



Monira Rahman of BTMC set two new records on the second day of the first open age-group swimming championship at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex pool yesterday. — Star photo by Amran Hossain

Rokanpur lift Shah Sports Cup

Sports Reporter
Rokanpur Youth Club came back from behind to beat EK Jhank Paira 2-1 in the final of the Shah Sports Cup juvenile soccer tournament at the Outer Stadium ground adjacent to the Rajuk yesterday.

Anwar, the highest scorer of the 24-team meet gave Paira an early lead with a snap goal. But Shaju and Masud scored once each to help Rokanpur win the match by the odd goal in the three.

State Minister for Education Yunus Khan gave away the prizes as the chief guest.

Rokeya Hall, Eden College win

Rokeya Hall of Dhaka University and Eden Girls' College won their respective matches in the Green Delta inter-college and hall women's handball tournament yesterday, reports UNB.

In the day's first match, Eden Girls' College beat Ispahani Women's College 4-3 in a keenly-contested match at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex.

The match was locked at 3-3 in the first half.

Shipu netted twice for the winners while Lubna scored two goals and Wasia was on target once for the losers.

In the other match, Rokeya Hall outplayed Anwar Begum Women's College 6-2 with a 5-1 lead in the first half.

Rozina found the net thrice and Nitun netted two goals for the winners while Shila and Lipi scored once each for the losers.

Uddipan beat Madhabpasha

From Staff Correspondent
BARISAL, Oct 9: Uddipan Club recorded a 4-0 victory over Madhabpasha Eleven in the Ina Overseas First Division football league at the local stadium here today.

Jewel, Tauhid and Shamin scored once each for Uddipan while the namesake of the last one added another.

Saptabarna Sporting Club will take on Touch Video Club tomorrow.

Cox's Bazar soccer

From Our Correspondent
COX'S BAZAR, Oct 9: Tarun Muslim Club defeated Olympic Sporting Club 2-1 in the Cox's Bazar football league '93 at the local stadium here today.

Shankar Pal and Jyotirmay Barua netted once each for the winners while Shahi of Olympic pulled once back.

Friends Union Club will play Mohammedan Sporting Club tomorrow.

Victoria beat BNR

Dhaka Victoria Sporting Club defeated BNR team by a lone goal in the Sikkim Governor's Gold Cup football tournament held in Gangtok, capital of Sikkim Saturday, reports UNB.

Muistaque scored the match winner for Victoria SC, according to message received here yesterday evening.

Victoria SC will be up against Indian giants Calcutta Mohanbagan Club on Tuesday.

Army boxing begins

GHATILE, Oct 9: The annual boxing championship of the Bangladesh Army starts at the Ghatile Cantonment at Tangail tomorrow, reports BSS.

Six bouts of the meet will be finalised on the opening day. About hundred and twenty boxer from ten teams will participate in twelve weight-categories.

Four new records on Day Two

Sports Reporter

Four new records were set on the second day of the first open-age-group swimming championship for women at the Dhanmondi Women's Complex yesterday.

Monira and Kakoli of the Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation (BTMC) and Ting Ting of Bandarban were the pick of the performers, but yesterday's mermaid of the moment was Monira Rahman.

Young but relatively seasoned Monira was instrumental in helping her side capture the top position in the medals table ahead of strong Ansars.

Monira won the 200m individual medley gold in a record time of 3:02.79 eclipsing, in the process, the previous mark of 3:04.30 sec.

The Gracie natant sunk another feat when she took the gold in 50m free-style timing 31.40 seconds. The previous best in this event was 33.10 sec.

Monira's teammate Kakoli took the cake in 50m butterfly for girls of 8-10 age-group. She took 41.91 seconds far better

than the hitherto extant feat of 43.40 seconds.

Ting Ting mae of Bandarban was the other record setter of the day. Competing in the 100m free-style for girls aged between 11-12, the young tribal less timed 1:23.47 seconds. The old record in this event was 1:23.58 seconds.

Thirteen events were settled on the second day of the four-day long meet. And the other mermaids, whose feats matched glaze of their glistening bodies, were Mita Some of Rajbari and Mahfuza Rahman of BTMC.

Rajbari's Mita copped two golds winning 200m individual medley for girls aged between 13-14. She took 3:23.05 seconds for the first position.

Her second gold came when she took 1:24.89 seconds to finish first in the 100m free-style.

Mahfuza Rahman won the gold in 100m free-style for 15-17 age-group. The BTMC natant took 1:16.30 seconds.

She also won the gold in 200m back-stroke with a timing of 3:18.34 sec.

Ting Ting, who set a new record, also bagged the gold in

100m breast-stroke. She clocked 1:39.83 sec.

The other gold winners of the day were Laila Noor of BTMC who snatched the gold in women's 400m free-style with a timing of 6:04.28 seconds.

Jobeda Khanam was exceptionally rare representative of Ansars winning the gold in 200m back-stroke for girls aged between 13-14.

Her teammate Reshma Parveen was the other gold getter of the day for Ansars. She took 1:34.47 seconds to finish first in women's 100m breast-stroke.

At the end of the second day, BTMC took the lead in the points table with ten golds followed by Ansars who got eight and Rajbari six.

MEDALS TABLE

Medals table at the end of the second day (tabulate under teams, gold, silver and bronze):

T	G	S	B
BTMC	10	1	8
Ansars	8	21	9
Rajbari	6	3	3
Bandarban	2	0	0
Munshiganj	0	0	4
Kishoreganj	0	0	1

Rivals, rebels and partners

LONDON, Oct 9: Nigel Short and Garri Kasparov put aside their personal animosity to become partners in a campaign to revolutionize the top rung of competitive chess, reports AP.

Their title match at London's Savoy Theatre is very much an experiment: the first breakaway World Championship and the first championship financed entirely by commercial sponsors.

Their aim is to make professional chess as lucrative as professional golf or tennis.

At the heart of the gamble is their split with FIDE, the world chess federation.

Last February, they refused to play their title match for FIDE, which has run the championships since 1948. They had complained for years about its handling of Grandmaster events, and FIDE's failure to consult them about arrangements for the championship gas the last straw.

For their match, Kasparov and Short formed the Professional Chess Association and pledged 10 per cent of the 1.7 million pounds (dlsr 2.55 million) in prize-money to finance it.

This angered many fellow Grandmasters because that 10 per cent was supposed to go to the Grandmasters Association, which represents most of the world's leading chess players.

Short was president of the Association until he resigned in February.

FIDE refuses to recognize the Professional Chess Association and is holding its own championship between former champion Anatoly Karpov of Russia and Jan Timman of the Netherlands, both of whom lost to Short in qualifying matches.

Their prize-money has been cut in half to one million Swiss francs (dlsr 705,000) and Oman backed out of holding the second half of the match, which will now be played in Jakarta, Indonesia.

But the federation's demise is far from certain. It plans to go ahead with qualifying matches to find a challenger for the winner of the Karpov-Timman match.

Kasparov and Short have invited the 50 top players to compete in a qualifying tournament in December for the next Professional Chess Association championship.

Poiglar of Hungary, the world's leading woman player, has been invited, said British Grandmaster Raymond Keene.

"The basic fact is that a lot of players find the breakaway distasteful, but will play... for the money," said Australian Grandmaster Ian Rogers. "But they don't regard it as a serious World Championship qualifier."

Kasparov on course

LONDON, Oct 9: World chess champion Garri Kasparov meets British underdog Nigel Short for the 15th time on Saturday in his quest to retain his title without losing a game, reports Reuter.

Azeri-born Kasparov, who leads the match 9-1/2 to 4-1/2 after scoring five wins and nine draws, starts with the advantage of white pieces and the first move as he edges closer to a winning total of 12-1/2 points in the 24-game contest.

But both the Kasparov and Short camps had to face off the board distractions.

Kasparov told reporters he had been stopped by police on Thursday while taking a late walk in London's Regents Park after the gates had been locked at 11 pm.

Short's aide, English Grandmaster Jonathan Speelman, had his match preparation work disrupted when a suspected Irish Guerrilla bomb exploded near his North London apartment. No one was injured in the bombing.

Kasparov claimed he was threatened with arrest for being in the park after hours although a police spokesman said this was unlikely. Aides said the fiery champion took the incident in good humour.

Rangachary (77) is survived by wife, two sons and two daughters.

According to his son, C R Vijayaraghavan, an Indian international cricket umpire, Rangachary died of cardiac arrest.

Rangachary was a deputy superintendent of police in the Tamil Nadu cadre.

Seles comes back

DUBLIN, Oct 9: Monica Seles, out of action since being stabbed by a spectator at a tournament last April, is to return to competitive tennis in Dublin in December, reports Reuter.

"Her agents have confirmed that she will be there," a spokesman for the Dublin event said on Friday. "As far as we're concerned, she'll be coming."

Seles, 19, has not played on the circuit for six months since a man jumped from the spectator stands and stuck a meat-trimming knife into her back during a break between games at the Hamburg Open.

They Yugoslav former world number one, who has slipped to fourth in the rankings during her absence, has a bye to the Dublin tournament semifinals to be played on December 4.

Seles's projected opponent is Martina Navratilova.

BCCB Six fare predictably

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) six-a-side team lost two of their three matches in the Singapore Sixes meet in Singapore yesterday, according to a sketchy telephonic message received last night.

BCCB team lost their first match against powerful Sri Lanka by 36 runs. Sri Lanka scored 89 while the Bangladeshi outfit were bundled out for 53.

BCCB won the second match against Thailand by 11 runs. Winners scored 80 first and restricted their opponents to 69.

The Bangladeshi outfit, comprising Imran Hamid Partho, Khaleed Mahmud Sufjan, Selim Shahed, Ahmed Faiyaz Shaheen, Golam Faruq Suru and Ali Ahsan Babu, lost their third match to Australia.

The two day meet, featuring some of the past stars of world cricket, concludes today.

Indian cricketers to play for tremor victims

BOMBAY, Oct 9: Top Indian cricketers would play a day-night one-day benefit match at Dadoji Kondadev Stadium at Thane on October 31 in aid of the earthquake victims, reports PTI.

Ajit Wadekar — who has been retained as manager of the Indian team which will participate in the six nation CAB diamond jubilee cricket tournament — said an amount of Rs two crores was expected to be raised from the match, to be played between an India XI and rest-of-India team.

This decision was taken at a meeting attended by Wadekar and former Indian captain Dilip Vengsarkar besides the Maharashtra Minister of State for Sports, Arun Divekar.

Srikanth puts it down to authorities

MADRAS, Oct 9: Former Indian cricket captain, K Srikanth, today said his refusal to toe the line of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) by taking up the cause of the players, and his lean patch in the 1989 tour of Pakistan might have cost him his captaincy and a place in the team for the subsequent New Zealand tour, reports PTI.

Recalling the controversy over the players initially refusing to sign the contract with BCCI demanding higher pay than offered, on the eve of the tour, Srikanth, who retired from the game yesterday told PTI in an interview here that "In fact, the then selection committee chairman, Raj Singh Dungarpur, said he would provide me with a second string by dropping those who refused to accept the terms but I refused."

Srikanth, who had said he was shocked over the selection committee's decision then, said "being captain, I was responsible for the players, but the BCCI didn't like by talking for them. On my refusal to lead a second team, the board wanted to take stern action and that perhaps resulted in my losing the job, though I had done by captain's job well by drawing the series," he said.

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Rangachary was a deputy superintendent of police in the Tamil Nadu cadre.

Rangachary no more

MADRAS, Oct 9: Former Indian Test Cricketer, C R Rangachary died here in the early hours today at a private nursing home after a brief illness, reports PTI.

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Seles comes back

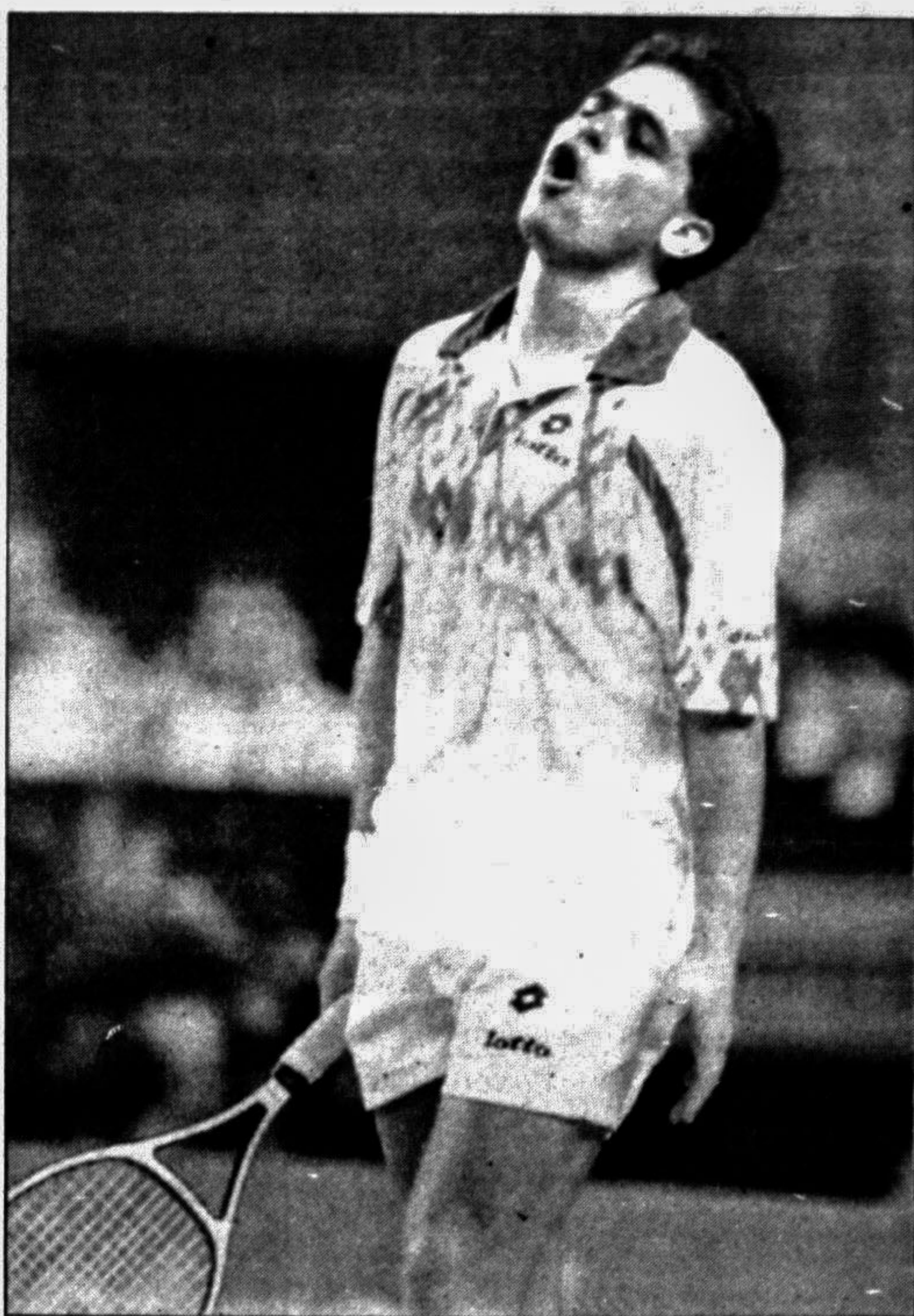
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Peruvian Jaime Yzaga grimaces after a rare bungling of a shot against Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia in the semifinals of the Ansett Australian indoor tennis championships in Sydney yesterday. The Croat is the latest addition to the giant-killing run of Yzaga who registered a 6-3, 6-4 win to storm into the final. — AFP photo

Yzaga fells Ivanisevic too

SYDNEY, Oct 9: Jaime Yzaga of Peru continued his giant-killing run at the US dlsr 875,000 Ansett Australian indoor tennis championships Saturday night by ousting defending champion Goran Ivanisevic, reports AP.

Unseeded Yzaga downed an erratic Ivanisevic 6-3, 6-4 in just 54 minutes to clinch a place in Sunday's best-of-five-sets final against No. 6 seed Petr Korda of the Czech Republic.

Korda routed inconsistent Wayne Ferreira 6-3, 6-2 in the earlier semifinal, repeatedly sending groundstrokes ripping past the unseeded South African.

Yzaga, who at 5-foot-7 (1.70 metres) is the smallest player in the tournament, has beaten four higher-ranked rivals on his way to the final.

He beat American Davis Cup player Brad Gilbert in the first round, then No. 8 seed Wally Masur of Australia, top-seeded Jim Courier of the United and No. 4 seed Ivanisevic.

"Because I've beaten good players this week, that has given me even more confidence," said Yzaga, who is ranked 54th in the world and is seeking his eighth career title.

"I've kept my concentration levels up and played very steady tennis."

Tall left-hander Ivanisevic, who was riding a career-best 10-match winning streak, said

he had no explanation for his lack of composure as Yzaga's placement and persistence proved too much for his raw power.

"I was a little bit gone in my mind," he said. "It was worse than bad — it was disgusting. I was just missing for no reason. He didn't have to do anything except put the ball back into play."

Yzaga dropped only two points on serve in the first set. Ivanisevic lost his cool after a close line call in the sixth game and served two successive double-faults to allow Yzaga to break and take the set.

He regained his composure to take a 4-1 lead in the second set but Yzaga then reeled off five straight games to take the match.

Korda, 25, had lost four of his five semifinals this year but was too solid for Ferreira, who made a plethora of unforced errors as the Czech left-hander maintained the pressure in a struggle between two power-hitters who rarely advanced to the net.

Ferreira took an early 2-0 lead but then had trouble holding his serve. Korda won 12 of the last 15 games.

Ferreira appeared to lose concentration after dropping serve in the third game of the second set.

"I knew it and he knew it," Ferreira said. "He was playing unbelievably well."

"After I was unable to hold my serve in the first set, he got a lot of confidence. He was hit-

ting winners from all over the place. I tried to make a few changes — but nothing worked."

It was only Ferreira's second loss this year against a left-hander, dropping him to 7-2. One of the wins was against Korda at the US Open last month.

"He gave me an early ticket from New York, so I wanted to beat him badly, and that's what I did," Korda said.

Korda, a French Open finalist last year, has not dropped a set in the tournament so far.

"I'm playing my best tennis of the year right now," he said. Earlier this year, Korda was treated for an inflamed heart and feared his career might be in jeopardy. He now is fully recovered.

"I like this game so much," he said. "I'm really enjoying it whether I win or lose. My batteries are recharged."

Yzaga said Ivanisevic's booming serve held no fears for him.

"You just have to stay in there all the time and wait for your chances," he said.

Ivanisevic had no doubts about who will win the final.

"I don't think Yzaga can beat Korda," he said. "Korda is a much better player and much stronger. He'll dominate him."

Korda has not won a title this year, while Yzaga won at Tampa, Fla. in May.

The winner of the tournament will collect dlsr 146,000, with the runner-up earning dlsr 81,000.

Three cheeks for OM's hopes

PARIS, Oct 9: The French football league said on Friday it would do all it could to save European champions Olympique Marseille, who are teetering on the brink of a financial disaster, reports AFP.

Marseille have suffered a series of body blows in recent months and the speculation is rife that Bernard Tapie's club could be heading for receivership due to huge debts.

League president Noel le Graet told AFP: "Our concern is to save Olympique Marseille. The league will do all it can to stop it from going into receivership and relegation into the Second Division."

Asked about Marseille's money problems, he said, "I don't have any solid figures at the moment. But we'll have a report on it within two weeks."

Then we'll summon Marseille's officials to discuss the matter and to respond to the worries which we also share.

"It's worrying because we know perfectly well that OM, which has a budget of 250 million francs, which is no small amount, is having difficulties.

Just how serious these difficulties are needs to be analysed in detail and not on the basis of rumours.

"If the deficit is less than 60 million as Bernard Tapie has said, then I'd say 'Bravo, champagne,' if it's 250 million, that's enormous.

"Now I'm not saying that is the figure, but there are major difficulties there which everybody is aware of."

"If the situation is really catastrophic, and Tapie along with the local authorities and businesses do not face up to their responsibilities, there will have to be the standard receivership and relegation into the Second Division."

Relegation is the French punishment for all clubs whose finances dive deeply into the red, as was the case three seasons ago of Bordeaux — now top of the First Division.

Marseille have been rocked by bribery allegations about a league match last season against Valenciennes, and been banned from defending their European Champions Cup as result.

That tournament alone was

the central plank of Marseille's finances. But Tapie sidé since been kicked out of the Intercontinental Cup and European Super Cup ties, its participation in the French Cup has been put on hold, and some sponsors have also been giving Marseille a wide berth.

Sources there say that the annual report on Marseille's finances yet to be made public, reveal debts totalling more than 400 million francs (70 million dollars) as of June 30.

Set against the deficit is the market value of the players, estimated at before the crisis between 200 million to 250 million francs, plus gate receipts and sponsorship — a shortfall put at 150 million to 200 million francs.

Tapie himself predicted net losses on Friday as "100 million to 120 million francs by the end of June, 1994."

However, the league is looking forward to getting its own report, commissioned with an independent firm of auditors, which will take the cost of the club's recent transfers and turmoil into account.



Players and officials of the Rokanpur Youth Club after winning the Shah Sports Cup juvenile soccer tournament yesterday at the Outer Stadium. — Star photo