

### Bangladeshis off to Barcelona

**Sports Reporter**

An eight-member Bangladesh Olympic contingent left Dhaka for London enroute to Barcelona by British Airways last night, to take part in the 25th Olympics to begin in Barcelona from July 25.

The contingent consisting of four athletes, one swimmer and one shooter and two officials — team manager Ateequr Rahman and coach Abdul Mannan — was seen off at the Zia International Airport by BOA officials.

Bangladesh will take part in three disciplines — athletics, swimming and shooting.

Chief de mission and State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeq Hossain will join the team in Barcelona by the end of this month.

The athletic quartet — Golam Ambia, Shahannuddin Chowdhury and Shah Jalal Mobin — will take part in the 4X100m relay race.

As regards the individual event, Golam Ambia, reputed to be the fastest man of the country, will take part in the 100m sprint. Lanky Shahannuddin Chowdhury will compete in the 200m while Mehdi Hassan, who has staged a remarkable comeback following a fracture of his collar bone, will run in the 400m event.

Mukhlisur Rahman, the lone swimmer in the squad, will take part in the 100m and 200m breast-stroke events.

Kazi Shahana Parveen, the first Bangladeshi shooter to take part in the Olympics, will contest in the air rifle event.

Meanwhile, Zafar Imam, Deputy Secretary General of the Bangladesh Olympic Association, will leave Dhaka for Barcelona tomorrow.

### KL wins 1998 C'wealth Games

**BARCELONA, July 21:** Kuala Lumpur will stage the 1998 Commonwealth Games, the Commonwealth Games Federation announced today, reports Reuter.

The Malaysian capital won 40 votes to beat Adelaide, the only other candidate, which collected 25.

Alex Lee, vice-president of the Olympic Council of Malaysia, said delegates had felt it was time for a Third World country to stage the Games.

"The message we drove home was that if we have such a strong bid and Malaysia cannot win then which other Third World country could win and would any other developing country ever bid," he said.

South Australia state premier John Bannon said: "At the end of the day I think the argument that prevailed was that it was time for a developing nation and Kuala Lumpur demonstrated that they had a capacity and that was sufficient for a majority of delegates."

Other delegates were surprised at the margin of victory and said it reflected the bitterness of the row over travel subsidies.

Except for Jamaica in 1966, the Games have been held only in Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

### Ma-O-Moni venues finalised

The tournament committee of Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) yesterday finalised the venues for eight zonal matches of the Ma-O-Moni national under-14 football championship, reports UNB.

The championship will begin August 10.

59 district teams will participate in the first phase to be held in eight zonal venues, two each in four divisions.

Faridpur and Tangail will host the first phase competition of Dhaka Division, Khulna and Jhenidah will host the Khulna divisional matches, Natore and Nilphamari will be the host of the Rajshahi Divisional matches while Feni and Sylhet for the Chittagong divisional matches.

Out of the 59 districts, 28 DSAs expressed their interest to host first phase of the tournament.

Dhaka Division — Group A: Faridpur, Madaripur, Shariatpur, Gopalganj, Dhaka, Narshingdi and Munshiganj.

Group B: Tangail, Kishoreganj, Netrakona, Sherpur, Mymensingh, Gazipur and Narayanganj.

Khulna Division — Group C: Khulna, Barisal, Bhola, Barguna, Jhalakati, Pirojpur, Bagerhat and Satkhira.

Group B: Jhenidah, Narail, Magura, Kushtia, Meherpur, Chuadanga and Patuakhali.

Rajshahi Division — Group E: Natore, Rajshahi, Pabna, Sirajganj, Bogra, Joypurhat, Nawabganj and Noagaon.

Group F: Nilphamari, Rangpur, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Dinajpur, Lalmonirhat and Panchagarh.

Chittagong Division — Group G: Feni, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Rangamati, Bandarban, Khagrachhari and Laxmipur.

Group H: Sylhet, Noakhali, Comilla, Chandpur, Brahmanbaria, Sunamgang and Habiganj.

## Waugh's remarkable good-bye

**LONDON, July 21:** Australian all-rounder Mark Waugh marked his last appearance of the season for Essex with an unbeaten 85 on Monday as the defending county champions opened up a massive 51 point lead with an eight wicket triumph over Sussex, reports Reuter.

Waugh, who is returning for Australia's tour of Sri Lanka, made his runs of 79 balls as Essex hit 231 for two in 39.3 overs with two hours to spare at Southend.

Waugh, who hit 11 fours, overshadowed his captain Graham Gooch, who scored his second century of the game, and spinner Pater Such, who took a careerbest six for 17 Gooch's 108 in 137 balls was the 94th century of his career.

Sussex fell apart. They started the day 189 ahead with eight wickets in hand, but brilliant offspin from Such produced a collapse. Seven wickets fell for 28 and they were all out for 104.

Waugh's fellow Australian Dean Jones, also departing at the end of the month, decreased Nottinghamshire's hopes of staying in touch with the leaders by scoring an unbeaten 154 at Trent Bridge.

Durham, forced to follow on



**MARK WAUGH ... 85 no** three sixes in his 204 minute innings.

284 in arrears, managed a draw on a rain-spilt day by reaching 265 for three, Jones hammered 19 boundaries and Worcestershire collapsed to 118 for eight in pursuit of a target of 178 in 38 overs.

He grabbed four wickets in four overs, but was denied further success by ninth wicket pair Phil Newsport and Stuart Lampitt who held out.

Neal Radford had given Worcestershire hope for victory with five for 32.

Glamorgan were robbed by a thunderstorm when they were 14 short of victory with five overs remaining against Hampshire.

They needed 298 in 72 overs. David Hemp made his highest score, an unbeaten 84 from 130 balls, but the weather fooled them.

Bad light spared Surrey from further torment by Warwickshire's South African fast bowler Allan Donald who took six second innings wickets and also sent wicketkeeper Neil Sargeant to hospital with a jaw injury.

Sargeant was in a match saving seventh wicket stand with Mark Feltham, after Donald had reduced Surrey to 45 for six in their chase for 230, when he was hit by a sharply rising delivery.

He was taken to hospital, but Feltham held the innings together with a stubborn 50 before, at 131 for seven, had light ended play.

### Powell flies with the wind

**SESTRIERE, Italy, July 21:** American world record holder Mike Powell recorded the longest jump in history today with a wind-assisted 8.99 metres at an international athletics meeting here, reports Reuter.

Powell, who broke Bob Beamon's 23-year-old long jump world record with a leap of 8.95 at last year's Tokyo World Championships, came close to breaching the nine-metre mark here with the help of a following wind of three metres a second, a metre above the allowable limit.

Carl Lewis, the world record holder and world champion who did not qualify for the Barcelona Olympic 100 metres, finished first over the distance in 9.97 seconds with a following wind of 2.5 metres a second.

His Santa Monica Track Club team mate Mike Marsh clocked 19.79 in the 200 and former world record holder Ronaldo Nehemiah returned 13.29 in the 110 metres hurdles. Both times were wind-assisted.

About 10,000 spectators were present in the high-altitude ski resort town on a cold and blustery morning.



Japanese gymnast Kyoko Seo, 20, from Yamagata practises at Palau Sant Jordi Monday. The Barcelona Olympic Games will start on July 25. — AFP photo

## Mitchell vows to be a 'hungry lion' at Barcelona

**NARBONNE, France, July 21:** Dennis Mitchell is acting like a hungry lion waiting to pounce on his unsuspecting prey, reports AP.

Since becoming the king of American sprinters last month by winning the 100-meter championships at the US Olympic trials, Mitchell has failed to assert his authority.

Instead of winning, he has settled for second and third place finishes on the tough European circuit.

The losses will not have any bearing on his Olympic performance, he says.

"They haven't damaged my confidence," he said at the US track and field team's training facility, before leaving for a meet Tuesday night at Sestriere, Italy.

"I cannot win every race I'm in. I cannot do that, I will not do that. I've always lost. Losing has made me hungry to win."

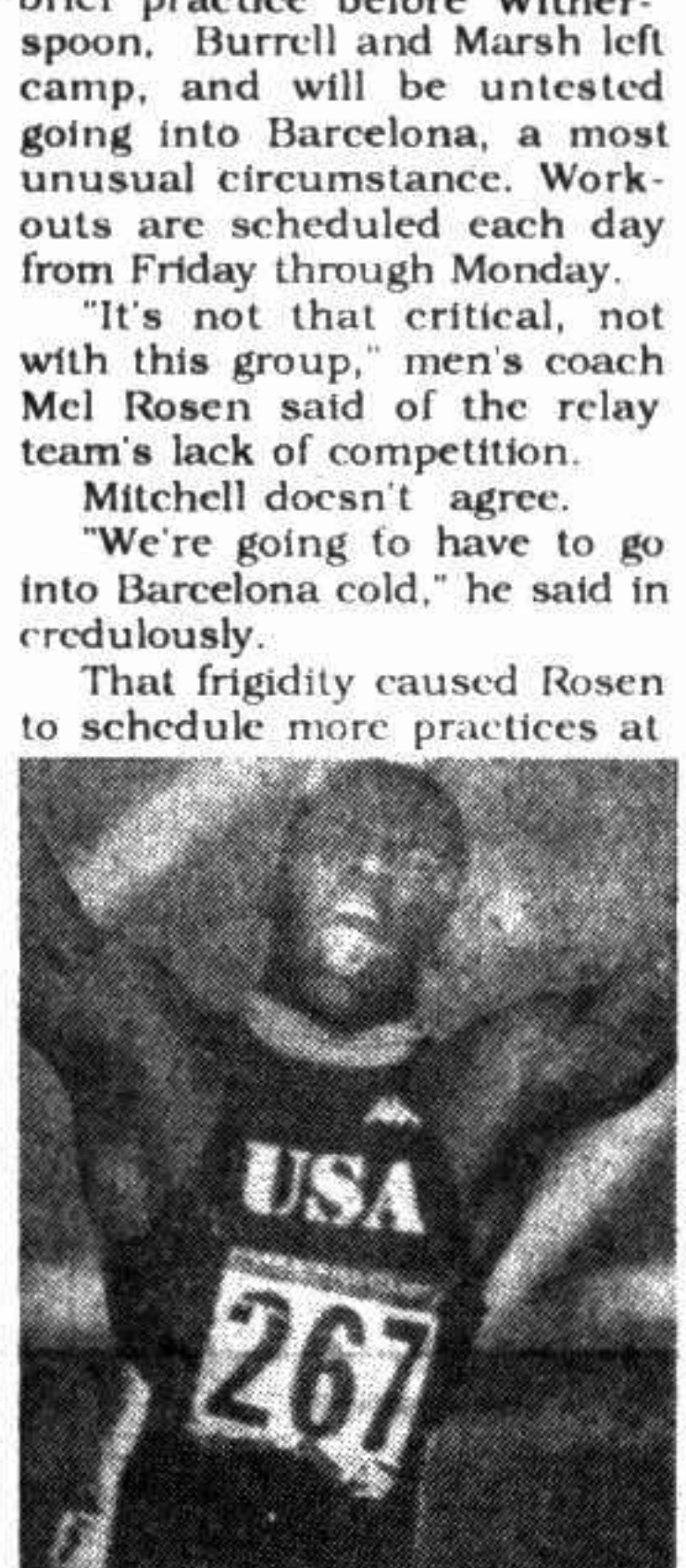
"In Barcelona, I will come out a hungry animal."

Winning the 100 meter gold medal is so important to Mitchell that he might even skip the 400 meter relay.

It's not that he wants to forgo the relay, it's just the confusion and controversy involving it may force him to do so.

Mitchell reported to the team's training camp, as told in hopes of practising with his relay teammates, Mark Witherspoon, Leroy Burrell and Mike Marsh, the 2-3-4 finishers at the trials, then running two races together.

Instead, the team had one



**DENNIS MITCHELL** Barcelona than originally planned, and will detract from the sprinters' preparations for the individual 100.

brief practice before Witherspoon, Burrell and Marsh left camp, and will be untested going into Barcelona, a most unusual circumstance. Workouts are scheduled each day from Friday through Monday.

"It's not that critical, not with this group," men's coach Mel Rosen said of the relay team's lack of competition.

Mitchell doesn't agree.

"We're going to have to go into Barcelona cold," he said in credulosity.

That frigidly caused Rosen to schedule more practices at my priority."

Mitchell also is perturbed that he was not asked to anchor the relay. Instead, he is scheduled to run the third leg, after Witherspoon and Burrell, and before Marsh — if that is the eventual makeup of the team.

"Every Olympic trials champion has anchored the relay," said Tony Campbell, Mitchell's agent and coach.

"Everybody expects me to be the third leg, because I'm such a technician on the turn," Mitchell said. "So I guess I'll do what's best for the team."

Mitchell is hoping these Games turn out better for him than did the 1988 Olympics.

Four years ago, he finished fifth in the 100 and was advanced to fourth, one place out of a medal, after Ben Johnson was disqualified for testing positive for steroids. And he never got to run in the relay final, after the US team was disqualified for passing out of the zone in the first round heats.

In the 100 final, Mitchell was unhappy about drawing lane eight.

"I just watched them (the other sprinters) run," he lamented. "I might as well have been a spectator... I didn't start running until about 75 meters."

Mitchell had a much better start — an official computer timing device showed he got a "flyer" — at last year's World Championships in Tokyo. He maintained the lead for more than half the race, before being overtaken by Carl Lewis and Burrell, and finishing third in 9.91 seconds, his career best.

## Death shall have no dominion

**MONTREAL, July 21:** Sylvie Frechette, a world champion synchronised swimmer and gold-medal contender, is leaving Wednesday to compete in the Olympic Games despite the death of her fiancée last weekend, her coach said, reports AP.

Sylvain Lake, 26, a former nationally ranked 400-metre runner and a French-language TV sports commentator, died of apparent carbon monoxide poisoning at the couple's home in nearby Laval.

Frechette, 25, returned home from training last Saturday to find Lake dead in the house. A car, its engine idling, was in the closed garage, Julie Sauve, Frechette's coach, said Sunday.

Laval police are still investigating and declined comment on the cause of death pending an autopsy.

Frechette is scheduled to leave for Barcelona on Wednesday with Sauve and teammates Penny Vilagos and Vicky Vilagos, who will represent Canada in Olympic duet competition.

"Sylvie will compete at the Olympics, there is no question of that," said Sauve, Frechette's coach of 18 years.

"She's fine — a not perfect, of course, because she's obviously deeply affected by this."

"But while this is a terribly difficult matter for her to deal with, Sylvie is a very strong person and she is surrounded by family and many friends who care for her. She has trained and competed for 18 years, the last eight for this Olympic Games, and we will support her the best we can," Sauve said.

Sauve said Frechette called her 10 minutes after the swimmer arrived home. She said Frechette found no note from Lake at the scene and was at a total loss to explain his death.

The couple had tried on several occasions to set a wedding date but postponed plans due to Frechette's training and competition schedule.

Sauve said she and Frechette "understand our responsibility to the public and the press, and Sylvie will make a statement, but we will consult first with her sports psychologist."

## Perkins raring to get going

**BARCELONA, July 21:** When the going gets tough in the Olympic 1,500 metres freestyle, the thoughts of a young world record holder may lightly turn to plentiful pints of beer, reports Reuter.

Kieren Perkins, an 18-year-old Australian, has every chance of becoming swimming's king in Barcelona after shattering world records in three distances this year but he appears to be taking it all in his relaxed stride.

Silver medalist in a magnificent 1,500 metres duel with Germany's Joerg Hoffmann in the 1991 Perth World Championships, Perkins is now the front-runner for the 400 and 1,500 freestyle and will also be dangerous competitor in the 200 and 4X200 freestyle relay.

Number one priority remains the 1,500, longest race in Barcelona's Bernat Picornell Olympic pool. It will last the best part of 15 minutes for Perkins and much more for most others.

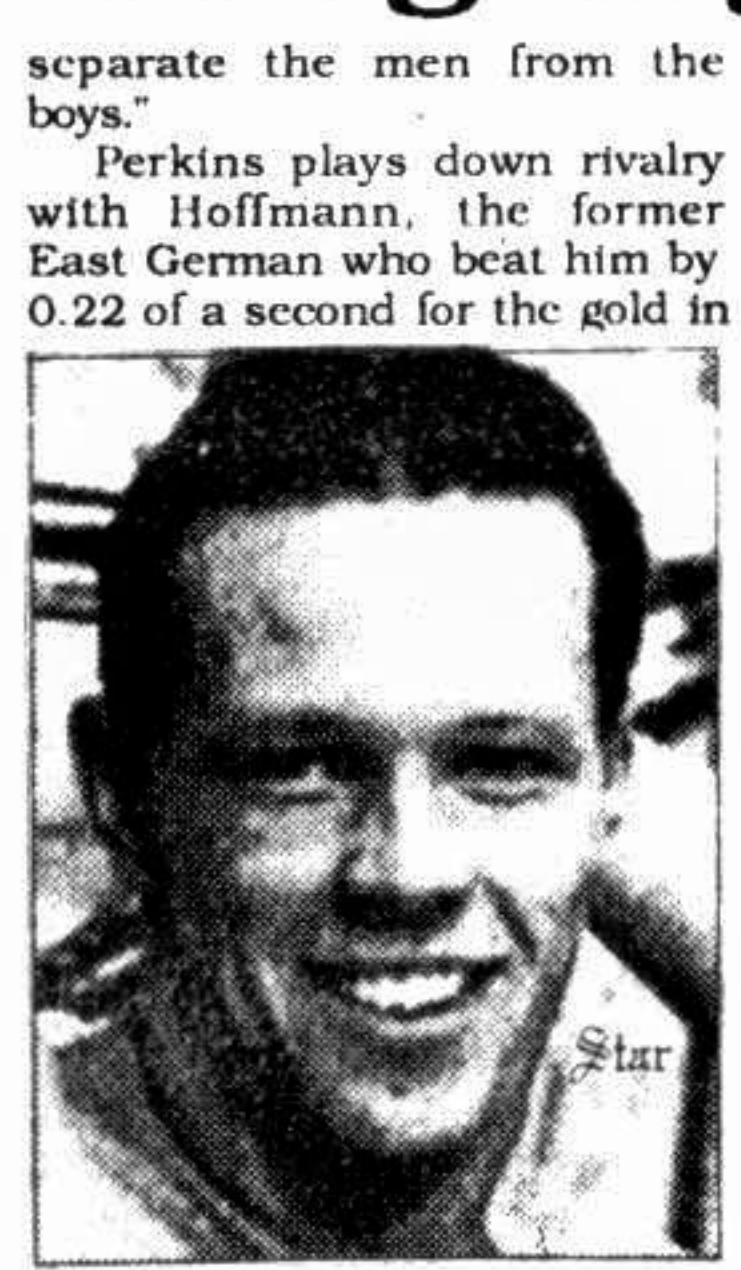
"I think about how many beers I can sink in the hour after the race," he said amid laughter at the Olympic Village on Monday.

"Depending on the way the race is panning out I might take a look at the crowd every now and again and wonder where my parents are sitting," he added.

"You've got 15 minutes to think about anything you like. Because you're swimming so fast and working so hard I think your brain also works a lot quicker as well."

"Even though 99 per cent of the time I'm thinking about my race — I'm thinking about where everyone else is, how I'm feeling, if my stroke's okay, was that turn good, all those sort of things."

"The first 1,000's okay. It's the last 500 that you start to feel it. I think you'll find especially the last 500 is what will



**KIEREN PERKINS** Perth when both eclipsed the 1,500 world mark of the legendary Vladimir Salnikov.

never seen or spoken to him since," Perkins said.

What, he asked, was the point of concentrating on one rival in a race — looking out for instance, for Hoffmann in lane five if "Glen just happens to swim past me in lane three".

Glen Housman — the third man in this scenario — was happy fellow Queenslander Perkins was the inevitable focus of attention as stars of the Australian team faced the press.

"Basically I'm the underdog here. All the pressure in Australia is focused on Kieren. That suits me down to the ground. I've had that sort of pressure, having done well before," the 20-year-old swimmer said.

Housman was denied the accolade of being the first to beat Salnikov's 1,500 world mark because of faulty timing equipment in Adelaide in December 1989. "It's history now. These guys have gone faster than that world record, so it doesn't matter," he said.

Perkins says that after the Olympics he planned to move down from the 1,500 — "It's very high stress event. After a 1,500 race it can take me a week just to get my body back in order again" — to concentrate on 200 and 400 "So I can do a bit less training and mess around with the other sprinters."

Now he hopes to reap the rewards he has worked hard for in training 11 times a week at up to eight kilometres a session.

Michael Gross, one of the sport's greatest champions, believes Perkins will shine in Barcelona.

"The guy has become much more athletic and self-confident and has a significantly higher basic speed than a year and a half ago at the World Championships in Perth," Gross said last week. "Perkins could be the star of the Olympic swimming competition in Barcelona."

### Handball results

**Sports Reporter**

Last year's runners-up Bangladesh Ansars and fancied Brothers Union won their respective matches of the 1992 Phoenix Insurance monsoon handball competition at the Outer Stadium handball court yesterday.

In the day's first match Ansars swept aside Pragati Boys Club 36-12.

Ansars led 18-6 at the breather.

Jewel with 11 and Akram with seven goals led the charge for the winners while Md Ali and Rahat netted four and three goals respectively for the losers.

Brothers Union, who led the first session 14-5, swamped Mansur Sporting Club 30-6 in the other match of the day.

## Come September, says BCCB

**Sports Reporter**

Torrential rain washed out the much-delayed final of the qualifying tournament for berths in next year's Second Division cricket league.

Sense sprouted in the *plamater* of cricket officials as they finally gave up their ambition of winning over natural law and postponed the final till September of this year.

The two teams — Evergreen and Dhanmondi Progoti Sangha did not have much to gripe in as both of them, irrespective of the result will play in the Second Division from next year.

With the rain ruling out any possibility of the match being

started at proper time an abortive attempt was made at 12.30 pm with Dhanmondi Progoti, after having won the toss, asking Evergreen to bat.

Evergreen could bat only 7.4 overs, making 25 but losing five wickets in the process when another heavy downpour forced them to wait until September.

Opener Anil was not out on 12 as two of his teammates were run out in search of quick runs. Chapal, Biplab and Rahel picked up one each for Dhanmondi.

Meanwhile, a meeting of the executive committee will be held today with Foreign Minister and BCCB president ASM Mustafizur Rahman in the chair.

It has been learnt that talks about a new calendar spanning from October to April will be finalised in the meeting. A decision about introducing one or two new tournament alongside the old ones may also be taken in the meeting.

**Kabaddi semis today**

**Sports Reporter**

Maniknagar Govt Primary School clash with Segunbagicha High School in the second semifinal of the 1992 schools kabaddi competition today at 4 pm at the Outer Stadium kabaddi court.

The victors of today's match will take on Bangladesh Rifles High School in the final at 5 pm on July 24.

## FIFA to mediate Maradona case

**BARCELONA, July 21:** FIFA president Joao Havelange said Tuesday the soccer federation invited spokesmen for Diego Maradona and the Italian League club Napoli to the Olympics to resolve the impasse that has sidelined one of the game's great players, reports AP.

The problem is Maradona does not want to return to his team," Havelange said at a news conference. "But he does want to play soccer again."

Maradona, 31, was suspended after he tested positive for cocaine following a March 17, 1991, match between Napoli and Bari. The suspension was enforced worldwide by FIFA, pro soccer's international governing body.

The Argentine subsequently was arrested in Buenos Aires

and charged with cocaine possession. Charges are pending, but the court may drop them as Maradona voluntarily entered a rehabilitation program.

The suspension ended on July 1. Napoli invited Maradona to training camp in preparation for the resumption of the Italian League in September. Maradona refused, as he indicated he would repeatedly during the 15-month suspension.

The Argentine claims he was mistreated by the club, which is trying to enforce a contract that's in their final year.

Even at age 31, Maradona is a hot commodity. Teams in Spain, France and Japan reportedly would pay him millions of dollars to sign with them.

Though his talent has faded, there still may be enough left

in the 1986 World Cup most valuable player, and Napoli's leading scorer to power a team to a championship.

He's also one of the few players who can ignite a crowd by his pinpoint passing as well as his fearsome blasts on goal by his thick left leg.

"A player like Maradona... is someone we should not lose," said Havelange, a former referee and passionate soccer fan. "We should do all we can to see that he plays for some team."

No date has been set for the meeting, Havelange said. He said Maradona probably won't attend, but he expected both sides would send representatives.

If they can't reach agreement on their own, FIFA would offer its good offices "to try to resolve the dispute," he said.

"We are all aware of the problem and we want a solution that is fair to both sides," he said.

### Javelin record

**HELSINKI, Finland, July 21:** Seppo Ratty, one of Finland's greatest medal prospects in the upcoming Olympic Games, set a new Finnish javelin throw record of 90.60 meters Monday in Klaukkala, reports AP.

Ratty trails only Czechoslovakia's Jan Zelensky, who owns the world record of 94.74, Oslo, Norway, July 4, albeit thrown with a controversially designed new model, and Britain's Steve Backley who threw 91.46 meters in January in New Zealand.

### UN defers on Y'slavia

**UNITED NATIONS, July 21:** The Security Council's sanctions committee on Monday delayed for 24 hours a decision on whether Yugoslav athletes could compete in the Olympic Games in Barcelona, reports Reuter.

But diplomats said the committee was leaning towards suggestions from Australia that Yugoslav athletes be entitled to take part in events that do not require team competition.

If this view holds, the Yugoslav men's water polo team might be barred from the Games, which begin on Saturday, it won the gold medal at the Seoul Olympics in 1988.

Officially, the committee said that a letter from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) that was distributed to Council members shortly before the meeting, needed to be studied and referred to governments for approval.

### Borg too good for Vilas

**MAHWAH, NJ, July 21:** Bjorn Borg continued his mastery over Guillermo Vilas on Monday in their first exhibition meeting, winning 6-1, 6-3 in a match that concluded the Pathmark Classic, reports AP.

Both players have been on the comeback trail for a little over a year, neither with much success. Borg last ranked No 1 in 1977 and now No 1.015, is 0-7 on the regular tour.

**Zia soccer**

**Sports Reporter**

The first Zia Memorial Cup football tournament under the aegis of the Lalbagh Thana Jatiyatnabadi Jubo Dal will begin from August 7 in the city, says a press release.

Interested teams have been asked to contact the organising secretary Wahid Murad Rupam or sports secretary Md Bellal Hossain at the 233 Lalbagh Road, Bhat Masjid by July 28.

### Soccer results

**Sports Reporter**

Lalbagh Tarun Sangha beat Anirban Krira Chakra 2-0 in the Shah Sports Cup football tournament at the Hazaribagh Park ground yesterday.

Khoka and Maqsood scored one each for the winners.

Twelve teams — split into four groups — are taking part in the meet organised by Ganaktuli Eleven.