Complex yesterday. —Star photo

Soviets lift Indira trophy

CHANDIGARH, Nov 19: Soviet Union defeated Asian Games champions South Korea 3-1 to win the fourth Indira Gandhi International women's Hockey tournament here today, reports PTI.

In an earlier match, hosts India finished fourth losing 1-2 to holders China.

Malaysia, Japan and Singapore ended up in the fifth, sixth and seventh positions respectively.

The Koreans shot into the lead in the 22nd minute through a penalty corner executed by Chang Eun Jung.

The Soviets equalised six minutes later with the help of a penalty stroke granted by the referee after the Korean goal keeper Kang Hyun Mi sat over the ball just outside the goal line just as Ivanova was taking

a shot. Mikalova easily converted the stroke to make it 1-1.

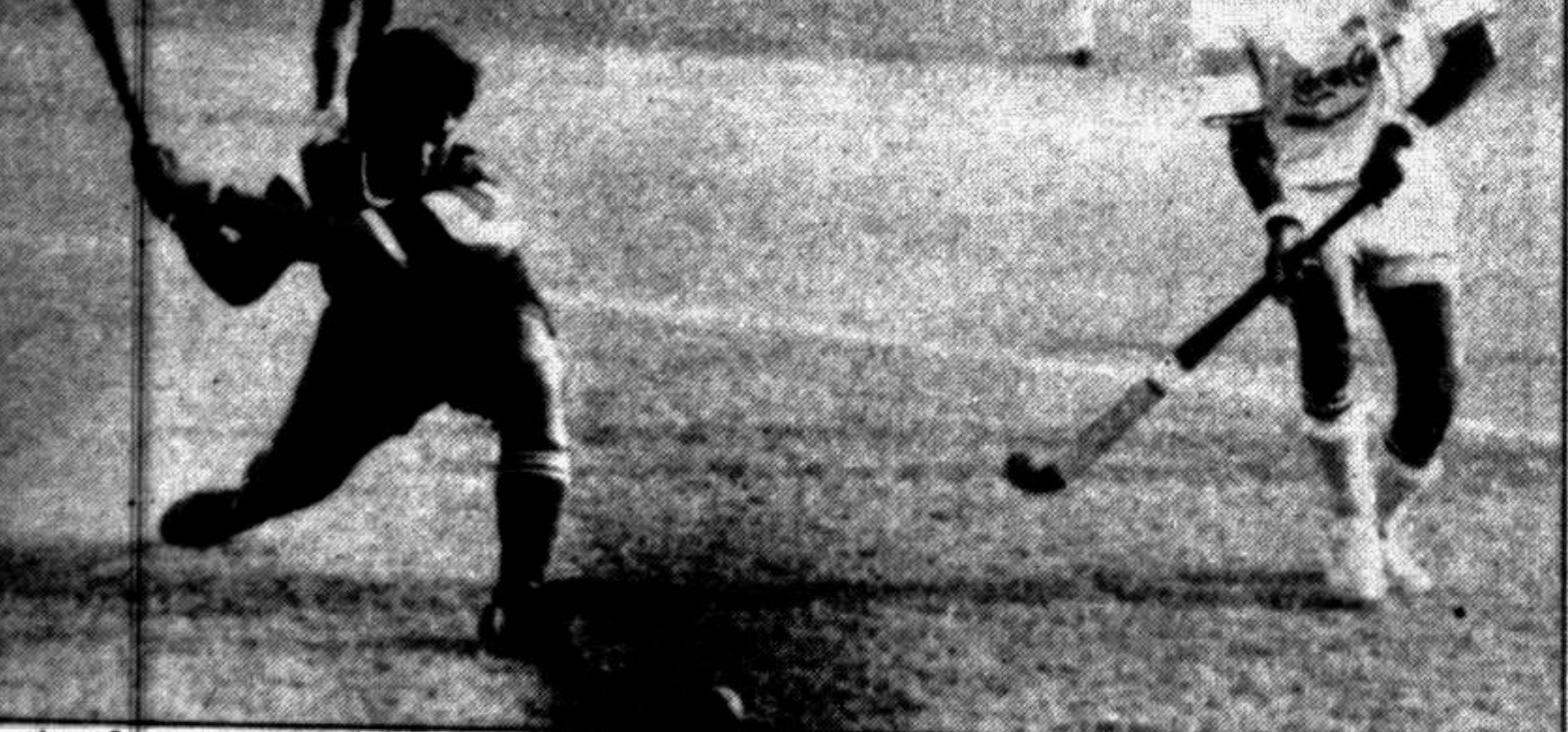
The Soviets consolidated the lead in the 34th minute through the third penalty corner.

Rasutova Elene stopped the ball and gave a short pass to Mikhailova Valentine who made no mistake in beating the rival custodian Kang Hyun Mi.

Four minutes into the second half Elene gave a pass from outside the striking circle to Tsybulko Valentine.

Valentine deftly connected the ball to skipper T. Nadezhda, who put it into the goal with ease to complete the tally 3-1.

An earlier report said; China shot into lead in the 56th minute when captain Wu Yan Zehn made no mistake in converting a penalty corner to make it 1-0.



Action from yesterday's Green Delta Second Division hockey super league match between Shishu Kishore and Barnak Shamaj held at the Hockey Stadium. The match ended in a one all draw. —Star photo.

Wagner's hattrick saves Palmeiras

RIO DE JANEIRO, Nov 19: Palmeiras striker Wagner scored a hat-trick in seven minutes after coming on as a substitute against Botafogo in the Sao Paulo soccer championship semifinals at the weekend, reports AFP.

The 21-year-old forward was brought on at half time with Botafogo leading 1-0, a result that would have virtually ended Palmeiras' chances of qualifying for the final competition.

Edu equalised in the 71st minute from a free-kick awarded after Wagner was fouled. Three minutes later, Wagner headed Palmeiras in front before completing his hat-trick with a left-foot shot in the 76th minute and a right foot shot in the 81st minute.

Palmeiras' 4-1 win leaves them one point behind Sao Paulo, who lead Group Two after a 2-2 draw away to third-placed Guarani. Full-back Cafu equalised for Sao Paulo with a header four minutes from time.

Chehlum

The chehlum of Mohammed Golam Mustafa Bhuiyan will be held today after Asr prayers at his 239/1 North Kafrul residence.

Late Golam Mustafa who was 45, was working at the Gazipur-Dhaka Cantonment as Senior Divisional Assistant Engineer at the time of his death on October 12 last. He was also the chief patron of the Chess Club of Manikdi.

All relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the chehlum and pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Indira men's hockey

Seven teams confirm participation

NEW DELHI, Nov 19: Seven foreign teams, including two Olympic qualifiers, and hosts India have confirmed participating in next year's Indira Gandhi International men's Gold Cup hockey tournament to be held in the capital, reports PTI.

The secretary of the Indian Hockey Federation (IHF), Prof Gursewak Singh said here yesterday USS, New Zealand — both having qualified for 1992 Barcelona Olympics alongwith India — Poland, Belgium, Kenya, Japan and South Korea will take part in the tournament to be held from January 14 to 21.

He said invitations were also sent to Malaysia and France and they were expected to confirm participation by November 20.

The IHF secretary said the tournament may be held at two venues, at Shivaji Stadium and National Stadium, provided the existing synthetic surface at the latter is replaced by then.

Asked about the decision of Dutch Hockey Board to take part in the tourney as reported earlier in press soon after the Indian team's tour of Europe in May, Prof Gursewak Singh said the IHF did not receive any intimation to that effect.



Bangladesh's Dilip Passia plays a forehand on his way to beating Jong Soon-Lee of South Korea in the second round match of the Bangladesh junior international meet at the Ramna Tennis Complex yesterday. Dilip won 7-5, 7-5. —Star photo

Graf, Navratilova in quarters

NEW YORK, Nov 19: Fourth seed Martina Navratilova survived some opening night jitters to win a tight serve and volley duel against Lori McNeil at the season-ending Virginia Slims Championships on Monday, reports Reuter.

Navratilova joined second seed Steffi Graf in the quarter-finals after the German Wimbledon champion made short work of Spaniard Conchita Martinez to open the three million dollar, 16-player tournament.

Both Navratilova and Graf extended perfect records against their respective first-round opponents.

Navratilova raised her record to 9-0 against fellow-American McNeil with her 6-4, 7-5 win, while Graf made it five-for-five against the ninth-ranked Martinez with a relatively easy 6-0, 6-3 win.

Despite winning this tournament five times, Navratilova, who missed last year due to knee surgery, admitted to a severe case of butterflies on her return to Madison Square Garden.

"I was a little nervous and very tentative, I'm glad to get it over with," said the nine-time Wimbledon champion who turned 35 last month.

"Last week I played Lori in the semifinals, now I meet her in the first round so you can see the strength of the tournament."

Martinez never appeared comfortable or happy on the indoor carpet as she sleepwalked through the opening set against Graf, who served extremely well.

The Spaniard put up more of a tussle in the second set.

After the lopsided opening match, McNeil and Navratilova brought the crowd to life with their aggressive net play.

Many points came down to whoever was able to fight their way to the net first for a put-away volley.

Navratilova, chipping and charging at every opportunity, rode a first-game service break to win the opening set, but not without some scary moments in the 10th game.

Serving for the set, she quickly went down 0-40 to the 19th-ranked McNeil.

But Navratilova, ranked fourth in the world, bore down and won five consecutive points to hold serve.

"I just said to myself 'take it one point at a time' I was lucky to get out of the set," she said.

The second set began with four service breaks as each player returned serve and passed effectively.

Navratilova seized the final advantage with a break for 6-5

thing of a wake-up call for Graf, who picked up her game a notch and reeled off the next five games to close out the match.

"In the beginning of the second set there were some very, very close and tough points," said Graf, the 1987 and 1989 champion. "I think she got a little bit tired after that."

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when she placed a shot at the feet of the charging McNeil, who picked it up, but hit a backhand long.

The five-time champion made the most of her first chance to end the struggle by holding serve at 15 for victory.

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Men's leading money earners

PARIS, Nov 19: Pete Sampras took his 1991 earnings to nearly two million dollars when he won the ATP World Championship finals on Sunday, reports AFP.

Sweden's Anders Jarryd and Australia's John Fitzgerald get into the top 20 earners from their doubles winnings.

Jarryd, 11th picked up 411,393 dollars from doubles while Fitzgerald, 19th, won all but 42,193 dollars of his prize money from doubles.

1. Pete Sampras (USA) 1,783,413 dollars,
2. Jim Courier (USA) 1,748,371 dollars,
3. Stefan Edberg (Sweden) 1,713,575 dollars,
4. Michael Stich (Germany) 1,217,636 dollars,
5. Boris Becker (Germany) 1,216,568 dollars,
6. Guy Forget (France) 1,072,252 dollars,
7. Ivan Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 1,038,983 dollars,
8. Goran Ivancic (Yugoslavia) 705,611 dollars,
9. Emilio Sanchez (Spain) 672,071 dollars,
10. Karel Novacek (Czechoslovakia) 647,540 dollars,
11. Anders Jarryd (Sweden) 590,014 dollars,
12. Petr Korda (Czechoslovakia) 573,970 dollars,
13. Jakob Hlasek (Switzerland) 573,642 dollars,
14. Goran Ivanovic (Yugoslavia) 562,795 dollars,
15. Mogens Gustafsson (Sweden) 538,792 dollars,
16. Sergi Bruguera (Spain) 527,320 dollars,
17. David Wheaton (USA) 479,239 dollars,
18. Michael Chang (USA) 455,870 dollars,
19. John Fitzgerald (Australia) 453,993 dollars,
20. Goran Prpic (Yugoslavia) 411,068 dollars.

Women's top 20

ST PETERSBURG, Florida, Nov 19: The top 20 women's singles players according to rankings issued by the Women's Tennis Association on Monday.

1. Monica Seles (Yugoslavia)
2. Steffi Graf (Germany)
3. Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina)
4. Martina Navratilova (US)
5. Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (Spain)
6. Jennifer Capriati (US)
7. Jana Novotna (Czechoslovakia)
8. Mary Joe Fernandez (US)
9. Conchita Martinez (Spain)
10. Manuela Maleva -

Fragniere (Switzerland)
11. Katerina Maleva (Bulgaria)
12. Zina Garrison (US)
13. Nathalie Tauziat (France)
14. Anke Huber (Germany)
15. Lelma Meskhi (Soviet Union)
16. Judith Wiesner (Austria)
17. Helena Sukova (Czechoslovakia)
18. Sabine Appelmans (Belgium)
19. Lori McNeil (US)
20. Julie Halard (France)

Top money earners

ST PETERSBURG, Florida, Nov 19: Leading money winners this year on the women's tennis circuit according to figures issued on Monday by the Women's Tennis Association.

1. Monica Seles (Yugoslavia) 1,657,758 dollars
2. Steffi Graf (Germany) 1,092,336
3. Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina) 939,971
4. Martina Navratilova (US) 716,986
5. Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (Spain) 708,840
6. Jana Novotna (Czechoslovakia) 627,369
7. Mary Joe Fernandez (US) 563,535
8. Jennifer Capriati (US) 500,867
9. Natalia Zvereva (Soviet Union) 497,502
10. Gigi Fernandez (US) 405,228

Eubank to defend title

LONDON, Nov 19: Super Middleweight boxing champion Chris Eubank, who landed fellow Briton Michael Watson in hospital with serious head injuries, has decided to defend his title in February, reports Reuter.

Eubank said on Monday money was driving him back into the ring but he had been shaken out of his state of inertia by a woman who told him he should have been the one in hospital.

"It was nasty, but it was just what I needed to be positive, and brought me out of my limbo," the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) champion said.

"I've no other way of earning the amount of money I need to do the business things I do and look after my family the way I do. That is the only reason I'm in boxing."

"When I make myself stable, I'll be out of this game quicker than you can say one two, let alone three."

The WBO said Eubank would meet a challenger yet to be named in Birmingham on February 1.