

## India, Pakistan to send big contingents

India will send a 305-member contingent while Pakistan will send a 167 strong squad to the sixth South Asian Federation (SAF) Games to be held in the city from December 20-27 this year. State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain said at a press briefing at the conference room of the National Sports Council yesterday, report agencies.

The State Minister, who is also chairman of the steering committee of the SAF Games, revealed that the Indian team includes 235 athletes and 70 officials. They would take part in all the 11 disciplines in the Games being held in Dhaka for the second time around.

On the other hand, the Pakistani squad will consist of 126 athletes and 41 officials. They will take part in ten disciplines. Pakistan will have no competitor in judo.

Earlier, the Sri Lankan Olympic Association informed the SAF Games Organising Committee that they would send a 150-member team to the Games.

Secretary General of the Bangladesh Olympic Association and member-secretary of the steering committee Bashir Ahmed and secretary of the facilities and operation sub-committee Squadron Leader Mohiuddin Ahmed also spoke on the occasion.

Sri Lanka and Bhutan will send their entries later this month while other two SAARC countries — Nepal and Maldives — are yet to confirm their participation in the prestigious meet.

## Kabaddi league

Sports Reporter

Jurain Janata Club and Maniknagar Unnayan Samity won their respective Metropolitan Kabaddi league matches at the Outer Stadium court yesterday.

Jurain Janata Club, who led the first half by a huge margin of 28-3, overwhelmed Bangladesh Boys 56-7, with a collection of five losses.

In the other match of the day, the Maniknagar outfit also had an easy ride against Sreejony Sangsad but won by a less comfortable margin of 40-15. The victors who earned three losses, had a not-so-impressive lead of 19-10.

## ROK spikers win Asian meet

BANGKOK, Sept 19: South Korea dominated newcomer Kazakhstan 15-11, 15-5, 15-13 Sunday and captured the Asian men's volleyball championship, reports AP.

Defending champion Japan defeated a strong Chinese team 15-11, 7-15, 11-15, 15-10, 15-10 for third place in the 16-nation tournament in the provincial capital of Korat.

Fifth in the final placings was Iran, followed by Australia, Thailand, Pakistan, India, Taiwan, New Zealand, Qatar, Sri Lanka, Kuwait, the Philippines and Bangladesh.

## Marseille beat Bordeaux 3-1

PARIS, Sept 19: Marseille cast aside their troubles and romped to a 3-1 win over weakened pace-setters Bordeaux to take a share of the lead in the French First Division on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Marseille, banned from defending their European cup crown following a match-rigging scandal, went behind to a second-minute goal by Bordeaux striker Stephane Paille.

But they bounced back with three goals in the second half after their opponents had been reduced to 10 men when midfielder Zinedine Zidane was sent off.

Defender Eric di Meo delighted a 40,000-strong home crowd when he equalised with a powerful shot from 35 metres two minutes into the second half.

Midfielder Daniel Dutuel made it 2-1 with a fine volley in the 74th minute and William Prunier put the issue beyond doubt with a goal in the dying seconds.

Bordeaux stayed top on goal difference ahead of Paris St Germain, Marseille and Cannes. All have 12 points from nine games.

Monaco, who took Marseille's place in the European Cup, were beaten 2-0 at Sochaux and badly missed the skills of injured German striker Juergen Klinsmann and Belgian midfielder Enzo Scifo.

Dutch striker Hendrikus Vos opened the scoring two minutes after the kick-off and young midfielder Olivier Baudry netted a second in the 73rd minute.

Paris St Germain beat Lyon 3-1, with Librarian striker George Weah and French international David Ginola and Vincent Guerin scoring a goal apiece.

# MSC regain league title

Sports Reporter



After wandering in the wilderness for the last two seasons, country's traditional super power Mohammedan Sporting Club retained the Senior Division football league title when they beat

making that happen. Had their Russian recruit Oleg Jivotnikov and Arman made the best of the two scoring opportunities, Mohammedans would have been winners by a handsome margin.

However, one fact should be stipulated and that is the vic-

Roman, Kaiser, Jewel Rana, Barun, Tito (Rox), Arman, Murat, Shabbir, Aslam and Jivotnikov (Nakib).

PWD SC: Humayun, Kakon, Montu, Mansur, Shamim Sr, Joy (Faiz Babu), Shamim Jr, Biplob, Mushtaq, Babu and Salam Khan.



Oleg Jivotnikov, Mohammedan Sporting's spy Russian striker, heads the ball way ahead of a Public Works Department defender during his side's penultimate Star Premier Division league engagement at the Dhaka Stadium last night. Jivotnikov scored once and Mohammedans won by two goals to one to ensure league championship with a game in hand. — Star photo

Public Works Department (PWD) by two goals to nil in their penultimate Star Premier Division engagement at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

With yesterday's win, the DMFA Cup winners were three points clear of their arch-rivals Abahani Krita Chakra and even if they lose to the Dhanmondi side in their last match on September 23, they will still be one point ahead.

Mohammedans, who have lost their unbeaten record to Abahani in the first phase, have 30 points from 17 matches with 14 wins, two draws and a defeat. On the other hand, their long-time foe Abahani, with 11 wins, five draws and a loss, have 27 points.

Federation Cup champions Brothers Union, who have yet to win the league title, once again found themselves in the distant third position with 22 points from 17 matches. They have their last match against Muktiyoddha Sangsad slated for September 22.

When Mohammedan players entered the Dhaka Stadium yesterday, they very well knew that only a win could do the trick for them this time — no more, no less. And the men in black and white started the match with a clear intention of

tors were less than their usual best in yesterday's match.

Jivotnikov, who tops the individual scorers' tally with 12 goals so far ahead of teammate Nakib, scored the first Mohammedan goal eight minutes into the game when the spy Russian jumped high up in the air to nod home a perfect floater from his skipper Rummon bin Wali Shabbir (1-0).

The winners had to wait until the 14th minute of the second half for their second goal, coming from a spot kick. Mohammedans were awarded the penalty kick when PWD custodian Humayun handled a backpass from teammate Kakon violating FIFA regulation.

The chance almost went wasted if the PWD goalie reacted a wee bit faster. Lucky for Kaiser Hamid and lucky for Mohammedans, the ball safely found its way to the net (2-0).

PWD also made some feeble attempts at the Mohammedan goal but they were too weak to test Syed Hassan Kanan.

After the final whistle, jubilant Mohammedan fans rushed to the ground with team flags, waving, to rejoice.

Arman of Mohammedans and Mustaq of PWD were cautioned with the yellow card.

### TEAMS

MOHAMMEDAN SC: Kanan,

Referee: Nik Ahmed (Malaysia).

In the other Premier Division match, Muktiyoddha Sangsad drew goalless with Arambagh KS in the afternoon.

Arambagh KS — who finished fourth last year — face relegation with 12 points from 17 outings and will play their remaining match against War Club on Sept 22.

Muktiyoddha Sangsad, who bagged 14 points from 17 encounters, will play their last match against Brothers Union, also on the same day.

### ROLL OF HONOUR

Years	Champions
1973	BJIC SC
1974	Abahani KC
1975	Mohammedan SC
1976	Mohammedan SC
1977	Abahani KC
1978	Mohammedan SC
1979	BJMC SC
1980	Mohammedan SC
1981	Abahani KC
1982	Mohammedan SC
1983	Abahani KC
1984	Abahani KC
1985	Abahani KC
1986	Mohammedan SC
1987	Mohammedan SC
1988-89	Mohammedan SC
1989-90	Abahani KC
1991-92	Abahani KC
1992-93	Mohammedan SC

# No luck for Liverpooldians



Liverpool 2-0 in an action-packed derby to climb up the English Premier League table on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Veteran Zimbabwe goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar, making a record 34th Liverpool derby appearance, came to blows with team mate Steve McManaman for slack defending after Ward's 27th-minute opener.

Everton, cast as relegation candidates at the start of the season, are now fourth, only goal difference separating them from third-placed Aston Villa, who won 2-1 at Ipswich with Dean Saunders ending a worrying goal drought.

Both are on 15 points, one behind champions Manchester United and Arsenal, who clash at Old Trafford on Sunday.

Blackburn Rovers, who started the day on 14 points and could have overhauled the leaders with a victory, crashed to a shock 2-0 defeat at home to lowly West Ham, veteran striker Lee Chapman scoring on his debut for his new club.

England striker Teddy Sheringham scored twice in two minutes as Tottenham Hotspur thrashed Oldham Athletic 5-0 after going 3-0 up in the opening seven minutes.

Coventry remain the only unbeaten team in the Premier League after a 1-1 draw at home against Chelsea.

They went behind to a 36th-minute strike by Gavin Peacock, whose goal last Saturday sent Manchester United to their first defeat of the season when Chelsea beat the champions 1-0.

Defender Steve Morgan equalised four minutes after the interval to give Coventry, now on 14 points, their best start to a season for 56 years.

Grobbelaar, who will be 36 next month, charged angrily at Liverpool team mate McManaman after a poor clearance by the winger let Ward in to break the deadlock at Everton.

Grobbelaar was much busier than his opposite number Neville Southall, especially in

the first half when Liverpool hardly managed to mount a dangerous attack as they crashed to their fourth defeat in five games.

Liverpool, who slipped four places to ninth, improved after the break but despite hard work in midfield failed to equalise. Cottee, like Ward a former West Ham player, scored in the 85th minute to make sure of the points for Everton.

Ian Marshall put Ipswich ahead with his fourth goal of the season in the ninth minute but Wales striker Saunders, who had scored only once this season and only three times in Villa's previous 26 matches, equalised 10 minutes later.

Ireland midfielder Andy Townsend bagged the points for Villa when he scored with a 20-metre drive 10 minutes after the break sending Ipswich to their fifth successive defeat.

Chapman, who won a championship medal with Leeds in 1992 and moved on to First Division Portsmouth at the end of last season, made an immediate impact on his return to the Premier League after joining promoted West Ham in mid-week.

He and Trevor Morley, scoring in the 33rd and 71st min-

utes respectively, capitalised on West Ham's only clear chances of a match in which they paraded a sound defence.

Tottenham, making light of the legal wrangles between the club and former chief executive Terry Venables with fine performances under new manager Ossie Ardiles, moved up to fifth on 14 points, ahead of Coventry and Blackburn on goal difference.

Oldham goalkeeper Paul Gerrard made a nightmare start with Steve Sedgley and Sheringham knocking in three goals between them within seven minutes of kick-off.

Scotland's Gordon Durie and new playmaker Jason Dozzell added further goals in the second half as Oldham dropped to third from bottom.

Sheffield Wednesday, tipped as championship contenders before the season started, overtook Oldham with their first victory, 2-0 at home to Southampton with goals from John Sheridan, a penalty, and England striker David Hirst.

Only goal difference keeps Southampton above newcomers Swindon at the foot of the table. Both have three points.



Action from yesterday's Metropolitan kabaddi league match between Jurain Janata Club and Bangladesh Boys at the Outer Stadium court. Jurain Janata recorded a hefty 56-7 victory. — Star photo

## Lankan hopes fizzle in rain

COLOMBO, Sept 19: South Africa won the three-Test series 1-0 after the third Test against Sri Lanka was abandoned as a draw due to rain on the fifth day here Sunday, reports AFP.

No play was possible in the morning session forcing umpires B Aldridge and BC Cooray to call off the match half an hour before the scheduled lunch break.

South Africa were 159 for four overnight in their second innings with vice-captain Hansie Cronje remaining unbeaten on 73.

South Africa clinched the series 1-0 by virtue of their innings win in the second Test. The first Test was drawn.

The three-match one-day series between the two sides was levelled at 1-1 after the first limited over contest ended in a no-result due to rain.

This was South Africa's first overseas series victory since being re-admitted to the world cricket scene in 1991 after a 21-year absence.

## Not a day for the dreamers

LONDON, Sept 19: Northamptonshire and Glamorgan both saw their hopes of finishing runners-up in the English County Championship virtually dashed on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Glamorgan, without England batsman Matthew Maynard because of injury, were dismissed for 144 in reply to Kent's massive 524 for six declared on the third day of their four-day match at Canterbury.

Kent's West Indies Test player Carl Hooper scored a career-best 236 not out.

Kent surprisingly decided not to ask Glamorgan to follow on 380 behind and rattled up 95 for two before making their second declaration.

Glamorgan, set an unlikely 476 for victory, slipped to an unhappy seven for two at the close.

Northamptonshire also face an almost impossible run chase when the championship goes into its final day on Monday.

They were 15-1 at the close after being set a target of 430 by Lancashire at Old Trafford. Lancashire declared at 392 for eight. Gary Yates hit a magnificent unbeaten 134 and John Crawley weighed in with 103.

Middlesex have already sealed the championship and Worcestershire will finish runners-up if Northamptonshire and Glamorgan fail to win their matches.

## Bruguera bashes Boetsch

BORDEAUX, Sept 19: Spaniard Sergi Bruguera marched into his eighth final of the season with a 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 defeat of France's Arnaud Boetsch in the 355,000 dollar ATP tournament here on Saturday, reports AFP.

Although the crowd cheered him on, Boetsch could not unsettle the French Open champion, who meets surprise finalist Diego Nargiso of Italy in Sunday's final.

A break in the ninth game brought Boetsch the first set at 6-4, but world number four Bruguera got stronger mentally and physically to oust the third-ranked Frenchman.

Qualifier Nargiso, world ranked just 137, played giant killer to exit second seed and Olympic champion Marc Rosset of Switzerland 6-3, 6-4.

## HK Open title goes to Wang

HONG KONG, Sept 19: Second seed Wang Shi Ting of Taiwan beat third seed Marianne Werdel of the United States 6-4, 3-6, 7-5 Sunday and won the US \$100,000 women's Digital Hong Kong Open tennis tournament, reports AP.

The 19-year-old Wang, ranked 42nd in the world, collected US \$18,000.

The 49th-ranked Werdel advanced to the final by upsetting top seed Patricia Hy of Canada 7-6 (7-5), 6-1 in the semifinals.

# S Africans aim to be best



COLOMBO, Sept 19: Former Springbok all-rounder Mike Proctor said South Africa's main aim is to be the world's best and the concluding tour has placed them on the right track, reports AP.

The South African coach was more delighted than any one else on his team's success in Sri Lanka after it won the Test series one-nil and shared the one-day series one-all.

"The great asset of this team is they show fantastic character and are always a very competitive side," Proctor told journalists at the conclusion of the 40-day visit.

"Since our return, they've toughened up too quickly and become more solid and look real Test guys. We want to be the world's best. During the next couple of years, who knows, anything can happen. Maybe next year."

West Indies, Australia and Pakistan are the recognised best sides in the world at present, I suppose we are just behind them," said Proctor.

Skipper Kepler Wessels said left arm fast bowler Brett Schultz was among those responsible for the victory.

Schultz finished the tour with 20 wickets (average 16.30) while the more experienced Allan Donald took 12 at 19.33 apiece.

"It was a matter of time before it happened and at the end made the difference between the two teams. I always knew he was our match winner."

Wessels complimented his

batsmen for showing tough character in extremely trying conditions. The highly talented vice-captain Hansie Cronje and Daryll Cullinan shared the batting honours for the visitors, with 237 runs apiece at 59.25 and 47.40.

"Everyone contributed at various stages. The batting

pointment was the fielding, where 14 catches were dropped in the three Tests. "Who knows what would have happened had we taken those catches," observed Wessels.

Sri Lanka off spinner Muttiah Muralidharan with 16 wickets (avg 22.25) posed the only threat to the South Africans in the Test series.

"Although he took wickets, our guys handled him well and scored a lot off him too," said Wessels.

"There were lots of criticism before the tour on our ability against spin bowling. I think the performance here could be contended with."

Sri Lanka skipper Arjuna Ranatunga reasoned his side's downfall to not getting good home wickets.

"We haven't had the home advantage because we didn't get wickets to suit our needs," said Ranatunga.

"Their bowling is very strong. The pace and the movement to add to the variety of having a left arm seamer was too much for us," observed Ranatunga.

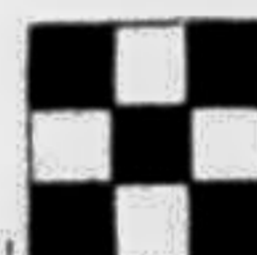
Apart from the skipper (250 runs at 50.00) and vice-captain Aravinda de Silva (235 at 47.00) the rest failed to come to terms against the four-pronged pace attack.

The biggest disappointment for the home side was the failure of the two openers, especially Chandika Hathurusinghe who became Donald's bunny on all five times he batted in the Test series.

The visitors left for South Africa Sunday via Singapore.

Wessels said the only disap-

# Kasparov staves off a scare



LONDON, Sept 19: Champion Garry Kasparov beat the clock and a bold challenge by Nigel Short to force a draw in Saturday's sixth game of their breakaway World Chess Championship, reports AP.

Kasparov leads 4 1/2 to 1 1/2 going into the seventh game on Tuesday.

Both players admitted making mistakes in the game, which opened slowly without either one claiming an advantage.

Kasparov, playing black, said his blunder was on the 20th move, when he played rook to c8 — "the wrong piece on the wrong square," he admitted.

Short took a chance on a pawn sacrifice at the 22nd move and Kasparov accepted the challenge. Grandmaster Viktor Korchnoi, a Soviet defector who twice played for the World Championship, said Kasparov should have declined the sacrifice.

Korchnoi thought that

Kasparov was in a losing position after the 24th move, but then Short blundered on the 26th move. Grandmasters watching the match groaned aloud when he sacrificed a bishop instead of playing the queen.

"I saw the idea of playing Another draw in FIDE World Championship

AMSTERDAM, Sept 19: Dutch Grandmaster Jan Timman and Russian former world champion Anatoly Karpov agreed a draw after 28 moves in the eighth game of the FIDE World Chess Championship on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Karpov keeps his lead in the match, with the score now at 4 1/2 points to 3 1/2. The next game is in Amsterdam on Monday with Timman having the white pieces. The winner in the 24-game match will be the first to reach 12 1/2 points.

The Times newspaper of London and Telok World Holdings, based in Rotterdam, Netherlands, are sponsoring the match, which has a 1.7 million pounds (\$1.25 million) purse.

The players have pledged 10 per cent of the purse to the Professional Chess Association, which they formed in February to rival FIDE, the world chess federation.

Anatoly Karpov leads Jan Timman by 4 1/2 points to 3 1/2 in the FIDE-sanctioned championship in the Netherlands after playing a draw Saturday.

# Cubans in no-go situation



NEW ORLEANS, Sept 19: Cuba will have to forfeit their opening-round volleyball match against Canada in this week's World Championship qualifying tournament because of visa problems that will not allow the Cuban team to arrive until Wednesday, reports AP.

The North American Volleyball Championships will be held at the University of New Orleans' Lakefront Arena.

Six teams will play a "dual" pool series of matches begin-

ning Monday. Semifinals will be played Sept 24 and the finals on Sept 25.

The US State Department on Friday denied an appeal that would have allowed the Cuban team to arrive as scheduled Sunday. Visa requests were not received until Sept 2, and there is a 21-day waiting period for visas to be approved, federal officials said.

Cuba, considered the tournament favourite, was scheduled to play Canada at 8:00 pm Tuesday (0100 GMT Wednesday).

"Our indications are that their visas will be approved on Wednesday and that they will compete in the tournament," said Mike Millay, executive director of the New Orleans Sports Foundation, which is sponsoring the tournament.

"They are not eliminated from the tournament, and hopefully this will not diminish from the value of the tournament."

The tournament, commonly called NORCECA (North America, Central America, Caribbean), is among four zone events from which winners will qualify for next year's World Championships in Greece. The United States, Mexico, Puerto Rico and the Netherlands Antilles are the other teams in the field.

If the Cuban team arrives Wednesday, it will meet the Netherlands Antilles at 6:00 pm (2300 GMT) preceding the United States-Mexico match.

Cuba twice have missed matches this year because of visa problems.

A five-city tour against the American women in February was canceled, and Canada had to sub against the American men for two matches in March before the Cubans arrived.

Also in March, the Cuban team did not appear for the NORCECA junior championships in Puerto Rico.

Reuben Acosta president of FITA, the international governing body for volleyball, has ruled that the Cubans can compete in NORCECA despite missing their opening round match, said NORCECA President Luis Mendoza.

That angered American team manager Jim Coleman.

"Acosta is letting the Cubans show up when they choose.

queen to h7," Short said, but rejected it because he did not see the correct follow-up — rook to d3.

Had he done that, both players agreed, Short might have been poised to win.

Five moves later, with Kasparov down to seven minutes to complete 40 moves, Short forced a draw by a perpetual check.

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