

# Khulna squeeze through to final

Our Correspondent



MYMENSINGH, Nov 13: Fancied Khulna DSA qualified for the final of the 17th national soccer championship for the Shere-e-Bangla Cup by edging past Netrakona DSA 3-2 in the tie-breaker in the first semifinal here at the Mymensingh stadium this afternoon.

Khulna will meet the winners of tomorrow's semifinal between the 16th national soccer runners-up Dhaka University and Bangladesh Customs in the final on November 17 instead of November 16 as was initially scheduled.

Both teams were locked goalless after the regulation period of 90 minutes. Although there is a clause regarding a 30-minute extra period, referee Rafiqul Islam, after consulting both teams, decided to go straight to the tie-breaker due to bad light.

However, the result failed to do poetic justice to Netrakona, who got the better of their mighty opponents in all departments of the game. With a bit of luck, Netrakona could have won the match quite impressively.

Netrakona from the outset appeared a side with a mission beside whom the star-studded Khulna cut a very sorry figure. However, it was Khulna who drew the first blood in the very third minute of play.

Nira, who played for Abahani Krira Chakra last season, floated a beautiful cross inside the Netrakona box which Jahangir failed to slam home.

Then the Netrakona players gradually took control of the

midfield and started attacking the opponents' citadel. Golam Ghaus, the Abahani Krira Chakra winger, who displayed a wonderful footballing potential in the quarterfinals against Chandpur on November 9, once again came to the limelight when he dodged past several Khulna defenders in the 10th minute and passed the ball to teammate Biplab who shot the ball wide off the



mark. Another Ghaus-Biplab combined attack brought no result for Netrakona in the 27th minute.

At the end of the first half Netrakona virtually went on rampage but Biplab continued his poor marksmanship much to the disappointment of local crowd.

Soon after the breather, Ghaus with a beautiful run into the opponents' box and gave a neat minus to Akhter Hossain, who scored all the three goals for Netrakona against Chandpur in the previous match, but saw Akhter failing to materialise the chance.

In the 67th minute, Netrakona were once again deprived of the lead when Jiban bungled a golden chance. The presence of the 'lucky' finalists Khulna were felt only

once in the second half — toward the end of the second half — when the Abahani striker Rizvi Karim Rumi, who had captained Bangladesh in the qualifying round matches for the Asian soccer championship in Thailand last June, made his way to the Netrakona box only to goof it up in the end.

Netrakona desperately looked for a goal which by that time had become nothing but mirage. After a break of ten minutes the thrilling spot-kick session was staged.

Pratim Kundu, Mustafa Zaman and Jahangir (Sr) converted the spot-kicks for Khulna while Akhter Hossain and Md Selim scored for Netrakona.

Rumi and Ghaus, the two prized footballers of the country missed the target for Khulna and Netrakona respectively.

Both Rumi and Ghaus shot over the bar. Arif Khan and Monsur Ali of Netrakona and Jahangir Hossain (Jr) of Khulna were shown the yellow cards.

### TEAMS

**Khulna DSA:** Tutam, Jaglu, Alaur, Partha, Nira, Shah Alam, Tara, Rumi, Jahangir (Sr), Asad and Jahangir (Jr) (Sunny).

**Netrakona DSA:** Tayeb, Ujjal (Jiban), Ponce, Selim (Sr), Monsur, Selim (Jr), Ghaus, Babu Dus, Sayef, Akhter and Joy.

Referee: Rafiqul Islam  
**TOMORROW'S MATCH**  
Dhaka University vs Customs (2:30 pm)

# Napoli-Sevilla row takes a new turn

NAPLES, Italy, Nov 13: Italian soccer club Napoli have cast fresh doubts over Diego Maradona's transfer to Sevilla by claiming the Spaniards do not have the money to complete the deal, reports Reuter.

The Spanish club owe Napoli dollar 4.5 million for the former Argentine captain, after making an initial dollar 3 million payment. The sum is due in instalments over the next two years but the clubs have been squabbling over bank guarantees for the money.

Napoli now claim they have been told their Italian bankers that Sevilla do not have the funds to meet their commitment.

"We have been advised by the Madrid branch of the Banca di Roma that Sevilla are virtually bankrupt," Napoli spokesman Luigi Amati said on Thursday.

"The bank is not prepared to cover the money due," Amati added.

He said Napoli had informed the Italian Soccer Federation of this latest hitch in the never-ending Maradona transfer row.

The federation are due to take up the matter with FIFA (International Football Federation), the game's governing body.

FIFA this week gave Sevilla until November 25 to provide the bank guarantees required under the terms of the deal signed in September.

Should they fail to do so, FIFA would have little option but to suspend Maradona again until a solution is found.

The transfer saga has had almost as many twists and turns as Maradona can ever have displayed on the field during his brilliant yet controversial career.

Having completed a 15-month ban from the game imposed after testing positive for cocaine, Maradona refused to return to honour the final season of his contract with Napoli.

Weeks of tortuous arguing ensued before the player signed for Sevilla in a dollar 7.5 million deal.

The move allowed him to link up again with coach Carlos Bilardo, who led a Maradona-inspired Argentina to victory in the 1986 World Cup.

# Bowe dedicates bout to Tyson

NEW YORK, Nov 13: Because of his rape conviction, Mike Tyson never got a chance to regain the heavyweight title and never got to fight champion Evander Holyfield, reports AP.

Riddick Bowe, who gets that opportunity Saturday night in Las Vegas, is dedicating his effort to Tyson.

"He would have knocked out Evander Holyfield in one or two rounds," Bowe said in Las Vegas. "I'm going to do the job that he didn't do."

While Tyson got top billing, others also were included in Bowe's dedication.

"I'm fighting for (trainer) Eddie (Futch), (manager) Rock (Newman) my family and everybody in Brooklyn," he said. "Ali is my idol, my mother is my hero."

Tyson, jailed in Indiana, passed good luck wishes to Bowe through a reporter with whom he spoke by telephone.

"If Riddick Bowe was to win, I would be extremely proud," the New York Daily News quoted Tyson as saying Thursday through longtime friend Jay Bright. "It would be another (positive) blow for the ghetto of Brownsville."

"(It would show) that people can make it out of the ghetto."

Both Tyson and Bowe roamed the streets of the same Brooklyn neighborhood before becoming boxers, and they went to the same elementary school.

"It means a lot to me that Mike is behind me," Bowe said. "I'm going to win for Mike and everyone else in Brooklyn."

But neighbourhood camaraderie would not count should Bowe hold the title upon Tyson's release — as early as 1995.

"When he gets out, he'll concentrate on getting his belt back," Bright said of Tyson.

# Graf wins easy, Sabatini struggles



PHILADELPHIA Nov 13: Though Steffi Graf had the higher-ranked opponent, Gabriela Sabatini had the tougher fight Thursday as the top two seeds advanced in the dhrs 350,000 Virginia Slims of Philadelphia, reports AP.

Graf, the top seed, easily handled fifth-seed Conchita Martinez of Spain 6-1, 6-1. No. 2 Sabatini struggled back from 2-5 in the second set to beat



STEFFI GRAF wild-card Lisa Raymond 6-4, 7-6 (7-2).

In second-round matches Thursday, Natalia Zvereva of Belarus upset sixth-seeded Mary Pierce of France 7-6 (7-4), 6-2; and eighth-seeded Lori McNeil survived a strong comeback by Gigi Fernandez to win 6-2, 7-5.

McNeil will play fourth-seeded Jennifer Capriati and Zvereva will play third-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario in quarterfinals on Friday.

Graf, the world's second-ranked player, kept Martinez, ranked No. 8, under pressure with ground strokes to the

corners and baseline. Both players played mostly from back court with heavily under-cut backhands.

"I thought it was going to be a lot tougher," Graf said after the 46-minute match. "She's not somebody to put away that quickly."

Martinez, now 0-7 lifetime against Graf, said Graf was serving well, hitting a slice backhand and moving quickly.

"I didn't play that bad, but she hit the ball too early and I couldn't run to it," Martinez said.

Sabatini's defensive style nearly fell victim to Raymond's severe hitting and precise placement shots in a 1-hour, 42-minute evening match. Many in the crowd of 7,224 cheered Raymond, who lives in the Philadelphia suburbs.

However, Raymond put only 49 per cent of her first serves into play and had 60 unforced errors, compared with Sabatini's 73 per cent on first serves and 31 errors.

Sabatini broke Raymond's serve in the eighth game of the second set when Raymond knocked a running forehand out. In the ninth game, a backhand into the net cost Raymond her lone set point. A wobbly backhand return of serve ended the match.

Both players said Raymond's inexperience against top-ranked players was a factor. Raymond, the 1992 NCAA singles champion, said she plans to remain at Florida at least through this school year and played in this tournament as an amateur.

"It was very hard for me to beat her today," Sabatini said. "She wasn't missing. She had a very good chance in the second set. Probably she rushed a little bit."

Raymond said the match and her upset Wednesday of seventh-seeded Amy Frazier had built her confidence about competing on the women's tour but also had shown her weaknesses.

"They don't let up," she said of top-ranked players. "They're so mentally tough that when they're up 5-2, they

know how to shut out a match. It's tough because you know that you've got to maintain your concentration to a very high level throughout a whole match."

In the second-round matches, Fernandez rallied from 0-3 in the second set. The sixth game reached deuce eight times as both players made a series of lunging recovery shots and Fernandez ended it with a backhand service return down the line.

Service held until the 11th



GABRIELA SABATINI

game, when a sharply angled volley put McNeil ahead 6-5. Fernandez then returned a serve with a backhand into the net in the 12th game to give McNeil the win.

Pierce won three straight games to go ahead 6-5 in the first set. Zvereva held service, then won the tie-breaker from 4-4 with three straight points.

In the second set, Zvereva won four straight games from 1-1 and lost: ie seventh after leading 30-15. She won the final game at love on Pierce's service, with Pierce hitting the final drive down the right side into the net.

# Mind plus might equals winner in Holyfield-Bowe bout



LAS VEGAS, Nov 13: Will power and fire power. These ingredients, or lack thereof, are the keys that will unlock the outcome of the Evander Holyfield-Riddick Bowe heavyweight title fight Friday night, reports AP.

Both men have unbeaten records, a situation that will soon change.

Holyfield's fighting philosophy is "try to break a man's spirit."

"I'll be trying to find out if he is a quitter," said the unbeaten 30-year-old champion,



EVANDER HOLYFIELD who will be making his fourth title defence.

Bowe has had to live with the charge by some boxing people that he quit against Lennox Lewis in the second round of the 1988 Olympic super heavyweight final.

Tape of the match confirms

# Tszyu wins

MELBOURNE, Nov 13: Unbeaten Russian junior-welterweight Kostya Tszyu stopped experienced Puerto Rican Sammy Fuentes after 54 seconds of the first round in their scheduled 10-round non-title bout Friday night at Festival Hall, reports AP.

# H'ball clinic ends

The two-day hand ball clinic for local coaches under the international handball lecturer and trainer Allan Lund of Denmark yesterday at the National Sports Council (NSC) conference room, says a press release.

Thirty-five coaches took part in the programme organised by the Bangladesh Handball Federation.

Former chairman of the NSC and president of the Bangladesh Volleyball Federation Maj Gen Mahabur Rahman PSC attended the concluding ceremony as chief guest and gave away the certificates among the participants.

President of the Bangladesh Handball Federation Lt Col (ret'd) MA Hamid was also present.

The two-day clinic was inaugurated by the president of the Bangladesh Olympic Association Gias Kamal Chowdhury on last Thursday.

Allan Lund leaves for Rajshahi today to conduct another two-day seminar on handball to be held at the Rajshahi Physical Education College from November 15 to 16.

Bowe's contention that he did not quit, but that the referee acted too hastily.

"I've proven them wrong," said Bowe, who has a 31-0 record with 27 knockouts. "People said I didn't have any determination. I hate to lose."

Bowe, however, has yet to win a situation where the moment is a fight for the most valuable individual prize in sports. And the man he is facing is a champion of bulldog tenacity.

"I realize he hasn't been tested mentally for what is about to come," said Holyfield, 28-0 with 22 knockouts.

"Riddick Bowe is a young fighter who has made strides between fights like you've never seen before," said 82-year-old trainer Eddie Futch, who has worked with 17 world champions including Joe Frazier and Larry Holmes.

"I'm a big guy who is determined," Bowe said. "I'm going to show him I know more than he thinks I know."

The 25-year-old Bowe, 6-foot-5, is the youngest and tallest opponent Holyfield has had in a title fight. Two of Holyfield's defences were against George Foreman and Holmes, both in their 40s.

Holyfield weighed in at 205 pounds (92.8 kg), the lightest of the former cruiserweight champion (190 pounds-86.0 kg) has been for five heavyweight title fights. Bowe weighed 235 pounds (106.4 kg). "I'm not the strongest fighter, I'm not the quickest fighter," Holyfield said, but if I put it all together I might be the smartest fighter."

Holyfield, however, has shown that when he gets hit he can turn into a brawler, which could be dangerous with an opponent such as Bowe.

Critics point to Holyfield's narrow escape against unheralded Bert Cooper, who took the fight on late notice as a substitute for Francesco Damiani. Holyfield was knocked down in the third round, but he stopped Cooper in the seventh on Nov. 23, 1991.

"Everybody who follows boxing is not fooled by the Cooper fight," said George Benton, Holyfield's trainer. "Everybody knows great fighters can get knocked down. Cooper is a swinger — a wrecking ball."

"Bowe is a sharpshooter. I would think Cooper is more dangerous. Cooper swings from the floor. Bowe tries more

punches." Benton feels the way to beat Bowe is to fight him and not let him use his good left jab to set up combinations.

"Bowe is the type of fighter who respects fire power," Benton said. "That's what you have to throw at him — fire power. I've known for a long time that Bowe is not a guy who walks right in and throws punches. Fire power slows his fire power."

"The kind of fire power Evander has is a machine gun." "While Bowe will be facing the unexperienced pressure of a major fight, Holyfield could

be carrying a piece of psychological baggage he's not carried into previous matches.

In his victory by a decision over Holmes on June 19, the champions was cut for the first time when hit by an elbow in the seventh round. The wound over the right eye required 12 stitches.

While training in Houston about a month ago, Holyfield was nicked over an eye while sparring.

"It was a scratch," Holyfield said, "but the first thing I did was holler, 'stop, I'm injured.' Lou (Duva) said, 'It's just a scratch,' I said, 'Hey man, take the gloves off.'"

Holyfield got out of the ring and examined the nick in a mirror.

"When I got back in there, I thought, 'You've got to get it out of your mind,'" he said.

Holyfield is guaranteed dhrs 5 million for the scheduled 12-round bout at the Thomas and Mack Center. Bowe is guaranteed dhrs 3 million. Both fighters also have percentage deals.

The referee will be Joe Cortes of New Jersey. The judges, all from Las Vegas, will be Jerry Roth, Dalby Shirley and Chuck Gimpma.



RIDDICK BOWE

# Lendl bows out of EC tennis



ANTWERP, Belgium, Nov 13: Five times champion Ivan Lendl, the fourth seed, was trounced 6-

4, 6-2 by unseeded Australian Mark Woodforde in the second round of the European Community tennis championship on Thursday, reports Reuter.

The 32-year-old Lendl, nicknamed "Mister ECC" for his success here over the past 10 years, could not come to grips with Woodforde's versatile play and did not recover from a 4-0 deficit in the second set.

Woodforde, who lost his four previous encounters with Lendl, said he had learned from his defeat by the former Czechoslovak in Sydney last month.

"I've been close a couple of times and I started to think 'Maybe I can beat him before he retires,'" said Woodforde, ranked 61st in the world.

"Obviously he's a little bit older and maybe half a step slower but the power is still there on the shorts," he added.

Lendl, now a US citizen, lost his composure after disputing a line call and slamming his racket against the post in the seventh game.

Woodforde, a renowned doubles player, profited from the lapse in concentration to break Lendl's serve in the next game and then served out the first set.

Lendl, ranked number eight in the world, replied to a new

service break in the first game of the second set by throwing away his racket. He was promptly warned by the referee.

He then piled up the unforced errors and was never in the match again.

World number one Jim Courier waltzed past Spanish clay-court specialist Javier Sanchez into the quarter-finals

I've never played before in my life, just stupid balls, just stupid points, unbelievable," he said.

"I know how well I can play, that's the bad thing about it," Stich said. "Right now perhaps I'm expecting too much... But when you've played well, you always want to get back to playing well."

Third seed Petr Korda of Czechoslovakia later defeated John McEnroe 6-4, 6-4 in what may have been the American's last appearance in an official ATP tournament.

McEnroe will still play the Davis Cup final against Switzerland, the Grand Slam Cup and a week of exhibition matches next month but is expected to end his career after that.

The former world number one said he would have won this match if he had the motivation for it.

"If I'd been a little more fired up I could have won it," McEnroe said.

McEnroe had a brief argument with the chair umpire in the second game of the second set.

But instead of firing him up — like so often in the past — the incident apparently had a demotivating effect and Korda easily broke McEnroe's serve in the next game.

McEnroe visibly disagreed with a number of line calls later in that set but, surprisingly, did not lose his temper again.

McEnroe had a brief argument with the chair umpire in the second game of the second set.

But instead of firing him up — like so often in the past — the incident apparently had a demotivating effect and Korda easily broke McEnroe's serve in the next game.

McEnroe visibly disagreed with a number of line calls later in that set but, surprisingly, did not lose his temper again.

McEnroe had a brief argument with the chair umpire in the second game of the second set.

But instead of firing him up — like so often in the past — the incident apparently had a demotivating effect and Korda easily broke McEnroe's serve in the next game.

McEnroe visibly disagreed with a number of line calls later in that set but, surprisingly, did not lose his temper again.

# Sukova one win away from Virginia Slims

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov 13: Helena Sukova moved to within one victory of a berth of next week's Virginia Slims Championships on Thursday when she advanced to the semifinals of the 150,000 Indianapolis Tennis Classic, reports Reuter.

The fourth-seeded Sukova, who needs only to reach the final here to qualify for next week's season finale, served and volleyed her way to a 6-2, 6-2 quarterfinal victory over American Tami Whitlinger.

The Czechoslovak seized control of the 61-minute match from 3-2 of the first set when she ran off seven consecutive games to take the set and a commanding 4-0 lead in the second.

The only player who stands in Sukova's way of qualifying for one of the two remaining berths for New York is unseeded Shi-Ting Wang of Taiwan.

Wang, who earlier upset top seed Anke Huber, advanced to the final four by taking out another German. She beat Marketa Kochta 7-6, 1-6, 7-5.

Sukova said she was not thinking ahead to the Virginia Slims championships.

"This is more for this week," she said. "If it comes, it comes. If it doesn't, it doesn't."

In other quarter-final play, third seeded defending champion Altekina Maleeva of Bulgaria ousted sixth-seeded Peruvian Laura Gildemeister 6-0, 6-2 in a match that was tougher than the score indicated.

Maleeva, three time winner of this tournament, next faces seventh-seeded American Linda Harvey-wild, who stopped upstart 15-year-old Iva Majoli of Croatia 4-6, 6-2, 6-4.

Maleeva, who earlier this week clinched a berth in next week's season finale, twice fought out of trouble early in the first set. She staved off a game point and broke Gildemeister in the second game and held her serve in the third after trailing 0-40.

Maleeva saved another break point to take a 6-2 second set lead and broke Gildemeister at love in the final game.

"It would seem like 6-0, 6-2 would be so easy, but the difference was so little," Maleeva said. "If I let go for one second, that's it. I had to concentrate all the time."

Top pair tumbles out of Princess Cup

BANGKOK, Nov 13: Top seeded mixed doubles Lee Sang-Bok and Gil Young Ah of South Korea were knocked out in the biggest upset of the night Thursday at the 1992 Princess Cup Thailand Open badminton championships, reports AFP.

They fell to the Chinese pair of Liang Qiang and Zhu Athua 10-15, 15-7, 15-12.

Meanwhile, Olympic gold medalists Alan Budi Kusuma and Susi Susanti, both of Indonesia, sailed through the third round.

Defending champion and top seed Alan Budi Kusuma defeated Chinese opponent Ge Cheng 15-1, 15-6 while second seed Rashid Sidek of Malaysia also showed brilliant form in beating China's Lin Liwen 15-12, 15-4.

The two 3rd-4th seeded players, Sompol Kookasemkit of Thailand and Joko Suprianto of Indonesia, also had no difficulty advancing to the quarter-finals.

A 5-8 seed, Ahn Jae Chang of South Korea, was beaten by Indonesian Lioe Tiong Ping 11-15, 15-7, 15-10 in a hard-fought battle.

In the quarter-finals, Kusuma will meet Lioe Tiong Ping while Sidek will face Haryanto Arbi of Indonesia.

Defending champion Susi Susanti, the Olympic gold medalist and top seed, had to work hard in the second set to defeat China's Tang Jieyun 11-7, 12-10. Second seed Baag Soo-Hyun of South Korea fought hard to enter the quarter-finals with 11-5, 7-11, 11-3 win over Liao Zhigun of China.

China's rising star, Hu Ning, eliminated South Korea's seed No. 5-8 Park Soo-Yun 11-3, 11-2, and will meet Susanti in the next round.

Universiad may cost organisers a lot of money

BUFFALO, NY, Nov 13: The World University Games scheduled for Buffalo next summer will be a flop and organisers should scale back their plans and minimize their losses, Mayor James Griffin said, reports AP.

"There's no way this isn't going to end up costing us money and a lot of pain," Griffin said Thursday at a meeting of the city's Urban Renewal Agency.

Western New York is experiencing "the same scenario" as Sheffield, England which lost dhrs 18 million staging the 1991 games, Griffin said.

There has not been a British-born heavyweight champion since 1897 when Bob Fitzsimmons stopped James J Corbett in the 14th round.

Rock says a lot of things."



President of the Bangladesh Olympic Association Gias Kamal Chowdhury inaugurated the two-day, handball clinic for local coaches at the NSC conference room last Thursday. The programme concluded yesterday.