

## Sport

## Cloudy passage to Canada

Sports Reporter

Amidst speculations of all too familiar sharp practices over foreign trips, a 23-member Bangladeshi contingent leaves the capital for Canada today to take part in the 15th Commonwealth Games, scheduled to be held in Victoria from August 18 to 28.

Although Bangladesh's participation in the upcoming Games hardly symbolises anything beyond the expression of solidarity with the other Commonwealth countries, the seemingly endless maltradition of behind-the-scene manipulation saw an unprecedented campaign of opportunism this time.

From the number of government orders (GO) issued by the Ministry of Youth and Sports with the Games it appears that no less than 50 persons, majority of whom have no essential links with the event, are all set to use the Games as their launching pads to leave the country either on the purpose of excursion, or to be more cynical, to seek better pastures as soldiers of fortune.

Clouds of nepotism loomed large over the Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) as the son of the secretary general Bashir Ahmed, who has reportedly no link with the expedition, has lined up for the trip as an observer.

Journalists of no consequence and commitment to the sporting carnival have also confirmed their passage to Canada in this connection.

## Maradona indicted

BUENOS AIRES, Aug 11: Fallen soccer superstar Diego Maradona was indicted Wednesday for shooting an air rifle reporters last February, officials said, reports reuter.

Maradona, suspended indefinitely from world soccer after failing a doping test at the World Cup, faces charges of causing bodily harm with pellets from his air rifle. The charges carry a maximum sentence of two years in prison.

Court officials in the town of Mercedes, 60 miles (100 km) from Buenos Aires, told Reuters that investigating judge Julio Campora signed the indictment Wednesday, wrapping up the first phase of proceedings against the former Argentina captain.

Maradona, 33, after being sacked by First Division club Newell's Old Boys last February, hours later took pot shots at reporters besieging his country home, injuring four.

Baresi changes his mind

ROME, Aug 11: Italian captain Franco Baresi, who said he was quitting international soccer after last month's World Cup final, has changed his mind, reports Reuter.

"I remain available for selection for the national team. It's up to the coach to decide whether he wants to pick me," the Gazzetta Dello Sport on Thursday quoted Baresi as saying.

Baresi, 34, returned to the Italian team for the World Cup final with Brazil just three weeks after a knee operation.

Playing his 80th international, the Italian defender gave a masterly performance but then missed from the spot as Italy lost in a penalty shoot-out.

Baresi, who also captains European champions AC Milan, resumed training with his club on Wednesday and rejected suggestions that this would be his last season.

"I'll keep on playing as long as my fitness holds up ... the knee which was operated on seems fine," he added.

Italy return to action on September 7 when they launch their qualifying campaign for the 1996 European Championships.

## Ideal boost for Bavarians

STUTTGART, Aug 11: Bundesliga champions Bayern Munich beat Spanish champions Barcelona 3-0 in a warm-up tournament in Stuttgart to give themselves the ideal boost for the start of the season in nine days' time, reports Reuter.

Bayern, in only their second competitive match under new Italian coach Giovanni Trapattoni, played a typically patient Italian-style match, saving their energy for sharp breaks.

Mehmet Scholl, new signing Jean-Pierre Papin and Marcel Witeczek all scored from breaks in the 13th, 65th and 86th minutes to give Munich a deserved win.

Barcelona's star combination of Romanian midfielder Gheorghe Hagi and Bulgarian striker Hristo Stoichkov outplayed Bayern's four-square defence several times only to be foiled by the post or the reflexes of new goalkeeper Oliver Kahn.

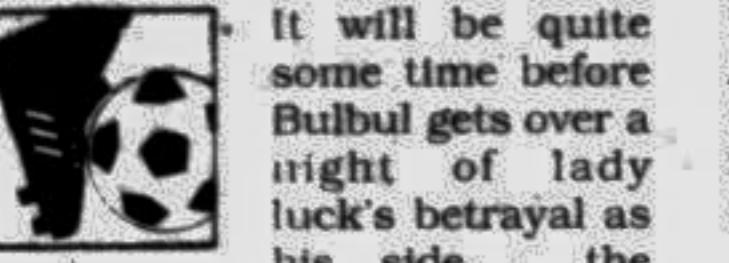


Action from yesterday's Star Premier Division football league match between title-chasers Abahani KC and Public Works Department (PWD) at the Dhaka Stadium. PWD held the DMFA Cup champions to a goalless draw.

— Star photo

## Abahani stumble again

Sports Reporter



It will be quite some time before Bulbul gets over a night of lady luck's betrayal as his side, the unfancied office team, Public Works Department (PWD), snatched a second point from heavy weights Abahani Krira Chakra in a goalless encounter of the Star Premier Division league at the Dhaka Stadium last evening.

Last year's runners-up Abahani, who dropped their first point of the season earlier to Wari Club, twice survived scare as the little known Bulbul's shot returned to play from the cross bar on two occasions, much to the relief of the large contingent of the sky blue supporters.

Bulbul's eventually abortive courtship with heroism was, however, against the tide of the events as Abahani held the whiplash almost throughout the match without ever finding the net legitimately.

Abahani had their share of second stroke seconds before the short whistle when Bulbul let fly another scorching left footer making light of the awesome presence of Monem Munna, normally regarded as the plinth of the Abahani defence but the woodwork again proved to be his bane.

Abahani's tale of misses stretched into the second half with Aslam at fault in the 61st minute.

Things improved a bit for Abahani once Gaus, one of the

three replacements on the night besides Tutul and Shamim replaced an off-colour Zulfiqar Mintu. But the dark nippy left-winger, although assuring some bite into the attack, proved as goalbound as others and Abahani's second draw in this year's league became more and more an inexorable fate.

The dark hitman known for his explosiveness in the air had one of his header obstructed by the woodwork and went on to miss two absolute sitters.

After Aslam's serial effort in the 30th minute Bulbul almost froze Abahani three minutes later when he unleashed a thunderous left-footer from about 30 years which beat Dhanu all ends up but returned off the woodwork.

Six minutes later, Aslam deposited a ball straight to the PWD custodian Shohan from close range.

Abahani had their share of second stroke seconds before the short whistle when Bulbul let fly another scorching left footer making light of the awesome presence of Monem Munna, normally regarded as the plinth of the Abahani defence but the woodwork again proved to be his bane.

For Bankers Jamal, Mizan, Badal and Iqbal got one apiece.

Boys have two points from four matches while Agrami Bank remain stuck to the solitary point from four matches.

## TODAY'S MATCHES

Farashganj vs Muslim Instt (Mirpur Stadium 6:00)  
East End vs Bima (Dhaka Stadium 4:30)  
BU vs Muktijoddha (Dhaka Stadium 6:30)

## Touch of gold for O'Sullivan

HELSINKI, Finland, Aug 11: Sonia O'Sullivan, a former Villa-nova runner from Ireland, easily won the women's 3,000 meters and her first European title Wednesday, reports AP.

Sven Nylander, formerly of SMU (Dallas), lunged past a Frenchman at the tape of the men's 400 hurdles final.

Unfortunately for the Swede, it was only good for second as Ukraine's Oleg Tverdokhleb snatched the gold in the European Championships Wednesday.

O'Sullivan, who last month set a world's best in the non-championship 2,000 metres and a European record in the 3,000, turned in a strong kick to win in 8 minutes, 31.84 seconds.

Yvonne Murray, the defending champion from Britain, was almost five seconds behind in 8:36.48. Gabriela Szabo of Romania set a European junior record of 8:40.48 for third.

"I think a lot of people were doubting me," O'Sullivan said. "I knew I was in good shape. If I was going to lose, it was going to be because I had made the mistake."

"I'm really, really happy. Coming home with a medal is one thing, but with the gold it is something else."

A year ago, the Chinese runners stopped O'Sullivan from winning a gold medal in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics and the 1987 worlds in Stuttgart, Germany, to take the women's discus at 68.72 metres.

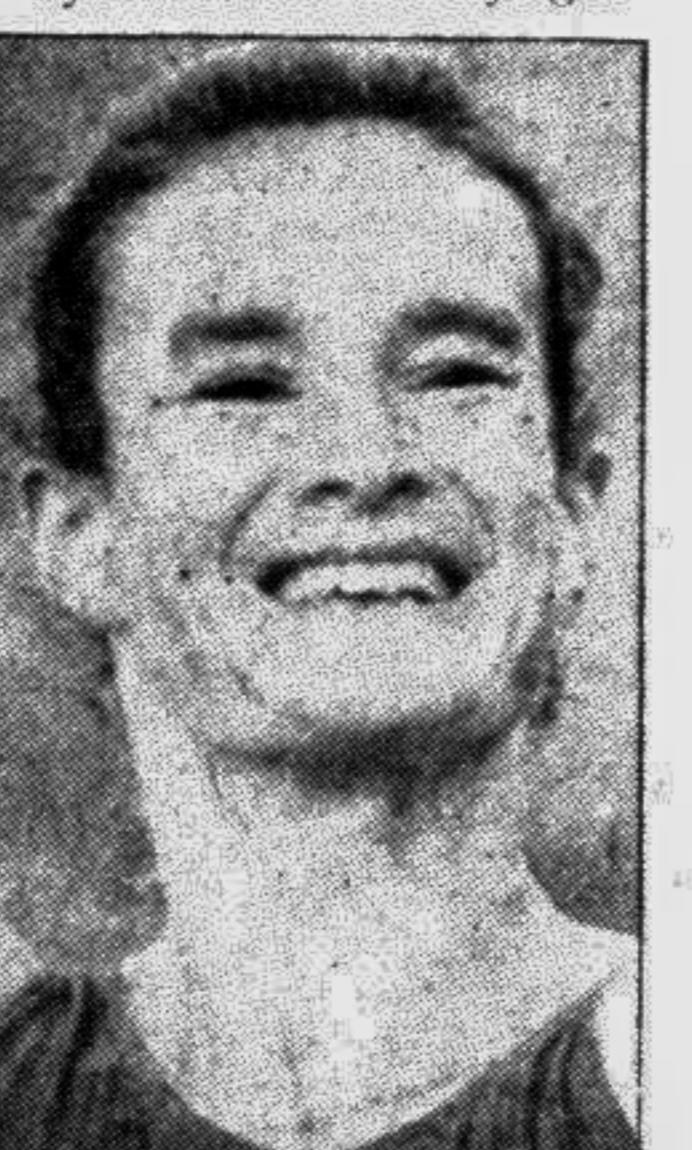
On Sunday, the final day of the championships, O'Sullivan will try for the 1,500-metre title. Qualifying starts Friday.

Tverdokhleb skinned the seventh hurdle, but went on to set a new national record of 48.06 in the 400 hurdles and win Ukraine's second gold in these championships.

"I was in big trouble at the end of the race," he said. "Luckily I managed it. Before the final I thought the winning time must be somewhat under 48.70. So you can imagine how happy I am with the new national record. I have a chance to run even faster."

Nylander, who had a remarkable record of making all championship finals between 1982 and '87, also set a national record of 48.22 at age 32.

France's Stephane Diagana, whom Nylander beat in the



SONIA O'SULLIVAN

become Sweden's first male European champion in 32 years, broke through with a fourth in the inaugural World Championships here in 1983.

He just can't win the gold in the big ones." He was fourth in last to first in one year, coming back from 11th and last in the worlds before her home fans in Stuttgart, Germany, to take the women's discus at 68.72 metres.

In the 3,000, O'Sullivan finished fourth behind three Chinese and in the 1,500, another Chinese beat her for the gold.

On Sunday, the final day of the championships, O'Sullivan will try for the 1,500-metre title. Qualifying starts Friday.

Tverdokhleb skinned the seventh hurdle, but went on to set a new national record of 48.06 in the 400 hurdles and win Ukraine's second gold in these championships.

"I was in big trouble at the end of the race," he said. "Luckily I managed it. Before the final I thought the winning time must be somewhat under 48.70. So you can imagine how happy I am with the new national record. I have a chance to run even faster."

Nylander, who had a remarkable record of making all championship finals between 1982 and '87, also set a national record of 48.22 at age 32.

France's Stephane Diagana, whom Nylander beat in the



The players and officials of Dhaka Eleven which left the capital yesterday evening for the Indian city of Hyderabad to take part in the Moin-ud-Dowla Gold Cup cricket tournament.

— Star photo

## Cricketers off to India

Sports Reporter

A 17-member Bangladesh cricket team under the banner of Dhaka Eleven left the capital yesterday evening for Indian city of Hyderabad to take part in the Moin-ud-Dowla Gold Cup cricket tournament, scheduled to begin tomorrow.

Akram Khan, the burly right-hand batsman of Abahani Krira Chakra, will lead the team, consisting mainly of cricketers who have recently won the seven-nation youth cricket tournament in Malaysia.

Aminul Islam Bulbul, the ace Mohammedan allrounder, will act as Akram's deputy. The other two national stars in the India-bound squad are national opener Jahangir Alam and Enamul Haq Moni.

The Dhaka Eleven will launch their campaign on the inaugural day of the week-long meet.

Anwar hit an unbeaten 110, his second Test century, on the third day to help Pakistan pile up 238 for two — and an overall lead of 402 — at the close.

Sri Lanka's problems started when they lost their final five first innings wickets for 11 runs. Then Anwar's methodical 275-minute innings ensured that Sri Lanka will struggle when play resumes after Friday's rest day.

Pakistan will probably set a target around 500 on wicket expected to turn in the final two days.

Anwar, who made his maiden century against New Zealand, was determined not to miss another golden chance after missing a hundred by just six runs in the first innings.

He made 95 in the first warm-up game against a Sri Lanka cricket board team. The left-hander has so far scored eight boundaries.

Anwar and Aamir Sohail equalled the record first wicket stand for Pakistan against Sri Lanka of 128 — set by Ramiz Raja and Shoaib Mohammad three years ago.

Asif Muttaba added 74 runs for the second wicket with Anwar before the Pakistani vice-captain departed for 31.

Sri Lanka's slow bowling trio failed miserably to contain the powerful Pakistani top-order after their batsmen narrowly escaped being asked to follow-on.

Sri Lanka resuming from an overnight 152 for 4 and still needing 39 to avert the follow-on were bowled out for

## Anwar puts Pakistan on top

Sports Reporter

COLOMBO, Aug 11: Saeed Anwar put on a record equaling partnership to put Pakistan in a match-winning position in the first Test against Sri Lanka here Thursday, reports AFP.

Anwar hit an unbeaten 110, his second Test century, on the third day to help Pakistan pile up 238 for two — and an overall lead of 402 — at the close.

Sri Lanka's problems started when they lost their final five first innings wickets for 11 runs. Then Anwar's methodical 275-minute innings ensured that Sri Lanka will struggle when play resumes after Friday's rest day.

Pakistan will probably set a target around 500 on wicket expected to turn in the final two days.

Anwar, who made his maiden century against New Zealand, was determined not to miss another golden chance after missing a hundred by just six runs in the first innings.

He made 95 in the first warm-up game against a Sri Lanka cricket board team. The left-hander has so far scored eight boundaries.

Anwar and Aamir Sohail equalled the record first wicket stand for Pakistan against Sri Lanka of 128 — set by Ramiz Raja and Shoaib Mohammad three years ago.

Asif Muttaba added 74 runs for the second wicket with Anwar before the Pakistani vice-captain departed for 31.

Sri Lanka's slow bowling trio failed miserably to contain the powerful Pakistani top-order after their batsmen narrowly escaped being asked to follow-on.

Asif Muttaba added 74 runs for the second wicket with Anwar before the Pakistani vice-captain departed for 31.

Sri Lanka resuming from an overnight 152 for 4 and still needing 39 to avert the follow-on were bowled out for

SRI LANKA: First Innings (overnight 152-4)

Jayasuriya c Sohail b Akram 9  
Mahanama b Mushtaq 21  
Gurusinha c Latif b Mushtaq 11  
De Silva c Sohail b Waqar 127  
Ranatunga c and b Mushtaq 9  
Tillekeratne lbw b Waqar 34  
Dassanayake c Latif b Akram 3  
Dharmasena c Latif b Akram 1  
Wickremasinghe not out 0  
Muralidharan c Mushtaq b Raza 0  
Warnaewera c and b Raza 4  
Extras: (lb-5, nb-1) 7  
Total: 226

Fall of wickets: 1-13; 2-41; 3-42; 4-60; 5-179; 6-215; 7-218; 8-222; 9-222.

Bowling: O M R W

Akram 14 4 30 3  
Waqar 16 1 84 1  
Mushtaq 14 2 57 3  
Raza 16 7 46 3  
Sohail 2 0 3 0

PAKISTAN: Second Innings

Anwar not out 110  
Sohail c Jayasuriya 65  
b Dharmasena 1  
Mushtaq c Dassanayake 31  
b Warnaewera 31  
Malik not out 15  
Extras: (lb-5, nb-12) 17  
Total: (for two wickets) 238

Fall of wickets: 1-128; 2-202.

Bowling (to date) O M R W

Wickremasinghe 5 0 25 0  
Dharmasena 23 1 68 1  
Warnaewera 18 1 70 1  
Muralidharan 11 0 42 0  
Jayasuriya 8 0 28 0

Sri Lankan Aravinda de Silva brings up his hundred with a glorious six over the long-off boundary off a Mushtaq Ahmed delivery during the third day's play of the first Test against Pakistan in Colombo yesterday. De Silva scored 127 in his side's 226.

— AFP photo