

Sher-e-Bangla Cup in October

Sports Reporter
The 1992 Sher-e-Bangla Cup national football tournament will be held in early October.

50 DSAs for Ma-O-Moni Cup

Fifty district teams have confirmed their participation in the ensuing Ma-O-Moni national under-14 football tournament, reports UNB.

The tournament committee invited all 64 district sports associations to participate in the tournament sponsored by Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI).

Manikganj expressed their inability while some others did not respond to the invitation.

The organisers are still hopeful that the rest 13 teams will send their entry immediately and close contact is being maintained with the district team officials.

The first round of the tournament will begin August 10 at eight zonal venues which are to be confirmed today.

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has approved an estimated budget of Taka 7,66,440 for the tournament in a BFF meeting held on Sunday. The EPI will provide Tk 4 lakhs.

Bata schools chess

Sports Reporter
The 1992 Bata schools chess competition under the auspices of Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF) will begin from July 26 at the federation chess room, says a BCF press release.

Footballers' role in Liberation War recalled

Sports organisers have demanded correct projection of the history of Bangladesh football which played its due role in upholding the spirit of Liberation War, reports UNB.

Saidur Rahman Patel, one of the founding members of Swadhin Bangla football team, expressed his concern at the attempts by certain quarters to give an incorrect account of our football, the most popular game here.

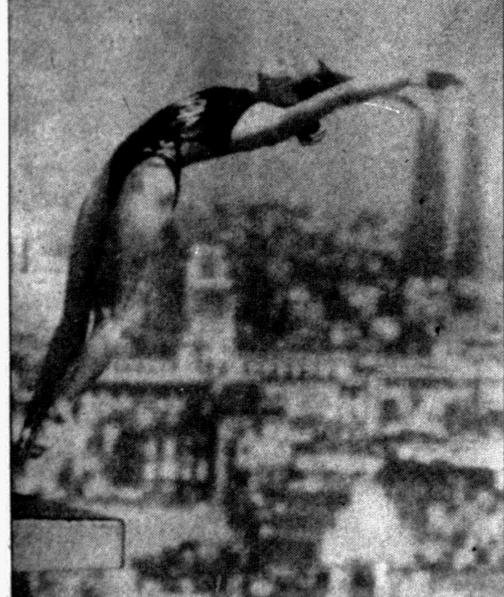
Saidur said Bangladesh Krira Samity was the first ever sports organisation in the country which was formed on June 13 in 1971.

He said the samity arranged football team which played 13 matches carrying the national flag in different parts of India during the Liberation War.

The role of those footballers were like that of the freedom fighters, Saidur added.

Founding president of Bangladesh Krira Samity Shamsul Haq also recollected the glorious feat of the footballers of the samity who, through their participations in matches in many places, helped in mobilising support for the country's independence.

Swadhin Bangla football team under the auspices of the samity, played their first match against Krishnagar on July 23 in 1971. The match ended in a 2-2 draw.



Yuki Motobuchi of Japan practises from the six-metre diving platform at the Olympic diving pool (in the background R the Sagrada Familia) in Barcelona yesterday. —AFP photo

Olympians leave today

Sports Reporter
If number is any indicator of improvement then Bangladesh can look forward to it as the Olympic contingent comprising six athletes and three officials set off today for the greatest assembly of sportsmen in Barcelona starting from July 25.

Additional Secretary in charge of Youth and Sports and vice-president of Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) Nazrul Islam will lead the team in all probability in the absence of Chef-de-mission, Sadeq Hossain, the State Minister for Youth and Sports who will join the party in Barcelona by the end of this month.

The athletes are Golam Ambia, Shahannuddin Chowdhury, Shahjalal Mobin and Mehdi Hassan.

Mokhlesur Rahman and Shahana Parveen are the lone swimmer and shooter respectively in the team.

Abdul Mannan is the coach while ace shooter Ateequr Rahman is accompanying the team as the manager.

While the four-man sprint team will compete in the 4x100m relay, fastest man of the country Golam Ambia will try his sprint skills in 100m category; Shahannuddin Chowdhury in 200m and Mehdi Hasan in 400m. Shahjalal Mobin, the fourth of the sprint

quartet, will not take part in any individual event. Mokhlesur Rahman, the ace swimmer, and gold winner at the Colombo SAF Games, will contest in 100m and 200m breast stroke.

Kazi Shahana Parveen, who won gold at Colombo in 22 rifle shot event, will take part in the women's air rifle 40 shot event.

Knowing fully well that they are going to fill the numbers only, the athletes, some of whom are making it to the Olympics for the first time, looked quite relaxed. Talking to The Daily Star, Seoul Olympic veteran Mobin said, "We'll try to retain our personal records. We have nothing to lose. A lot depends on grouping if we're favourably placed, who knows we might qualify for the hits."

The team timing in the relay event in Seoul Olympics was 10.94. Mobin apart, the other three who took part in 1988 Olympics were Shahannuddin Chowdhury, late Shah Alam and Mizlar Hossain.

Shah Alam died two years ago in a road accident while Mizlar was not called in the trial on health grounds.

A seven-member team took part in the Seoul Olympics, in 1988. The history of Bangladesh's participation in Olympics dates back to 1984 when a three member team took part in Los Angeles

Olympics. Coach A Mannan was quick to dispel any misplaced expectations saying the time is not propitious for the athletes. This is the off season. Athletes speak during the national championships normally in winter.

"Of the four Ambia, who has been hand clocked at 10.5 sec in army competition, is our best bet, I think," quipped the coach. Like shooter Shahana Parveen, swimmer Mokhlesur Rahman and fellow sprinter Mehdi Hassan, Golam Ambia is also taking part in the Olympics for the first time.

Meanwhile, vice-president of the Bangladesh Olympic Association, Captain (ret'd) Siddique Ahmed left for Barcelona to take part in the World Wrestling Conference, now being held in the Olympic city.

Sqd Leader Mohiuddin Ahmed, secretary of the Bangladesh Weight-lifting Federation left Dhaka for Barcelona yesterday.

Jalal Ahmed, former general secretary of the Bangladesh Shooting Federation will leave for Barcelona today along with some other officials.

Zafar Imam, Deputy Secretary General of BOA is expected to leave Dhaka for Barcelona on July 23.

Rajshahi Open TT from today

Sports Reporter
The first Rajshahi Open table tennis competition under the joint aegis of the Bangladesh Table Tennis Players' Association and the Rajshahi DSA begins today at the Rajshahi Gymnasium.

Deputy Commissioner of Rajshahi Md Shafiquzzaman will inaugurate the meet as the chief guest.

Fifteen teams will take part in the tourney. They are favourites Bangladesh Biman, Bangladesh Ansars, Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation, Young Stars, Narail, Galbandha, Barisal, Lalmonirhat, Patuakhali, Chittagong, Natore, Bogra, Pabna and hosts Rajshahi.

The meet will serve as a warm-up tournament for the national championships scheduled for the first week of next month in Dhaka.

MCC outclasses Transvaal

LONDON, July 20: Transvaal's touring team were outclassed by a makeshift MCC side and were soundly beaten by seven wickets with more than 30 overs to spare here on Sunday, reports AFP.

They could manage just 115 from 42 of their allotted 55, and the MCC were home in the 24th — leaving time for a friendly between the two of 20 overs each, to placate the 3,000 crowd and ensure they got their money's worth.

The band of veterans flying the MCC flag, plush Warren Hegg and Mike Atherton of Lancashire, were on their way to victory early on.

The visitors lost Brad White in the third over to Joel Garner and things soon went from bad to worse when Garner took out Jimmy Cook thanks to a stumping catch in the gully by Phil Edmonds.

West Indian Ken Benjamin weighed in with three wickets as Transvaal limped along to 115.

Mark Greatbatch soon sent MCC on their way, scoring 47 from 33 deliveries, including five fours and three enormous sixes. He was well supported by Ken Rutherford, who hit four fours in one over.

Handball results

Sports Reporter
Surya Karojjal Boys Club registered a convincing 28-10 victory over Nawabpur Sporting Club in the Phoenix Insurance monsoon handball competition's only fixture played at the Outer Stadium handball court, yesterday.

The winners led the first half 10-2. Sayeed and Nayan jointly led the winners' offensive scoring eight and seven goals respectively.

Sudhir scored four goals for the losers.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Bangladesh Ansars vs Progoti Boys Club (3-30 pm) Brothers Union vs Mansur Sporting Club (4-30 pm)

Delegates return

Sports Reporter
A Bangladesh delegation comprising the National Sports Council (NSC) Secretary ASM Ali Kabir, BOA Secretary Bashir Ahmed and the NSC Engineer (Planning) MA Rashid returned yesterday having completed a ten day trip to Sri Lanka and India.

The team is expected to submit reports by next week based on the observation of the infra-structure of sports in those countries.

BDR wrestling on

The 1992 Bangladesh Rifles inter-sector wrestling competition, organised by the Static Signal Sector, got underway yesterday at the Peelkhana central training shed.

A total of 200 wrestles from nine BDR sectors are competing in the week-long competition, says a press release.



Former national cricketer Daulatuzzaman, who inaugurated the month-long fast bowlers' and wicketkeepers' coaching programme yesterday at Dhaka Stadium, being introduced to the trainees. — Star photo.

Hired help for Abahani

Sports Reporter
Last year's Navana Premier Division league runners-up and Damal Summer tourney champions Abahani Krira Chakra leave for Hyderabad, India next Saturday, July 25 to participate in the Moynud-Dowla invitational limited overs cricket tournament. The meet begins July 28 in the capital of the south Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.

The 18-member Abahani squad will be led by Farooque Ahmed with M A Awal Chowdhury Bhulu and former left-arm fast bowler Jalal Younus as the coach. The players in the side are Harunur Rashid Liton, Zakir, Effe, Shabbir, Golam Nowsher Prince, Zahed Razzak Masum, Mahbubur Rahman Selim, Nasir Ahmed Nasu, Habibul Bashar Suman, Ziaur Rashid Rupam, Moshed Chowdhury, Saiful Islam, Akram Khan, Enamul Haq Moni and Khaled Mahmud Sujan.

The services of eight out of the 16 players have been hired by Abahani from other teams. These borrowed players are Enamul Haq Moni from

Bangladesh Biman, wicket-keeper Nasu, and medium-pacers Saiful and Zakir and opening batsman Liton are from the Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club (GMCC), Shabbir from PWD, Sumon from Brothers Union and Rupam from Gulshan Youth Club.

Abahani will play their first match against a team from the Maldives on July 29.

Abahani and the unnamed Maldives side are the only foreign teams in the 16-team knockout competition. Many Indian Test stars will also be playing in the tournament for some leading club and office sides.

COACHING CAMP BEGINS

A month-long coaching camp for promising young fast bowlers and wicket-keepers was inaugurated yesterday at the Dhaka Stadium under the auspices of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board.

Veteran fast bowler of yesteryears Daulatuzzaman formally opened the meet as chief guest.

National cricket coach Osman Khan will be conducting the course for the boys

some of whom have already played in the Dhaka Second Division league.

More than a hundred keen participants turned up for yesterday's opening ceremony which was also attended by top BCCB officials including General Secretary Aminul Haq Moni.

The trainees will report for classes at the Dhaka Stadium at eight this morning.

QUALIFYING FINAL

Meanwhile, the much-postponed long overdue final of the qualifying meet to pick two teams for promotion to next year's Second Division league, has once again been fixed for today.

The match, between Evergreen Club and Dhanmandi Pragoti Sangha, is scheduled for the Dhaka Stadium. However, it seems highly unlikely that the current weather will allow the teams to play cricket on a slushy ground.

Be that as it may, as far as the two teams are concerned, the result of the final is inconsequential since both have earned the right to play in Division Two next season.

Seventy-three teams vied for the two promotion slots.

Rain forces a draw at Derby

DERBY, July 20: Pakistan's three-day match against English county Derbyshire ended in a draw Monday after rain washed out all but five overs of play on the final day, reports AP.

Derbyshire, with a first innings lead of 19, resumed at 182 for four. After adding 30 runs for one wicket in the morning session rain stopped play.

Umpires called a halt late Monday with Derbyshire leading by 231 runs. Pakistan were bundled out for 197 Sunday after Wasim Akram picked up five wickets for 59 runs in Derbyshire's first innings.

It was a disappointing end to Pakistan's final match before the vital fourth Test starting Thursday at Headingley. Pakistan lead the five-Test series 1-0.

Pakistan need one more victory from their remaining two three-day games against county sides to pick up a dirr 96,500 bonus from English brewer Tetley.

GOOCH GREAT GUNS

In other county matches Monday, England captain Graham Gooch scored a century for Essex as the county championship leaders easily defeated Sussex by eight wickets.

Gooch completed his preparations for the vital fourth Test against Pakistan starting Thursday at Headingley with 108 from 137 balls, including 16 fours. It was the 94th century of his county career and was his second century of the match.

Australian Test all-rounder Mark Waugh, who joins the Australian squad for the tour of Sri Lanka at the end of July

smashed 85 not out from just 79 deliveries.

Another earlier report said: Devon Malcolm shook off his disappointment at being dropped from the English Test side to rock Pakistan as Derbyshire fought back on the second day of their three-day match on Sunday.

The big fast bowler, left out of the England squad for the fourth Test, struck twice in his first eight deliveries to remove Asif Mujtaba and Javed Miandad after Pakistan resumed at 98 for three.

They had begun the day with high hopes of moving closer still to a sponsor's 50,000 pounds sterling (97,500) bonus for recording an eight victory over county sides.

But instead of establishing a commanding lead in reply to Derbyshire's first innings 216, Pakistan were bowled out for 197 and then saw the home-side extend their slender lead to 201 by the close with six wickets in hand.

Malcolm set the pattern with his fifth delivery, hooked obligingly by Mujtaba (40) to long leg where Allan Warner held the catch.

Then, during the paceman's next over, Miandad (six) top-edged another lifter and Malcolm grabbed the resulting chance with both hands.

From an overnight 98 for three, Pakistan were suddenly 106 for five and heading into trouble. Scamer Ole Mortensen with two for 24 and spinner Richard Sladdin (three for 67) made sure there was no recovery.

Peter Bowler, the country's leading run scorer, then maintained Derbyshire's advantage by contributing a solid 79 and with Andrew Brown (43) and Tim O'Gorman (42) providing staunch support, the

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the three-day cricket match between Derbyshire and Pakistan on Sunday.

DERBYSHIRE: First innings 216 (C. Adams 51; Wasim Akram five for 59).

PAKISTAN: First innings (overnight 98 for three) Aamir Shoaib c Krikken b Malcolm 2

Rameez Raja lbw b Warner 7 Asif Mujtaba c Warner b Malcolm 40

Inzamam-ul-Haq b Griffith 43 Salim Malik c and b Sladdin 21 Javed Miandad c and b Malcolm 6

Wasim Akram b Mortensen 26 Moin Khan not out 35 Waqar Younus lbw b Mortensen 2

Mushtaq Ahmed c Brown b Sladdin 12 Ataur Rehman c O'Gorman b Sladdin 0

Extras (lb-2, nb-1) 3 Total 197

Fall of wickets: 1-9; 2-15; 3-51; 4-100; 5-106; 6-144; 7-160; 8-168; 9-189.

BOWLING: O M R W Malcolm 16 2 62 3 Warner 13 6 19 1 Mortensen 15 6 24 2 Griffith 11 6 23 1 Sladdin 18.5 3 67 3

DERBYSHIRE: Second innings P D Bowler b Aamir Shoaib 79 A M Brown c Moin Khan b Ataur Rehman 43

J E Morris c Aamir Shoaib 0 Ataur-Rehman 0 T J G O'Gorman b Wasim Akram 42

C J Adams not out 4 R W Sladdin not out 182

Extras (b-1, lb-7, w-1, nb-5) 14 Total (4 wkts) 182

Fall: 1-67; 2-69; 3-161; 4-181. To bat: F A Griffith, K M Krikken, A E Warner, D E Malcolm, O H Mortensen. (Incomplete)

Maradona's row with Napoli

FIFA asked to intervene

BARCELONA, July 20: The International Football Federation (FIFA) has been reluctantly drawn into the dispute between Diego Maradona and Napoli after the Argentine refused to return to the Italian soccer club, reports Reuter.

The Argentine Football Federation has asked FIFA to try to mediate between Napoli, who hold Maradona's registration and want him back, and the player, who does not want to go back to Italy.

FIFA official Guido Tognoni said on Sunday they would be discussing the case with the Italian Football Federation during the Barcelona Olympic Games soccer tournament to try to find a solution.

Maradona, whose 15-month ban by FIFA for drug taking expired at the end of last month, is refusing to complete the

remaining year of his contract with Napoli and wants to join another club in Europe. The former Argentine World Cup captain has said he fears for his life if he returns to Napoli where his career collapsed amid allegations of cocaine-taking and involvement in a prostitution ring and he wants the club to let him go or sell him.

Napoli, who twice won the Italian Championship under Maradona's leadership, have ordered him to report for pre-season training.

FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter said in a recent interview with an Italian newspaper that Maradona should come to some kind of financial agreement with the club if it is impossible for him to return.

Tognoni said Julio Grondona, the Argentine vice president on FIFA's executive committee had personally asked soccer's governing body to

intervene. "He asked us to clarify the situation with Diego Maradona and Napoli and to mediate," he said.

"It would have been easier if they resolved the issue directly and not involved FIFA, but the Argentine executive committee vice president believes this is the best way to do it."

An Argentine judge last Friday gave Maradona, who is undergoing a court supervised drugs rehabilitation programme permission to leave the country.

Shortly after his return to Argentina in April, 1991, Maradona was arrested of taking cocaine and ordered by a judge to quit, the habit under medical supervision.

Earlier last week Maradona said he wanted to play in Europe for one more year before returning to Argentina to end his career at Boca Juniors.

Seles is Pathmark champion

MAHWAH, N.J., July 20: Monica Seles turned the tables on Jennifer Capriati by beating her teen-age rival in straight sets Sunday in the final of the Pathmark Tennis Classic, reports AP.

Seles, the top seed, got off to a fast start in the exhibition match and then had the edge in an error-filled second set for a 6-1, 6-4 victory over the second-seeded Capriati in a 71-minute final before 7,112 at the Corporate Tennis Center.

Seles, reversed last year's 6-3, 6-7 final-round loss to the 16-year-old Capriati.

Seles set the tone by breaking Capriati in an opening game that lasted 22 points and eight minutes.

The reigning champion of the Australian and French

opens added service breaks in the fifth and seventh games. Seles, the top ranked player in the world, had sizzling side-line returns while Capriati greased her own slide by committing 16 unforced errors and four double faults in the first set.

"The big games were the first one and then the fifth game of the second set," said Seles, runner up to Steffi Graf at Wimbledon in her last tour appearance.

"It was pure luck coming back from 0-40 (in that fifth game)."

Capriati, with a chance to snap a 2-2 tie and move ahead for the first time in the match, lost five straight points and the game. Seles rifled a forehand winner, earned a service point and drew to deuce on a cord shot that fell out of Capriati's reach.

Successive backhand service return errors by Capriati and Seles had a 3-2 lead.

"If I could have won that game, it might have been a different story," said Capriati. No 6 in the world. "It sure was a key game."

Capriati was broken in the sixth game after taking a 30-0

Korda justifies top seeding

WASHINGTON, July 20: Top-seeded Petr Korda responded to his marquee billing on Sunday by winning the 625,000 Nations Bank Classic with a 6-4, 6-4 decision over relatively unknown Henrik Holm, reports Reuter.

The fifth-ranked Korda, a feisty combatant on court who bowed to the crowd after the match, did one better here than last year. In 1991, ranked No. 69, he lost in the finals to Andre Agassi.

In 1992, he won the event which started the week with an impressive field including Agassi, John McEnroe and Ivan Lendl.

"I'm happy I won this tournament because it's the first time in my life I won as the top seed," said Korda, 24, who now is 1-1 in career meetings with Holm. "This tournament means a lot to me. I played

good tennis."

The Czechoslovakian's one-hour, 18-minute victory on Sunday was his first of 1992 and earned him \$1,600. So far in 1992, his most notable accomplishment was reaching the finals of the French Open, where he lost to top-ranked Jim Courier.

The first seven games of both sets were eerily identical. Korda bolted to a 4-0 lead — losing only seven points in the first set and five points in the second set of those first four games.

That's when the 114th-ranked Holm, playing in his first ever career final, seemed to settle down. All week, Holm had been a man possessed — playing convincing tennis to swat opponents aside with his supersonic serve and volleys.

But Korda, who lost only one set all week, kept Holm permanently glued to the baseline. Holm finally held serve in the fifth game of both sets. The

Swede went on to win the next two games to close in 4-3 on Korda.

But Korda prevailed in both sets.

In the first, he held his next two service games for a one-set lead in only 38 minutes.

The second set found Holm, who won 43,000 dollar, a little more aggressive. He managed to break even to 4-all, but it wasn't enough. Korda won the last two games for the match.

"I was a bit angry with myself," said Holm, 23. "I didn't feel too bad when I went on court, but I could feel that something was mission on my serve."

Korda's biggest concern of the week was similar to last year. He looked around the stadium and couldn't find the Czech flag flying with other flags representing player countries.



Action from yesterday's Phoenix Insurance monsoon handball competition between Suryakarojyal Boys Club and Nawabpur Sporting Club at the Outer Stadium handball court. —Star photo