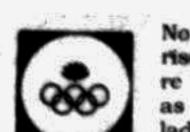
V Bangladesh Games on

cling and squash - underwent



No pleasant surprises were in store for the cyntes as the fifth Bangladesh Games got off to an undist-

inguished start at the Dhaka

Sports Reporter ing them hot on the heels. second day today and disciplines multiplying in number, One hundred and eightyeight gold medals are up for grabs in this 21-discipline meet, of which six - football. hockey, tennis, badminton ev-

one hopes there will be a welcome change in the cadaverous condition of the BOA's information storehouse.

Athletics and swimming. normally regarded as the chief

attractions of such Olympian

arrangements, begin today

with women natants showing

their prowess at the Dhan-

mondi Sports Complex pool

and the athletes trying their

luck at the Army Stadium,



President Abdur Rahman Biswas taking salute from the competitors at the opening ceremony of the fith Bangladesh Games at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain (extreme right), Mayor Mirza Abbas (2nd from left) and - Star photo BOA chief Gias Kamal Chowdhury are also seen.

Lack of imagination and

throrough build-up for such a

huge sporting meet was evi-

dent in the make-shift media

centre at the BOA office. There

was utter absence of coordina-

tions as newsmen struggled to

With the Games entering its

Zakaria Pintu, (R), the former national footballer and Sufia

Khatun, sprint queen of the olden days, running hand in

hand with the torch for the ceremonial inauguration of the

Fifth Bangladesh Games '92:

TODAY'S EVENTS

Stadium

Complex

Stadium

Complex

Note: AM-PM indicates competition will be held both in

Athletics

Football

Handball

Basketball

Volleyball

Table Tennis

Body-building

Swimming (Women's)

the morning and afternoon sessions.

Tennis

Squash

Hockey

Kabaddi

Shooting

Badminton

: AM-PM; Army Stadium

AM-PM; Wooden-floor gym

AM-PM; Wooden-floor gym

AM-PM; Outer Stadium

AM-PM; Dhaka Club

AM-PM; Hockey Stadium

AM-PM; Outer Stadium

3 pm and 5 pm; Mirpur Stadium

AM-PM; Dhaka Stadium & Outer

AM-PM; Ramna Tennis Complex

AM-PM; Dhanmondi Women's

AM-PM; Muhammad Ali Boxing

AM-PM; Dhanmondi Women's

AM-PM; Banani Shooting Range

Star photo

fifth Bangladesh Games at the Dhaka Stadium vesterday.

get the official results.

Only about 2000 spectators were around in the 'free' stands to wintness the belated inauguration of the quadrennial sporting bonanza, ala Olympics by President Abdur Rahman

Although the proto-type for the local organisers never eeases to interest numerous people all over the world with the master-minds always confuring up new combinations from a set of immutable things, yesterday the local organisers dished out rejune rehashings in the name of ceremony at the Dhaka Stadium.

It was the same old pegeonballoon-hotch-potch with a chorus - led by noted singers Sabina Yasmin and Andrew Rishore coming like butter on soaked toast.

The ceremonial part of the inauguration began immediately after the opening declaration by the President at 4.04 pm. The chorus, written by Dr Moniruzzaman and set to tune by music director Samar Das, was rendered from a mobile vehicle.

Former national footballer Zakarla Pintu showed that he still has some sense of anticipation left in him as the star stopper of yesteryears was found kindling the torch along with Sufia Khatun, another renowned sports personality and once upon a time 'fastest women' of the country.

Athlete Shamima Sattar Mimu and the medal winning shooter of Commonwealth and SAF games Ateequr Rahman then took eath on behalf of the 3214 actors and actresses of the show, scheduled to be held at 18 venues across the city.

Mirza Farid Milu, vice president of the Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) followed Mimu and Ateeq in oath-taking, doing it for the officials and judges of the labyrinthine sports meet, tipped as the dress rehearsal for the sixth South Asian Federation (SAF) Games, programmed to be held in Dhaka next year.

Although number of participants soared to an unprecedented 3214, Khagrachhart was represented by its lone member in the march past of 53 teams. Ansars emerged as the biggest contingent when 16 BOA flag-bearers, dressed in immaculate white, paraded the ground with Khulna follow-

Games squash gets underway

Sports Reporter Five matches of the fifth Bangladesh Games squash were held yesterday at the Dhaka Club squash court.

Sohel Hamid beat Karim 9-9-6, Hazrat Alt defeated Sajjad Zakir 9-2, 9-3; Lt Col Siraj beat T Imam 9-5, 9-7; Badal Chowdhury beat Samad 9-7, 9-7 and Bishu outplayed Alam Akand 9-3, 9-4 in their respective encounters yester-

Games tennis on

Sports reporter

The fifth Bangladesh Games tennis championships got under way at the Ramna Tennis Complex yesterday.

Secretary of the Bangladesh Tennis Federation A Morshed Chowdhury inaugurated the weck-long meet as chief guest.

On the opening day 48 matches of the qualifying round were held.

Ninety-three players including 17 women representing nine teams are participating in the meet. They are Dhaka Metro, Chittagong. Rajshahi, Mymensingh, Narayanganj and

The main draw matches will begin today at 8:30 am.

First Games gold goes to Ansars

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation (BTMC) took the silver with a time of 2:37:02.89 seconds while Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) who clocked quartet. 2:40:51.70 seconds, won the bronze.

Twenty cyclists representing five teams participated in the event held under the aegis of the Bangladesh Cycling Federation.

Ninety-three cyclists including 19 women of 12 teams are taking part in the fifth Bangladesh Games cycling championships.

Elina, Juthi to fight for women's badminton gold

Sports Reporter

Elina Begum of Bangladesh Biman will play her senior teammate Mazia Akhter Juthi in the women's singles final of the 17th national badminton championships, now being held as a part of the fifth Bangladesh Games at the Outer Stadium wooden floor gymna-

Elina eliminated Konika Adhikari of Biman 11-0, 11-1 while Juthi defeated Sharmin Ahmed Momo 11-6, 12-9 in their respective semifinal encounters yesterday.

The men's singles event reached the quarterfinal stage.

In yesterday's men's prequarter finals, Hamid of Bangladesh Ansars beat Afsar of Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC); Suman of Ansars defeated Bhulu of Biman; Amir Ali of Ansars outclassed his teammate Kochi; Rana of Ansars outlasted Nasir of Biman; Shakil of Biman out played his teammate Sarwar: Mahbub of Biman got the bet ter of Shiru of Ansars while Khurshid, another Biman player, beat Tinku of Rangpur DSA to move into the quarter finals.

The other match between Hashem (Ansars) and Chhoton (Biman) were in progress when reports last came in.

Army crash out of Games soccer

Sports Reporter

The fourth Bangladesh Games football runners-up Bangladesh Army crashed at the first hurdle when they lost to fancied Khulna Division 0-1 in the second match of this year's Games soccer at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday. Khulna Division will take on

the victors of tomorrow's ma tch between Bangladesh Customs and Chittagong Division in the semifinals on December After a barren first half,

Jamal Hossain scored the all important goal in the 70th minute.

Earlier in the evening, Bangladesh Customs edged Bangladesh Navy out 3-2 in the inaugural match at the same

Favourites Customs led 2-0 at the breather.

Aksad put Customs in the lead in the 10th minute (1-0). Salahuddin made it 2-0 in the 30th minute. Sujit got the third one for Customs in the 51st minute (3-0).

Having conceded three goals in a row the sailors pulled up their socks, albeit belatedly, which proved in vain. Their first goal came when Mozammel scored from close in the 55th minute (3-1).

ond goal for Navy eight minutes from time (3-2).

'Mahmood netted the sec-

Customs will take on Chittagong Division in their next match tomorrow at 3 pm.

Nine teams - five services and four divisional sides - are participating in the six-day meet.



Bangladesh Ansars clinched the first gold medal of the fifth Bangladesh Games in a cycling event.

The hour-member Ansar team won the men's 100 kilometre road trial clocking 2 hours 36 mins and 8 seconds.

> shion, writes AP. It was the last year when both the Winter and Summer Olympics would be held in the same year. It would be the last time the country that dominated both, the Soviet Union, would roar as a mighty sports power and the last time Magic Johnson and Larry Bird would

> > take to the floor.

The year provided dramatic contrasts, from the Danes' remarkable joy after winning the European Football Championship to the tragedy at Bastia, Corsica, where 15 people died before the kickoff of a French Cup game when the temporary stands collapsed.

NEW YORK, Dec 18: Being

first always has been in style in

sports. In 1992, being "the

last" also seemed to be the fa-

An Olympic year, 1992 provided more memorable moments than most. Sixteenyear-old Finn Toni Niemanen won two ski jumping golds and a bronze with his unorthodox "V style" and became the youngest Winter Olympic champion in history.

Cross-country skiers Lyubov Egorova and Elena Valbe led the Unified Team, the old Soviets marching under the Olympic flag and hymn, with five medals each. But the new unified German team immediately showed its strength, topping all nations with 10 gold and 26 total medals.

The Summer Games were the crowning achievement of International Olympic Committee president and Barcclona native Juan Antonio Samaranch, who despite the success of the Games was hounded by allegations from a book about a fascist past and charges he has turned the Olympics into a corrupt cash machine.

Spain had their best performance ever with 13 gold and 22 total medals, including a last-minute, 3-2 victory over Poland in the soccer final before 95,000 flag-waving fans. Unified gymnast Vitaly Scherbo was the biggest indi-

vidual winner with six golds. The Barcelona Games also provided other dramatic moments Antonio Rebollo's flam-

ing arrow into the Olympic caldron to begin the Olympiad, and Briton Derek Redmond's limping, father-aided attempt to reach the finish line after pulling a flamstring in the 400 meters.

to be the fashion downside: charges of steroids use among medalists in the women's 100 metre finals by fourth-place finisher and 200metre champion Gwen Torrence, and an argument on the gold medal-winning US basketball "Dream Team" about what commercial logos to wear at the awards ceremony while competition was still

There was sporting controversy involving Moroccan runner Khalid Skah, who had his 10,000-metre victory taken away, given to Richard Chelimo and then given back to him.

under way.

But overall, the Games were a huge success despite a dirs 57 million (285 million franc)



KATRIN KRABBE

debt incurred by Albertville organisers. A record 65 nations participated in the Winter Games, Aeight more than previously, and 172 - including South Africa after a 32year absence - took part in the Summer, the first Games in 20 years without a boycott.

No longer will the Summer and Winter Games be staged in the same year. The IOC has the next Winter Games set for Lillchammer, Norway, in 1994 the Summer Games in 1996 in Atlanta, and plans for the quadrennial events to be held alternating even-numbered years. The idea is to grab more attention for the Winter Olympics and to not stretch nation's Olympic budgets twice in the same year.

In soccer, Denmark replaced banned Yugoslavia only 11 days before the opening kick off of the European Championship, and beat Germany for the title in one of the biggest surprises in soccer

FIFA and the US organisers

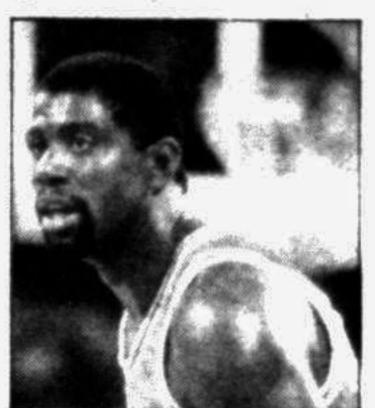
a stir when they announced the venues for the championship, including Detroit's Silverdome as the site of the first indoor World Cup game.

1992: Being last seemed

The Americans also buoved FIFA by winning a four team exhibition US Cup tournament on home soil against European notables Portugal, Ireland and

FIFA was heartened by the return of Diego Maradona to a sport in need of a hero after a 15-month suspension for failing a drug test.

In boxing, world heavy weight champion Mike Tyson was convicted of rape early in the year and sent to prison. Tyson's successor. Evander



MAGIC JOHNSON

Holysteld, was dethroned by Riddick Bowe, who promptly got into a dispute with the World Boxing Council and dumped their belt in a trash can. The WBC responded by stripping him of the title in favour of Briton Lennox Lewis.

The International Amateur Athletic Federation also had its problems.

World sprint champion Katrin Krabbe was suspended, reinstated and then suspended again after involvement in two doping incidents.

Butch Reynolds won a dirs 27.3 million award from the IAAF after taking his two-year battle against a suspension all the way to the US Supreme Court. Reynolds, banned for failing a drug test he claims was faulty, earned the right to try out for the US Olympic team but qualified only as an alternate. Cricket even caused a stir

when Pakistan won the limited overs World Cup and then had premier bowlers Wasim Akram and Wagar Younis ac-

cused of ball tampering during a Test series in England.

Some non-Olympic individual triumphs also shone through. Nigel Mansell won the first five races and was so dominant in his Williams-Renault that he won the Formula One championship long before the season was

Then he promptly announced a move to the US IndyCar circuit, where former world champion Nelson Piquet had a likely career-ending crash in qualifying for the Indianapolis 500. Mansell will be trading places with IndyCar champions Michael Andretti and Al Unser Jr, who are

moving to Formula One. Elsewhere. Petra Kronberger won her third Alpine World Cup overall title, second only to Annemarie Moser-Proil, and Paul Accola overcame Alberto Tomba of Italy to win the men's crown.

Spanish cyclist Miguel Indurain nearly joined Eddie Merckx and Stephen Roche as the only men to win the triple crown, winning the Italian Giro and the Tour de France and just missing victory in the world championship road race. Andre Agassi dashed his

"choker" reputation by winning Wimbledon, the one Grand Slam he has taken great strides to avoid. He also established himself as the new emotional leader of the American Davis Cup team, helping it to its second title in three years and running his Davis Cup unbeaten streak to more than two years.

The world also got to see two of the best at their craft in their last appearances. Johnson and Bird led the much-ballyhooed US Olympic basketball team to an overwhelming performance at Barcelona.

Johnson, who had announced his retirement because of the HIV infection last year, made the Olympics his competitive farewell. He tried a comeback with the Los Angeles Lakers in the fall but changed his mind again before the season started, saying he could see the fear of contracting AIDS in the faces of his teammates and opponents.

For Bird, his back could take no more. Thirteen years in the NBA had taken its toll, and the Birdman was finally grounded.

of the Virginia Slims Cham-

pionship, where she played

well in losing to Seles. The

resilient Navratilova promises

to lay at least one more season

the women's No. 1 ranking

she's held since March last

year, winning the Australian,

JIM COURIER

French and U. S. Opens again

and just missing a sweep of the

Grand Slam when she lost to

of the British tabloids with

their courtside "Gruntome-

ters," and bothered by the

complaints of a few players

about the noises she makes

hitting the ball, Seles chose

the final to prove she could

win quietly. It was an ill-

advised time to experiment

with something as basic as

Seles acknowledged after-

breathing.

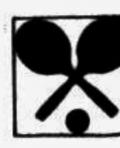
Yielding to the harassment

Graf in the Wimbledon final.

Seles tightened her grip on

in 1993 at age 36.

1992: End of the McEnroe era



NEW YORK, Dec 18: Jim Courier, the quiet one, and Monica Seles, who silenced

worst possible time, ruled tennis in 1992 while John Mc Enroe, the noisiest champion ever, bowed out as raucously and artfully as he began, reports, AP.

If Mc Enroe's singles career is over, as he says, he left his final mark on the sport with and inspirational charge that brought the Davis Cup back to the United States.

The 33-year old Mc Enroc also passed on to Andre Agassi the secrets of mastering Wimbledon's grass, lessons that paid off in Agassi's first Grand Slam title on a surface he once loathed because it seemed so ill-suited to his

Agassi's Wimbledon triumph, a five-set survival in the final against Goran Ivanisevic's 37 aces not only was the tennis year's biggest surprise but perhaps its greatest match. Agassi had beaten two three time champions Mc Enroe and Boris Becker, in the semis and quarters, then stood his ground against Ivanisevic's onslaught to become the first baseliner to win Wimbledon since Bjorn Borg.

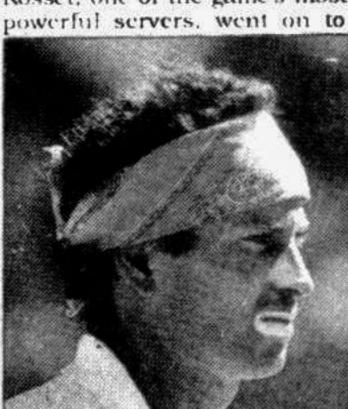
"Mac told me I didn't have to serve and volley to win with my game," Agassi said, paying tribute to Mc Enroe. "He shortened my stroke, showed' me bow on the grass every point counts and the importance of staying in points. I don't know why, but I really like the guy."

Mc Enroe also imbued Pete Sampras, his Davis Cup doubles partner, with the fiery spirit that may be just what Sampras needs in 1993 to move up from No. 3 behind No. Courier and No. 2 Stefan Edberg.

Courier's tenuous hold on the men's top spot - the No. 1 ranking bounced between him and U. S. Open winner Edberg all year before Courier put it away - contrasted with Seles absolute reign over the women's game. Courier captured the

Australian and French Opens during a breath taking rush through the first six months, and he became the first American to finish a year No. 1 in the ATP tour computer rankings since Mc Enroe in

Throughout the year, Courier mused about "the great mystery of tennis," why he could be unbeatable one week and so vulnerable another, as he was on his favourite surface. clay, at the Olympics against Switzerland's arc Rosset. Rosset, one of the game's most



JOHN McENROE

win the gold and upset Courier again on the first day of the

Davis Cup final. Courier never solved the mystery, despite winning dlrs 2.3 million this year. But then not many players figured out how to beat him. He wound up with two Grand Slam titles, three other tournament wins and a Davis Cup trophy after his clinching victory over Jakob Hlasek that he cherishes as much as anything he owns.

In one ludicrously lucrative non-tour event, Michael Stich won almost as much as Courier did all year, dlrs 2 million for beating Michael Chang in the Grand Slam Cup final Dec. 13 in Germany. Money aside, it was still a disappointing year for Stich, the 1991 Wimbledon champion who slid from No. 4 to No. 15 with only one tour

Mc Enroe won no impressive singles titles. But he took his ninth Grand Slam doubles title at Wimbledon, this time with Stich, in and epic final that finished on Monday because of darkness Sunday night. Mc Enroe and Stich finally prevailed, 5-7, 7-6, 3-6, 7-6, 19-17, over Jim Grabb and Richey Reneberg. He showed moments of

greatness at the Australian, Wimbledon and the U.S. Open, but in the end just proved to himself and everyone else that he no longer can sustain the championship level throughout a two-week tournament. He had one last, flag-waving moment of glory at the Davis Cup. yet even that pleasure was offset by the pain of his separa-

tion from his wife Tatum O' Neal, just before the matches.

Jennifer Capriati seemed on the verge of making her great leap in the women's tennis rankings after she won the gold in Barcelona with a threeset victory in the finals over Steffi Graf. It had been a tearful



MONICA SELES

16, until that Olympics, and her tears resumed at the U.S. Open when she fell in the third round.

Martina Navratilova, on the other end of the age span, also shed plenty of tears after her loss in the second round at the U.S. Open. But she kept chugging along to reach the finals

All-Aussie affair

MELBOURNE, Dec 18: Australian Richard Fromberg will face countrymen Neil Borwick in Sunday's final of the Colonial Mutual Tennis Classic at Kooyong, reports AP.

Borwick confirmed his finals berth Friday in the roundrobin tournament with a 7-5, 6-1 win over top-seeded Alexander Volkov of Russia. Earlier in the event, Borwick beat Australians John Fitzgerald and fourth-seeded Jason Stoltendberg.

Fromberg, who had a already defeated Australian junior champion Grant Doyle, beat Australia's Carl Limberger 6-4, 6-2 Friday.

In the other match Friday, Fitzgerald beat Stoltenberg 6-1, 3-6, 7-6, (7-4).

While Borwick is undefeated in his group in the eight-man event, Fromberg was due to play former Wimbledon champion Pat Cash on Saturday in his final roundrobin match. Cash has been unable to

come back from a tendinitis

flare up in his knee that

caused him to default

Thursday's match with

Limberger.

ward she would have been better off ignoring the critics and concentrating on Graf's game on the grass, where the German recorded her second straight Wimbledon title and fourth in five years. Seles went back to grunting at the U.S. Open and closed out the year by winning her

third straight Virginia Slims Championship. She broke her won money record for a year with dlrs 2.6 million in official prizes and pushed her career total to nearly dirs 7 million before she turned 19 this month. Of the 15 tournaments she played, she won 10 reached the finals in four and the quarter finals in one, compiling a 70-5 match record. Funny thing is, Scles still

hasn't convinced everyone she's for real. "I'm different, I know,"

Seles said at the Virginia Slims. "I don't look like a No. 1 player. People say to me, "You don't look like and athlete. You look like a person."



Sabina Yasmeen (right) and Andrew Kishore led the theme song chorus of the Bangladesh — Star photo Games at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.