

NSC budget revealed

The National Sports Council (NSC) yesterday approved its revenue budget of Tk 25.31 crore for fiscal 1993-94 with a deficit of Tk 5.22 crore, reports UNB.

State Minister for Sports and Youth and the chairman of NSC Sadek Hossain chaired the budget session held at the NSC building last evening.

The total earning was shown as Tk 20 crore 8 lakh and 91,000. Of this, Tk 8.95 crore (44.55 per cent) will come from government grant while Tk 11.13 crore (55.45 per cent) from NSC's own income and other sources.

Of the government grant, Tk five crore will be spent for training and other related expenses of the 6th SAF Games to be held in Dhaka December 20-27.

Under the Annual Development Programme 1993-94, government has proposed a grant of Tk 34.45 crore for the development programmes of the council.

The budget proposed 8.92 per cent of the total expenditure as administrative and establishment cost while 89.95 per cent as grants to different sports organisations, distribution of sports requisites and maintenance of sports complexes.

Army v'ball

COMILLA, Sept 20: The annual volleyball championship of the Bangladesh Army starts at the Comilla cantonment tomorrow, an ISPR press release said, reports BSS.

Twelve teams will take part in the round robin league meet. Savar Area will take on hosts Comilla Area in the opening match.

Sabatini set to overcome bad patch

TOKYO, Sept 20: In the absence of defending champion Monica Seles, Argentina's Gabriela Sabatini is looking to win her first title in 16 months at the \$75,000-dollar Nishitani women's tennis tournament this week, reports AFP.

Sabatini downed the American-based Yugoslav 7-5, 6-4 to win the Italian Open in May last year, but has failed to grab any titles since.

Sabatini failed to defend all five titles she won last season, while Seles has been out of the game since April 30 when she suffered a stab wound during a tournament in Germany.

However, the second-seeded Argentine has some tough competition to overcome, with top-seeded Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario of Spain awaiting her in the other half of the draw and third-seeded Japanese ace Kimiko Date also a threat.

Local favourite Date, who advanced to the US Open quarter-finals earlier this month, has posted wins over Sabatini in Los Angeles two years ago and Sanchez-Vicario in Tokyo last year.

Sabatini meets Li Fang of China in the first round, then either Marianne Werdel of the United States or a qualifier in the second before a probable quarter-final meeting with eighth-seeded Julie Halard of France.

In the upper-half with Sanchez-Vicario are fourth seed Amanda Coetzer of South Africa, seventh seed Naoko Sawamatsu of Japan and fifth seed Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria, who faces a tough first-round match against hard-hitting American Amy Frazier Tuesday.

Thirty-two of the world's leading players will take part in the singles event on the hard courts at the Ariake Coliseum, vying for the top prize money of 75,000 dollars and 210 points. The runner-up will earn 33,750 dollars and 147 points.

Germany's fourth on a trot

TARRASA, Spain, Sept 20: Martin Elmer scored in the ninth minute to spark Germany to a 6-1 victory Sunday over Pakistan and claim the men's title at field hockey's Junior World Cup, reports AP.

It was Germany's fourth consecutive championship in the tournament, which features players under the age of 21.

On Saturday, Argentina edged Australia 2-1 to win the women's championship.

Elmer gave Germany the lead on a penalty corner. Teammate Ulrich Moissi added another penalty corner in the 29th minute, and Henning Helwing gave Germany a 3-0 lead the 48th minute.

Pakistan's Mohamed Khalid responded with his team's only goal in the 68th, on a penalty stroke.

In men's consolation rounds Sunday, Malaysia defeated Egypt 4-0, South Korea topped Scotland 3-1 and Australia defeated the Netherlands 3-1.

BCCB XI go down fighting

Sports Reporter



Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) XI went down fighting to powerful Tata Eleven by 28 runs in their last tour match at the Brabourne Stadium, Bombay, yesterday, according to a faxed message received at the BCCB office last night.

After having restricted Tata, a star-studded team inclusive of some past, present and probable Test players, for 190 in the allotted 50 overs, the Bangladeshi team was all out for 162 thus falling short of the target by 28 runs.

Tata, which has celebrated names like captain Dilip Vengsarkar, Sanjay Manjrekar, Raju Kulkarni, had an unlikely batting hero in young Paranjpe. The young batsman top scored with 61.

Deghi tipped as future Test prospect was the second major scorer with 39. The classy Sanjay Manjrekar presently out of selectors' favour chipped in with 33. Manoj Juglekar with 21 was the other notable scorer

for Tata.

Saiful Islam, the young Bangladeshi quickie who sent the local hopes soaring by clean bowling former India international Lalchand Rajput, finished with the best bowling figures. Bowling with pace and accuracy he returned to cut short the slogging ambition and finally finished with highly commendable figures of four for 28 off his quota of ten overs.

Jahangir Talukdar Dulu, the left arm pacer bagged two for 45. Bulbul took one for 20 as Tata managed 190 for eight wickets from their stipulated quota.

Jahangir Alam and Athar Ali Khan gave BCCB XI innings a sedate start but with his score on 17 the former fell leg before to Prasad.

However Athar Ali, the tall, upright batsman seemed to have reconciled with his new identity as an opener top scored with 59. Jahangir Talukdar Dulu in his inimitable unorthodox manner got 21 runs as the BCCB XI were all out for 162 in 45 overs.

BCCB XI team is expected return to home shortly to mark an end to the first part of Bangladesh's preparation for the ICC trophy to be held in Kenya in February next.

Selim's treble in East End's goal rush

Sports Reporter

Abu Bakr Selim scored a hat-trick to help East End Club inflict a humiliating 7-0 defeat on Adamjee Sports Club in the Star First Division football league at the Hockey Stadium yesterday.

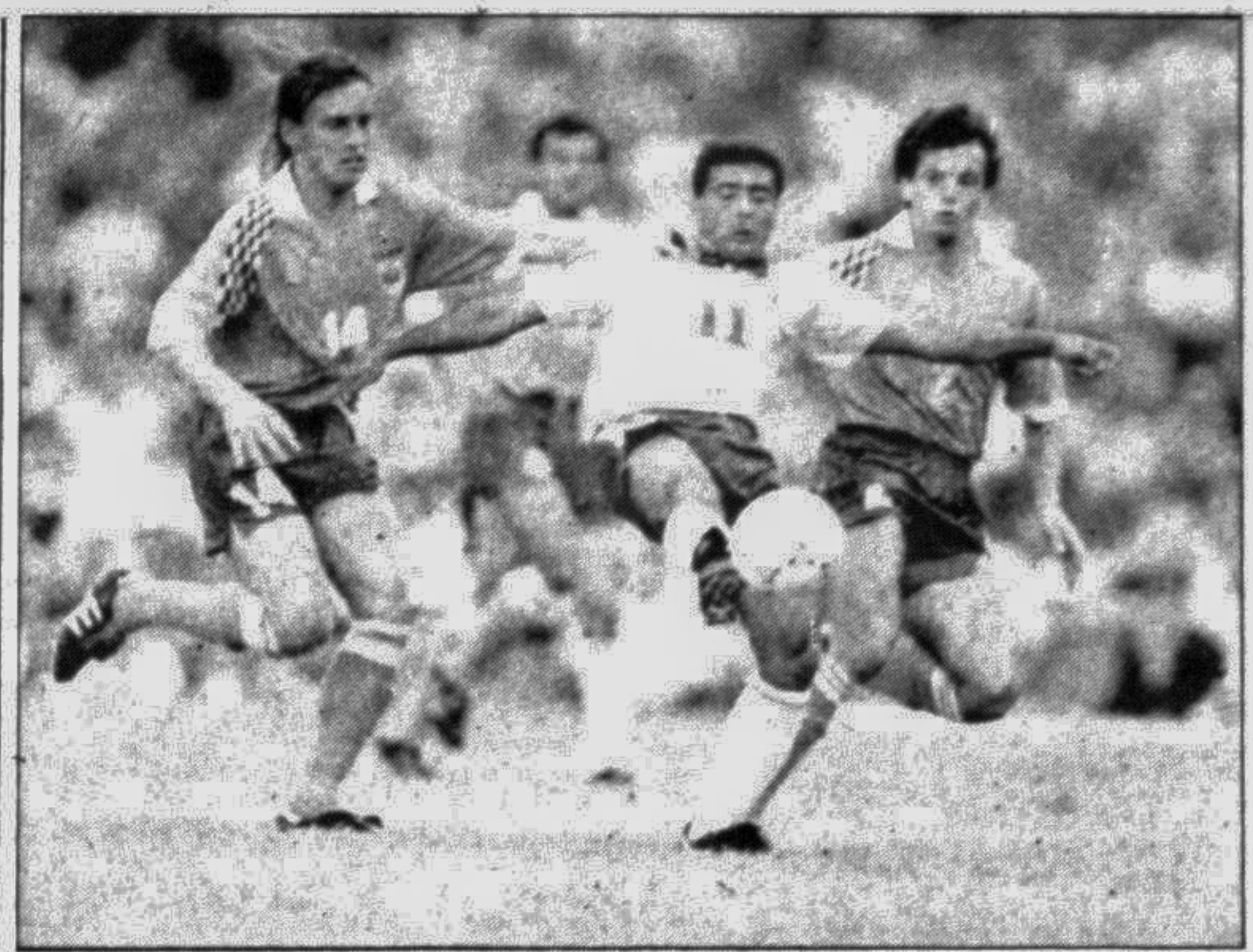
East End's win yesterday was by the biggest margin in the league so far surpassing Dhanmondi's 6-0 triumph in the return leg.

With the victory, East End lined themselves up for one of the two Premier League places next year. They have till now collected 19 points from 16 matches, one point adrift of league leaders Fakirerpool Youngmen's Club.

Apart from Selim, Liton netted twice, Koushik and Mamun Babu struck once each for the winners, who led the first half by four goals to nil.

In the other match of the day at the Dhaka Stadium, Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha drew goalless with Eskaton Sabuj Sangha.

Sadharan Bima have 16 while Eskaton 15 from 16 outings each.



Brazilian Romario tries to work his way through Uruguay's Herrera (L) and Canals during their World Cup qualifying match in Rio de Janeiro on Sunday. Brazil booked their place in the finals with a 2-0 victory. — AFP photo

Reformed, Romario & Brazil



RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept 20: Disgraced Brazilian striker Romario celebrated his release from the doghouse on Sunday by scoring the goals which put Brazil into the 1994 World Cup finals, reports Reuter.

Romario capped a brilliant performance by heading Brazil ahead in the 72nd minute and then sewing up their win with a breakthrough goal eight minutes from time as they beat Uruguay 2-0 in their final South American Group B qualifier.

It was Romario's first game for Brazil after an eight-month absence imposed by trainer Carlos Alberto Parreira for indiscipline.

The result meant Brazil, who topped the group by a point, and Bolivia, whose 1-1 draw away to Ecuador left them one point ahead of Uruguay, qualified for next year's finals in the United States while the Uruguayans' star-studded team were eliminated.

Romario's first goal broke the tension for his team, who played the match under the threat of failing to reach the World Cup finals for the first time.

The Brazilians had become visibly nervous as they hammered away at the Uruguayan goal without reward.

Brazil's qualification was also a huge relief for the World Cup organisers, who can ill afford to be without their flair.

Better still, Brazil gave a performance which proved to their doubters they have not lost their traditional panache.

Romario's first goal came as Brazil were losing their way. His striking partner Bebeto broke free on the right and crossed to the far post where Romario raced into head the ball beyond heroic Uruguayan goalkeeper Robert Siboldi.

That released Brazil from their tension and 11 minutes later Mauro Silva dribbled past three opponents in midfield and sent Romario clear. The diminutive striker rounded Siboldi to score from an acute angle.

At the end of the game the gifted but temperamental striker was mobbed by dozens of radio and television reporters who rushed on to the field for interviews.

The first half had quickly turned into a duel between Siboldi, who made some breath-taking saves, and the Brazil attack led by Romario.

Brazil tortured the Uruguayan defence with some dazzling play in which Romario, ignored since last December when he protested at being left out of the starting line-up for a friendly against Germany, shone.

Romario brought the crowd to their feet twice in the opening minute with two magical touches, in the second, flicking the ball over a bemused Uruguayan defender.

In the ninth minute he was put through by Rai, lobbed the ball over Siboldi but saw his effort rebound off the underside of the crossbar.

Shortly afterwards, he shot wide after flicking the ball through a defender's legs.

Next, in the Romario repertoire was a brilliant dribble which left three defenders sprawling on the ground in the penalty area, but having done the difficult part, he, then, shot wide from six metres.

Uruguay, despite needing a win, packed their defence from the start and came little closer to Taffarel's goal than the helicopters which whirled above the Maracana Stadium.

A Brazil goal seemed on the cards at any moment, but Siboldi had other ideas.

He cut out several dangerous crosses and made an amazing save in the 37th minute to push aside Jorginho's thunderbolt.

Four minutes later he defied the laws of gravity to tip over Bebeto's left-footed half volley.

He denied Ricardo Gomes and Romario twice at the start of the second half and Brazil began to be taken over by their nerves.

The crowd went silent and nervousness was heightened when Brazil goalkeeper Taffarel, under no pressure, nearly lost control of a simple back pass from Ricardo Gomes.

The stadium exploded with relief when Romario struck.

Emotional Brazil trainer Carlos Alberto Parreira said: "It was Parreira who selected Romario and it was God who brought him here."

"We didn't worry about Uruguay, we crushed them, it was a brilliant way to qualify."

Asked if he expected to stay in the job until the World Cup finals next year, he replied: "My job is in the hands of (Brazil Soccer Association President) Ricardo Teixeira. Logic says no, but my heart says yes."

TEAMS

BRAZIL: Taffarel, Jorginho, Ricardo Gomes, Ricardo Rocha, Branco, Dunga, Mauro Silva, Rai, Zinho, Bebeto, Romario.

URUGUAY: Robert Siboldi, Gustavo Mendes, Jose Herrera, Ricardo Canals (Jose Luis Zalazar 64th minute), Fernando Kanapick, Jose Batista, Alvaro Gutierrez, Diego Dorta, Enzo Francescoli (Adrian Paz 64th), Daniel Fonseca, Ruben Sosa.

STANDINGS

The final South American Group B Standings (Tabulate under played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points).

Brazil	8	5	2	1	20	4	12
Bolivia	8	5	1	2	22	11	11
Uruguay	8	4	2	2	10	7	10
Ecuador	8	1	3	4	7	2	5
Venezuela	8	1	0	7	4	34	2

Brazil and Bolivia qualify for finals.

Richards' wish fulfillment



LONDON, Sept 20: Viv Richards bowed out of big time cricket on Sunday in just the way he wanted — helping Glamorgan clinch the English league title, reports Reuter.

The former West Indies captain, poised to end his marvellous career, hit 46 not out in the title deciding finale against Kent at Canterbury.

Glamorgan's six-wicket victory was their first trophy success for 24 years.

Richards, 41, did a jig of delight in front of the 12,000 crowd after running off, bat waving above his head in triumph.

Glamorgan scented victory once Kent had been held to 200 for nine from their 50 overs,

Richards' ex-teammate Carl Hooper making the top score of 60.

Captain Hugh Morris gave Glamorgan the start they wanted with 67, but it was Richards and Tony Cottee who clinched the match with an unbroken fifth-wicket stand of 60 in 10 overs.

"I wanted to say thanks to them (teammates), and to the Almighty, out in the middle," said Richards. "But I think I would have got killed in the rush of fans."

"When I looked up at my teammates, I knew how much it meant to them because when I was at Somerset, we always used to look upon Glamorgan as an easy game. But this team now is one to be reckoned with."

Richards, at Somerset for 13 seasons before his controversial

sacking in 1986, added: "Glamorgan has proved to be a special place for me. When I came here I was supposed to have been past it."

"I was supposed not to be a teamman — that's why Somerset did what they did."

"But Glamorgan revived my career and I have given them back the trust they gave me."

"I'm not sad to be coming to the end of my career, how could I be when I have gone out with something like this?"

"The most important thing is that whenever I return to Wales, there will be a place for me to go to."

"I have had very happy three seasons at Glamorgan, and when I joined the club, I said we would win something. Now we have accomplished that."

TODAY'S MATCHES

BRITC v B Boys (HS)
Farashganj v Dhanmondi (HS)
Rahmatganj v Victoria (DS)

Israel join UEFA family

GENEVA, Sept 20: European soccer's ruling body, UEFA, made Israel a provisional member on Sunday, reports AP.

The decision by UEFA's executive committee at a meeting in Limassol, Cyprus, must be approved by a congress of all UEFA members. This is considered a formality.

Israel entered its first clubs in the European Cup already last season.

UEFA has 45-member federations, Azerbaijan and Moldavia as associate members and Israel as provisional member.

In another matter, the preliminary round draw for soccer's 1996 European championship was set for next Jan 22 in Manchester, England, UEFA said in a statement sent to the Associated Press in Geneva.

England will host the 1996 tournament.

India, deadly underdogs



CHANDIGARH, India, Sept 20: Ramanathan Krishnan, who should know about these things, was surprised that India reached the Davis Cup semifinals, reports AP.

Now he believes the upsets may continue when India face Australia this weekend.

"We expected only to qualify for the World Group. Beyond that, every victory was a surprise for me and many others," he told reporters.

Krishnan is the only Indian to reach a Grand Slam semifinal when he played at Wimbledon in 1960 and 1961. He is now a professional coach at a tennis academy and the father of Davis Cup team leader Ramesh Krishnan.

"The odds against India are overwhelming."

It has only two players with broad international experience: Krishnan, who is 32, an Leander Paes, 20. Both are ranked near the 200 mark in world standings.

The Australian team includes US Open semifinalist Wally Masur, ranked 16, and the second ranking doubles partnership on the professional tour, Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde. The fourth on the squad is Jason Stoltenberg, ranked 44.

"Of course we are the favorites," said Australian non-playing captain Neale Fraser after a 2 1/2-hour workout Monday. "Everything — talent, depth, fitness and form and also playing conditions — are going our way," he was quoted as saying by Press Trust of India news agency.

But Coach Krishnan says the Australians' successes may work against them.

"When a player is highly ranked, the pressure on him would be tremendous," he said. During India's 3-2 quarter-final upset over France, he said, the French players were so nervous that "I could see on the TV that their rackets were shaking."

India has the advantage of the choice of surface — grass — and more important, a local home crowd.

Earlier this week, Fraser complained that the venue was unfitting for a major Davis Cup tie because Chandigarh is not a major city and has no international airport, as required by the International Tennis Federation.

Chandigarh, the shared capital of two Indian states, has a population of less than 600,000 and does not rank among the 25 largest Indian cities. It is more known for a

10-year-old militant movement by Sikh separatists than for its sporting facilities.

Indian officials said, however, that Chandigarh is close enough to New Delhi airport — 250 kilometres (150 miles) and has good road and rail connections.

Trotter puts his crown on line

BRISBANE, Australia, Sept 20: Craig Trotter will put the biggest payday of his boxing career at risk when he defends his Australian middleweight title against Ernie Artango at Brisbane's Festival Hall on Wednesday night, reports AP.

Trotter has signed a lucrative contract to defend his World Boxing Federation junior middleweight title against Zaire-born Belgian-based Patrick Vungbo in Belgium on Nov 1.

That bout could fall through, however, if Trotter were to lose against professional rookie Artango.

"It is a risk, but a risk worth taking," said Ray Trotter, father and manager of the fighter.

"Craig can only get back to his peak by spending time in the ring."

Trotter, 27, has not fought for seven months and has undergone two operations to correct a double-vision problem caused by a depressed fracture of the cheekbone.

He has a 22-8 record, while challenger Artango, a six-time Australian amateur champion, has a professional record of 2-1.

Tiriac tries to get it back

BONN, Sept 20: Boris Becker's ex-manager Ion Tiriac plans a court battle to retrieve 9.4 million dollars in lost earnings after losing his job, a press report said Sunday, according to AFP.

Welt am Sonntag said Tiriac wanted 15 million marks (9.4 million dollars) from commission on advertising deals worth 50 million marks.

Quoting legal sources in America, the weekly paper said the Romanian businessman was claiming breach of contract.

Tiriac has been Becker's manager since before the German became a world tennis star as a teenager. Their contract was extended for five years in 1991 with Tiriac earning 30 per cent of Becker's advertising revenue and 10 per cent of his tennis winnings, the report said.

Becker announced on July 21 that Tiriac was no longer his manager. The Romanian refused to accept the decision even though Becker's lawyer claimed the new contract was not valid.

Rummon downs Faisal

Rummon overwhelmed Faisal 6-1, 6-2 in the second leg of the SAF Games tennis training tournament at the National Tennis Complex yesterday, reports BSS.

In an earlier match, Faisal also lost to Hira Lal 1-6, 2-6.

Jhelan was declared winner against Roni, who fell sick in the second set when the score was 4-4. Roni won the first set 6-4.

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Bolivian dream comes true



GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador, Sept 20: Bolivia celebrated the greatest day in their soccer history when they reached the 1994 World Cup finals with a 1-1 draw away to Ecuador in their final qualifier on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The Bolivians have never previously reached the finals through a qualifying tournament, having taken part in the inaugural 1930 World Cup in Uruguay by invitation and reached the 1950 finals in Brazil by walk-over without playing a match.

They needed at least a draw to be sure of their place, although they would have gone through even in defeat provided Uruguay lost to Brazil in Rio de Janeiro.

Brazil duly won South American Group B with a 2-0 victory over the Uruguayans.

Striker William Ramallo put the Bolivians ahead on the stroke of half time and Ecuador, already out of contention, did not manage an equaliser until four minutes from time through centre-back Raul Noriega.

Ecuador took the game to Bolivia, who concentrated on defence in the early stages knowing a point would secure their place in the finals.

In a rare Bolivian counter-attack just before the interval, Ramallo broke away to beat Ecuador's keeper Jacinto Espinoza in first-half injury time.

The home side fought for an equaliser throughout the second half, finally piercing the sound Bolivia defence in the 86th minute when Noriega

stabbed the ball home in a goalmouth melee following a corner.

Bolivia's goalkeeper Carlos Trucco dealt confidently with Ecuador's attacks orchestrated by midfielder Alex Aguinaga as his team paced their game in the intense Guayaquil heat.

TEAMS
ECUADOR: Jacinto Espinoza, Dannes Coronel, Raul Noriega, Ivan Hurtado, Luis Capurro, Angel Fernandez, Kleber Chala (Nixon Carcelen 54th minute), Maximo Tenorio, Alex Aguinaga, Raul Aviles, Carlos Munoz (Jose Gavica 43rd).

BOLIVIA: Carlos Trucco, Modesto Soruco (Miguel Pinedo 78th), Marco Sandy, Gustavo Quinteros, Luis Cristaldo, Sergio Rivero, Carlos Borja, Milton Melgar, Julio Cesar Baldmeso, Erwin Sanchez, William Ramallo (Marco Etcheverry 58th).

Bolivians blaze in kermess



LA PAZ, Bolivia, Sept 20: Hundreds of thousands of Bolivians took to the streets Sunday evening to celebrate Bolivia's first World Cup berth since 1950, earned earlier in the day with a 1-1 draw with Ecuador in Guayaquil, reports AP.

Firecrackers and dynamite caps exploded throughout La Paz as Bolivians of all ages celebrated what was thought impossible two months ago when the qualifying began.

Fans waving flags and banners honked horns and shouted "long live Bolivia."

The main street in the capital of La Paz was closed to traffic and celebrations that were expected to continue through the night began throughout the impoverished nation of 6.3 million. Television and radio stations suspended their normal

programming and switched to coverage of Bolivia's qualification.

Thousands of fans are expected to greet the Bolivian national team when it returns to Bolivia Sunday night from Guayaquil.

"This marks the resurgence of a country that sees its future with optimism," said President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada.

He said Bolivia won based on hard organized work under the command of the Spanish trainer Xabier Azkargorta. He has become an overnight hero for preparing the Bolivian team.

"The entire country vibrated with these young men who gave Bolivia such good news," said Guillermo Bedregal, president of the House of Deputies.

For Bolivia, once considered the most politically unstable and poorest in Latin America, Sunday marked a historic day. Bolivia is now one of the strongest democracies on the

continent and has a growing economy.

"We are proud of being Bolivian," said Edgar Miranda, a soccer fan.

Bolivia needed only a draw to qualify.

When the qualifying matches for Group B began two months ago, Bolivia were not considered a likely candidate for the World Cup. But after five straight victories, including a 2-0 victory against Brazil, Bolivia were considered invincible and sure to win a berth at the finals.

But a humiliating 6-0 defeat against Brazil and a 2-1 loss to Uruguay but their once seemingly assured berth in jeopardy. Despite the draw, Bolivia would have qualified anyway because Brazil beat Uruguay 2-0 in Rio de Janeiro later Sunday.

But Bolivia wanted to earn the berth themselves and silence critics who claimed it was not as good as their early record indicated.



German defender Ulrich Moissi and goalie Christopher Reitz try to stop Pakistani forward Mohammad Shahbaz during the final of the world junior hockey championship in Barcelona on September 19. Germany won 3-1. — AFP photo