

Sport

Nat'l women's swimming

Sports Reporter
The four-day national women's swimming competition will begin tomorrow at the Dhanmondi Women's Complex, says a press release.
Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will inaugurate the meet as the chief guest at 4 pm.
State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain Khoka will also be present.
Eighty-one female swimmers representing 11 district sports associations will participate in the meet organised by the Bangladesh Women's Sports Federation.

S Bank soccer

Sports Reporter
Head Office team will clash with BSF team in the final of the 1992 Sonali Bank inter-regional (Dhaka-Narayanganj) soccer competition tomorrow at 3 pm at the Notre Dame College ground.
Finance Minister Saifur Rahman will witness the match at the chief guest and give away the awards.
Head office and BSF team won their respective semifinal encounters yesterday.
In the first semifinal, the BSF team comprising three branches—Banga Bandhu Avenue, Shilpa Bhaban and Foreign Exchange units—edged past Principal Office, Narayanganj 1-0.
Mohiuddin scored the all-important goal for the winners.
Head Office team got the better of Principal Office, Sadarghat 3-1 in the second semifinal.
Jatin Das, Golam Sarwar Tipu and Babu Lal scored for the winners while Maidul pulled one back for the losers.

Eskaton Sabuj in N'ganj qtrs

From Our Correspondent
NARAYANGANJ, Sept 27: Eskaton Sabuj Sangha of Dhaka finals of the Panna Gold Cup football tournament '92 with a convincing 3-0 victory against Rikabibazar Sporting Club of Munshiganj at the Osmani Stadium here today.
On a heavy, slushy ground the Eskaton players relied on long passes to undo their opponents.
The winners led the first half two-nil with Arman and Subal scoring once each.
Dipu completed the tally for the winners in the post-lemon session.
Mizan of Eskaton was booked for boisterous play.
Eskaton will play Rahmatganj MFS, another Dhaka Senior Division team in one of the quarter-finals on Sept 30.
TODAY'S MATCH
Arambagh KS vs Sher-e-Bangla Club, Narshingdi.

B'ball results

Sports Reporter
Eagles Club started their struggle to stay in the First Division with a marginal three-point victory over Josephites Club in the Partex First Division basketball league classification (relegation play-off) round at the Outer Stadium wooden-floor gymnasium yesterday.
Josephites Club, who defeated Backstroke Boys Club on Saturday now have a fifty-fifty record after yesterday's 37-40 defeat.
Toufique and Imon both scored 13 points to play pivotal roles in Eagles' victory.
Sajal and Baby caged 13 and 12 points respectively but their joint efforts could only shave four points off the seven-point first-half deficit.
In the first match of the day, Dhaka Wanderers found the winners luck hard to get as they went down 57-66 to Backstroke Boys Club. It was Wanderers' sixth straight loss in this league. They finished without a victory in their five group matches.
Rony (20), Lincoln (14) and Kamal (14) led the scoring for the winners, who enjoyed a 36-22 first half lead with their wonderful scoring form.
Debashish and Sumon notched up 13 and 11 points respectively for the vanquished.

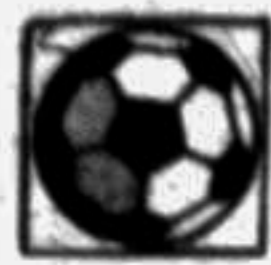
TODAY'S MATCHES

Hornets SC vs Backstroke Boys Club (4 pm)
Dhaka Wanderers vs Eagles Club (5-30 pm).

BAF b'ball

Sports Reporter
The annual inter-base basketball championship of Bangladesh Air Force got underway at the BAF sports complex, Kurmitola, yesterday.
Air Headquarters unit team defeated BAF base Mattur Rahman team 45-31.
Fit Lt Haroon of BAF base Mattur was the highest scorer with 14 while Corporal Fakhrul of Air Headquarters, the victors, followed him closely with an individual tally of 13.

Maradona's debut for Sevilla today



SEVILLE, Spain, Sept 27: Can Diego Maradona still play? Some clues may appear Monday when the Argentine soccer idol — considered the world's No. 1 player until he was suspended 18 months ago for drug use — debuts for FC Sevilla in an exhibition game with the German club Bayern Munich, reports AP.

"But his talent can compensate for his physical condition," added trainer Javier Valdecantos.
Maradona has said only that he hoped to make Sevilla "competitive" with the likes of FC Barcelona, two-time defending league champion and



MARADONA ... back in action European Cup winner, and Real Madrid. But his presence cheered his new team to a 3-0 home victory over Logrones, at

one point waving his shoe in the air to protest a referee's call. The crowd of 45,000 loved it and answered with chants of "We want Maradona."
This is not only good for Sevilla as a team, but for the young players who can learn from him," said 24-year-old Sevilla midfielder Jose Carvajal.
It's a challenge and source of pride to play next to No. 1," added team captain Manolo Jimenez.
Maradona, whose play declined in 1989 and 1990 when he gained weight and began feuding with Italian fans, was more modest in a news conference after last week's transfer was finalized.
"Now I am No. 10,000 but let me fight on the field to get back to what I was," he said. "Then you can judge if I'm No. 10,000 or No. 1."

The Argentine striker, who turns 32 on Oct. 30, tested positive for cocaine following Napoli's match on March 17, 1991, and was suspended that April 6. He was arrested in Buenos Aires 20 days later for possession of illegal narcotics, and is free on probation and under treatment by court order. On Sept. 16, 1991, a Naples court gave him a 14-month suspended sentence for cocaine possession.
Maradona was captain of Argentina's national team when they won the 1986 World Cup and finished second in 1990. He scored 81 goals in 188 Italian League games for Napoli and added 28 goals in 45 Italian Cup games and five goals in 25 European cups matches.
He played once before in the Spanish league, scoring 22 goals in 36 Spanish league games for Barcelona between 1982-84 and adding eight more goals in seven European cups matches.

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FIFA deputy chief dies

FRANKFURT, Sept 27: Hermann Neuberger, a vice-president of FIFA who supervised the organization of World Cup tournaments and head of the German Soccer Federation, died Sunday. He was 72, reports AP.

A statement by the federation said Neuberger died of an incurable disease, but gave no details. He had been ill for several months, and could not attend the European Championship in June.

Neuberger died at the University Clinic in Homburg, in his home state of Saarland, in southwest Germany.
He became vice-president of FIFA, the world governing body of soccer, in 1974, after earning praise for the clockwork organization of the 1974 World Cup in Germany.
In 1975, Neuberger became head of the German Soccer Federation, the largest sports body in the country with 5.3 million members.

A draw keeps Norwich on top

LONDON, Sept 27: Leaders Norwich shared the points in a 1-1 draw at second-placed Coventry in an unlikely top-of-the-table English Premier league clash on Saturday, while Blackburn closed the gap, reports Reuter.
Norwich captain Ian Crook's 13th minute opener was cancelled out by a 37th minute equaliser from Zimbabwean Peter Ndlovu, but it was enough to keep them top while Coventry slipped to third place.
Norwich and Coventry both narrowly avoided relegation last season.
Newly promoted Blackburn cut Norwich's lead to two points and replaced Coventry after a 2-0 home win against Oldham thanks to goals from England striker Alan Shearer, netting his 11th goal in 11 games, and Stuart Ripley.
Ailing giants Liverpool's miserable season continued with a shock 3-2 home defeat to Wimbledon which dropped them to one place above the relegation zone.
Former Liverpool striker Dean Saunders, who scored twice against them last week, scored another two to earn Aston Villa a 3-2 win at Middlesbrough — previously

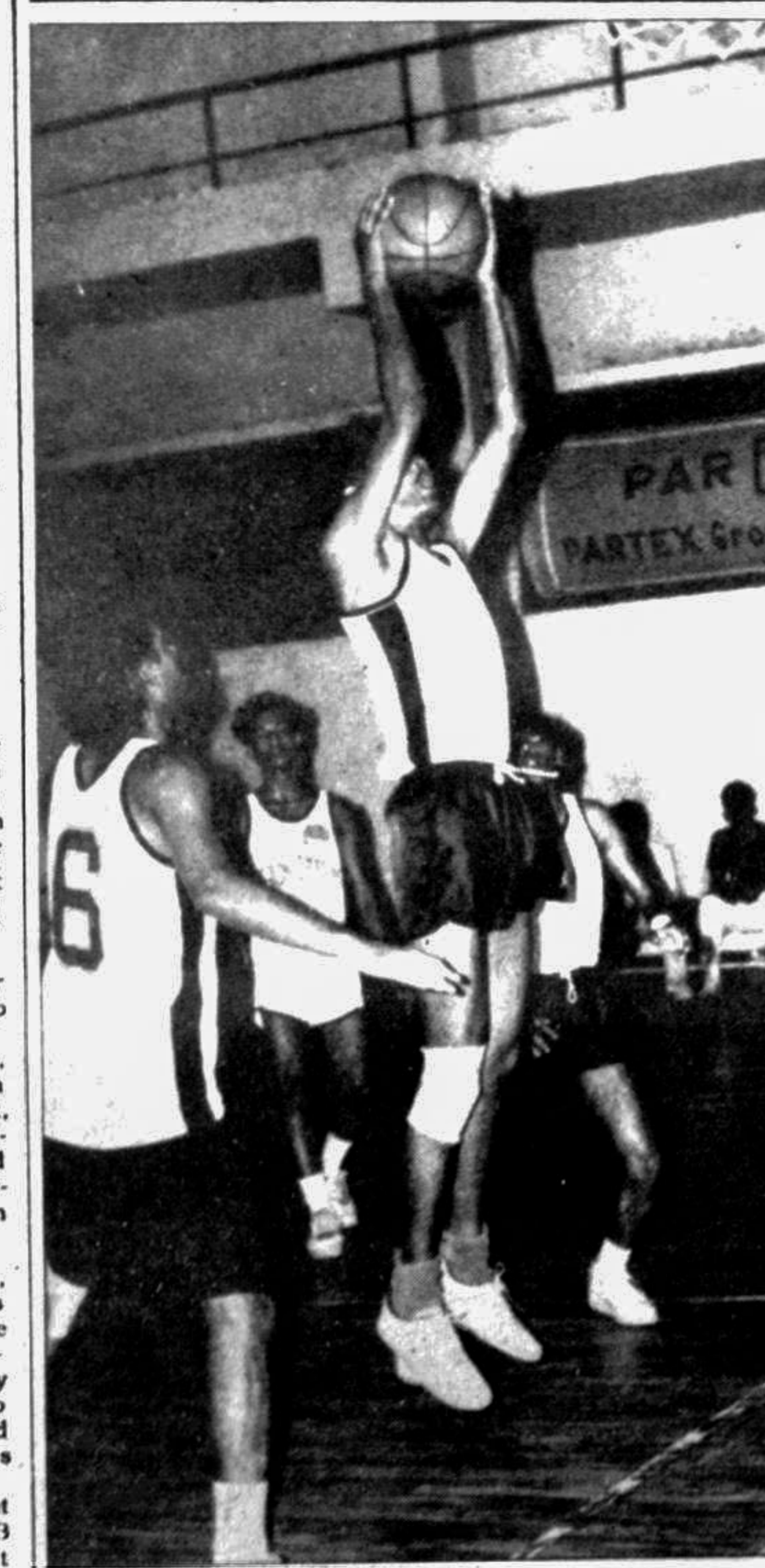
unbeaten at home this season.
In Scotland, Glasgow Rangers stretched their lead to four points with a 4-0 win at Dundee United.
Manchester United missed their chance to move into third place when held 0-0 at home by Queen's Park Rangers and remain fourth, five points off the top.
But struggling champions Leeds ended their run of five league games without a win, beating Everton 2-0 with goals from Gary McAllister and Lee Chapman within two minutes of each other midway through the second half.
Nottingham Forest, without a win since the opening weekend of the season, were held 0-0 at Chelsea to stay bottom of the league.
Ipswich recorded their seventh draw of the season, 0-0 at home to Sheffield United despite having their Canadian goalkeeper Craig Forrest sent off in the second minute for pulling down Adrian Littlejohn.
He was replaced by substitute goalkeeper Clive Baker, making his debut.
Blackburn goalkeeper Bobby Mimms saved his second penalty in successive weeks from Oldham's Ian Marshall late in the game.
Record signing Shearer, whose goals have been respon-

sible for the newcomers' sensational start, struck again after just 30 minutes to maintain his own impressive scoring streak.
Shearer ran onto Ripley's quick free kick and despite two defenders in his path, powered an 18-metre drive past Jon Hallworth.
The return of veteran goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar failed to inspire the resurrection of Liverpool, who have not kept a clean sheet all season and have conceded 11 goals in their last three league and Cup games.
First Division leaders Newcastle United beat Peterborough 1-0 with a goal from Kevin Sheedy.

Cologne find winners' luck

BONN, Sept 27: Cologne, regular contenders for the German soccer title in recent years but with a disastrous start this season, burst out of the doldrums with a 2-1 victory at Borussia Moenchengladbach on Saturday, reports Reuter.
Striker Frank Ordenewitz's 55th-minute winner earned Cologne their first league win of the season after eight games.
But the Rhineland club, who have only once finished out of the top four in the last five seasons, were still anchored at the bottom of the table with just three points, two points behind Moenchengladbach.

side confidence before they travel to Scotland in midweek for the second leg of their UEFA Cup first round tie with Glasgow Celtic. The Germans lead 2-0 from the first leg.
Pole Andrzej Rudy put the visitors ahead with a 25th minute effort before Swedish international Martin Dahlin equalised for Borussia five minutes later.
But Ordenewitz's second half header finally gave Cologne fans something to celebrate.
Everything went wrong for Schalke as Leverkusen kept up their unbeaten run in style.
The Gelsenkirchen club, now led by former Bayern Munich trainer Udo Lattek, one of Germany's most successful coaches, helped Leverkusen's goal tally by giving away a 20th-minute own goal from Andreas Mueller.
After being 3-0 down, Schalke lost goalkeeper Jens Lehmann in the 58th minute with a suspected knee ligament injury. Having already substituted twice, they had to play on with 10 men and midfielder Mike Bueskens between the posts.
Leverkusen are one point ahead of champions VfB Stuttgart, who beat Kaiserslautern 3-1 at home to move up to third.
Eintracht Frankfurt, who drew 0-0 at Werder Bremen, are fourth, a further point behind.



Action from the match between Dhaka Wanderers and Backstroke Boys Club at the Outer Stadium wooden-floor gym yesterday. Backstroke won the classification round match of the First Division basketball league 66-59. — Star photo



Monica Seles of Yugoslavia, who won three Grand Slam events this year, raises her Nichirei trophy after winning the final against Argentina Gabriela Sabatini in Tokyo on Sunday. She won 6-2, 6-0. — AFP photo

Seles' second in a row

TOKYO, Sept 27: World number one Monica Seles outgunned Gabriela Sabatini on Sunday to retain her singles title at the 350,000 dollar Nichirei tournament here, reports AFP.
All the players have a chance to be number one, because it's very close contest. There's no one player that dominates in tennis as much as before," said Seles after scoring a surprisingly lopsided 6-2, 6-0 on the Centre Court of the Ariake Coliseum.
I still think Steffi (Graf) is a big contender. Gaby also. She is always number three, number four, and always very close, but still never had the luck. I think she will be."

old South American was able to do, from then on failing to take a single game off the powerful Seles.
Sabatini had one break point in the opening game of the second set, but Seles stood firm, comfortably crasing it with a forehand winner to the left.
After being down 0-30 in the first game (of the second set), I told myself just go for it. I don't want to stay out there in this heat for a long time, and just try for it as well as I did in the first set," the Yugoslav said.
The Argentine, missing her second and final break point, lapsed into making innumerable errors against the slings and arrows from the 18-year-old, who completed the 62-minute match breaking Sabatini at love.
The score looks very easy, but it was a very close match especially in the first set," said Seles. "I probably played better on important points. I didn't make as many costly unforced errors as Gaby did today, and I guess I had a few lucky shots."
Meanwhile, Sabatini said: "It's a little frustrating sometimes when you are not putting the ball in and you just have to be very aggressive all the time," adding: "Apparently she was more confident when

she was leading in the first set at 4-2. She started hitting the ball really harder than the beginning."
It was the eighth victory this season and 28th overall for Seles, who stretched her head-to-head record against Sabatini to seven wins and three defeats.
The Yugoslav, who has advanced to all but one final in the last two years captured the 70,000 dollar first prize and 200 points as well as a 79-point bonus counting toward the WTA computer rankings.
Sabatini, failing to repeat her performance at the same place where she clinched her first career title when she won the 1985 Japan Open here, earned a 31,500 dollar runner-up prize and 140 points plus a 25-point bonus.
Mary Joe Fernandez of the United States, Olympic doubles gold medalist and defending champion, teamed up with compatriot Robin White to retain the doubles title and win 21,000 dollars.
The top-seeded American pair downed the Indonesian-Japanese duo of Yayuk Basuki and Nana Miyagi 6-4, 6-4 in the final.
The losers had to be satisfied with the 10,500 dollar runners-up prize.

Hunt regrets the manner of Jahangir's exit

JOHANNESBURG, Sept 27: Geoff Hunt, one of the few greats who can claim to rival the legendary Jahangir Khan, is critical of the way in which the squash hero chose to retire here last week, reports AFP.

The highly respected Australian, who extended the record of British Open titles to eight when he beat Jahangir in the 1981 final, was upset to see the Pakistani walk off court at two games all in a World Open second-round match against England's Peter Marshall on Wednesday.
Jahangir, winner of a record 10 British Open titles, announced the end of his fairy-tale career in a low-key manner to a small group of journalists in a changing room.
Hunt, whose career ended with a hip injury in 1982, believes that even with a back injury Jahangir was wrong to quit in the middle of a match.
He said: "Jahangir should have gone on to play the match to the end. If you are still able to walk around the court, you should be able to carry on playing, rather than walk away.
There is nothing worse than that. It is like you didn't really beat him, and Peter Marshall deserved the credit

for that win." Marshall outplayed Jahangir, whatever problems he had.
Jahangir could still run. He might not have been able to do so the next day, but this was a World Championship, and there was nothing next weeks.
Jahangir has been an outstanding champion. He is the greatest player in terms of what he has won. I have admired him greatly but I was very disappointed to see him leave the court in these circumstances.
Some of the Australians have been critical of the Pakistanis and this is one of the reasons for that. What happened was not professional.
Extra relevance is lent to Hunt's criticisms because his own career ended after losing to Jahangir in a match in Chichester, England, which he finished hobbling too badly to risk defending the British Open a week later.
I knew I had no hope of winning against Jahangir and I only got eight points, but I was pleased to have finished the match and get those eight," Hunt added.
Jahangir's supporters point out that the 28-year-old has been struggling with a serious back injury for a long time, and that he had needed six months away from competitive play

prior to his abortive comeback.
To have played on against Marshall might have risked permanent damage that could have endangered Jahangir's ability to perform income-making exhibitions in retirement.
However, Jahangir did appear to have missed an important public relations trick by not returning to the court, explaining his reasons for stopping, and making a friendly farewell.
This could have created sufficient goodwill for the legend to have deflected most of the criticisms coming from some of the game's leading players and observers.
Jahangir's role as undisputed king of the game has now been taken over by his namesake compatriot Jansher Khan, who on Saturday added the World Open to the British Open title and world number one ranking he already possessed.
Div II cricket final on Oct 5
The final of the Metropolitan Second Division Cricket qualifying competition between Evergreen Club and Dhanmondi Pragati Sangha will be held on October 5, reports UNB.