#### Bangladesh take on Myanmar today

**Sports Reporter** Bangladesh national football

team takes on the visiting Myanmar national team in the second friendly match at the Mirpur Stadium today. The kick-off is scheduled at

4.30 pm. Bangladesh won the first match quite comprehensively beating their neighbours 3-1 on

Friday last. The rate of tickets for the galleries has been fixed at Taka 15 while the entry fee for the VIP enclosure will cost Taka 20 apiece.

Meanwhile, the Sylhet Districts Sports Association (SDSA) has apprised the Bangladesh Football Federation of its inability to host another match there.

Myanmar national team is currently touring Bangladesh to help the home team prepare for the forthcoming South Asian Federation (SAF) Games, beginning in Dhaka in a week's time

### Div II cricket

Sports Reporter

Kathalbagan and Young Pegasus 'A' recorded wins in their respective matches in the Second Division cricket league at different city venues yester-

At the Dhanmondi Club ground, Kathalbagan outclassed Nabin Sangha by six wickets.

Batting first. Nabin Sangha batted through their allotted 40 overs to score 173 for nine.

Kathalbagan posted 177 for four wickets to ensure a sixwicket win. Young Pegasus 'A' batted

ets at the DCS. Lalbagh in their turn were all out for 143 leaving Pegasus winners by 36 runs.

first to score 179 for eight wick-

#### Rain runs show

COLOMBO, Dec 12: Heavy overnight rain prevented any play on the fourth day of the inaugural cricket Test between Shri Lanka and West Indies today, reports Reuter.

The umpires inspected the field twice before deciding that no play was possible because of the wet outfield.

Play was expected to begin on schedule on the fifth and final day on Monday providing there was no more rain.

Scores: Shri Lanka 190 and 43-2. West Indies 204.

#### Russian runners reap rich

SANTA CATERINA VAL-FURVA, Italy, Dec 12: Russia won the women's cross-country relay Sunday to wind up the opening weekend of the World Cup events in northern Italy, reports AP.

The quartet finished the 20kilometer (12.4-mile) course in 1 hour, 21.2 seconds. On the winning team included Elena Vaelbe, who won Saturday's 5kilometer race.

In Sunday's relay, Finland trailed 42 seconds behind the Russians to take second place.

The Norwegian team, which finished third in 1:01:05.1, took the first leg of the race. The Russians, however, dominated the remaining three, weathering a Finish challenge in the final

Stefania Belmondo, thirdplace finisher in Saturday's fivekilometer event, paced the Italian team to fourth place, in 1:02:10.2. A second Russian team took fifth at 1:02:31.5.

The results of the weekend's competition will help determine the favorites to watch in Norway in February during the Winter

#### Olympics. Japanese sumo wrestlers shine

TOKYO, Dec 12: Japanese amateur wrestlers swept all five titles in the Sumo World Championship tournament held on Sunday, reports Reuter.

in the open weight division. Sunao Yasu defeated Mongolia's Badmaanyambuu Bat-Erdenead also led Japan to victory in the team event.

Sumo wrestlers from 33 countries took part in the event at Tokyo's Ryogoku sumo arena: It was the second annual tournament held by the International Sumo Federation as part of its effort to make the sport an Olympic event in the 2000 Sydney Games.

Fumilito Tsuruga downed another Mongolian, Tsedendamba Bayarsaihan, in the finals to win the heavyweight title.

The middleweight champion was Akihiro Kiku, who beat Brazil's Fabio Kasahira. Hitoshi Omura clinched the lightweight division title when he toppled Argentina's Juan Manuel Matsubara.

### Gallizio glitters

VEYSONNAZ, Switzerland, Dec 12: Italian teenager Morena Gallizio led after the first run of a World Cup slalom Sunday, .07 seconds ahead of her compatriot Bibiana Perez, reports

Urska Hrovat of Slovenia was third, .14 behind Gallizio's first run time of 42.26 seconds. Gallizio, 19, has never won a World Cup event.

# It's a dads' army: Li Lian

Sports Reporter

Jokingly though, Li Lian Yi,

the Chinese coach of the

Bangladesh table tennis team

VI SAF GAMES

eration (SAF) Games, spilled the

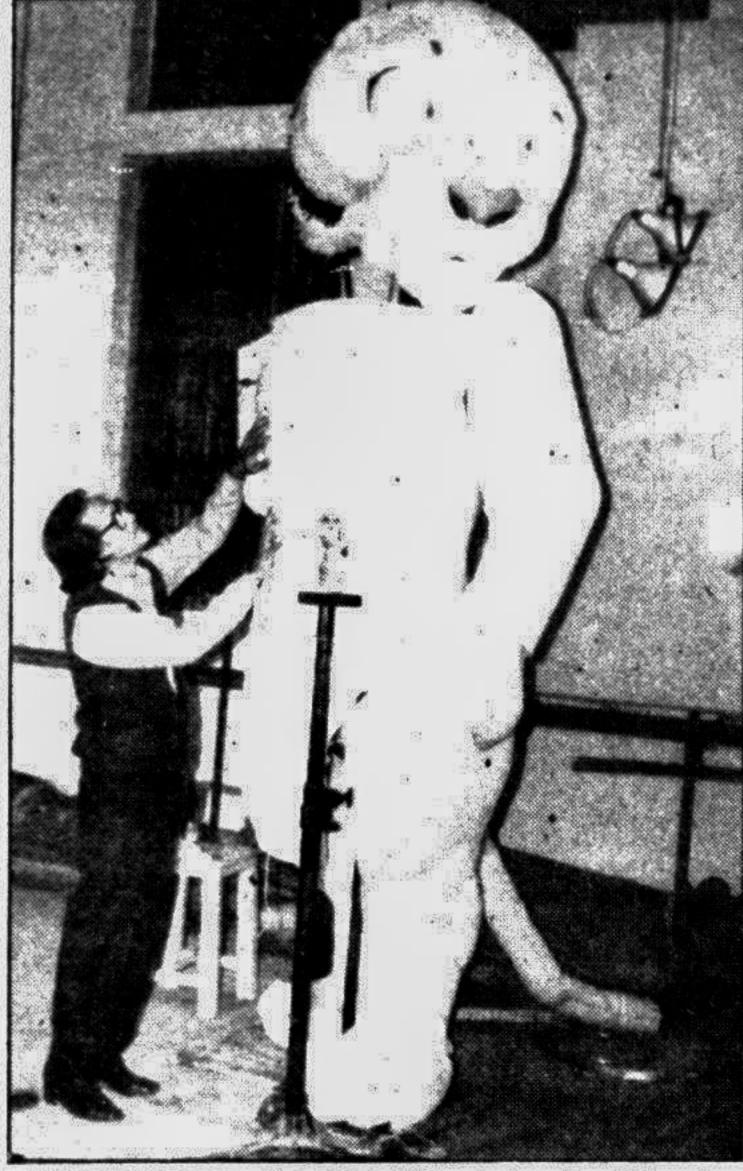
While dwelling on the

for the sixth South Asian Fed-

prospects of Bangladesh in a routine press conference at the conference room of the National Sports Council (NSC) yesterday. the middle aged trainer in his inimitable pidgin English labelled the squad of male paddlers as some sort of a dads

Majority of the men's quintet with the notable exception of Mahbub are in their thirties. Rochi, Kochi, Happy, Mustafa are the other members of the squad.

While age is the our male table tennis players' chances in the upcoming seven-nation bonanza, beginning in the city from December 20 injury is the



Mustafa Monowar, the doyen of country's cultural domain and an artist in his own right, is now busy in preparing the mascot for the sixth SAF Games to be held in Dhaka from December 20 to 27. The former DG of Bangladesh Television is taking an absorbed look at the synthetic muscle of standing 'Adamya', the cub tiger - Star photo

Two Indians -

Test-discard San-

leev Sharma and

Arup Bhatta-

charya — topped

hatting

Division cricket league.

wicket-taker.

Batting:

Bowling:

bowling averages in the recently

concluded Navana Pre-mier

National player Enamul Huq

Moni, skipper of Bangladesh

Biman, who shared the league

title this year with Abahani

Krira Chakra, bagged 23 wick-

ets at the cost of 11.04 runs

apiece to finish as the highest

Rashid scored 576 runs in 11

matches at an average of 57.60

to be the highest run-getter.

batting and bowling averages:

Sanjeev Sharma (Surjo Tarun)

Ashoke Malhotra (Gulshan Youth)

Kaiser Rashid (Kalabagan)

Mahbubur Rahman (GMCC)

Rajinder Singh (Surjo Tarun)

Gazi Ashraf Hossain (Abahani)

Arup Bhattacharya (Victoria)

Richard Illingworth (Abahani)

Sharfuddowla Ibne Shahid (GMCC)

Sanjeev Sharma (Surjo Tarun)

Vishal Yadav (Dhanmondi)

Courtesy: Kashinath Basak

Akram Khan (Abahani)

Jahangir Alam (Biman)

Raman Lamba (GMCC)

Enamul Huq (Biman)

Sharat (Wari Club)

Nafees (Surjo Tarun)

Carman (Wari Club)

Anisur Rahman (GMCC)

Neil Fairbrother (Ahabani)

Pakistani allrounder Kaiser

Following are the top ten

Navana Premier Div averages

Sports Reporter

S SHARMA

104\*

58

87

76\*

72

90

122

67\*

576

311

346

282

361

440

207

398

156

254

245

241

221

257

205

267

196

207

(Tabulate under match played, not out, highest score, total, average, 50s, no scores.)

(Tabulate under overs bowled, runs conceded, wickets, average, best bowling)

main problem in women's de-

Zobera Rahman Linu, the queen bee of local table tennis. is nursing a back injury that occurred during a prep tour of India recently, said Syed Yusuf Hossain, the president of the Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation (BTTF) who was one of the presences along with BTTF general secretary, vice president

and the team manager. There was a note of forced optimism in the voice of general secretary Qazi Mainuzzaman when the genial official wrinkled silver medal as the target of the men's team. A daunting but logical hope since Bangladesh finished third in the last meet in Colombo.

Bangladesh men's team has been placed in Group A along with Pakistan, Maldives and Bhutan firm favourites India. Nepal and 6hri Lanka form the Group B.

In the women's category, Bangladesh will have to ward off the challenges of Nepal and Shri Lanka in Group A. India, Pakistan, Maldives and Bhutan will form the relatively tougher Group B.

As hosts Bangladesh will enjoy the privilege of having three singles matches in addition to the common two doubles matches. Other countries wil have two singles matches in their share in the seven-event discipline participated by all the seven-member countries of the regional forum South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

#### 165 for liaison duty

Meanwhile, about 165 liaison officers, including 50 females, will work with different local and foreign contingents during the Games.

These liaison officers were selected through interview of some 730 applicants, said Kazi Mishu, secretary of the Reception and Liaison Committee, at a press briefing at the NSC conference room yesterday.

These officers were groomed with a week's training early this month. During the training, they were briefed on mannerism, conversation and first aid as well as on ideas about the transport and accommodation facilities.

The Reception Committee will receive and welcome the foreign teams and delegates at the Zia International Airport and also see them off from the same place after the closure of the Games.

ARUP

67:16

57.60

51.83

49.42

47.00

45.12

44.00

41.40

39.80

39.00

23

20

19

13

8.05

11.04

11.66

12.05

12.27

13.52

13.66

14.05

15.07

15.10

Games' sacrifice

A steel walkway girder dislodged

ATLANTA, Georgia, Dec 12:

5-18

4-31

4-14

4-8

4-14

4-32

2-8

## Pak prestige at stake

RAWALPINDI, Dec 12: Pakistan face an uphilf struggle to reassert their anticipated superiority over Zimbabwe when the second cricket Test resumes on Monday, reports Reuter.

Pakistan team manger Sikandar Bakht said his side precariously placed just 33 runs ahead with seven second innings wickets left, would fight back after Sunday's rest day.

But Zimbabwean skipper Andy Flower, pleased with the good work of his pacemen, said the grassy pitch at Rawaipindi's Cricket Stadium suited his side, who lost the first of the three-Test series in Karachi by 131 runs earlier this month.

The pre-lunch session on the fourth day will be most crucial in deciding the fate of the match," said Flower. Optimistic his pace trio of Eddo Brandes, David Brain and Heath Streak can again unnerve the Pakistani batsmen on moist strip.

Inzamam -ul-Haq, on nine, and the experienced Javed Miandad, one not out, will be the initial barriers, but Bakht admitted the world one day champions lacked confidence in the conditions.

"It is not that our batsmen are inferior to Zimbabwe batsmen but they get scant opportunity to prepare themselves under conditions prevailing at Rawalpindi Stadium," he said.

"But we are still in the battle If we put a good total on the board, our bowlers will go all out to make a match of it."

#### Jones blazes with willow

HOBART, Australia, Dec 12: Dean Jones returned to form today with an elegant unbeaten 158 for Victoria on the third day of their Sheffield Shield match against Tasmania, reports Reuter.

Jones, who still hopes to force his way back into the powerful Australian batting line-up, took Victoria to 329 for three declared in reply to Tasmania's 328. Tasmania were 178 for three in their second innings at the close.

The highlight of the Victorian innings was a sparkling partnership of 201 between Jones and his 18-yearold protege Brad Hodge, who hit 106.

It was Hodge's maiden first class century and brought his aggregate for the season to 492 at the impressive average of

Hodge was only 10 when Jones made his Test debut against the West Indies in 1984 and, in common with many teenagers, had a poster of his idol on his bedroom wall.

"It's still really exciting very time I bat with Deano but guess he's becoming more of a teammate now," Hodge said. Before adding: "He's still a god though."

## Winners get

PORT OF SPAIN, Dec 12: Winners of the forthcoming Test series between West Indies and England in the Caribbean are to receive 5,000 US dollars, reports Reuter.

In addition to the prize for the series winners, there is 2,000 US dollars for the winning team in each Test, while the man-of-the-match receives 400 US dollars and the-man-ofthe-series gets 1,000 US dollars, West Indies Cricket Board of Control (WICBC) announced on Saturday.

England arrive in the Caribbean on January 15 for an itinerary including five Tests and five one-day internationals.

The winners of the one-day tournament collect 2,000 US dollars, and 800 US dollars will be awarded to the winners of each game. Each man-of-thematch gets 400 US dollars.

everything is made for batsmen. "I felt I started to come good but I'm a perfectionist and I didn't like a few things in the

opportunity help steer his country to an emphatic eight-wicket victory over New Zealand in their one day cricket match here today. reports AFP.

Hayden, preferred to Mark Taylor, hit an unbeaten halfcentury as Allan Border's side thrashed the tourists with more than 12 overs to space. was secured. Hayden shared an unbroken

ADELAIDE, Dec

12: Australia's

Matthew Hayden

made the most of

his long-awaited

stand of 94 for the third-wicket with David Boon, who finished unbeaten on 51, to lead Australia to 136 for two in reply to the recent Test series. New Zealand's meagre 135 all out from 48.2 overs.

The lefthanded Hayden is still waiting in line behind Taylor and Michael Slater for a Test vacancy but made the most of today's opportunity to impress the selectors, hitting four boundaries off 99 deliveries.

Earlier leg-spinner Shane Warne tormented the New Zealanders with 4-25 from his 10 overs while rockie pacemen Glenn McGrath finished with 4-Strike bowler Craig McDer-

mott claimed the scalp of Dipak Patel and did much to put the tourists under pressure by allowing only 15 runs from his 10 overs.

"I could have played better but it was still a good feeling to get 50," Hayden said later. "It wasn't the usual buzz but

I think I did the job I had to. "I love this ground because innings."

The Australians needed a little over 2.7 runs an over for victory and cruised along to the target, despite a hiccup when Mark Waugh was run out for 21 in a mix-up with Hayden.

Hayden had to wear some of the blame for the dismissal but shrugged it off and ensured he was at the crease until victory

The New Zealand innings was another sorry chapter from the book of batting collapses which ruined their chances in

From 104 for three in the 36th over, the last seven wickets tumbled for 31 runs to give New Zealand their second-lowest total in a one-day international in Australia.

Chris Cairns top-scored with 31 but only one other batsman, Mark Greatbatch, with 28 topped 20 runs. New Zealand captain Ken

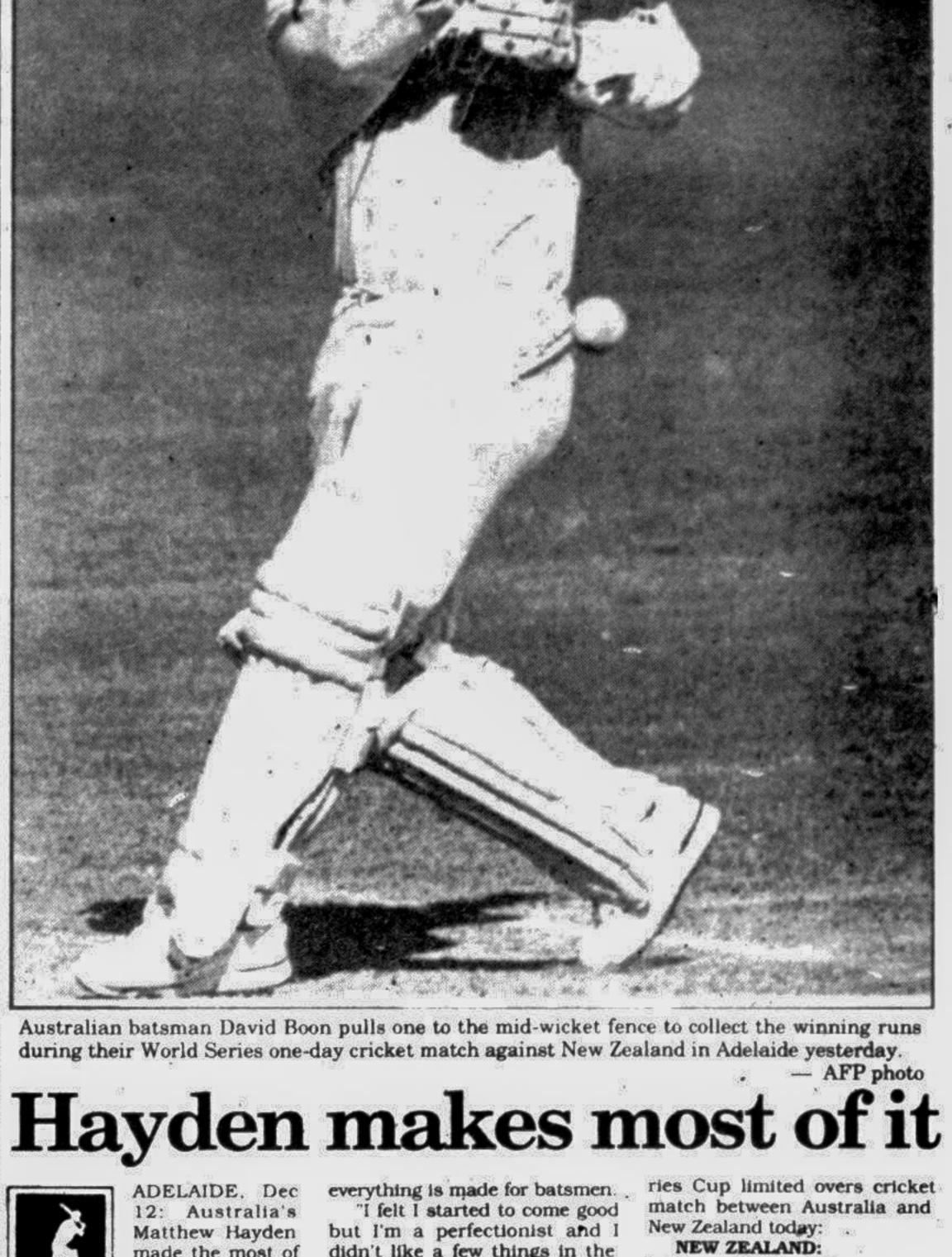
Rutherford said his side's batting was paper-thin. "You have to give credit to their bowlers and maybe I can console myself that this was our

one bad one-day game," Rutherford said. "It was our first of the summer and we really have to pick things up quickly.

Australia play South Africa in Sydney on Tuesday and then New Zealand in Melbourne next Thursday.

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the World Se-



Australian batsman David Boon pulls one to the mid-wicket fence to collect the winning runs during their World Series one-day cricket match against New Zealand in Adelaide yesterday.

ries Cup limited overs cricket match between Australia and

Latham c M Waugh b McGrath Young b Reiffel Rutherford c Reiffel b McGrath Greatbatch lbw b Warne Cairns c Border b Warne Harris c and b Warne Blain not out Patel c Healy b McDermott Larsen c Reiffel b Warne

Pringle c Border b McGrath Morrison c Healy b McGrath Extras: (lb-8, w-3, nb-2) Fall of wickets: 1-6; 2-33; 3-

45; 4-104; 5-109; 6-112; 7-113; 8-124; 9-132. Bowling: McDermott

McGrath 32 Reiffel S Waugh 19 M Waugh 25 Warne AUSTRALIA: Slater lbw b Pringle Hayden not out M Waugh run out

Boon not out Extras: (lb-4, w-1, nb-1) Total: (for two wickets) Fall of wickets: 1-16: 2-42 Bowling: Morrison 31 Pringle 37

Cairns Larsen Patel 0 Did not bat: A Border, S Waugh, I Healy, P Reiffel, S Warne, C McDermott, G Mc Grath. Result: Australia won by

eight wickets.



LEST WE FORGET: A glittering gallery of portraits featuring late exponents of different games from 1901 to 1993 has been erected at the road side to set the mood for the biennial sporting spectacle of the seven SAARC members beginning for the sixth time in Dhaka from December 20. - Star photo by Anisur Rahman

## Host judokas on top

FUKUOKA, Japan. Dec 12: World champion Royoko Tamura led hosts Japan's gold medal tally winning the 48-kilogram bentamweight category for a fourth consecutive time to close the two-day Fukuoka international women's judo tournament here Sunday, reports

The 18-year-old Japanese, who had to be satisfied with the silver in the Barcelona Olympics, defeated Spain's Yolanda Disu by yusei in the semi-finals, and went on to win the final, beating Tatiana Kouvchinova of Russia by ippon in two minutes seven seconds.

Chiyri Tateno fixed Noriko Sugawara on the mat in the all-Japanese 56 kg lightweight final in 3:13 while the remaining two titles went to Legna Verdecia of

Cuba and Zhang Ying of China. Verdecia, the world 52kd featherweight champion, defeated Japan's Kazue Nagai, and defending champion Zhang out scored another Japanese, Kaori Suzuki, in the open class

final, both by decision. On Saturday, South Korea's Jung Secong-Sook and Cho Min-Sun bagged the 61-kilogram and 66-kilogram titles in an international women's judo meet which opened here

Saturday. Jung won a "usei" superiorfty decision over Japan's Eiko Sugimura in the final, while Cho beat Barcelona Olympic gold medalist Rerve Jumenez of Cuba also by use.

Japan's Yuriko Fukuda won

the 72-kilogram title by pinning

compatriot Saki Yoshida on the

mat in the final.

by gusting winds killed a woman here Saturday as she walked to work at the Georgia Dome Stadium, police said, reports AFP.

The walkway is being built to link the enclosed stadium with the nearby World Congress Centre and the Omni indoor Olympics.

nounced dead at the scene after being struck in the head while upon a waikway that was under construction. Another person who was not identified was injured in the mishap.

arena. All three will be important sites for competitions and meetings at the 1996 Atlanta Dawn McNally, 24, was pro-

Workers were off when the incident took place.