Big day for Rajshahi



The Group Three qualifying round tournament of the fifth Asian under-16 football

championship begins today at the Rajshahi

Five teams, including hosts Bangladesh, are taking part in the tournament that is being organised by the Rajshahi District Sports Association.

India, Pakistan, Nepal. Maldives and Bangindesh will vie for the title of the ten-day long competition which will be inaugurated by State Minister for Youth and Sports, Sadeq Hossain Khoka.

The champion team will win passage into the next round to be played in Saudi Arabia in September. Hosts Bangladesh meet Maldives in the opening match scheduled for a 4.30 pm kick-off.

While Pakistan, Nepal, the Maidives, and hosts Bangladesh are already in Rajshahi, the Indian team which reached Dhaka only yesterday afternoon, will leaves for Rajshahi today.

The organisers have completed all necessary arrangements for the smooth holding of the biennial feature of the Asian Football Confederation. The Raishahi Stadium, with a capacity of 15,000, has been renovated and the town itself spruced up.

The stadium has been decorated with flags, colour banners and festoons to host the prestigious international meet. A media centre with fax,

telex, telephone and other facilities was opened yesterday. Addressing a press conference, Rajshahi City Mayor

Mizanur Rahman Minu sought cooperation from all to make the tournament successful. Joint Secretary of the Bangladesh Football Federation Strajul Islam Baccho and Organising Secretary Zafar Imam also spoke on the occa-

The Social Marketing Company, an organisation working in the family planning sector, is sponsoring the meet and has announced the "Raja Cup" for the championship trophy.

The match commissioner

Abdur Rahman Zatnal of United Arab Emirates and two referees from Thailand - P Somporn and P Boonchard have arrived in the city to con-

duct the matches. The two other Shri Lankan referees - Yapa A Mohasena and Mohammad Mohsin Arif who arrived in Dhaka yesterday will also reach Rajshahi by to-

Three local referees -Hashmat Hossain, Shawkat Hossain Anju and Abdul Haq will assist the four foreign match supervisions.

The Rajshahi station of Radio Bangladesh will broadcast running commentary of all the matches.

FIXTURE

Following is the fixture of the matches

Bangladesh vs Maldives Nepal vs India Pakistan vs Maldives Bangladesh vs Nepal India vs Pakistan Nepal vs Maldives Bangladesh vs Pakistan India vs Maldives Pakistan vs Nepal May 11 Bangladesh vs India TEAMS

MALDIVES:

Ahamed Shahir - (Manager), Mohamed Hashim -(Asst Manager), Moosa Mani -(Coachl. Ahamed Saleem - (Asst Coach). Players:

Shamir Mohamed, Ahamed

Ziyhd, Ahamed Marzoog, Ibrahim Luthufee, Mohamed Arif, Abdoulla Rouf, Hussain Zivad, Ahamed Haishm, Ali Hassan, Mohammed Ikleel, Zuhair Ismail, Moosa Fathy, Shareef. Hussain Ismail Habeeb, Mohamed Saced, Rasheed, Adnan Abdulla Habedb, Ibrahim Ismail, Ahamed Ali Did, Ahamed Rasheed. NEPAL:

Raju Thapa - (Coach). Holger Obermann - (Sports Advisor).

Bhupendra Mishra, Amar Adhikari, Sailesh Doshi, Gambhir Roy, Den Kaji Maharajan, Anil Upadhyay, Dilip Kumar Katuwal, Amir Dongol, Devendra Lama, Sajan Basnet, Rajman Shingh, Ranjit Shingh, Rabin Thapa, Raj

Kumar Thapa, Shirish Bickram Shah, Santalal Choudhuri, Saj Kumar Ale, Suresh Kumar Banya, Ashok Chudhamini Bajracharya, Dipendra Man Shrestha.

PAKISTAN: Hafiz Salman Butt -(Delegation Head), Md Naseer Awan (Manager), Hafiz Sohaib Butt - (Coach), Mohammad Younas, (Asstt Coach).

Players: Mohammad Ayub, Zia Subtain, Athar Mehmood, Shahid Imran, Laeeq Shah, Khalid Khan, Ghulam Mustafa, Iftikhar Ghani, Amjad Refique, Asghar Khan Anjor, Farooque Aziz, Abu Bakar, Khashif Naseer, Ejaj Ahmmed Khan, Obada Tariq, Nacem Khalid, Asif Khan, Shamael Anjum. Mateen Mehmood, Adeel Sharfaraj Butt.

INDIA: Borchand Shingh (Manager), Goutom Sarkar -(Chief Coach), Compton Dutt -(Technical Director).

Players: Goutam Roy. Avijit Barua. Sandipan Mottra, Dulal Biswas, Riajul Mooatafa, Sumitava Sengpupta, Sanjay Dayal, Amit Ghosh, Maha Majhi, Amitava Ghosh, Amit Das, Prasenjit Paul, Anup Mukherjee, Baichung Bhutia, Basudev Mondal, Baburam Kisku, Sukhlal Tirkey, Ratan Singh, Surendra Singh Jadon, Jeshu Singh, Trilok Singh, Ajoy Singh, Joseph, Lakshman Chatterjee, Tarun Roy. BANGLADESH:

S M Saheb Ali - (Manager). Shamsuddoha Khan Majlish -(Associate Manager). Hasanuzzaman Khan Bablu -(Coach), A K M Anwarul Hoque Panna - (Asstt Coach),

Md Arman, Md Emdadul Haque, Md Millon Hossain, Nasirul Haque, Mosaddor Rahaman, Biplob Marma, Ujjal Kumar Chakraborty, Ruhul Amin, Paritosh Dewan, Md Alauddin, Mozammel Haque Chowdhury (Biplob), M A Abid (Hiru), Md Moniruzzaman, Md Nazimuddin, Md Zahidul Islam Nayan, Masud Zafar, Sahed Abadin Shobhan, Md Hafizur Rashid, Abdul-Al-Muzahid (Soyed), Jahangir Hossain, Mohammad Yusuf, Zafar Hasan Simon, Alok Kumar Bakshi, Bazhır Rahman.

Sanchez to quit Real in June

MADRID, May 2: Flamboyant Mexican striker Hugo Sanchez will quit Spanish League leaders Real Madrid at the end of June after clashing with coach Leo Beenhakker, reports

Reuter Sanchez, who was fined one militon pesetas (US dollar 9,600) two weeks ago and suspended without pay until his contract expire at the end of next month, will formally wind up his seven-year career with

the club on Monday. He said he was happy with the agreement reached on the conditions of his leaving but he would never be happy to leave a club "in which both sides have given every-

Sanchez, 33, five times the top goalscorer in the Spanish League, repeatedly criticised Beenhakker for leaving him out of the team despite his return to fitness after a long injury layoff.

He had intended to leave the club last season but eventually signed for another year. The contract contained a clause for a benefit match on leaving but Real Madrid have decided such a match would not longer be suitable.

Sports papers reported Sanchez had received offers to play in Spain, France, Switzerland and Mexico.

Malaysia hold Germany 1-1

KUALA LUMPUR, May 2: Malaysia held European hockey champion Germany to a 1-1 draw today in the second of five test matches, played in lpoh Town, reports AFP.

Both goals came in the second-half after the Germans had dominated play for much of the first half, keeping the Malaysian defence busy.

Germany's goal came in the 47th minute when Kurtz Oliver picked up a stray ball after a penalty corner to send a rising shot into the goal.

The Malaysian goal came two minutes later from Embaraj Kanniah off a penalty

Malaysia's Soon Mustafa had the ball in the German net in the 56th minute after picking up a pass from Nor Saifur Zaini but was blown for off-side. Malaysia and Germany also

played out a 1-1 draw in their first match here Thursday.

Volleyball nationals from today

The final rounds of the 15th nati-onal men's and ninth na tional women's volleyball championships begin in the city today under the aegis of the Bangladesh Volleyball Fe-

Jute Minister Brig (retd) M Hannan Shah will inaugurate the meets at 4:30 this afternoon at the Outer Stadium volleyball court.

The six-day meets, being staged simultaneously, are being sponsored by the Bangladesh General Insurance Company Limited who are forking out just over Taka one lakh twenty five thousand out of the TK 2.08 lakh needed for the conduct of the finals. The federation is paying for the remaining portion of the ex-

Fourteen teams, including defending champions Bangladesh Army, will be vying for the honours in the men's competition. The other teams are Tangail, Faridpur, Rajshahi, Comilla, Dinaipur, Pabna, Jessore and hosts Dhaka DSA, Bangladesh Air Force, Bangladesh Navy, Bangladesh Rifles, the Power Development Board and Rajshahi University. Army had won the title in 1990 beating Navy, there was no national championship last

Divided into four groups, the teams will play on a league basis with the four group champions qualifying for the semtfinals.

While most of the teams had reached the capital by yesterday, the organisers were still expecting three teams, namely, Tangail, Dinajpur and Rajshahi University sometime today. However, Rajshahi University may not turn up at all since the authorities had closed the university sine die last April 17. According to Volleyball Federation officials.

no one could be reached at the university for confirmation of the team's participation. wooden-floor gym.

There are ten teams in the women's section of the competition, although the organisers insisted at a press conference yesterday afternoon that eleven teams would be taking part

Khulna are the defending champions while the other

clement weather games may be shifted to the adjacent

The players of the participating teams are putting up at various city hotels and the National Sports Council hostel.

The preliminary league matches will be best-of-three sets contests with the semifinals and the finals being decided on the basis of best-of-

BGIC, handed over a cheque for Taka 1.25 lakh to Mai General Mahbubur Rahman, chief of the BVF at the press conference. Gholam Quddus Chowdhury, general secretary of the BVF, also addressed the newsman.

RAJBARI'S TITLE

Meanwhile, Rajbari DSA annexed the Dhaka Division



The Rajbari girls won the Dhaka Divisional volleyball championship beating Narayanganj in vesterday's final at the Dhanmandi Women's Sports Complex. -Star photo

teams in the fray are Narayanganj, Rajbari, Chitta gong, Comilla, Rangpur, Bogra, and Jessore DSA, Bangladesh Ansars and Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation.

Matches will be held at the Volleyball Stadium in the afternoon but in case of infive sets. The organisers, who held a press conference yesterday at the NSC, hope to be able to stage the final matches of both

next few days. M A Samad, Chairman of

the men's and women's

championships on May 8, sub-

ject to the weather over the

women's volleyball title beating Narayangani DSA in the final held yesterday at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports

Seventeen teams took part in the meet. State Minister for Sports

Sadeq Hossain Khoka gave away the prizes as chief guest.

Hendry at his

brilliant best

2: Stephen Hendry, the 1990

champion, on Friday won his

way through to his second

world snooker championship

final - with a day to spare, re-

ports Reuter.

SHEFFIELD, England, May

Rani Hamid leads the pack Sports Reporter

The spotlight was once again upon Rani Hamid, the queen of Bangladesh chess and the reigning na tional women's champion, who outwitted her opponents in style to stay at the top of the points table at the end of the

sixth round of the 18th

national championship yes-

gressive play cost Rakib his Former men's champion

and FIDE Master Ziaur Rahman suffered a shock defeat to remain in third position with three and a half points as he went down to Amir Hossain of Dhaka Metropolis after 33 moves in his sixth round tie. Zia, playing with white,

adopted a Queen's gambit

Rahman in six moves to move to the third position with four Ziaur Rahman, Tahmid and

Syed Ruhul Kabir Shiplu of BTMC are jointly holding the fourth position with three and a half points each. Shiplu, who played with black yesterday, adopted a Sicilian defence to beat last year's runner-up Ziaul Kader Tuhin of Ansars in 60

The 23-year-old Scotsman hammered Terry Griffiths 16-4 with one of the finest performances seen in the championship. Two centuries, 11 half-centuries and a further eight breaks of 30 or more added up to the biggest winning margin in a semifinal at the crucible

and left both his opponent and tournament organisers with a major headache. The match was not due to finish until Saturday afternoon.

But such was Hendry's domination on his way to his 13th win in as many meetings with Welshmar Griffiths, the 1979 champion, that today's final session will now have to be replaced by an exhibition match.

Hendry, who had been unhappy with his form leading up to the semifinal, said: "My game has come good at just the right time. I'm very confident now of regaining the ti-

Londoner Jimmy White, whom Hendry beat in the 1990 final, led unseeded Scot Alan McManus 9-6 after the first day of their semifinals.

White is bidding for his fourth appearance in the final.

He has yet to win the title. Japanese medical

team to treat Lineker's son

TOKYO, May 2: The Japanese soccer club that has signed up Gary Lineker will set up a medical team to treat the England captain's leukaemiastriken baby son, media reports said today, reports Reuter.

Grampus Eight of Nagoya will form a five-member team to take care of the millionaire striker's son ,George , now being treated at a London hospital, the reports said. "I would like to tell him

(Lineker) about our preparations to help put his mind at rest. Then, he will be able to concentrate better on play," the Japan Times quoted President Narumi Nishigaki as Nishigaki was due to leave

for London today to inform Lineker of his plans and hold a news conference with him on Monday. Club officials were not im-

mediately available to com-

There had been speculation the illness might prevent Lineker from joining the Japanese club.

The reports said a team from the Japanese Red Cross Nagoya first hospital, led by leukaemia specialist Yoshihisa Kodera, would treat the baby. It would be able to bring bone

marrow from England within

24 hours if necessary.

British doctors say the baby has responded well to treatment, and they have cleared him to travel with his parents to Japan.

Controversy continues over qualification of shuttlers for Olympics

Zhao, Susanti top IBF rankings



China's top three men badminton players will each be at the Barcelona Olympics following Friday's publication of the latest world rankings,

reports Reuter. The sport makes its Olympic debut at Barcelona and the latest list determines who will be invited to the

Games. The publication revives the controversy which surfaced at the end of the All-England championship in March, won surprisingly by Liu Jun.

That victory thrust Liu from number 11 to number three comfortably into the top eight which guarantees a Barcelona slot. Liu is currently ranked four, behind world champion Zhao Jianhua, top Indonesian Ardy B Wiranata and Malaysia's Rashid Sidek

In the All-England final Liu became only the second unseeded player in the history of the tournament to win the men's title. His wins over compatriots

Zhao and Wu Wenkai brought

accusations from at least one rival team that the Chinese had maneuvered their players to get the maximum quota of places at the games. The accusations were denied by Zhao. International Badminton Federation president Arthur

Jones said at the time it was "a very tricky thing for people to try to manoeuvre (the system)." Jones said on Friday: "Players from 110 countries

have battled for at least 18 months to achieve a place in the Games and now the world will see the elite in action." The top European, ranked

eight, is Denmark's Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen. The top two ranked women are Indonesia's Susi Susanti

Tang Jiuhong. LEADING RANKINGS

and China's world champion

Meanwhile, following are the final leading world rankings issued by the International Badminton Federation on Friday (players marked (O) have qualified for the Barcelona Olympics):

MEN 1. Zhao Jianhua (China) (0) 2. Ardy B Wiranta (Indonesia) (0) 3. Rashid Sidek (Malaysia) (0) 4. Liu Jun (China) (0) 5. Wu Wenkai (China) (0) 6. Allan Budi Kusuma (Indonesia) (0) 7. Hermawan Susanto (Indonesta) (0) 8. Paoul Erik Hoyer Larseen (Denmark) (0) 9.



ZHAO JIANHUA



Thoms Stuer-Lauridsen (Denmark) (0) 10. Foo Kok Keong (Malaysaia) (0) 11. Joko



SUSI SUSANTI Supryanto (Indonesia) (0) 12. Fung Permadi (Indonesia) (O)

13. Bambang Suprianto (Indo-Fellow prisoner raises



INDIANAPOLIS, May 2: A prisoner has filed a civil rights complaint alleging that he has been threatened by prison officials for talking to the media about fellow inmate Mike Tyson.

James Bell Yager, who is serving a 42-year sentence at the Indiana Youth Centre for bank embezzlement and forgery, said he asked the US Justice Department in Washington to investigate his claims, filed via certified mail Friday.

storm over Tyson status

Yager said Tyson has received preferential treatment since he was assigned to the Youth Centre to serve a six-year sentence for rape.

Yager said prison officials asked him to sign documents Wednesday allowing them to censor his comments to reporters and respond to them. He also said prison officials prevented reporters from entering the Youth Centre. The complaint says Yager, who heads the National

Prisoners' Rights Union, was threatened with "unspecified reprisals" if he talked to reporters without prior approval. Department of Correction spokesman Kevin Moore said Yager was asked to consent to the interviews and agree that

a DOC staff member would be present. In his complaint, Yager said, "Prison officials are finding it harder and harder to refute information being provided the media by (Yager) to the extent they have elected to employ gestapo tactics and threatened (Yager) with reprisals for talking to the media," the document said.

Yager has told reporters that Tyson: - Was allowed to attend school in the morning and work in the afternoon, when other prisoners were denied the half-day setup.

than the 10 hours allowed each month. Unlimited visits are allowed with attorneys and ministers. - Visited with more than three people at one time, another violation of prison rules.

- Met with visitors in a private room.

- Was allowed more visiting time with friends and family

said. Moore acknowledged that Tyson met with visitors in a private room but he has denied Yager's other allegations.

of this special treatment, and he's not asking for it," Yager

The DOC is placing him in a vulnerable position because

(O) 14. Lee Kwang Jin (South Korea) (O) 15 Darren Hall (England) (O) 16. Wan Zhengwen (China) 17. Heryanto Arbi (Indonesia) (O) 18. Jena Olsson (Sweden) (O) 19. Kim Hak-Kyun (South (O) 20. Eddy Kurni awan (Indonesia) (O)

WOMEN

1.SusiSusanti (Indonesia) (0) 2. Tang Kiuhong (China) (0) 3. Huang Hua (China) Bang Soo Hyun (South Korea) (0) 5. Lee Heoung Soon (South Korea) (0) 6. Pernille Medergeaard Jessen (Denmark) (0) 7. Sarwendan Kusumwardhan (Indonesia) (0) 8. Lim Xiaoqink (Sweden) (0) 9. Ye Zhaoying (China) 10. Camilla Martin (Denmark) (0) 11. Elena Rybkhina (CIS) (0) 12. Zhou Lei (China) (0) 13. Eline Coene (Netherlands) (0) 14. Yuliani Santoso (Indonesia) (0) 15. Hisako Mizui (Japan) (0) 16. Joanne

Muggeridge (England) (0) 17. Somhareuhai Jaroensiri (Thailand) (0) 18. Christine Magnusson (Sweden) (0) 19. Liu Huhong (China) 20. Astrid Van Der Knaap (Netherlands) (0)

Asian pre-Olympic boxing results

MANILA, May 2: The following are the results of the semi-finals of the fourth day of the Asian pre-Olympic qualifying tournament held here Friday, reports AFP.

Lightflyweight: Thogtjargal (Mongolia) bt Hajilou-Shahroukh (Iran) Pramuansak Phosuwan (Thailand) bt Tadahiro Sasaki (Japan)

Bantamweight:

Ahmed Ghnim (Iraq) bt Masato Itami (Japan) V. Devarajan (India) bt Lhagvaa (Mongolia) Lightweight: Sung Sik-Hong (South

Korea) bt Rashid Omid (Iran)

Z.V Jollyson Welterweight: Pan Feng (China) bt Altanshuh (Mongolia) Masahi Kawakami (Japan) I. Robi Singh (India)

Middleweight:

Sangwan (India)

Varzideh-Syamak (Iran) Lightheavyweight: Bai Chongyuong (China) bt Manbir Singh(India) Heavyweight:

M. Killeker (India) bt

Khaleq of Jamalpur (L) in action against Chittagong's Nahid Miazid during their sixth round match of the national championship at the NSC chess room yesterday. -Star photo terday at the chess room of the National Coaching Centre. Rani Hamid singularly held

the top position with five points as competition resumed after a day's break Friday. Rani Hamid, who won her adjourned fifth round match against Nahid Miyazid of Chittagong, later in the afternoon defeated Syed Iqbal Rakib of Dhaka Metropolis yes-

terday to climb up the ladder.

Playing with black pieces, Rani

began with a Queen's pawn

opening and made the most of

the weak moves of her oppo-

nent who conceded defeat

after 35 moves as Rani's ag-

opening but committed some serious blunders in the middle of the proceedings which cost

him the match. Jamilur Rahman of Ansars, another former national champion, notched up the second position with four and a half points beating Anisur Rahman of Dhaka Metro in only eleven moves. Playing with white, Jamil began with a bishop opening and Anis surrendered when he lost his knight in one of the most swiftly settled

In other matches of the day, Kalimullah Khan Kalam of Dhaka Metropolis outwitted Khandaker Kayes Hassan of Ansars in 64 moves, M R Hafiz of Metropolis defeated Neyamul Huq Niru of Ansars in 36 moves and Nahid Miyazid of Chittagong beat Abdul Khaleq of Mymensingh in 44 moves. Anis, Kalam, Rakib and

Nahid have three points each

while Tuhin, Hafiz and Niru

have two and a half points

each. Kayes had two, Amir one matches. and a half and Khaleg one Defending champion Reefat point at the end of the sixth bin-Sattar drew with his Biman teammate Syed Tahmidur round.



M.A.Samad(R), Chairman, Bangladesh General Insurance Company addressing a press conference on the eve of the national volleyball championships ,sponsored by the BGIC, at Shiri Morteza (Iran) bt RK the NSC yesterday. On his right is BVF chief Maj.General Mahbubur Rahman. -Star photo