

FIFA instructors in town

Sports Reporter
Two FIFA instructors — Klaus Dieter Trapp of Germany and George Suppliah of Singapore — arrived in the city yesterday to conduct the Futuro FIFA Coca-Cola world soccer development programme workshop to be held from July 6-11.

Trapp will take classes with the 25 local coaches while Suppliah will take care of the refereeing.

Paul Mohy Samuel of Malaysia, another FIFA instructor, will arrive today. He will discuss the finer points of soccer administration with 15 local football organisers.

Meanwhile, FIFA physio Prof Cestmir Napravnik of Czechoslovakia, who was supposed to meet 15 sports doctors in the seminar, will not be able to run the clinic due to an Achilles tendon injury, according to a FIFA telex.

Dr Thomas Fried of Canada will replace Napravnik.

Fried is due in the city on July 6.

Minister for Communications Col (ret'd) Oli Ahmad will inaugurate the programme organised by the Bangladesh Football Federation at a local hotel at 9.30 am tomorrow, July 6.

Fleet Club win

Sports Reporter
Title-aspirants Fleet Club registered their fifth consecutive victory in the Second Division basketball league yesterday to jointly lead the points table with Kurmitola Apollo Club.

Both Fleet Club and Apollo Club, the two unbeaten teams in the fray, have collected 10 points each.

Their nearest rivals are Flame Boys Club who have eight points from five outings.

Yesterday, Fleet Club outclassed Bakshibazar Club 94-66.

Subir with 26 and Bablu with 23 points led the charge for Fleet Club while Rtyadh and Samir scored 22 and 14 points respectively for the vanquished.

Bakshibazar now have seven points from four matches. Earlier in the afternoon Kurmitola Young Stars beat Rising Force Club 70-62 in an exciting encounter.

Young Stars and Rising Force now have seven and six points respectively from five games each.

Magic doesn't rule out a comeback

NEW YORK, July 4: Magic Johnson has indicated he's thinking about a comeback for the 1992-1993 NBA season, and thought about making one at the end of last season, reports AP.

"I'm not abetting man. If I was, I would bet that he'll be back," Johnson said in an interview conducted for ESPN television. Excerpts were published Saturday in New York Newsday and will be shown on ESPN on Sunday.

Johnson said he would have returned to the Lakers last season if he thought the team had a chance to win the championship.

Johnson retired from the Los Angeles Lakers on Nov 7 when he learned he had contracted the HIV-virus, which causes AIDS. But he played in the NBA All-Star Game and was voted Most Valuable Player, and is currently starting for the US Olympic basketball team.

Johnson said he has not reached a final decision on returning in the fall. He said he will only return if he's healthy and if his wife Cookie, approves.

Laker officials have indicated they will support whatever decision Johnson makes.

2 more Danes join German clubs

COLOGNE, Germany, July 4: Kim Christofte, a defensive midfielder who helped Denmark to European Championship last week, on Friday signed a two-year contract with the German First-Division club Cologne, reports AP.

Meanwhile, Johnny Moelby, another member of the victorious Danish squad but one who never left the bench in Sweden, joined Borussia Moechengladbach.

Christofte earned his former club Brondby a 200,000-mark (Drs 130,000) transfer fee, while the 31-year-old is expected to make an annual salary of 650,000 (Drs 430,000), Cologne officials said. Christofte could take over the role of another Cologne-based Danish star, Henrik Anderson, who fractured his knee during the European Championship and is expected to be sidelined for six months.

Two other Danish internationals also play in Germany — striker Flemming Povlsen for Borussia Dortmund and striker Bent Christiansen for Schalke 04. Brian Laudrup has left Bayern Munich for Fiorentina of Italy.



Action from the schools kabaddi competition which began at the Outer Stadium kabaddi court yesterday. —Star photo

DOHS Jrs in semis

Sports Reporter

A deadly spell of four for ten by Khaled of DOHS (Juniors) put the kibosh on Maghbazar Kishalay Sangha in the weather-deferred quarter-final of the qualifying tournament for next year's Second Division cricket league yesterday at Dhaka Stadium.

DOHS now play Evergreen Club in the semifinal tomorrow, July 6.

Batting first in a twenty-overs a side match, cut short because of a delayed start which gave the rain affected ground some time for convalescence, DOHS collected 95 for six wickets with Bappi hitting an unbeaten 29. Bablu was the other notable scorer with 20.

Extras contributed 16 to the total undershooting the three-figure mark by four runs. Himel was the most successful Maghbazar bowler with figures of two for 16 while Jilani claimed one for 15.

Then came the turnaround in an otherwise predictable, out-of-season one-day cricket match. Khaled dismissed four Maghbazar batsmen in his 'improvised quota' of four overs to break the backbone of the chasers who had to score

nearly five per over to win a place in the semifinals. Maghbazar were bowled out for 66 in 19.2 overs, with Tamal just managing to get into the double-figures. Extras amounting to 12 were the highest scorer.

Khaled had a commendable analysis of four for ten while Raju bagged two for 11, also from four overs.

Bablu and Ejaz with one apiece hastened the doom of the men from Maghbazar.

The first semi-final will be played today between Kalindi Krira Chakra and Dhanmondi Pragati Sangha at Dhaka Stadium.

BD Games in Dec

The Bangladesh Olympic Association has decided to hold the Bangladesh Games-92 in the third or fourth week of December next, reports BSS.

According to a BOA press release, a meeting will be held at the conference room of the National Sports Council on July 6 at 6 pm to finalise the matters relating to the competition.

The general secretaries of the national sports federations or their nominated representatives have been requested to attend the meeting.

Schools kabaddi gets underway

Sports Reporter

The 1992 schools kabaddi competition got under way yesterday at the Outer Stadium with Maniknagar Primary School and Ahmed Bawany Academy winning their respective matches.

Maniknagar School got the better of Ideal School and College 52-22 including three 'lonas' in the inaugural match. The winners led the first half 26-9.

In the other match of the day, Bawany Academy outclassed Dwip Shikha School 47-26, also inclusive of three 'lonas'.

Bawany led 23-7 at the breather.

Sixteen educational institutions — split into four groups — are taking part in the meet organised by the Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Spadek Hossain inaugurated the meet as chief guest.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Rifles Public School vs Kamalapur School (5 pm)
Dholatpur School vs Hatler Ali School (5.30 pm).

Pakistan declare at 505 for 9 on rain-hit 3rd day

Akram strikes early blows

MANCHESTER, July 4: Wasim Akram, one of Pakistan's heroes in their triumph at Lord's, jolted England by capturing two wickets in quick succession in the rain-hit third cricket Test at Old Trafford today, reports Reuter.

Left-arm paceman Akram removed in-form opener Alec Stewart (15) and the recalled Mike Atherton (0) as England slipped to 42 for two after Pakistan declared their first innings at 505 for nine.

Captain Graham Gooch, with an unbeaten 39, and Robin Smith steadfastly steered their side to 72 for two at the close of the third day.

Akram, whose inspired all-round from helped Pakistan to win the second Test by two wickets for a 1-0 lead in the five-match series, made his double strike during the last session of a day interrupted several times by rain and bad light.

England would have been in deeper trouble if Gooch had not been missed by Salim Malik in the slips on a loose stroke off pace bowler Aaqib Javed shortly before the close.

As rain continually interrupted proceedings, only Salim Malik with 34 was able to continue Pakistan's attempt to gain 600 runs. When Mushtaq Ahmed was caught by Chris Lewis off Gooch for six, Miandad declared.

Gooch was lucky to keep his wicket when England began the run chase. Inzamam-ul-Haq and Salim Malik both spilled catches, off Akram and Aqib Javed, although at 72 for two England are still in trouble.

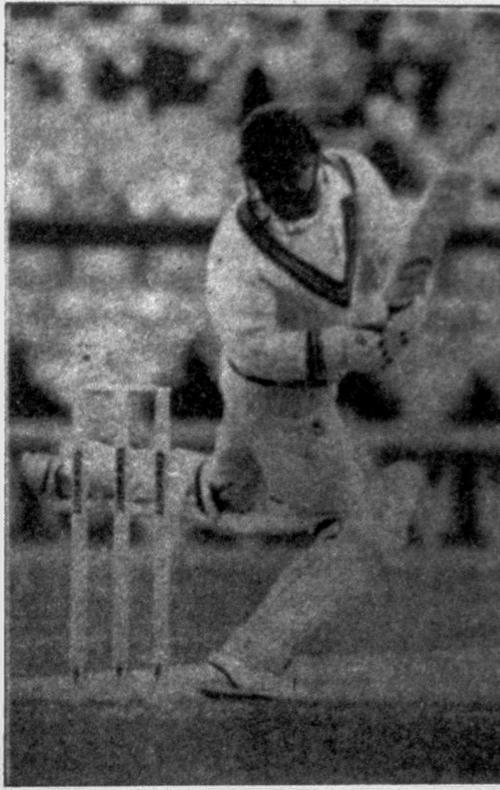
Gooch's otherwise resolute batting followed his best bowling in Tests of three for 39, frustrating Pakistan's attempt to reach a massive total from their overnight base of 388 for three.

An earlier report said: England captain Graham Gooch snapped up three wickets with his medium pacers to frustrate Pakistan's efforts to achieve a massive total in the third cricket Test today.

England opens Gooch and

Alec Stewart had made nine without loss from 11 deliveries when bad light halted play. Rain began to fall as the players went off, and tea was taken.

With fast bowler Devon Malcolm having Inzamam-ul-Haq caught at first slip for 26 in between the fall of Malik and Akram, Pakistan's



Pakistan's nightwatchman Moin Khan is discomfited by England paceman Devon Malcolm during the morning session of play on the third day of the third Test at Old Trafford yesterday. — AFP photo

It was the second interruption of the day following Friday's total wash-out, the first stoppage having been earlier in the second session and lasting 40 minutes.

Gooch captured two of his wickets — Salim Malik (34) and Wasim Akram (0) — either side of that break and then accounted for Mushtaq Ahmed to finish with his best Test fig-

ures. hopes of a total approaching 600 vanished.

The touring side added 92 in the morning, with captain Javed Miandad going from his overnight 59 to 88.

When he was within sight of his 24th Test hundred, he played loosely outside off-stump and edged the ball to second slip Graeme Hick to give medium-pace Tim Mun-

ton his first Test wicket. Malcolm removed night-watchman Moin Khan for 15, the batsman mis-hitting to square leg, but Malik and Inzamam added 60 for the sixth wicket with an ease that made Pakistan's subsequent slump somewhat surprising.

At lunch Salim Malik was 25 not out and Inzamam-ul-Haq 19 not out. But within minutes of the players coming off for lunch, heavy rain began to fall.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the third cricket Test between England and Pakistan at Old Trafford on Saturday: PAKISTAN: First innings (overnight 388 for three)

Aamir Sohail b Lewis 205
Rameez Raja c Russell b Malcolm 54
Asif Mujtaba c Atherton b Lewis 57
Javed Miandad c Hick b Munton 88
Moin Khan c Gower 15
Salim Malik b Gooch 34
Inzamamul Haq c Gooch b Malcolm 26
Wasim Akram at Russell b Gooch 0
Waqar Younis not out 2
Mushtaq Ahmed c Lewis b Gooch 6

Extras: (b-9, lb-4, w-2, nb-3) 18
Total: (For nine wickets declared) 505
Fall of wickets: 1-115; 2-241; 3-378; 4-428; 5-432; 6-492; 7-497; 8-497; 9-505.
Did not bat: Aaqib Javed

Bowling: O M R W
Malcolm 31 3 117 3
Lewis 24 5 90 2
Munton 30 6 112 1
Salisbury 20 0 117 0
Gooch 18 2 39 3
Hick 3 0 17 0

ENGLAND: First innings
G Gooch not out 39
A Stewart c Inzamam b Akram 15
M Atherton c Moin b Akram 0
R Smith not out 5
Extras (lb-1 w-2 nb-10) 13
Total (for two wickets) 72
Fall of wickets: 1-41; 2-42
To bat: J Gower, G Hick, C Lewis, J Russell, T Munton, I Salisbury, D Malcolm

Bowling: (to date) O M R W
Wasim Akram 10 1 33 2
Waqar Younis 10 1 2 30 0
Aaqib Javed 1 0 8 0

Lithuanian cagers Barcelona bound

ZARAGOZA, Spain, July 4: Lithuania's basketball team completed the first stage of its long-delayed dream Friday, beating Slovenia 90-73 to qualify for the 1992 Olympic Games — 53 years after it was annexed by the Soviet Union and 11 months after it became free again, reports AP.

Arvidas Sabonis scored 28 points and Sharunas Marciulionis added 20 to lead Lithuania, the first team to advance from the European Olympic qualifying tournament at the Prince Felipe Pavilion.

Lithuania, a burgeoning basketball power when it was absorbed by the Soviet Union in 1939, qualified for the first Olympics in its history.

"This is working out just the like I'd hoped," Marciulionis said. "I'm very, very happy and excited to play

in the Olympics. Everything is going our way."

In other games, Valeri Tikhonenko scored 40 points as the Commonwealth of Independent States beat Israel, 101-85; Croatia got 21 points from Drazen Petrovic to rout Czechoslovakia, 84-68; and Detlef Schrempf returned from a bout of food poisoning to score 37 and lead Germany past Italy 109-91.

Lithuania improved to 5-0 in the 16-day tournament with two games remaining. Germany, Croatia and the CIS — none of which existed in its present form two years ago — are all tied at 3-2 and are battling for the final three Olympic berths.

But Slovenia (2-3), could also wind up tied for the third and fourth spots at 4-3, meaning the tie-breaker procedure

will be implemented. Head-to-head wins and losses are the first criteria, followed by total points in games involving the tied teams.

"I figure we only need to win one more game," said CIS forward Alexander Volkov. "I know it will be close, but I'm confident we can go through to Barcelona."

Lithuania, which includes four starters off the Soviet Union's 1988 Olympic gold medal team, continued to dominate the tournament. Even without guard Rimas Kurtinaitis — back in Lithuania following the death of his brother in a car accident — Lithuania placed four players in double figures and led by as many as 21.

Tikhonenko, a former draft pick of the Atlanta Hawks of the NBA, made 18 of 20 shots

Inti still expects a result

MANCHESTER, July 4: Pakistan team manager Intikhab Alam put on a brave face here on Friday as rain dented his side's hopes of opening up a 2-0 lead in their five-match series against England, reports AFP.

While unhappy that all the second day was washed out, he still feels his side can force victory in the three days left, having already piled up 388 for three.

"It's very disappointing," said manager Intikhab Alam. "But we're still in a strong position and if the last three days are uninterrupted, we shall try to achieve a big total and then bowl out England twice."

"We were very happy to bat first after winning the toss, but we would have fancied our

chances bowling out there," Alam added. "There was enough pace and bounce in the pitch, es-



INTIKHAB ALAM

pecially during the first hour when the ball was hard, to give bowlers a boost. But our two openers, Sohail and Ramiz, batted beautifully."
Pakistan's Old Trafford jinx

— their two Tests here in 1954 and 1987 were both rain-ruined draws — may well deny the tourists the chance to build on Sohail's magnificent double century, but Javed Miandad's men believe they are on a roll now.

"I'm certain in my own mind we'll win the series," said Alam. "Many things can happen, but we're very optimistic. The main thing is confidence. We believe that when we get on top we're able to steamroller teams."

The wash-out left English cricket 250,000 pounds poorer, as around 14,000 spectators will get their money back under the Test and County Cricket Board's refund scheme.

That lifts the total in returned receipts for this series to 400,000 pounds, following the blank first day in the first Test at Edgbaston.

Chuchart leads in Asian snooker final

Sports Reporter

Defending champion Chuchart Thaitanapradit of Thailand was leading his compatriot Prapruet by two frames to nil (123-7, 73-59) in the final of the 9th Nescafe Asian snooker championship at the Bangkok Palace Hotel yesterday when reports last came in.

Earlier, in the semifinals on Friday, July 3, Chuchart scored an easy win over fellow Thai Thongchai six frames to two while Prapruet beat Indika of Sri Lanka by 6-3 frames.

Later in the day Indika beat Thongchai by 3-0 frames with the frame scores reading 68-47, 79-3 and 78-19 in the play-off for third place.

In the quarterfinals on Thursday, Alok Kumar of India lost 1-5 to Chuchart while Prapruet, the second seed, beat David Yao of Hong Kong by 5-2 frames.

No flag, no anthem, no future for them

MOSCOW, July 4: No flag, no anthem and no future — the former Soviet Union could go out with a whimper rather than a bang in Barcelona, reports AFP.

Cobbled together from 12 republics, and bullied into life by the International Olympic Committee and Russian President Boris Yeltsin, the Unified Team will cut an awkward figure in Barcelona.

Individual gold medalists can swell with pride at having their republican flag and anthem on the podium.

But team winners will have the Olympic flag and the dubious privilege of the Olympic tune wafting over the stadium — a poignant reminder of how far the sporting superpower has fallen since Seoul.

However, there may not be that many trips to the podium during the two half week extravaganzas.

The difference between winners and losers in any sport is the blind desire for victory. The question mark over the former Soviets is whether that same frenzy can be whipped up for a team which will be disbanded on October 1.

Even experienced competitors like former Soviet athlete chief Igor Ter-Ovanesian, now head of the CIS federation, have a few regrets. "I'm putting the key under

the door," he says. "And it's a sad moment. After all this time as a solid, closelyknit group we'll be going our separate ways."



YURI SEDYKH

The end-of-empire feel will be inescapable at Barcelona, although not everyone's performance is going to be affected by it.

For the single-minded, who want to defend their personal prestige and build a lucrative future, Barcelona will be another photo opportunity.

Whatever the upheavals back home, it is hard to imagine the likes of Sergey Bubka being put off his stride. The polevault phenomenon from Donetsk will be concentrating on his own future rather than the Soviet Union's past, as he

lopes towards the bar, and potentially another world record.

His will be among the few men's athletics golds which the unified team are likely to claim in Barcelona.

The halcyon days of Valery Borzov are long gone, and it's hard to see any male unified runner on the podium.

If anything, the team will be better at walking than running. Alexander Potashov and Andrey Perlov made it a Soviet one-two in the 50km at last year's World Championships — and both will be in Barcelona.

Mikhail Shenikov, who won the 20km silver in Tokyo, is another starter.

BIGGEST SURPRISE

The biggest surprise is the absence of Yuri Sedykh, the world record holder and greatest hammer-thrower of all time.

The Ukrainian, who won the Olympic gold in 1976, 1980 and 1984, finished sixth in the qualifiers and lost his place under new "top-three" rules.

The mantle now passes to Igor Astapkovich, who came top in the trials and second behind Sedykh — in the World Championships.

In terms of gold medal potential, the women athletes are a great deal stronger than the men this year — none more so than Irina Privalova.

The world indoor champion is the runaway favourite for

100m, and not only because world champion Katrin Krabbe has finally opted out.

Privalova ran the fastest 100m this year during last month's trials, equalling the European record set in 1983 by East German Marlies Goehr.

And Ter-Ovanesian was quick to insist that the performance was no fluke — despite the wind reading for the fourth fastest run ever at sea level being dead on the legal maximum, at two metres per second.

"It's the result of a lot of hard work this season," he said. "She should be a strong contender in Barcelona."

The tall blonde from Moscow will also be a contender in the 200m, after setting the fastest 200m this year during the trials and is bound to be a source of inspiration to her teammates in the relay.

Elsewhere on the track, Olga Bryzgina will be back to defend the 400m title she won in Seoul, while Lilia Nurutdinova hopes to add an Olympic gold to the 800m crown she won in Tokyo.

In the middle distance events, all eyes will be on the hugely talented, but not so youthful Tatyana Dorovskikh.

The reigning 3,000m world and Olympic champion, who also bagged the 1,500m silver medal in Tokyo, is sure to come away with a medal or two — despite turning 31 a week after the Games finish.

Further golds are expected

in the hurdles, where Lyudmilla Naroshilenko and Tatyana Ledovskaya are both reigning world champions, and field medals, though probably

Our women's team will be particularly strong in virtually every discipline, with perhaps the exception of the high jump," he says.

"However, for the men's team, things don't look quite so good."

Away from the athletics field, the Unified Team will struggle to live up to the Soviet, its reputation in power sports, such as weightlifting, boxing and wrestling, and also team games like basketball — where the NBA professionals of the United States must have the gold — and volleyball.

Yet in some ways, the team are fortunate even to be competing in Barcelona. As the Soviet Union tore itself apart, sports officials managed to hold on to enough of the imperial debris to build a team for the Olympics.

Training facilities, coaches and administrative offices were more or less salvaged, and officials went abroad in their search for help.

Ter-Ovanesian reveals that the International Amateur Athletics Federation did its bit to help the unified effort. "The IAAF managed to get us training sessions in Italy, Spain, Mexico, Greece etc... They realise that our level of athletics is such that by coming to our aid, they are also helping themselves."

Another blow for Berlin's bid

BERLIN, July 4: Berlin's troubled bid to host the Olympic Games in the year 2000 suffered a fresh blow yesterday when the city said it would have to make an embarrassing apology to members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), reports Reuter.

The written apology to the body which decides next year where to hold the 2000 Games follows a report on German television that Berlin officials prepared dossiers on the personal likes and dislikes of each IOC member.

The television said the dossiers, which aimed to help city officials to influence IOC members, were compiled on a computer.

Olympia GmbH, the city-owned company coordinating the bid, has admitted that the files existed but says they were not filled in and were destroyed last year.

An Olympia spokesman said Berlin, which hosted the Olympics in 1936 when Hitler tried to exploit the occasion to parade his Nazi master race, would hold an internal investigation.

It would then write to apologise to all 94 IOC members before the Barcelona Olympic Games started on July 25. "We will be writing a letter as soon as we know what happened in detail," the spokesman said.

Olympia has threatened legal action against the television station, alleging that it forged some of its evidence.