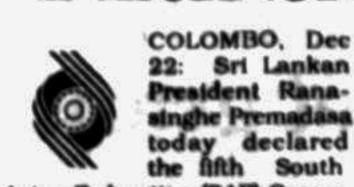
Fifth SAF Games begin in Colombo



Asian Federation (SAF) Games at the Sugathadasa Stadium here this morning. Hun-dreds of ball-oons and pigeons were released marking the opening, reports

The three-hour opening ceremony, featuring an impressive march-past, dances and gymnastics displays by schoolchildren and other performers, kept the jam-packed crowd spell-bound and added colour to the entertaining extravaganza.

Srt Lankan national Olympic committee president Roy De Silva invited President Ranasinghe Premadasa to declare the 10-day Games open from the honour of rostrum.

It was the first time in the history of the SAF Games that five heads of the government attended the opening ceremony as guests of honour. The presence of Bhutan's King Jigme Singye Wangchuk, Maldivian President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and Nepal's Prime Minister **Girtja Prasad Kotrala provided** extra glitter to the occasion.

The four heads of government stayed back in Colombo after their one-day SAARC summit held here yesterday. Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao, who also attended the summit, left yesterday for Dhaka and New Delhi respec-

The Sri Lankan contingent's captain ace-swimmer Julian Bolling and president of the Lankan amateur boxing federation Dharmasiri Weerakoon took oaths on behalf of the athletes and officials respectively. W Wimaladasa and K G

Badra, two distinguished former athletes lit the Games flame.

People of all ages including tiny tots dressed in their

B'ball training

Sports Reporter

new basketball players will be

held on New Year's Day,

January 1, 1992 at the basket-

ball gymnasium, Outer Sta-

dium, under the auspices of

the Bangladesh Amateur Bas-

ketball Federation (BABF), says

been asked to enroll their

names with BABF at the Dhaka

FIBA re-admits

Baltic cagers

setts, Dec 22: The newly-

independent Baltic states -

Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia -

were readmitted to the

International Amateur

Basketball Federation (FIBA)

week to attend festivities

marking the 100th anniversary

of the game invented by

William Naismith, voted in

favour of recognizing the three

Baltic states six weeks after

they were reinstated by the

International Olympic

teams from the three coun-

tries to compete in next year's

Marciulionis and Arvidas

Sabonis are natives of Lithuania

and have been working to

create a national team in time.

PARIS, Dec 22:

Some of the

mightiest legends

in swimming

history were ex-

posed as artifi

cially drug-induced in 1991.

ing German giants as Kristin

Otto and Kornelia Ender re-

verberated throughout the

swimming would with much

the same effect as the tearing

down of the Berlin Wall two

point how or when they were

fed illicit substances, but the

fact that they finally admitted

that something was wrong may

have heralded in a new ear of

The first sign that the lid

was about to come off one of

the world's worst kept, yet

unproven, secrets was when

20 former East German

coaches banded together to

admit that the use of anabolic

steroids was systematic from

But it was not until the

news had sunk in that Otto and

Ender joined the steady pro-

cession of athletes in other

sorts in expressing their

breaking decision to come

clean and one which required

For both it was a heart-

Not that either could pin-

And the fall of such tower-

reports AFP.

years ago.

enlightenment.

1970 until 1990.

doubts.

Barcelona Olympics.

The vote clears the way for

Former Soviet stars Sarunas

Committee.

FIBA officials, here this

here Friday, reports AFP.

SPRINGFIELD, Massachu-

Stadium by December 30.

Interested players have

a press release.

A training programme for

The Bangladesh squad during the fifth SAF Games opening ceremony march past at Colombo's Sugathadasa Stadium yesterday morning.

colourful costumes hurried their way to the 25-thousand capacity Sugathadasa Stadium,

the main venue of the Games, to avoid the rush at the entrance of the tastefully decorated and well-equipped main stadtum. The whole of Colombo city

has been turned into an elegant garden with millions of flower pots adorning the roadislands, pavements and street inter-sections, as if to greet the athletes, officials and guests who have gathered here over the past few days on the occasion of the SAARC summit and the SAF Games. Parks, gardens and impor-

tant buildings have been illuminated to provide glitter and splendour to the occasion. There is great enthusiasm among the Colombo denizens. People from remote areas of the country have also joined the festival

More than 900 competitors from the seven SAARC countries will vie for the 144 golds on offer in 10 disciplines over as many days at six venues .

COLOMBO, Dec

22: Bangladesh

moved into the

semifinals of the

men's team event

Dec 22 : Italy

laboured to a 2-0

win over Cyprus

in a European

Soccer Champi-

in the SAF Games

tennis competition when they

beat the Maldives 3-0 in the

first round at the SLTA tennis

complex here today, reports

Bangladesh will take on

India in the group matches for

Shovon Jamaly routed Mansoor

of the Maldives 6-0, 6-1 and

Hira Lal crushed Shaam, also

onship qualifier on Saturday -

a result which could yet earn

them a place in the finals in

Sweden next June, reports

ish a point clear of Norway in

second place in Group Three.

the group but the European

Football Union (UEFA) ruled

this week that the team finish-

ing second would play in the

finals should political upheaval

prevent the Soviets from field-

and Roberto Baggio gave Italy a

extraordinary courage.

ought to know.

Goals from Gianluca Vialli

"The athletes are the only

Groomed as the first super

losers," said Ender, who really

sprint swimmer. Ender re-

tired unbeaten in 1976 after

Ender ... spills the beans an unprecedented 10 world

100 m in Montreal and eight

being given injections by her

coaches and doctors on the

training programme, but as an

sumed they were for genuine

significantly differently

Otto is now 25 and has a

impressionable adolescent, as-

She said she remembered

world titles to her name.

medical purposes.

ing a team.

The victory means Italy fin-

The Soviet Union have won

Bangladesh's number one

the group title tomorrow.

Hosts Sri Lanka have fielded the largest contingent with about 250, followed by India with 240 and Pakistan with 230. Bangladesh is represented at the meet by the

biggest-ever squad with 196. After the arrival of the Sri Lankan President the national anthem of the host country was played and then the march

The Bangladesh contingent, led by chef-de-mission Qamrul Islam, MP, and the country's flag-carrying captain swimmer Bazlur Rahman, entered the stadium first according to the alphabetic order. The crowd cheered and waved to the members of the Bangladesh team, the men attired in navy blue jackets and cream trousers and the ladies in similar blazers and cream silk sa-

Nepal, who sent 85 entries to the Games, had only 11 participants in the march-past. The remaining members of the Nepalese contingent are scheduled to arrive here today,

Bangladesh made it a

straight 3-0 when Shovon, in

Rahman, trounced the

Maldivian pair Mansoor and

Shaam 6-3, 6-1 in the doubles.

Sri Lanka in the women's

India, Pakistan, the Maldives

and Sri Lanka - are taking

four countries — Bangladesh,

India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka

- are playing in the women's

Vialli, Baggio score for Italy

comfortable winning margin

but Arrigo Sacchi's new-look

team lacked inspiration against

a Cypriot side who failed to

gain a point from their eight

beginning to grow restless

when Vialli sidefooted the

opening goal in the 27th

The Italian fans were just

The Sampdoria striker

neatly set up Roberto Baggio

and was on hand to tap in the

rebound after goalkeeper

Michalis Christofi had done

well to beat out Baggio's pow-

Italy, with AC Milan midfield-

ers Demetrio Albertini and

Alberigo Evani plus Interna-

zionale defender Dino Baggio

all making their debuts, stru-

sculpted physique to that

nomenal six gold medals in the

A world champion at 18,

but denied a chance to com-

pete in the Los Angeles

Olympics of 1984 due to the

East bloc boycott, no-one can

take her gold achievement

she said: "I passed drug tests

but I cannot be sure what was

put into our food and drinks.

You can't say there were no

drugs in the East German sys-

tem, but it is not possible to

a member of the party, but

what I did in sport I did for

myself. The schools were a

good thing, but it was wrong

when she said rather sadly: "I

get every angry when the ath-

letes bear the burden. You

can't take away my success in

Seoul, I was like Mark Spitz,

lucky to have a great gift and

those six medals were the re-

end of the year when the long-

await German report into

doping in sport recommended

that all officials connected

with former East German

teams should be sacked as

That was recognised at the

sult of years of hard work."

And she put it succinctly

that only medals counted."

Sadly, she admitted: "I was

say we were taking them."

But just as openly as Ender,

which powered her to a phe-

Cyprus defended well as

qualifiers.

minute.

1991: Ender exposes naked truth

erful low shot.

Scoul Olympics.

away from her.

part in the men's group while

Bangladesh will meet hosts

Five teams — Bangladesh

partnership with Faisal II

6-0, 6-1, in the singles.

team event tomorrow.

Bangladesh men in semis

24 at 4-30 pm. Earlier Sri Lanka drew 2-2 with Nepal in the opening

ports BSS.

-TV photo

according to the president of

ation Roy De Silva.

theme.

one hour.

12 table tennis players.

the Sri Lankan Olympic associ-

smallest contingent with only

brought into the stadium by

eight smart youths, was hosted

to the tune of the Games

dren participated in the

colourful opening ceremony

which included display of

gymnastics, dance of peace,

window dance, peacock dance

Sri Lanka has spent about

Rs 100 million for hosting the

prestigious event. Most of the

funds came from different

commercial organisations and

Competitions in three dis-

ciplines out of the ten - foot-

ball, volleyball and tennis -

began this afternoon at the

Sugathadasa main stadium and

indoor stadium and the SLTA

Yoo Cheul Byong, 31, a

He was accompanied to the

teacher from Suwon City,

reached the summat of the

6,812-meter (22, 480-feet)

top by Ang Dawa Sherpa, 26,

through the southwest ridge

Juventus' Roberto Baggio,

Baggio slid home his eighth

Sacchi, in his second game

no relation to namesake Dino.

made the game safe 10 min-

international goal following a

powerful break from defence

by veteran captain Franco

as national team coach, re-

placed goalscorers Baggio and

Vialli with Pier Luigi Casiraghi

of Juventus and Foggia's

Baiano, winning his second

cap, immediately had a fine

chance to grab his first inter-

national goal but volleyed high

to do", Sacchi said after the

doping appears to have been

from the voluntary testimony

of athletes and officials from

both sides of the former

Swimming was in the high-

est category of sports, along

with skating, weightlifting,

doping was systematic.

athletics and cycling where

An amnesty was proposed

for all who had renounced

drugs since the start of the

year, on the grounds that many

athletes were under severe

pressure to comply with the

case was that of Senda Gharbi,

the Tunisian swimmer who

failed a dope test after winning

Strange because people

might seriously wonder what

could have possibly possessed

a swimmer with winning times

which would not have even

made an Olympic final, should,

in the words of the Tunisian

Sports Ministry report, have

taken drugs "of her own free

will", or at least what effect

The hapless Gharbi was

suspended for 18 months and

stripped of her three individ-

ual and two relay titles from

five gold medals at the 5th all-

Africa Games in Cairo.

But perhaps the strongest

The report was compiled

an everyday practice.

German divide.

officials.

they had.

the Games.

"We still have a lot of work

high peak on Dec 15.

ggled for rhythm.

utes after halftime.

Francesco Baiano.

over the bar.

Baresi.

courts respectively.

and folk dance lasting about

About 10,000 schoolchil-

Bhutan have fielded the

UNB adds: The SAF flag.

match of the Games football competition at the Sugathadasa Stadium here today.

India-Pakistan

booters draw

COLOMBO, Dec 22:

Defending champions Pakistan

and 1989 bronze medallists

India played to a goalless draw

in the SAF Games football

competition at the Sugathadasa

Pakistan will play

Dhaka Stadtum.

finishing on 179 for 9.

league, rolling again.

Duminda at 90

to pave the path for Lipu.

Lipu, clean bowled for 11.

march past and the inaugura-

tion of the Pioneer football

Opener Salim fell for a

Subroto struck again for

Hard-hitting opener Liton

with 28 inclusive of two fours

and a six and Sri Lankan

Duminda Pereria with 20

steadied the boat before both

perished, Liton at 56 and

Sharath came and played a

cameo innings of 47 off only

and two sixes in his entertain-

ing knock, albeit with the help

of some slack Lalmatta fielding.

able runs to take his side's to-

tal to 180 for the loss of seven

wickets when the innings

closed with the Lalmatia

bowlers managing only 41 in

Srt Lankan Test player and

former skipper Arguna

Ranatunga's younger brother

Sanjeeva Ranatunga emerged

as the most successful bowler

for Lalmatia with three for 40.

his job well with the new ball

to finish with two for 22.

cause best.

Opening bowler Subroto did

However, Ranatunga's com-

patriot and namesake Sanjeeva

Weerasinghe served Lalmatia's

Bowling right-arm leg-

breaks he took one wicket at

the cost of only 28 run from

the time allotted for 45 overs.

Sarwar picked up 25 invalu-

31 balls to lift GMCC spirits.

Sri Lankan all-rounder

He hammered three fours

Lalmatia, this time to dismiss

nought with the score on two

Stadium here this evening, re-

Bangladesh in their next and

last group match on December

The home side led the first half 2-1 Jagaht Rohana and Prem Lal

scored one goal each for the Lankans while the Nepalese goals were netted by Rajesh Maskey and Rajesh Manander. Six teams - Bangladesh,

Pakistan, India, Nepal, the Maldives and hosts Sri Lanka are taking part in the football competition in two groups on a round robin basis.

Defending champions Pakistan, Bangladesh and India have been placed in Group "A" while the rest three teams are in Group "B".

> Spikers play today

COLOMBO. Dec 22: Bangladesh will play their first match against the Maldives in the SAF Games men's volleyball competition at the Sugathadasa Indoor Stadium

here tomorrow, reports BSS. Hosts Sri Lanka today blanked the Maldives 15-0, 15-5 and 15-2 on the opening day, while India got a walkover against Nepal as the lat-

ter did not turn up. In the women's section, Bangladesh will take on Sri Lanka tomorrow.

Five teams - Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Maldives and Sri Lanka — are taking part in the men's section in two groups. Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and the Maldives have been placed in Group 'B' while the remaining teams along with Nepal are in Group "A".

Lopez retains Two Koreans scale WBC title Himalayan peak

SEOUL, Dec 22: Ricardo KATMANDU, Dec 22: Two Lopez of Mexico retained his Koreans along with two World Boxing Council Nepalese guides have scaled strawweight title with a 12mount Ama Dablam in the round unanimous points ver-Himalayas, the tourism mindict over South Korean Lee istry said here Sunday, reports Kyung-Yun in Inchon today, reports Reuter.

> Despite suffering a cut over his left eye in the ninth round, the 23-year-old Lopez dominated his South Korean challenger, who landed few effec The three judges scored

the fight in favour of the undefeated champion 118-110, 116-112 and 120-107. Both fighters began briskly,

trading hard punches from the bell, and the bout quickly developed into a non-stop slugging match. From the fifth, Lopez, ex-

ploiting his speed and greater reach, began to pile up points with vicious jabs and short hooks.

The champion pushed the South Korean to a corner in the 12th round and landed a flurry of unanswered blows, but failed to snatch a knockout.

The win boosted the champion's record to 28 wins. 20 of them by knockouts, with no defeats.

AP from Seoul adds : South Korea's Moon Sung-kil knocked out That challenger Thorsak Sasiprapayim in the sixth round Sunday to retain his World Boxing Council super flyweight championship, reports AP.

Moon, 28, dominated his fifth title defense with an unrelenting barrage of punches to the challenger's face and abdomen.

He knocked down 23 year old Thorsak once in the first round and twice in the sixth round of the scheduled 12round fight. Moon's record improved to

16 victories against one loss, while Thorsak now has suffered two loses against 14 vic-

In Lopez's victory, the three judges gave him scores of 118-110, 116-112 and 120-107. There were no knockdowns in the 12-round match at the Inchon Stadtum, just west of

Lopez, 23, outmaneuvering Lee with fast footwork, scored with sharp uppercuts and straight punches.

Lee, 25, tried to catch the fast-moving champion, but his punches lackedaccuracy and power. Lee, the WBC's No 1 ranked challenger, was visibly exhausted by about the eight round.

It was Lopez's first defense of the title he won eight months ago.

Wattana gets wild card entry

LONDON, Dec 22: Thai land's James Wattana has been given the second wild card entry to the 365,000 pounds masters tournament at Wembley from February 2-9, reports AFP.

Lalmatia run GMCC close



Lalmatia, chasing a not-sodifficult target of 181, began disastrously, losing three wickets for just 23 runs.

Sanjeeva Ranatunga with three fours and a six scored 44 and later the other Sanjeeva Weerasinghe - batted enterprisingly to give Lalmatia hopes a real boost.

The smiles on the faces of the GMCC players were soon gone and the match promised

Weerasinghe, who batted with the help of a runner, gave a good account of himself in his first outing. But he left after scoring a fine 69 off 100 balls with the help of three fours, caught at backward point when trying to squarecut medium-pacer Rubel when the score was 163. Weerasinghe's departure took the wind out of the Lalmatia

Lalmatia batsman Kaiser. coming in at number seven, consumed some vital overs by hanging around without really helping his side's cause. Tension, bordering on panic, gripped the later Lalmatia batsmen and two wickets fell

and Atiq played and missed as the sense of urgency gave way to desperation.

rest day at 109 for two.

No play at Gujranwala

GUJRANWALA, Pakistan, Dec 22: Play in the second cricket Test between Pakistan and Sri

without a ball being bowled, reports Reuter. some areas of the outfield were

still wet and muddy following heavy rain on Saturday. Umpires Khizer Hayat and Ather Zaidi ruled out play an

hour before tea on the third day after groundsmen and about 300 labourers had used jute sacks and sawdust in an attempt to make the ground playable.

The pitch was damaged during preparations for a rally addressed by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif last October, and loose earth spread to repair the surface was turned to mud

Pakistan will resume their

An earlier report said:

Umpires delayed play further in the second Test between Pakistan and Sri Lanka today, deciding the pitch Gujranwala Municipal Stadium was still unplayable after showers.

All three days of the Test The bowlers' run-ups and have been disrupted by either bad light or rain so far.

On Friday, the first-ever Test at the Punjab province ground was halted for almost three hours because of bad light. Only 36 overs were bowled after Sri Lanka won the toss and put Pakistan in to bat.

Pakistan lost opener Shoaib Mohammad for one and Zahid Fazal for 21 while opener Rameez Raja and Javed Miandad were not out at the end of the day with 51 and 20.

Saturday's play succumbed to bad light in the morning, then a brief but heavy shower soaked the outfield in the afternoon.

MSC oust Wanderers

Dhaka Moham-

hockey tournament in a positive fashion outplaying old rivals Dhaka Wanderers' Club by three goals to nil yesterday at the Dhaka Hockey

Though Mohammedans recorded a 3-0 victory in the only match played yesterday, they found in Wanderers a determined Throughout the match the Wanderers' forwards carried

opponent.

Mohammedans' goal-keeper Mantu despite often giving the other defenders the dodge.

Shabbir put Mohammedans ahead in the 33rd minute. Barkatullah Chapal, the Mohammedan skipper, scored a spectacular field goal in the 37th minute with a fine solo effort. Soon after Chapal's goal the winners had a goal disallowed for an infringement.

Rubel completed the tally a few minutes before the last whistle.

Zayed of Mohammedans was shown the green card.

Mohammedans forced three corners and a dozen penalty corners while Wanderers managed only two corners. Wanderers thus bowed out

A six and the last Lalmatia pair could dash off to the pavil ion in delight but Subroto could only punch the ball through extra-cover for a four, forcing Lalmatia to bite the dust by the barest of margins.

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Rome			0	14	
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		. :		26	
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Sharath	6	000		37	
Rubel	9	0		30	2
Sanwar	4			24	17 43 00 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20
Duminda	8	0		36	7

Abahani KC vs Gulshan Youth

(DCS) Surjo Tarun Club vs PWD (Dhaka Stadium)

TODAY'S MATCHES

MILNARS FIXTURE

S Bima vs Victoria SC (Mirpur Pallabi)

Cram still eyes Olympic gold

LONDON, Dec 22 : Steve Cram of Britain will abandon the 1,500m and concentrate on the 5,000m after next year's Olympic Games, reports

Cram, who still holds the world mile record, will have a last crack at winning the only metric mile title still to elude him in Barcelona, but by the 1993 World Championships in Stuttgart, Germany, will be running over the longer distance.

"Assuming everything goes well, I'll run the 1,500 in Barcelona as long as I fell I've got a chance there," said Cram. Then that will be it as far as running the distance at major championships goes because I'm not going to get any faster. After that, it will be the

5,000." lle added : "If I can get seven months of injury free running and training in, I can get into very, very good shape." Cram accepts his days of running the 1,500m in under 3min 30sec are probably over and that the new world champion Noureddine Morceli is

"head and shoulders above the rest of us." But he is not discounting the possibility of picking up the Olympic gold that deserted him in Los Angeles and Seoul.

"I'm an optimist and I wouldn't still be doing it if I thought I didn't have a chance any more," he said. "Morceli might be out there on his own. but what if he gets injured? I hope to come back from the Olympics in Barcelona a very happy man."

Doper banned

HELSINKI, Dec 22 : Finnish weightlifter Timo Taatila was banned from competition for life after failing a dope test, a Finnish Weightlifting Association official said



BDR and Sujodoy Boys at the Outer Stadium. BDR won 30-15.

Sports Reporter

8. WEERASINGHE

a real photo finish.

at the score of 170. The Lalmatia pair of Subroto

As Sharath came on to bowl the last ball of the match from the Paltan end Lalmatia were six runs away from the victory

nine overs.

Lanka was abandoned today for the second successive day

by Saturday's downpour.

first innings after tomorrow's

Sports Reporter

medan Sporting Club started their campaign in the 1991 Victory Day Shah

Stadtum.

out repeated raids inside the Mohammedan territory but

just could not get the better of

of the knockout meet.

Action from yesterday's inaugural Federation Cup handball tournament match between -Star photo

Greater Mymensingh Crieket Club (GMCC) survived by the skin of their teeth in yesterday's Navana Premier Division ericket league encounter

bowler with three for 26. SCOREBOARD Liton C Sanjiva Ranatunga

Saltm c Liton b Subroto

Young paceman Satful was the most successful GMCC b Sanjiva Weerasinghe