Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation (BTMC) gymnasts had Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protishthan (BKSP) at their heels in the hunt for golds in the Biman Independence Day gymnastics championships which began yesterday at the National Sports Council gymnastum.

At the end of the opening day of the two-day competition BTMC led the medals table with five golds, four stivers and three bronzes closely followed by BKSP with four golds, as many silvers and five bronzes. Eleven events were decided

on the opening day. Following are the results: Floor Exercise (Girls): 1st -Sumi (BTMC), 2nd - Karima

(BTMC), 3rd — Parveen (BTMC). Balance Beam (Girls): 1st -

Parveen (BTMC), 2nd - Sumi (BTMC), 3rd Keya (Pancha-Side Horse (Girls): 1st ---

Morshida (BTMC), 2nd

Parveen (BTMC), 3rd - Sumi and Karima (BTMC). Uneven Bar (Girls): 1st -Karima (BTMC), 2nd Parveen (BTMC), 3rd - Sajeda

(BTMC). Parallel Bar (Boys): 1st -Shamim (Dinajpur), 2nd Amir (BKSP), 3rd — Lemon

(Dinajpur). Floor Exercise (Boys): 1st -Amir (BKSP), 2nd — Mamun

(BKSP), 3rd — Akhter (BKSP). Horizontal Bar (Boys): 1st -Amir (BKSP), 2nd — Shamim (Dinajpur), 3rd — Abul Kalam

Long Horse (Boys): 1st -Amir (BKSP), 2nd - Shamim (Dinajpur), 3rd — Abul Kalam

Horizontal Bar (Men): 1st -Haroon (BKSP), 2nd - Amir (BKSP), 3rd - Dulal Gomes (BKSP). Long Horse (Men): 1st -Saiful (Ansars), 2nd - Haroon

Rana and Hiru jointly (BKSP, Balance Beam (Women): 1st - Jarna (BTMC), 2nd - Ruby

and Dulal jointly (BKSP), 3rd -

(Ansars), 3rd - Shima (Ansars) Earlier, State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain inaugurated the two-

day meet, organised by the Bangladesh Gymnastics Federation and sponsored by Biman Bangladesh Airlines. Sixty-seven gymnasts in cluding 20 women represent-

ing nine teams are taking part in the 18-event invitational competition.

Nat'l chess Sports Reporter

Defending champion Rec fat-bin-Sattar maintained his solo lead in the 19th national chess championship when he defeated A N M Ruhul Quddus of Dhaka Metropolis in the eighth round at the National Sports Council chess room yesterday.

Reefat, who is awaiting FIDE's nod for his International Master status, took care of his opponents in the 25th move to take his points tally to seven and a half.

Former national champion Rezaul Hug is now in the second position with six points. Yesterday he drew with Feni's Mahbub Ali Ferdoust after 63 International Woman Mas-

ter Rani Hamid outplayed Abul Kashem Bhuivan of BTMC. Abdullah-Al-Rakib of Dhaka Metropolis drew with Kali-

mullah Khan Kalam of Ansars. Ziaul Kader Tuhin of Dhaka Metropolis and Saifuddin Labloo of BTMC registered wins over Rafigul Islam of Chittagong and Niyamul Huq

The match between Ali Amjad Mintu and Omar Khaled of Chittagong ended in a draw.

Niru of Ansars respectively.

Div I hockey Sports Reporter

The reigning champions Mohammedan Sporting Club registered their fourth consecutive victory in the Green Delta First Division hockey league when they overpowered Sonali Bank 3-0 at the Hockey Stadium yesterday afternoon.

The first half score was 2-0. Zahid Biswas put Mohammedans ahead in the 19th minute with a field goal.

Mamtaj Haider, Moham medans Pakistani recruit, doubled the margin in the 22nd minute.

It was Mamtaj Haider who struck again to make the score 3-0 five minutes before the long whistle.

The other match of the day between Dhaka Ansars and Bachelors Sporting Club ended in a goalless draw.

League runners-up Abahani Krira Chakra will be up against Azad Sporting Club while Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club take

on Bangladesh Railway today.

Eriksson to Swiss salvage

STOCKHOLM, May 20: Defender Jan Eriksson scored four minutes into the second half to salvage a 1-0 (0-0) victory for Sweden against Austria in a Group 6 World Cup soccer qualifying game Wednesday, reports UNB.



Jharna of BTMC in action during her goal winning performance in the women's balance beam of the Biman Independence Day gymnastics competition at the National Sports Council gymnasium yesterday. - Star photo

Mohammedans draw, BU win

Sports Reporter

parry off Nagib's header for a



Poor marksmanship completely let country's traditional soccer super power Mohammedan Spor-

ting Club down in their DMFA Cup opener as unfancied Victoria Sporting Club snatched a point from them in the round-robin final leg match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Apart from indifferent showing from the strikers, the other major factor leading to Mohammedans' failure is Arun, the Victoria goalkeeper who made a number of spectacular saves to steer his side through without conceding a Arun along with defender

Biplob Marma, Aman, Farhad, lqbal and Shariful fought with true grit throughout the 90minute encounter to keep their formidable opponents at In front of more than

30,000 ardent fans the booter in white shirts and black shorts went into offensive from the moment referee R Alam blew the whistle. Sheikh Aslam, who joined

Mohammedans this season after more than a decade with Abahani Krira Chakra, got the first opening to score when Shamim floated in a perfect cross. But Aslam's header just flew over the bar.

Skipper Rummon-bin-Wali Shabbir ran free along the left

flank the next minute before making a neat minus for Nagib but Arun dived full length to

corner. The rest of the half followed, more or less, the same pattern with the Victoria defenders diligently staving off waves of Mohammedan attacks. Shabbir, Johnny, Aslam and Naqib were denied on a number of occasions either by Arun or by poor finishing on their part.

The second half started with even fiercer Mohammedan onslaught on the Victoria citadel. Eight minutes into the session Aslam's back volley just missed the mark much to Arun's relief.

Arun got lucky again in the 27th minute when Johnny's powerful drive rebounded off a defender after the Victoria goalkeeper was beaten hollow. Eight minutes later Sha-

mim's powerful right-footer just went over the bar and in the 37th minute Tulu could not nod home from a Johnny The only time Victoria had

a chance in the match was in

the 26th minute of the second half when Jewel almost let Moshi score as the Mohammedan defender made a sloppy clear to allow the Victoria striker enough space to unleash a powerful drive which slipped through Kanan's grip but Barun's timely intervention

saved the day for Moham-

As time wore out Moham medans' frustration augmented. Their newly-recruited Russian coach Zulkin made two substitution but that wasn't enough to change the course of the match.

BU STRUGGLE

In the other match of the day, Federation Cup winners Brothers Union clawed their way back to a hard-fought 2-1 win over lowly Agrant Bank after going down very early in the first half. Jahangir gave star-studded

Brothers an early hiccup five minutes into the game when he drove home from a goalmouth scramble after teammate Bakhtiar's powerful shot bounced back into the game off a defender (1-0). It could have been worse for

Brothers had Bakhtiar succeeded in pushing the ball home after Jahangir's cross slipped through Atiq's grip.

Ata eased the pressure off the Gopibagh side when he capitalised on a defence lapse to score the equaliser in the 26th minute (1-1). Rest of the first half pro-

duced no more goals. Mizan, who joined the Brothers tent from Mohammedans, settled the match for the men in orange shirts when he drove home after vet another mix-up in Agrani Bank defence (2-1).

Aussies draw first blood



MANCHESTER, England, May 20: Australia drew first blood in the summer-long cricket war with

England when they snatched victory in the opening one-day international at Old Trafford by four runs on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

England, needing seven runs off the last over to win, handed victory to the Australians with a suicidal run out involving last-wicket pair Richard Illingworth and debutant Andrew Caddick.

As they struggled to hit runs off Merv Hughes in pursuit of Australia's total of 258 for nine, New Zealand-born Caddick attempted to turn a single into two and both batsmen ended up at the same

Illingworth was dismissed and England were all out for 254 with one ball of their 55 overs remaining.

Mark Taylor (79) and Mark Waugh (56 off 63 balls) laid the foundations of Australia's score with a 108-run second-wicket partnership to lift them to 161 for one from 36 overs.

But left-arm spinner Illingworth pegged them back with three wickets for six runs in 19 balls to lead a post-lunch fightback as Australia slumped to 186 for five with 10 overs remaining.

Some inventive hitting from Steve Waugh, lan Healy and liughes rallied the Australians, and the difference

between the sides was the contribution from the tailen-

Like Healy, Hughes made 20, including a six over longon as the 54th over, bowled by Derek Pringle, cost 16 runs.

Only Illingworth of England's last five batsmen made double figures, with 12. After England's first three wickets fell for 44. Graeme

Hick and Neil Fairbrother pulled them back into the game with a hard-hitting 127run partnership from 27 overs. Hick struck 85 from 102

balls and Fairbrother, playing on his county ground, hammered 59. Debutant Graham Thorpe

made a useful contribution with 31 to keep them in the chase, but as wickets ran out Australia strangled England's

Craig McDermott, who dismissed Graham Gooch for four and Robin Smith for nine, was the pick of Australia's bowlers with three for 38. He was named man-of-the-match.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard in the first one-day international between England and Australian at Old Trafford here on Wednesday. AUSTRALIA:

M Hayden c Stewart b Lewis M Taylor c Fairbrother b Illingworth M Waugh c Fairbrother b Jarvis D Boon c Fairbrother b Illingworth

A Border c Lewis

b Illingworth S Waugh c and b Lewis I Healy c Thorpe b Caddick 20 M Hughes b Lewis P Reiffel run out C McDermott not out I May not out Extras: (b-1, lb-8, w-2,

nb-4) Total: (for nine wickets —

55 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-60; 2-168; 3-171; 4-178; 5-186; 6-219; 7-237; 8-254; 9-255.

Bowling: Caddick Pringle Lewis Jarvis Illingworth

Hick ENGLAND: Gooch c M Waugh b McDermott Stewart b Hughes Smith c and b McDermott Hick b Reiffel Fairbrother c Reiffel Waugh

Thorpe c Taylor b McDermott Lewis run out Pringle c Taylor b S Waugh Illingworth run out Jarvis c Reiffel b S Waugh Caddick not out Extras: (lb-8, w-9, nb-2)

Total: (54.5 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-11, 2-38, 3-44, 4-171, 5-194, 6-211, 7-227, 8-240, 9-247 0

Bowling: McDermott Hughes Reiffel M Waugh

snooker title

Ghose lift nat'l

CHITTAGONG, May 20: N C Ghose of Narayanganj Club emerged champion of the ninth national snooker championship beating Adrian Gonsalves of Catholic Club in 7-5 frame at the billiard room of Chittagong Club today, reports

Both of them will participate in the Beijing amateur championship in June, na tional snooker organisers told

Fifty-six competitors from eight clubs took part in the competition. Planning Minister Zahir-

uddin Khan gave away the prizes among the champion. runner-up and other participants.

ROLL OF HONOUR

Chempion **Flummer-up** Rashedul Amin Phillip Loom Naseruddin Rashedul Amin Rashedul Amin W F Doherty Joshep de Costa A B Chowdhury 1988 A B Chowdhry Rashedul Amin N C Ghose A B Chowdhury Rashedul Amin NC Ghose Rashedul Amin Mohd Ismail

Adrian Gonsalves Pioneer soccer final today

Hussair

Sports Reporter

The final of the Pioneer Janata Bank football league between Motifheel T and T Club and Dipali Jubo Sangha will be held today at 4:00 pm at the Outer Stadium.

The final will be mere a formality because both the fi nalists will be promoted to Third Division league next

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain will give away the prizes among the winners as chief guest.

Inter-university swimming meet from June 25

CHITTAGONG, May 20: Inter-university swimming and waterpolo competition will be held in Dhaka from June 25, a press release of Chittagong University said, reports BNA. Chittagong University will

participate in the competition with a group of selected swimmers. A selection competition will be held at Golpukur on the campus on June 8 and

intending participants for the selection competition from the departments and institutes, including affiliated colleges, are asked to report to the Department of the Physical Education on the dates at 10

Selected swimmers will be absorbed in a training camp and they would be given various allowances. Participants from the affiliated colleges should produce identity cards and attestation from the principal of the respective col-

Div II qualifiers

Sports Reporter

Five matches of the Second Division qualifying cricket tournament were held yesterday at different venues across the city. Amateur Cricket Club

recorded a five wicket victory over Jupiter KC at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium (west). At the Dhanmondi Cricket

Stadium (East), Lalkuti outclassed Desh Prem Club by three wickets. Uttaran posted a seven-run

triumph over Raktim Sangha at the Mirpur Pallabi ground. At the Jagannath Hall

cricket ground of Dhaka University, Issovo outplayed Anwesha by three runs. Probbhati Krira Sangskritik

Sangha registered an eightwicket win over Avengers at the Dhanmondi Club ground.

Int'l karate meet on July 16

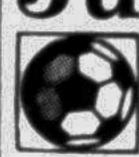
Sports Reporter

The first international karate competition will be held at the National Sports Coaching Centre on July 16 and 17 under the auspices of Bangladesh Central Martial Art



Action from yesterday's Green Delta First Division hockey league match between Mohammedan Sporting Club and Sonali Bank at he Hockey Stadium. Mohammedans won the match 3-0. - Star photo

Juventus silence critics



TURIN, Italy, May 20: Juventus lifted the UEFA Cup for the third time when they beat Borussia Dortmu-3-0 on Wednesday to

aggregate victory, reports Reuter. Midfielder Dino Baggio struck twice in the first half, his first in only the fifth minute effectively ending the

complete a crushing 6-1

hopes of the Germans, already 3-1 down from the home leg of the final. Baggio headed a second five minutes before the break to set off joyous celebrations

among the Turinese fans. German Andy Moeller, play ing against one of his former clubs, added a lucky third in the 65th minute.

Moeller saw an attempted clearance from Dortmund substitute Thomas Franck cannon off his shin and into the net, a cruel blow for a German side missing several first choice

The result is a great end to a season in which Juventus, Italian champions a record 22 times, had come under heavy criticism for their failure to

Caniggia's plea dismissed ROME, May 20: Italian soc-

cer authorities dismissed an appeal by AS Roma's Argentine striker Claudio Caniggia against his 13-month ban for cocaine abuse on Wednesday, reports

Reuter.
The Italian football league confirmed the ban imposed last month on Caniggia, who tested positive for the drug after a league game with Napoli on March 21.

sustain a title challenge.

Dino Baggio stepped out of the shadow of his illustrious namesake and club and country teammate Roberto with two

fine finishes. He thumped a rising drive into the roof of the net in the opening minutes after striker Gianluca Vialli had set him up

with a classy back-heel. The tall Juventus man was credited with his fifth goal in the Cup this season when he and Vialli jumped together for a free-kick in the 40th minute.

Captain Roberto Baggio. tipped as a European footballer of the year after his star display in Dortmund, thrilled the crowd with some superb second half runs as Juventus went through their party

pieces The Turin club are the only team to have won the UEFA Cup on three occasions since it replaced the Fairs Cup in defence

It was their first trophy since 1990 when they won both the UEFA Cup and the Italian Cup. Their other UEFA triumph came in 1977, during coach Giovanni Trapattoni's first spell at the club. Dortmund, decimated by a

combination of injuries, suspension and ineligibility, never gave up but were always sec ond best Their 5,000 yellow-clad

fans did them proud, cheering their team to the rafters throughout a soggy night and also chanting their admiration of Juventus. The Italian crowd warmly

fans in return. The only sour note came when firecrackers thrown by Juventus fans landed among

applauded visiting players and

the Carabinieri band who had provided the halftime enter tainment, forcing them to beat a hasty retreat

Sao Paulo shut Catolica out

SAO PAULO, May 20 Defending champion Sao Paulo routed Universidad Catolica of Chile 5-1 Wednesday night in the opener of the Liberators Cup final, reports AP.

The home-and-home, totalgoals series for the South American club championship will be completed May 26 at Santiago, Chile. Sao Paulo also are the defending world club champions

Before a crowd of almost 100,000 at Morumbi Stadium. Sao Paulo dominated the entire game with swift attacks. superb passing and superior

The Brazilians opened the scoring in the 31st minute when Lopez of Universidad Catolica accidentally kicked the ball into his own net. In the 40th minute, Sao Paulo's Vitor struck with a spectacular shot.

Ten minutes into the second half, Gilmar Dribbled past several players for Sao Paulo's third goal. Six minutes later, Rai, off a cross from Cafu, chested the ball into the net. The Brazilians made it 5-0 in the 66th minute when Muller capitalized on a defensive blunder.

Sao Paulo goalie Zetti made four spectacular saves in succession with less than 15 min utes left. He finally allowed a goal when Almada converted a penalty kick for Universidad in the 85th minute.



Brazil captain Rai (L) closes in on Chilean player Tupez (R) as the latter's teammate Parragues watches in the finals of the Copa Libertadores in Sao Paulo on May 19. Sao Paulo - AFP photo won 5-1.

J-League fever grips Japan



TOKYO, May 20: Tokyo sports fans had two choices for live action on Wednesday — a

baseball clash between two of Japan's top teams or an appearance by German World Cup soccer star Pierre Littbarski in the new professional J-League, reports

Reuter. Attendance figures released today showed just why the men who run Japanese baseball are taking the upstart new soccer championship se-

A total of 46,959 people watched Littbarski's team Ichihara Jef United deseat Kawasaki Verdy 2-1 at the national stadium.

PARIS, May 20:

Only a mathema

tician would bau-

lk at making le-

ague champions

of AC Milan and

Olympique Marseille if they

win before this weekend

meet in next Wednesday's

European Cup final in Munich

can virtually book their place

in next season's tournament

Berlusconi's men, and Thurs-

day night for Bernard Tapie's,

would leave both teams at least

four points clear at the top

average than their nearest ri-

vals, only the unthinkable can

keep Milan from second con-

secutive title and Marseille

tion maybe the same, their

routes to the verge of champi-

onship glory can hardly had

front throughout the season,

remaining unbeaten for a

record breaking 58 matches

before losing in March to

Parma, the unfancied team

who later went on to win the

The league record obviously

European Cup Winners' Cup

Milan have led from the

been more different.

Although the final destina

Armed with a far better goal

with two games remaining.

Victory on Friday for Silvio

with a single winning goal.

The two clubs, who will

reports AFP.

from a fifth.

At the Jinggu Stadium next door, 36,000 watched the Yakult Swallows, runners-up in the 1992 Japan series, play the Hiroshima Carp, current leaders in the six-team central league. While the soccer fans got

their kicks packed into 90 minutes, the baseball punters had to wait five hours and 46 minutes for a result. The Swallows finally won 17-16 in the 14th inning shortly after midnight, with just 12,000 spectators left.

Littbarski, a member of the West German team which won the 1990 World Cup, scored his first J-League goal on his second appearance. His low free-kick in the 66th minute from outside the area crept

couldn't last, although dichard

fans will argue that the five-

month absence of Marco van

Basten, probably the world's

best footballer at the moment,

room for another European-

footballer-of-the-year, Jean-

Pierre Papin, who did only a

workmanlike job in Italy's

most prized number nine

and anxious to complete a

double mission at Cagliari:

Secure the league for their

team and guarantee their own

appearance in Munich by im-

pressing coach Fabio Capellini

in the last league fixture before

Elsewhere, second placed

Internazionale are at home to

Foggia while Juventus, who

topped an indifferent season

by convincingly winning the

UEFA Cup on Wednesday

clubs, Parma and Lazio, are

now destined for a place in

The third and fourth placed

brunt of both missions.

night, host Sampdoria.

Now both men are available.

The Dutch striker made

was significant.

shirt.

the final.

Only miracle can stop

AC Milan, Marseille

around a four-man wall and inside the right-hand post. "It's more important for the team to win than for me to score a goal, the German star said in the best Japanese style.

> of us in the team have a good understanding of each other's The 10-team league kicked off its inaugural season last weekend and its programme

continues with regular Wed

"It is very important that all

nesday and Saturday games. A letter published in the daily Asahi Shimbun today said the league heralded the beginning of a new era in Japan. "Baseball represents the ideal ogy of management, control and a closed mind, with players all having crew-cuts, wrote Eiichi Ono, a cram school

teachers. "But in soccer the individ ual' is king, with long or dyed hair, and all the excitement packed into a short time.

"In our soccer teams, for-

eigners and Japanese are

mixed together, with names from Italian, Portuguese and German as well as English. When I see soccer, I feel the heartbeat of Japanese society." Ono added.

Natore cricket

From Our Correspondent

NATORE, May 20

Batting first the winners

managed 88 runs in 31.5 overs

Evergreen XI moved into the final of the Natore cricket league '93 with a comfortable 49-run victory over Wild Rose A in the first semifinal at the Natore College playground to-

Cagliari, surprise 5-0 winwith Sona and Mithu making ners over Torino last weekend, 22 and 21 runs respectively. can expect to bear the full Piyara and Mizan dismissed three Evergreen batsmen each

conceding 24 and 20 respec-In reply, Wild Rose A were skittled out for only 39 runs in 21.4 overs with only batsmen

managing double-digit Mizu took three wickets for two runs while Mithu claimed two for ten.

- Shiblee (12) and Mizan (10)

Europe next season and both are playing away this weekend, Natore Cricket Clinic (NCC) take on Wild Rose B in the at Genoa and Brescia respecsecond semifinal tomorrow.