

Nat'l volleyball from Dec 1

Sports Reporter The first round of the 1992 national volleyball championships for men and women will start from December 1 in the city, says a press release. Bangladesh General Insurance Co Ltd will sponsor the meet. Interested teams have been asked to collect the identity cards for their players by completing the registration formalities with the Bangladesh Volleyball Federation at the Dhaka Stadium. No player will be allowed to participate in the tournament without identity card.

JU soccer

Sports Reporter Department of Bengali got the better of Department of Anthropology by three goals to one in the Jahangir Nagar University inter-department football tournament at the University playground yesterday. However, it was Anthropology Department who drew the first blood when Jewel scored in the very fifth minute of play.

Bullet restored parity for Bangla Department in the 25th minute while Kajal put the students of literature in the lead in the 28th minute. Bullet confirmed the victory by getting the third goal for Bangla Department in the second half. Geology Department will play Department of Physics in today's match at the same venue.

Dittmar earns a chance to settle score with Jansher

AMSTERDAM, Oct 27: Australian Chris Dittmar earned the chance to avenge his recent World Open squash final defeat by Jansher Khan when he swept into the final of the Dutch Open on Monday, reports Reuter.

Dittmar destroyed England's Peter Marshall 15-12, 15-7, 15-5 in 54 minutes while top-seeded Jansher beat another Australian, Tristan Nancarrow, in the other semifinal.

Dittmar never gave Marshall a glimmer of a hope of repeating his second round victory over former world champion Rodney Martin.

Marshall made a fight of it in a 20-minute opening game, but once Dittmar had moved ahead from 8-8 he stormed to victory with a display of power and precision which frequently had his opponent wrong-footed and flailing his racket at thin air.

"I'm looking forward to the final. It is about time I put one over Jansher," said Dittmar, who has lost out to the Pakistani in four world finals.

Jansher was well below his best as he took 75 minutes to subdue sixth seed Nancarrow 15-12, 15-12, 9-15, 15-7.

Nancarrow could easily have won the opening two games, each lasting 20 minutes. He fought back from 10-5 down in the first and had every chance at 12-12 in the second.

B'ball 'resumes'

Sports Reporter The Partex First Division basketball super league got off to an ineffectual start after an eleven-day break as Panthers Club gave a walk-over to champions Angels Club at the wooden-floor gymnasium yesterday.

However, Panthers will not be scratched for skipping the match since reportedly there is nothing in the bye laws prescribing punitive measures against willful non-participation by any team.

In a letter addressed to the president of the Bangladesh Amateur Basketball Federation Panthers accused the league committee of irregularities.

Dharmketu will take on Dhaka Winners Club in today's only engagement at the same venue.

Navy handball

KAPTAI, Oct 27: The annual handball championship of the Bangladesh Navy concluded at BNS Shaheed Moazzem here on Monday, reports BSS.

BNS Haji Mohsin clinched the title defeating hosts Shaheed Moazzem by 9-4 goals. The winners led the first half by 3-2.

M A Zaman REN-1 of the BNS Shaheed Moazzem was adjudged the best player of the championship.

The commodore superintendent BN dockyard, Commodore M Shahabuddin witnessed the final match as the chief guest and later gave away the prizes.

Gelfand, Adams draw at Tilburg

TILBURG, Netherlands, Oct 27: Boris Gelfand of Belarus and Britain's Michael Adams drew their opening match in the final of the Interpolis chess tournament on Monday after 25 moves and little more than an hour on the clock, reports Reuter.

Abahani amble into round 2

Sports Reporter Abahani's unfancied pace attack made mockery of a contest in one of the two matches of the 14th Damal Summer cricket tournament at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday as the reigning champions romped home by nine wickets against minnows Evergreen to finish as the Group A champions.

Abahani, who had earlier defeated City Club in their first match, won the toss yesterday and asked their opponents to bat first.

Left arm pacesman Anisur Rahman and Khairuzzaman Babu, the right arm new ball bowler from Mymensingh ripped through the ill-equipped batting of Evergreen like hot knife in butter.

Half the side was back in the pavilion with only 46 on the board and only a defiant, dour 22 by Momen saved Evergreen from inenarrable embarrassment. The number four batsman played 72 balls for his 20 plus knock, without any hit to the fence.

Khaled Mahmud Sujan with his undemanding military medium reaped rich as his predecessors had broken the backbone of Evergreen batting earlier.



FARUQUE... 54 no

In fact Sujan returned the best bowling figures among the seven Abahani bowlers. Sujan took three wickets for ten runs.

Anis bagged three wickets for 13 runs. Khairuzzaman Babu took two for 16 while Ashoka de Silva, the Sri

Lankan leg spinner took two for 18, as Evergreen could muster only 93 off 41.2 overs including a very liberal dose of 26 extras.

Although Abahani lost Jahangir for only three at the onset of their innings, Shovon and former skipper Faruq Ahmed left no room for any further nonsense. While Shovon held one end up Faruq kept the strike to ensure victory with a bright innings of 64 not out.

Shovon remained not out on a quiet 22 while Faruq played 85 balls and struck five fours and one sixer to present his side a nine wicket victory in 24.4 overs.

Athula Samarasekera, Abahani's new Sri Lankan recruit did not play yesterday as the batsman reportedly had a bout of flu.

Sohel, the medium pace bowler of Evergreen was the only success with the leather in the afternoon session. He bowled national opening batsman cum wicketkeeper Jahangir Alam for three to finish with one for 23.

Surja Tarun win a cliff-hanger

Sports Reporter Surja Tarun Club won a cliff-hanger against Dhanmondi Club in the 14th Damal Summer cricket tournament at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

In an inconsequential match Tarun beat Dhanmondi by one wicket, in the day's second low scoring match.

Tarun's opening bowler Talha recruited from Victoria only this year devastated Dhanmondi batting who decided to bat first after having won the toss.

Tarun pace trio of Talha, Subrata and Majhee had Dhanmondi reeling at 46 for five at one stage and only a late rally by Faruq Kamal and Faruq helped Dhanmondi reach the three figure mark.

Faruq hit three fours in his

62-ball innings of 27 while Tanvir made 15.

Dhanmondi reached 115 in their reduced quota of 40 overs for nine wickets.

Talha bowled nine overs for his three scalps that cost him 20 runs.

Priyaaal Rodrigo, Tarun's captain took two for 30, while Subroto, Gem and Golla bagged one wicket each.

Dhanmondi's Mithu sent back Tarun's captain Nurul Hadi for one to set the pattern of an exciting encounter. Golla was trapped leg before by veteran Sami and Mithu gobbled up two wickets quickly to inject real life in the game.

Tito, the tall opener, however, stood firmly amid the rains. Although none of his teammates made it to the double figures Tito saw his side through with a well-mer-

ited knock of unbeaten 43 off 89 balls including two hits to the fence.

When Tarun crossed the target of 115 in 38.4 overs they had just our wicket in their hands.

Mithu, Dhanmondi's opening bowler, who had sought transfer from Mohammedan earlier this year, was the pick of the bowlers with figures of three for 26 off nine overs.

Sohel took two for 20, while Dulu, Hira and Sami claimed one wicket.

Both Surja Tarun and Dhanmondi are out of contention.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Kalabagan vs Agrani (Dhaka Stadium) Udity vs Eskaton (DCS)

Nilphamari, Rajshahi in finals

Sports Reporter Nilphamari and Rajshahi moved into the final round of the 17th national soccer championship for the Sher-e-Bangla Cup by emerging as their respective zonal champions yesterday.

Earlier, Bangladesh Customs, Dhaka University, Chandpur, Bandarban and Jessore had made the final round berths.

At Nilphamari, the hosts beat Gabbandha by a solitary goal.

Sashan scored the all-important goal for Nilphamari a minute from the lemon break.

Manzur and Zillur of Nilphamari and Ilias, Zaki, Islam and Babul of Gabbandha were booked by referee Abdul Aziz for rough play.

Earlier, Nilphamari had trounced Panchagar by five goals to nil in the quarter finals and outplayed Rangpur by four goals to nil in the semi-finals.

Gaibandha registered a lone goal victory against Thakur-

gaon in the quarter finals and edged past Kurigram 3-2 in the semifinals enroute to the final.

Deputy Commissioner of Nilphamari Amnur Rahman witnessed the final as chief guest and gave away the trophies.

Secretary of the Bangladesh Football Federation Shaikh Akmal Hossain was also present.

Eight DSAs — Rangpur, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Lalmonirhat, Dinajpur, Thakurgaon, Panchagar and the hosts — took part in the Nilphamari zonal qualifiers which began on October 20.

At Joypurhat, Rajshahi edged past Naogaon also by a solitary goal to clinch the zonal championship.

Reza netted the decider in the 58th minute.

Md Sirajul Islam of Naogaon and Jamilur Rahman, Abu Taleb and Hamid of Rajshahi were shown yellow cards by referee Golam Mustafa on their way to final, Rajshahi posted an exciting 5-4 victory over

Sirajganj in the quarterfinals and elbowed out Pabna by a lone goal.

Naogaon, on the other hand, beat Nawabganj 1-0 and downed the hosts Joypurhat by two goals to one in the quarterfinals and semifinals respectively.

Eight DSAs — Rajshahi, Naogaon, Nawabganj, Natore, Bogra, Sirajganj, Pabna and the hosts — contested for the Joypurhat zonal championship.

The qualifying round of the national soccer championship will end today by deciding the two zonal champions of the Dhaka Division.

At Madaripur, Narayanganj will play Munshiganj while the hosts will take on Tangail at Netrakona.

The final round of the 17th national football championship for the Sher-e-Bangla Cup, comprising the ten zonal champions, reigning champions Bangladesh Army and hosts of the finals Mymensingh DSA will begin from November 4 at the Mymensingh Stadium.

Mandela meets Indian Test squad

JOHANNESBURG, Oct 27: Nelson Mandela met Tuesday with India's first-ever cricket side to visit South Africa and said he hoped the tour would draw the nations closer, reports AP.

"The people of South Africa welcome you with open arms as our friends during the many difficult years of our struggle against apartheid," said Mandela, President of the African National Congress.

The Indian players sought autographs from Mandela, who served 27 years in prison for trying to topple South Africa's white government. It presented the ANC leader with a cricket bat bearing the signatures of team members.

Team manager Amrit Mathur said his nation hoped the tour would promote friendship and close ties between India and South Africa.

The Indian contingent arrived Monday for the nation's first cricket tour of South Africa, which will include the first official test between the two nations.

South Africa returned to international cricket last year following decades of banning because of apartheid. Their first tour was to India, where they lost two one-day matches before winning the third.

Roy Marshall dead

LONDON, Oct 27: Former West Indian cricket batsman Roy Marshall died in an English hospice Tuesday after a long battle with cancer. He was 62, reports AP.

Britain's Press Association, reporting the death, said Marshall played four Tests for the West Indies in 1951 against Australia and New Zealand.

He was better known as a batsman for English county Hampshire, where he played 504 games and scored more than 30,000 runs between 1955 and 1971.

Jansher at thief's mercy

AMSTERDAM, Oct 27: World squash champion Jansher Khan won his way through to the final of the Dutch Open championship on Monday — but a thief may have cost him the title, reports Reuter.

Jansher's kitbag was stolen shortly after his semifinal win over Australian Tristan Nancarrow and the Pakistani said unless it was recovered he would be unable to play the final against another Australian, Chris Dittmar.

"My rackets were in the bag, but even more important my shoes were there and I just cannot wear a brand new pair. I would be risking injury," he said.

The bag disappeared from beside the court after his match against Nancarrow. Tournament officials reported the theft to police and also contacted local newspapers and radio stations to appeal for its return.

"My passport and all my money were also in the bag," Jansher said.

"If anybody has the bag, I want them to know they can leave it anywhere — at the hotel, the squash club or even in the street and I won't ask any questions."

Becker drops down to 10th in ATP rankings

MONACO, Oct 27: Boris Becker dropped to his lowest spot since July 1985 when he fell to 10th in the latest ATP tennis rankings released Monday, reports AP.

It was his lowest ranking since the German won Wimbledon as a 17-year-old. Since then he's won two more Wimbledon, was runner-up three times and also won a US Open and Australian Open.

Becker is defending champion at this week's Stockholm Open. However he had already lost the ranking points he gained as the 1991 winner because the tournament is one week later this year.



Supporters welcome the captain of the Indian cricket team Mohammad Azharuddin upon their arrival at the Johannesburg Airport on Monday. The Indian team is the first to tour South Africa since the country's re-admission to world cricket. — AFP photo

Zimbabwe B lose way in the middle

HARARE, Oct 27: Zimbabwe B lost seven wickets for 71 runs after Wayne James and Craig Evans had shared a second wicket century partnership against New Zealand on Monday, reports Reuter.

They eventually had to settle for 246 for eight declared in their first innings on the first day of the three-day match.

After Zimbabwe B won the toss and decided to bat on a flat pitch, they overcame the loss of the early wicket of Mark Dekker for eight James and Evans put on 116.

But the home side then lost their way. Evans made 66 and James 63.

The pick of the New Zealand bowlers was off-spinner Dipak Patel who took five for 54 off 27 overs.

After Zimbabwe declared an hour before the close, New Zealand opened Blair Hartland and Mark Greatbatch put on 43 without being separated.

Scoreboard on the first day of the three-day cricket match between Zimbabwe B and New Zealand on Monday:

Zimbabwe B: (First Innings)

Table with columns: Bowling, O, M, R, W. Rows: Sha, Nash, Latham, Doull, Patel, Haslam.

New Zealand: (First Innings)

Table with columns: Bowling, O, M, R, W. Rows: Hartland, Greatbatch, Extras, Total, To bat: Jones, Rutherford, Latham, Patel, Parore, Nash, Su's Doull, Haslam.

India, SA agree on 3-umpire format

JOHANNESBURG Oct 27: Indian and South African cricket officials decided on Tuesday to try out the unprecedented posting of three umpires in warm-up matches before next month's historic Test series, reports AFP.

Indian tour manager Amrit Mathur, who met senior officials of the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA) to finalise playing conditions for the series said the problem of how the umpires were to be rotated was still to be resolved.

"We want the three umpires to be rotated on a day by day basis, but the South Africans want it session by session," Mathur told AFP during the Indian teams first training session at the Wanderers Club here.

"It has been decided to experiment our proposals in the first two warm-up matches before the Tests get underway," he said.

The Indians open their pathbreaking 75-day tour, South Africa's first since it was readmitted to the International Cricket Council (ICC).

with a one-day practice match against the Nicky Oppenheimer XI at Halfway House on Thursday.

The Indian proposal of posting three umpires on a day-by-day basis will be tried out in the four-day match against a combined Bowl XI starting at Springs on Saturday.

The session by session proposal of the South Africans will be experimented during the next four-day game against the President's XI at Centurion Park on November 6.

Officials of the two teams will take a final decision on the contentious issue before the first of four Test matches begin in Durban on November 13.

UCBSA managing director Ali Bacher said the rotation system will not be implemented for the seven one-day internationals to be played between the two teams.

South Africa have invited Steve Bucknor of the West Indies to umpire in the first two Tests, while David Shepherd of England will take over for the remaining two.

The hosts have also named a five-member panel of local umpires for the tour: Carl Liebenberg, Cyril Mitchley,

Barry Lambson, Rudi Koertzen and Wilf Diederichs.

Bacher said the country's Umpires Association will select two umpires from the panel to join Bucknor and Shepherd for the Test matches.

"The Indian captain will prepare a confidential report on the umpires after each days play in the Tests, so that the performance of the officials can be monitored," he said.

"We don't want any controversies," Bacher added.

It was agreed during Tuesday's meeting that a third umpire will sit before a television screen to monitor run out, stumping and hit wicket decisions.

Umpires on the field can refer such appeals to the third official, who will switch on a red light if television replays show the batsman is out and a green light if the appeal should be rejected.

Bacher said former West Indian captain Clive Lloyd will be the match referee for the first two Tests and four one-day internationals and England's Mike Smith will take over for the last two Tests and three internationals.

Holm — answer to Sweden's hopes

STOCKHOLM, Oct 27: Henrik Holm's appearance at the Stockholm Open this week should have a soothing effect on Sweden's disappointed tennis fans, reports AFP.

After Bjorn Borg's humiliating comeback attempts and Stefan Edberg's fall from the men's world number one spot, the European tennis power has been looking for its next generation of stars.

Thirty six year old Borg decided after eight straight defeats that he could not risk another in front of his own fans. Holm, 24, could be the answer

to the hopes of the Stockholm crowd. Even he says at the moment that life is good.

Holm is set to reach the top 20 before the year is out if he continues the form which saw him reach the final of the recent Seiko super Tournament in Tokyo and the semis of the Australian indoor the previous week.

He has beaten Boris Becker and even had the cheek to take a set off Edberg, his illustrious compatriot, who also beat him in the fourth round at Wimbledon.

But even Edberg has been made to sit up and recognise Holm's talent. "When you play a guy like Henrik, he just keeps coming. He's pretty tough at the moment... I think he could move into the top 20."

Becker was similarly complimentary after being sent packing from the Tokyo tournament 6-1, 6-2.

"He just played and played, hitting as hard as he could and most of the times, he hit corners. My indoor game is especially good this year. So I didn't think he could pull off another set like that."

"I guess, I wasn't right." Holm who turned professional in 1987, is aware that his play is attracting increasing attention. "I've been winning a lot of matches, I've been winning smaller tournaments and won in the first round in 14 tournaments this summer, so it's not bad."

His victory roll started soon after attending the ATP tour university in November 1991.

Having started the new year ranked 129th in the world, he accelerated to 46th at the start

of this month and is 23rd in this week's association of tennis professionals rankings.

A good performance at the one million dollar tournament in the Swedish capital, where he is seeded 16th and will be up against Edberg, Becker and current world number one Jim Courier, would push him into the top 20.

Holm's strength is not just having a powerful first serve — in common with virtually all the top players on the circuit — but also an unusual habit of blasting down the second service as well.

Tennis success was perhaps to be expected of this Stockholm soccer fan though.

His father Christer was Sweden's national number two and played in the Davis Cup during the 1960s. Henrik's younger brother Nils also travels the ATP tour and the two have also been successful doubles partners.

Henrik is clearly set to go the furthest and his biggest stride could be on home territory.

Coetzer, Halard move up in Puerto Rico Open

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, Oct 27: Second seed Amanda Coetzer of South Africa and third seed Julie Halard of France took the first step towards a final round rematch at the 150,000 dollar Puerto Rico Open by posting top-sided first-round wins on Monday, reports Reuter.



Action from yesterday's match between defending champions Abahani Krira Chakra and newcomers Evergreen at the Dhaka Stadium. Abahani won the match by nine wickets to move into the second round of the 14th Damal Summer cricket tournament. — Star photo