Sports Reporter

Fifty seven cueists from eight affiliated clubs of the Bangladesh Billiards and Snooker Federation (BBSF) will go in action when the 11th national snooker championship begins at the Dhaka Club billiards room from to-

However the gilt of the ginger bread will be considerably missing since the defending champion Narayan Chandra Gosh and the lone successful local performer in the 11th Asian snooker championship Mozammel Hossain will not be there for reasons best known to the authorities.

The participants will be divided in 12 groups when the preliminary round consisting of best of five frames begins at

The top finisher of each group will qualify for the next round of the four-day meet to be played in knock-out basis.

Anand, Kamsky draw Game 4

LAS PALMAS, Canary Islands, Mar 14: Despite being a pawn down, Indian Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand held American Gata Kamsky to a draw in the fourth game of the Professional Chess Association candidates final series here Monday, reports AP.

Each player now has two points. The first player to get to 6.5 points wins the match and will play world champion Gary Kasparov for the title in September. A win counts as one point and a draw as an half point.

Kamsky had the white pieces Monday and as in the first and third games when Anand played white, the two players went for the Ruy Lopez or Spanish Opening.

In the first game, Kamsky played the closed defense with 5. ... Be7, the most popular line. But on Monday, Anand played the open defense with 5. ... Nxe4.

On Saturday, Kamsky opted for the relatively rare 6. ... Bb7 The open defense is generally viewed as giving black active piece play at the cost of a weakened pawn structure.

Anand played 18. ... d4 in order to liquidate his weak dpawn. The pawn was immune because it might have led to the following: 19. cxd4 Nxd4, 20. Nxd 4 Rxd 4, 21. Qxd 4 Qxf2+, 22. Kh 1 Qf1+, 23. Rxf1 Rxf1 Checkmate.

After white's 23rd move, Ng 5. American Grandmaster Lev Alburt - one of Kamsky's seconds -, predicted a draw despite the slight advantage for

Kamsky did emerge into a rook and knight ending with an extra pawn. Anand's rook. However, was well placed on his seventh rank

After the game Anand admitted he was disappointed with his middlegame play which led him losing the

Bowe-Tyson bout on cards?

INDIANAPOLIS. Mar 14 Riddick Bowe met Mike Tyson in prison Monday night, and the two boxers talked about a possible dlrs 120 million fight after the former heavyweight champion is released, reports

"Hopefully if things go right. I'll get my opportunity." Bowe said following his 45-minute meeting with Tyson at the Indiana Youth Centre. "But I want Mike at this point to relax and just take it easy and hopefully we can get together.

"Mike is the best heavy weight out there, as far as I'm concerned. It will be a dream for myself to face Mike. Not to mention there will be a whole lot of money involved.

Bowe knocked out Herbie Hide in the sixth round Satur day night in a WBO heavy weight title bout in Las Vegas but he had to knock down the much smaller Briton seven times to accomplish it.

Once Tyson, 28, leaves the Indiana Youth Centre . his home since he was convicted of rape in 1992, he plans to return to Cleveland. After that he will remain on probation for four years. Tyson is scheduled for release March 25.

There are no legal restric tions that might prevent him from resuming his boxing ca-

"Mike looks in excellent shape." Bowe said. "He's ,in a good state of mind and I think he'll be a force to be reckoned

Bowe said no definite plans were made, though the two talked about fighting at Madison Square Garden in New York.

Tyson was sentenced to six years in prison but earned one day off his sentence for each day of good behaviour.

Tyson's last petition for release earlier than March 25 was denied by superior Court Judge Patricia Gifford on Feb. 10, three years to the day after he was convicted of one count of rape and two counts of deviate sexual conduct.

US gold rush continues

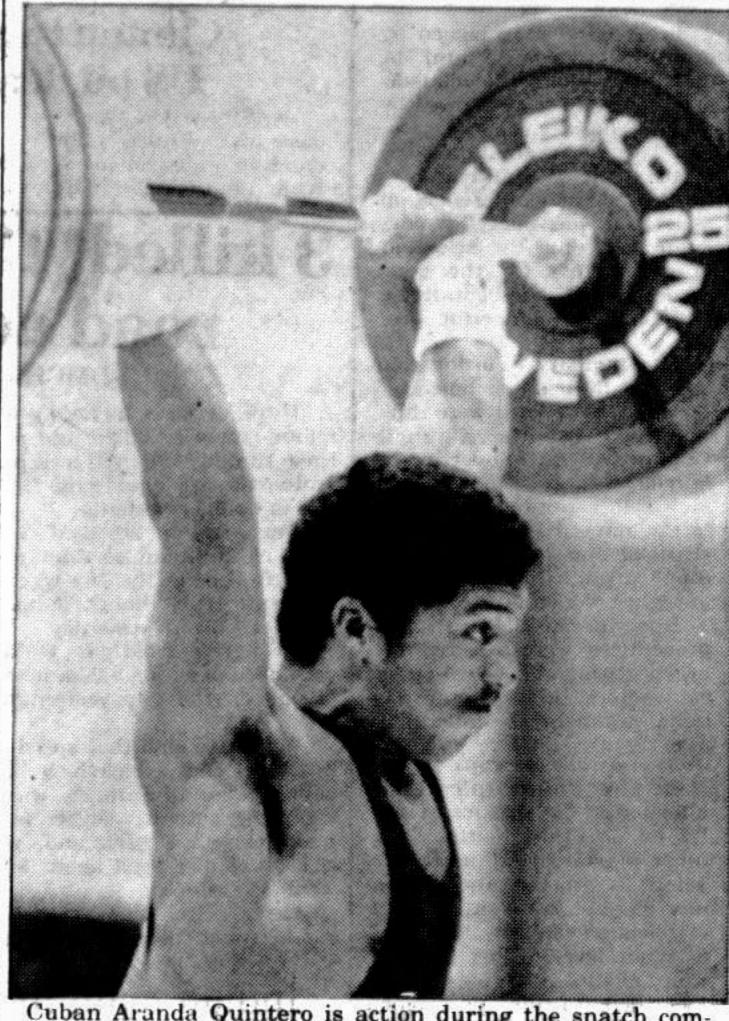
MAR DEL PLATA, Argentina, Mar 14: The United States is having a beach party in the water and on it at the Pan American Games, reports

The American swimmers have won 17 of a possible 18 medals, and the canoe-kayak squad has captured five golds

and nine medals overall. The roller speed skaters

Led by a teen ager with family ties to Argentina and a veteran who's living at the new resident training centre at Colorado Springs, Colorado, the United States won three more swimming golds Monday night. That gave the Americans six in 10 events, with Canada owning three golds and Brazil

Cristina Teuscher won her second gold of the games by



Cuban Aranda Quintero is action during the snatch competition in the 64-kg category at the Pan-American Games in Mar del Plata, Argentina on Mar 13. Quirtero set a new world record with a lift of 175 kilograms and captured the - AFP/UNB photo gold medal in the event.

also have been dominant. They added three gold medals and three silver to the six medals, three gold, they won the previous night.

Craig Hedrick won the 10,000-meter points final, his second gold. Tony Muse took the 500 after winning a silver in the 300 on Sunday. Heather Laufer was the women's 500 winner.

David Juarez won the gold in mountain biking. And Ann Marsh won the women's foil in fencing.

the singles titles at the All-

England Championships this

week even without Olympic

men's champion Allan Budi

A back injury ruled out

Kusuma, who was pulled off

the team late last week as they

have such force indepth they

are hardly likely to notice his

absence and their cause was

strengthened on Monday night

with news that top European

Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen would

has been the bulwark against

Asia: dominance in recent

Denmark's Stuer-Lauridsen

miss the tournament.

But the Indonesian men

were heading for the airport,

Kusuma, reports Reuter.

BIRMINGHAM.

England, Mar 14:

Indonesia's all-

conquering bad-

look set to land

minton players

estyle, while 25-year-old Mark Henderson won the 100 butterfly. Teuscher also got a gold in the 800 freestyle relay on her 17th birthday Sunday, and the men's 800 relay won Monday night in a games record time. Marianne Limpert of Ca-

capturing the 200-meter fre-

nada and Dady Vincent of the United States were second and third.

Teuscher was disappointed in her time of 2 minutes, 1.49 seconds, nearly five-seconds off the world record. She

years but has not been able to

join such great Danes as four-

times champion Morten Frost

on the All-England winners

seed, has been suffering from

back trouble for three months

and decided to withdraw when

he discovered the Birmingham

scheduled for Tuesday it would

have meant Stuer-Lauridsen

testing his back to the limit

with two matches on Wednes-

day and another two on Thurs-

better but I am not ready for a

programme like that at such a

high level as the All-England."

top seeded Hervanto Arbi, the

1993 and 1994 winner who is

The Indonesians are led by

said the 24-year-old.

My back is getting much

With no singles matches

timetable.

Stuer-Lauridsen, the fifth

hoped for an impressive per formance in front of her parents, sister, two grandmothers and two cousins, the latter four from Buenos Aires.

The men's 800 relay team of Jon Olsen, Josh Davis, Ryan Berube and Greg Burgess won in 7:21.61, nearly two seconds ahead of the Pan Am record set in 1991, Brazil was second and Mexico third.

Curtis Myden of Canada broke the Pan Am record with a time of 4:8.55 in the men's 400 individual medley. Eric Namesnik of the United States, also was under the record in 4:19.00, and Ilan Mull of the United States, wonthe bronze.

Canadians Lisa Flood and Cuylaine Cloutier finished 1-2 in the women's 200 breaststroke, just ahead of Anita Nall of the United States. Alison Fealy of the United States, who won a silver in the women's 400 IM on Sunday, was fourth in the 200 breaststroke, the only time an American swimmer has failed to win a medal.

The American paddlers were sensational on the water at Laguna de Los Padres.

Peter Newton took the 1.500-meter kayak race by nearly two seconds. Then he Teamed with Stein Jorgensen of San Diego 90 minutes later to win the 500-meter doubles.

Joining them as winners Monday were Jim Terrell in the 500 canoe singles; Alexandra Harbold in the women's 500 kayak singles; and the women's double kayak 500 team of DeAnne Hemmens and Traci Phillips of Honolulu.

John Roethlisberger was second in the men's all-around gymnastics event, behind Cuba's Erick Lopez.

The US women's field hockey team beat Canada 2-0. while the volleyball squad swept Brazil 15-2, 15-0, 15-4.

Canada won its second and third diving medals of the Games as Annie Pelletier and Bobbiann MacPherson got gold and bronze in the women's 3meter springboard. Melisa Moses won the silver medal and Kristen Kane of the United States, slipped to sixth.

Chile's Emilioi Morales fell in the 500 meters preliminary roller skating race when he collided with Ivan Vargas of Colombia. Morales was taken to a hospital with several injuries, including facial cuts, after being carried off on a stretcher while wearing a neck brace to stabilize his head.

Vargas was uninjured, but was disqualified.

From NASA for natants

MAR DEL PLATA, Argen tina, Mar 14: State-of-the-art swimsuits, made partly of silicon and tested by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). are helping some United States swimmers go significantly faster, reports Reuter.

Swimmers say they are delighted with the new suits and say they can help them cut between half a second and a second off times over one hundred meters.

The new swimsuits are made partly of silicon and partly of microfiber, which helps them cut drag in the water by around 15 per cent Amy van Dyken, a member of the US swimming team at the Pan-American Games told Reuters.

"It feets like a dolphin skin," she said. "When you splash water on it, it just resists and the water bounces straight off. It makes you feel as if you are riding on of top the water."

The space age suits were designed by a sports equipment company and its performance in the water was tested by NASA, said Van Dyken, who won a silver medal in the women's 100 meters freestyle Sunday.

"There have been rumours that one was put on the out side of the space shuttle but' that's not true," she said.

Despite the success of the new suits, only a few members of the US team are waring them. "They look funny and a lot of swimmers are superstitious, they have their own swimsuits and they don't like to change."

Not in Olympics

MAR DEL PLATA, Mar 14: Olympic chief Juan Antonio Samaranch said on Monday he would not oppose prize money at major athletics championships, but would object to payments to athletes at the Olympic Games, reports Reuter.

Never at the Olympics, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) president said in an interview during a visit to the Pan-American Games.

International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) head Primo Nebiolo confirmed on Sunday that prize money would be paid to athletes at its major championships after next vear's Atlanta Olympics, payments would be made with or without IOC approval.

"We will discuss this possibility with the IOC, if the IOC refuses to discuss this problem, the problem will be faced by us alone," Nebiolo, said one the closing day of the World Indoor Championships in Barcelona, which many top athletes did not attend.

But Samaranch said on Monday he had no problem with payments by the IAAF.

"It is up to them it is not my problem," he said.

"I spoke with Nebiolo some days ago in Barcelona and he told me they are studying and discussing this possibility, but he told me very clearly that he never mentioned the Olympic Games.

Athletics starts, particularly those in the United States. have been pushing for years for the IAAF to share with them money it receives from television revenues.

The IAAF so far has refused to give prize money at its major events but it did offer a concession by arranging for Mercedes cars for gold medalists at the 1993 Stuttgart World Championships.

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Cuban Javier Sotomayor soars over the bar to win the men's high jump competition at the fifth World Indoor Athletics Championship in Barcelona on Mar 12. Sotomayor cleared 2.38 metres. Later he tried to set a new record height of 2.44 metres but failed three times.

-AFP/UNB photo

Absent, not out of mind



BARCELONA, Mar 13: Gothenburgbound giants Irina Privalova, Sergev Bubka, Merlene Otty and Ja-

vier Sotomayor did their best. but they never quite cast off the brooding shadow of Linford Christie at the World Indoor Championships, reports AFP.

All four added to their gold medal collections last week, as well as adding to athletics archive of records. But the final focus remained

on Christie and co. the world stars who chose to stay away. Top US athletes Michael Johnson and Jackie Joyner-Kersee began the trend by turning down invitations after their national championships at the start of the month. Then Christie, Britain's

Olympic and world 100m champion, said he was coming... then that he wasn't ... then that he might. The International Amateur

Athletics Federation, clearly frustrated, refused to bend the rules and the sprinter, his new 200m world indoor record weighing heavily around his neck, was reduced to a specta-

His exclusion robbed him of the chance of making history - the world indoors in the only major championship where he has never won a title and allowed Canadian Bruny Surin to retain his 60m crown in the bargain.

Nothing stops Privalova from racing, however,

Europe's top sprinter, bored with easily won success. stepped up from the 60 and 200m events to give world champion Jearl Miles and defending title holder Sandie Richards a 400m beating. Her championship record

of 50.23 secs made her the first world indoor athlete to win titles over three different distances. But the Moscow-based 26-

year-old spelt out her main 1995 target immediately, saying: "I'll go to the World Championships at Gothenburg with the double in mind.

"If I go well in the 100m. then I'll run the 200m as well - that will be no problem. But no more 400m races, what I really want is to win that 100m gold."

That will put her on a direct collision course with Stuttgart 200in winner Mer-

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in fashion?

lene Ottey, however. The Jamaican eased to a comfortable 60m triumph here, giving her an unmatched sixth world indoor medal. Not that Ottey was im-

pressed. After seeing off Melainie Paschke of Germany and American Carlette Guidry, she declared: "There was just no pressure for me at all. I wish Privalova had run. Will I go for the sprint double in Gothenburg? Of course."

Bubka's only competitor seems to be his age, and so far the Ukrainian pole vaulter is ahead. The latest score is: old father time 31, world records

Here the four-times world champion buried his Barcelona Olympic disappointment of 1992 — when he no-heighted to see off young rivals Igor Potapovich of Kazakhstan and South African Okkert Brits.

Bubka's 5.90m was enough for a third world indoor gold and he admitted the psychological boost was crucial. "After the Olympics, this

was special," he said. "I thought it was important for me to be here

Sotomayor's faultless slice of history followed a winning 2.38m leap in the high jump, earning him his fifth world in-

No IOC embargo on China

MAR DEL PLATA, Mar 14: China will not be excluded from the Olympics despite allegations of systematic doping among its swimmers. International Olympic Committee (IOC) president Juan Antonio Samaranch said on Monday, reports Reuter.

Samaranch was asked for the IOC's position on a vote by the Untied Sates, Canada and Australia to exclude China from the Pan-Pacific Games swimming meeting in August in Atlanta, in an apparently unprecedented move of nations banning another from international competition.

"The Pan-Pacific Games are a private affair and the organisers can choose which international federations they want to invite," Samaranch said.

He said the IOC was proud to be the only international organisation, sporting or otherwise, which had both China and Taiwan as members.

door medal, more than any other male athlete in history. Not bad for a man supposedly out of form.

Plenty of other athletes marked their cards while warming up for the August world outdoor showpiece. For awesome power, nobody came close to 22-year-old Mozambican prodigy Maria Mutola, who took her unbeaten run over 800m to 41 races by winning in 1:57.62 ahead of Yelena Afanasyeva of Russia and Letitia Vriesde of Surinam. If that was not frightening

ing the world record during the early stages, later warning: "It is difficult alone - you need help. I will try again." The new faces at Barcelona included the men's 60m hurdles winner Allen Johnson,

enough, she looked like break-

who crowned his defeat of Colin Jackson after a 44-race unbeaten run and his United States indoor title with a first major international success. The American won in

7.39sec, dragging compatriot Courtney Hawkins to silver and Tony Jarrett, the world silver medalist in Stuttgart, to bronze. Norwegian sprinter Geir

Moen showed his continuing promise with the 200m title in 20.58 after beating under-part Stuttgart silver medalist John In the semi-finals, unknown

Moroccan 20-year-old Hicham el Guerrouj silenced a partisan crowd by defeating Spain's 1.500m Olympic champion Fermin Cacho. Olympic silver medalist

an old face in new surroundings as the women's high jump produced a story involving a German, a new German and a former German. The new — Astalei herself. just naturalised after leaving

Galina Astafei, meanwhile, was

Romania, cleared every height at the first attempt to win with 2.01m. Heike Henkel, Germany's 1991 world and 1992 Olympic

champion, lost out on countback to silver winner Bitta Bilac, who formerly competed for East Germany under her maiden name of Voros. Those performances were

useful pointers for the fast approaching outdoor season. So watch out for Privalova,

Bubka, Ottey and Sotomayor. But don't forget those notable absentees.

Russian Irina Privalova powers home to win the women's 400m final at the fifth World Indoor Athletics Championship in Barcelona on Mar 12. Privalova became the first athlete to win three World Indoor titles at different distances including the 60m in Seville and 200m in Toronto.

— AFP/UNB photo

ndonesians sure as ever trying to become the first player to capture three successive singles titles here since his great compatriot Rudy Hartono Ore than 20 years ago.

Hartono, won seven in succession up to 1974 and an eighth two years later. Since then no man or woman has captured more than two on the

The threats to Arbi come from compatriots led by 1991 champion Ardy Wiranata, last year's finalist and second seed and world champion Joko Suprianto losing finalist in 1990

and 1993. Even with Kusuma out, Indonesia have eight of the 16 men's seeds.

Indonesia have eclipsed the threat posed by China through the 1980s after they became members of the international fraternity again.

The last of China's five men's titles since 1983 went to Liu Jun in 1992 and their top rated player this time. Dong Jiong, is only one of the four fifth seeds.

They have just one other men's seed a far cry from their dominating days through the 1980s.

indonesia hold the Thomas and Uber Cup men's and women's team titles and their leading woman, Susi Susanti, is the world. Olympic and All-England champion, a title she has won four years out of the

when she suffered a shock third-round defeat by China Ye Zhaoyng, a loss she avenged as she regained the title a year The second seed is Bang Soo Hyng of South Korea who

has not managed a victory over

Susanti in more than two

She missed out in 1992

Indonesia also have the top two seeded teams in the men's doubles but they are less imposing in the women's and mixed doubles where the other nations have their best title chances.

Japan to host 3rd EA Games SEOUL, Mar 14: The 10-

member East Asian Games Association has decided to hold their third quadrennial games in Japan in 2001, sports officials said Tuesday. reports AP. The second East Asian

Games are scheduled to be held in South Korea's second largest city of Pusan in 1997.

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ZKOP ZPDEL Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FAMOUS MARATHON RACER HAD A SURGE OF ENERGY AND PRACTICED THREE DAYS RUNNING.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: R equals L The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.