

Drawn match in Div I hockey

Sports Reporter
Bangladesh Sporting Club and Bachelors Club drew 2-2 in yesterday's only Green Delta First Division hockey league engagement at the Hockey Stadium.

Bachelors led the first half 1-0.

Fatyaz and Danesh netted one goal apiece for Bachelors while Amir and Moni scored for Bangladesh Sporting.

Bangladesh SC have so far earned six points from 12 outings while Bachelors Club bagged five points off 11 matches.

League champions Mohammedan SC will take on Independence Day Cup champions Usha KC in a crucial tie today.

Khulna soccer

KHULNA, July 13: Town Club defeated Shipyard Club 4-2 in tie breaker after the regulation period ended goalless in the KDSA Football tournament at local stadium this afternoon, reports BNA.

Sydney hails IOC report

SYDNEY, July 13: Olympic bid officials on Tuesday welcomed a technical report which put Sydney firmly ahead in the chase for the 2,000 Games but warned their quest was "still not in the bag," reports Reuters.

"We are pleased with the result but I think it is also important to bring into it a note of caution," Bruce Baird, the senior politician in charge of the Australian bid, told reporters.

Baird said although Barcelona and Atlanta were both ranked by Olympic inspectors as the best technical bids for the 1992 and 1996 Games, Salt Lake City was also ranked first technically for the 1998 Winter Olympics but lost out to the Japanese city of Nagoya.

"It (Salt Lake City) nearly went out in the first round of voting, the same could happen to us," Baird said.

The International Olympic Committee's (IOC) technical report, released officially on Tuesday after a draft version was leaked last week, said the Sydney bid exceeded the IOC criteria for the Olympic facilities.

"If you look at the 23 things that matter on the technical side, the Sydney bid is bloody nearly perfect," one IOC official told Reuters in London.

But Baird said the Games venue, to be decided on September 23 in Monte Carlo, was still not in the bag. "The numbers are tight and anybody that suggests otherwise is fooling themselves," he said.

Baird said he still believed Beijing was Sydney's major opponent, although Manchester came out more favourably than the Chinese capital in the IOC technical report.

MSC ride Arambagh out



Sports Reporter
Title aspirants Mohammedan Sporting Club beat an early setback, prolonged session of stoppages due to power failure and temperamental outburst to singularly establish themselves atop the points table with a 3-1 win against Arambagh Krira Sangstha at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Sadly lacking the form displayed in their previous match against Rahmatganj, Mohammedans found themselves a goal down within the first 16 minutes as the match resumed after 20 minutes of power failure. Lights went off within three minutes of the kick-off, delayed as players of both sides took the field in identical outfits. Play finally resumed some 20 minutes behind the schedule with Arambagh having lost the toss forced to forsake their black and white

back, unleashed a powerful grounder on the running ball that eluded the maize of Mohammedan defenders, a bit unsighted goalie Syed Hassan Kanan and entered the net by grazing the side post in the 16th minute of the match (1-0).

The natural flare-up or retaliation from Mohammedans was not simply there, mainly because Rumman Bin Wali Shabbir, Mohammedan's enterprising skipper, was not given any leeway by the tough Arambagh defenders.

After a frustratingly long spell of midfield tussle, Mohammedans finally got the chance to restore parity when Arman was brought down inside the box by Arambagh's Kamal and referee Badruddin awarded the black and whites a not-too-deserving penalty. Arambagh players vehemently protested the decision and police intervention led to an unpleasant off the field incident

time as a goal-getter when he fooled Arambagh custodian in the 20th minute with a sleek, glancing, low header off another magnificent delivery by Shabbir from the right flank (3-1).

Mohammedans, who appeared to be sitting pretty with a comfortable lead, were jolted by incisive Arambagh attacks at the fag end of the match. First a Jahangir cross from the right found a waiting Azad but the latter's bullet like header ramed into the side post with Kanan knowing very little about it. Later Towhid broke open the right side of Mohammedan defence to have a crack but national stopper Jewel Rana spectacularly dived from behind to block the shot to rob Arambagh of a sure goal.

DMFA Cup champions, who had beaten Arambagh 6-1 in the semifinal of that curtain raising meet by virtue of a hat-trick from striker Nakib, now



An Arambagh defender clears a ball before ace Mohammedan striker Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib gets hold of it during the Star Premier Division football league encounter at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. Mohammedans won the match three goals to one. — Star photo

combination for a stop-gap red and black combination.

Perhaps stung by this onfield hassle of changing dress Arambagh produced a temerarious display on the field much to the surprise of their fancied opponents. Their quick, hard tackling, team spirit and pace reminded one of the superb showing by Rahmatganj on Monday. It looked Mohammedans had their work cut out for the evening.

Although Arambagh's early goal did not come as a surprise the manner in which it came certainly was. Arambagh won a freekick just outside the Mohammedan box and Hira took a powerful grounder which hit Kaiser in Mohammedans' defensive wall; Dablu, Arambagh's long haired right

which resulted in a 15-minute stoppage.

Kaiser nervously converted the penalty after the resumption with the match being 35 minute old (1-1).

The second half saw considerable change in the pattern of the match with Shabbir finding space and time to show his favourite job, opening opposition defence with immaculate crosses.

Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib, the highest scorer in the league so far, added one more to his kitty to raise his tally to nine when he outjumped the Arambagh defence to nod home one such Shabbir cross in the ninth minute (2-1).

A bloated, aged Aslam showed a glimpse of the most remarkable feature of his prime

lead the Premier Division league table with eleven points from six matches, two more than their arch rivals Abahani. Arambagh, who finished fourth in last year's league remain on four from six matches.

DEADLOCK

In the day's first match Wanderers Club and Farashganj Sporting Club shared points as the Star First Division encounter ended in one-all draw.

Sohel scored for Wanderers while Rouf Babul pulled it back for Farashganj.

Unbeaten still both teams upped their collections to eight points each from six outings.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Eskaton vs Sadharan Bima (4:30)
Agrani Bank vs Wari (6:30)

Reefat leads

Sports Reporter

National champion Reefat bin Sattar led the points table with nine points at the end of the tenth round of the Ganges Active chess championship at the chess room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

Sayefuddin Lavlu of BTMC, Amir Hossain and Shawkat Hossain Pallab, both from Brothers Union, were in the second position with eight points each.

Tahmidur Rahman and Rani Hamid of Biman, Ziaul Qader Tuhin of Brothers and Jayanta Chowdhury held the third position having collected seven and a half points each.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF) yesterday announced the latest FIDE ratings of some Bangladesh players.

Grand Master Niaz Mursheed heads the list despite having an addition of only five to his former rating of 252. International Master (IM) Ziaur Rahman comes next with 2430. His co-eval Reefat bin Sattar is richer for 35 points to have 2420 to his credit.

IM Zillur Rahman Champak had 30 deducted for his recent run of poor performances and he now has a rating to 2290.

Khandakar Kayes Hassan has 2275, FM Tahmidur Rahman 2270, FM Yunus Hassan 2260, Ziaul Qader Tuhin 2245, having had 35 accrued on his previous rating, FM Rezaul Huq 2225, Sayefuddin Lavlu 2195, Anisur Rahman 2180, IWM Rani Hamid 2170 with a deduction of 40, Rahul Kabir Shiplu 2145, Niamul Hui Niru 2120, Syeda Shahana Parveen 2105, Nahid Miyazid 2055, Roxana Nikkon 2005.

Dhaka grapplers to the fore

Dhaka DSA emerged champions in the 12th national mini and cadet wrestling championships securing seven gold, two silver and one bronze medals at the end of the three-day competition at NSC gymnasium yesterday, reports UNB.

Jessore DSA finished runner-up with two golds, four silvers and four bronzes while Khulna DSA became third collecting two golds, three silvers and two bronzes.

Ninety-eight grapplers from 10 district teams took part in the 16 weight category competition.

Junior Gold Cup

COX'S BAZAR, July 13: Protishruti Club beat Eskaton Club 4-1 in tie breaker after the stipulated 90 minutes ended in a one-all deadlock in the Junior Gold Cup tournament at the local stadium this afternoon, reports BNA.

Waheed, Sujun, Gafur and Jasim scored for the winners while Ismail managed the only goal for Eskaton.

Pratyasha will play against Uttara tomorrow.

Samaranch's letter to Chinese President

BEIJING, July 13: Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, wrote recently to Jiang Zemin, President of the People's Republic of China, reports Xinhua.

Xinhua has just obtained a copy of the letter dated July 5.

"I thank you very much for your warm letter of congratulations, reviving so many nice memories of the meeting we had together during my last trip to China."

"The inauguration of the Olympic museum and the meeting of the 100th session of the International Olympic Committee were grandiose and successful. I hope that in not a too distant future you will find an opportunity to come to Switzerland and visit the museum, thus honoring the Olympic movement as well as the People's Republic of China for their keen interest in the year 2000 Games."

IOC assessment report published Support for Beijing's bid admired

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, July 13: Olympics observers expressed admiration for the widespread Chinese support for Beijing's "realistic and solid" bid to stage the 2000 Games, reports AFP.

The International Olympic Committee enquiry commission into the six candidate cities made no references to complaints about human rights in China that have even been taken up by the US Congress. But it did express some concerns.

The report said it was worried about China's intention to stop entry to "those whose entries are regarded as posing a threat to China's national security and social order."

Chinese officials have since clarified this to make it clear that only terrorists and criminals identified by Interpol would be rejected.

The commission also highlighted possible language problems. The Beijing bid committee has been told to pay "special attention" to make sure there would be English and French speaking persons available in all fields.

"In terms of environmental protection, it must be noted that China currently falls significantly below international standards in this respect," said the IOC report. But it added that the Beijing officials had emphasised measures, such as increasing the amount of natural gas in place of coal burning, to improve the environment.

The report emphasised offers of free transportation and "the enormous" marketing potential. It said the financial guarantees and budget provisions were "viable and solid."

But its other main criticism was over facilities for athletes in changing and service areas. The commission said these "currently fall well below international standards" and told the Chinese to make im-

IOC assessment report published

Support for Beijing's bid admired

BERLIN REASSURED

Berlin got a very reassuring report from the International Olympic Committee observers despite extensive opposition expressed in the city to staging the 2000 Games.

"The commission's visit was well organized, reflecting a very professional bid committee and well thought-out planning." Members were also impressed by the high involvement of sports experts and those who helped with the 1972 Games in Munich.

"Public opposition to the bid does exist, but, from the information available, this would appear to be a minority element." Members felt that the majority of Berliners supported the candidature.

Though most of the sports facilities are yet to be constructed, most are to be built even if Berlin fails, the report highlighted.

It said there were "excellent plans for state-of-the-art venues" and also approved transport and plans to provide 49,000 beds for athletes, press and officials.

But it cast some doubt over Berlin's financing proposals. "The financial plan appears to be solid, though the commission did express concern and reservations as to the revenues expected to be received from the coin programme."

The Berlin committee hopes to raise a large amount of money selling souvenir Olympic coins and medals to spectators and competitors.

BRASILIA CRITICISED
Brasilia's bid to bring the Olympics to South America for the first time came in for stinging criticism from the IOC assessment commission.

The members started their assessment on the Brazilian capital by saying: "The issue which causes most concern within the commission was the apparent total absence of contact with sport in the planning of the candidature."

"The bid committee lacks

any sports experts in its membership and appears to be very far removed from the National Olympic Committee." The national committee was not represented when the committee visited Brasilia and the report said there was a preponderance of local political involvement.

ISTANBUL LAGGING
No venue in Istanbul currently meets international standards to hold an Olympics and traffic congestion was described as "a major concern" by IOC observers.

But the enquiry report said "the commission's visit was well organized, reflecting a professional team and well thought-out planning. Observers said Istanbul's bid was becoming a strong outside contender even though the city has been dismissed by

many of its rivals."

MANCHESTER IMPRESSIVE
The Olympics inspectors were clearly impressed by Manchester's plans to combine hosting the prestigious 2000 Games and urban regeneration in the northern city.

The International Olympic Committee enquiry report highlighted the strong links with the British National Olympic Committee, the private sector and the national and local government.

It said the Manchester organizing committee would pay for renovation or adoption of Olympic facilities and that all new facilities and 60 per cent of the cost of the Olympic Village would be conveyed by private sector funding underwritten by the government.

International Olympic Committee (IOC) president Juan Antonio Samaranch being shown around the Sandilands primary school during his tow-day visit to Manchester, one of the six bidders for the 2000 Olympic Games, on July 13.



Arambagh players protesting referee Badruddin's decision after the man in black awarded Mohammedan Sporting Club a penalty in their Star Premier Division football league match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. But the Referee stood firm by his decision and Kaiser the first of the three goals to help Mohammedans to a 3-1 win. — Star photo

Tillekeratne, Jayasuriya hit terrific tons Indian bowlers made to toil

KURUNEGALA, Sri Lanka, July 13: Skipper Hashan Tillekeratne and Sanath Jayasuriya hit sparkling centuries as Sri Lanka pummeled India on the second day of their three-day match here Tuesday, reports AFP.

Tillekeratne produced a superb 101 with 13 boundaries and Jayasuriya made an unbeaten 111 against a strong Indian side to help the Board XI reach 289 for five on a wicket that has turned out to be a batsman's delight.

Jayasuriya plundered 16 fours after joining his captain at the fall of the fourth wicket to be in contention for a berth in the Sri Lanka team for the first Test against India on Saturday.

Tillekeratne and Jayasuriya made the visitors sweat with an enterprising 192-run fifth-wicket stand in 183 minutes which ended when Tillekeratne was dismissed shortly before the close.

The in-form Tillekeratne and Jayasuriya, both left-handers, took their side out of the woods from 97 for four after India had declared at their overnight score of 342 for six.

Left-arm spinner Venkatesh Raju was the first to be hit by Jayasuriya, who lefted the first ball he faced from the bowler to the long-on fence.

Jayasuriya virtually forced the nagging left-armed off the attack in the bowler's 19th over by thrashing him for three boundaries.

Raju, who at the stage had given away just 32 runs in 18 overs, was spanned for 24 runs in the next four overs before being replaced by pacesman

Javagal Srinath in the 55th over.

The 24-year-old Jayasuriya was the first to reach his century when he pulled part-timer Vinod Kambli to the mid-wicket boundary.

Raju, however, returned the best figures of three for 81 while his slow bowling partner, leg-spinner Anil Kumble, struggled to find his venom, ending with the solitary wicket of Marvan Atapattu.

Earlier a Reuter report said: Captain Mohammed Azharuddin launched India's one-month cricket tour with a magnificent century on Monday.

Azharuddin stroked exactly 100 to lift the Indians from the uncertainty of 83 for three to 342 for six at the close on the first day of the three-day match against the Sri Lanka Board President's XI.

India's captain was supported by Manoj Prabhakar (53) and wicketkeeper Kiran More (60 not out) as his side recovered from losing opener Navjot Sidhu for a duck in the second over of the day after choosing to bat on a firm pitch.

Azharuddin hit 11 fours in his fluent innings which occupied 167 minutes and 137 balls.

Before his arrival, the spotlight was held briefly by the gifted Sachin Tendulkar, who produced exciting strokes on both sides of the wicket as he reached to 35 off 45 balls, hitting six fours before being caught at mid-on from an ambitious drive.

Prabhakar was more restrained in his stroke-play, taking 168 minutes for his half-century which contained five fours.

The President's team, includ-

ing five Test players, could have dismissed India before the close had it not been for some poor catching in the final session.

Both More and Anil Kumble survived relatively easy chances, and made the local side pay for these lapses by figuring in an unfinished seventh wicket partnership of 89.

More, who reached his half-century of 92 balls, hit seven fours and Kumble struck three fours in his unbeaten innings of 44.

As a security precaution against the Tamil Tigers who are waging a war with the government for a separate state in the north, the Indian team is being flown by helicopter from Colombo each day for the match.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close on the second day of the three-day match between Sri Lanka Board XI and India at the Welegedera Stadium here Tuesday:

India: 342 for 6 dec (M Azharuddin 100, K S More 60 not out, M Prabhakar 53).

SHRI LANKA BOARD XI:

Hathurusinghe c More 0
b Raju 36
Samaraweera b Raju 18
Mendis c Kambli b Raju 13
Atapattu lbw Kumble 2
Tillekeratne c Srinath 101
b Kambli 2

Jayasuriya not out 111
Pushpakumara not out 0
Extras: (1-lb, 6-nb, 1-w) 8
Total: (for 5 wkts) 289

Fall of wickets: 1-53: 2-62: 3-69: 4-97: 5-289.

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Prabhakar	5	0	11	0
Srinath	12	0	45	0
Raju	30	9	81	3
Arnkola	15	2	42	0
Kumble	24	5	90	1
Kambli	4	0	19	1

Ukrainian supremacy all over

NIAGARA FALLS, New York, July 12: Tatiana Lysenko and Lyudmila Stovbchataya posted a one-two Ukrainian finish in the all-around gymnastics final at the World University Games on Monday, reports Reuter.

Lysenko, winner of two gold medals at the Barcelona Olympics, finished with 38.462 points. Lyudmila Stovbchataya won the silver medal with 38.225. Benedicte Evrard of Belgium took the bronze with 37.275.

Ukraine's bid for a medal sweep fell short when Natalia Kalinina, who duelled with her teammates throughout the evening, fell off the balance beam on her last event.

Kalinina, all-around champion at the 1990 Goodwill Games received only 8.645 on beam and dropped to sixth place. Lysenko's performance was a paragon of consistency. She received scores of 9.962 on vault, 9.525 on the uneven bars, 9.625 on the balance beam and 9.65 on the floor exercise.

erise.

Lysenko confessed that just three months after finishing third all-around at the World Championships in Birmingham, England, she considered this a low-key competition.

"I was not well-prepared for this meeting," Lysenko said through an interpreter. "I have a sore (right) shoulder that has bothered me since Barcelona. That's why tonight I had to stay focused. For us, this competition is nothing special."

The sentiment was different for Evrard, who sneaked into her medal position after scoring just 8.50 on the uneven bars, her first event.

"I thought I had a chance to place high," said Evrard, who finished 23rd at the Barcelona Olympics. "But I knew I needed to conclude in a strong way."

She did, posting the session's top score, 9.75, on the floor exercise.

Ukrainians took the top three individual places in winning the team gold medal

on Saturday.

"It's an honour for the Ukraine to do so well now that we are a new team," said Stovbchataya, who led all scorers on Saturday. "It is good to compete amongst ourselves."

The gymnasts will compete again this evening in the individual apparatus finals.

MEDALS TABLE

Medals after Monday's finals at the 1993 World University Games (tabulate country, gold, silver, bronze, total):

United States	8	6	3	17
Ukraine	4	3	2	9
Canada	3	1	2	6
Cuba	2	0	1	3
Hungary	2	0	0	2
Japan	1	4	7	12
Italy	1	3	5	9
Belgium	1	1	2	4
China	1	1	0	2
Belarus	1	0	1	2
Australia	1	0	0	1
Germany	0	3	2	5
France	0	2	2	4
Czech Republic	0	1	0	1
Austria	0	0	1	1
Netherlands	0	0	1	1

Even Caesars not above law

NAIROBI, July 13: None of Kenya's elite distance runners will win automatic selection to the World Championships in Stuttgart next month, Kenya athletics chief David Okeyo said on Monday, reports Reuters.

"The rules are clear and will not be amended, even by world records. All those who want to run in Stuttgart will have to appear at the national team trials on July 29," Okeyo said.

He said that Yobes Ondieki, who became the first man to run a sub-27 minute 10,000 metres race in Oslo on Saturday but wants to defend his 5,000 metres title at the World Championships, would have to fly to Nairobi to confirm his place in the team.

Ondieki said after setting his record he would like to defend his title in Stuttgart but did not intend to run in the Kenyan trials.

"Yobes isn't really bothered whether he runs in the championships or not," said his Australian wife Lisa, the Commonwealth marathon champion.

But Okeyo stressed, "Yobes is a disciplined high-calibre athlete who's just made history, for which all Kenya is proud. He knows that he must run in Nairobi to defend his title in Stuttgart."

Ondieki's run of 26 minutes 58.38 seconds in Oslo was nine seconds faster than the previous record set by compatriot Richard Chelimo at the Stockholm Grand Prix only last Monday.

Chelimo's agent John Bicourt said Chelimo would take part in the trials but would not run the 10,000.

"He won't run another 10,000 this year until the first round in Stuttgart," Bicourt said.

Chelimo had also hoped to win an automatic place in the