

# Muktis have no pity for BJMC

Sports Reporter



Muktijodha Sangsad took no pity on the relegation-bound, demoralised Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) as they slammed five goals past the hapless team in the second match of the First Division football league yesterday at the Dhaka Stadium.

The winners who, after yesterday's win, took their points tally to 18 from 17 matches, led the first half 4-1 in a one-sided match.

BJMC, who have three points from 17 matches, did not look capable of registering their first victory in this year's league last night and the Muktis with the honed skills of Mozammel Huq and Abid Hiru, who had earlier performed very well for Bangladesh in the recently concluded fifth Asian under-16 football in Rajshahi dominated their opponents right through.

Masud Rana, their striker, scored two goals to emerge as the third highest scorer after

Mohammedans' Rahimov (13) and Abahani's Aslam (12) with ten goals.

Muktijodha opened the BJMC defence with planned moves down both flanks and took an early lead in the third minute when Masud Rana put the ball into the net with BJMC custodian Nasir knowing very little about it (1-0). Abid Hiru, who played such a vital role in Bangladesh's win of the meet in Rajshahi slipped in goal number two a minute later with a powerful left footer (2-0).

BJMC, comprising players from the Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protishthan (BKSP), reversed the pattern in the 12th minute when midfielder Milon surprised Faruq and his Muktis teammates with a sudden long shot (2-1).

BJMC players proved beyond doubt that they owed the goal more to their stars than any footballing skills in the next few minutes as the Muktis, in red shirts, scored their third goal five minutes later with consummate ease.

Muktijodha forward Riaz scored in the 17th minute with Nasir again found wanting under the BJMC bar (3-1).

Zahid of Muktijodha slammed the fourth goal two minutes before the half time with a low, hard drive (4-1).

Muktijodha held the whiphand in the second half but the fat scoreline perhaps desisted them from putting in that extra effort and they had to wait 31 minutes in the post-lemon session for their fifth. Masud Rana left behind his marker in a sudden thrust to run away with the ball free inside the BJMC box and completed the tally duly with the substitute BJMC custodian Selim having very little to thwart the forward (5-1).

MUKTIJODHA SANGSAD: Faruq, Shipar, Zahid, Shajahan, Pappu, Faiz Babu, Masud Rana, Mizan, Hiru (Chapal), Mazammel (Shahid) and Riaz.

BJMC SC: Nasir (Selim), Shankar, Sabu, Papel, Rashid, Alamgir, Mamun, Milon, Alamgir (Mostan), Nipu and Sumon.

## GOALLESS DRAW

In the day's first match at the same venue, Victoria Sporting Club shared points with lowly-placed Dhanmondi Club in a goalless encounter.

Victoria now have 10 points from 18 matches while Dhanmondi have 14 from 18 outings.

Meanwhile, Abahani Krira Chakra, the reigning league champions, meet Federation Cup champions Brothers Union in an important tie of the First Division football league at the Mirpur stadium today at 7:00 pm.

Abahani have the highest collection of points so far — 33 from 17 matches — while Brothers, no longer in the race, languish well behind with 25 points, also from 17 matches.

## TODAY'S MATCHES

PWD SC vs Eskaton (5pm Mirpur)  
Abahani vs Brothers (7pm Mirpur)

# Riflemen all the way

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Rifles Greens outclassed VDP Ansars 'B' 24-9, including two lonas, in the last match of Group 'B' in the Premier kabaddi league yesterday at the kabaddi court.

BDR Greens, who won all their three group matches, led the first half 4-3.

In the other match of the same group, Police 'B' beat Fire Service 'B' 16-12.

The winners, who finished as the group runners-up, led the first half 12-6 with one lona.

The league comes to an end tomorrow, May 31, with the final between BDR (Greens) and BDR (Reds), the two group champions, to be played at the Outer Stadium kabaddi court at 5 pm.

## Shah Alam's death anniversary

The Bangladesh Amateur Athletic Federation (BAAF) yesterday arranged a milad mahfil at the conference room of the National Sports Council in observance of the second death anniversary of Havilder Md Shah Alam, the former fastest man of South Asia.

President of the Athletic Federation Enamul Huq, former secretary general of Bangladesh Olympic Association and member of the sports development committee of the Olympic Council of Asia Capt (ret'd) Siddique Ahmed, BN, sports organisers and athletic federation officials were present.

The ace sprinter died in a road accident in Pabna on May 29, 1990 while coming to Dhaka to join the training camp for the Beijing-bound Bangladesh Asian Games squad.

## Div II cricket qualifying meet results

Sports Reporter

Malibagh Bright Boys Club, Mohammadpur, Evergreen Azampur and Nayapaltan won their respective matches in the qualifying competition for next year's Second Division cricket league yesterday at venues both in and outside the capital.

Malibagh Bright Club defeated Adarsha Cricket Club by 27 runs at the Osmani Stadium in Narayanganj.

Put in to bat, Malibagh, aided by 44 extras, scored 146 for nine wickets. Sunny, 30, Rabhu, 16, and Shezan, 14, were the notable scorers.

Anjan of Adarsha claimed three for 20 and Imron three for 31 among the Adarsha bowlers.

Adarsha, in their turn, were all out for 119 with Faisal and Anjan, the men who took three wickets in the Malibagh innings, scoring 36 each.

Shaon of Malibagh ripped through the Adarsha batting with figures of four for 29. Mamun took two for 19.

At the Mahakhali T & T ground, Mohammadpur scraped past Anushilan Sangsad by two wickets.

Batting first, Anushilan, aided by a fine 50 from Tarun, collected 117 for all ten wickets in 33.3 overs.

Arif of Mohammadpur was the most successful bowler with figures of three for 18. Shantu picked up three for 35.

The collective efforts of Intekhab, Rajan and Shantu, who got 22, 19 and 17 respectively, helped Mohammadpur overtake the Anushilan total in 30.5 overs with two wickets to spare.

Fine batting by Anadil and Tapan helped Evergreen to inflict a crushing 92-run defeat upon Rajabazar Jagorani Krira Chakra at the Mirpur Pallabi Ground.

Asked to bat first, Evergreen rattled up 208 for six wickets from 35 overs with Anadil making 70 and Tapan 50. Bappi with 25 and Imrul with 24 were the other notable scorers.

Rajabazar, in their turn, were all out for 116 in 24 overs.

Akhbar and Imtiaz bagged three wickets apiece for Evergreen.

Azampur Boys Club recorded a handsome five-wicket victory against Abarani Krira Sangstha at the western ground of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Sent in to bat, Abarani KS could muster only 136 for nine, Danesh topscoring with 29, followed by skipper Azam with 26.

Tanvir bagged three Abarani wickets for 12. Wicketkeeper Tareq's 36 and 28 by Tanvir saw Azampur home and dry in 32.3 overs for the loss of five wickets.

The eastern portion of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium witnessed a similar victory margin for Nayapaltan Cricketers who knocked out Sunrise Sporting Club.

Batting first, Sunrise made 128 for eight with Ali making 35 and Nomi making 20.

Sujan 26, Arif 28, and Badar and Rafiq with 22 each helped Nayapaltan Cricketers to score 132 for five, thereby winning the match quite handsomely.



Action from yesterday's semifinals of the eighth national handball championship at the Outer Stadium. —Star photo

# BDR, BAF in today's final

Sports Reporter

True to pre-tournament predictions, Bangladesh Rifles set up a clash against Bangladesh Air Force in today's final of the Sunball eighth national handball championship. The match starts at 4:30 this afternoon at the Outer Stadium handball court.

Preceding the final will be the third-place deciding play-off between losing semifinalists Dhaka DSA and Bangladesh Ansars, scheduled for a 3:30 pm start.

Although the best two teams eventually made it to the final yet Bangladesh Air Force were

called upon to stage a great escape act in the day's second semifinal which saw them trailing Bangladesh Ansars 6-9 at half time. However, the BAF players only underlined their intrinsic worth by rallying wonderfully in the second session of play to prevail 17-14 in the keenly fought battle.

The BAF engines really revved up in the second half and they launched well directed sorties on the opponent goalmouth to score 11 'hits' as against just five successful raids on their own goals by the harassed Ansars men.

Sultan led the Air Force aces with nine goals to his credit while Shaif scored four times. Abbas Hossain with five and Jewell and Farid with four

goals each couldn't stop the match from going out of their hands.

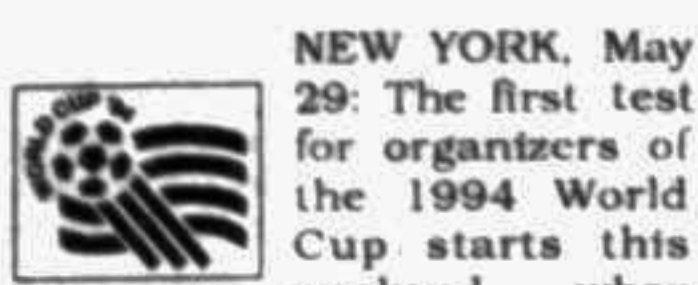
Earlier, Bangladesh Rifles, the metropolis league champions, romped past a weaker Dhaka DSA 18-12 after leading the first half by eight goals to three.

Rafiq was their star performer netting five goals while Jahangir and Maung Shwe Prue scored three each while Salahuddin with four goals and Selim with three tried hard for Dhaka.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeq Hossain will give away the trophies after today's final.

The meet, which began May 25, was participated by 10 teams.

# Dress rehearsal for World Cup '94



NEW YORK, May 29: The first test for organizers of the 1994 World Cup starts this weekend when the national teams of Italy, Ireland, Portugal and the United States open a four-team, nine-day tournament known as US Cup '92, reports AP.

Each team plays three games in the tournament, which begins Saturday with the United States playing Ireland at Washington's RFK Stadium and continues Sunday with an Italy-Portugal matchup in the Yale Bowl at New Haven, Conn.

Portugal plays the United States on Wednesday night at Chicago's Soldier Field, while Italy and Ireland play the following afternoon at Foxboro Stadium in a rematch of their

1990 World Cup quarterfinal, won 1-0 by Italy.

Italy, which beat the US team 1-0 in the first round of the 1990 World Cup, plays the Americans on Saturday at Soldier Field, while Portugal and Ireland play Sunday at Foxboro Stadium.

"This is our season," US goalkeeper Tony Meola said. "We don't have a league, so we get excited about every game."

The tournament is intended to give organizers a run-through of some of the tasks they will need to perform and some of the logistical problems that may come up during the real tournament, scheduled for June 17-July 17, 1994, in nine US cities. It also is designed to show top European teams to US fans.

"We're not really using our World Cup people for this," said Alan Rothenberg, president of the US Soccer

Federation and chairman of the organizing committee that will stage the 1994 World Cup. "It's too early. I think next year is where we're keying. 1993 is really going to be the time for our host committees to get on-the-job training."

Still, the rest of the world will be watching now, especially the games involving Italy, which will be televised live in Europe.

"We are not going to the States for a vacation," Italy coach Arrigo Sacchi said. "Those who may think they are on a pleasure journey will be dropped from the team. We must not spoil this opportunity to improve our international experience and teamwork, although I am aware that many players are worn out at the end of the tough Italian season."

The United States will have all their top players available for the first time since the

1990 World Cup. Midfielders Tab Ramos and John Harkes and forward Peter Vermes have rarely been available because they play for European clubs.

In addition, forward Roy Wegerle of the Blackburn Rovers in the English First Division and defender Thomas Dooley of Kaiserslautern in the German Bundesliga will make their US debuts. Both were given US passports in recent months in order to make them eligible to play for the United States.

"Even though I haven't played for a national team, I have played very important and serious matches internationally," said Dooley, who scored three goals in 20 games this season. "Of course, any time you're able to play for a national team, it's going to bring goosebumps for the skin."

# All eyes will be on the Germans



GELSENKIRCHEN, Germany, May 29: Matthias Sammer's future as replacement for injured captain Lothar Matthaus will be scrutinized Saturday when Germany play Turkey in an exhibition match, the next-to-last test for the World Cup finalist before next month's European Championship, reports AP.

Germany will also play Northern Ireland on Tuesday in Bremen, before travelling to Sweden where their group rivals are defending champion Netherlands, Scotland and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Matthaus, who plays for Internazionale in the Italian First Division, will miss the European Championship following surgery to repair torn knee ligaments.

At least for Saturday's game, his role in the central midfield has been assigned to Sammer, who will join Matthaus at Inter next season.

Sammer, a former East German, played a decisive role in guiding VfB Stuttgart to the Bundesliga title this season and national team coach Bert Vogts has decided to test him



MATTHAUS ... absent in the key position usually reserved for Matthaus.

"I don't want him to be compared to Matthaus," Vogts said Friday. "He wouldn't be able to stand the pressure. He

should simply play as Matthias Sammer."

Vogts won't be able to field striker Karlheinz Riedle, who suffered a light neck injury in training Thursday.



KLINSMANN ... key man

Riedle's Lazio Rome teammate Thomas Doll, who is nursing a foot injury, also may miss Saturday's game. Jurgen Klinsmann, who is

considering leaving Inter Milan for Real Madrid next season, will take Riedle's place in the attack and will team up with Rudi Voeller.

The German team has spent the week training in the northern resort of Malente, their traditional camp before major tournaments.

"We are ready, as far as we are concerned the European Championship can start tomorrow," Vogts said.

Vogts later announced a lineup that includes several players who are not expected to be among the starters in Sweden.

Backup goalkeeper Andreas Koepke gets another chance to gain some international experience, as well as 20-year-old defender Christian Woerns.

Germany's expected starting lineup:

Andreas Koepke, Manfred Binz, Guido Buchwald, Jurgen Kohler, Christian Woerns, Thomas Hassler, Matthias Sammer, Andreas Moeller, Andreas Brehme, Rudi Voeller, Jurgen Klinsmann.

## Burkina Faso opts out of '94 Cup

PARIS, May 29: Burkina Faso have become the third African country to withdraw from qualifying rounds for the 1994 World Cup finals, reports AP.

Sierre Leone pulled out in February and the tiny Equatorial Island state of Sao Tome and Principe withdrew last week due to financial problems.

World football body FIFA gave no reason for the withdrawal of the Burkinabes who had been seeded third behind Zambia and Madagascar in Group of the African qualifying zone. Matches in the zone begin on October 9.

# ITV sues English soccer chiefs

LONDON, May 29: Independent Television sued the football chiefs of the Premier League on Thursday alleging breach of contract in a battle for lucrative rights to live telecasts of British soccer, reports Reuter.

A spokesman for the ITV network of regional television stations said a writ for damages was lodged in the High Court.

ITV is staging a rearguard action to stall a record five-year 304 million pound sterling (dollar 550 million) contract won last week by satellite

Broadcaster British Sky Broadcasting (BSkyB) and state-owned BBC television. On Wednesday, ITV failed to win a court ruling blocking the deal for two weeks to allow it to make a new bid.

ITV alleges that Premier League executives revealed details of its bid to BSkyB, allowing the satellite broadcaster to send in its trump offer — the largest in British sporting history.

The writ lodged on Thursday seeks damages from the 22 clubs making up the new Premier League and from BSkyB, alleging it induced them to breach an obligation to

keep the ITV bid secret.

No figure for the damages sought was revealed.

BSkyB, is half-owned by Australian-born publisher Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation Ltd. The Premier League has said its decision was also influenced by the fact that BSkyB had the weight of New Corp newspapers behind it.

Premier League chief executive Rick Parry has made no secret of the fact he called BSkyB about the ITV offer shortly before the deal was clinched last week.

Parry argues that satellite and pay television offers the best chances of revenue for soccer clubs spending tens of millions of pounds on new players and new facilities.

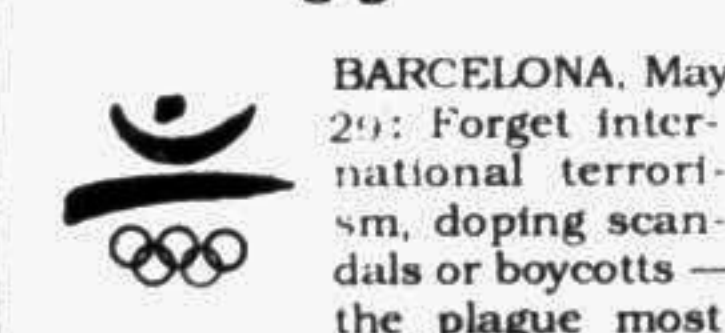
Media analysts say BSkyB was prepared to bid high to win the deal to cover the new Premier League, being created for the 1992-93 season, in the hope of boosting sales of its satellite service. The BBC end of the deal involved delayed telecasts.

## Italian juniors beat Swedes 2-0

FERRARA, Italy, May 29: Italy scored twice in the space of nine second half minutes to secure a potentially decisive advantage over Sweden in the European under-21 soccer championship final with a 2-0 first-leg win on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Sampdoria striker Renato Buso settled the match, scoring the first goal in the 71st minute and creating the second for Torino midfielder Gianluca Sordo nine minutes later.

# Traffic is the biggest worry



BARCELONA, May 29: Forget international terrorism, doping scandals or boycotts — the plague most feared by Barcelona's Olympic organisers is the city's notorious traffic problem, writes Reuter.

With gridlock a daily bind and city centre parking next to impossible, one of the greatest threats to the smooth running of the Olympic Games is the traffic jam.

Citizens consider driving to be more of an artistic statement than a necessary function, and steady nerves are needed to cope with some of the more flamboyant tactics on the road.

But help is at hand. A new network of ring roads, and a mammoth traffic control operation has been designed to whisk Carl Lewis and Juan Antonio Samaranch to the stadium in time.

Several years ago, before Barcelona was awarded the Olympics and when plans were being drawn up for a new motorway ringroad, experts consulted by the authorities predicted the need for a road 25 lanes wide to cope with the normal volume of traffic.

In fact, the 35 kms (20 miles), 130-billion-peseta (1.3 billion dollar) ring road completed at the end of April this year features a maximum of six

lanes, just enough capacity to cope with the projected rise in traffic in and around the city for the next three years.

The authorities hope the ring will play a key part in persuading drivers to keep well away from the city centre during the Games period from July 25 to August 9, when Olympic traffic is at its peak.

Double or even triple parking is commonplace in Barcelona, and defies attempts by the authorities to ease the problem through higher and better-enforced penalties — only about 40 per cent of drivers actually volunteer to pay their fines.

With easy and rapid mobility crucial for the smooth functioning of the Games, the city has decided to impose penalty tactics to keep the roads free for the 115,000-strong "Olympic family" of athletes, officials, media and VIPs.

Foreign visitors will be warned not to bring their cars to Barcelona itself, but to take advantage like other commuters of "park-and-ride" facilities, providing cheap, secure parking outside the city near Metro, train or bus terminals.

Special "Olympic tickets" will be on offer from July 15, providing one day's unlimited travel on all public transport for as little as 400 pesetas (4 dollars), or 1,000 pesetas (10 dollars) to use the park and-ride facilities.

All the public transport authorities will increase the frequency of their services.

The Olympic family will receive favoured treatment to travel around the city, between the five main hubs of Olympic activity.

A total of 3.1 billion pesetas (31 million dollar) will be spent on ferrying athletes and officials by bus and car to and from the Olympic Villages and their competition sites.

The Barcelona Olympic Organising Committee (COOB '92) will have at its disposal some 2,100 private cars and minibuses, 640 coaches, and 200 motorcycles, and is currently training the professional and volunteer drivers who will do the ferrying.

The job will be made considerably easier by the creation, specially for the Games, of 100 kms (60 miles) of exclusive Moscow-style priority lanes on many of the main roads around Barcelona.

For the visitor during the Games, there remains the rapid and air-conditioned Metro, the prolific bus network (including the unfortunately named "tomb-bus" in the very centre), and a fleet of about 11,000 reasonably-priced taxis.

But the message from the city authorities is clear. Please come to the city, but leave your car outside.



Action from the Premier kabaddi league at the Outer Stadium yesterday. —Star photo