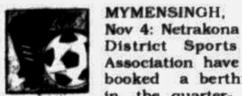


# Netrakona in quarter-finals

From Our Correspondent



**MYMENSINGH, Nov 4:** Netrakona District Sports Association has booked a berth in the quarter-finals of the 17th national soccer championship for the Sher-e-Bangla Cup.

Netrakona DSA edged past Rajshahi DSA by two goals to one in the inaugural match of the 12-team final round of this year's national championship here at the Mymensingh Stadium this afternoon.

Both teams were locked 1-1 at half-time.

Playing before a large crowd, Babu Das put Netrakona in the lead in the 22nd minute with a nice placing shot from inside the Rajshahi box following a goalmouth melee (1-0).

Rajshahi, who qualified for the final round by emerging as the Jyppurhat zonal champions last month, came back into the game only after four minutes of this goal.

Md Masud Alam Babu, who played for Wari Club in the Dhaka First Division league last season, pushed the ball past the Netrakona custodian Tayeb from close off a Reza pass to level the score for Rajshahi (1-1).

The remaining 19 minutes of the first session saw both teams desperately trying to get the winning edge without result.

Netrakona, who beat Tangail by a solitary goal in the zonal final, slowly but steadily took control of the game in the second half and carried out

repeated raids inside Rajshahi territory.

Ponce Sism, who played for Muktiyodha Sangsad last season, scored the winner for Netrakona in the 59th minute with a spectacular header off a long throw by Monsur to take his team to the quarterfinals (2-1).

After conceding the second goal, Rajshahi tried their level best for the equaliser but poor marksmanship by their forwards, especially by Reza, dashed their hopes.

Tayeb and Selim (Jr) of Netrakona and Rashedul Hasan



and Moniruddin of Rajshahi received yellow-card cautions from Referee Nazir Hossain.

Netrakona will take on Chandpur in the quarterfinals on November 9.

Earlier, Finance Minister Saifur Rahman declared the 13-day final round of the Sher-e-Bangla Cup open as chief guest in a colourful ceremony amidst cheers from the local soccer lovers. He was also introduced to the players of both teams.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain Khoka, chairman of the tour-

nament committee Fazul Huq MP, the Bangladesh Football Federation president Siddiqueur Rahman and secretary Shaikh Akmal Hossain were also present.

Twelve teams in two groups are taking part in the final round. They are defending champions Bangladesh Army, Chandpur, Rajshahi, Netrakona, Khulna, and Narayanganj in Group A and the 16th national soccer runners-up Dhaka University, Jessore, Bandarban, Nilphamari, Bangladesh Customs and hosts of the finals Mymensingh in Group B.

The two semi-finals will be held on November 13 and 14 while the final will be played on November 16.

Reigning champions Army will play their first match against the winners of the tie between Khulna and Narayanganj while title-aspirants Dhaka University will open their campaign on November 10 against the victors of today's match between Jessore and Bandarban.

### TEAMS

**NETRAKONA:** Tayeb, Ujjal, Ponce, Selim (Sr), Monsur, Biplab, Gholam Ghaus, Babu Das, Akhter, Selim (Jr) and Titu (Khokon).

**RAJSHAH:** Saitpur, Sharif (Sr), Jamir, Sharif (Jr), Abu Taleb, Rashedul, Moinuddin (Monju), Samrat, Reza, Alam Babu and Satter.

Referee: Nazir Hossain.

**TODAY'S MATCH**  
Jessore vs Bandarban (2:30 pm)

# CSKA Moscow not Bergkamp is Cruyff's concern

**BARCELONA, Spain, Nov 4:** Barcelona coach Johan Cruyff refused to confirm newspaper reports on Tuesday that he had made an offer for the 30-million dollar rated Dennis Bergkamp, reports AFP.

"We are more interested in preparing for the match with Moscow," the Dutchman said of a report in the local La Vanguardia paper he had been given first refusal on the Ajax Amsterdam player.

The European champions drew 1-1 away to CSKA Moscow two weeks ago and Cruyff admitted they could lose at least 10 million dollars if they fail to reach the semi-final pools.

"There is a lot at stake in Wednesday's match," he added.

It was difficult to see where Bergkamp would fit in at Barcelona although Richard Witschge has failed to live up to expectations. If he was offered in part-exchange that would still leave Barcelona with another irreplaceable Dutchman, defender Ronald Koeman, Danish midfielder Michael Laudrup and Hristo Stoichkov.

The fiery Bulgarian striker has scored in all nine league matches so far this term.

La Vanguardia claimed Barcelona had until Dec 31 to take out their option on the 23-year-old Bergkamp who has already turned down a move to Real Madrid.



Spanish team Real Zaragoza's Poyet (L) and Frem Copenhagen's Jensen duel for the ball in the UEFA Cup second round second leg match in Zaragoza, on Tuesday. Zaragoza won the match 5-1. — AFP photo.

# FA charges Vinny Jones with misconduct

**LONDON, Nov 4:** English soccer's governing Football Association has charged Wimbledon midfielder Vinny Jones with misconduct over his role in a controversial video, reports AP.

The FA said Wednesday it would hear the charge Nov 17 in London.

The "Soccer's Hard Men" video was made two years ago. It includes an interview with Jones, who was then playing with Sheffield United.

Critics of the video claim it glorifies cheating and violence in soccer.

Jones has since apologised for his appearance, claiming he was misled. He could be fined or banned from matches if found guilty.

# English cops ready for invasion of Rangers' fans

**LEEDS, England, Nov 4:** English police are preparing for an invasion of Glasgow Rangers fans wanting to see the Scottish side's European Champions Cup return match at Leeds United on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Black market tickets are changing hands at 150 pounds a time and police expect more than 1,000 Scots fans to travel to Leeds in the hope of getting tickets.

Police are mounting huge security operation to prevent touting outside the stadium.

Chief Supt John Ellis confirmed: "We came across someone a few days ago who had managed to get his hands on a few 18 tickets and was selling them on for 150."

"But we will be making sure there will be no ticket touts anywhere near the ground. Anyone caught selling tickets will be detained — and anyone who does not have a ticket should stay away."

Hundreds of uniformed and plain-clothed officers will be involved in the operation.

# Sweden to propose changes in Davis Cup format

**STOCKHOLM, Nov 4:** Four times winners Sweden will propose changes in the format of the Davis Cup to increase the number of matches each team plays in the World Group, Swedish Tennis Federation chairman Olie Bergstrom said on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

He said Sweden will propose qualifying groups instead of the knockout system at an International Tennis Federation (ITF) seminar during the Davis Cup final between the United States and Switzerland at Fort Worth, Texas, next month.

"There are 16 teams at the start but after the first round only half of them remain. We think that is wrong," he said.

Bergstrom said that in a group system every rubber would count. "You wouldn't have the problem of dead matches."

Players and captains have complained about having to play meaningless reverse singles when one of the teams has already secured an unbeatable 3-0 or 3-1 lead.

Bergstrom said the proposal did not favour any particular country and was not intended to alter the home team's right to choose surface and venue.

# Dortmund shatter Celtic dreams

**GLASGOW, Scotland, Nov 4:** Borussia Dortmund of Germany scored twice in five minutes at Celtic on Tuesday to end the Scottish side's dreams of a new UEFA Cup upset, reports AFP.

Borussia came back from a goal down to win the match 2-1 and the second round tie 3-1 on aggregate.

Goals by Swiss striker Stephane Chapuisat and Michael Zorc cancelled out Gerry Creaney's 13th minute header and ended Celtic's run of catching opponents by surprise at their Parkhead Stadium.

Four times in the past Celtic have returned to Parkhead with a 1-0 deficit, and each time they had overturned that score.

They overcame a 2-0 first leg defeat against Cologne of Germany in the first round last month. And a thrilling repeat seemed a likely for the 31,500 crowd after Creaney glanced home John Collins cross to cancel out Borussia's first leg lead.

Chapuisat, Dortmund's top scorer who got the winner in the first leg, equalised in the

53rd minute after being put through by Michael Rummenigge.

Chapuisat then supplied the magnificent pass for Zorc to shatter Celtic five minutes later. Celtic then struggled to contain the well-oiled German machine.

Celtic were well in command when Chapuisat struck back. Charlie Nicholas twice came close to adding to the total before the half time interval.

But Celtic were warned in the 41st minute when Chapuisat sent a swerving shot against a post with goalkeeper Pat Bonner well beaten.

Mike Galloway then saw his tremendous volley blocked by goalkeeper Stefan Klos before Stefan Reuter was deprived of a third goal by a fine save by Bonner in the dying minutes.

In Belgium, Philip Cocu scored for Vitesse Arnhem of Holland who got their second straight 1-0 win over former Belgian champions Mechelen, in Belgium, to advance to the UEFA Cup third round 2-0 on aggregate.

Romanian striker Dorin Mateuț scored a hat-trick as Real Zaragoza of Spain hammered Copenhagen side Frem

5-1 at home and went through to the third round 6-1.

Mateuț opened the score in the seventh minute and finished his hat-trick with Zaragoza's fifth goal in the 83rd. Seba scored the other two goals for the Spaniards.

Celtic manager Liam Brady said the defeat by Borussia had been a "numbing experience."

"At 1-0 we had hoped to take the game into the last 15 or 20 minutes and hopefully get a second goal but they killed us off. We have got to recognise quality and the better team won."

"We had played well although we got a warning when Chapuisat hit the post before half-time. He punished us in the second-half and the tie was finished in the space of a few minutes."

Brady said Borussia were potential winners of the UEFA Cup.

"After their goals they went on to look the class team. It's a pity but that's the kind of class you are up against at this level. They could go a long way in Europe with the two players they have up front, who are capable of getting goals away from home," said the manager.

# Leconte overcomes cold to sail through

**PARIS, Nov 4:** Henri Leconte climbed out of his sick bed to delight the home crowd with a three set victory at the 2.1 million dollar Paris Open on Tuesday, reports AFP.

John McEnroe successfully launched his "last stand" in a Paris arena.

World number-one Jim Courier chalked up an impressive straight-sets win which must have sent shivers down the backs of future opponents.

And two seeds — Michael Chang of the United States and Carlos Costa of Spain — fell by the wayside.

Leconte, in bed all day on Monday with a heavy cold, made an eleventh hour decision to play after working out with compatriot Guy Forget and beat American qualifier Jeff Tarango in straight-sets after hitting 18 aces and making 33 unforced errors.

He looked a very relieved man when he left the court but his second-round opponent, the second seed Pete Sampras, did not look quite so happy.

Sampras was humiliated by Leconte in last year's Davis Cup final — a defeat which has undoubtedly left its mark.

McEnroe, now 33 and playing in his last tournament in France, blew hot and cold, copped a warning for racket abuse and was given a rousing ovation by the spectators when he beat former doubles partner Mark Woodford of Australia.

The American, who will bring the curtain down on his career after playing in next month's Davis Cup final against Switzerland, now faces world number-nine Boris Becker for a place in the third round. His task will not be easy. Becker is desperate to pick up maximum points as he bids to improve his ranking in order to qualify for the eight-man ATP championships in Frankfurt.

Courier came on to the stadium court wearing his new line in clothes (light brown

shorts and a baseball-style shirt of black and white stripes with a bright red collar and arms) but he displayed all of his old power and determination.

At times he reduced the role of Russian opponent Andrei Chesnokov to that of spectator as he raced home, dropping only three games.

But major rival Stefan Edberg had a curious clash with the youngest player in the

American presidential elections.

Wheaton, who has played in a "stars and stripes" headband since the Gulf War, admitted he had voted for George Bush. Courier refused to say who he had voted for. Nobody admitted backing Bill Clinton. And Rostagno said: "I didn't vote. I have no convictions and I don't trust any of the candidates."

# Ivanisevic blasts Pioline

**PARIS, Nov 4:** Goran Ivanisevic blasted promising Frenchman Cedric Pioline into straight-sets submission at the Paris Open on Wednesday and promptly announced he could do better, reports AFP.

"I didn't play all that well today," he said after winning 6-4, 7-5 in 68 minutes.

"But this is the first match and a different surface. Pioline is a good player but I served too good for him today. I play better next time," he grinned.

The Croatian, Wimbledon finalist, qualified for the eight-man ATP Championships in Frankfurt when he won his fourth tournament this year at Stockholm, on Sunday.

As usual it was the sixth-seeded Ivanisevic's big serves that made the difference and he slammed down 14 aces against the recent Lyon tournament finalist.

"At the moment I am playing great," he said. "This is a marvellous year for me and I thank my coach Bob Brett for that. This is the greatest in-door tournament and I want to win."

Ivanisevic has an excellent draw. He now plays either the 12th seed Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands or 1988 tournament winner Amos Mansdorf of Israel.

With fourth seeded Michael Chang beaten in the first round, Ivanisevic looks a likely semifinalist where he should play world number-one Jim Courier.



HENRI LECONTE

# Super Mac's valedictory sermon

**PARIS, Nov 4:** John McEnroe, making his final appearance in front of French tennis fans at the Paris Open this week, has warned Switzerland's disgruntled Davis Cup players not to boycott the final against the United States next month, reports AFP.

Marc Rosset and Jakob Hlasek have sided with their coach Georges Deniau in a dispute with their federation over the transfer of their National Training Centre to German-speaking Switzerland. They have threatened to boycott the final and give up Davis Cup tennis altogether next season unless the centre stays in French-speaking Switzerland.

"They will only be hurting themselves by not playing," said 33-year-old McEnroe who is planning to bring the curtain down on his career after the final.

"This is the biggest chance Switzerland have had in the 100 or whatever amount of years they have been playing in the competition.

"They have only a minimal chance of winning but this is a chance of a lifetime for Jakob and Marc, and if they do decide to play, then I know they are going to give to 100 per cent.

"If Marc was able to somehow win the Olympics and the Davis Cup in the same year, that would be an unbelievable effort."

Asked to compare the Swiss

to the French team that beat the United States in the 1991 final in Lyon, McEnroe, an absentee last year, said: "We didn't field our best team then and Henri Leconte rose to the occasion."

"This time I think we have the better team and we will be playing in the United States. That will make a big difference."



JOHN MCENROE

"Although Switzerland did beat France, at the moment their players are struggling and the consistency of Rosset is very suspect at the moment."

The Olympic champion, one of the biggest servers in the world, was beaten in the first round here on Monday by Australia's Wally Masur.

He said after wards that he could not keep his mind on the match because of the dispute with his federation.

The Swiss federation are to meet later this week to try to

resolve the crisis which could wreck their first ever Davis Cup final.

McEnroe's own campaign at the richest non-Grand Prix event on the tour started on Tuesday with a three-set win over former doubles partner Mark Woodford of Australia.

Today, however, things will be much tougher.

The winner of three Wimbledon and four United States Open singles titles faces ninth-ranked Boris Becker who is desperate to improve his ranking to qualify for the eight-man ATP championship finals in Frankfurt in two weeks' time.

"It is going to be a big match, agreed McEnroe, who has lost only twice to the big German in 11 encounters.

"He has certainly not had a very good year but he has won three tournaments and he is certainly ready to play.

"Every body knows how dangerous he can be. I need to play my best to have a chance." McEnroe, like Becker, is also determined to go as far as he can in his last tournament in France.

"This is the last time I shall play in France and it is very sad. I just wish I could have won a major title here," he said after receiving a tremendous ovation from the Bercy crowd after his first round victory.

McEnroe did not rule out returning to Roland Garros for the French Open next year but with a different job. I shall be doing TV commentary, he said.

# Adarraga tumbles out of European Open

**KIEL, Germany, Nov 4:** World Championship semi-finalist Austin Adarraga was left behind in the scramble to fill the gap left by squash king Jansher Khan at the European Open in Kiel on Tuesday, reports AFP.

Brisbane-born Adarraga, who returned to his parents' country to become Spanish number one, lost a thriller to local hero Chris Walker 16-17, 16-17, 15-11, 15-11, 15-11.

Walker, an Englishman who is a leading member of the Kieler Boosters team which has twice won the German title, has an outstanding chance to reach the quarters in the section vacated by the sick Jansher.

The Pakistani world champion withdrew on Monday with a chest infection.

This is the first tournament in which both great Khans, Jahangir and Jansher, are unfit to play. Jahangir has a bad back, but his place in the Pakistani Open draw has been confirmed and he will make a minicomeback his home city of Karachi before retiring at the

end of the seasons.

Walker's progress was a tortured one. He held two game points in the first and second games against Adarraga, and in the third got a warning for calling the referee "a sucker."

Adarraga also got a warning for kicking an advertising board. He held a lead of 7-3 in the final game but could not sustain the effort.

There was an even more dramatic finish for German qualifier Simon Frenz who saved seven match points against Gary Waite, the world number 13 from Canada. Frenz also held a match point of his own, but lost it on a fluke.

Waite, the most successful player from North America, led 14-8 in the final game, then gambled by electing for a sudden death point after Frenz had battled back to 14-14.

The German fightback was crushed when Waite's cross-court forehand drive from a deep position found the nick between the wall and floor deep on the backhand side — and rolled dead. Waite won 7-15, 15-12, 15-8, 10-15, 15-14.

Pakistan's Zubair Jahan Khan, younger brother of former world number two Hiddy Jahan, was beaten in straight games by England's world number seven Peter Marshall.

That earned the only double-handed player in the history of the top level game a likely last 16 meeting with Australia's Chris Dittmar, the world number two and tournament favourite.

Later the scramble in Jansher's quarter became even more intense when the Australian qualifier Adam

# Close call for Garrison

**OAKLAND, Calif, Nov 4:** Eighth-seeded Zina Garrison stayed off an upset at the hands of Peru's Laura Gildemeister with a 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (7-4) triumph in the first round of the 350,000 dollars Bank of the West Classic in Oakland, reports Reuters.

# Boulmerka on a new mission

**ALGIERS, Nov 4:** Olympic women's 1,500 metres champion Hassiba Boulmerka is setting up an Association to help Algeria's poor and oppressed, reports Reuter.

"It will consist of trainers, technicians and young sports managers who have been marginalised and who want to work," Boulmerka said.

Boulmerka, who has been the target of criticism from Muslim fundamentalists for running bare-legged, said Solidarity Algeria would be a "people's organisation, made up of the socially oppressed."

"We will try to bring young people together, to know each other, speak to each other and perhaps find answers to their problems," she told El Watan newspaper.

Boulmerka added: "I come from a family of the people. My father earned his bread by the sweat of his brow. My mother is illiterate, like many Algerian mothers."

# Mtolo eyes world mark in Marathon

**NEW YORK, Nov 4:** South Africa's Willie Mtolo is aiming for a record at the fastest marathon in the world in Rotterdam next year, reports AFP.

The 28-year-old Zulu runner who won the New York Marathon on Sunday, said here on Tuesday he wants the 2hr 6min 50 sec record set by Ethiopian Belayneh Densimo in Rotterdam in 1988.

The three fastest marathons of all time have all been recorded in the Dutch race. After Densimo comes Ahmed Salah of Djibouti (2:07:07) and Carlos Lopez who ran 2:07:12 there in 1985.

"When I go to Rotterdam next spring the only thing on my mind will be the clock," said Mtolo who won in New York in a race record of 2:09:29, 46 seconds off his personal best.

Lisa Ondieki, the Australian who won the New York women's race in 2:24:40, has a similar target in her sights.

"I think that was my best marathon," said the 34-year-old runner. She will probably run her next marathon in 1993 in Boston or London, where Ingrid Kristiansen set the world record of 2:21:06 in 1985.

Both runners will be taking a rest before thinking further about their futures. Mtolo will be taking a month off and Ondieki three weeks.

# Cuba may compete in Atlanta Games

**ACAPULCO, Mexico, Nov 4:** A senior Cuban government minister said here Tuesday he believed his country would compete in the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, reports AFP.

Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice-president of the Cuban cabinet, said it depended on relations with the United States, which recently tightened its trade embargo of the Caribbean island, but he believed they would go to Atlanta.

Cuba followed the Soviet boycott of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics but went to Indianapolis for the 1987 Pan-American Games. And the Americans went to Havana for the 1991 Pan-American Games.

# Cuban girls beat US in World Super Four volleyball

**OSAKA, Japan, Nov 4:** Undeclared Cuba beat the wireless United States 15-12, 15-5, 10-15, 15-10 Wednesday for their second victory in the dirls 400,000 FIVB World Super Four women's volleyball competition, reports AP.

In the other second-day match, Russia defeated Japan 7-15, 15-10, 15-4, 15-8, leaving both teams with 1-1 records.

In the Barcelona Olympics, Cuba placed first, Russia second, the United States third and Japan fifth.

Mireya Luis led Cuba's scoring with 12 points, while Tara Battle had 5 for the US women in their match at Osaka Prefectural Gymnasium in western Japan.

US coach Dennis Janzen said the Americans had not been able to sustain a high level of play in this tournament.

"We need to do a better job in tomorrow's match against Russia," he added.

Tatiana Menshova and Elena Batukhtina led Russia with 9 points each, while Kiyoko Fukuda scored 6 for Japan.

Japan face Cuba on Thursday.

The top team in three days of round robin play meets the fourth-place team, and the runner-up plays the third-place team in the semifinals Saturday.

The final is scheduled on Sunday.

The winner receives dirls 200,000, the runner-up dirls 100,000, third placer dirls 60,000 and fourth placer dirls 40,000.