### Nat'l age-group swimming begins

**Sports Reporter** 

The first women's age-group competition organised by the Bangladesh Women Sports Federation, gets underway at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex swimming pool today. State Minister for Women

Affairs Begum Sarwari Rahman will inaugurate the meet at four

Thirteen teams from all over the country are taking part in the four-day competition.

The teams are: Bangladesh Ansars. BTMC. Dolphin Swi mming Club, Bandarban, Meherpur, Brahmanbaria, Jessore, Satkhira, Comilla, Rajbari Kishoreganj, Munshiganj and Tangail DSAs.

At a press conference convened at the National Sports Council conference room yesterday, the federation president Tahmina Khan Dolly revealed that the budget of the meet has been earmarked at Tk 1,20,000.

BWSA general secretary Nazma Shamim, vice-president Lutfunnessa Hug Bakul and Roushan Akhtar Chhabi also spoke on the oceasion.

### Women's h'ball on

**Sports Reporter** 

Rashida and Munmun scored five goals each to lead Viguarunnisa Noon School and College to a thumping 15-5 win over Holy Cross in the inaugural match of the Delta Life first inter-college and hall handball competition.

Lipi with two goals also played her part well for the

Kazi Farhana netted two goals while Sultana scored once for the losers.

Earlier, Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar inaugurated the meet as chief guest while Safat Ahmed Chaudhury, Managing Director of the Delta Life Insurance Company, was also present in the opening ceremony as a special

#### Tennis trio to take part in int'l junior competition

A three-member Bangladesh tennis team, comprising Faisal Syed Huq, Syed Moinuddin Waliullah Jhelan and Nawaz Amin Rummon, will participate in three international junior tennis tournaments, to be held in Indonesia, Japan and Hong Kong this month, reports BSS.

The players, who are in the Bangladesh SAF Games tennis team, leave Dhaka today for Jakarta to take part in the Mercu Buana international junior tennis tournament, scheduled for October 11 to 17.

The team from Jakarta, will fly to Tokyo to participate in the Coca-Cola super junior tennis championships, to be held from October 19-24.

Then the team will take part in the East Asian junior tennis championships to be held in Hong Kong from October 25 to

Before returning home, the players will join Bangladesh men's tennis team in Bangkok to participate in the first and second legs of the Gold Leaf ITF Thailand-Bangladesh satellite circuit in the first and second weeks of November.

#### T T trainers' course concludes

The Olympic solidarity course for table tennis coaches. organised by Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) in cooperation with the International Olympic Committee, concluded here at Dhaka yesterday. reports UNB.

BOA vice-president Capt (Retd) Siddique Ahmed gave away certificates among the participants as chief guest at the closing ceremony.

Secretary general of the BOA Bashir Ahmed and president of the Table Tennis Federation Syed Yousuf Hossain were also

Country's 25 leading table tennis coaches participated in the two-week long course was conducted by British table tennis coach Tony Teff.

## Cox's Bazar

soccer

From Our Correspondent COX'S BAZAR, Oct 7: Tarun Muslim Club won the lone match of the Cox's Bazar football league '93 by default as the opponents Rashid Ahmed Club failed to show up at the local stadium here today.

Ramu Brothers Union will be up against Dulahazara Krira Sangsad tomorrow.

### Yoga Foundation meditation today

Yoga Foundation arranges a monthly joint mediation of quantum graduates today at 7:00 pm at the Shams Hall of the Jatiya Scout Bhaban at Kakrail, reports BSS.

Yoga guru Mahajatak Shahid Elbukhari will conduct the programme.

# BCCB XI's stumbling start

Sports Reporter

tically bogged Jahangir left for 20 made of 50 balls. Shipon, the young Udity batsman who only this year moved to the relative prominence associated with Mohammedan Sporting Club, was slow for obvious reasons. Nonetheless he managed a commendable 20 grafted off 55

The Bangladesh

Cricket Control

Board (BCCB) XI

started their se-

cond prep trip to

India with a de-

pressing five-wicket defeat

against ACA President's Eleven

at Visha-kapatnam yesterday.

according to a faxed message

received here in Dhaka last

The Bangladeshi selection

comprising national stars as

well as some upcoming players

could muster an inadequate

164 for five wickets from their

quota of 45 overs and the ACA

President's Eleven overhauled

the score for the loss of five

wickets with seven balls to

Out there in India for the

second time in recent times as a

part of Bangladesh's prepara-

tion for the ICC trophy to be

held in Kenya early next year,

the BCCB XI with some minor

nation batted first as the ACA

captain sent them after winning

Shipon put on 50 for the first

wicket before an uncharacteris-

Jahangir Alam and debutant

the toss.

changes in the former combi-

The tall Athar Ali, who came at number three, gave a rather poor account of his experience as the vice captain of the BCCB team aggravated the unpromising state of affairs for the visitors with a painfully slow 15.

Too many overs were gone for Akram Khan to rev up the slow run rate as Faruque Ahmed, clearly short of confidence, took his time to settle down and with former captain Minhazul Abedin Nannu not around, the burly right hander was left with the onus of giving it a charge. Akram did give it a go making 37 not out of 30 odd

Enamul Huq Mont and Aminul Islam Bulbul were the other notable scorers with 18 and 14 runs respectively. Saradhi, Raju, Kumar and Krishan took one wicket each

among the bowlers. BCCB bowlers raised hopes of a close finish when skipper Golam Nowsher Prince removed ACA opener Vinod Kumar for there with just five runs on the

While Amit Pathak, the other opener, held one end up Saradhi played some attacking strokes to ease the pressure off for his would be successors at the crease. He left for 21 with the total on 33.

BCCB bowlers, let down by some substandard fielding. failed to win back the lost initiative and ACA President's Eleven made 165 for five to register a five-wicket win. Amit Kumar top scored with

54 before falling to Moni.

Kumar with an unbeaten 42

and Brahman with 22 not out were the other notable scorers. Enamul Hug Moni, the leftarm spinner was the most successful BCCB bowler with figures of two for 30. Bulbul, newcomer Rahul and Prince

claimed one wicket each. BCCB play their second match with another ACA selection today.



Action from the inaugural match of the Delta Life first inter college-hostel handball championship between Viquarunnisa Noon School and Holy Cross at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex yesterday.

— Star photo

# AC Milan, Parma ensconced



MILAN, Oct 7: League leaders AC Milan and runners up Parma scored convincing vi-

ctories in secondround first-leg matches of the Italian Cup Wednesday night,

reports AP.

Other leading first-division teams such as Juventus of Turin, Napoli and Sampdoria of Genoa were held to draws by Second-Division opponents while Lazio of Rome suffered a 0-2 upset at home against underdog Avellino.

Panamanian centre forward Dely Valdes scored Cagliari's only goal in an unimpressive 1-1 draw against Cesena while Italian striker Andrea Silenzi led Torino to a 3-1 victory on the

road against Ascoli. AC Milan, playing at home before a crowd of only 5,500. trounced Vicenza 3-0 with goals of defender Angelo Carbone, Romanian forward Florin Raducioiu and midfielder Stefano

franco Zola scored second-half goals in Parma's 2-0 victory against Palermo.

Juventus players were jeered by a home crowd following a surprising 1-1 draw against

### So Maradona-like

BUENOS AIRES, Oct 7: Diego Maradona, if picked, will fly out to Australia for Argentina's World Cup play-off a day after the rest of the squad, reports AFP.

The Argentine Football Association said the team would leave on October 18 but Maradona would fly out the following day if picked by coach Alfio Basile.

Maradona, who has not played for four months since being sacked by his Spanish Club Sevilla, makes his comeback for Newell's Old Boys in a friendly against Ecuador side Emelec later on Thursday. He would have played two league matches before flying to Sydney

second-rate Venezia. Roberto Baggio put the home

team in front in the 36th minute, on a penalty kick. Another penalty, eight minutes later, gave the Venetian

team the equaliser. Argentine striker Gabriel Batistuta scored two goals in

Fiorentina's clearcut 3-0 victory

against Reggiana. Napoli and Sampdoria played to goalless draws against

Ancona and Pisa. Roberto Mancini, who teamed with Ruud Gullit and

David Platt, failed to convert a first-half penalty kick for La Samp. Lino Bertuccelli scored both goals for Avellino against Lazio. who missed injured stars

Giuseppe Signori, Paul Gasc-

oigne, Thomas Doll and Diego Fuser. The match between Lucchese and Internazionale of

Milan was rained out. Roma take on Padova on Thursday.

scheduled on Oct. 27.

# Yekini, Sawu at the core of it



babwe's Agent Sawu take centre

stage again this weekend as Africa's World Cup qualifying Reuter.

seven qualifiers and helped to put his country just one point away from a first appearance in the finals.

second-round Group A match away to Algeria on Friday to book their place ahead of African champions Ivory Coast.

Nigeria's Dutchborn coach Clemens Westerhoff says he expects another goal from Yekini, who turns 30 later this month.

or two in every match and we expect another one on Friday," Westerhoff said in an interview from the team's hotel in Arnhem, Netherlands. "We want him to score it

early and then we are going to close the gate," added the coach, who has selected 15 European-based professionals

in 10 World Cup qualifiers for Zimbabwe, will have a tougher task adding to his tally in the Group C decider against

Cameroon in Yaounde on

cently had a trial at English Premier League club Liverpool. needs to inspire the unfancied southern Africans to an away win to deny Cameroon, quarterfinalists in Italy in 1990, a third appearance in the finals.

Sawu will take some comfort from the suspension of tough Cameroon defender victory Ndip-Akem, sent off against

#### Div I b'ball assoc formed

First Division basketball clubs have formed an association with a view to developing standard of the game and raise its popularity, reports UNB.

The newly-formed Basketball Club Association announced a 12-member executive committee with Mohammad Zahir Uddin as president and Gazi Shahinul Huq as general secretary, a press release issued yesterday

Other officials are vice-presidents Abdul Hafiz and Asif Jafar, finance and office secretary Mizanur Rahman, and publicity secretary Abu Mushtaq Ahmed Tanvir.

The members are Abu Mohammad Touhidul Huq Mitul; Iqbal Hossain Emi, Lutfur Rahman, Anis Ahmed Babu, Reazuddin Ahmed and Kazi Mohammad Abdullah.

Guinea in July.

against injury-plagued Zimbabwe, who were without Peter Ndlovu and captain Ephraim Chawanda in their 1-0 win over Guinea in Harare two weeks

Cameroon have not lost a World Cup qualifier at home since a 2-1 defeat by Congo in 1976 and beat Zimbabwe 2-0 in their last match in Yaounde in the qualifiers for the 1982 finals in Spain.

That match marked the debut of Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar, back in goal for Zimbabwe 13 years later.

In Sunday's other decider, Zambia need only draw away to Morocco in Casablanca in Group B to go through.

built squad have lost only once since 18 players were killed in an air crash in April, are expected to retain the team that beat Senegal 4-0 in Lusaka last month. Morocco, who have spent 10

days training in France ahead of the match, will be playing their first competitive game under new coach Abdellah Blinda, knowing they have beaten Zambia in three previous World Cup qualifiers at home.

World Cup appearance, having previously played in the 1970 and 1986 tournaments in Mexico.

#### One to go to Germany

**Sports Reporter** 

One Bangladeshi junior foot baller will be sent to Portas Football School, a famous football academy in Germany.

This was revealed yesterday during a reception accorded to Holgar Obermann by the German Embassy at a local ho-Obermann, the founder of the Portas school, is here in

Dhaka in connection with a coaching programme of promising local footballers of under-14 age group. The pick of the lot will go to Portas with the financial assis-

tance from German govern-

Out here on his third visit to Bangladesh Obermann, a specialist trainer for goalkeepers has two reputed German footballers of the seventies - Uwe Sielen and Wolfgang Overath with him in running Portas which has over thousand young

trainees registered now. Pretty switched on about the general standard of football in this part of the world. Obermann, who has so far imparted coaching in 20 countries, praised the local footballers. He stressed on the importance of stirring up the latest talent of the local players with better training facilities and regular exposure.

In a passing remark to the preparation of the Bangladesh national team for the forthcoming SAF Games scheduled to be held in Dhaka from December 20 to 27, the German coach observed Bangladesh will be hard to beat in the competition among the seven south Asian countries.

Gabriela Bennemann, the second secretary to the German ambassador, presented some soccer paraphernalia worth 6,000 US dollars to the Bangladesh Football Federation general secretary Sheikh Akmal

#### Watkinson takes Lancashire reins

LONDON, Oct 7: Mike Watkinson was named as the new Lancashire cricket captain on Wednesday, replacing England batsman Neil Fairbrother who quit as skipper because it was affecting his game, reports Reuter.

Fairbrother, who took over from David Hughes two seasons ago, told Lancashire chairman Bob Bennett in a letter he no longer wanted the role.

"Regretfully, there is a distinct possibility that my own form may have been temporarily affected by the responsibilities of the captaincy and I am determined to regain the level of performances which I have enjoyed in the past," the letter

## SAF raffles committee meets

The SAF Games raffles committee will hold a meeting with the managing directors of the public and private banks at the conference room of the National Sports Council here on October 9 at 11:00 am, reports

Chairman of the committee Nazrul Islam, who is also secretary of the implementation. monitoring, evaluation division, will preside over the meeting which will discuss the selling procedure of the tickets for raffle draws for the sixth SAF Games.

# Blend of age

Paul McNamee announced Thursday, reports AP.

Open.

The Hopman Cup, which starts on Dec. 31, is one of a number of lead-up events for the first Grand Slam tournament, of the year.

Michael Stich and Steffi Graf won the event for Germany this year but have not yet confirmed their entry for the December

### Lewis goes to hospital

HOUSTON, Texas, Oct 7: US sprinter Carl Lewis had surgery

Lewis' left vocal cord. Lewis, winner of eight

Michael Jordan answers reporters queries during a press conference in Deerfield, Illinois on October 6. The Chicago Bulls star announced his retirement saying, he "had reached the pinnacle of his career and had nothing else to prove."



Gabriela Bennemann, second secretary to the German Ambassador, handed some sports goods over to the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) general secretary, Sheikh Akmal Hossain, at - Star photo

horror start Thursday to blast his way into the quarter-finals of the dirs 875,000 Australian indoor ten-

Ivanisevic downed American qualifier Steve Bryan 0-6, 6-1. 6-4, hammering down 18 aces one of them timed at 200 kph (125 mph).

tion, South African Wayne Ferreira beat American Todd Martin 7-5, 7-6 (9-7) and Peruvian Davis Cup veteran Jaime Yzaga surprised eighth seeded Australian veteran Wally Masur 6-1, 6-4. Bryan, a 23-year-old from

in the first set, but could not maintain it. "He played unbelievable in the first set," said the moody Ivanisevic, who was cheered on by a large contingent from

Katy, Texas, ranked 132nd in

the world, was in superb form

Ivanisevic began to mix up his play in the second set, concentrated better and eventually overpowered Bryan, whose

Sydney's big Croatian commu-

backhand was deadly early. "I knew I had to change line and found Yzaga too consistent. "I took advantage of him

staying at the back and moved the ball around with a bit of peace," said the 58th-ranked Yzaga clinched a quarter-final meeting with top-seeded Jim Courier of the United Sta-

tes, who was inactive Thursday.

tunities to play top players, so it

"I don't get that many oppor-

will be a good challenge," said Ferreira, at 22 the highestranked player in the bottom quarter of the draw, struggled past Martin in a morning battle

between two power-servers. Ferreira served six aces and won 76 percent of his first serve

Martin, who beat Ivan Lendl in the first round, had three set points in the 10th game of the second set when Ferreira found himself 0-40 down before rally-

The South African eventually won the match on his sixth match point after squandering a 6-2 lead in the tiebreaker.

in a lot of first serves was the key for me today," said Ferreira, who also returned effectively Ferreira said a recent short break had left him in good

"I'm mentally fresher," he said. "I feel fitter and stronger than at this time last year."

Ferreira faces either American Jonathan Canter or Australian Netl Borwick, conqueror of two-time champion Boris Becker, in Friday's quarters. The tournament field includes five of the top 10 ranked

on Wednesday joined No. 5 seed Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands and No. 7 seed Lendl among the early casual-The winner of the tournament will collect dirs 146,000

and the runner-up dirs 81,000.

The event continues through

he said, "The desire was not

opens on Thursday.

The Bulls training camp

It was not the pressure of

constant media attention or the

murder of his father last July in

North Carolina that prompted

Speaking emotionally of his

his decision, Jordan said.

Sunday.

there."

players in the world, but Becker

# It's time to move on: Jordan

CHICAGO, Oct 7: Michael Jordan retired from basketball on Wednesday saying he had lost the heart and desire to continue as one of the game's greatest players, but refusing to say he would never put on a Chicago Bulls uniform again.

reports Reuter. T've reached the pinnacle of my career," Jordan told a news conference, "I just feel I don't have anything else for myself to

for another team other than the one he led to three World Championships, but refused to close the door completely on his career with the Bulls.

"I'm not making this an issue," he said in response to questions. If in five years his desire returns and the Bulls want him back, "That's an op-

tion I would never close on,"

Jordan said . But he made it clear that for

now, his decision is final. "I'm still in love with the game. But at some point in time, everyone has to make a decision to move forward away

from games," he said. Tve just been fortunate that I can make that choice now instead of when you guys push me out saying I'm old and it's

time for me to move on." His hefty commercial en-He said he would never play dorsement contracts which made him more off the court than did his 25 million dollars eight-year Bulls pact, Jordan said, remain in effect and he

has no desire to find a job. "I never had a job and I don't want one," he said. He said he waited until the

new season was approaching to

make a final decision "to see if

my heart would change." but,

CHICAGO

BULLS

father - who Jordan had always called his "best friend" the 30-year old star and twotime.Olympic gold medalist said that loss taught him that "It can be taken away from you at any

"What it made me realise is how short life is." he said. But he had been considering retirement even before his father's death, he said. His father, Jordan added, got

to see the last game he played.

But he made it clear he

planned to do nothing more in the near term than play pickup games with his children and family. "I'm here to say goodbye to the game," Jordan said, so his

teammates can get on with their He also said the money the Bulls were paying him - modest by some more recent contracts in the league - was not

an issue. His commercial endorsement contracts, he said, remain in effect whether he plays or not. While a shock, Jordan's an-

nouncement was not entirely unexpected. Before his last championship season began, Jordan appeared to have lost some enthusiasm for the game that was his life, yet he went on to lead the Bulls to a third consecutive world ti-

Jordan's career almost ended before it began. He was cut from his high school basketball team, but went on to lead the University of North Carolina to an NCAA champi-

onship. Beyond his often one-man show with the Bulls, Jordan also won two Olympic gold medals and earned millions off the court in commercial endorsements.

#### 'Magic' saw it coming

GENEVA, Oct 7: Earvin "Magic" Johnson said he was not surprised by the news that fellow basketball star Michael Jordan was retiring from the game, reports Reuter.

But, although he backed the decision by the 30-year-old Chicago Bulls player, he said Jordan could well return after a year to two off to show that he was "still the king."

- AFP photo

#### Second-leg matches are for the October 31 match. Alessandro Melli and Gian-



JOHANNESBURG. Oct 7: Top scorers Rachidi Yekini of Nigeria and Zim-

rounds reach a climax with three teams winning berths at the 1994 US finals, reports The burly Yekini has scored half of Nigeria's 16 goals in

Nigeria need a draw in the

"He is always good for a goal

for the match. Sawu, scorer of seven goals

Sunday. The 21-year-old, who re-

But the odds are stacked

The Zambians, whose newly-

Victory for the North Africans will ensure their third

### Watkinson, 31, made his county debut in 1982.

bank MDs

and youth PERTH, Oct 7: Veteran John McEnroe will partner teen ace Jennifer Capriati on the US team to compete in the Hopman Cup team tennis championships, tournament director

McNamee said McEnroe had not yet decided whether to compete in the Australian

The tournament has a format of men's singles, women's singles and mixed doubles.

# event.

to remove a module from one of his vocal cords here Wednesday and was recovering well, USA Track and Field spokesman Pete Cava said, reports AFP. Cava said surgeon Bradford Patt removed the module from

Olympic gold medals in his career, is under doctors orders not to talk for a week. After that he will being therapy to regain his voice, Cava said.

