

## Sport

## Schools b'ball

## Sports Reporter

St Nicholas, B N School, Nakkumar Institute and BAF Shaheen College and School emerged victors in their respective matches in the National King Fan schools basketball championship at the Outer Stadium wooden floor gymnasium yesterday.

St Nicholas beat K L Jubilee School 70-14; BN School beat Rifles Public High School 24-18; Nakkumar Institute beat Mohammadpur High School 30-10 and BAF Shaheen beat St Joseph School 47-42.

## Faisal wins in SAF prep tennis

Faisal Syed Huq beat Syed Wahidullah Jhelan 6-2, 6-3 in the second leg of the SAF Games tennis training tournament at the National Tennis Complex here Saturday, reports BSS.

Faisal, who defeated Shamsi Ahsan Roni and Shovon Jamaly in the leg, earned six full points from three matches.

In the other match of the day, Hir Lal beat Roni 4-6, 6-2, 6-3.

The fourth day matches will be held at 3 pm today.

## List matters least for a Maradona

BUENOS AIRES, Sept 18: Argentine soccer directors said on Friday that they had not discarded the possibility of calling up Diego Maradona for their World Cup qualifying matches against Australia, reports Reuter.

Maradona was left out of a 22 man squad named Friday by coach Alfonso Basile, but Argentine Football Association president Julio Grondona said the list was not final.

"Maradona doesn't have to be in any list. Everything depends on him" said Grondona, adding: "I hope we can count on him."

"We are waiting for Diego to play a few games and to see what happens with the business of Newell's and Sevilla. We hope it will be resolved quickly."

Maradona has begun training with his new club Newell's Old Boys and is expected to make his debut in the Argentine championship on October 7.

But Spanish club Sevilla, where he played last season after completing a 15-month world ban for drug abuse, said Tuesday they were blocking his transfer to Newell's.

Sevilla said they had informed the Spanish federation of the decision and they expect the matter to be relayed to FIFA, world soccer's governing body.

Argentina have been forced to play off against Australia for a place at the 1994 World Cup finals after finishing runners-up to Colombia in South America Group A. Their last match was a humiliating 5-0 defeat at home to the Colombians.

Fullback Ricardo Altamirano, midfielder Jose Luis Villareal and forwards Claudio Garcia and Julio Zamora were dropped from the squad which played the South American qualifiers.

Newcomers included Boca Juniors' defender Carlos Macallister and Velez Sarsfield's Vitor Hugo Sotomayor.

The first leg is due to be played in Sydney on October 31 with the return in Buenos Aires on November 16 or 17.

## Bribery charges against Tapie

ZURICH, Switzerland, Sept 18: An official of soccer's European ruling body has alleged that Olympique Marseille owner Bernard Tapie was paid to drop the lawsuit that got his team temporarily reinstated in the European Cup, reports AP.

Union of European Football Association general secretary Gerhard Aigner made the allegations in an interview published Saturday in the *Neue Zuercher Zeitung* newspaper.

"He likely received huge sums, certainly much more than if he had taken part in the European Cup," Aigner said.

Asked who might have paid off Tapie, Aigner said: "... it appears Tapie also took his case to the French government."

Tapie had no immediate comment on the allegations.

Aigner said UEFA's headquarters in Bern, Switzerland, were fire-bombed and the organization has received threats since it barred Marseille in Sept. 6 from defending their European Champions Cup title because of alleged match-fixing.

Tapie obtained a Swiss court ruling against UEFA that temporarily lifted the ban Sept. 9.

But he dropped the lawsuit the next day under heavy pressure from FIFA, which has given the French federation until Thursday to act on the scandal or face suspension of all its teams from international soccer.

Reported threats by FIFA, soccer's world governing body, to strip France of the right to host the 1996 World Cup forced the French Football Federation to put pressure on Tapie, Aigner told the newspaper.

## Abahani ensure second slot

## Sports Reporter



Abahani Krira Chakra exacted a sweet revenge and confirmed at least the runners-up position in this year's Star Premier Division football league

counter, never looked incisive enough to force a win. A win last night could have given Brothers the runners-up slot ahead of Abahani.

Abahani's win was never in doubt with in-form Mamun Joarder working in tandem with

pan), Georgi, Masud Rana, Dozmarov, Sudarikov, Rumi, Mamun Joarder and Gaus (Zakir) (Shakil).

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## Radford rattles Middlesex

## Sports Reporter

LONDON, Sept 18: County champions Middlesex were thrashed by an innings and 36 runs, by Worcestershire on Friday, sliding to their first defeat of the season in a two-day humiliation, reports Reuter.

Worcestershire moved into second place in the championship table after registering a fifth consecutive victory in their best run since 1988.

The final positions will depend on the results of games involving Glamorgan and Northamptonshire.

Paceman Neal Radford spearheaded the victory charge on the day that Yorkshire's England fast bowler Paul Jarvis arrived to consider Worcestershire's overtures for next season.

When Middlesex began their second innings 184 behind, Radford claimed the first four wickets in his opening spell and finished with six for 49.

Dismissed for 68 on the first morning, Middlesex reached 148 at the second attempt, John Carr top-scoring with 67.

At Canterbury, a superb exhibition of stroke play by West Indian test star Carl Hooper (187 not out) and Trevor Ward (137) helped Kent dominate the Glamorgan attack as they piled up 395 for three off 88 balls.

The pair put on 229 in 50 overs for the third wicket — Kent's best partnership of the season.

Essex off-spinner Peter Such emerged from a barren spell to help spearhead a Hampshire collapse at Chelmsford.

The 29-year-old took five for 89 from 48 overs as the visitors slumped from 287 for three to 347 all out.

Such's victims included England reject David Gower, stumped for 134 after resuming at 95 overnight.

Rahmatganj win

A struggling Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society recorded another win in the other Star Premier Division encounter, played earlier at the same venue yesterday.

Brothers dead-lifted themselves in the second half, but their resurgence was limited to territorial dominance as the Gopibagh side failed to have any crack at the goal.

Rahmatganj now have 11 points from 17 matches but still remain at the bottom of the points table.

Wari Club, who are not very far ahead of Rahmatganj, stay at 13 from 17 matches.

**POINTS SHARED:**

Farashganj Sporting Club and Wanderers' Club shared points in day's only match of Star First Division football league played at the Hockey Stadium yesterday.

In an apparently-fixed match, Farashganj took a ridiculously quick two-nil lead in the second half. Shimal scored in the sixth minute and Shimal doubled the margin three minutes later.

**TODAY'S MATCHES:**

Arambagh vs Mukti Joddha (4:30) Mohammedans vs PWD (6:30)



Neither Abahani skipper Rumi nor Brothers' defender Parvez seems to be aware of the fact that the ball has already crossed the goal line during yesterday's Star Premier Division encounter at the Dhaka Stadium. Abahani won the big match 2-0.

— Star photo

when they recorded a comfortable 2-0 victory against Brothers' Union at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The reigning champions, who need a heady mixture of luck and form to retain their title, led the first half one-nil.

Yesterday's win leaves Abahani with 27 points from 17 matches and a place behind league leaders Mohammedans Sporting Club who are almost certain to win the title after a lapse of two years.

Abahani's arch-rivals Mohammedans have so far managed 28 points from 16 matches and have two more matches including one against lowly PWD today. Unless Mohammedans lose today, followed by another debacle on September 23 against themselves, the sky-blues' title-hopes are as good as gone. Even if Mohammedans draw with PWD and lose to Abahani, they will have collected 29 points from the full quota of 18 matches leading to a dead-lock and a rematch.

Brothers' Union, who now have just one match at hand, have to be content with the third position once again with a haul of 22 points from 17 matches.

Brothers' Union and Abahani are still in search of their first championship title since their sensational debut in 1975.

Ata of Brothers was cautioned with the yellow card for rough play.

**ABAHANI KC:** Mohsin, Alamgir, Munna, Rehan (Swan) (4:30) **Mohammedans vs PWD (6:30)**

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