

### Rana revs up Fakirerpool

**Sports Reporter**  
Maksudul Amin Rana struck in the dying moments of the play to give his side Fakirerpool Youngmen's Club a crucial lone goal victory over Arambagh Krira Sangstha in the lone Star Premier Division football league encounter at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Fakirerpool, one of the two promoters in the ten-team fray, allied to some extent the looming relegation threat, with these two vital points raising their collection to nine from 14 matches.

For Arambagh, who upset the defending champions Mohammedan Sporting 1-0 in the previous match, it was the sixth defeat in the league and their tally remained at 10 points from 14 engagements.

Despite the heavy outfield caused by incessant rain, both sides played entertaining soccer.

Rana, the promising striker of Fakirerpool whose very second minute header was brilliantly fluffed away by Arambagh custodian Milon, had the last laugh at the stroke of the final whistle when he found the same man completely in a mess as his feeble nod slipped into the net from Milon's grip.

Arambagh were deprived of a seventh minute lead when Haran's 30-yarder left-footer returned off the woodwork much to the dismay of the Motijheel outfit.

**VICTORIA RUE**  
In the first match of the day featuring two Star First Division outfits Victoria squandered a two nil lead before splitting points with Farashganj in a 2-2 draw.

With this draw Farashganj raised their collection to 19 points from 15 matches while Victoria have 18 from 15 outings.

Dulal and Babu gave Victoria a 2-0 first-half lead with strikes in the 20th and 43rd minutes respectively but Farashganj restored parity through a spectacular header from striker Liton in the 54th minute after Rouf Babul had reduced the margin from a penalty two minutes earlier.

**TODAY'S MATCHES**  
Dhanmondi vs Eskaton 6pm (Mirpur Stadium)  
Wari vs Bangladesh Boys 4.30pm (Dhaka Stadium)  
Mohammedan vs PWD 6.30pm (Dhaka Stadium)

### President Cup snooker Oct 9

**Sports Reporter**  
The President Cup snooker championship featuring 32 top ranking players from seven different clubs will begin at the Dhaka Club billiards room from October 9.

Organised by the Dhaka Club, the three-day meet sponsored by Karim Pipe Mills will conclude on October 12.

Apart from hosts Dhaka Club, the six other participating teams in the fray are Chittagong Club, Narayanganj Club, Catholic Club, Gulshan Club, and Engineers Club.

### AB Bank TT

**Sports Reporter**  
The crowded scenario at the top of the points table of the AB Bank metropolis table tennis league remained unchanged as Biman, Armanitola JS, Inter Sports and Wari Club registered huge wins in their respective engagements yesterday.

While Biman, Inter Sports Wari won by the margin of three love, Armanitola JS conceded a set before getting rid of their juniors at 3-1.

**Ctg soccer**  
CHITTAGONG, Oct 6: Muktiyoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra beat Chittagong Mohammedan Blues 1-0 in the CJKP First Division football league at the Chittagong Stadium here today, reports BSS.

The other match of the day between Chittagong City Corporation and Chittagong Port Authority Sports Association ended in a goalless draw.

### Holdings begin with a bang

**HIROSHIMA, Oct 6:** Defending champions South Korea defeated India 3-0 for their second successive win in the Asian Games women's hockey tournament here Thursday, reports AFP.

The Koreans beat Uzbekistan 4-0 on Monday in the opening match of the six-nation round-robin tournament.

India have a solitary point from two matches, earned in a 1-1 draw with hosts Japan.

Hosts Japan kept their medal hopes alive by handing Singapore their second successive 8-0 defeat.

Singapore have now conceded 16 goals in two matches, having lost by a similar margin against China on Monday.



Sathi Sarkar, the double crown winner in the girls' under-16 age group collects her award from Industries Minister A M Zahiruddin Khan who gave away prizes as the chief guest on completion of the five-day ninth national junior tennis championships at the National Tennis Complex yesterday. — PID photo

## Double crowns for trio

**Sports Reporter**  
Tofazzal Hossain, Sathi Sarkar and Rohan won double crowns in the ninth national junior tennis championships that concluded at the National Tennis Complex yesterday.

Tofazzal won the singles title in boys' under-16 event and then went on to clinch the doubles in harness with Abdullah Jamil Matin Johnny.

Operating in pair with Johnny, Tofazzal lost a set in the doubles final but eventually prevailed over Faraz and Obhi 7-6 (7-5), 1-6 and 6-2.

Sathi Sarkar matched Tofazzal's feat in the same age category event for girls. She made light work of Rajshahi's Lucky in the final wrapping up the one-sided affair at 6-2, 6-2.

It was even easier for Sathi in the doubles when the combined forces of hers and Urmi simply knocked the stuffing out of Lucky and Mithun. The scoreline there was a very uncompetitive 6-1, 6-1.

In the boys' under-12 group Rohan became the singles champion with a swimmingly easy 6-1, 6-1 victory over A Raj.

Rohan also collected the doubles title when he, along with Guddo beat the Raj and Turja pair in 7-5, 6-1 sets.

In under 14 age group singles final, Rahat emerged as the victor by two sets to one. After winning the first set at 7-5, Rahat suffered a reversal as Niranjnan turned the tables on

him winning the second set by the same margin. Rahat, however, had the last laugh forcing the final set in his favour in an emphatic fashion, at 6-1.

Niranjnan had some consolation later, when he took the doubles title in collaboration with Munir. They staged a spirited come back after conceding the first set 4-6. The pair won the next two sets in style, 6-1 and 6-3 to walk away with the title.

In the girls' final of the same age group Anku Ahsan beat A Mariam binte Hussain for the title.

Shahriar Haidar won the mantle in 10-year-old age group for boys beating Asmatullah 8-0.

Hundred and five players from and outside Dhaka took part in the five-day competition.

## Australians pile it on

**RAWALPINDI, Oct 6:** Australia, boosted by three century partnerships, increased their total to a commanding 521 for nine declared in the second Test against Pakistan on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Pakistan made 48 in reply before the close of the second day but lost Saeed Anwar along the way. The left-hander was caught in the gully by Steve Waugh off fast bowler Craig McDermott with the total on 28. He made 15.

Solid middle-order batting spearheaded by Steve Waugh, who made 98, enabled Australia to declare shortly after tea.

Continuing the hard work put in by their top batsmen, Waugh and the ever-reliable Ian Healy added 109 for the sixth wicket in 133 minutes.

The other century partnerships as Australia attempted to avenge their one-wicket first Test defeat involved openers Michael Slater and captain Mark Taylor with a record 176 and fourth-wicket pair Mark Waugh and Michael Bevan with 125.

Steve Waugh was unlucky to depart just two runs short of his eighth Test hundred in his 67th Test. He was hit on the chest by a rising delivery from fast bowler Waqar Younis and the ball rolled on to his stumps.

Pakistan had a success in the first hour when Mark Waugh skied a catch to Aamer Sohail, running backwards from the slips.

Waugh added only seven to his Wednesday score of 61 before becoming the third victim of recalled paceman Mohsin Kamal.

Overnight partner Bevan did not last long either. He was leg before to Waqar for 70 off 128 balls with seven boundaries.

Wasim Akram, off the field with back trouble for part of Wednesday, bowled a fiery spell after lunch but remained unrewarded.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard on the second day of the second cricket Test between Pakistan and Australia on Thursday:

**AUSTRALIA:** First innings (overnight 305-3)  
Taylor lbw b Mohsin Kamal 69  
Slater c Inzamamul Haq b Mohsin Kamal 110  
Boon b Mushtaq Ahmad 4  
M Waugh c Aamer Sohail b Mohsin Kamal 68

**PAKISTAN:** First innings  
Saeed Anwar c S Waugh b McDermott 5  
Aamer Sohail not out 28  
Zahid Fazal not out 4  
Extras: (lb-1) 1  
Total: (for one wicket) 48  
Fall of wicket: 1-28

To bat: Salim Malik, Inzamamul Haq, Amir Malik, Rashid Latif, Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmad, Mohsin Kamal.

**Bowling (to date):** O M R W  
McDermott 6 2 24 1  
Fleming 4 0 18 0  
Warne 1 0 5 0

**LI XIAOSHUANG'S FINE TREBLE**  
Xiaoshuang and Lee Joo-hyung of South Korea, who shared third place with 9.549.

Barcelona gold medalist Li Xiaoshuang performed a fast and fluid routine to win on the floor with 9.725 ahead of Serguei Fedortchenko of Kazakhstan, who scored 9.600, and Toshiharu Sato of Japan, who got 9.425. Fedortchenko had recorded the highest score on the floor during Wednesday's all-round competition.

Fan Hongbin only narrowly won the reigns with 9.750, just edging out experienced South Korean Yoo OK-ryul and Li Xiaoshuang, both of whom were marked at 9.737.

Huang Liping was strong in the final two events to be contested. He got 9.787 to win the parallel bars ahead of Jung Jin-soo of South Korea (9.725) and Li Xiaoshuang (9.700).

He then was edged out by Li Jing for the horizontal bar title. Liscored 9.812, Huang got 9.775 and Fedortchenko scored 9.675 for the bronze.

The three gymnasts who shared the honours in the **Moignan dashed**

**ST PETER PORT, Guernsey.** Oct 6: Martine le Moignan's hopes of winning a second World Open title in her hometown were dashed on Wednesday by unseeded Linda Charman of England, reports Reuter.

Le Moignan, the 1989 champion and seeded 10th here, was desperately seeking a second title before retiring at the end of the season. But she was beaten 9-2, 5-9, 9-7, 9-6 in 46 minutes in the second round by the rapidly improving Charman.

China's Mo Huilan performs on the floor to take the gold with a score of 9.925 in the women's gymnastics apparatus finals at the 12th Asian Games in Hiroshima yesterday. — AFP photo

## ASIAN GAMES MEDALS TABLE

**HIROSHIMA, Oct 6:** Following is the fourth day medals tally at the 12th Asian Games here on Thursday (tabulated under gold, silver, bronze and total)

	G	S	B	T
China	43	26	7	76
Japan	17	13	29	59
S Korea	17	7	9	33
Kazakhstan	2	5	6	13
Chinese Taipei	1	4	6	11
Iran	1	4	1	6
Syria	1	3	0	4
Indonesia	0	6	3	9
Thailand	0	4	1	5
Vietnam	0	2	0	2
Malaysia	0	1	5	6
India	0	1	3	4
Kuwait	0	1	1	2
Kirgystan	0	1	1	2
S Arabia	0	1	1	2
Uzbekistan	0	1	4	5
Brunei	0	0	2	2
Philippines	0	0	2	2
Singapore	0	0	2	2
Burma	0	0	1	1
Hong Kong	0	0	1	1
Macau	0	0	1	1
UAE	0	0	1	1
Nepal	0	0	1	1
Tajikistan	0	0	1	1
Qatar	0	0	1	1

(Two extra gymnastic gold medals, and no silver or bronze awarded in men's pommel horse and one extra silver and no bronze in rings. Also nine extra bronze medals awarded in karate.)

## A gold for Bangladesh

**Sports Reporter**  
It may be beyond the reach of our sportsmen and women presently to win a gold in a top class international competition but our officials and organisers can offset for that paucity once in a while.

Asafuddowla, president of the Bangladesh Swimming Federation pulled off an aureate achievement yesterday when the country's high profile, versatile bureaucrat collected a gold medal in Hiroshima for his outstanding contribution in forming the Asian Swimming Federation way back in 1978.

It was an ironic reversal for perhaps a welcome interlude in a general drama of failure for Bangladesh because shortly before Asafuddowla received his award, Qarar Mizanur Rahman, the lone swimming representative in the on-going 12th Asian in the Japanese city finished 13th among 14 in the heat for the 200m breast-stroke final.

## Beware of Japanese tea

**HIROSHIMA, Oct 6:** The Japanese tea in the Hiroshima Games Village is so powerful that athletes have been warned it could make them fail a drugs test, reports AFP.

A warning sign has gone up at the Japanese tea ceremony in the Village telling of the high caffeine content in the host nation's favourite drink.

"Caution, powdered green tea served here contains some amount of caffeine. If you a game today or tomorrow we advise you not to drink more than one cup," the sign states.

Caffeine is a stimulant that can cause drug test failures — as double world cycling champion Gianni Bugno found out this year when he was given a two-year ban.

The powdered tea used at the Village ceremony, organised by the Hiroshima Cultural Exchanges department, has considerably more caffeine than a cup of coffee.

The ceremony was started as a free event for the athletes. But the organisers were warned of the risk by drug experts and are now warning off the athletes. There have been no failed tests yet at the Games.

## Japan-ROK locked in combat

# Chinese, untouchables

**HIROSHIMA, Oct 6:** China's women were still undefeated in the pool, and its gymnasts and divers as dazzling as ever. But a close battle was brewing at the Asian Games, reports AP.



For second best, of course. And host country Japan was taking a beating.

Building on a surge in gold winning that started the previous day, South Korea swept all five wrestling events and added victories in gymnastics.

Neither country was even close to mighty China which reaped its biggest single-day gold haul of the Games yet, 15, to bring its total gold count to 43.

Other countries on the gold chart after four full days of competition at the Games, Asia's regional Olympics, were Kazakhstan with two, and Syria, Iran and Taiwan with one apiece.

Gymnastics proved the biggest gold mine for China Thursday.

"Mighty Mouse," 15-year-old Mo Huilan, won in the vault, uneven bars, beam and floor exercises. She also has a share in China's women's

team gold, but missed all-round gold Wednesday with a fall from the beam. All-round gold went instead to Qiao Ya.

Yeo Hong-chul of South Korea won the vault, keeping China's men from a similar sweep.

China's men also had to share the gold in the men's pommel horse final: Huang Huadong of China, Yoshiaki Hatakeda of Japan and Lee Jang-hyung of South Korea all scored 9.750.

China's Dai Guohong, meanwhile, won the women's 100 breaststroke in a Games record time of 1:09.87 and Liu Limin took the 100-metre butterfly gold.

China's men had a bit more difficulty in the pool also, winning the men's 200 breaststroke with a Games record, but losing the 400-metre freestyle to Japan and the 400-metre freestyle to a South Korean.

In diving, Chinese world champion Tan Shuping and Olympic gold medalist Sun Shiwai had to fight off challenges from their own teammates. Tan defeated another world champion, 10-metre platform tiffut Fu Mingxia, for the gold in the women's 3-metre springboard diving and Sun beat teammate Xiao Hailiang.

Six more swimming golds were to be decided Friday, and China was favoured to dominate once again. It was also to do battle with Japan for the women's softball crown.

But the pace of China's stride was likely to be slowed Friday for the simple reason that fewer medals were to be decided. Events also included such weak areas as equestrian and tennis.

South Korea was favoured to take the gold in one Friday contest — women's volleyball. It must defeat Taiwan to do so.

South Korea and China split Thursday's men's weightlifting golds. China's Lan Shizhang won at 54 kilograms and South Korea's Chun Byung-kwan at 59.

South Korea took one of the two bowling titles at stake, winning the women's doubles with a Games record.

bowling, swimming, fencing, and weightlifting to boost its tally by 11 Thursday.

With Japan adding only four golds to its own total, the gap vanished between the two perennial rivals, who each have vowed to outdo the other here.

Each had 17.

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For Japan in the women's team tennis final, Nana Endo trounced Indonesia's Romana 6-1, 6-0 and Naoko Sawamatsu beat Nani Rahayu Budi Basuki 6-1, 6-4 in the singles. Nana Miyagi and Ai Sugiyama downed Romana and Natalia Soetrisno 6-2, 6-1 in the doubles.



Tan Shuping of China displays her gold after winning the 3m springboard diving event at the 12th Asian Games yesterday. — AFP photo

## Talebearing two in Ma's army

**HIROSHIMA, Oct 6:** Two athletes will rubber-stamp China's status as the world's newest sporting superpower during the Asian Games — one by striking gold the other by watching the event back home on television, reports AFP.

Wang Junxia, the ace in coach Ma Junren's platoon of female foot soldiers, is on the verge of becoming an all-time great at the tender age of 21 as she leads the Chinese track and field challenge from Sunday.

Ironically, however, it is 1,500m world champion Liu Dong, Ma's discarded joker, who has really underlined China's assembly-line capacity to produce world beaters.

Liu's public row with steely disciplinarian Ma — she wanted a boyfriend and to grow her hair long — has wrecked her career.

No other nation in the world could afford the luxury of axing such an athlete. But though she plans a comeback with a team in Dalian, Liu is

being forgotten as new faces emerge.

None are likely to rival Wang, however, a girl from peasant stock and fed on turtle soup and a crushing diet of a marathon-a-day.

While the men's track and field events promise real drama, China has already scribbled out the women's competition, with Wang and 3,000m world champion Qu Yunxia the certain gold medal heroines.

The record books tell the story. China boasts every Asian women's record on offer (although they have been generous enough to share the 200m hurdles with Wang Hui-chen of Taiwan).

Wang's personal tally is even more extraordinary, with world records at 3,000 and 10,000m and a major stake in the athletics phenomenon of the decade at the National Championships in Beijing last year.

The girl from Jiahoe City ran a 29 min 31.78 secs 10,000m — 42 secs better than the previous mark — then beat the 3,000m record four days later (with four other runners also topping Russian Tatyana Kazankina's 1984 time). Only to improve it again 24 hours on.

To rub it in, Wang then came second to Qu in the 1,500m, both runners annihilating Kazankina's 13-year-old record.

No one is expecting such fireworks here — "I expect five gold medals but no records — my runners will peak at Atlanta," Ma said on arrival, but then, when has China ever been predictable?

The biggest threat to their women runners come in the 400m hurdles — where Kazakhstan's World Championships finalist Antalya Torshina starts as co-favourite — and in the marathon, where Japan's Tomoe Abe, third in the World Championships, and Sachiko Yamashita, fourth in Barcelona, are major players.

Anyone looking for track fairy tales, however, should look to the men's finals and the 100m in particular, where Talal Mansoor from Qatar is chasing a hatrick of titles.

The Gulf state also looks sure to carry off the 1,500m, where reigning title holder Mohamed Suleiman, fourth in Stuttgart last year, looks a sure bet. His coach Stanislaw Strohli is surely being tough when he says: "I don't like to say he's lazy but that is what I feel. I'll have to get him angry — he runs better that way."

Suleiman has reason to be angry. He would also have started favourite to retain the 5,000m gold but for a cruel schedule that sees the two finals start within 20 mins of each other.

So the Somalian-born athlete will drop the 5,000m and fit in some speed work in the 800m.

Two other athletes sure to break China's rhythm are Kazakhstan pole vault duo Igor Potapovich and Grigoriy Gregorov, who completed a one-two in their Asian Championships debut last year. Gregorov also boasts a world silver medal and Olympic bronze.

"I don't think our opponents were very pleased to see us," laughs Potapovich. "One coach even stamped on our poles."

Another former Soviet republic making its first Games appearance, Tajikistan, should also strike gold, through Olympic and world champion hammer man Andrey Abdulvaliyev while India will look to Bahadur Prasad, the 5,000m Asian champion, for their slice of glory.

Railway worker Prasad, however, may have to see off Saudi Arabian Alyan Al Qahatani, the 10,000m title holder, if he decides to double up.