

OLYMPIC SPECIAL



Japanese spikers win against US on appeal

BARCELONA, July 27: Japan were on Monday awarded victory in a controversial Olympic volleyball match against the United States...

The outcome of Sunday's game was reversed after a Japanese protest was upheld by the International Volleyball Federation.

A Japanese team spokesman said the score would now be amended to 3-1. He said the team was very happy about the decision by the federation's control commission.

The controversy centred on a judge who apparently failed to award a crucial point to Japan in the fourth set on a warning issued to an American player.

With Japan leading two sets to one, and the score 14-13 in the fourth, the foul point would have earned Japan the set and thus the match 3-1.

Teenager on target despite his rival's tantrum

BARCELONA, July 27: An angry Bulgarian marksman stormed out of the Barcelona Games free pistol final on Sunday after his gun failed, leaving the way clear for a 16-year-old Belarussian to win his country's first Olympic gold, reports Reuter.

Witnesses said Tanyo Kiryakov, joint leader with Belarussia's Konstantin Lukachik going into the last round of 10 shots, appeared to slam his weapon down after his sixth shot because he was slipping behind.

Kiryakov, fourth in the event at the Seoul Olympics, tried another two rounds but they were wide of the target; apparently because the sight point was out of alignment, they said.

"Kiryakov had a malfunction of his pistol and made two zeros," said an official at the Catalan Police Academy range near Barcelona, venue for Olympic shooting. "He got angry and abandoned."

Kiryakov, a 29-year-old student from Sofia, won gold in the men's air pistol in the 1988 Games.

At that time, Lukachik, his chief opponent in Sunday's free pistol final, was just 12.

The teenager kept his cool despite the drama and claimed the gold medal for Belarus, competing as part of the United Team of former Soviet republics, with 658 points, just two points ahead of China's Wang Yifu.

At the other end of the age spectrum, the bronze medalist was 58-year-old Swedish businessman Ragnar Skanaker, who picked up the silver in the same event in Seoul.

Skanaker and Wang finished level on 657 points but Wang took the silver this time on a better score in the final.



Pakistan's Asif Muhammad (C) runs between Malaysians Abu Lailin(L) and Nawawi Mirnawan (R) during their Olympic Pool B match Sunday.

Good wins for the favourites

TERRASSA, Spain, July 27: Australia and favourites Germany showed ruthless efficiency as they made a flying start to the Olympic hockey contest here on Sunday, reports AFP.

Australia beat Argentina 7-0 with David Warnsbrough and Stephen Davies scoring two each. As expected, German's penalty corner power took them to a 3-0 win over India. Great Britain, Pakistan and hosts Spain also recorded first day wins.

"I think the way we played rather than the scoreline inspires confidence," said Australian coach Frank Murray, elated by the win after the disappointment of seeing Mark Hager out of the Olympics with a fractured foot.

Warnsbrough was nearly credited with a goal he did not want. He set up Lec Bodimeade's 27th minute strike that opened the account. The Australian team had to ask the match officials to put the records straight so Bodimeade was credited.

Warnsbrough and Davies soon got things moving though and Paul Lewis and Jay Stacy finished the rout.

GERMANS BEAT INDIA

Also in Group B, Germany, European Cup winners, Champions Trophy victors and favoured to win a first Olympic title since 1972, gave India's Olympic hopes an early blow. Substitute Stephan Tewes,

giant sweeper Carsten Fischer and Christian Blunck scored once each off penalty corners with Indian defenders watching helplessly.

Indian attempts to find an equaliser were continually thwarted by a tight German defence.

Their best chance came in the 34th minute. Jagbir Singh was obstructed by Fischer as he was set to beat goalkeeper Knauth. The resulting penalty corner was wasted when the half-time hooter blew before it was taken.

"This was a victory well-earned," said coach Paul Lissek.

"India are a very good team and it was a difficult match but our defenders did very well."

BOVELANDER'S FOUR

Floris Jan Bovelanders scored two in the first 31 minutes, both off penalty corners, to get the Dutch out to a 2-0 and added another pair in the second half to lead the Netherlands past the former Soviets.

Iouri Safonov pulled the Unified Team within a goal three minutes into the second half on a penalty corner of his own, but Bovelanders, who scored in the 12th and 31st minutes, restored the lead in the 45th minute on a third penalty corner.

Gisj Weterings increased the lead in the 57th before Bovelanders finished his day in the 66th.

SPAIN BEAT NZ

In Group B, Spain's Escude brothers, Ignacio and Xavier, scored once each in a 3-0 victory over a hapless New Zealand. Pedro Jofresa saw Spain off to a good start, roared on by a small but vocal crowd at Terrassa hockey stadium near Barcelona as they crushed New Zealand.

Xavier, younger of the two brothers, scored in the 19th minute with a field shot. Ignacio, the skipper, slammed home Spain's only penalty corner in the 51st. New Zealand, the 1976 champions, forced three penalty corners but converted none.

BRITAIN DOWN EGYPT

In the second Group B game, former Robert Hill scored from a penalty corner in each half as reigning champions Great Britain coked out a meagre 2-0 win over Egypt, making their hockey debut.

PAKISTANIS WIN 4-1

Pakistan's Olympic campaign began with a handy 4-1 victory over Malaysia. Asif Muhammad scored twice, and Khalid Masfir and Tahir Zaman once each, in the Group B match for the 1984 champions.

After Muhammad put the former champions 1-0 up in the eighth minute, Nor Nasrudin restored a short-lived parity for the Malaysians who were behind 3-1 at half-time.

Aussie girls win

BARCELONA, July 27: Two second-half goals gave defending champions Australia a well-earned 2-0 victory over minnows Canada in the Olympic women's hockey opener here today, reports AFP.

Liane Tooth banged home a pldriver off Australia's seventh penalty corner five minutes after the break in the Group A match at the Terrassa hockey venue.

And Juliet Haslam dived full-length to find the net for a 59th minute field goal.

The twin goals came after the tigerish Canadian defenders, playing clearly to steal a point off the champions, and poor Australian shooting, made for a barren first-half.

Haynes the hero

LONDON, July 27: West Indies opener Desmond Haynes played the key role as Middlesex maintained their record-breaking run in Sunday cricket with 12 wins in as many matches, reports AFP.

Haynes hit 70 and shared an opening stand of 102 with Mike Roseberry, guiding Middlesex to victory over Durham at Lord's with seven wickets and seven balls to spare.

Haynes took his season's league aggregate to 647, breaking his own record for the highest number of runs scored by a Middlesex batsman in a Sunday season.

Worcestershire and Australia opener Tom Moody had his farewell party spoiled by Hampshire captain Mark Nicholas, who steered his side to a six-wicket win.

Moody had hit 53 in his last innings before flying out to prepare for Australia's tour of Sri Lanka in August.

But the Worcestershire innings never gained any momentum until Neal Radford hit an unbeaten 49 off 51 balls as they were restricted to 176 for five. Malcolm Marshall helped keep them in check with an impressive spell of two for 19 in eight overs.

Hampshire were also made to work hard for their runs.

Ivanov lifts gold

BARCELONA, July 27: Bulgarian Ivan Ivanov shouted out and shook his head in delight when he matched an Olympic record Sunday on the way to winning the first weightlifting gold medal of the Barcelona Games, reports AP.

Ivanov tied the Olympic clean and jerk record of 150 kilograms (530.5 pounds) to clinch the title. He totaled 265 kilograms (584 pounds).

Flyweight Ivanov weighs only 52kg, stands 1.53 metres tall and struts around a weightlifting stage like a prize cockerel in a farmyard.

China's Lin Qisheng took the silver with a total of 262.5 kilograms (578.5 pounds) and Romania's Traian Ciharcan collected bronze after scoring 252.5 kilograms (556.5 pounds).

South Korea's Ko Kwang-ku matched Ciharcan, finishing fourth due more failures.

Another Bulgarian, Sevdalin Minechev, limped out of the competition after his second attempt in the clean and jerk.

He injured his left knee during his first attempt to lift 140 kilograms (308.5 pounds) but came back to try 143.5 kilograms (314 pounds). He didn't even get it onto his shoulders and had to be carried off the stage.

He finished tied for fifth with Turkey's Hali Mutlu.

China's Zhang Zairong, who was considered a medal hope, failed to score a lift in the clean and jerk after tying the heaviest lift in the snatch — 115 kilograms (253.5 pounds).

It was an unhappy night for Japan's Hiroshi Watanabe, who failed to post a score.

Lifting record

BARCELONA, July 27: Chun Byung-Kwan of South Korea set an Olympic record in the bantamweight (56-kilogram) class Monday, breaking the mark set minutes earlier by Liu Shoubin of China, reports AP.

Liu lifted 130 kilograms to break his Olympic mark of 128 kilograms.

Another Pakistani fined

LEEDS, England, July 27: Pakistan were in disgrace for the second Test in a row after one of their players was fined for dissent following England's victory at Headingley on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Reserve wicketkeeper Rashid Latif, felding as a substitute at slip, was fined and reprimanded by match referee Clyde Walcott after a disciplinary hearing.

Latif was furious when umpire Mervyn Kitchen turned down a caught-behind appeal against David Gower off the bowling of spinner Mushtaq Ahmed.

He stormed towards mid-wicket and threw his cap angrily to the ground.

It was the most explosive of several incidents in a cauldron-like atmosphere and it earned the 23-year-old Pakistani a fine of around 120 pounds sterling (230 dollar).

Pakistan, dismissed for 221 in their second innings, felt they were victims of poor umpiring decisions from Kitchen and colleague Ken Palmer as England, chasing a victory target of only 99, won with six wickets to spare.

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umpire. "Moin was told to grow up and be more responsible," said a spokesman for Walcott.

Sunday's trouble came hot on the heels of the Old Trafford uproar when acting match referee Conrad Hunte fined paceman Aaqib Javed 50 per cent of his match fee for intimidatory bowling. He also reprimanded manager Intikhab Alam for outspoken comments during the third Test.

Following that incident Pakistan captain Javed Miandad was told to keep his players under control. This time Miandad was praised by Walcott.

"I would like to compliment Javed Miandad on the way he himself played the game and for the manner in which he tried to calm his players, particularly during the incident involving Latif," he said.

Several Pakistani players were frustrated by rulings that went against them.

Wasim Akram had several confident lbw shouts rejected while Graham Gooch, who contributed a crucial 37 survived a run-out scare when only 13.

Television replays seemed to prove that England's captain was a couple of feet short of safety but umpire Palmer gave the batsman the benefit of the doubt.

When Mushtaq later had an lbw appeal turned down against Gooch a Pakistani fan ran onto the field but was intercepted by stewards.

It was Gower who eventually saw England home by flicking Mushtaq for the two runs needed for his country's first Test victory over Pakistan for 10 years.

"It was certainly tense out there," said Gower. "As tense a situation as I've known in my career."

When asked about the "catch" which enraged Latif, Gower said: "It wasn't a catch, the umpire didn't give it and there was no animosity as far as I was concerned. I spoke to their wicketkeeper after the

Schools chess begins today

The week long seventh Bata schools chess competition under the aegis of the Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF) begins today at 3 pm at the National Sports Council chess room.

Managing Director of the Bata Shoe Co Bangladesh Ltd will inaugurate the meet.

Eighty students including four girls will take part in the seven-round Swiss league meet which is scheduled to conclude on August 3.

Sponsor Bata Co has paid Taka 35,000 for the successful holding of the tourney.

The competition was last held in 1989 with Syed Rahul Kabir Shiplu and Mahmudunnabi Lenin finishing as champions and runner-up respectively.

Shamim clinches chess title

Shamim Khan with nine points emerged as the champion in the active chess organised by the Kamalapur Samaj Kallayan-O-Kirra Sangha, says a press release.

It was for the fourth time that Shamim won the title.

Abul Khair, Labu, Anwarul Karim Bahar and Masud clinched the second, third, fourth and fifth position respectively.

Incident and we were both happy."

Meanwhile, an AP report said: English newspapers called Pakistan's national cricket players louts and villains Monday, and accused them of dragging the sport "through the dirt".

The virulent headlines followed several on-field displays of anger by Pakistani players during England's fourth Test victory at Headingley Sunday. The incidents would pass unnoticed in other sports, but cricket authorities insist on a high standard of personal behaviour.

England's tabloid Daily Star said: "Petulant Pakistan were left licking their wounds after England's glory-boys humbled them at Headingley".

The Sun printed the headline "Javed's louts in new storm," while the Daily Mirror said: "Pakistan sparks new Test storm."

Monaco beat Liverpool

PARIS, July 27: Liverpool were beaten 2-1 by Monaco here on Sunday in the first match of the four-club pre-season tournament organised to raise money for the families of victims of the Furiani disaster in Corsica last season, reports AFP.

Liverpool looked lacklustre as the side from the principality dominated the first half, taking the lead with a 40th minute strike from Jerome Ganako.

Arsene Wenger's side could have gone two up early in the second half when Fofana hit the post two minutes after the restart.

But the crowd of around 10,000 did not have to wait Long—Portuguese striker Rui Barros, a second half substitute, put the match beyond any real doubt in the 60th minute.

A 70th minute penalty was slim compensation for Liverpool.

United Germans lack team spirit

BARCELONA, July 27: Things were going swimmingly until tests revealed unusually high levels of testosterone in Astrid Strauss' blood, reports AP.

That was the day unity dted on the German Olympic swimming team.

Strauss, a silver medalist at the 1988 Seoul Games, was suspended on May 30 for six months, canceling her ticket to Barcelona and dashing her medal hopes. Some of her teammates silently applauded the decision.

But team members from the former communist sports powerhouse that was East Germany were outraged.

Strauss, they said, was a victim of the system that forced athletes to swallow pills to improve performance. She was ignorant of the West German rules that now apply to the unified Germany, they said.

Unified Germany was unforgiving. "Anyone who will not accept our rules cannot play," said Reiner Klimke, spokesman for the German Olympic delegation.

Not just the swimmers have been beset by the tensions afflicting the two former Germans as they learn to live together after being apart 40 years.

"Of course it takes time and patience," said Klimke, a former Olympic equestrian rider, who insisted that the tensions between German athletes weren't as pronounced as some describe.

"We talk together, play together, go to breakfast, go to training," he said. "If they want to talk about problems we listen. But we can't give them the impression that we know better."

That, said several German athletes, is just the impression the former East German often get from their western teammates. And they resent it — a lot.

"They win on our back," said one athlete who asked that his name not be used. "But then they say we do not dress nice, we do not know anything."

Nils Rudolph, last year's European indoor 50-meter champion, complained of this attitude in a recent interview with a newspaper in Leipzig. He also complained that former East German athletes find themselves impoverished, without the cradle-to-coffin government support they were accustomed to and without the commercial endorsements enjoyed by their western teammates.

Rudolph, reflecting the sensitivity of this topic, subsequently denied he had given the interview.

German Olympic athletes have declined to discuss the tensions on the record. But several privately have expressed bitterness that the

unified Germany failed to give easterners credit for the 26 medals the country won at the Winter Olympics. Twenty-three were won either by easterners or by teams with a large eastern makeup.

Former East Germans also were responsible for Germany winning the first cycling gold of the Summer Games on Sunday.

As with everything else in the unified Germany, the Olympic delegation's positions of leadership and seniority are filled almost exclusively by westerners. A large majority of the delegation's officials, coaches, doctors and therapists are from the west. Of the athletes, 290 are westerners, 190 easterners.

The German Rowing Federation named nine western coaches to the Olympic team and one easterner, even though 29 of the rowers are from the former East Germany and 23 are from the west.

This irks easterners who note that in Seoul, East Germany's final Olympic appearance, its 288 athletes went home with 102 medals. West Germany sent 416 competitors and took only 40 medals.

German officials are hoping to win 60 medals and finish behind only the United States and the Unified Team from the former Soviet republics.

In track, weightlifting, boxing, cycling and wrestling, the easterners dominate. Sports such as riding, fencing, basketball, and tennis — considered capitalist pursuits and not highly esteemed by the communists — are almost completely devoid of former East German athletes.

German sports officials say time will blur these dividing lines as younger athletes take up these sports. They also predict the easterners' advantage in some of the power sports will be eroded with the phasing out of the widespread steroid use allegedly practised in East Germany.



Tennis superstar Boris Becker(C) and Carl-Uwe Steeb cheer during the Olympic basketball match between Germany and Spain. Germany won 83-74.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a solution key for the crossword.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with a solution key and instructions for solving the puzzle.