Kishoreganj to the fore

Sports Reporter

Kishoreganj district gave enough indications of their prowess and expectations on the opening day of the eleventh junior national athletics championships with a haul of 19 medals including nine golds, six silvers and four bronzes, at the Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Ali Suman of the top notchers in the medals table was the most successful individual performer of the day bagging two golds. He scaled a height of 1.36 metre in the high jump and beat the others for the gold in boys' 200m sprint with a timing of 28.8 seconds.

Seventeen events were settled on the first day of the two-day long meet inaugurated by State Minister for Sports and Youth Sadek Hossain in the morning.

Mashura Khanam brought the first gold for Kishoreganj by finishing first in the girls' under-14 years high jump. She covered a vertical distance of 1.19m.

In the boys' shot put, Jashimuddin of Kishoreganj took the gold. He hurled the iron ball across a distance of 7.51m.

Ali Suman of Kishoreganj took the gold in the boys' high jump.

In girls' shot put, Umaching Marma of Khagrachhari district won the gold with a feat of 6.85 metres.

Sayema Umme Salma was the gold winner in the juvenile section of the girls' shot put. She cleared a distance of 7.26m.

In the girls' under-16 high jump, Farzana of Dhaka cleared a height of 1.26m to take the gold.

Anwarul Karim of Mymensingh was measured at 11.48m in the boys' shot put and went on to claim the gold.

Pabna's Ratan Ali jumped over a height of 1.54m to take the gold in the boys' under-16 high jump.

Sathi Akhtar of Kishoreganj won the gold in girls' 200m. She needed 29 seconds.

Marufa Akhtar of the same team was the gold getter in the 200m for the adolescent (under-16) girls. She was clocked at 30.2 sec.

Ali Suman pocketed the gold in the boys' 200m while Anwar Hossain picked up the gold of the same event for the boys' under-16 age group.

Nripendra Chandra Das of Mymensingh took the gold in the boys' under-14 long jump event. He leapt across a distance of 4.44m.

Anwar Hossain was the winner of the same event for the under-16 boys'. He galloped across a length of 5.65m.

In the boys' 400m, Shafiqul of Kishoreganj took the gold. He took 1 minute 5.52 sec.

Nasima Khatun of Pabna was the winner in long jump for under-14 girls'. She cleared a height of 4.09m.

Nasima's district-mate Salma Nahar won the gold in the under-16 age group.

MEDALS TABLE

	G	S	B	Total
Kishoreganj	9	6	4	19
Pabna	3	1	3	7
Mymensingh	3	1	3	7
Khagrachhari	1	1	1	3
Dhaka	1	0	0	1
Welfare Directorate	0	5	3	8
Barisal	0	1	1	2
UCEP	0	0	2	2
Ansars VDP	0	1	0	1
Narayanganj	0	1	0	1
Sherpur	0	1	0	1

N' ganj cricket

Sports Reporter

Tawfiq Sattar Cricket Club registered an exciting one-run victory against Chandra Sporting Club in the only match of Narayanganj A K M Shamsuzzoha Memorial First Division cricket league at the Osmani Stadium yesterday, says a press release.

Batting first Tawfiq Sattar Club amassed 171 for the loss of eight wickets in the stipulated 30 overs with Govinda topscoring with 55 and Azad and Monir making 33 and 20 respectively.

Monir with five wickets for 42 was most successful of the Chandra Sporting bowlers while Shaheen took two wickets for 38.

In reply, Chandra Sporting were all out for 170 in 29.3 overs with Tulshi topscoring with 40 and Sohel and Shaheen getting 23 each.

Monir took two wickets and Azad, Mithu and Gobinda one each for Tawfiq Sattar Club.

Biman Open squash results

Sports Reporter

Five matches of the Biman Open squash tournament were held yesterday at the Dhaka Club squash court.

Barun beat Hazrat Ali 9-2, 9-5; Ram Jagadish eliminated Hira Lal 9-1, 9-3; Bishu got the better of Ratan 9-2, 9-6; Gopal defeated Mamun 9-7, 9-2 and Badal outplayed captain Rahman 9-2, 9-2 in their respective matches.

Irina Privalova going strong

MADRID, Feb 12: Irina Privalova of Russia set a world indoor record of 6.92 seconds in the women's 60 metres Thursday at the Jose Maria Cagigal Memorial Meet, reports AP.

The time broke the previous record of 6.96 seconds, set by Merlene Ottey of Jamaica on Feb. 14, 1992.

"It was a fast track," said Privalova, who has already set two other world indoor records this year in the women's 50 metres and 300 metres.

American Gail Devers-Roberts, 1992 Olympic gold medalist at 100 metres, came in second with a time of 7.05 seconds.

Canada's Bruny Sarin won the men's 60 metres in 6.51 seconds, beating out American Andre Cason, who took second in 6.57.

The 24-year-old Cason, running in only his second meet since a calf injury nearly ended his career in last summer's US Olympic trials, could not equal the world record he set here in the same race last year, a flashing 6.41 seconds.

Kenya's William Tanui won the men's 1000 metres in 2 minutes, 20.79 seconds, beating out Spanierd Andres Diaz, who finished in 2:21.74 Kenyans took the next two spots, with Nixon Kiprotich taking third in 2:22.66.

In the women's 1,000 metres, Lyudmila Rogachova outkicked fellow Russian Nadezhda Lobbyko to win in 2 minutes, 39.07 seconds. Loboyko finished just behind in 2:39.91.

Mashura Khanam of Kishoreganj about to land after completing a successful jump that earned her a gold in the national junior athletics championship that got underway at the Hockey Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

Schultz gives Seles a scare

CHICAGO, Feb 12: Top-ranked Monica Seles survived the firepower of Brenda Schultz with a hard-fought 4-6, 7-6 (7-4), 6-4 victory on Thursday in a quarterfinal match at the 375,000 Virginia Slims of Chicago, reports Reuter.

"Her (Schultz) serves are just incredible," Seles said of Schultz, who had at least three of her 11 aces clocked at 110 mph (177 kph). "I thought, 'Oh, Gosh, as long as she doesn't hit me with it. "If she hit me, I thought I was gone."

Schultz, ranked 30th in the world with just three career titles, broke serve at love in the first game of the first set, and held to go ahead 2-0. Seles, 19, could not recover, although she did not allow a point off her serve in her final three games of the set.

"That was tough," Seles said of the break. "I wasn't even warmed up."

The two played evenly in the second set, although Schultz, 22, had to battle. In the eighth game and serving, she overcame Seles' 40-love lead by scoring on two aces, a deft cross-court shot into the front court, and another ace. Schultz's rally kept the set tied at 4-4.

In the second-set tiebreaker, Seles fell behind 1-0 with a shot that was long, but Schultz double faulted twice, to trail 2-1. Schultz tied it 2-2 with a line shot to Seles' backhand, but Seles recovered with well-placed shots of her own beyond Schultz's long forehand reach to win, 7-4.

In the third set, Seles was at break point five times in the fifth game, yet Schultz held on to go ahead 3-2. Seles finally broke serve in the seventh game, the only time in the entire match, although Schultz hurt herself with failed drop shot attempts.

MONICA SELES

Seles capped the comeback, winning at love in the final game.

It was the third meeting between the two — and the third time they've played three sets. Seles also had won the previous matches.

"I felt it was a lot closer than before," Schultz said of her previous encounters with Seles. "At least now I know what I'm doing. Today I had a game plan. Before, she wasn't number one and I would just serve hard. Today I mixed it up. This shows I'm up there. I'm three."

"It was nice playing her again after two years. I gave her a good workout."

In second round play Thursday, fifth-seed Zina Garrison-Jackson cruised to a 6-0, 6-1 win over Elna Reinach of South Africa.

In other second round play, third-seed Mary Joe Fernandez of Miami defeated Ann Grossman 6-4, 6-2, and eight-seed Pam Shriver defeated Audra Keller 6-2, 6-1.

Unruly fans do it again

LONDON, Feb 12: Two people were taken to hospital when unruly soccer fans caused chaos as thousands queued overnight for English F A Cup tie tickets for Saturday's match between Newcastle and Blackburn, reports Reuter.

Trouble erupted when the club decided to start selling tickets in the early hours of Thursday and fans began to jump the queue. A police van was damaged by a bottle and extra officers had to be called in. "It is a pity and unruly element, perhaps affected by alcohol, not only caused mischief but once more tarnished the reputation of Newcastle United fans and football in general," said police chief inspector bob Patterson.

All 4,800 tickets went in two hours. About 1,000 fans were still queueing when the last was sold.

Tony Dees turns table on Mark McKoy

OSAKA, Japan, Feb 12: American Tony Dees pipped Mark McKoy, his conqueror at the Barcelona Olympics, to win the 60 metres hurdles in an indoor athletics meeting on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Dees, who took the 110 metres hurdles silver medal behind the Canadian at the 1992 Barcelona Games, turned the tables to beat McKoy by five hundredths of a second in 7.50 seconds.

American Jack Pierce, bronze medalist in Barcelona, finished third again in 7.65.

McKoy sprang into the lead at the start but Dees said afterwards he had been confident he would catch him.

Michelle Freeman of Jamaica scored an excellent double in the women's 60 metres hurdles and 60 metre sprint.

She beat American Olympic silver medalist La Vonna Martin to win the hurdles in 7.92 and upstaged fellow Jamaican Juliet Cuthbert, double sprint silver medalist in Barcelona, to take the 60 metres in 7.18.

American Evelyn Ashford, 1984 Olympic 100 metres champion, was third in the sprint, one-hundredth of a second behind Cuthbert.

Galina Chistyakova of Russia dominated Japanese opposition to complete a double in the women's long jump and triple jump.

Ukrainian world champion Sergei Bubka cleared 5.60 metres to win the pole vault and beat his elder brother Vasily into second place by 20 centimetres.

But, feeling a little pain in his left heel, he failed three times at 5.80 metres to the disappointment of the 12,000-crowd who had hoped to see him break his world mark of 6.13.

"That's life. I cannot help it," Bubka told the fans who have come an expect world records from the man who had turned the trick three times in five previous appearances at the annual meeting in this western Japanese city.

"I had only two days after a meeting in Europe. That's not practical," Bubka, who cleared 6.01 metres to win in Grenoble, France, last Sunday, later told a news conference.

Maradona's ban overturned

MADRID, Feb 12: Diego Maradona had a one-match ban overturned on appeal on Thursday, reports Reuter.

He will be warned and fined instead, the Spanish Football Federation's appeal committee said.

Maradona had been suspended for dangerous play after an incident in Saturday's game between Sevilla and Deportivo when a high kick cut open defender Alberto Albistegui's nose.

Outraged Maradona, arguing the kick was an accident, had said after being banned on Wednesday: "Albistegui told the referee not to book me because he knew I hadn't seen him."

But the threat of disciplinary action still hangs over Sevilla's manager Carlos Bilardo.

The Sevilla physiotherapist had gone to offer help to Albistegui. But Bilardo was heard urging him to attend instead to the uninjured Maradona, shouting: "Tread on him (Albistegui), tread on him, he's an opposition player."

Bilardo has been given five days to explain his actions. He could face up to six months suspension or a fine of 10 million pesetas (85,000 dollars).

McLean leads

SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE, Canary Islands, Feb 12: Britain's Mike McLean shot a 4-under-par 68 Thursday to take a surprising 1-stroke lead in the first round of the Tenerife Open golf tournament, reports AP.

Just behind him were Irishmen Eamonn Darcy and Christy O'Connor Jr, who each shot a 3-under-par 69 on the 6,384-yard (5,837-meter) par-72 Golf Del Sur course.

The winner of the four-day tournament will take home 58,330 pounds (dlrs 84,000). Organizers are awarding a total of 350,000 pounds (dlrs 500,000) in the PGA European Tour event.

Last year's tournament champion, 27-year-old Spaniard Jose Maria Olazabal, was back in the pack with a 4-over-par 76. Olazabal, No 6 on the European tour money list last season, holds the course record, a 9-under-par 63.

Players complained about strong wind, which apparently gave many of them difficulty in gouging their shots.

"It's really a freaky course with the wind," Darcy said. "You have got to play well here, but two, you have to be lucky."

McLean, No 40 on the European tour money list last season, said leading the pack put a lot of pressure on him.

Steven makes Courier sweat

MEMPHIS, Tenn, Feb 12: Jim Courier fought back from match point in the third set and downed 15th seeded Brett Steven 6-4, 1-6, 7-6 (8-6) Thursday in the third round of the dlrs 780,000 Kroger St. Jude International, reports AP.

Courier, the top-ranked player in the world and No. 1 seed in the tournament, held his serve only once in dropping the second set to Steven at The Racquet Club. The New Zealander, 53rd in the IBM-ATP Tour Rankings, kept pace with Courier and pushed the third set to a tiebreaker.

"He played considerably better today," Courier said. "If today is any indication of how he plays now, he's much improved."

Steven went up 4-2 in the tiebreaker, but a shot that would have given him the match went long. Courier tied the score at 5-5 and won the next three points to win the match and move into the quarterfinals.

Courier said he expects players to be revved up trying to upset him now that he's No. 1.

"I was the one not very long ago getting up for these matches ... I can't play great everyday. I don't think I played poorly but not great. The key is to win when I'm not at my best," Courier said.

He'll next meet Jonathan Stark, a 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 winner over 10th-seeded Mark Woodforde.

JIM COURIER

No. 2 seed Michael Chang played Richey Reneberg later Thursday night in third round action, while third-seeded Andre Agassi met Chuck Adams.

Memphis native and local favourite mark Randall, ranked No. 225 in the world, followed his second-round upset of defending champion MaliVai Washington by downing Jaime Onchins 5-7, 6-3, 6-2 to reach the quarterfinals.

"Onchins (ranked 44th) is a very good player," Randall said. "I'm still playing off the high after beating MaliVai. I wanted to make sure I came out and played well."

Randall, whose parents drove up from Atlanta following his upset of Washington, will play Israel's Amos Mansdorf on Friday. Mansdorf topped Karsten Braasch 6-3, 6-4.

In other third round action, No 9. seed Andrei Chesnokov beat seventh-seeded Brad Gilbert 6-2, 4-6, 6-2. Chesnokov will meet the winner of Chang-Reneberg in the quarter finals, and the winner of Agassi-Adams faces the winner of Jacco Eltingh-Todd Martin.

Bad back troubles Stefan Edberg

STOCKHOLM, Feb 12: World tennis number three Stefan Edberg says he is suffering from a mysterious back injury and may miss next week's tournament in Stuttgart, reports AFP.

Edberg was knocked out of the Milan tournament's second round on Wednesday night by Italy's Omar Camporese.

He told Swedish news agency TT on Thursday that the injury, which he picked up during last month's Australian Open, was extremely painful.

Lebanon to host Pan Arab Games

BEIRUT, Feb 12: Lebanon has been chosen as host of the 8th Pan Arab Games in 1996, reports AFP.

The decision was taken here Thursday at a meeting of the Council of Arab Ministers with responsibility for sports.

An eight-man ministerial team, headed by Egypt's Abdel Moneim Amara, was created to work out the costs involved in rebuilding Lebanon's shattered sporting infrastructure. A document presented by Lebanon estimated the cost at 83 million dollars.

This May, Lebanon plays host to a football World Cup qualifying tournament.

Angola-Togo WC tie postpones

ZURICH, Feb 12: FIFA, soccer's governing body, on Thursday postponed indefinitely the Africa Group C 1994 World Cup qualifier between Angola and Togo scheduled for this weekend 14, reports Reuter.

FIFA spokesman Miguel Galan said the Togo squad were unable to leave the country because of political unrest.

Still a long way to go

Sports Reporter

Bangladeshi paddlers need more practice and exposure to reach Asian standards.

This was observed by Shinji Sato, captain of the visiting Japanese table tennis team while talking to journalists at the National Sports Council conference room yesterday evening.

Sato, who finished third in the 1990 Japan championship, praised the local players for their eagerness to learn the techniques of modern table tennis.

Leader of the seven-member Japanese goodwill delegation Hiroshi Shoji, executive director of the Japan Table Tennis Association, also insisted on practice and exposure for success but he was honest to admit: "I am not in a perfect position to comment since I am neither a professional player nor a trainer."

The president of the Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation Syed Yousuf Hossain, who presided over the function, asked the Japanese government to provide Bangladesh a qualified coach and make arrangements for three or four local players' coaching in Japan.

K Endo, Cultural Secretary of the Japanese embassy in Dhaka, who also attended the conference, said that he would ask his government to consider the Bangladesh plea.

Meanwhile, the Japanese players participated in some exhibition matches with local selections at the Outer Stadium wooden-floor gymnasium earlier in the afternoon.

Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda attended the occasion as chief guest.

The Japanese men's team trounced the Bangladeshi men 3-0.

Shingo Ohira, who secured third place in 1992 Japan championship, beat Mostofa 21-17, 21-12; Sei Ito, a member of the Japanese squad in the 1989 World Championships, defeated Akhlaque 21-15, 21-17 while Ohira, teaming up with skipper Sato, outplayed Sagar and Mahboob 21-7, 21-12 in the men's team event.

The Japanese women also outplayed the Bangladeshi women by three sets to nil.

Twenty-six-year old Emiko Hirano, eighth place winner in the 1992 Japan championship, won the first set beating Zobera Rahman Linu 21-9, 21-13; Asako Tsutikawa, another 26-year old, beat Shamima in the second set while the Tsutikawa Yukino Matsumoto combination, the latter being a member of the Japanese team to the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, got the better of Rinu and Zulekha 21-6, 21-11.

In the men's singles, national champion Mosaddequl Huq Rochi beat Ohira 21-17 in the first set while Ohira won by a similar margin in the second set. No third set was staged to break the deadlock.

The Japanese players displayed superb brand of table tennis which earned praise from the capacity crowd.

The Japanese team leaves today for Calcutta after a five-day trip.

Jabbar tennis on

Sports Reporter

The 1993 Engineer M A Jabbar memorial tennis championships began yesterday under the joint auspices of the Engineers' Institution and Engineers' Club.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain Khoka inaugurated the meet as chief guest.

Two hundred and twenty eight players including a Canadian are participating in the eight- day meet.

Forty- eight matches were held on the opening day.

The tourney resumes today at two city venues — Engineers' Club courts and the Ramna Tennis Complex.

Zobera Rahman Linu, one of the top paddlers of the country, practising with one of the Japanese players who are on a goodwill trip to Bangladesh, at the wooden-floor gymnasium yesterday. — Star photo

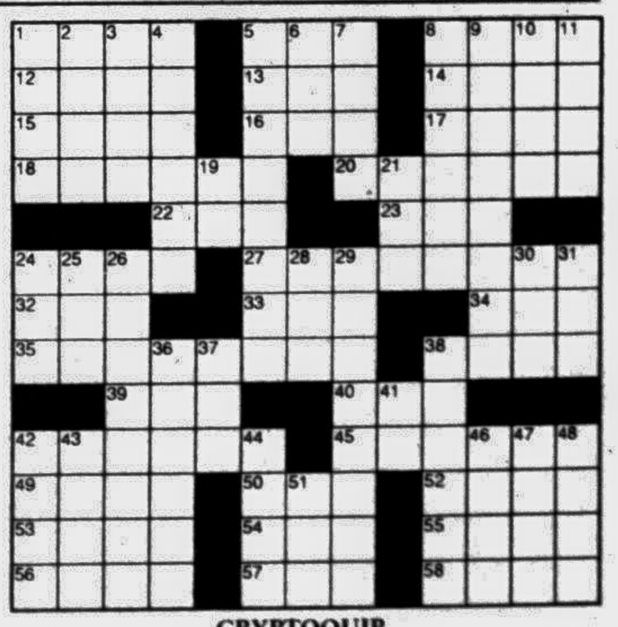
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Shortage
5 Uris book, with "The"
8 Plumbum
12 Golf club
13 History chapter
14 Bronte heroine
15 Actor O'Shea
16 Doctrine
17 Hawaiian goose
18 Pancake makeup?
20 Improved
22 — Aviv
23 "Golly!"
24 Infant
27 Competitor
32 See red?
33 — pro nobis
34 Brew for two?
35 Vet
38 "For — the Bell Tolls"
39 Thus: Latin
40 "— Blue?"
42 Tart
45 Toast topper
49 Notion
50 Bachelor's last words
52 Arizona Indian
53 Spanish custard
54 Guy's companion
55 Revival meeting outcry
56 G-men
57 Drs.' org.
58 Welsh emblem

DOWN
1 Branch
2 "Tosca" tune
3 Future stallion
4 Hard to solve
5 Item in the inheritance
6 Kues' successors
7 Door-frame part
8 Austere
9 Upper canines
10 "Judith" composer
11 Antelope's playmate
19 Poet cummings
21 Freudian concern
24 Halloween shout
25 Piercing tool
26 Box spring support
28 Opposite of post-
29 Geometric curve
30 Recent addition?
31 Tufted topper
36 Children of Uranus and Gaea
37 "Rocks"
38 Nevertheless
41 Greek consonant
42 "Back to the Future" bully
43 Between gigs
44 Latvian city
46 Heavy reading?
47 Fencing tool
48 Katarina Witt's workplace
51 Block

Solution time: 23 mins.

S	A	P	S		A	L	I		S	H	O	T
O	M	I	T		G	A	R		C	O	P	Y
H	O	M	E	W	O	R	K		O	M	E	R
O	R	A	L	E			S	E	R	E	N	E
			E	D	A	M		M	E	L		
R	A	H	S		W	O	R	M		A	C	T
O	R	O		M	A	R	I	A		N	O	R
D	A	M		A	Y	E	S		I	D	L	Y
		E	M	S		S	E	A	M			
S	A	F	E	S	T			G	A	M	E	S
C	O	R	E		H	O	M	E	R	U	L	E
A	N	E	T		U	N	O		E	L	I	A
B	E	E	S		D	E	W		T	E	S	T



CRYPTOQUIP

X Q W U A C W Y N O L G A X Q M A C T Q W M O I T O Z I C Y N W Q O L A C ; Y A I Z U A O Y N U U Y A C I I Z .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: OVERSPENDING PIG FARMER FOUND HIMSELF LIVING TOO HIGH ON THE HOG.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: Z equals F

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.