



Bangladesh Ansars natants pose for the photographers after emerging champions in the age group swimming competition for women at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex yesterday. — Star photo

**Ansars finish atop**

**Sports Reporter**  
Three new marks were set on the concluding day of the first age-group swimming championships for women at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex yesterday.

Bangladesh Ansars finished at the top of the medals table with a haul of 55 medals including 13 golds, 30 silvers and 12 bronzes. Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation (BTMC) also scooped 13 gold medals in their 27-medal campaign.

Rajbari ended the meet a distant third with a collection of eight gold, four silver and four bronze medals.

Monira Rahman of BTMC, who set a new mark in the women's 100-metre free-style yesterday, was adjudged the swimmer-of-the-meet.

Monira, who won four golds, also topped the women's group.

Two of Monira's BTMC teammates — Kakoli and Mahfuza Rahman Tania — also became champions in their respective age-groups. Kakoli topped the girls from eight to ten years of age while Tania headed the 15-17 age group.

Ting Ting Ma of Bandarban and Nibedita Das of Rajbari won their championship of the 11-12 and 13-14 age-groups.

**H'ball results**

**Sports Reporter**  
Shamsun Nahar Hall of Dhaka University and Rifles Public School and College registered facile wins in the Delta Life first inter-college and hall women's handball championship at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex yesterday.

Tania scored as many as eight goals to lead Shamsun Nahar Hall to a 9-2 victory over Fazlul Huq Womens College. The winners led the first half by four goals to one.

But the day surely belonged to Rashida Akhter, who scored ten times to spearhead the Rifles School and College's 12-2 triumph over Sher-e-Bangla Girl's College.

**Sirajuddowla in N'ganj Div I final**

**From Our Correspondent NARAYANGANJ, Oct 11:** Sirajuddowla squeezed into the final of the Hazi Jalaluddin Ahmed Smriti First Division football league when they beat Adarsha Krira Sangstha 4-2 in the tie-breaker after the regulation 90 minutes ended one-all at the local Osmani Stadium today.

The winners trailed the first half by one goal to nil. Adarsha shot into the lead in the 34th minute of the first through Mono when the striker neatly converted a spot-kick.

Rana got the equaliser ten minutes into the second half through a penalty.

In the penalty shoot-out, Rana, Akhter and Jahangir found the net for the winners while only Ratan managed to score from the spot.

Sirajuddowla Club will take on the winners of the second semifinal between Kadam Rasul Krira Chakra and Prakash Club, scheduled to be held on October 13 at the same venue.

**Puncher in coma**

**RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, Oct 11:** Clarimundo Silva remained in a coma in critical condition Sunday, two days after his national middleweight title bout that was stopped in the eighth round, reports AP. Silva, 35, slipped into the coma after the referee stopped his fight and awarded the victory to 27-year-old Ezequiel Pazao, who won all seven previous rounds.

Silva, a former South American champion, was taken to a hospital in Sao Paulo, where the fight was held, and received emergency surgery.

**Ripon sets the pool afire**

**Sports Reporter**

Abdul Hamid Khan Ripon set the pool ablaze on the first day of the 13th national age group championships at the swimming pool adjacent to the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The young swimmer of the Pabna District Sports Association (PDSA) set three of the six new records created on the day. He began by winning the gold in 400m individual medley of 15-17 age group. He took 5:34.93 seconds to efface the old record timing of 5:44.37 secs.

Day's second event also saw Ripon come up with a new record. In 100m free style of the aforesaid age group, Ripon clocked 1:01.67 secs write his name in the record book in addition to another shining gold gong. The previous best was 1:02.50 secs.

After an event of the younger lot, Ripon came back under the spotlights winning this time the gold in 200m free-style. His timing of 2:16.25 seconds rubbed off the old timing of 2:17.67 seconds.

Not too far behind Ripon was Rajshahi's Ashraf Ali. He set two new records in two 50m events of 10 year age group. The promising Rajshahi Education Board natant took 41.16 secs, a new record that eclipsed the previous best of 40:60 sec in 50 breast-stroke. Ashraf clocked 32.68 seconds to take the gold in 50m freestyle, shattering in the process the old record of 33:70 secs.

On a day of resounding success for Pabna swimmers, Hassan Zulfiqar chipped in smartly with a new national record to match the sparkling feats of his peer Ripon. Zulfiqar set a new record in 200m backstroke for boys aged between 15 and 17. His gold winning effort took 2:41.11 seconds distinctly better than the previous one of 2:41.78 seconds.

Although there were no other new landmarks Abdullah Al Mukhtar of Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protishtan (BKSP) performed a double winning gold medals in two events reserved for boys aged between 13 and 14.

He won the gold in 200m free style with a timing of 2:28.33 seconds and then went on to depositing another aureate medal in the BKSP account finishing first in 100m free style.

Of the eleven events settled yesterday, the other gold winners of the day were Rafiqul Islam and Liaqat Ali of (REB), Munmun Ahmed of Chapi-nawabganj DSA.

Rafiqul Islam won the gold in 200m breast stroke of 13-14 age group. He took 3:04.77 seconds.

Rafiq's teammate Liaqat was the pick of the lot in 50m free-style for 11 to 12 year boys. He clocked 33.20 seconds to snatch the gold ahead of Abu Sayeed Haider, his teammate but rival all the same. Pabna DSA and Rajshahi Education Board jointly led the medals table at the end of the first day. Both the teams captured four golds each.

Earlier, Bashir Ahmed, Secretary General of the Bangladesh Olympic Association, inaugurated the five-day meet.

Those six kept in the waiting list are: KM Tauhidul Islam, Narail DSA; Dil Afroza Rosy, Dhaka University; Khokan Basu, Munshigonj DSA; Shaifur Rahman, Comilla DSA; Md Azharul Haq Tuhin, Netrokona DSA; and Md Shahadat Hossain, Bangladesh Police.



Nibedita Das of Rajbari DSA shows a V-sign after setting a new mark in the 100m back-stroke in the age-group swimming championships for women at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex yesterday. — Star photo

**IOC solidarity course on v'ball from Oct 15**

**Sports Reporter**  
An International Olympic Committee solidarity course on volleyball will be held in Dhaka under the AEGIS of the Bangladesh Olympic Association from Oct 15 to 26. Twenty-four candidates have been finally selected for the training with another six in the waiting list. The names of the selected trainees are:

- Shamim-al-Mamun, Bangladesh Volleyball Federation; Md Sohel, Islamic University; Sheikh Zafar Aziz, Bangladesh Biman; Sheikh Zubayer Hossain, BDR; Md Faez Rabbil, Naba Jagarani Sangha; Md Saidur Rahman, Gazipur DSA; Md Saheed Ahmad, Jessore DSA; AFM Shaifull Islam, Pabna DSA; Md Reza Ahmed, Rangpur DSA; Md Rezaul Karim, Tangail DSA; Md Abdul Kadir Patwari, BTMC; Imam Hossain, Bangladesh Navy; Md Safar Ali, Madartek Metal Sangha; Ali Zaman Khan Lodhi, Brothers Union; Md Nurul Islam, Bangladesh PDB; Md Abdul Mannan, BVF; Md Shamsul Arefin, BVF; Md Abul Kalam Khan, Narayanganj DSA; Md Strajul Islam, Dhaka DSA; Khandakar Mahabubur Rashid, Rajshahi DSA; Md Fazlul Haq, WDB; Sabina Khatun, BJMC; Sayeda Azmeri, Victoria SC; and Sheikh Md Shah Alam, Kushtia DSA.

Those six kept in the waiting list are: KM Tauhidul Islam, Narail DSA; Dil Afroza Rosy, Dhaka University; Khokan Basu, Munshigonj DSA; Shaifur Rahman, Comilla DSA; Md Azharul Haq Tuhin, Netrokona DSA; and Md Shahadat Hossain, Bangladesh Police. Selected candidates are requested to report at the Bangladesh Volleyball Federation office at 5 pm on Oct 14.

**Wherever they go trouble follows**

**AMSTERDAM, Netherlands, Oct 11:** The World Cup qualifier between England and the Netherlands isn't until Wednesday, but 39 English soccer fans have already been apprehended for assault, disorderly conduct and drunkenness, police said Monday, reports AP.

The fans were picked up early Monday after arriving early to seek black market tickets for Wednesday's crucial match for a place in the 1994 World Cup finals in the United States, said police spokeswoman Lisbert Seuth.

Eight fans will be charged with assault later this week and 30 were to be deported Monday. One man was released without being charged, said police spokesman Cees Rameau.

Twenty-eight fans were arrested just past midnight after they were caught knocking over cyclists and harassing women near the central train station, said Seuth.

Later, another eight were apprehended on a nearby shopping street after a passerby was hit with a plank of wood and several others were punched. Passersby were also threatened with a knife, said Seuth.

Several other fans were arrested for drunkenness. Rotterdam police have said they will deploy hundreds of police and riot units to prevent hooliganism at Wednesday's game, and warned that no breaches of public order would be tolerated.

The 48,000 seats at Feyenoord stadium have been sold out for weeks.

About 5,000 English fans with tickets are expected, and police warned that anybody arriving drunk will be turned back at the border.

**ATP's top 20**

- MONTE CARLO, Oct 11:** Leading men's rankings as issued by the ATP tour on Monday, reports Reuter.
1. Pete Sampras (US) 3,925 points
  2. Jim Courier (US) 3,759
  3. Boris Becker (Germany) 2,617
  4. Michael Stich (Germany) 2,598
  5. Sergi Bruguera (Spain) 2,578
  6. Stefan Edberg (Sweden) 2,503
  7. Michael Chang (US) 2,200
  8. Andrei Medvedev (Ukraine) 2,119
  9. Thomas Muster (Austria) 1,999
  10. Richard Krajicek (Netherlands) 1,886
  11. Goran Ivanisevic (Croatia) 1,885
  12. Cedric Pioline (France) 1,884
  13. Petr Korda (Czech Republic) 1,841
  14. Alexander Volkov (Russia) 1,538
  15. Wally Masur (Australia) 1,417
  16. Todd Martin (US) 1,416
  17. Karel Novacek (Czech Republic) 1,413
  18. Ivan Lendl (US) 1,382
  19. Wayne Ferreira (South Africa) 1,309
  20. Arnaud Boetsch (France) 1,287

**Gullit, a present absence**

**ROTTERDAM, Oct 11:** For all the careful tactical planning by the Dutch and English ahead of their winner-talks-all World Cup qualifier, it may be the omission of Ruud Gullit that proves most decisive, reports Reuter.

Gullit, always an eye-catching figure in the bright orange Dutch shirt with his dreadlocks bouncing about his head, will be even more noticeable for his absence in Wednesday's Group Two showdown in Rotterdam.

The outstanding midfield attacking player, who captained the Netherlands to the European Championship in 1988, has not worn the Dutch shirt since being substituted by coach Dick Advocaat when the two teams drew 2-2 at Wembley in April.

Ordered to play in a wide role on the right, which he dislikes, Gullit disobeyed, chose to roam and was substituted.

Gullit, who has scored 16 goals in 64 matches and has an attraction for the limelight, quit international soccer after his perceived humiliation. Seem-

ingly, his pride has not allowed him to seek reconciliation.

"I told the manager I can't play like that," he said.

In a potentially costly stand-off, Advocaat has apparently not contacted Gullit, but asked his new Italian club Sampdoria to tell the player to telephone him.

As the row over personal pride and integrity bubbles up in the Dutch press, it may eventually cost the Netherlands a place in the World Cup finals.

Gullit, who made his Dutch debut on his 19th birthday in 1981 with Haarlem, is in tremendous form this season, scoring four league goals in seven games for Sampdoria who sit one point behind leaders AC Milan, his old club.

And with Marco van Basten sidelined by injury, the Dutch may rue not having Gullit in their side for a crucial game which is likely to decide which of the two qualifies for next year's finals.

Advocaat has come close to admitting as much as the tension heightens in the build-up.

"Until that England match, Gullit was one of the greatest players in Europe. He is still proving that at Sampdoria this season," Advocaat said.

"I have sent him a fax at his club, but he does not want to be in touch with me anymore."

"He wasn't happy at being substituted or with his position in the team. But all players are equal to me. I have always stuck to my own system and I did not want to turn the entire team upside down for one player."

Gullit, who walked out once before in 1992, said in a Dutch paper that when he told Advocaat he was quitting, the coach agreed with him.

In a telling comment about his personal pride, Gullit added: "No attempt was made to force me to change my mind."

The millionaire footballer with a Surinamese father and dutch mother who was voted both European and world player-of-the-year in his first season with AC Milan in 1987, has always been capable of turning any game, as with his opening goal in the 1988 European Championship final.

His Sampdoria teammate, England's David Platt, knows it only too well.

He says he dared not speak about Wednesday's match in Gullit's company "In case it makes him nostalgic to play."

**Cameroon's second in a row**

**YAOUNDE, Oct 11:** Cameroon's indomitable lions won a place in the 1994 World Cup soccer finals with a decisive 3-1 win over Zimbabwe on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Cameroon, who reached the quarter-finals in 1990, completely dominated play and never looked back after Francois Omam Biyick of French team Lens struck twice in the first 28 minutes.

Omam Biyick was carried off in the 33rd minute with a knee injury and replaced by Kissack Maboang, who grabbed the

third goal for Cameroon in the last minute.

Substitute Adam Ndlovu scored for Zimbabwe in the 85th minute.

Cameroon are through to the finals for the second time in a row and third time altogether. Zimbabwe's German trainer Richard Fabisch was sent off in the second half and left surrounded by riot police.

Fabisch had argued with the referee and linesman when Norman Mapeza was sent off for kicking Maboang, who was lying on the ground.

Yaounde's Omnisports Stadium has an official capacity of 50,200, but the crowd was put

at a remarkable 85,000.

President Paul Biya declared Monday a public holiday to celebrate the Cameroon victory.

Omam Biyick, who scored the winner in Cameroon's shock 1-0 victory over holders Argentina in the opening game of the 1990 world Cup in Milan, was on target in the 15th and 28th minutes, quickly dampening Zimbabwe's hopes of an upset victory and a place in the finals for the first time.

Cameroon's success in the African Zone Second Round Group C match put them top, two points clear of Zimbabwe who were behind only on goal difference before kick-off.



Moroccan Rachid Daoud (R) tries to dodge his way past Zambian defender Herrissone during their World Cup qualifying match in Casablanca on Sunday. Morocco booked a place in the finals in the United States with a solitary goal victory. — AFP photo

**Zambia's dream shattered**

**CASABLANCA, Oct 11:** Morocco, scoring through Abdeslam Laghrissi early in the second half, shattered Zambia's World Cup soccer dream by winning their final African Zone qualifier 1-0 on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The Moroccans, who reached the finals in Mexico in 1970 and 1986, qualified for the third time by winning African Zone Second Round Group C by one point from Zambia.

The Zambians, needing only a draw to go through are within a whisker of their first World Cup tournament despite having to rebuild after 18 national team players were killed in an

air crash in April. Morocco's victory sparked wild celebrations around the country's major cities, including the capital Rabat which is normally sleepy on a Sunday.

It was transformed by cars and motorbikes tearing up and down the main avenues with horns blaring.

Soccer-mad Moroccans had not expected a win, feeling their side were the underdogs and that world sympathy was on Zambia's side after their air crash tragedy.

Eighteen members of the Zambian squad died last April when their plane crashed off the coast of Gabon shortly after taking off from Libreville for a World Cup qualifier against

Senegal. Sunday's game, played before a capacity crowd of 80,000 at Casablanca's Mohammed V Stadium, was hard but fair.

Morocco, who reached the second round of the 1986 World Cup, did all the attacking in the first half, coming close with several shots at goal by star forwards Rachid Daoudi and Hajji.

But after Laghrissi's 50th minute goal, Morocco pulled their men back and hung on desperately to their lead.

When Gabonese referee Diramba blew the final whistle, fans lit paper torches and rushed onto the field. They were quickly dealt with by riot police wielding truncheons.

**It's Boetsch's day**

**TOULOUSE, France, Oct 11:** Arnaud Boetsch beat fellow-Frenchman Cedric Pioline to clinch the 400,000 dollars Toulouse Open on Sunday and deny the country's top-ranked player his first ATP tour tournament victory, reports Reuter.

Fifth seed Boetsch, ranked 24th in the world, overcame strong opposition from second seed Pioline to win the final of the indoor tournament 7-6, 3-6, 6-3 in two hours 40 minutes.

To face Cedric was very peculiar," Boetsch said. Tension was very high and he started well and broke Boetsch's service to take a 3-2 lead.

But Boetsch broke back immediately and the pair exchanged further breaks in the next two games.

Poline, ranked 12th in the world, saved three set points, but dropped the first set by losing the tie-break 7-5.

He recovered by taking the

second set with the help of one service break, but Boetsch gained the ultimately decisive break in the seventh game of the final set and swept on for the second tournament victory of his four in career, following a win in Rosmalen, the Netherlands, in June.

Boetsch's victory doubtless brought satisfaction to the French Tennis Federation, who have been at odds with Pioline for months.

The French number one was thrown out of the Davis Cup team four months ago for making excessive demands. He wanted his personal adviser, trainer and physiotherapist to accompany him and sought to have the other players barred from watching his practice sessions.

France suffered a humiliating defeat by India in the Davis Cup quarter-finals.

"It was a negative year for the French team and I hope everyone will play next year," Boetsch said.

**Moroccans go on a wild celebration**

**RABAT, Oct 11:** Car's horns blared and flags waved as thousands of Moroccans took to the streets to celebrate after their soccer team won a place in the World Cup finals in the United States next year, reports Reuter.

"Morocco will go to America," crowds of young supporters chanted on the Mohamed V Boulevard, the main avenue in Rabat, after Sunday's match.

Morocco beat Zambia 1-0 in their final African Zone qualifier thanks to a second-half goal by Abdeslam Laghrissi.

More than 80,000 fans packed the Mohamed V Stadium in Casablanca to see Morocco win and millions followed the action on television.

"Hundreds of supporters climbed on buses, dancing and singing the national anthem," said Casablanca journalist Nabil Arabi.