Sports Reporter The fifth Federation Cup basketball tournament organised by the Bangladesh Amateur Basketball Federation began yesterday at the

wooden-floor gymnasium. Ten teams, including three outstation teams, divided into two groups, are taking part in the meet sponsored by Rahimafrooz, a leading busi-

ness house of the country. The teams in the nine-day long fray are: Five Star, Dhaka Winners, The Gregs, Angels Club, Eagles Club, Dhumketu Club, Josephites, Chandpur Club, Stars Club (Golapganj), Sylhet and Altaf Smriti

Sangsad of Rajshaht. On the opening day, Angels Club thoroughly outclassed Chandpur Club 125-58. The winners led the half-time 59-

Dulal with 30 and James with 22 were the principal scorers for the winners. Liton with 12 and Islam with 10 tried their best for the vanguished.

In the second match, Altaf Smriti Sangsad of Rajshahi caused a major upset by outscoring fancied Josephites Club in a keenly contested

The outstatton club carved out a 59-47 victory against the fancted Dhaka side. At halftime they led 22-21

Rajshahi's Rezaul was the highest scorer with 23 while teammate Nazrul followed him with 21. Bashirul and Mushtaq with 12 each did most of the scoring for the losers. State Minister for Textiles

Abdul Mannan inaugurated the meet in the evening.

TODAY'S MATCHES Gregs vs Star Club, Sylhet

(5-30 pm)

(4-30 pm) Dhumketu vs Eagles Club

Juventus win first leg of Italian Cup final

TURIN, Italy, May 8 Roberto Baggio converted a penalty kick in the 22nd minute to give Juventus of Turin a 1-0 victory against Parma in a first-leg final of the Italian Cup Thursday night, reports AP.

The Turin team's home victory appeared somewhat underserved as the visitors, led by Swedish forward Tomas Brolin and Belgian midfielder



Juventus defense busy.

sive transfer ever, made some beautiful moves but was seldom supported by teammates in

Striker Salvatore Toto Schillaci was substituted following a lackluster first half. The decisive penalty was

awarded by referee Rosario Lo Bello when forward Faolo Di Canio was grounded in the penalty area as he prepared to kick to the net from a few Di Canio suffered an appar-

ently serious knee injury during the second half and was taken away on a stretcher. Juventus goalie Angelo

Feruzzi made several brilliant interventions, stopping power ful shots by Grun and other Parma forwards.

Parma's centerforward Marco Osio spoiled an easy chance in the second half, kicking the ball past the post from three meters.

Parma, which eliminated Sampdoria of Genoa in the semifinals, will try to recover the one-goal gap in the second-leg final scheduled in Parma next Thursday

The winner of the Italian Cup earns a berth in next season's European Cup Winner's

Des Walker joins Sampdoria

GENOA, Italy, May 8 Nottingham Forest and England defender Des Walker singed for Italian champions Sampdoria for 1.5 million pounds sterling (2.67 million dollar) on Thursday after completing a medical, reports

Sampdoria officials met Walker and his agent Dennis Roach at the club headquarters in Genoa and took less than one hour to finalise details of a three-year contract. This player's salary is likely to be just under 440,000 pounds (783,600 dollar).

Nepal beat Maldives 1-0

A Correspondent

free-kick by Rajkumar to safety seven minutes later 8: Nepal regis A few minutes later Saced, a their Maldives defender, made a second win in the fifth Asian youth

under-16 Group

Three football championship

as the highlanders outclassed

their island rivals by a solitary

goal today at the local stadium.

the mercury shooting over

40°C neither side could im-

press the sparse 2000 specta-

tors although Nepal enjoyed

almost uninterrupted territo-

rial dominance over their un-

Habib received an injury in the

sixth minute of the match

while trying to thwart a

Nepalese attack but fortunately

for him and his side the injury

did not prove serious as the

goalkeeper was soon up on his

feet to discharge his duties

monotony of the Nepalese

supremacy, marked with spo-

radic attacks, with a rare of-

fensive in the 17th minute but

Ahmed Morzooq of the green-

and-white clad Maldives lost

control of the ball inside the

foray in the next minute when

Sailesh Joshi's feeble attempt

off a flag-kick by Robin Thapa

missed the mark, much to the

relief of a worried Habib. The

custodian came to the rescue

of his side again, parrying a

Coaching Centre yesterday.

ahead of Zia, Tahmid and

Reefat who finished with eight

points each at the end of the

bore down her opponent in 34

moves in a match that began

with a Sicilian defence open-

Playing with white, Rani

Nepal quickly answered this

Maldives broke the

Maldives custodian Hossain

fancted opponents.

under the bar

On a hot, humid day with

goalline save when a Rajkumar header beat an out-of-position Habib and immediately after this they survived yet another scare when a prowling Rajkumar unleashed a powerful rightfooter that returned off the side post. Amir Polgol of Nepal reasserted the Nepalese ascendency a minute later but goalie Hossain Habib rose to the occasion to keep his side

After about twenty minutes of spiritless, languid football Nepal scored the match-win-

ner in the 21st minute. Substitute Dilip Kumar swerved in a centre from the right that eluded a host of leaping heads and the grasp of a frozen Maldives custodian to come to a lurking Rajkumar Thapa who made no mistake in nodding the ball home (1-0).

Nepal, who sprang a surprise by beating India 2-1 in their first match, were drowned in a goal deluge by Bangladesh. The hosts beat them 8-0 and after today's win Nepal raise their collection to four from three matches while Maldives, who snatched a point from Pakistan, remain at one, also after having played three matches.

While giving his reactions after the match, the Nepalese coach showed an inclination for futuristic comment by saying that unless something really funny takes place over the next few days Bangladesh are going to win the champi-

Meanwhile, Bangladesh take on Pakistan tomorrow (Saturday) in a vital match as a win will ensure the hosts the Rajah Cup, thereby earning them a passage to the final round to be held in Saudi Arabia. Bangladesh coach Hasanuzzaman Bablu sounded pretty confident about the chances of his side but he declined to make any prediction as regards the margin of the

TEAMS

NEPAL: Bhupendra Adhi karı, Sailesh Joshi, Gambhir Rai, Tenkaji Maharajan, Anil Upadhaya (Dilip Kumar Katuooal), Amir M Polgol Ranjit Singh, Shojan Basnet, Devendra Lama, Rabin Thapa and Rajkumar Thapa.

THE MALDIVES: Hossain Habib, Ibrahim Luthfee, Moosa Fathee, Ismail Sharif, M Saeed Ahmed Morzoog, Ahmed Ali Didi. Shamir Mohamed (Ahmed Zyaad), Mohamed Ertf. Hossain Znaad and Zuhair

Referee Boonchart (Thailand) Linesmen: Yappa (Shri

Lankal and Somporn (Thailand) TODAY'S MATCH

Bangladesh vs Pakistan (4-

Rani surges ahead of pack

Sports Reporter

Hamid Former champion and FIDE ended her co-Master Ziaur Rahman drew existence at the his match against Khandaker top of the points Kayes Hassan to stay just betable with others as she took her hind Rani with eight points. Playing with black, Zia to tally to eight and half with adopted a Sicilian defence another win at the end of the opening in a match that saw eleventh round of the 18th both players switching to the national chess competition at advance variation of a Franch the chess room of the National opening from the Alpine variation. Although Zia had a pawn International Woman more in his hand the match Master Rani defeated Niamul petered out to a draw after 45 Huq Niru of Ansars to inch

> Syed Tahmidur Rahman, another former champion, shared points with Jamilur Rahman of Ansars to share the second spot in the points table along with Reefat and Zia. Tahmid now has 8 points while Jamil is in close third

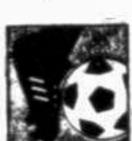
with seven and a half points.

Reefat bid Sattar the reigning champion, was the third player to finish on joint second spot after his 50-move match with Anisur Rahman of Dhaka Metropolis ended in a draw. Reefat, a college student, played with black pieces in the drawn encounter and with yesterday's half point raised his collection to eight.

In the other matches of the round, Sved Ruhul Kabir Shiplu of BTMC outwitted Amir Hossain of Metropolis while the latter's teammate MR Hafiz carried home another disappointing result as Abdul Khaleq of Jamalpur recorded a fine victory.

Sved lobal Rakib of Metropolis drew with Nahid Miyazid of Chittagong.

Olympique Marseille too shocked to play French Cup final



eleventh round.

fending league champion Oly mpique Marseille

said Friday would not play in the French Cup final on Tuesday while victims remained hospitalised from the collapse of a stadium grandstand in Corsica, reports

A communique issued by its vice-president, Jean-Lous Levereau, said the players, supporters and administrators all voted against participating in the final.

There are people between life and death, it is difficult to play in these conditions,"

Olympique Marseille captain Jean-Pierre Papin said.

French federation officials declined to comment on how the French Cup winner would be selected following the withdrawal by Marseille. AS Monaco qualified for the final on April 28, which was originally scheduled for Sunday in

Marseille became the other finalist when Second-Division Bastia withdrew and forfeited following Tuesday's stadium collapse, which killed 12 and injured more than 750. The temporary grandstands, erected to increase tiny Furliani Stadium from a capacity of 8,500 to 18,000 for the Cup semifinal between Bastia

and Marseille, collapsed just before kickoff, cancelling the

On Thursday, French federation officials announced the final would be postponed two days until Tuesday with proceeds from the final to go vic tims of the Bastia accident.

Officials said 526 of the injured remained hospitalised, including 13 in critical condition and 80 in serious condi-

After the Olympique Marseille decision was announced, the French federation said proceeds from the June 5 match between France and Holland in Lens, France would go to the victims and their families.

'94 Cup draw in Vegas likely



EAST RUTHER-FORD, NJ, May 8: The draw for the 1994 World Cup

probably will be held in Las Vegas on Dec 18 or Dec 19, 1993, FIFA officials said Thursday,

reports AP. Although Las Vegas is not one of the sites for the 24-nation, 52-game tournament, it has bid to host the draw, in which the teams will be di-

FIFA to re-admit SA on July 2

EAST RUTHERFORD, NJ. May 8: FIFA president Joao Havelange said Thursday he expected South Africa would be readmitted to international soccer on July 2 after a 28 year ban, reports AP.

Havelange, who last month toured South Africa, said he would recommend the readmission at the FIFA executive committee meeting July 1 at Zurich, Switzerland, and was confident the FIFA Congress would vote in favour of readmission the following day.

South Africa was suspended by FIFA in 1964 and expelled in 1976.

The problem of apartheid in this country is not a problem any more," Havelange said. "On July 1 during the meeting of the executive committee, I will propose the readmission of South Africa. I am confident that the executive committee will recommend that South Africa should be readmitted the following day at the meeting of the FIFA Congress."

vided into six groups.

FIFA President Joao Havelange said soccer was seeking the spectacle of Glitter Gulch for the draw, which will be broadcast live

worldwide. "FIFA has wanted to go there for a number of reasons, and given the international prestige of a Las Vegas show, it makes a lot of sense," said Scott Le Tellier, chief operating officer of World Cup USA 1994, the committee that will

stage the games. A source familiar with the bidding, speaking on the condition he not be identified, said Caesars Palace and The Mirage were seeking to hold the draw, as was the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, which would stage it in the Thomas & Mack

that the decision was not final "We are awaiting proposals from the hotels," FIFA spokesman Guido Tongoni

Center. FIFA officials cautioned

In order to have the draw take place during prime time European television, it probably would start at mid-day. "It should be a pretty good show, " Le Tellier said. "This is

what Vegas wanted to do all

along. The qualifying draw in which 136 nations were divided groups for the preliminary round, was held Dec 8 at The Paramount in New York's Madison Square Garden. The United States qualifies automatically as host nation and Germany qualifies as defending champion. The other nations play 582 games to determine

the other 22 finalists. In addition to the draw,

FIFA will hold its executive committee meetings in Las Vegas that week.

The 52-game tournament will be played from June 17-July 17, 1994, in Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Orlando, San Francisco and Washington. The exact schedule of games will be announced June 30 in Zurich, Switzerland, following the next FIFA executive committee meeting.

ROK girls make Fed

Cup tennis final COLOMBO, May 8: South Korea qualified for the final round of the Federation Cup tennis tournament with a 2-0 win over Chinese Taipei in the Asia Oceania qualifying finals,

which ended here today, reports AFP. The women's top regional tennis competition was worked off over five days among players from India, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand and Sri

Lanka. South Korea's top seed, Park Sung-Hee, clinched the tie with a hard-fought 3-6, 6-3, 6-3 victory over Wang Shih-Ting in the decisive second singles. Her teammate Kim Il- Soon

won the first singles, beating Lin Ya-Hui in straight sets 6-2, The doubles match between the two countries was called

off as South Korea had already

won the tie. The Federation Cup final competition will be fought in Frankfurt starting

Berlin lets Bubka down

BERLIN, May 8: Unhappy with training conditions in Berlin, pole vault world record holder Serget Bubka has returned to his native Ukraine to prepare for the Barcelona Olympics, an official said Friday, reports

Bubka signed a contract with a Berlin club in January and moved with his family to a city apartment. But Rudi Thiel, track and

field director of the OSC Berlin club, said Bubka has returned to Donetsk in Ukraine to prepare for the Olympics. Bubka complained that the

indoor hall he was using was

becoming overcrowded and

that too many journalists wanted to interview him, Thiel said. He said Bubka would return to Berlin in May, before going to the Summer Olympics in Barcelona which

Thai pair jolts Indonesians

start in late July.

KUALA LUMPUR, May 8: Eight-time Thomas Cup champions Indonesia breezed past Thailand 4-1 in a Group A match on Thursday but not before a scare when their top doubles pair lost to a Thai scratch combination, reports

Ardy Wiranata redeemed himself after his shocky defeat by Sweden's Jens Olsson on Tuesday by beating Sompol Kukasemkij 15-6, 15-4 in the first singles.

But the Indonesians were olted yet again when All England doubles champion Eddy Hartono and Rudy Gunawan went down to Thailand's scratch pair of Pramote Thirawiwatana and Sakrapee Thongsari 16-18, 15-8, 3-15.

The Indonesians' play was lethargic and they made too many unforced errors.

They were too anxious to finish the match off and made many mistakes" said Sakrapee. "We pushed the shuttle a lot to the back to tire them."

Sakrapee, who has only recently recovered from an injury, is not the regular partner for Pramote who usually pairs with Siripong Siripul who was rested.

The Indonesians however won the rest of the matches eastly. In the women's Uber Cup, defending champions trounced the China Netherlands 5-0 and will now meet arch rivals Indonesia to decide the winner of Group A on Sunday. Indonesia are expected to beat Malaysia when they meet today.

South Korea, who lost the last two finals to China, are tipped to meet the Chinese in the final again.

ROK BEAT HOSTS

In another Thomas Cup Group B game, South Korea edged out hosts Malaysia 3-2 to keep their semifinals hopes alive after a surprising defeat

by Denmark on Wednesday. Malaysia got of to a good start when Rashid Sidek easily beat Lee Kwang-Jin 15-7, 15-

But the Malaysians knew they were in trouble when brothers Razif and Jalani Sidek, their top doubles pair, lost 15-11, 15-12 to Park Joo-Bongand Lee Sang-Bok - a partnership re-launched because Park's current partner Kim Moon-Soo was injured.

"We did not lack confidence," Park said. "We had beaten them three times before in 1989 when we were playing together."

Foo-Kok Keong won the second singles to put Malaysia 2-1 ahead but the South Koreans levelled the tie by taking the second doubles with the untried pairing of Lee Kwang-Jin and Shon Jin-Hwan.

Malaysia must now beat Denmark on Sunday to have any chance of making the semifinals,

Morale boost for Swedes

STOCKHOLM, May 8: Striker Kennet Andersson, only a substitute for his club Mechelen, led European championship hosts Sweden to a confidence—boosting 5-0 win over Poland in a friendly on Thursday, reports Reuter. This was exactly what we

to enjoy some praise this time," said Sweden's manager Tommy Svensson. Sweden's recent record in internationals is far from impressive: two 0-0 draws and a 1-0 defeat to Australia during a

tour in January and uncon-

needed. It felt good all the way.

Perhaps we are in the position

vincing 1-0 win over Tunisia. Svensson has also been criticised in the national media for being undecided on most team positions with only one month to go before the hosts kick off the finals against France on June 10.

National men's volleyball final today

BJMC girls nat'l champs

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation are the new national women's volleyball champions.

In the final of the ninth version of the nationals at the Outer Stadium volleyball court yesterday the spikers from BJMC beat Rangpur DSA by three sets to two in a thrilling contest despite the sultry heat and humidity.

spiking of their BJMC opponents. The second set was slightly keener with Rangpur managing to take 12 points off their more fancted rivals.

Just when everything seemed lost for the girls from the northern district of the country their fortunes sud denly turned with complacency creeping in among the players on the other side of

In the third-place play-off, Ansars beat Chittagong 15-3, 15-7, 15-2.

BAF FINISH THIRD In the day's other fair at the same venue, Bangladesh Air Force earned the consolation of finishing third in the tenteam 15th men's nationals. beating Bangladesh Rifles 15-6, 4-15, 15-12, 15-4 in the



The triumphant Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation girls who annexed the ninth national women's volleyball championship beating Rangpur in yesterday's final at the Outer Stadium -Star photo volleyball court.

BJMC, who had beaten Bangladesh Ansars 7-15, 15-1, 15-10 and 16-14 in what in the end turned out to be a fairly exciting semifinal earlier in the day at the Dhanmondi indoor complex, found in Rangpur a determined opponent who refused to give up even after conceding the first two sets of their best-of-five showdown.

Rangpur, 15-1, 15-4 and 15-5 winners over Chittagong in a rather one-sided semifinal, lost the opening set of the final, shifted to the Volleyball Stadium yesterday afternoon, 2-15, failing to find their rhythm against the aggressive

the court. And taking full advantage of the overconfidence on the part of the BJMC girls the Rangpur lasses smashed their way through to reduce the margin by wrapping up the set at 15-12. Spurred by this success Rangpur did even better in the fourth set, winning 15-8 to push the issue to the deciding fifth set.

However, extra effort expended in that fine the rearguard action appeared to have sapped the energes of the slimmer, younger girls from the north and they ran out of steam in the crucial set, going down rather tamley 9-15 to give BJMC the title.

The final of the men's championship, scheduled for this afternoon, pits defending champions and firm favourites Bangladesh Army against last year's runner-up Bangladesh

phies among the winners both the men's and women's events - after today's final. The week-long meets, held simultaneously under the aus-

Commerce Minister M K

Anwar will give away the tro-

pices of the Bangladesh Volleyball Federation, were sponsored by Bangladesh General Insurance Company.

Liverpool-Sunderland F A Cup final today

High personal stakes for Barnes



LONDON, May 8: John Barnes Liverpool's gifted but enigmatic winger, is primed

his virtuoso performances in Saturday's F A Cup final as he attempts to secure his England place and attract an Italian club, reports Reuter.

Barnes, who has been restricted to just 15 games for Liverpool this season because of an Achilles tendon injury, needs to convince England manager Graham Taylor he is worthy of a place in the European Championship squad for June.

And the Jamaica- born player, who covets a move to a top Italian side next season, knows he has to display his range of talents on Saturday against Sunderland and in the European Championship finals.

This could be my farewell and what a setting - the greatest club occasion in the world," said Barnes, who wants to leave the F A Cup at Anfield as his legacy of five years at the

"My only thoughts now are about Liverpool and winning the FA Cup. That's all I am concentrating on."

"I won't make a decision about my future until after-

LATEST: According to BBC monitored in Dhaka late last night,Liverpool will be without John Barnes for today's FA Cup final. Barnes Friday failed a fitness test and will watch the proceed ings from the bench, along with team mate Ron Whelan.



JOHN BARNES

wards, possible not until after the European Championship." "I am still in negotiations

with Liverpool about a new deal but my desire to play abroad, in Italy in particular, is as strong as ever." Barnes, who scored a third round hattrick against Crewe and executed a superb freekick to set up Ronnie Whelan's

in his rare appearances, already has one Cup Winners' medal and wants to sign off with a second. He was in the Liverpool side which beat Everton 3-2 in 1989 thanks to two goals from

dramatic late equaliser in the

semifinal against Portsmouth

lan Rush, a substitute for John Aldridge. Barnes also tasted Wembley defeat the previous year when

underdogs Wimbledon caused

a sensational upset in a game in which Liverpool froze. But having been caught out once, Liverpool are unlikely to repeat the mistake and Barnes

says they know what to expect. "If we played Sunderland 10 times we would expect to beat them nine times, but the one

we lose could be the F A Cup final," said Barnes. "But we are determined to win because we have had a very

disappointing season."

No blood tests at Barcelona detecting the use of perfor-



Friday, reports AP.

May 8: The International Olympic Committee has ruled out in troducing blood tests as a doping control measure at the Summer Games in Barcelona, a top official said

Kevan Gosper, an IOC vice

president, said more time was

needed to perfect the testing

process and study the ethical

SEVILLE, Spain,

implications of drawing blood from athletes. "First you have to have the feasibility, then we can look at the other questions," he said during a break in meetings of

the IOC Executive Board. Gosper said the issue was discussed with Prince Alexandre de Merode, chairman of the IOC's medical commission, earlier this week in Monte Carlo. "Essentially they're not sat-

isfied they've got sufficient testing processes," Gosper said. "There is an argument that before you are confident to apply this you have to have many, many tests."

The thrust of the question was to avoid uncertainty and controversy," he said.

wanted to clear the air." Blood test would supplement urinalysis as means of

Royal blessing for fair play

LONDON, May 8: The Duke of Edinburgh gave his backing here on Thursday to a new organisation to improve standards of fair play and enhance the image of professional sport in Britain, reports AFP.

"I think this is a great op portunity to improve the relationship between officials, like umpires and judges, and the performers," Prince Philip said of the new Institute of Professional

"It's absolutely vital that professional sportsmen and women should get on with and have a relationship with those officials."

"Image is a very important element; if someone brings the medical profession into disrepute, it affects everybody across the board in that profession. It is the same with sport. It is important that it has a high image."

mance- enhancing drugs by athletes. Some officials and athletes,

especially in the United States, have expressed concern that blood tests could represent a violation of the body. De Merode caused a stir on the eve of the Winter Games in Albertville when he suggested that blood testing could be introduced immediately. But he backed down, saying later that it was necessary to carry out about 10,000 trial tests before starting blood testing at the Olympics.

Gosper said the whole matter would be discussed again after the Barcelona Oames. Keba Mbaye, an IOC vice

president and former judge on the World Court, reported last year that blood tests do not represent any moral, legal or religious problems. "From my point of view, we

have still not discussed (the ethical implications) extensively," Gosper said. Some officials have suggested that blood tests should

be introduced quietly in order to catch unsuspecting athletes. But one IOC official said that

was the wrong approach.

ROBERTO BAGGIO Georges Grun, commanded the match throughout and kept Baggio, Italy's most expen-