### Nat'l booters' success in Malaysia

Bangladesh national football team, now visiting Malaysia. defeated Negeri Sembilan State team by 3-0 goals in their first exhibition match on Thursday, reports UNB.

Bangladesh led the first half : 1-0 over the star-studded N'eg eri Sembilan team containin g two Malaysian national be ot ers and two Czech players, acc ording to a message receiv e d by Bangladesh Football Fede a ration (BFF) yesterday.

Satyajit Das Rupu put Bang ladesh ahead in the 20th minu te with a goal from a corne r kick taken by Rumi. doubled the margin in the 43 rd minute from header. from a Rupu corner kick.

The brilliant national striker. Ri imi Rizvi Karim comthe tally in the 38th minute of the last half (3-0).

The v isiting Bangladesh will take on i he Malacca State team on Nove mber 22 (Monday), play the Negeri State league champio 18 Cempaka Laxmi Textiles on November 24 (Wednesd ay) and either face the Selang on State team or the Malaysian national junior team on Novemt er 26 (Friday).

Banglad esh in the first exhibition match: Saidur. Alamgir, Je wel (Sohel), Moon, Masud Ran a, Rumi, Munna, Rupu, Armai 1 (Swapan), Naquib and Rakib (G aus).

The national booters are expected to return home on November 29.

#### Boelsen, Cohen ITF men's doubles cham pions

RAJSHAHI, Nov 20: Boelsen Matthias of Germany and Cohen of USA bescame champions in men's doubles of the third-leg Golcl Leaf ITF Thailand-Bangla lesh Satellite Circuit tennis tournament played at Rajs hahi Tennis Complex today, reports BSS.

Boelsen and Cohen defeated Luciano of Brazil and Furusho of Japan in a keer ily contested match lasting over two and a half hours 3-6, 7-6, (7-5) and 6-

Meanwhile, Cow an of Britain and Belgravers of the Netherlands moved to men's singles final to be p layed tomorrow. In the semifinals played today. Cowan beat Boelsen Matthias of Germany in straight sets 6-3, 6-0 in other singles. Beigraven was declared the winner against Henderson of Britain as the later retired from the match due to sickness.

Richard of Au stralia was eligible to play in the masters-leg to be played at Dhaka as he beat Emil of Germany 6-1, 6-1 in the play-off for 24th position.

#### FIFA rankings

ZURICH, Nov 20: Italy moved up from third place last month to supplant Brazil at the top of the FIFA world rankings released on Friday, reports Reu-The Italians, who qualified

for next year's World Cup finals by beating Portugal 1-0 on Wednesday, held a narrow lead over the Netherlands, who also reached the US finals this week. Brazil dropped back to fourth place behind Germany with Norway falling from second to

Denmark and England, two nations who disappointed their fans by failing to make it to the World Cup finals, remained in the top 10. Denmark in sixth place and England in eighth.

Top 50 rankings (last month's position in brackets): 1.(3) Italy 59.76 points

2.(,) Netherlands 59.40 3. (4) Germany 4. (1) Brazil (2) Norway 6. (5) Denmark 57.16 7. (7) Spain 57.13 8.(10) England 9. Equal (9) Argentina 55.18 10. Equal (13) Switzerland 55.18 11. (8) Sweden 54.81 12. (15) Romania 54.73 13. (11) Ireland 54.37 14. (11) Russia 52.14 15.(14) France 52.10 16. (16) Nigeria 17. (18) Mexico 51.37 18. (17) Uruguay 51.14 19. (21) Czechoslovakia 49.95 20. (20) Portugal 49.12 21. (19) Colombia 48.72 22. (24) Belgium 23. (32) Bulgaria 46.27 24. (22) Cameroon 45.79 25.(29) Scotland 45.46 26. (23) Poland 27. (26) United States 45.08 28. (28) Wales 29. (25) Zambia 30. (30) Morocco 31. (27) Egypt 32. (36) Greece 42.23 33. (31) Algeria 42.03 34. (33) Ivory Coast 40.65 35. (34) Austria 40.60 36. (35) Tunisia 37. (38) Costa Rica 38. (46) Saudi Arabia 38.17 39. (37) South Korea 37.95 40. (39) Honduras 37.90 41. (40) Ghana 37.35 42. (42) Northern Ireland 37.27 43. (44) Japan 36.47 44. (45) Finland 36.28 45. (50) Iceland 36.17 46. (43) Zimbabwe 36.01 47. (41) Ecuador 35.77

48.( 47) Canada

49. (41) Australia

50. (49) Hungary 34.65

# Akram stars in Abahani's win

Sports Reporter

Neil Fairbrother's wicket each. debut in local lea-Udity tottered to 91 for seven wickets in their turn with Lipu gue cricket paled into insignificance using as many as ten bowlers to as reigning chamforce on outright win. pions Abahani

Krira Chakra, boosted by a

batting blitzkrieg from Akram

ccessive win in this year's

Navana Premier Division cricket

Yesterday at the Dhaka

Stadium, Akram, the burly

Chittagonian hit a whirlwind

unbeaten 94 off just 68 balls as

Abahani amassed 240 for four

wickets only from their stipu-

lated quota of 45 overs. They

then restricted the lowly Udity

to 91 winning day's one of the

two Navana matches by 149

two Englishmen in their ranks

Abahani skipper Gazi Ashraf

Lipu, a former captain of the

Bangladesh national team, won

opened Abahani's batting and

bowling in the previous matches

was dropped to make way for

Fairbrother and Lipu himself

opened with Harun-ur-Rashid

reasons to congratulate them-

selves when the fourth Abahani

wicket — that of Fairbrother fell

with the total on 88 in the 25th

over. The mouse-eyed left han-

der from Lancashire could

make 25 from 48 balls before

spooning a catch to Nahid off

tance of Fairbrother with the

Dhaka Stadium was compen-

sated by a superb fifth-wicket

stand between Akram and

Minhazul Abedin Nannu, an-

20.3 overs with Akram weighing

in with 94 including three mas-

to his fellow Chittagonian only

in hefty hitting. He did the job

of gleaning after Akram's brutal

mowing and remained unbeaten

on 51 made off 61 balls. The

leading batsman of the country

sent the ball to the fence thrice.

two Udity bowlers to meet with

success, having claimed one

tches

comes from violent fans, but

organisers believe terrorism

will pose as great a danger

when the World Cup comes to

the United States next

ple will watch the broadcast of

a July semifinal game at Giants

Stadium, one of seven matches

scheduled at the East Ruther-

ford. NJ, facility just 10 miles

(16 kilometres) from New

wide audience, you obviously

worry about anything going

wrong, but also some terrorist

activity," said George R Zoffin-

ger, chairman of the New

York-New Jersey Host Com-

big fear of soccer match organ-

isers, but England already have

been eliminated from the

World Cup. Other teams that

would have caused security

concerns - Iran, Iraq and

North Korea — also are out of

But the World Cup, which

begins June 17, 1994, in the

United States for the first

time, will still provide a highly

visible platform for mayhem or

more security than you would

see at normal games at Giants

potential problems — hooligans

as well as terrorism," said

land's executive director for

World Cup USA. "We really

won't know until the teams are

drawn to this area which prob-

which teams play in which of

the nine US sites will be held

December 19 in Las Vegas.

Italy is likely to be the seeded

team in Group E, which would

put it at Giants Stadium for

Officials have dismissed

"We've dealt with capacity

About 800 English fans

were arrested and sent home

from Amsterdam and Rotter-

dam during several turbulent

days around the England-

Netherlands match earlier this

year. Drunken rampages, a nail

bomb, and a mass escape from

a detention area were among

the incidents associated with

line tickets, knowing that de-

portation means a free ride

Many bought one-way air-

"The point is that Ameri-

the hooligans.

home.

.35.61

35.11

two games in the first round.

anxiety in Europe that Ameri-

cans are unprepared for mobs

crowds at Giants Stadium

many times," Zoffinger said.

of unruly soccer fans.

The draw to determine

lem is more relevant."

Charles Stillitano, Meadow-

Stadium," Zoffinger said.

"There is going to be a lot

"We're preparing for both

the tournament.

political statements.

Overseas, hooligans are a

"With that kind of a world-

An estimated 1 billion peo-

summer, reports AP.

York City.

Titu and Nahid were the only

NEWARK, NJ.

Nov 20: The big-

gest security th-

reat at interna-

tional soccer ma-

generally

sive sixes and three fours.

The two put 152 runs in

Nannu played second fiddle

other former national skipper.

The anticlimactic acquain-

Udity bowlers had enough

Liton.

Indian GP Singh who

the toss and opted to bat first.

inspired by the presence of

Khan posted their sixth su-

Titu, who got a wicket earlier, was Udity's topscorer, grafting 30 from 92 balls. Chapal with 17 was the only other batsman to make it to the double figures.

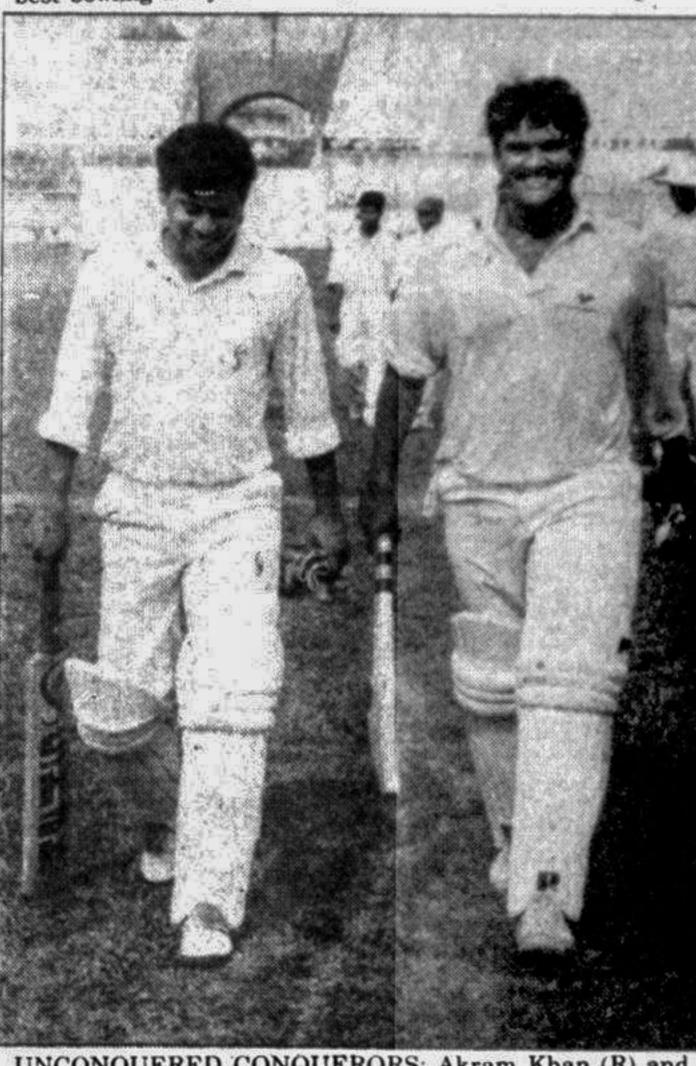
Illingworth, the other English Test player in Abahani apart from Fairbrother had the best bowling analysis claiming

two for 13 from nine overs with his left arm spin. Saiful, Babu, Fairbrother Lipu and Liton got a wicket

The other match between Gulshan Youth and Dhanmondi at the Mirpur Pallabi Ground fell through because unplayable wet condition of the pitch.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Biman vs GMCC (Dhaka Stadium) Surjo Tarun vs Wari (DCS)



UNCONQUERED CONQUERORS: Akram Khan (R) and Minhazul Abedin Nannu are all smiles on their way to the pavilion at the completion of Abahani's huge innings of 240 for four against Udity in the Navana Premier cricket league yesterday at the Dhaka Stadium. Akram and Nannu remained unbeaten on 94 and 51 respectively as the fifth wicket stand between the two Chittagonians realised 152 - Star photo

Unlike stadiums overseas.

Rowe said, Giants Stadium will

employ no temporary fences

that can become weapons or

owlands personnel are better

trained and more familiar with

crowds at highly charged

events than their foreign

final-round games are so high

- tickets for the Giants Sta-

dium semifinal are priced at

dirs 300, dirs 200 and dirs 90

- officials expect fewer thugs

of the final round, and the

tickets those companies dis-

tribute, will also keep hooli-

Rowe acknowledged that no

over-prepare, and make the

facility as safe as humanly pos-

sible," Rowe said. "But if

someone wants to get some-

thing done, they'll find a way."

an armed camp by any means.

But we want to protect the

public, subtly if you will," Stil-

Brawling by fans in Euro-

pean cities often breaks out as

they walk along the streets to

the arena, he said. That won't

happen at Giants Stadium.

which is surrounded by high-

lot together, but in the parking

lot, it's a lot easier to secure."

briefed about European fans,

who tend to be more vocal

than American crowds. Expect

them to sing in the parking

lot, sing in the stands, and

paint their faces in team col-

we're going to have to worry

"It's just not game days that

"They'll be in the parking

Police already have been

"We don't want to make it

Despite the precautions.

"The most you can do is

gans out of seats, they said.

The corporate sponsorship

Because the prices for the

He said the full-time Mead-

the focus of a crush.

counterparts.

and more fans.

plan is foolproof.

litano said.

Stillitano said.

ors, he said.

Terrorism: The lurking menace

cans don't actually know what

they're talking about," Peter

van Zunderd, chief of the Ijs-

selmonde district police force,

which includes Rotterdam.

told a Dutch news agency dur-

experience of these sorts of

situations because sports in

America is for the most part a

huge family party," van Zun-

manager of the Meadowlands

Sports Complex, dismissed van

some of the football games and

rock concerns I have ." Rowe

said. "We do know what we're

Rowe pointed to these se-

.—Fans of different countries

-Planes bringing teams and

-Multilingual agents will

fans from different countries

won't arrive at the same time.

circulate at airports, hotels,

restaurants and training camps

before matches to look for po-

tential problems. Agents will

also be in the stadium parking

-Metal detectors may be

used, and there will be addi-

tional screening of fans enter-

ing the stadium to ensure no

bottles, cans or weapons are

—Dogs will sniff for bombs.

are planned. Rowe said. be-

cause "it is unlikely, pregame,

that they will tailgate to-

term used to describe an in-

formal pre-game party among

fans. It gets its name from the

tailgate of car, which is used as

should aid in crowd dispersal,

he said. "There's not a stadium

The stadium's many exits

table at the parties.

Tailgating is an American

-Cameras will survey park-

No separate parking areas

will sit in separate areas.

Zunderd's comments.

Michael Rowe, general

"I'm not sure he's been to

"They have absolutely no

ing the unrest.

derd said.

in for."

curity measures:

lot on game days.

brought in.

ing lots.

gether."

#### Pak-Zimbabwe first Test Dec 1

ISLAMABAD, Nov 20: The Zimbabwean cricket team is to arrive here next week to play a three-Test series on their maiden tour of Pakistan, Board of Cricket for Control in Pakistan (BCCP) announced.

reports AFP. A BCCP statement published Friday said the tourists will fly into Lahore Tuesday from India where they are currently taking part in the five-nation hero Cup one-day competition.

Besides, three one-dayers, the team will play three-Test matches at Karachi, Rawalpindi and Lahore.

The first Test at Karachi will start December 1, the second. at Rawalpindi, from December 9 and the last will be played at

#### Lahore from December 16. Rutherford runs SA ragged

ADELAIDE, Nov 20: Replacement New Zealand captain Ken Rutherford took charge of the South Australian bowling here Saturday to put the Kiwi cricketers in a strong position after the second day of the fourday tour match, reports AFP.

Rutherford, taking over from injured skipper Martin Crowe, cruised to 76 in just over two hours, hitting nine boundaries from 108 deliveries as the tourists pushed South Australia out of the contest.

Rutherford will bat in Crowe's pivotal number four spot in the remaining two Tests against Australia and his highest score on tour carried New Zealand to 276 for six by the close in reply to the South Australian total of 158.

Crowe was forced to pull out of the rest of the tour earlier this week due to knee problems but the loss of the team's best batsman hardly fazed Ruther ford on Saturday.

Opener Mark Greatbatch backed him with 65 while nightwatchman Murphy Su'a frustrated the South Australians for three hours for 56 - the highest score of his first class career.

At the close, Chris Harris was on 15 while Tony Blain had scored a single to push the lead to 118 runs.

The South Australians hardly helped their cause with wasteful fielding, dropping five catches with Greatbatch being given three lives and Bryan Young two.

Greatbatch was able to play his way back into form with the assistance of lives on three, 17 and 65.

The left hander has had an interrupted tour of Australia, badly breaking a finger in the opening match against Western Australia, and struggled with 18 and nought in the first Test.

The South Australia attack was hampered by the absence of leg-spinner Peter McIntyre with a damaged right index finger suffered while batting on Friday night.

#### Army hockey

Bogra area trounced the Dhaka Engineers by 6-0 goals in opening match of the annual hockey tournament of Bangladesh Army at the Jessore Cantonment yesterday, reports UNB.

The winners led the first half

by 4-0. Earlier, the local area Commander Mai Gen Mohammad Mustafizur Rahman Bir Bikram inaugurated the 11-day meet.

#### Double crown for Dr Rashid and Mashuq

Sports Reporter

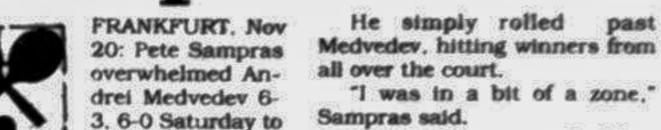
Dr Rashiduddin Ahmed and Mashuq of Dhaka Club won the sixth Nasiruddin memorial tennis doubles Open title when the pair beat Azmat Moin and Syed Waheed of Gulshan club in straight sets at the Officers' Club Tennis Complex on Friday. The duo who had earlier won

he veterans' doubles title with a fairly easy win against Azimuddin Chowdhury and Md Nasim of the Officers' Club beat their Gulshan Club rivals 6-4, 6-2.

The singles title went to Major (retd) AMM Nasiruddin who beat Riazul Islam (Bibi) 6-2, 6-2.

Begum Nasiruddin Ahmed gave away the prizes as the chief guest

## Sampras sails into final the 1991 tournament cham-



Germany's Michael Stich acknowledges the cheers from his

home crowd after he defeating American Jim Courier 7-5, 6-

4 at the ATP tennis tournament in Frankfurt, Germany on

Ivanisevic.

the semifinals.

Edberg's 4.

reach the final of the ATP Tour World Championship, serving out the match with his 1,000th ace of the season, reports AP.

The semifinal lasted only 51 minutes. Sampras was in devastating form. In his eight service games,

Sampras dropped only seven

He simply rolled Medvedev, hitting winners from

Sampras is assured of finishing the year as No. 1 in the world, even if he does not win the dlrs 2.75 million tournament which pits the eight topranked players. He won the event in 1991.

The 22-year-old American has won eight titles this year. including Wimbledon and the

while Courier, second in this event the last two years, dropped to 0-3. Earlier Friday, Sampras beat Sergi Bruguera 6-3, 1-6, 6-3 in a match that had no impact on the final group standings in the round-robin portion of the tour-ending, dlrs 2.75 million event. Sampras led his group with a 3-0 record and Ivanisevic is The tournaments its the top

pion, will face Andrei

Medvedev in the second semi-

6-4 and will replace the Amer-

ican as No. 2 in the world if he

record in leading his group

wins-the tournament.

Stich beat Jim Courier 7-5,

Stich had a 3-0 match

2-1.

eight players in the world. split into two groups. The top two from each groups advance. and three semifinal berths had been decided before Friday.

in the only match that really counted, Ivanisevic again needed smelling salts early in the second set to ease his breathing, suffering from the same problem that plagued him in Thursday's win over Bruguera.

"I was breathing with difficulty and it made me dizzy, but it only lasted for a couple of games," the eighth-ranked Croatian said. "I was OK after that."

lvanisevic was the final player to qualify for the tournament, and was helped by Sampras' semifinal victory over Cedric Pioline at Antwerp last

spent last week sweating in front of the TV and now am in the semifinals," he said "I lost to Boris Becker last year..."

Stich has been carrying Germany's hopes, after Becker failed to qualify for the tournament he won last year. Ivanisevic started with an

ace, setting the tone for the entire match. He broke for a 5-3 lead, and was serving for the set, only to allow Edberg to break back at love. In the tiebreaker, an Ed-

berg double-fault and an ace gave Ivanisevic three set points and he got the first when the Swede hit a return into the

A similar pattern followed in the second set. Ivanisevic broke for a 5-4 lead, served for the match and was broken instead.

In the tiebreaker, he hit a simple overhead smash into the net, giving Edberg two set points. He saved one, but Edberg evened the score with a service winner.

The key break came in the eight game of the third set when Ivanisevic took a 5-3 lead. This time he made no mistakes; serving out the match at love, after one hour.

57 minutes. "It was one of the best matches I've played mentally," Ivanisevic said.

Edberg, ranked No. 5 in the world, finished the tournament at 1-2.

## Sanchez scrambles in semis

— AFP photo.

US Open, and his singles record

for the season is 83-14, the best

since Ivan Lendl went 84-7 in

Michael Stich plays Goran

Ivanisevic fired 20 aces and

beat Stefan Edberg for the

sixth time in a row to reach

filled match 7-6 (7-3) 6-7 (5-

7), 6-3 and will meet Michael

hit and ace," Ivanisevic said af-

ter reaching the semifinals for

champion in 1989, served

nine double-faults, had only

three aces and hit 35 winners

to Ivanisevic's 59. The Croatian

also had 27 service winners to

Pete Sampras, the top-

ranked player in the world and

the second straight year.

Stich in Saturday's semifinals.

Ivanisevic won the error-

"Whenever he came close,

Edberg, the tournament

In the second semifinal.

Earlier on Friday. Goran



Nov 19.

faults.

points, and four were double-

faults. In the second set, he lost

three points - all on double-

ending event for the first time.

dropped his serve in the second

game and it was all downhill

from there for the 19-year-old

"He played incredibly."

Apart from hitting serves at

On game point in the fifth

speeds reaching 207 kph (124

mph). Sampras also produced

shots rarely seen in the game.

game, Sampras was caught on

the wrong foot by a Medvedev

shot that skimmed the net cord.

He casually reached behind his

back with he racket, and in an

unorthodox version of a fore-

hand half-volley, gently placed

Most of the brief match.

however, Sampras did not need

the ball across the net, just be-

yond Medvedev's reach.

such acrobatic skills.

rookie from Ukraine.

Medvedev said

Medvedev, playing the tour-

NEW YORK, Nov 20: Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, nearly on the verge of elimination. rallied Friday ni-

ght to defeat Jana Novotna and grab a spot in the semifinals of the Virginia Slims Championships, reports AP. Getting stronger and more

determined the longer they played, the second-seeded Spaniard toppled Novotna 6-7(2-7), 7-6(7-2), 6-4 in a match that took 2 hours, 57 minutes at Madison Square Garden. Sanchez Vicario will play

Mary Pierce in Saturday's second semifinals. The unseeded Pierce reached the semifinals in her first trip to this seasonending tournament by upsetting four-time winner Martina Navratilova on Thursday night. The first semifinal has top-

seeded Steffi Graf against No.8 Anke Huber. In Friday's first match, Huber made it an all-German semifinal by defeating fourth-seeded Conchita Martinez 6-3, 6-3. It was a rare victory over

Novotna for Sanchez Vicario. who has lost eight of 12 career

meetings. But this one was sweeter, considering from how far back she had to come.

Although Novotna, one of the best all-court players on the women's tour, and Sanchez Vicario battled evenly through the first two sets, that parity was only on the scoreboard. Novotna appeared to be in control while Sanchez Vicario struggled.

Appearances were deceiv-There were four service

breaks in the first set and two more in the second. Each time one broke serve, the other broke right back. Novotna controlled the

first-set tiebreak, but it was Sanchez Vicario who was starting to control the match. Novotna had to fight thro-

ugh five deuces to hold serve in the fifth game of the middle set. She was taken to deuce again in her next service game, but still managed to hold. The first four points in the

second-set tiebreak went against serve. That was when the Spanish right-hander took control. She won the next five

points to capture the tiebreak. then took the lead in the third set for good by breaking Novotna in the seventh game. the final point a forehand cross-court passing shot that ticked off Novotna's racket.

Huber and Martinez engaged in long baseline engagements, sending powerful groundstrokes to the outer edges of the court. If the points were long, the games were longer as the two evenly matched competitors kept battling to deuce.

Martinez had the bigger serve, a stroke that would have worked perfectly to set up a serve-and-volley game. Instead, the Spaniard retreated to her regular spot behind the baseline and worked her way into the point. Huber retaliated by slamming her grunt-assisted strokes deep into the corners. keeping Huber on the run.

The match was halted

briefly in the second set when Martinez asked for an received medical attention when her back muscles tightened up. After a brief massage, the match resumed.

The loss ended the best year for Martinez, who had victories over Gabriela Sabatini, Navratilova, Mary Joe Fernandez and Graf, the latter Sunday in the final of the Virginia Slims of Philadelphia.

"I have a lot of confidence when I play against her." said Huber, who has never lost to Martinez in four meetings. "It makes it a lot easier."

For Huber, making her first appearance in Madison Square Garden, it is the best she has done in a major tournament since reaching the semifinals of the French Open in May where she won only two games in losing to Graf.

"In the beginning I was too nervous," Huber said. "I was doing everything too fast. My serve was not good. After that, I just tried to play my game."

Sunday's winner of this dirs 3.5 million tournament will receive, dirs 250,000, with dlrs 120,000 going to the run-

#### Big boost for Irish football

DUBLIN, Nov 20: The Football Association of Ireland (FAI) are hoping to benefit by around five million pounds by Eire's qualification for next year's World Cup finals, reports

That is the rough estimate put on Alan McLoughlin's equaliser against Northern Ireland in Belfast on Wednesday by FAI chief executive Sean Connolly. "The goal could easily be

worth five million pounds to us," he said. "Now that England and Wales are out of the World Cup, major British companies are considering diverting sponsorship funds to the Irish. "It's also feasible that Irish

industry and commerce could pull something like 100 million pounds from our qualifying in America."

# in Europe that has that many about," Zoffinger said. Mashuq (L) and Dr Rashiduddin Ahmed (R) became doubles'champions in the final of the sixth Nasiruddin memorial tennis

tournament held at the Officers' Tennis Complex on Friday. (Extreme right) Begum Nasiruddin Ahmed gave away the prizes among the winners. - Star photo.