

74-strong squad for Asiad

Sports Reporter
The Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) formally announced a 74-member contingent for the upcoming 12th Asian Games, scheduled to be held in the Japanese city of Hiroshima from October 2.

Kamruddin Yahia Khan Majlish MP was named the chef de mission with Kazi Abdul Alm as his deputy. Although the BOA recommended seven disciplines for Bangladesh representation, Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeque Hossain, who is also the chairman of the National Sports Council, the highest governing body of sports in the country, decided to leave soft tennis out.

In the backdrop of the Commonwealth Games debacle, the inclusion of soft tennis, unknown, if not unheard, to most of the sports lovers of the country, would have really triggered off scathing remarks regarding the discretion of the sports authority in Bangladesh. However, the option of the last moment inclusion of soft tennis cannot be totally written off or to say the least, the tentative answer of the BOA treasurer Akhter Hossain, who is also a member of the interim body of soft tennis in the country, to a question on the finality of the announced list had a similar echo.

Hossain came up with a rather round about reply to a straight forward query, saying, "As of today, you can take it as the final list."

But, another official preferring anonymity confirmed that the state minister would like the discipline left out.

According to a source close to the BOA, in spite of persistent pressure for putting an end to the behind-the-curtain manipulation for a joy ride in the name of participation in an international meet, the association seemed unable to disentangle itself from the unholy nexus, issuing GOs for three women MPs, who had reportedly been pressing for places in the pleasure trip.

Deportivo drop first point

MADRID, Sept 25: Real Madrid edged ahead of Deportivo Coruna on goal difference at the top of the Spanish soccer league on Saturday after a 4-0 thrashing of Athletic Bilbao, reports Reuter.

Former leaders Deportivo lost their 100 per cent record in a 1-1 draw at home to third-placed Espanol. Real and Deportivo both have seven points from four games with Espanol on six.

Bilbao's Inigo Larrañzar was sent off after only 17 minutes against Real for a foul on Chilean striker Ivan Zamorano who had put Real 1-0 up in 19 minutes.

Headers from Zamorano, Fernando Hierro and youngster Jose Amavisca completed the rout, despite Real losing Quique Sanchez for a second yellow card 15 minutes after halftime.

Brazilian Bebeto, back after his extended post-World Cup holiday, grabbed Deportivo's equaliser in the 59th minute against Espanol.

Bulgarian Hristo Stoichkov put Barcelona 2-0 up against First Division newcomers Compostela then Romanian Gheorghe Hagi, with his first goals for the club, made it 4-0.

After 324 minutes and three and a half games, Real Valladolid finally managed to score a goal, ending with a 2-0 win over Real Zaragoza.

Habit dies hard

ZAGREB, Croatia, Sept 25: A war was fought for Croatia's independence. That doesn't mean the fans of Dynamo Zagreb want the soccer club's name changed to that, reports AP.

A recent decree by Croatian President Franjo Tudjman changed the 50-year-old name of Dynamo Zagreb to "Croatia", but the Dynamo fan club, The Bad Blue Boys, rejected the change saying "history will have the last word on the name of our team."

The name change was ordered to emphasise the country's independence from Yugoslavia, won after a six-month war in 1992 against the Yugoslav army and rebel Serbs that left 10,000 people dead and a third of the republic in Serb hands.

Tudjman appealed to the fan club in an open letter published Saturday in the daily *Slobodna Dalmacija*.

With the name 'Croatia', our soccer team will improve the Croatian reputation worldwide, while 'Dynamo' would only remind the Western democratic world that we haven't gotten rid of the Bolshevik and Balkan heritage, Tudjman said.

Prior to the 1991 Serb-Croat war, the matches used to heighten nationalistic differences between the long-term rivals, Serbs and Croats. Riots often ensued after matches.



FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD: (Left to right) Golam Faruque Chowdhury, Faruque Ahmed, Rafiqul Alam (partly hidden), Saidul Anam Efee, Zakaria Imtiaz and Athar Ali Khan, all with varying degrees of reputation and exposure at the international level sought harbourage at the relative quiet of Kalabagan Krira Chakra from bigger and more popular clubs yesterday, the first day inter club cricketers' transfers. — Star photo

Six-day inter-club players' transfers on Prologue or epilogue?

Sports Reporter

The inter-club cricketers' transfers for the 1994-95 season spent itself of almost all the possibilities of speculated surprise and drama on the opening day as all the cards were laid-out on the table at the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board office yesterday.

Majority of the top-notch cricketers with the exception of one or two chose their teams for the imminent season in a relatively low key affair.

Former national skipper and star batsman Minhazul Abedin Nannu, who was aired on the eve of the transfers to be considering a rapprochement with his long associated and dramatically antagonised tent Mohammedan Sporting Club, put the tin hat on the expectations of the new-stands when he submitted his token in favour of Abahani Krira Chakra, last year's joint champions.

The temperamental Chittagonian, who was literally forced out of his long time harbour Mohammedans last year on disciplinary grounds, demanded something in the vicinity of five and a half lakhs to the members of the newly-formed Mohammedan cricket committee, who met at a city hotel Saturday night to discuss their recruiting plans. The resolution arising from the midnight parley was a no to the 'take it or leave it' sort of offer from the prized batsman and, that led to Minhaz's staying the night at the place of one influential Abahani official with the outcome being the effective sealing of Minhaz's fate for the upcoming domestic season.

A belated realisation sent the Mohammedan officials scrambling last evening to the player, who then, in his words, had no other option but to re-appear in their Saturday night's phrase "I am sorry."

Not only Minhaz, Abahani retained the services of almost all the core players. Akram Khan, the burly Chittagonian and perhaps the most consistent willow wielder in the recent times, along with dashing opener Harun Ur Rashid Liton and paceman Saiful Islam Khan returned their tokens for the Dhanmondi team.

Defender Jewel Rana saved the day for Mukhtijoddha Sangsada Krira Chakra when he struck the match-decider five minutes from time to give the Federation Cup champions a hard-fought lone goal victory over Bangladesh Boys in one of the two Star Premier Division football league matches billed for the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Mukhtijoddha, resuming their league campaign after a disheartening performance in the recently-concluded Qatar Independence Cup football tournament where they finished in the preliminary round, third among three were nowhere near their best in a lack-lustre 90-minute encounter.

But, thanks to the tall national defender, whose spectacular header from a Mamun Joarder right-flank corner in the 85th minute kept Mukhtijoddha in the title race. Mukhtis now have 17 points from 11 matches, one point adrift from league leaders Abahani Krira Chakra.

Apart from the surprising lack of motivation on the part of the stars, Mukhtijoddha also had the lady luck preferring not to smile on a couple of occasions in the first half when

To offset the minor losses of Khaled Mahmud Surjan and Ziauddin Ahmed Shovon, Abahani roped in promising medium pacer Rakib Hassan, who recently came under the limelight with a string of noteworthy performances in the youth team's twin tour of Malaysia and India recently.

Abahani's co-sharers of the title, Bangladesh Biman, true to their tradition, followed suit, concentrating mostly on retaining their trusted and long serving cricketers.

The two Jahangirs—opening batsman-cum-wicketkeeper Alam and allrounder Talukder, middle-order batsman Shah Nawaz Shaheed and specialist wicketkeeper Debashis Barua, all stayed back.

In addition to their campaign of setting the house in order, the airline team was richer for the vast experience of former Bangladesh international Golam Nawsher Prince, with the veteran left-arm new-ball bowler's transfer from Mohammedans being a fore-gone conclusion.

Last year's runners-up Mohammedans, who, many felt, failed to utilise the presence of business magnate like Isphani on their cricket committee, had the dubious distinction of being involved in the biggest transfer of the evening.

Athar, a certain deserter from the moment Kalabagan made their intentions clear to stage a coup a la Mukhtijoddha in football, duly parted with the popular club.

Mohammedans, who are holding national allrounders Aminul Islam Bulbul and Selim Shahed for their dear life, were, however, quick to do some useful signing so their preys of the night besides Khaled Mahmud, were the two slow left-armers — Rafiq and talented youngster Mustadir Litu from Biman and Sadhanan Bima respectively.

Of the middleings, Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club (GMCC) did a fairly satisfactory job by shielding majority of their key players from the lure of the big clubs.

Young spin duo Sharfuddinul Ibane Shaheed Saikat and Shariful Huq, the two pool players, batsmen Javed Omar Belim, allrounders Mahbubur

Undaunted by the early setback, Arambagh retaliated immediately and almost found the net in the next minute. But Brothers custodian Ponir, who made several spectacular saves in the match, kept his side's slate clean, fisting away a thunderous 40-yarder from Alfaz for a corner.

Arambagh, who came out firing on all cylinders after the lemon break, got two easy chances in the 55th and 75th minute respectively but striker Babu Das spoiled both the chances from close.

The outcome of yesterday's match left Brothers Union in the third position with 14 points from 11 matches while Arambagh remained glued to their previous collection of eight points on completion of 11 engagements.

TODAY'S MATCHES
Farashganj SC vs Muslim Institute 4:30 pm (Dhaka Stadium)
Victoria SC vs Dhaka Wanderers 6:30 pm (Dhaka Stadium)

Ctg soccer

CHITTAGONG, Sept 25: Customs and Excise Club trounced PDB Recreation Club 3-0 in the CJKP First Division football league at the Chittagong Stadium here today, reports BSS.

Plague fear forces switch of venue

CHANDIGARH, Sept 25: The first one-day international between West Indies and India scheduled to be played at Baroda on October 12 is likely to be shifted to Chandigarh in case the situation in the plague-stricken city of Surat does not improve, sources in the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) said here today, reports PTI.

The two warm-up matches for the visitors, who arrive in Delhi on the morning of October six to play three Test matches and six one-day internationals beside taking part in the triangular series with New Zealand and India, have already been shifted from Calcutta to Chandigarh because of extended monsoon there.

The Windies team would travel to Chandigarh on October six and play warmup matches on October 7 and 9.

The Baroda match and the situation there is understood to have been discussed by top officials of the BCCI who were here for the annual general meeting. When Dalmiya was confronted with the question in this regard he simply said that as per their reports the situation in Surat was improving.

Mohsin Kamal returns

ISLAMABAD, Sept 25: Pakistan on Sunday recalled fast bowler Moshin Kamal in a 14-man squad named for the first cricket Test against Australia beginning on Wednesday in Karachi, reports Reuter.

The rest of the players are the same who recently toured Sri Lanka with skipper Salim Malik, chief selector Imtiaz Ahmed said.

Kamal replaces paceman Ashfaq Ahmad who did not perform well during the tour.



MOHSIN KAMAL

TEAM
Aamer Sohail, Saeed Anwar, Inzamamul Haq, Salim Malik (capt), Basit Ali, Rashid Latif, Akram Raza, Mushtaq Ahmad, Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Kabir Khan, Asif Mujtaba, Mohsin Kamal, Zahid Fazal.

Twente top Dutch league

AMSTERDAM, Sept 25: Twente Enschede jumped to the top of the Dutch First Division on Saturday thanks to a 4-3 home victory over Heerenveen, reports Reuter.

Twente led 2-0 at halftime with goals from Paul Bosvelt and Andre Karnebeck but Heerenveen staged an impressive comeback as Jan De Visser, with a penalty, and Henry Keijer made it 2-2.

Michel Boerebach gave Twente the lead again with a 73rd minute penalty and a 76th minute goal by Arnold Bruggink virtually settled the issue. Erik Regtop made it 4-3 just before the final whistle.

Champions Ajax Amsterdam had a convincing 3-0 victory over Dordrecht taking the lead in the first five minutes with a goal from Patrik Kluivert.

The young striker got a second in the 82nd minute with the help of Nigerian Fintidi Georges and Marc Overmars made it safe six minutes later.

Aussie-President's XI match draw Glen McGrath comes of age

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan, Sept 25: Fast bowler Glen McGrath came out of the shadows of his new ball partner, Craig McDermott, with a career best bowling in Australia's draw game Sunday against Pakistan's President's XI here, reports AP.

The 24-year-old fast bowler, playing his 18th first class match, picked up his first 10-wicket haul, two of them off successive deliveries, before Ashfaq Ahmad thwarted his hat-trick bid.

But the last wicket pair held on for a nerve-tingling six overs to deprive the visitors of a morale-boosting win before their first Test match, which begins on Sept 28.

McGrath finished with 10 for 81 and his six for 49 in the second innings is his best innings analysis. Australia declared their second innings on their overnight 134 for 20 leaving the President's XI 328 runs to win off 82 overs on the third and last day.

Opener Shoab Mohammad and Zahid Fazal hit half centuries at the top of the order, while Moin Khan, with an unbeaten 49, saved face for the home team with a gritty innings.

McGrath deprived the stylish Fazal of a well-deserved century when he yorked him nine runs short, two balls after being driven for six back over the bowler's head to the sight-screen for his fourth six.

Fazal held the innings together with two stands — 40 for the fifth with Manzoor

Akhtar, and 54 for the six with Moin Khan before McGrath struck.

McGrath had earlier made inroads with the President's XI batting after a 64-run opening



McGRATH ... 10-wkt haul stand.

Fazal's three-hour innings earned him a place in Pakistan's 14 named for the first Test against the visitors in Karachi. Fazal hit four sixes and eight boundaries off 132 balls.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard Sunday at the end of the three-day match between Australia and President's XI in Rawalpindi.

AUSTRALIA: First innings 336
PRESIDENT'S XI: First innings 145
AUSTRALIA: Second innings (Overnight 134 for two) Taylor lbw b Mohsin Kamal 1, Slaton c sub b Mohsin Kamal 21, Beyan not out 62, Healy not out 40, Extras: (b-4, lb-2, nb-2) 10, Total: (two wickets decl) 134, Fall of wickets: 1-18; 2-33.

Bowling: O M R W
Mohsin Kamal 8 3 22 2
Ataur Rehman 3 0 16 0
Ashfaq Ahmad 4 1 18 0
Harris Khan 5 1 21 0
Manzoor Akhtar 6 0 32 0
Shoab Mohammad 4 0 19 0

PRESIDENT'S XI: Second innings
Shakeel Ahmad c Healy b McGrath 29
Shoab Mohammad lbw b McGrath 55
Rami Raja lbw b McGrath 2
Zahid Fazal b McGrath 91
Ijaz Ahmad c Steve Waugh b Warne 11
Manzoor Akhtar lbw Warne 9
Moin Khan not out 49
Harris Khan c Taylor b May 0
Mohsin Kamal c Healy b McGrath 4
Ataur Rehman c Healy b McGrath 0
Ashfaq Ahmad not out 0
Extras (b-6, lb-12, nb-2) 20
Total (nine wickets) 270
Fall of wickets: 1-64; 2-70; 3-117; 4-137; 5-177; 6-231; 7-234; 8-245; 9-245.

Bowling: O M R W
McDermott 16 1 74 0
McGrath 20 5 49 6
Steve Waugh 4 1 10 0
May 18 9 42 1
Warne -19 2 52 2
Mark Waugh 3 0 13 0
Bevan 2 0 12 0
Result: Match drawn

M United, Newcastle stumble

LONDON, Sept 25: Cham-pions Manchester United crashed to a 3-2 defeat at Ipswich, winning at home for the first time since February, as leaders Newcastle were held 1-1 by Liverpool in the Premier league on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Paul Mason struck twice in the first half for Ipswich, inspired by Uruguayan Adrian Paz on his English debut, and Steve Sedgley hit the winner 10 minutes from time after Eric Cantona and teenager Paul Scholes had put United back on level terms.

Wales veteran striker Ian Rush equalised in the 70th minute as Liverpool ended Newcastle's perfect run in which they took maximum points from their first six matches.

Robert Lee put Newcastle ahead 10 minutes after the interval. Newcastle had Belgian World Cup defender Philippe Albert sent off eight minutes from time for a second bookable offence.

Tottenham were hit by a double jinx as Dutchman Brian Roy inspired Nottingham Forest to a 4-1 victory at White Hart Lane with two second half goals.

It was Tottenham's third home defeat in a row and Teddy Sheringham missed his third consecutive penalty just before the break. Had he scored Spurs would have gone 2-1 up.

Positions at the top of the table remained unchanged, but Newcastle, on 19 points, are now only two clear of second-placed Forest and Blackburn Rovers, who stay third on goal difference after a 3-1 home win over Aston Villa.

Fourth-placed Manchester United could have done without an upset just five days before they travel to Turkey for a daunting European Cup clash with Galatasaray, the side who put them out of the Champions' League last season.

Ireland World Cup midfielder Roy Keane, in his first start of the season after injury problems, inspired United's

comeback laying on goals for Cantona and substitute Scholes, two-goal hero in the midweek 2-1 League Cup win over Burnley, in the space of three minutes.

But he also deflected Sedgley's winning shot past keeper Gary Walsh.

Spurs' exciting attack, in which German ace Juergen Klinsman was goalless for only the second time in eight games, were again let down by their porous defence despite the debut of new Romanian signing Gica Popescu.

After falling behind to a ninth-minute goal by Steve Stone, they equalised through Romanian midfielder Ilie Dumitrescu and would have changed ends in the lead but for Mark Crossley's fine penalty save from Seheringham.

Roy took charge for promoted Forest after the break with goals in the 53rd and 70th minutes, both from crosses from the right, and Norway's Lars Bohinen added the fourth 11 minutes from time with the defence in disarray.

Lee's ninth goal of the season appeared to have sent Newcastle on their way to a seventh straight league win, but Czech goalkeeper Pavel Srnec gifted Rush the equaliser that ended their brilliant start to the season, allowing the striker's speculative shot to slip through his fingers.

Chelsea, who had lost their last two league games after three straight wins, climbed into fifth place on 12 points after a 1-0 victory at Crystal Palace. Paul Furlong scored in the 51st minute.

England striker Alan Shearer scored twice, his first goal a penalty, and Chris Sutton once in Blackburn's victory. Defender Ugo Ehiogu replied for Villa in the dying second.

Ireland international Niall Quinn, playing only his second full game after a 10-month jury layoff, headed Manchester City's opening goal in a 2-0 home win over Norwich. German Uwe Rosler also scored.

Striker Iain Dowie scored twice as Southampton came

from behind for their second win, a 3-1 away victory at Coventry.

Dane Ronnie Ekelund, signed from Barcelona last week, added the third after Dublin had put Coventry ahead in the third minute with his third goal in as many league games since his transfer from Manchester United.

Merseyside giants Everton remain rooted at the bottom of the table after a 1-1 draw at home to promoted Leicester City. They are one point behind Palace.

Everton still without a win, went ahead through Gary Ablett in the 50th minute. But Mark Draper equalised for Leicester, who notched up their first victory against Tottenham last weekend, with nine minutes remaining.

Wimbledon won 1-0 at Queen's Park Rangers with a 48th-minute header by Alan Reeves. But they had Andy Clarke sent off in the final minute for a second bookable offence.

The closest a disappointing Rangers side came to scoring was when goalkeeper Tony Robert's huge downfield clearance bounced just wide of a post.

Chapuisat, Moeller mau VFB Stuttgart

BONN, Sept 25: Swiss striker Stephane Chapuisat and German international Andreas Moeller each fired two goals as Borussia Dortmund thrashed VFB Stuttgart 5-0 to go second in the Bundesliga on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Dortmund took command of their home match from Moeller's first goal after four minutes and were prevented from piling up an even higher score only by Stuttgart goalkeeper Eike Immel.

Borussia now have nine points, two behind undefeated leaders Werder Bremen, who beat Duisburg 2-0 on Friday. League champions Bayern Munich are fourth on goal difference behind Karlsruhe.

Karlsruhe's Heiko Bonan hit the winner a minute before the final whistle for a 4-3 win at Cologne.

"After the first 10 minutes I did not believe we could win. But then we suddenly started played football," said Karlsruhe trainer Winfried Schaefer.

Chapuisat landed his fifth and sixth goals of the season before the break in Dortmund. Moeller added his second early in the second half and Karlsruhe Riedle completed the tally 12 minutes before the end.

Spurred by midfielder Steffen Reuter, Dortmund played with more aggression and self assurance than Stuttgart, despite a midweek defeat of 6-3 after extra time to Kaiserslautern that knocked them out of the German Cup.

"We recovered well from the match against Kaiserslautern and showed a positive reaction," Dortmund trainer Ottmar Hitzfeld said.

"The 1-0 came at the right time to give us confidence and even after 3-0 we continued to play with concentration," he added.



Liverpool's Neil Ruddock rises to powerfully head the ball past Newcastle United defenders during their English Premier league match at United's St James Park ground. The current league leaders drew 1-1 to drop their first point after seven matches. — AFP photo