First he would meet Wiranata

in the fifth round before clash-

ing with Thomas Stoer-Laurid-

sen of Denmark in the quarter-

Then two more indonesians

And could Sidek pull it off

"Maybe I would get some

peace from the Malaysian me-

dia if I won the gold medal

here," he joked. "Seriously

wouldn't be here if I didn't

Div II b'ball

from July

Sports Reporter

ket-ball league is scheduled to

start from the first week of

July at the Dhanmondi wooden

Amateur Basketball Federation

(BABF) has asked the inter-

ested clubs to complete the

entry formalities at the federa-

tion office by June 10.

The organisers, Bangladesh

floor gymnasium.

The Second Division bas-

though, I have a chance.

in Olympic champion Allan

Budi Kusuma, then world

number one Hervanto Arbi -

in the semifinals and final.

and win for his country?

think it was possible."



The players of the national hockey camp sharpen their skills for the seventh SAF Games, to be held in the Indian city of Madras at the end of this year, during a practice session at the Hockey Stadium yesterday. - Star photo

sportsmanof-year

Sports Reporter

Aminul Islam Bulbul was ad judged as the sportsman-ofyear by the Bangladesh Sports Writers Association (BSWA), who has announced the sports award for the 1994 yesterday.

The national cricketer, who is also the skipper of Mo-



hammedan Sporting Club, will be awarded with the Mohsin Trophy for his outstanding performance in the local cricket as well as in the international arena. His best performance for the country last year was 121 against the visiting England A in a threeday match.

The dark and dapper middle order batsman and a useful off-spinner had also guided Mohammedans to the Navana Premier cricket league tri-

In Asia Cup in Sarjah, Bulbul was among the few successful performers for Bangladesh. Meanwhile, the other

awardees in their respective fields are - Football (Md Ponir); Cricket (Athar Ali Khan); Hockey (Mahboob Harun); Shooting (GM Haider); Kabaddi (Tariqul Islam); Organiser (Abdur Rahman of Khulna DSA); Sponsors (Biman Bangladesh Airlines).

The ceremonial is expected to be held by the end of this

Final round from today

The final round of the 21st adjacent to the Dhaka Stadium

Fifteen teams including defending champions Bangladesh Police and hosts Dhaka will compete in the final round to

The other participants are: Tangail. Sherpur. Comilla. Chittagong, Shatkhira, Magura. Dinajpur, Kurigram, Rajshahi. Patuakhali, BDR, Bangladesh Ansars and Fire Service.

Army football

BOGRA, May 24: Three more robin league matches of the Army football championship were held here at the Bogra Cantonment today, reports UNB.

Comilla Area defeated Dhaka Engineers 2-0: Dhaka Infantry outplayed Bogra Area 4-1 and Chittagong Area beat Momenshahi Area 2-0.

Earlier, on Tuesday, Jessore Area crushed Log Area 3-0 and Dhaka Signals beat Savar Area team 2-0.

Air Defence Artillery shared

Bulbul BSWA Saga of a jack-easy genious referees were beginning to

Franco Baresi is probably the best reader of the game since Bobby Moore but unlike

favourites book is a whodunnit, reports AFP. For the AC Milan and re-

the late England captain, his

tired Italy captain has been getting away with "murder" for He can and does judge his

tackles to perfection but he needs no lessons in blocking tripping, pushing. Most referees are swayed

by the Baresi charm. He does not rant or rave. He apologizes when he clumsily backs into forwards. He shakes his head in disbelief when opponents try to kid referees they have been brought down by a Baresi

And when his arm goes up as the orders his back line forward to catch opposing for-

"It strikes me as not being

in the spirit of the Olympics.

said Dick Pound, an Interna-

president. "It's a little disap-

pointing. And it seems not in

in Barrow County, a rural area

about 35 miles northeast of

Atlanta, voted Monday night to

prohibit Somali athletes and

coaches from training there

because of resentment over

attacks on American soldiers

US forces were sent to So-

malia in 1992 to try to quell

bloody fighting between rival

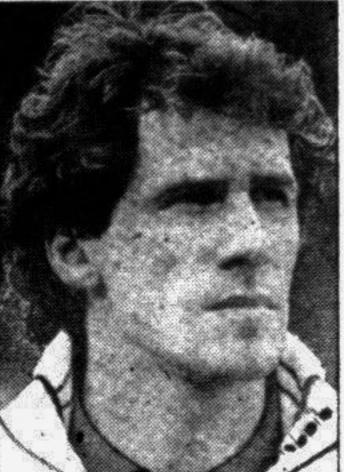
The Chamber of Commerce

Olympics is all about."

in the African nation.

wards off side few linesmen dare to challenge him.

"Even now, at 35 he's the best in the world in his posttion," said Milan's Montene grin forward Dejan Savicevic.



FRANCO BARESI

But last year age seemed to be catching up with him and

identify the tell-tale clues. He was suspended for the

European Cup final against Barcelona after playing the 1989 and 1993 finals.

Knee surgery seemed to have ended his World Cup after he was injured against Norway but two weeks later he bounced back to play a magnificent game against Brazil in the final.

After another slow start, which culminated in an own goal in a 2-0 defeat to Ajax in Trieste, he has had another fine season.

But after missing one of Italy's penalties in the shootout against Brazil he will probably be allowed to sit it out if penalties are needed to decide today's match.

"Penalty kicks are a Jottery. You never know what might be happen," he said 'after the . World Cup final.

After all. Baresi likes detective novels, not cliff hangers.

The Somalis were directed

to Barrow County by the Geor-

gia Olympic Training Alliance,

a division of the State Depart-

ment of Industry, Trade and

eign Olympians with proper

facilities in communities that

volunteer to host them; since

Somalia will send only a track-

and-field team to Atlanta, the

all-weather tracks in Barrow

County seemed an ideal loca-

tion, said Kim Adler, a project

whether it made sense to send

a team of black athletes from

an African nation with a history

of animosity toward Americans

to a predominantly white sec-

tion of the rural South never

came up in planning sessions.

not against American soldiers.

only some of the warlords, not

all people in Barrow County are

against this." Adler said.

"Everyone in Georgia has

southern hospitality. But any

group will have people with hospitality. It could have hap-

for another training site for its 25-member team and might

wind up Gordon County. 50

miles (80 kilometres) north-

west of Atlanta, according to

Omar Shekhey, the nation's

Ravelli's costly

remark

STOCKHOLM, May 24

Swedish national team and IFK

Goeteborg goalkeeper Thomas

Ravelli may face a suspension

from the Swedish Football

Federation over a racist com-

opposing player a 'damn im-

migrant" in a match Sunday,

the federation said here Tues-

AIK Stockholm's Pascal Simp-

son, who is black, was not re-

ported by AIK, the referee or

Simpson. Instead, an official

report was filed by a federation

think needs to be tried and

when no report is made, it is

not unusual that we file a re-

port ourselves," federation of

The case will be heard on

"I apologise a thousand

June 14. It is not yet known

how long a ban the 35-year-old

times over. I didn't mean any-

thing by what I said." said Rav-

ficial Anders Brulin said.

player might face.

"This is a case that we

He is accused of calling an

Ravelli's verbal attack on

ment, reports AFP.

Olympic attache in Atlanta.

The Somali team is looking

pened anywhere."

"Just as all Somalis were

She said the question of

consultant with the alliance.

The agency matches for-

Tourism.

England 199 for nine

NOTTINGHAM. England. May 24: Alec Stewart peppered the West Indies pace attack for 74 runs, but got only marginal help from his teammates as England scored a modest 199 for 9 wickets Wednesday in the first one-day international, reports AP.

The start of the tourists reply was delayed by rain, the second interruption of the day's play at Trent Bridge.

Vice-captain Stweart took advantage of the firm, true bounce off the wicket to fend off the usually feared attack of Winston Benjamin, lan Bishop. Curtly Ambrose, Courtney Waish for 11 fours off 127

Stewart spread the ball around the field, showing his dominance by pounding Ambrose off the front foot through extra cover just before lunch. Stewart recorded his best-ever score in a one-day.

CJKP Ispahani cricket

CHITTAGONG. May 24: Rising Star Club beat Agrabad Nowjoan Club by 58 runs in the CJKP Ispahani First Division cricket league at the Chit tagong Stadium here today. reports BSS.

Rising Star batted first and scored 162 for eight in the stipulated 40 overs.

in reply. Nowjoan were bundled out for 104 for nine in their 40 overs.

Rising's openers Harun and Faisal made a solid start scoring 82 for the opening stand. Harun scored 48 playing 57

balls with three fours while Faisal made 32 facing 55 balls. He hit two boundaries. Mahbub (28) and Nuruddin

(19) were the other main

scorers for Rising Star. Moni and Mithu of Nowjoan captured three wickets each for 30 and 32 respectively.

Mithu 46, Moni 23, Helen 12 were the main run-getters for Nowjoan.

Saikat and Jamal took two wickets each for 17 and 27

Rising Star earned six points from five matches while Nowjoan got only two points from the same number of en-

Nat'l chess from today

Sports Reporter The first phase of the 21st

national chess championship begins today at the chess room of the National Sports Council. In the eleven-round Swiss

league meet, all the rated players along with the last year's qualifiers in the final round and representatives from different services teams will feature in the first leg.

Fourteen top finishers will join the defending champions International Master (IM) Zi aur Rahman and runner-up IM Reefat-bin Sattar to fight it out for the championship.

Navy soccer

The annual football championship of the Bangladesh Navy concluded at the Naval Heaquarters Complex football ground at Banani here yesterday, an ISPR press release said, reports BSS.

BNS Issa Khan emerged champions defeating BNS Haii Mohsin 2-1 in a keenly contested final.

The winners led the first half 2-0.

"Of course I would love to win an Olympic or a World Championship," added Sidek. whose immediate goal was to win his fourth round match

Sidek Malaysia's ace card

day evening.

Championships here on Wednesday, Sidek spoke of the pressures of competition in general because of fanatical support back home, reports "It's a lot to cope with," the 27-year-old double Common-

man, has the weight of a nation

on his back each and every

At the World Badminton

time he plays.

LAUSANNE, Sw

itzerland, May 24:

Rashid Sidek,

perhaps Malay

sta's most high-

profile sports-

wealth Games gold medalist said with a smile. It's great when I'm winning, but not so good when I'm losing." Luckily for world number

17 Sidek, his career has had more high points than most.

After watching teammates Soo Beng Kiang and Tan Kim Her win their first match in the men's doubles. Sidek spoke of his ambitions in the He, won singles titles at

both the Auckland Commonwealth Games in 1990 and detended his title successfully in Victoria. Canada four later. I would love to win a third

gold medal, but I am not sure if I will play. I will be 30 by then and maybe a little too old to have a real chance of winning," he added.

Sidek was allegedly given 40,000 dollars by the Malaysian association for his success in Victoria and they are likely to persuade him to compete in the Kuala Lumpur Commonwealth in 1998. If his arm is twisted

Malaysia's badminton ambas sador could, appear on bill boards, posters, souvenirs, on television and any other type of marketing tool

against China's world number 71 Xie Yangchun on Wednes-

"Xie may not be one of their very top players, but the Chinese are strong as was shown by their win in the Sudirman Cup. I will need to be at my

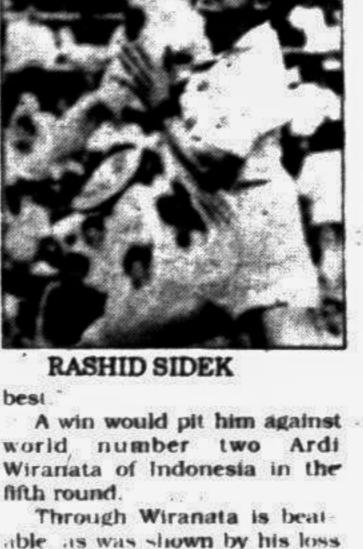


world number two Ardi

Through Wiranata is beat ble as was shown by his loss to Denmark's world number 25 Peter Rasmussen in the Sudirman Cup, Sidek admitted it would be tough.

Sidek believed Indonesia. like most observers, would win the men's title. "They have five of the top eight seeds and three of the top four. Someone would probably have to beat three of them to win the world

Sidek for instance would have to beat three to win here.



Ince faces music again LONDON: May 24: England

star Paul Ince took the witness stand on the second day of his trial here on Wednesday and denied launching a violent attack on a spectator and using threatening behaviour during Manchester United's clash with Crystal Palace in January. reports AFP. The player's lawyer. Henri

Brandman, reminded Ince that the prosecution's case was that he has shouted at Palace fans: "Come on then, we will take the ... ing lot of you.'

But the 27-year-old United and England midfielder told Croydon magistrates court: "I did not say a word."

Ince, who denies using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour and one charge of assault by beating, said he recalled that his alleged victim, life-long-Crystal Palace fan Dennis Warren, was among the spectators who had left their seats.

The allegations relate to the same match in which Ince's United teammate Eric Captona kicked and punched another fan. Matthew Simmons, after being sent off.

The French striker was

sentenced to 120 hours com-

munity service after appealing against a two-week jail term imposed for an admitted charge of common assault. Cantona was also banned by

the Football Association from all competitive football until

Ince, who has appeared for United over 300 times and. played in 16 matches for England, denied hitting Warren or beckoning to the crowd.

When asked by prosecuting lawyer Jeffrey McCann if his alleged victim had committed perjury on Tuesday, Ince replied: "Yes, he did."

Journalist Richard Turner told the court he had an unobstructed view from the press box of the Cantona incident and of Ince running to the touchline along with several other players afterwards.

He said Ince never threw a punch at one of the Palace fans, as the crown had claimed.

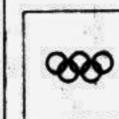
Beijing's bid hangs in the balance

Minchester United and England international Paul Ince,

accompanied by his wife Clare, arrives at Croydon Mag-

istrates Court near London on May 23 to face charges of as-

saulting a spectator during a match at Crystal Palace



PARIS. May 24 With just over a week before the deadline for cities wishing to bid for the 2004

Olympics. Beijing is still weighing up the pros and cons despite encouraging noises coming from International Olympic Committee (IOC) president Juan Antonio Samaranch, reports AFP.

Samaranch met Chinese Olympic officials earlier this month in Tianjin, south of the capital, in an attempt to get Beijing to join the race, but the Chinese know that victory is far from assured. Beijing's road to winning

Olympic approval to host the 2004 Games is both a political and sporting minefield. In the city's failed attempt

to win the 2000 Games it was decided to answer international attacks on the country's human rights record by releasing a small number of political prisoners. It was a public relations

blunder for instead of appeasing the critics. Notably in the United States, it simply raised more questions and the issue is but one of several political landmines waiting to explode. The makeup of the coun-

try's political leadership should China's paramount leader Deng Xiaoping die before the IOC members vote on the 2004 hosts in Lausanne in 1997, and what direction the country takes, could well affect

Kong in July 1997.

earlier this year.

Deng's health is of growing concern and few people would wager he will be around to celebrate a successful Beijing bid. Another potential problem will be the handover of Hong

The world, and China crities in particular, will be scrutinising how Beijing treats the Hong Kong Chinese leaders who are publicly at odds with the Beijing regime.

The IOC vote is not until September 1997 and any serious clampdown in Hong Kong could prove disastrous. Sports-landmines come in

the form of drugs. Multiple doping scandals involving their athletes, especially swimmers, have led to

comparisons with the former East Germany, which turned doping in sport into an art While rumours abounded for 20 years about the doping of

East Germany's star athletes no-one, including the IOC medical commission, could uncover any hard evidence. Before the Berlin Wall came down and Germany reunited there was only a single case of

an East German athlete testing positive a women's shout putter in 1977. After unification the full scope of East German doping came out. Unlike the infamous, Ben Johnson affair at Seoul.

which simply involved the

doctor. German doping had

At the 1994 Asian Games in Hiroshima China became embroiled in the biggest doping scandal in swimming history. Seven of the country's

world-class swimmers all

tested positive as well as four

been a state-run affair.

-AFP/UNB photo

other athletes. Immediately accusations of a state-run drugs programme began. "I think the coaches knew. think the administrators knew. It would be impossible for them not to know."

swimming coach, said. Australia called for a fourvear ban on Chinese swimmers competing world-wide.

Richard Quick, the United

States Olympic women's

A stunned Chinese Olympic Committee (COC) publicly apologised for the Asian Games scandal and launched an immediate investigation.

So serious was the affair that the International Swimming Federation (FINA) sent a special team to try and uncover if there was a systematic doping programme or simply a few renegade coaches.

FINA later announced there was no evidence to show that Chinese authorities knew about the doping.

But the same comments were made about East Germany. Another doping scandal before September 1997 would be disastrous for an Olympic

But should China avoid the athlete and an unscrupulous political and sporting pitfalls. then Beijing is left with the thorny problem of how to secure enough votes.

It lost the 2000 bid to Syd-

ney by only two votes - one of the closest races in Olympic history. At least one senior IOC figure was convinced at least an hour before the announcement that China had it sewn

Primo Nebiolo, the Italian head of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), sent out a press release to the Italian media congratulating China only to have to send out a correction when Samaranch told the world Sydney had won.

Cape Town is Beijing's main rival and if the Chinese capital is to win will need the full support of the majority of the African votes on the IOC. Quite how they will manage that is clearly a point the COC are busily considering. One solution could be that

Cape Town would accept Beijing getting 2004 if it were to get 2008. Samaranch is a close friend of South African president Nelson Mandela and would love to see and African city winning the Olympics. .

At the same time Sama ranch has almost made it a personal crusade to get the Games to Beijing. If Beijing announces a bid

for 2004, few people doubt some form of accord has been worked out. China made a mistake in its bid for 2000 No one believes they would make the same mistake twice

nat'l kabaddi Sports Reporter

warlords.

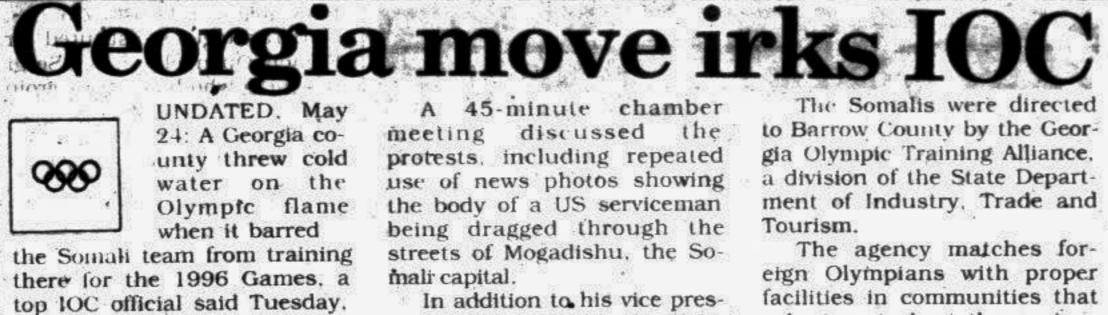
reports AP.

national kabaddi championship begins at the kabaddi court

be played on knock out basis.

results

points with Rangpur Area in a goalless encounter in the afternoon.



In addition to his vice presidency. Pound heads the IOC's oversight panel on the Atlanta Games and is one of the committee's most powerful tional Olympic Committee vice members. In a telephone in terview from his Montreal office, he stressed that neither keeping with what the he nor the IOC were taking an

> County move. "On a scale of problems from one to 1,000, it's not that

> Nevertheless, Pound said, peace and understanding

through sports. "It's too bad," he said. "One would have hoped it would not have landed on the Olympic

official position on the Barrow

high on the list," he said. the situation was a slap at the Olympic goal of international

Games."



AC Milan players from left Paolo Maldini (Background) together with clubmates Roberto Donadoni and Stefano Eranio practice at the Ernst Happel Stadium in Vienna on Tuesday, the venue of their European Cup final clash ... - AFP/UNB photo against Ajax Amsterdam today.