

## BCCB XI beat Nat'l Press Club

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) Eleven beat the National Press Club by five wickets in a friendly cricket match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Set to score 116 in the stipulated 30 overs for a win, the BCCB XI posted the required runs in 28.2 with opener Lutfur Rahman notching up the highest individual score of 22.

Former national footballer Shafiqul Arefin, who had earlier enjoyed a wonderful time with the ball, followed Lutfur with an unbeaten 20 while Alul Islam, Tanjeeb Ahsan and Khabir contributed double-digit scores of 19, 13 and 11 respectively.

Tanveer Naved, the National Press Club skipper, claimed two wickets and so did Raihan while Mustafiz Mamun got the other BCCB wicket to fall.

Earlier in the morning, a rapidfire 51-run partnership in 7.2 overs for the fifth wicket between Masud Ahmed and Afzal Khan gave the Press Club total a semblance of respectability.

Masud Ahmed top-scored with an unbeaten 26-ball 31, made of four boundaries while Afzal Khan hit two fours in his 25-ball 20.

Other double-figure contributors were opener Fazlul Karim (15), Quamruzzaman (11) and Mustafiz Mamun (10). Shafiqul Arefin and Alul Islam had two scalps each for 11 and 22 runs respectively.

## Nat'l women chess qualifiers from March 10

The qualifying round of the 16th women chess competition, organised by the Bangladesh Chess Federation, will begin from March 10, reports UNB.

Interested women have been requested to enrol their names at the federation with Tk 50 each by March 9, said a press release issued yesterday.

Participants, who will represent their respective districts, have been asked to send their name with letter from district sports association concerned by March 9.

The competition will be held in Swiss league system and six players will play in the final round.

The champion, runner-up and two highest rated players will play directly in the final round to be held in round robin league system.

The final round will begin from March 18.

## Ma plans a comeback

BEIJING, Mar 1: Unbowed by throat surgery, appendicitis and a serious car accident, the ousted trainer of China's world-beating 'Ma family army' running team is planning a comeback, the Xinmin Wanbao newspaper said on Wednesday, reports Reuters.



Afzal Khan of National Press Club pulls Ataul Mullick of BCCB to the fence during yesterday's exhibition match played at the Dhaka Stadium. Authorities of country's cricket proved better players winning the cosy, chummy contest by five wickets. — Star photo

## Mexico pulls out of 2002 WC race

## It's between Japan, S Korea



TOKYO, Mar 1: A senior Japan soccer chief on Wednesday promised a fair fight with arch-rivals South Korea to stage the 2002 World Cup finals, reports AFP.

"It's a competition against South Korea. The most important key to win the race is to show our enthusiasm to FIFA. We'll play fair," said Shunichi Okano, vice-president of Japan Football Association.

The two were left as the only candidates after Mexico failed to meet Wednesday's deadline to get their candidacy to the International Football Federation (FIFA).

Japan and South Korea sent high profile delegations to the FIFA headquarters in Zurich to hand in their official bids.

FIFA had virtually promised that the 2002 finals would be the first staged in Asia. But Mexico's withdrawal, because of the fallout from the country's financial crisis, was a great relief to both countries as their technical facilities were widely considered inferior to those of the Mexicans who have twice staged the finals.

No matter what Okano says, Asian soccer chiefs are still anxious to avoid what promises to be a bitter behind-the-scenes battle with intensive lobbying in the runup to the final decision at a FIFA congress in June 1996.

South Korea has emphasised that it should be picked as "Korea is the only country in Asia and Africa to qualify for the World Cup four times." Japan has never qualified and would be the first country that has never qualified for a finals to host a final.

But Okano, who is also chairman of the Japanese bid committee executive, said he believed Japan's football level was high enough to host the finals. "We are responsible for forming a strong team, because the host country has no need to take part in the qualifying rounds. But I think we proved we deserve to host the 2002 Cup by winning the World under-16 championships last year."

Okano made comments with other committee leaders, including former Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, following the official announcement of its candidature on Monday.

South Korea qualified for the 1994, 1990 and 1986 finals, as well as in 1954. North Korea was a surprise quarter-finalist in 1996.

Japan, the 1992 Asia Cup holder, watched the country's first-ever ticket for the World Cup frittered away in the last 15 seconds of the 1993 qualifying rounds in Qatar. It saved some face by beating South Korea in a penalty shootout to retain the Dynasty Cup last week in Hong Kong.

"Japan has already been making preparations for several years and we believe that Japan is qualified to fulfill all of FIFA's requirements, including those for stadium, transportation and others," said Okano.

"The great success of the J-League demonstrates the growing popularity among Japanese fans. Holding the World Cup would give even greater impetus to the growth of football in Japan," he added.

## Samaranch's Balkan mission



BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Mar 1: The head of the International Olympic Committee voiced his support Tuesday for the re-integration of Serb-led Yugoslavia into the sporting world, reports AP.

Juan Antonio Samaranch arrived in Belgrade for talks with Serbian officials, including President Slobodan Milosevic, which focused on gradual re-introduction of Yugoslav teams into international sports.

Sporting links with Yu-

goslavia, now comprising only Serbia and Montenegro, were outlawed by UN sanctions imposed in 1992 to punish the country for fomenting wars in neighboring Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia.

The embargo was relaxed last September, and Yugoslav athletes have gradually resumed participation in international events. The country wants to take part in next year's Atlanta Olympics.

"We support Yugoslavia's re-integration because it's good for sports," the IOC chief told reporters. "This country has good athletes."

"We are always on the side of the athletes, and against manipulations by politicians," he added.

Yugoslavia could field world-class basketball, soccer, water polo and men's and women's handball and volleyball teams.

Men's handball and volleyball teams have already started qualifications for European championships, while the powerful men's basketball squad is one of the favorites at the continent's finals in Athens, Greece, this summer.

But Samaranch indicated that the prospect for the Yugoslav soccer team to join international competition soon appeared dim because it had missed several qualification cycles. The same goes for water polo.

Serbia's fans eagerly await matchups with teams from former Yugoslavia, especially rival Croatia. The first major one is likely to be at the European basketball championships in Athens.

Bora Stankovic, a Yugoslav who heads the World Basketball Federation, FIBA, expressed some concern about matchups between teams from Yugoslavia and its former republics, which fought each other in wars of secession.

"I hope sportsman remain sportsmen and don't identify with soldiers or the battlefield," he said.

Samaranch earlier visited the former Yugoslav republics of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia and Macedonia.

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## BEXIMCO nat'l youth cricket from Mar 10

The first phase of the 15th BEXIMCO national youth cricket championship, organised by the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB), will begin on March 10 at six zonal venues of the country, reports UNB.

About forty-five teams, divided into six groups, will take part in the tournament to be held at BKSP, Noakhali, Rangpur, Faridpur, Dinajpur and Jessore.

Defending champions BKSP and runners-up Dhaka DSA will directly play in the eight-team final round to be held in Dhaka along with six other zonal champions.

## Walsh off to NY for medical advice

KINGSTON, Mar 1: West Indies fast bowler Courtney Walsh has left Jamaica for New York to seek medical advice for nagging back pain, the Gleaner newspaper reported on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

The 32-year-old vice-captain was troubled by back pain throughout his recent tours of India and New Zealand where he served as captain in the absence of Richie Richardson.

Walsh's match-winning bowling on both tours was apparently unaffected by the pain, but he will be called into action again later this month with the start of Australia's two month tour.

## S Africans win in a canter

NELSON, New Zealand, Mar 1: Opener Andrew Hudson scored a sparkling unbeaten 52 Wednesday as South Africa completed an eight-wicket victory over the New Zealand Academy XI in a three-day cricket match at Trafalgar Park, reports AP.

South African began the final day at 13 for one needing 82 for victory and reached 85 for two in just 21.5 overs.

The win was a morale-booster for the tourists, who face New Zealand in a one-off Test match starting Saturday at Eden Park in Auckland.

Nightwatchman Clive Eksteen (18) was the only batsman dismissed Wednesday. He gave a return catch to off-spinner Paul Wiseman when on 18.

He was out with the score at 78 and captain Hansie Cronje came in and sent his first ball from Wiseman over the mid-wicket fence for six to clinch the win.

Hudson dominated the Academy XI bowlers from the start of play, twice sending deliveries from Glen Jonas to the cover boundary; pulling another shortish ball dismissively to the long-on fence and hooking Kerry Walsley for six behind square leg.

Hudson moved from eight to 33 before Eksteen had added a run.

Hudson reached his half-century off 76 balls with five fours and a six just before the winning runs were scored.

## Lankans settle for draw

WANGANUI, New Zealand, Mar 1: Hashan Tillekeratne hit an unbeaten 68 Wednesday as Sri Lanka held on for a draw in their four-day cricket match against a New Zealand Select XI at Victoria Park, reports AP.

Sri Lanka were set a target of 356 for victory but made no attempt to chase the runs and were 155 for five wickets when play was called off.

Tillekeratne and Chamara Dunusinghe (5 not out) averted the possibility of defeat by adding 50 runs in the final session after the tourists struggled to 105-5 at tea. The pair shared a 56-run partnership.

The normally free-scoring Sri Lankan batsmen were mostly content to occupy the crease.

## So far so good for Italians



LONDON, Mar 1: Italian teams held a slender edge over the Germans in the UEFA Cup quarter-finals on Tuesday while France's interest all but evaporated with Nantes crashing 5-1 away to Bayer Leverkusen where three men were sent off, report agencies.

Veteran midfielder Giancarlo Marocchi gave Juventus an invaluable away goal as the Italian league leaders drew 1-1 at Eintracht Frankfurt in their first leg clash.

Pole Jan Furtok equalised

first half. In Rome, an own goal by German defender Steffen Freund gave Lazio of Rome a 1-0 victory against Borussia Dortmund in their first-leg game.

Freund kicked the ball into his team net in the 67th minute as he tried to clear a low cross by Jose Antonio Chamot, Lazio's Argentine defender.

The Roman team, fourth in the Italian League, really needed Freund's help for winning the game at the Olympic stadium as its forwards repeatedly missed scoring chances — for bad luck and for bad

threat to Lazio's goalie Luca Marchegiani.

Freund's mishap blew up Borussia's clear plan to play to a goalless draw in Rome and gamble in the second-leg game, scheduled in Dortmund on March 14.

Borussia's captain Michael Zorc will miss the next game, with Lazio as he received his second yellow card in the tournament and will be automatically suspended.

But Leverkusen, the third German side in the last eight, romped past Nantes, runaway French First Division leaders, with Ulf Kirsten and Brazilian Paulo Sergio both scoring twice.

Nantes were down to 10 men from the 66th minute when midfielder Jean-Michel Ferri was sent off for elbowing Kirsten. Nantes' French international Reynald Pedros and Christian Woerns of Leverkusen were dismissed in the 90th minute for arguing.

Hans-Peter Lenhoff put Leverkusen, who won the trophy in 1988, ahead in the ninth minute and Kirsten's first put them 2-0 in the 18th.

Nantes, unbeaten this season in the league, pulled one back with a 64th minute penalty by Nicolas Ouedec.

But within two minutes they were a man short and on their way to disaster, the away goal now looking unlikely to make a difference in the return leg.

Italy also have three teams in the last eight. Parma meet Odense of Denmark on Thursday.

The Cup Winners' Cup clash in Belgium between Club Brugge and Chelsea went off without crowd violence during the match in Bruges after a massive police operation to stamp out potential hooliganism.

But a Belgian fan was stabbed in the back, though not badly hurt, shortly before kick off and police turned water cannon on skirmishing fans after the match.

Chelsea lost 1-0, Brugge's Gert Verheyen heading home off Chelsea forward Paul Furlong just seven minutes from time.

mistakes. The German team, the leader of the Bundesliga, failed to express its offensive potential as it concentrated on control of play at midfield. It did not cause any serious

ranked behind first-place Japan in Asia.

Yuan said the positive test results have damaged the international reputation of Chinese athletes. He urged greater efforts to stop stimulants use.

"Currently, there are those among our sports ranks who ignore our (anti-doping) policy and use stimulants without heed for the consequences," he told 150 sports officials from all over the country, as well as some coaches and athletes, who attended the meeting.

Yuan said measures to crack down on the use of banned substances this year include deepening and ex-

cluding seven swimmers, who tested positive at last fall's Asian Games in Japan for dihydrotestosterone, a steroid commonly known as DHT.

Two Chinese weight lifters also have tested for the banned substance this year. All have been punished based on the regulations of their international sports organizations. The swimmers have been banned from competition for two years.

Members of the world swimming federation, FINA, were to arrive in Beijing Thursday to investigate the drug scandal, but no details have been released on their planned activities.

The recent spate of positive test results has provoked an international outcry among athletes and coaches charging that China's phenomenal successes in the past few years, particularly in women's swimming, resulted from drug use.

China has denied accusations of systemic use of performance-enhancing drugs, saying the achievements of its athletes came from hard work and scientific training.

But Yang Tianle, a member of the Anti-Doping Commission of the China Olympic Committee, said that use of performance-enhancing drugs among Chinese athletes was on the rise.

Last year, 31 cases were discovered. But, Yang added China's rate of positive tests in 1993 ranked 10th in the world. With only 2.12 per cent of all drug tests resulting in positive results, China was far behind Belgium, with a rate of about 6 per cent. He said China

## Papin won't go

MUNICH, Germany, Mar 1: Bayern Munich's French international striker Jean-Pierre Papin, whose season has been plagued by injury quashed rumours today that he wanted to leave the German club this year, reports Reuters.

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Cultural Affairs Dhaka

## Letter of Invitation

Proposals are invited by the undersigned from the Architectural and Engineering consulting firms to appoint a consulting firm for Architectural and Engineering design construction, supervision and management of works of "Construction of National Art Gallery" at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.

The letter of invitation including detailed terms of reference and other relevant information may be obtained on payment of non-refundable amount of Tk 1,000 (one thousand) only per set by depositing the amount in Bangladesh Bank/Treasury under the head 65-Miscellaneous, non-tax revenue, the original copy of Treasury challan must be enclosed with the application to be submitted in favour of the Deputy Chief, Ministry of Cultural Affairs, Building No. 6, Room No. 1001, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka 1000 during working hours from March 11, 1995 to March 25, 1995.

The technical and financial proposals should be submitted in separate sealed envelopes which will be clearly marked 'Technical Proposal' and 'Financial Proposal' and the same will be received by the undersigned on or before 30th March, 1995 up to 2-00 PM.

The Ministry of Cultural Affairs will reserves the right for accepting or rejecting any or all proposals without assigning any reason thereof.

A K M Abul Basher  
Deputy Chief  
Ministry of Cultural Affairs.

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Juan Antonio Samaranch (L), president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) shakes hands with Jasna Sekaric, current European and world champion in sharp shooting, during his meeting with members of the Yugoslav Olympic Committee and sports personalities in Belgrade on Feb 28. — AFP/UNB photo