

Nat'l youth hockey begins today

Sports Reporter
The 12th national youth hockey championship gets underway today at 3.45 pm at the Hockey Stadium.
Sixteen teams split into two groups will take part in the ten-day competition.
Noakhali DSA will take on Narayanganj DSA on the opening day. Bashir Ahmed, Secretary General of Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) will inaugurate the championship as the chief guest.
The 16 teams are: Group A — Dhaka, Chittagong, Narayanganj, Noakhali, Sylhet, Comilla, Jessore and Hockey Training Centre.
Group B — Faridpur, Munshiganj, Patuakhali, Gazipur, Rajshahi Mymensingh, Rangpur and Dhaka Education Board.
Defending champions Dhaka DSA will play their first match against the winners of the Chittagong and the Hockey Training Centre on August 20.
Last year's runners-up Faridpur DSA are not taking part in the championship this year.
The two semifinals will be played on August 23 and 24 while the final is scheduled to be held on August 26.

Div III soccer from today

Sports Reporter
The Progoti Insurance Third Division football league begins today at 4 pm at the Outer Stadium, adjacent to RAJUK.
State Minister for Finance Mujibur Rahman will inaugurate the championship.
Eighteen teams, divided into two groups, will take part in the first phase of the championship.
This was disclosed at a press conference at the Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association office yesterday with DMFA president Azizul Huq in the chair.
Managing Director Rafiqul Islam of Progoti Insurance represented the sponsors who have paid Taka three lakh for the staging of the tournament. However, the sponsors have no immediate plans to finance the tournament in the years to come.
The eighteen teams are Group 'A': Nabarun Sangsad, Little Friends Club, East End Boys Club, Mutauul Jubo Sangha, Aminbazar KS, Maghbazar Kishalaya Sangha, Dilkusha SC, Kadamtala Sangsad and Basabo Tarun Sangha.
Group B: Dhaka SC, Bidduyt Unnayan Board SC, Fire Service and CDSC, Rahmatganj SC, Purbachal Parishad, Lalmatia Club, Badda Jagarani Sangsad, Maghbazar K.C. and Gendaria Famosus.
Two teams — the champion and the runners up — will win promotion to Second Division next year.
Little Friends Club play Kadamtala Sangsad in the inaugural match today.
Tomorrow onwards two matches will be held daily — one at the Outer Stadium and the other at the T & T ground.
With ground conditions being deplorable at both the places observers entertain serious misgivings about the standard of football that will be produced during the meet.
DMFA Secretary Kazi Mishu, who was present during the press conference, cited the scarcity of 'playable' grounds as the main problem for the organisers.

Paris underline their claim
PARIS, Aug 16: Paris St Germain underlined their claim to threaten Marseille's supremacy when they cruised to a 2-0 home victory over Sochaux while the champions were held to a goalless draw at lightly-regarded Toulon in the French league on Saturday, reports Reuter.
The Paris club have four points from two matches, but Monaco, who had impressed by trouncing Toulon 4-0 last week, suffered a shock 4-1 defeat at Auxerre.
Auxerre, Montpellier, who won 3-1 at Toulouse, and Strasbourg are the only other teams with maximum points. Strasbourg won 2-1 at Valenciennes in a clash between the two newly-promoted clubs.
Paris, aiming to deprive Marseille of a fifth consecutive title, went top after defender Alain Roche struck in the 76th minute and Brazilian midfielder Valdo wrapped it up by netting a formidable free kick three minutes later.
"It was difficult because Sochaux came here to look for a draw but most teams know we are ambitious and will behave that way," said club deputy chairman Michel Denisot.
"This match was just what we needed because now we will know what to expect from visiting teams."
Revamped Marseille, who struggled to beat Toulouse in

Tangail, Sylhet in final round



Tangail DSA displayed a superior class of football in the Dhaka Division zonal final against Mymensingh DSA at the Tangail Stadium, winning by a convincing margin of five goals to one.
Cheered on by the home crowd Tangail DSA penetrated the Mymensingh defence time and again. Hanif Sarker scored twice while Sirajuddin, To-fazal Hossain and Rana Khan scored once each for the winners.
For the losers Abu Bakr Siddiqui netted the consolation goal.
State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain Khoka witnessed the final as chief guest and distributed prizes among the winners.
State Minister for Relief and Rehabilitation Lutfur Rahman Khan was also present as

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a special guest.
In the Chittagong Division zonal final in Sylhet the local boys overcame stiff resistance from the Comilla DSA booters to win 3-0 in the tie-breaker. The match was locked at one goal each at the end of stipulated time.
Limon pushed the hosts ahead in the 20th minute but Comilla fought back immediately to equalise through Ariful in the 33rd minute.
In the penalty shoot out, however, the Comilla booters found the target rather elusive, missing all the five chances they were given.
For Sylhet DSA Nasir, Limon and Tedul converted successfully to seal their side's win.
Vice-Chancellor of Shahjalal University Sharfuddin Ahmed Chowdhury was present as chief guest and gave away trophies among the winners.

Tangail and Sylhet join Munshiganj in the eight-team final round of the national under-14 tournament scheduled to begin in Dhaka from August 25.
Five other zonal finals are scheduled for today.
Satkhira will play Khulna in their zonal final in Khulna while Gaibandha will take on hosts Nilphamari.
At Natore, the hosts will meet the more fancied neighbours Rajshahi while favourites Chittagong face the daunting task of overcoming vocal home support at Feni. Away, at Jhenidah, the hosts take on Mchherpur in the last of today's five zonal finals.
The tournament, organised by the Bangladesh Football Federation, is sponsored by the government's Extended Programme of Immunisation (EPI).

Kiptanui sets world record

COLOGNE, Aug 16: Moses Kiptanui of Kenya set a world record in the 3,000 metres, covering the distance in seven minutes, 28.96 seconds at the Weltklasse track and field meet Sunday, reports AP.
The previous mark in non-Olympic event was held by Said Aoutta of Morocco, who ran 7:29.45 — also in Cologne — three years ago.

Div II chess

The Second Division chess league '92, organised by the Bangladesh Chess Federation, will start from September 1 in the city, says a federation press release.
This tournament will be open to any new team in addition to last year's participants.
Interested teams have been asked to pay Tk. 460 each as entry and registration fees before August 30.

Nightmarish start for title hunters

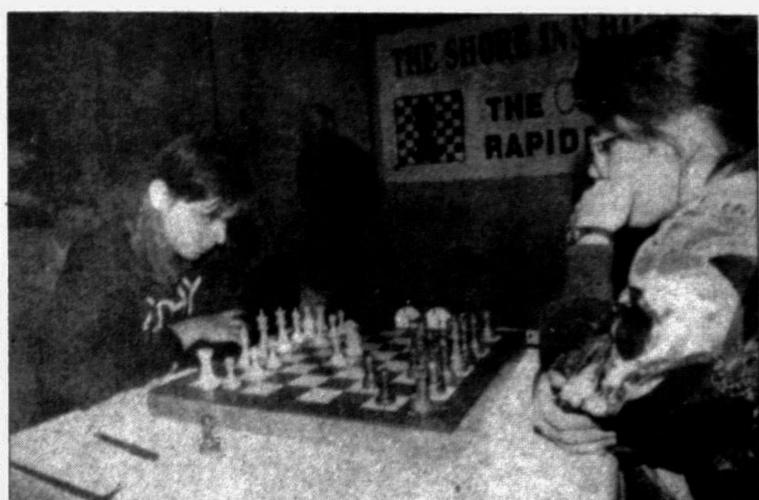


LONDON, Aug 16: Title favourites Arsenal and Manchester United made nightmare starts to the new English Premier League on Saturday, reports Reuter.
Arsenal conceded four second-half goals to lose 4-2 at home to Norwich while United, front-runners for most of last season, were beaten 2-1 by unfancied Sheffield United.
Big spending Blackburn Rovers, back in the top flight for the first time since 1966, proved the power of their cheque book by drawing 3-3 with Crystal Palace.
Striker Alan Shearer, the most expensive player to be transferred between English clubs, scored twice for Blackburn.
Leeds the last champions of the old First Division, beat Wimbledon 2-1. Lee Chapman scored both Leeds' goals, the winner coming four minutes from time.
Manchester United goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel, hero of Denmark's victorious European championship team, conceded the first goal of the Premier League after just five minutes.
Brian Deane headed in at

the farpost after Welsh defender Clayton Blackmore missed a clearance. Deane increased the Sheffield side's lead with a penalty in the 50th minute.
Welsh striker mark Hughes scored for United in the 61st minute.
Arsenal fell apart spectacularly at Highbury after cruising to a two-goal lead at halftime. Mark Robins, Norwich's recent signing from Manchester United, scored twice on his debut.
Scottish champions Rangers mirrored Arsenal and United's day by losing 4-3 to newly-promoted Dundee.
Rangers twice equalised through Hally McCoist but were finally beaten by a Billy Dodds penalty seven minutes from time.
Nine players were booked. Arsenal's quest for the Premier League title started well. A 28th minute header from Steve Bould and a 39th minute strike from Kevin Campbell put them in command.
But the arrival of Norwich new boy Robins in the 58th minute undermined them.
He scored with a glancing header in the 69th minute and David Phillips equalised three

minutes later.
The goals flooded Norwich with confidence and they silenced the Highbury crowd with strikes from Ruel Fox and Robins in the last eight minutes.
Arsenal left Ian Wright, last season's First Division top scorer, on the bench because of a thigh strain. He entered the fray only after Norwich had equalised.
Schmeichel had an unhappy day for Manchester United.
He was saved by the goalpost in the 33rd minute when a back header from his own defender Gary Pallister caught him unawares and the ball bounced off the woodwork.
The Dane made some amends with a long clearance in the 61st that caught out the Sheffield defence and allowed Hughes to score from 15 metres.
England international Shearer enjoyed a stylish debut with Blackburn but midfielder Simon Osborn spoiled his day with a dramatic last minute equaliser at Selhurst Park.
He headed in a free kick a few minutes after coming off the bench late in the second half.
Shearer's goals were spectacular, the first a long range

volley and the second a perfectly flighted shot from a similar distance that gave goal keeper Nigel Martyn no chance.
Southampton, Shearer's former club, played out a scrappy 0-0 draw at home to Tottenham.
The host team were fined heavily on Friday for their poor disciplinary record last season, and they began the new term in the same vein with defender Mickey Adams booked for a lunging tackle after only six minutes.
Newly promoted Ipswich drew 1-1 with Aston Villa. Ipswich old boy Dalian Atkinson scoring Villa's equaliser six minutes from time.
Middlesbrough, the other Premier League newcomers, lost 2-1 at Coventry.
Former England international Chris Waddle made a brief appearance for Sheffield Wednesday after returning to the English game from Marseille. He limped off injured after 38 minutes.
Wednesday drew 1-1 at Everton.
The new season was marred by crowd trouble at Bristol City's First Division match with Portsmouth. Rival supporters hurled seats at one another.



Hungary's prodigious Polgar sisters — Grandmaster Judit, 16 (background left), International Master Sofia, 17 (C) and Grandmaster Zsuzsa, 23 (R) compete in the finals of the Australian Rapidplay chess open in Sydney yesterday as their father and mentor Laszlo looks on. Zsuzsa won overall 10-11 with her sisters Judit coming second with 9-11 and Sofia coming in equal fifth with 7/12-11. — AFP photo

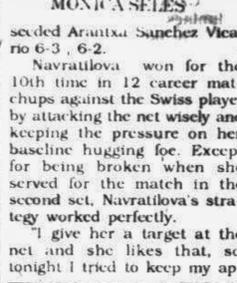
Navratilova, Seles in Slims final



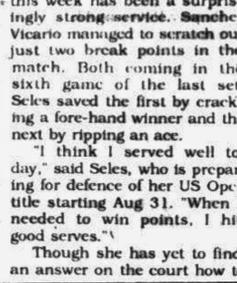
MANHATTAN BEACH, Calif, Aug 16: Top-seeded Monica Seles and second-seeded Martina Navratilova matched each other with straight set victories on Saturday to advance to the final of the dollar 350,000 Virginia Slims of Los Angeles tournament, reports Reuter.
Navratilova beat fourth-seeded Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere 6-4, 7-6 (7-5), while the defending champion Seles had earlier marched past third-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario 6-3, 6-2.
Navratilova won for the 10th time in 12 career matchups against the Swiss player by attacking the net wisely and keeping the pressure on her baseline hugging foe. Except for being broken when she served for the match in the second set, Navratilova's strategy worked perfectly.
"I give her a target at the net and she likes that, so tonight I tried to keep my ap-

proaches deep," said Navratilova, who won the last five points in the tiebreak. "If I could have served out match without losing my serve I would be happier, but overall I'm glad I got it in three sets."
"She attacks me for passing shots," Navratilova said. "It was very hard to see the ball everywhere, even on the baseline."
"The lights are too low. The high balls are an adventure. The darker it got, the more difficult it got."
Maleeva-Fragniere agree, saying the court lighting was strange.
"It's quite a problem", she said. "If you hit the ball over the lights, you lose it."
Seles had her way with the Spaniard in the duel of baseliners needing just 64 minutes to wrap up the victory.
"It's good to have such a (decisive) win over a top player," said Seles after upping her career record to 10-0 against Sanchez Vicario. "Overall, I feel pretty confident with the three matches I've played this week."
Adding to her confidence and domination of her matches this week has been a surprisingly strong service. Sanchez Vicario managed to scratch out just two break points in the match. Both coming in the sixth game of the last set. Seles saved the first by cracking a fore-hand winner and the next by ripping an ace.
"I think I served well today," said Seles, who is preparing for defence of her US Open title starting Aug 31. "When I needed to win points, I hit good serves."
Though she has yet to find an answer on the court how to

beat Seles, Sanchez Vicario knows why she is always being beaten by the Yugoslavian.
"She plays the same as I do but she never makes any mistakes," she said. "She is always pressuring me on my serve and she is always playing a very good game against me."
"I just didn't win my serve as much as I should have," Sanchez Vicario said. "I think I was waiting too long to hit the ball."
Sanchez Vicario, who won a bronze medal in singles and a silver in doubles in the



MONICA SELES



MARTINA NAVRATILOVA

Olympics, committed 42 unforced errors to 15 for Seles.
"It was too close to the Olympics," Sanchez Vicario said, complaining of lingering jet lag.
She left Barcelona last Sunday and played her first match at the Manhattan Country Club on Wednesday.
"This is probably the worst time zone I've been through," she said. "It's very tough but I'm glad I came anyway."

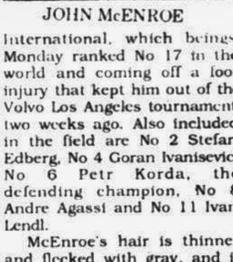
'Categorical no' to Maradona's terms

NAPOLI, Italy, Aug 16: Napoli president Corrado Ferlaino has given a 'categorical no' to calls to either release Diego Maradona from his contract with the club or to accept his financial conditions for return, reports AFP.
Ferlaino outlined his position in a fax message to the Argentinian, his agent Marco Franchi and FIFA secretary general Joseph Blatter, in which he highlighted the peculiarity of an offer which comprises a ridiculous sum together with vague guarantees and with no consideration of the damage the club has suffered.
The tough stance adopted by the Napoli president casts doubt on whether Maradona, who recently completed a 15-month ban for cocaine use, will ever play top level professional football again.
Maradona, who would prefer to play for another club in Europe, is thought to have asked Napoli for around 8 million dollars for the coming season as well as the writing off of advance of some five million that the club paid him.

Mac wonders when to call it a day

NEW HAVEN, Aug 16: Like a booming serve, the retirement question keeps flying at John McEnroe. He returns it deftly each time, keeping the answer just out of reach, reports AP.
This might be his last Volvo International and his last US Open. Maybe not.
At age 33, McEnroe knows the end is coming, he's just not sure when.
"It's not easy for me," he said. "For any athlete it's always a tough time when you start considering the possibility of doing something else."
McEnroe is tired of all the traveling and practising. With three children at home, he's more concerned with being a good father than a great tennis player.
The question for McEnroe isn't whether he can still play. It's whether he wants to.
Making it to this year's Wimbledon semifinals showed he's still good. But he's just not interested in devoting the time needed to keep him among the sport's elite for another few years.
"It's an extremely selfish sport," he said. "I could make more sacrifices, but I feel like I don't want to do that because I want to grow as a person. I don't want to go back to being 20 years old and acting like a kid."
But what if he makes a run at the US Open? What if he wins it? Does he go out while he's on top, wondering what else he could have

accomplished? Or does he stick around another year or two?
"Let's see how I feel, how much time I want to play next year. I don't see myself going cold turkey from the professional year," he said.
McEnroe enters the Volvo International, which begins Monday ranked No 17 in the world and coming off a foot injury that kept him out of the Volvo Los Angeles tournament two weeks ago. Also included in the field are No 2 Stefan Edberg, No 4 Goran Ivanisevic, No 6 Petr Korda, the defending champion, No 8 Andre Agassi and No 11 Ivan Lendl.
McEnroe's hair is thinner and flecked with gray, and it takes him a little longer to get stretched out and ready to play. And some days his game just isn't there. He said he has to work harder to get less results, "but hopefully you get the results at the right



JOHN MCENROE

moment."
The changes for McEnroe have been more than physical. He's changed his mental approach as well, putting less pressure on himself. He's enjoying himself a lot more than when he reigned as the world's No 1 player from 1981 to 1984.
The fans are different, too. Like Jimmy Connors, McEnroe is finding that fans are more appreciative of players after they've peaked.
"I think in a certain way they understand you a little bit more, and they accept you. And when they realise that you're not going to be around for that much longer I think they show their appreciation," he said.
As his playing days dwindle, McEnroe finds himself getting more reflective. He said he'd like to be remembered as a player who emulated Rod Laver's style of play and advanced it: a player who came in with attacking style when the game was loaded with baseliners; a player who was both a great singles and doubles player.
He doesn't want to be remembered only for his tantrums, although he hopes people will remember him as someone who brought life to the game when stoic players such as Bjorn Borg dominated.
"They don't have to agree with everything I did. I don't agree with everything I did. But they saw someone with fire inside who really wanted to do his best. I think people will remember that."

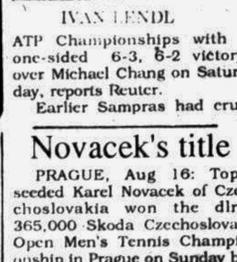
Lendl to meet Sampras for title



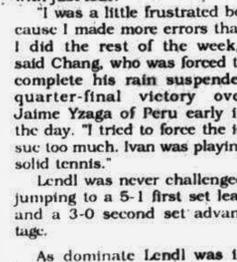
MASON, Ohio, Aug 16: Eighth-seeded Ivan Lendl followed the lead of third-seeded Pete Sampras by reaching the final of the 1.1 million dollar Thriftway ATP Championships with a one-sided 6-3, 6-2 victory over Michael Chang on Saturday, reports Reuter.
Earlier Sampras had cru-

shed second-seeded Stefan Edberg 6-2, 6-3 in a near flawless 65 minute performance that put the American into his fourth final this year. Sampras has won at Philadelphia and Kitzbuhel and lost at Atlanta.
Lendl, who became an American citizen last month, reached the final of the Canadian Open last month, but is still looking for his first title in 12 months.
But, his confidence was buoyed by his first win over Chang in three tries that took just more than 90 minutes.
"I'm feeling more confident because I've been winning matches lately," said Lendl, 32, who won this hard-court title ten years ago.
Lendl carried the attack cracking 21 winners while Chang was able to respond with just four.
"I was a little frustrated because I made more errors than I did the rest of the week," said Chang, who was forced to complete his rain suspended quarter-final victory over Jaime Yzaga of Peru early in the day. "I tried to force the issue too much. Ivan was playing solid tennis."
Lendl was never challenged, jumping to a 5-1 first set lead and a 3-0 second set advantage.
As dominate Lendl was in his match, Sampras was even more so against Edberg.
"It was a match I was in a little bit of a zone," said Sampras of his performance against the 1991 US Open champion, "everything kind of went my way today."
"Sampras got off to a 5-0 lead and the 1990 US Open winner never was pressed by the Swede, who was pressed to find a reason for his dismal showing."
"I wish I played better," Edberg said. "I tried my best today, but I didn't play well."
The match numbers told the story of the mismatch.
Sampras scored 26 outright winners, while Edberg had managed 12. Sampras only had 8 unforced errors, while Edberg stumbled with 15.
Sampras, who turned 21-

years-old this week, had come dangerously close to going out of the tournament in the third round when Australian Mark Woodforde held a match point.
"I'm pretty fortunate to still be here," Sampras said. "I could very well be in



IVAN LENDL



PETE SAMPRAS

Indianapolis (next week's tournament) now. I definitely got a little bit lucky."

Auspicious start for Bayern Munich

BONN, Aug 16: Bayern Munich swept to 3-0 win at Bayer Uerdingen in the German Bundesliga on Saturday, heralding a possible change of fortune following a dismal 1991-92 season when they finished 10th, reports Reuter.
On the first Saturday of the new campaign, Olaf Thon put Bayern ahead in the 21st minute with a 30-metre effort. Markus Schupp and Thomas Helmer sealed victory with goals in the final seven minutes.
Champions VfB Stuttgart drew 1-1 at Hamburg, Maurizio Gaudino equalising in the 83rd minute after Jorg Bode had put the home side ahead four minutes earlier.
Karlsruhe trailed 2-1 at halftime at home to Borussia Moenchengladbach and were jered off by the crowd.
But they responded with three goals in the second half, two of them from Rainer Krig in the final 11 minutes, for a 4-2 win.

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Revamped Marseille, who struggled to beat Toulouse in

Ghana get a jolt

MWANAZA, Tanzania, Aug 10: Olympic soccer bronze medalists Ghana had to come back for a 2-2 draw with Tanzania here Saturday in the first Group Seven qualifying match of the African Nations Cup, reports AFP.
Tanzania's Godwin Hasule scored an own goal during a 22nd minute goalmouth scramble to give Ghana the lead.
But 12 minutes later Muchunaga Bakari scored for Tanzania and Saidi Mwamba got a second in the 53.
Ghana's equaliser came in the 70th minute through Koma Abiade.



DMFA president Azizul Huq talking to journalists yesterday at a press conference in connection with the Progoti Insurance Third Division football league. On his right is DMFA secretary Kazi Mishu. — Star photo