

Tieleman is confident

Sports Reporter

RAJSHAHI, Oct 6: Although top-seed Laurence Tieleman plays under the Italian flag, he was born and brought up in Belgium.



Tieleman's father Henry Tieleman who is accompanying him on the tour, is an economist currently working for the European Community and Laurence's mother is an Italian.

Tieleman, who will be 20 next month, is now ranked 330 on the ATP computer and played in the qualifying round of the recently concluded Wimbledon championships. He lost to Richard Smith of America in the first round.

Tieleman also played in the Australian Open held last January.

Tieleman, who will be pairing with third-seed Sean Cole of Britain for the doubles, is confident of defending his title.

"I'm here to win it," quipped Tieleman.

Tieleman's father, who is providing the funds for his son, also had a word of praise for his lad.

"He's doing well. I think he'll make it," said Henry Tieleman.

Cole fancies his own chances

Sports Reporter

RAJSHAHI Oct 6: Third-seed Sean Cole of Great Britain was born in 1966 in London. He started playing tennis in his school days when he was 11.

Cole, who is ranked 460, is in Bangladesh for the first time.

Cole's father is a retired government official and his mother is a nurse.

Cole, who has one brother and a sister, sounded optimistic about winning the satellite circuit tennis championship.

"I'll surely give it a go," said Cole.

Cole, who has been financed by the Great Britain Lawn Tennis Association, mentioned the names of the first seed Tieleman and second-seed Zeeshan Ali of India as his main hurdles.

"Certainly they're good players," he said.

"But I haven't played with any of them," Cole said.

Navana league from early Nov

Sports Reporter

This year's Navana Premier Division cricket league will begin two days after the final of the Damal Summer cricket tournament. The final of the traditional curtain-raiser of the domestic cricket season is scheduled for the first week of November.

The tentative decision was taken in the meeting of the league committee held yesterday at the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board office.

However, the main agenda of the meeting was the approval of the cricket players transfers that took place between September 18 and 24. About 200 players sought transfers this year for the imminent 1992-93 cricket season, which will go on the wheels with the beginning of the Damal Summer cricket tournament from October 9.

Reigning champions Abahani Krira Chakra will play Babes City Club on the opening day of the tournament at the Dhaka Stadium.

Goals galore in Division Two

Sports Reporter

The Hockey Stadium saw a number of goals yesterday after Monday's goal drought in the Sonali Bank Second Division football super league. In the two matches yesterday there were as many as nine goals compared to the meagre four on Monday.

In the day's first match, Dhaka WASA settled it 3-2 in their favour against Prantik Boys Club after a gruelling 90-minute work-out.

The second match at the same venue, produced a 2-2 stalemate between Jurat Janata Boys Club and Muslim Institute.

ITF satellite tennis championship Main draw begins today

By Ahmed Ahsanuzzaman



RAJSHAHI, Oct 6: The first round matches of the Gold Leaf ITF Satellite circuit tennis championship first leg get underway here at the local Rajshahi Tennis Complex on Club Road at nine tomorrow morning.

Sixteen matches of the 32-man main draw are scheduled for the day.

Sixteen matches of the 32-man main draw are scheduled for the day. Top seed Laurence Tieleman of Italy, who arrived only today, starts his title defence against qualifier Dennis Van Uffelen of Belgium while second seed Zeeshan Ali, the Indian Davis Cupper, takes on another qualifier Karoly Gyorgy of Hungary.

Three Bangladeshis have been given wild cards. They are Hiralal, who faces Christoph Lagneau, lucky loser, from Germany Shafiqul Islam Mukta and his fellow Rajshahi mate Zahurul Islam Manik who face third seeded Sean Cole of Britain and another lucky loser Thomas Winkler in their respective opening round matches. The other wild carder, Parvez Humayun of Pakistan will take on twelfth seed Dajal Mori of Japan.

Matches will start at nine in

the morning and continue till five in the afternoon. Talking to this correspondent, a member of the tournament organising committee said that despite the facility of floodlights play cannot be held beyond daylight because of the swarms of insects which are attracted by the lights.

At the time of filing this report six of the twenty top ranked foreign players who originally made up the list of 60 participants from 20 countries hadn't reached Rajshahi. As a result the organisers allotted the vacant berths to the lucky losers of the qualifying round which was held late this afternoon. Carried over from Monday, the scheduled start of the week-long meet because of incessant rain, all 24 matches — 16 first round and eight second round ties — were completed in great haste today.

Bernad Haberer of Austria received a walk-over in his first round match of the qualifiers when his Indian opponent Kapoor failed to report. Those who qualified for the main draw are Matthias Muller of Germany, Dimitri Tondeur of Belgium, and Rafael Chajdas of the USA, brothers Thomas and Karoly Gyorgy from Hungary, Arno Otterman of Netherlands, Eric Brummer of Switzerland, and Dennis Van

Uffelen of Belgium.

In the second round, Matthias Muller defeated Tom Walter of the USA 6-3, 3-6, 6-1; Dimitri Tondeur beat Murakami of Japan 6-3, 7-6; Thomas Gyorgy of Hungary outplayed Bernd Haberer of Germany 6-1, 6-1; Rafael Chajdas got the better of compatriot Morneau 6-2, 6-3; Swiss Erik Brummer got past Christoph Lagneau of Germany 6-3, 6-4; Dutchman Arno Otterman brushed aside the challenge of German Thomas Winkler 6-2, 6-1; Van Uffelen of Belgium had few problems in disposing off Kapoor of India 6-7, 6-0, 6-2 while Karoly Gyorgy, brother of Thomas Gyorgy, got a walkover against Ameen Nawaz of Bangladesh.

The belated inaugural ceremony held at the close of the day, was an impressive one. Minister for Planning Zahiruddin Khan declared the meet open as the chief guest.

While speaking, the minister promised that four more courts will be laid soon to make the Rajshahi Tennis Complex complete. Sadek Hossain, State Minister for Youth and Sports, Rajshahi City Corporation Mayor Mizanur Rahman Nizim and chief of the organising committee Zafar Imam also spoke on the occasion.

Mac finds his serve on time



SYDNEY, Oct 6: An inconsistent but opportunistic John McEnroe found his serve when it counted to oust Andrei Olhovskiy 1-6, 6-2, 6-0 Tuesday night in the second round of the \$1.1 million Sydney indoor tennis tournament, reports AP.

Playing for probably the last time in Australia, the seventh-seeded McEnroe had trouble finding the range early against the Russian qualifier, ranked 115th in the world, as a half-capacity crowd sat stunned.

McEnroe, a winner all four times he played here previously, in 1980-83, dropped a set for the first time as Olhovskiy came out hot. He exerted constant pressure with

solid passing shots and net play that left the New Yorker bashing balls into the ground in frustration and mumbling to himself.

"I felt a little shell-shocked," said McEnroe, coming off a three-set exhibition victory Sunday in Melbourne over Wimbledon champion Andre Agassi.

But after breaking three times in the first set and dropping only three points in his own three service games, Olhovskiy found himself unable to solve McEnroe's mix of spins and volleys.

While McEnroe cashed in five of his six break-point opportunities, Olhovskiy squandered all but three of his 16 chances.

"I got into a better rhythm as the match went on," said McEnroe, who could face top seed and defending champion Stefan Edberg of Sweden in the quarterfinals.

"It would be unbelievable if I could win my first title in 20 months. It would be a nice way to go out."

He reiterated plans to retire as a full-time player at the end of the year, although he is doing television commentary and would consider Davis Cup if given the captain's job or guaranteed a spot on the team all year.

"You hate to go completely cold turkey," he said.

Also advancing to the round of 16 were No 2 Goran Ivanisevic, No 5 Wayne Ferreira of South Africa, No 6 Richard Krajcek of the Netherlands and unseeded Patrik Kuhnen of Germany.

McEnroe's brother, Patrick, was a first-round loser to Germany's Patrick Bauer in a third-set tiebreaker.

The top eight seeds had first-round byes. Edberg, who has slipped to third in the world rankings despite winning the US Open last month, sees his first action Wednesday, as do fourth-seeded Ivan Lendl and third-seeded Agassi.

Locked in a tight battle for the last spots in the season-ending ATP Tour final for the top eight ranked players, he rode his powerful serve-and-volley game to a 6-2, 6-4 victory over Gianluca Pozzoli of Italy.

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Soccer result

Sports Reporter

Central Zone defeated North Zone 1-0 in the Pioneer inter-zonal football league at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

Dulal netted the winner for Central Zone in the third match of the tournament which is designed to unearth young talented players across the country.



Action from yesterday's Sonali Bank Second Division football super league match between Dhaka WASA and Prantik Boys Club at the Hockey Stadium. WASA won 3-2. — Star photo



Minister for Information Barrister Nazmul Huda, who inaugurated the ninth Qazi Motahar Hossain International Masters' chess competition at the NSC conference yesterday, is flanked by Bangladesh Chess Federation officials. — Star photo

Gooch undergoes surgery

Sports Reporter

LONDON, Oct 6: England cricket captain Graham Gooch has had a second operation to remove a cyst from his left wrist, reports AFP.

The 36-year-old batsman was admitted to a private hospital in his home county of Essex on Sunday. He is to return home today.

Gooch had treatment on the ganglion during Essex's country's championship match against Hampshire. But the wrist flared up again while he was at a speaking engagement last week.

DU, JU in final

Sports Reporter

Reigning champions Dhaka University and hosts Jahangirnagar University will fight for the crown of the inter-university soccer championship in the final at the Mir Mosharraf Hossain Hall playground on October 8.

In the semifinals yesterday, Group A runner-up Rajshahi University put up a spirited fight against star-studded Dhaka before going down by the odd goal in three while the hosts had it much easier than their next opponents against Chittagong University, cruising to a 2-0 victory.

Dhaka University faced a stiff resistance from Rajshahi University, who were apparently unimpressed by the presence of a galaxy of national stars in the Dhaka ranks. Not only did they seem to have answers to almost every Dhaka University move, but they also came up with some fine attack of their own on the title-holder's citadel.

Amin put the victors in the lead 36 minute into match.

Rajshahi University failed to capitalise on either of the two chances that came their way in the ninth and 28th minutes of the first half.

The second session started with Rajshahi trying desperately to square the score, but in vain.

Mosharraf made the issue safe for the champions with the second goal of the match 19 minutes into the second half.

Yet Mosharraf's goal failed to daunt the Rajshahi forwards who were on a marauding mood on the day.

When Babu reduced the margin in the 31st minute it seemed as if the champs might fall apart before a rejuvenated Rajshahi attack. But with the wayward Rajshahi forwards failing to find the finishing touch on as many as five occasions, their star-studded opponents were spared the embarrassment.

Jahangirnagar University, the hosts of the competition, could have been a five-nil winner but for three missed chances in the second half.

The hosts started before a partisan local crowd who cheered them on throughout the match. This combative attitude of the supporters made the first half a very high-strung affair with both teams attacking each other's citadel for the winning edge.

It was Chittagong University who earned the closest chance in the 36th minutes but fortunately for the hosts they failed to score.

After the breather, the Jahangirnagar University players made the breakthrough with Babu scoring the first goal of the match in the 17th minute.

Thirteen minutes later it was Babu once again with a spectacular header who made it 2-0.

Babu's pair was followed by a series of Jahangirnagar attacks but for his fellow forwards' failure the 2-0 scoreline prevailed at the end.

QM int'l chess inaugurated BCF bows to player power

Sports Reporter

The ninth International Dr Quazi Motahar Hossain Masters' chess tournament was declared open yesterday although the scheduled draw was not held due to a 'now settled' bickering between the Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF) and local players.

As a result the actual competition, which was scheduled to begin from today, will now begin from tomorrow, October 8.

Faced with the implied threat of an en masse boycott by the top local players who backed their peer and International Master Zillur Rahman Champak's demand for an appearance fee.

The BCF spread oil over troubled waters with a last minute deal with the enraged players.

The BCF has reportedly agreed to pay Zillur Rahman Champak, a player whom the officials left out of reckoning for his persistence with the demand only yesterday, Taka 6000 and a suit of Taka 150 each to all the rated players of Bangladesh. Champak had earlier wanted Taka 8,000 as appearance fee.

The bespectacled International Master justified his demand in the backdrop of the huge expenses incurred by the BCF for the foreign players.

Eight foreigners — six from India and one each from Pakistan and Yemen — are tak-

ing part in this 15-day long competition.

The six-men Indian team comprising IM Lanka Ravi, IM Krishnamurthy Murugan, IM Arun Vasidya, PDS Gtrinat, Rahul Shetty, and Atanu Lahiri is due in the city today. Yemeni IM Hameed Mansoor Qazi who was due last night had not arrived till the filing of this report. Pakistani IM Mahmood Ahmed Khan Lodhi, the defending champion, has been in the city for the last couple of days.

With Champak back in the fold, the Bangladeshi squad now consists of national champions and Fide Master Reefat Bin-Sattar, (2335), Fide Master Ziaur Rahman (2380), IM Zillur Rahman Champak, (2355), Saifuddin Lavlu (2315), Fide Master Syed Tahmidur Rahman (2265), Jamilur Rahman and International Woman Master Rani Hamid while the eighth spot will be filled either by Khandaker Kayes Hassan or Ziaul Qader Tuhin.

Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda inaugurated the tournament at the chess room of the National Sports Council.

First held in 1980 in memory of late Professor Quazi Motahar Hossain, the founder of the Bangladesh Chess Federation, the international tournament remained suspended for some time due to unavoidable circumstances.

Speaking on the occasion, chief guest Huda lauded the

role of the late National Professor Quazi Motahar Hossain for the popularisation of the game in this country.

Presided over by KM Shaukor, a vice president of the BCF, the inaugural function was addressed, among others, by Dr A R Khan, Vice President of BCF, and General Secretary Mujibur Rahman.

According to a late report, Rahul Shetty, one of the six Indian players, arrived in the city late last night.

The tournament draw will be held today to ensure the rescheduled start of the tournament from tomorrow.

Youth kabaddi

Sports Reporter

The divisional level matches of the fourth National Youth under-19 kabaddi competition will take place on Oct 17 under the joint auspices of the Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation and the Dhaka Divisional Sports Association, says a press release.

Dinajpur will play hosts for the Rajshahi divisional matches and Satkhira to the Khulna divisional matches.

The Chittagong divisional matches will take place in Chandpur while the capital will host the Dhaka divisional matches.

District level youth kabaddi teams have been requested to contact their respective district sports associations immediately.

'Tiger' Bill O'Reilly dead



SYDNEY, Oct 6: Australian former Test cricketer Bill O'Reilly, regarded as the greatest bowler in history, died in hospital here today after a long illness, aged 86, reports AFP.

One of his earliest victims, the former England "Bodyline" bowler Harold Larwood, paid tribute to him here, describing O'Reilly as the best medium-pace spin bowler ever.

Former Australian captain Sir Donald Bradman said,

"We shall miss him and his forthright comments in the press." Bradman said in a statement from his home in Adelaide after O'Reilly died from kidney failure.

Born in Warrigello, south of Sydney, in December 20, 1905, the 1.90 metre (six foot three) son of a country schoolmaster learned to bowl with a ball fashioned from a banksia tree root.

He was selected for his first Test against South Africa in Adelaide in January, 1932, and

soon found himself playing in the 1932-33 notorious bodyline series, when England captain Douglas Jardine ordered his bowlers to use intimidatory tactics.

Larwood, now 87, recalled today how he fell victim to the leg-spinner's skill on the last ball of O'Reilly's first over.

"It came so fast I didn't even see it," Larwood said.

"Jardine had said to me when I was going out to bat just hit them straight Harold, no fooling around."

"The first five balls I pushed back to him but the sixth got around behind me and the next thing I looked behind and I saw my balls had gone. And I'd only made two."

Larwood, who has lived in Australia since the 1940s, said O'Reilly was "A straight-forward bloke but quite friendly," adding: "He'd never talk about

you behind your back."

Larwood was the spearhead of Jardine's attack in 1932, taking 33 wickets in five Tests for an average of 19.51, and cramping the style of Bradman, the batsman with the best Test average in history.

But in his autobiography farewell to cricket in 1950, Bradman wrote: "How many times in my life have I been asked: Who is the greatest bowler you have ever played against? My answer has invariably been O'Reilly."

He added, "Off all the first-class batsmen I know and who played against O'Reilly in his prime, not one disagrees with this view."

The first time he played against O'Reilly in 1925, Bradman made 234 not out on the first day. "When the match resumed," he said, "I was bowled first ball round my legs by O'Reilly, whose ability even then to turn a leg break with speed amazed me."

Another former Test captain and commentator, Richie Benaud, said, "Bill O'Reilly was unique."

Benaud, 62, recalled watching O'Reilly for the first time at the age of nine.

He said O'Reilly's attitude to batsmen was simple: "He hated them and it was that which earned him the nickname Tiger."



Star file photo shows England's Harold Larwood (left) and Australians Ray Edwill (centre) and Bill O'Reilly (right) during the Centenary Test Match at Melbourne's MCG in March 1977.