

Dhaka schools eliminated

Sports Reporter

Saint Joseph's High School and BCSIR High School, the two city sides, suffered crushing defeats in the final round matches of the tenth Nirman schools cricket championship yesterday.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Nasirabad High School of Chittagong moved into the semifinals by grinding Saint Joseph's High School by 165 runs. Skipper Zahedul of the port city school team won the toss and his side made 212 for nine from their quota of 40 overs.

One of the remarkable features of this year's school cricket competition has so far been the staggering number of extras conceded by the fielding side and that feature reached its climax yesterday with the Josephites giving away as many as 49 extras, the highest single contributor in the Nasirabad innings!

Masud, however, was the top scorer with the willow with 44 runs off 61 balls with five hits across the fence. Fakhrul Islam, batting at number nine, threw his bat around a bit to hit a quick 25 off 15 balls. Wicketkeeper Masum with 23 and Akbar with 18

helped Nasirabad High to reach a more than adequate total of 212.

Pappu returned the best figures among St Joseph's bowlers claiming three for 41. Amanat had two for 33 while Rehan and Minhaz bagged one apiece.

St Joseph's were bowled out for 77 in their turn in just 21.2 overs with extras again outscoring the willow-wielders.

Minhaz was the only bloke with the bat to get into double figures with 13 as the rest did not care much to sweat and pant under a blazing sun.

Shams, who has been continuously spearheading the Nasirabad attack, once again justified his captain's confidence in him by dismissing three Josephites for 15 runs. Zahedul, the skipper himself, claimed two for 14 while Akbar and Fakhrul Islam bagged one wicket each.

Nasirabad's Masud was named the man-of-the-match for his 44. The winners take on the victors of the Comilla Zilla School versus Syedpur Islamia School match tomorrow April 28, at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Comilla Zilla School trounced BCSIR High School in the other match yesterday



MONICA SELES...25th singles title

Seles clinches Spanish Open

BARCELONA, Apr 26: Monica Seles won the 25th singles title of her career Sunday, rallying to beat Arantxa Sanchez Vicario 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 in the final of the International Championships of Spain, reports AP.

The victory enabled Seles to move past Gabriela Sabatini into sole possession of third place on the all time list.

Seles, the top seed and No 1 ranked women's player, improved to 9-0 against Sanchez Vicario. But it wasn't until Seles held serve when trailing 3-2 in the third set — then followed that by breaking Sanchez Vicario — that she felt in control.

"It was a very tough match," Seles said. "I was a little luckier on a couple of points than she was. This wasn't the first time I've had to work hard against her on clay, but it was close all the way."

After struggling in the first set, Seles began the second by breaking Sanchez Vicario with an overhead smash. Seles won that set, then staved off five break points down 2-1 later in the third. Seles won the match by lashing a service return down the right sideline.

Seles plans to defend her French Open title next month at Paris and said she was hop-

ing to do well this year in her Wimbledon debut — even if it means changing her style.

"I think I can win Wimbledon without a volley," she said.

"Borg did it, and so has Steffi Graf and Chris Evert. I have a great return of serve, but I know I should have a volley. And I have been coming in against my opponents more and more in the last three months."

"To win Wimbledon, I need to forget how I normally play and do what it takes to win."

Sanchez Vicario, playing on her home court, overwhelmed Seles with a variety of drop shots and aggressive passing shots in the first set. But her inability to break Seles at 3-2 in the third probably cost her the match: Sanchez Vicario won only five of the match's last 20 points.

But Sanchez Vicario, ranked third in the world, was not disappointed.

"Victory was almost in my hands, but it escaped," she said.

"I played well — really well — but the experience (Seles) has gained being number one is what paid off. But I'm getting closer, and maybe I will beat her soon."

An earlier report said: Monica Seles moved swiftly into her fifth final of the season at

the Spanish Open on Saturday, beating Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere 6-3, 6-1.

The top seeded Yugoslav, who has complained that the centre court clay is too slippery, looked in complete control against her Swiss opponent despite occasional problems.

"Today I really returned a lot of balls into the net, and I never do that," said Seles, winner of four titles this season.

"The ball was sliding so much I was nervous all the time."

Spanish second seed Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, who beat compatriot and defending champion Conchita Martinez 6-1, 6-2, will play the world number one in today's final.

"It wasn't as easy as it looked," she said. "Everytime Conchita and I play it's tough because we practise together and play all the time. We don't have any secrets."

Seles has an 8-0 career singles record against Sanchez and was generally happy with her overall preparations before defending her French Open title in Paris next month.

"The only thing I want to add to my game now is to come to the net more," Seles said. "I'm doing it more and I'm feeling more comfortable with it."

Olympic Village opens to public

BARCELONA, Spain, Apr 26: Barcelona's Olympic Village opened to the public on Saturday, giving tens of thousands of curious citizens their first chance to view the city's biggest building project in a century, reports Reuters.

The futuristic village, which will house 15,000 athletes and officials during this Summer's Games, has sprung up on former industrial wasteland on the Mediterranean shore adjoining the city centre.

Balloons, brass bands and inflatable video shows welcomed the throngs of citizens who poured into the 58-hectare site which boasts a marina, yachting basin, four new beaches, 2,000 flats and 500,000 square metres of office space.

The complex is dominated by the twin towers of a US-designed office block and five-

star hotel, Spain's tallest buildings.

Despite the boasts of the Olympic organisers that the complex would be ready for the public opening, which lasts until Sunday evening, many visitors were struck by the amount of work which still remains to be done.

Cranes and building sites are still liberally scattered around the village. Large tracts of the complex, where building activity is still frenetic, were put out of bounds for the weekend visitors.

Fullygrown palm trees have been transplanted from city nurseries to line the 3.5 km (two miles) of new roads, but their fronts still neatly wrapped in plastic.

Most of the negative comments from the public dealt with the modernistic public works of art which dominate the main thoroughfares, squares and sea front.

"You call that art? If you ask

me it's some of the scaffolding the builders have left behind," said one sceptical tourist, observing a statue of twisted metal girders.

Very nice, but not much character, commented another.

The Olympic Village presents an investment of 188 billion pesetas (1.88 billion dollars) founded in roughly equal parts by the Spanish taxpayer and private business.

Organisers reckon the project will break even after the games, when the flats are sold on the open market and the village becomes one of Barcelona's smartest suburbs. Just a few minutes from the city centre.

About half of the flats have already been sold.

After the weekend, the Olympic complex will be closed and will not be opened to the public until after the last athletes leave in mid-August.

World mark by Lewis & co

PHILADELPHIA, Apr 26: Carl Lewis, Leroy Burrell, Floyd Heard and Mike Marsh teamed up to set a world record at one minute, 19.11 seconds in the 4x200 meters relay at the Penn release athletics meeting on Saturday, reports Reuters.

"The team, gearing up for the Olympic Games in Barcelona this summer, broke the 1989 mark of 1:19.38 set in Koblenz, Germany, by the same group, except for Marsh who led off on Saturday.

Danny Everett ran the lead off leg three years ago. Burrell, running the second leg and passing off perfectly on Saturday, and Lewis — the anchor again — are no strangers to world records.

Burrell lowered the world mark for 100 meters to 9.90 seconds in New York last June. Just 72 days later, Lewis went to the top of the record books with a 9.86 at the Tokyo World Championships.

Both men also had a hand in 4x100 relay world records in Zurich and Tokyo.

Reynolds fails to find rhythm

DES MOINES, Iowa, Apr 26: Butch Reynolds, world-record holder in the 400 meters, failed on Saturday in his second attempt at qualifying for the Olympic trials since a 1990 suspension for testing positive in a steroid test, reports Reuters.

Reynolds winning time of 45.92 seconds at the Drake relays was identical to his time in a meet last weekend at Stanford.

Drake is the site where the sprinter turned in his first 44-second clocking, setting a meet record of 44.60 in 1987.

Reynolds had hoped he could repeat that effort on Saturday, despite cold, blustery conditions.

"Everything has right here but the weather. I just need to race more to feel 400-metre pain again. I'm confident and comfortable, but the times aren't coming yet," Reynolds said. "I'm ready to fight on the track, not fight legally like I have been."

Reynolds has spent an estimated 2.50,000 dollars on legal fees over the past two years in an effort to overturn the ruling of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF).

The Athletic Congress, sanctioning commission for track in the United States, ruled that Reynolds could compete until the IAAF ruled on an appeal.

Reynolds, 27, said he expects a ruling on the May 11 hearing in London within a week.

"That's going to be a great day for Butch Reynolds," he said. "I'll finally be able to put this nightmare to rest."

Reynolds said the appeal has been postponed six times.

That leaves two more opportunities — May 16 at Modesto, California and May 30 at the Bruce Jenner relays — for him to meet the 45.80 standard necessary to qualify for the trials, taking place June 19-28 in New Orleans.

"I'm the best in the world at what I do," Reynolds said. "There's no ego to it. Just cold hard facts."

Reynolds set the world record of 43.29 on August 17, 1988, in Zurich, Switzerland. He was suspended following a meet in Monte Carlo two years later when the steroid nandrolone was found in post-meet tests.

"They were wrong. It was a mistake," Reynolds said. "The system I'm in isn't geared for the protection of the athlete."

Hodkinson retains WBC title

BELFAST, Apr 26: Britain's Paul Hodkinson stopped American Steve Cruz in the third round to successfully defend his World Boxing Council featherweight title on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Hodkinson, making his first defence of the title he won in the same ring five months ago when he outpointed Mexican Marcos Villanana, felled Cruz with a solid left hook in the first round.

The same hook shook Cruz again in the second then the champion switched attack to

the body with further success.

He put Cruz down for second time and although the Texan managed to beat the count Italian referee Rolando Barrovecchio had seen enough and called a halt after 65 seconds.

Eubank wins

MANCHESTER, Apr 26: Britain's Chris Eubank retained his World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight title on Saturday when he knocked out American John Jarvis in the third round, reports Reuters.

Mini-wrestling ends today

Sports Reporter

One hundred and thirteen more preliminary bouts—64 in the morning and 49 in the evening session respectively—were held in the 11th national mini-cadet wrestling championships at the National Sports Council gymnasium yesterday, the second day of the three-day meet.

The finals of all 15 events will be held today, the concluding day of the competition.

Organised by the Bangladesh Amateur Wrestling Federation (BAWF), eight district sports associations in the four divisions are taking part in the tournament.

The participating DSAs are Dhaka, Gazipur, Munshiganj (Dhaka Division), Khulna, Jessore (Khulna Division), Bogra, Rangpur (Rajshahi Division) while Chittagong Zilla Krira Parishad is representing the Chittagong Division.

Major (ret'd) M A Mannan, State Minister for Textiles, will witness the concluding day's proceedings as the chief guest and give away trophies among the winners.

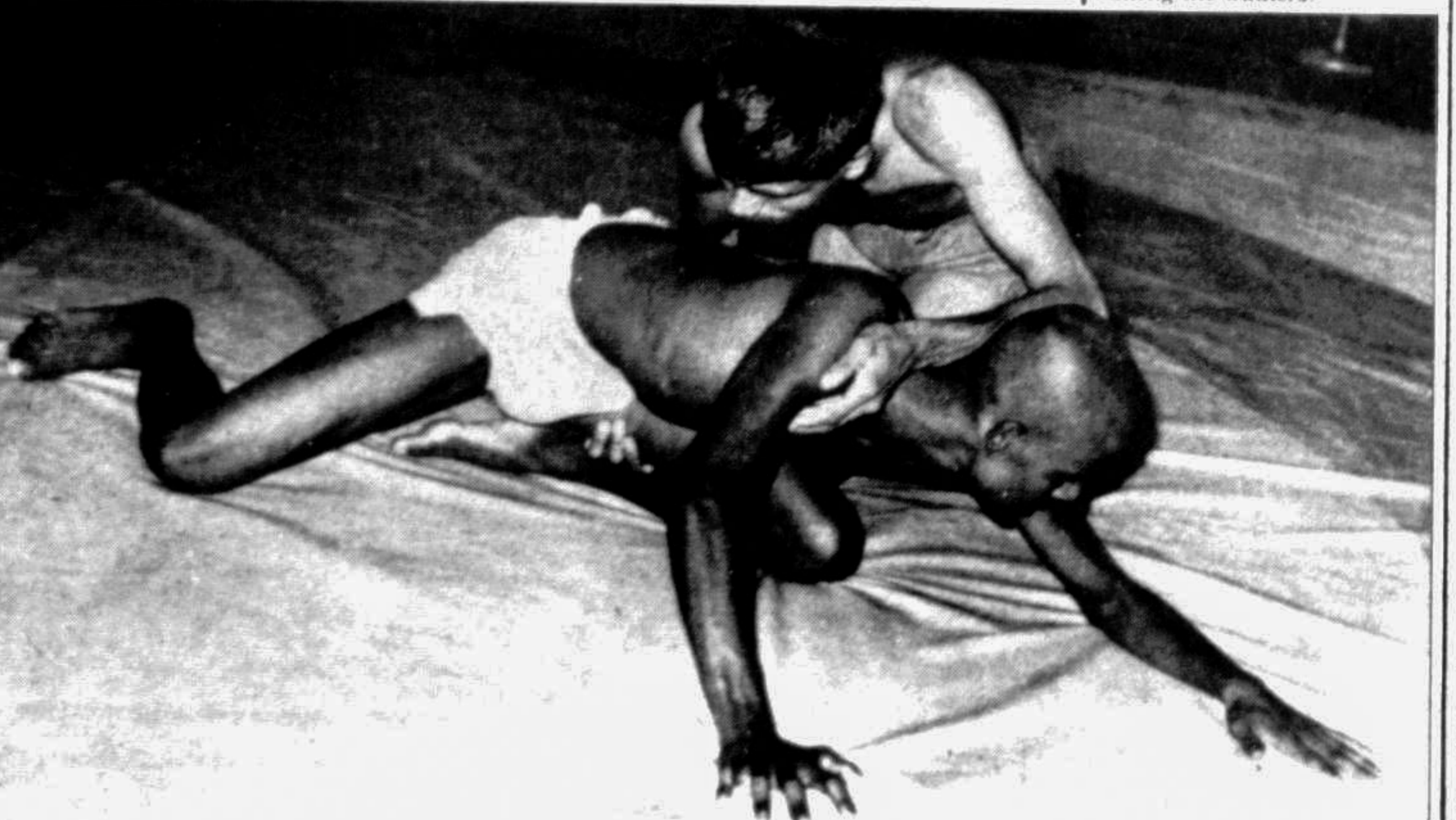
Bikers killers

LE MANS, France, Apr 26: Mine motorcyclists who came to watch the 24-Hour Le Mans Motorcycle race were killed late Saturday in three sets of accidents that a French government official said amounted to "hooliganism," reports AP.

The accidents, which killed seven French, one British and one German biker, all took place outside the competition, which each year draws thousands of motorcycle fans whose off-circuit exploits have caused numerous accidents in the past.

Up to 500 police were in town to protect spectators and guard against motorcycle "rodeos."

In last year's race, 60 people were injured in 40 accidents.



Action on the second day of the three-day national mini-cadet wrestling championships at the National Sports Council Gym yesterday. —Star photo

Chinese win six more golds

HIROSHIMA, Japan, Apr 26: Tan Liangde took home China's second diving gold medal when he won the men's three-metre springboard final on the second day of the Asian swimming championships here Sunday, reports AFP.

The 27-year-old who was silver medalist at the World Championships in this category in Perth last year, notched up 711.75 points, 59.22 more than his compatriot Chen Shaoliang in second place. Japan's Isao Yamagishi came third with 584.97 points.

Yi Hong won the women's platform final for China's first diving gold. China and hosts Japan took three golds each in the swimming events on the first day at the Hiroshima city indoor pool.

"It was my first international competition after the World Cup in April last year due to an injury to my left middle finger during a basketball game," said Tan, who resumed training in February.

"For me, 711.75 is a very high score. I don't think I can get as many at the Olympics, but I'm very happy with the result."

Tan, who won silver medals at the 1988 Seoul Games and 1984 Los Angeles, said he intends to take part in the Barcelona Olympics and then retire.

"I don't think of gold, silver or bronze. I just try to do my best. Everybody is my rival at the Olympic Games," added Tan.

CHINESE ONE-TWO

The Chinese, who dominated the men's and women's 200-metre freestyle races Saturday, also produced one-two finishes in the 100m events with Shen Jianqiang and Zhuang Yong taking golds.

In the women's final, world 100m champion Zhuang, who was the runner-up in the 200m Saturday, turned the 50-metre mark in 26.52 sec.

faster than world record holder American Jenny Thompson's split time of 26.52 at Indianapolis.

The Chinese, however, slowed down in the latter half to clock a meet record of 55.27, beating her teammate Le Jingyi who finished in 56.39 and Suzu Chiba of Japan in 56.56.

In the men's final, Shen finished in 50.86, followed by Xie Jun in 51.43.

Hong Kong grabbed its first medal in the four-day competition when Michael Wright came in third in 52.01.

In the women's 100m breaststroke, Luo Xia defeated Japan's Kyoko Kasuya and compatriot Huang Xiaomin, the Seoul Olympic 200m silver medalist, to win in a time of 1:11.17, adding another gold for China.

Kasuya touched second in 1:11.26 and, while Huang was third in 1:11.30.

Japan, who failed to win a gold in the first three finals Saturday, finally had something to celebrate when Akira Hayashi won the men's 100m breaststroke in 1:02.56.

He beat Chen Jianhong of China, the runner-up at last year's Student Games, into second place in 1:03.00, while Eric Buhain of the Philippines was third in 1:04.64.

Lin Li of China, reigning world individual medley double champion, coasted to an easy victory in the women's 400m medley in 4:47.15, beating Hideko Hiranaka and Eri Kimura of Japan, who finished in 4:49.23 and 4:50.63 respectively.

But Takahiro Fujimoto gave local fans something to cheer about when he broke his own Asian record to win the men's 400m individual medley in 4:20.46.

The previous record was 4:23.10, which he set at the World Championships last year.

Japan also took the silver with Toshiaki Kurasawa in 4:36.11 and Sultan Al-Otaibi of Kuwait won the bronze medal in 4:38.21.

China has collected 10 gold medals and Japan five after two days of the four-day championships. No other country has won a gold medal yet.

Fujimoto covered the distance in four minutes, 20.46 seconds, breaking his own Japanese record of 4:23.10 set in 1991.

Japan's Toru Hayashi captured the men's 100-meter breast stroke in 1:02.56, beating China's Qiu Jiaming at 1:03.00.

China's Shen Jianqiang captured the men's 100-meter free style in 50.86 seconds and a Chinese team took the men's 800-meter relay in 7:30.26, beating a Japanese team which was timed in 7:31.75. South Korea finished third in 7:43.66.

Chinese swimmers won all three women's races, as Lin Li won her second gold medal in two days, winning the 400-meter individual medley in 4:47.15. She won the 100-meter back stroke Saturday.

Lou Xia took the 100-meter breast stroke in 1:11.17 and Zhuang Yong took the 100-meter free style in 55.27 seconds, both for China.

DU cricket

Sports Reporter

An all-round performance by Swaran helped Department of Zoology to canteer past the Department of Geology by five wickets in the Dhaka University inter-department cricket tournament at the Jagannath Hall ground yesterday.

Geology made 146 for seven wickets in their allotted 30 overs with Syed scoring 27, Morshed 23 and Noor Hossain 19.

Swaran with four for 28 was the pick of the Zoology bowlers, while Tareq with two for 19 lent him able support.

Zoology cruised past Geology's total making 150 with five wickets to spare.

Pappu top-scored with 37 while Swaran and Shaqiq made 33 and 16 respectively.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "Spring — Sprung" 47 " — "

4 Fat farm 48 Sinatra hit

7 Dulled by excess 52 Am, to JFK?

12 Last (abbr.) 53 Farewell

13 James Thurber's speciality 54 Seance sound

14 Speechify 55 Future fowl?

15 Low sound? 56 Painter Claude

16 Sinatra hit 57 Fool

18 "Newhart" setting 58 Old card game

19 Pine 59 DOWNS

20 Profound 1 Like mid-August weather in New York

22 Employment 17 "Star — "

23 Talon 2 "Home — " (movie)

27 Rock band's need

29 Martial art 31 Tie on firmly

34 Catarrh remedy 35 Governor

37 Fashion line? 38 Fusses

39 Simile center 41 Let the cat out

45 Underwater gear 47 " — "

48 Sinatra hit 52 Am, to JFK?

53 Farewell 54 Seance sound

55 Future fowl? 56 Painter Claude

57 Fool 58 Old card game

59 DOWNS

1 Like mid-August weather in New York

17 "Star — "

2 "Home — " (movie)

3 Rock 4 Rock

5 Traffic congestion

6 Cartography collection

7 Doe or Donne

8 "Chances — " (song)

9 Margery of rhyme

10 Plato's H

11 Susan of "L.A. Law"

17 "Star — "

21 Walks the floor

23 Bread leftover

24 Mr. Hyde's "birthplace"

25 Devoured

26 Spider's place

28 About half of us

30 Expert

31 Auto-front protector

32 Crimson

33 Past

36 Mexican munch

37 — corpus

40 Earlier on the page

42 Tag

43 Chihuahua chum

44 Gambling game

45 Close

46 Poisonous snakes

48 Easter entree

49 Bachelor's last words?

50 Martini ingredient

51 Haw lead-in

Solution time: 25 mins.

OFF PROD CALM
ARA ROPE ALAE
FARGICAL ROIS
TOO LASAGNA
ASHORE YAM
SKI YAK DEFER
TINA RED LAVA
ANGEL NIP REC
ROB PAPERY
EQUATED ROW
COURT FARRIERS
CAGE OLEO LYE
EYED GIFT LEX

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13				14				
15			16				17				
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		27	28			29	30				
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38					39	40		41	42	43	44
					45			46		47	
48	49	50	51							52	
53										54	
55										56	
57										58	

CRYPTOQUIP

HEGPUSIPTU DP QTW -
WUTZHEW GIATTK SGSDKKM
ADG ZDEM PXDIAXU'G OXPG.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: W equals G

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.