

# East End finish atop alone

Sports Reporter

East End Club benefitted from overseas signings yesterday when both their Nepalese booters scored in their 2-1 win against Dhanmondi Club in a match of the Lifebuoy First Division football league played under floodlights at the Mirpur Stadium.

The win further consolidates East End's position at the top of the league on completion of the first leg. East End have amassed 18 points from 9 matches whereas Dhanmondi have 11. After a barren first half, Raju Sanya put East End ahead when he converted a penalty in the 55th minute. Raju has a hundred per cent record having converted all the four penalties for East End in the present league. Four minutes later Deepak Amartya doubled the margin putting the old-towners almost out of reach of the Dhanmondi outfit. This was East End's fifth win.

Dhanmondi's striker Towhid reduced the margin in the 70th minute with his fifth goal of the league.

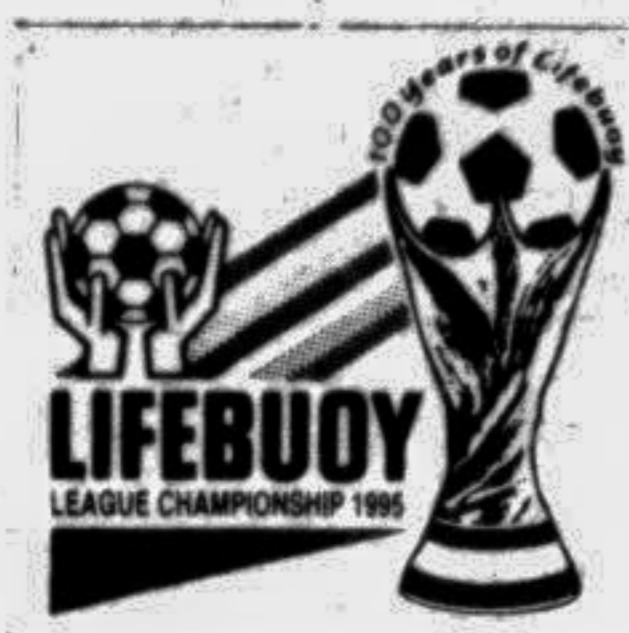
**SHANTINAGAR HOLD BADDA**  
Promotees Badda Jagoroni Sangsad and Shantinagar Club split points in a goalless drawn match of the Lifebuoy First Division football league played at the same venue.

Shaheenur Rahman of Badda was sent off in the 85th minute after he was shown the dreaded second yellow card.

Badda have 14 points whereas Shantinagar, struggling at the bottom of the table, have six on conclusion of their nine match first leg engagements.

Away at the floodlit Dhaka Stadium, Bangladesh Boys and Public Works Departments (PWD) Sports Club, relegated simultaneously from the Premier Division last year, had more in common when the teams split points in a goalless encounter.

PWD who performed better on the day, could have turned the table on the opponents. However, Badda managed to keep them at bay in a game marked by tough tactics to the extent that



Selin of Boys was sent off for earning his second yellow ten minutes from the final whistle.

The draw maintains Badda Jagoroni at the third position in the table with 14 points whereas ominous signs are emerging for PWD who are not in the clear yet with a tally of seven points. Both have completed their nine first leg matches.

### STANDINGS

Teams	M	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
East End Club	9	5	3	1	15	6	18
Bangladesh Boys	9	4	3	2	11	6	15
Badda Jagoroni	9	3	5	1	7	5	14
Sadharan Bima	9	3	4	2	8	7	13
Dhanmondi Club	9	3	3	3	11	12	12
Eskaton SS	9	2	4	3	9	8	10
Victoria SC	9	1	7	1	5	5	10
Police AC	9	2	4	3	6	7	10
PWD	9	1	4	4	8	9	7
Shantinagar Club	9	1	3	5	4	11	6



Mid-pitch action from yesterday's Lifebuoy Premier Division football league encounter between Public Works Department (PWD) and Bangladesh Boys at the floodlit Dhaka Stadium. The match ended goalless.

— Star photo

Faruque issue unresolved

## Cricketers' transfer now Sept 16-20

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) in a bid to avoid a clash with the Moin-ud-Dowla Gold Cup invitational tournament, scheduled to be held in the Indian city of Hyderabad from September 2, has deferred the inter-club cricketers transfer from more fifteen days.

The decision to change the carefully chalked out annual calendar came after the monthly meeting of the board at its office yesterday.

According to a reliable source, the six-day cricketers' transfer which was earlier scheduled to begin on September 1, will now be held from September 16-20.

Although the board has proved quick enough to readjust the annual calendar, it seems they had simply ignored a looming controversy regarding the omission of three pool players from the list of 32, called up in the preliminary camp for the Moin-ud-Dowla meet.

In a funny way of picking the players in the camp, the selection committee, headed by Lutful Rahman, had left out three pool players including former national skipper Faruque Ahmed.

Although Faruque was bracketed in the list of 24 (pool), the scapegoat of the BCCB's failed mission in the ICC Trophy, Kenya, surprisingly failed to get the nod of the selectors in a bigger list of 32.

The source also revealed that when the question regarding Faruque and two other pool players — spinner Shariful Huq Plabon and Salahuddin — was raised in the board meeting, one of the five selectors ruled out any change or inclusion terming the issue as 'irrelevant'.

The selectors may have a sigh of relief uttering those words but the question which will haunt them, if Faruque is not eligible to be included in the list of 32 then why they picked him as skipper of the Bangladesh A squad during a series of international exhibition matches early this year.

Meanwhile, apart from vice-captain Aminul Islam Bulbul and an experienced Muzahid Abedin Nannu, the rest including skipper Akram Khan have reported to the BCCB office last evening.

However, a close aide of Bulbul and Nannu disclosed that the two, who are now in England, yet to be informed by the BCCB.

## Schools' chess

Sports Reporter

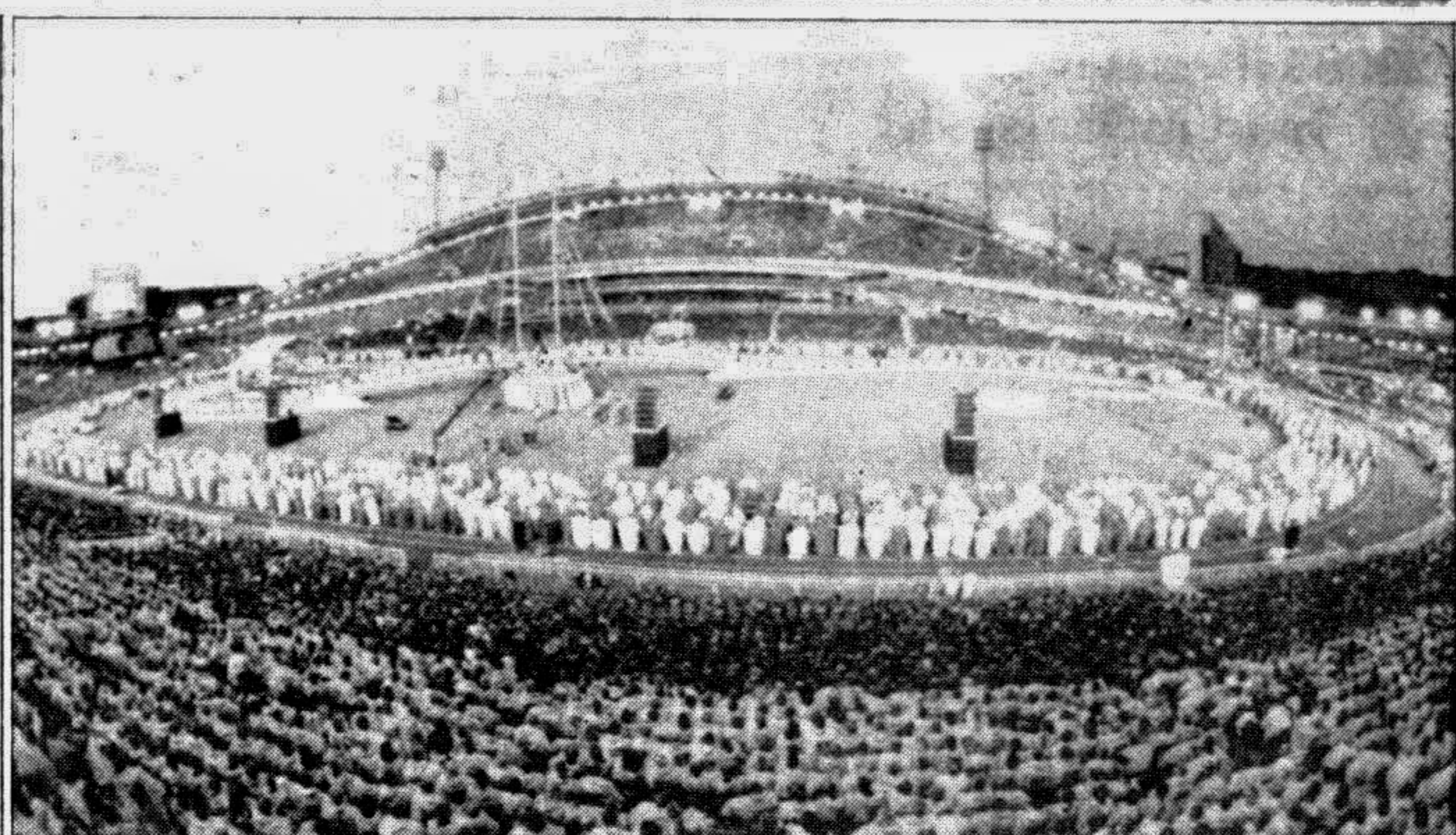
Six players are jointly in the lead of the tenth Bata schools chess tournament with full points at the end of the 49 matches of the fifth round held at the NSC chess room yesterday.

The players are — Abdullah-al-Rakib (Narayanganj School), Abu Sufian Sakil (Nikhilpara Hossain Ali School), Ruhul Islam (Moinpur School), Sabbir Ahmed Sentu (Sonakanda High School), Royel (Jhenidah High School) and Ashraf (Adamjee Cantt).

## Lewis skips world meet

GOTHENBURG, Aug 5: Eight times Olympic champion Carl Lewis has withdrawn from the world championships, his manager Joe Douglas said today, reports Reuter.

Lewis, 34, was due to take part in the long jump competition and was also part of the American sprint relay squad, but will instead now return home.



Birds-eye view of Gothenburg's Ullevi Stadium during the opening ceremony of the fifth IAAF World Championships on Aug 4. Some 2,000 athletes will participate in the championships that run till the 13th of this month.

# Mitchell's ignominious exit



GOTHENBURG, Aug 5: American Olympic bronze medalist Dennis Mitchell, one of the leading contenders in the men's 100 metres at the World Championships, crashed out after straining a leg muscle in the opening round today, reports Reuter.

Mitchell, who was also third at the 1991 and 1993 World Championships, pulled up halfway through his heat in pain and had immediate treatment at the finish line on what appeared to be an injury to his left leg.

The stocky 29-year-old American is the fourth fastest sprinter of all time after clocking 9.91 seconds in 1991. Although the American was not ranked among the top 10 this season, he was still regarded as a medal

contender because of his experience.

The injury was the only unhappy surprise of the opening morning session which saw most of the men's 100 metres contenders cruise through their opening heats in warm, sunny conditions.

Britain's Olympic champion Linford Christie started the defence of his title with a typically composed performance on the track and an aggressive one off it.

The 35-year-old Christie clinched an easy victory in his heat in 10.26 seconds but the Briton, who has had one of his worst years off the track with the death of his mother and a feud with the British media, refused to talk to reporters afterwards.

"This is war and you don't talk during a fight," he said dismissively.

One of the Briton's greatest strengths is his experience at major championships. Despite a slight stumble in the first 10 metres, the Jamaican-born veteran was soon several strides ahead and was able to ease down at the tape.

Mitchell said he felt pain in his left thigh muscle just after he had powered out of his blocks.

"I felt a cramp after five steps out. It escalated. It was something too large for me to handle," he said.

"I am very disappointed not to be able to make the final but I plan to be back at the end of the Grand Prix season and kick some butt. One of those lanes in the final belongs to me."

The American said he had felt in good condition before the race and was surprised by the sudden injury.

"I was in the best shape of my life. I had an excellent warm-up and I was very surprised," he said.

Canada's Donovan Bailey, the fastest man in the world this year, produced the quickest time of the morning of 10.13 despite another sluggish start, the main weakness of his sprinting.

The 27-year-old Jamaican-born athlete, who only started sprinting in 1991 and has little experience of major championships, admitted he was going through a learning process in Gothenburg.

"It is advanced university for me. I am just taking one race at a time," he said.

Namibia's Frankie Fredericks, who finished second behind Christie at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, also won his heat easily in 10.18 for the second quickest time.

American Mike Marsh, another hot tip for the title, won his heat in 10.27 but his time was only the 14th fastest. Christie was 12th fastest.

France's Marie-Jose Perec and American Michael Johnson both began their bids for double individual titles with comfortable victories in the first round of the 400 metres.

Reigning world champion Johnson, who is also running in the 200 metres here, starting slowing down and looking over his shoulder with some 80 metres to go. He was just jogging when he crossed the line to win his heat in 45.49 seconds.

Johnson, who learned today that organisers of next year's Atlanta Olympics had put together a new schedule, to enable him to go for the double there too, is clearly relaxed despite the physical stress of the challenge.

"It was an easy run. I am going to take each round as easy as possible," said Johnson who went through to Sunday's second round with the fourth fastest time.

American world record holder Butch Reynolds clocked 45.60 for the fifth fastest time. The quickest time of the morning came from Ibrahim Ismail of Qatar with 45.10.

Perec, hoping for a unique 400 and 400 hurdles double, also won her women's heat over the flat in 51.24. But the early morning start at 9:30 did not suit the French Olympic champion who struggled to sleep on Friday night.

"It wasn't great. It was a bit too early for me," said Perec who qualified for the semifinals with the seventh fastest time.

"I was up at five ... I went to bed at 10.00 but there was noise until one o'clock from people coming back from the opening ceremony ... I am going to sleep this afternoon."

Nigeria's Fatima Yusuf ran the fastest time of 50.60 seconds with Australia's Commonwealth champion Cathy Freeman winning her heat in 51.29.

Defending champion Gail Devers failed to win her first round of the women's 100 metres hurdles when she was pipped on the line by Jamaican Gillian Russell.

Devers started badly and was behind at the first hurdle. But the American recovered to dip one hundredth of a second behind Russell who won in 12.84 seconds. Both athletes qualified directly for the semifinals.

## PSG beat Nantes

PARIS, Aug 5: Pascal Nouma's 82nd minute goal from close range earned Paris St Germain 2-1 away win over French champions Nantes on Friday, reports Reuter.

# O'Brien's boozy days over



GOTHENBURG, Sweden, Aug 5 (AFP): Dan O'Brien can't take his mind off the bar at the moment.

Not the sort of bar he used to frequent with such relish, but rather the pole vault variety.

And with reason. Put bluntly, the only way the American can miss out on a hat-trick of World Championship gold here on Monday would be to blunder in the decathlete's traditional graveyard.

O'Brien has been there before, too-heighting in the US trials in 1992 and missing the Olympics.

Another disaster like that would be enough to turn a man to drink.

## Cuba seeks a ratification

GOTHENBURG, Aug 5: Cuba urged the international authorities on Friday to ratify long jumper Ivan Pedroso's world record, reports Reuter.

After a day of deliberations, the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) announced it would not examine video evidence from the Italian Federation alleging Pedroso's mark set in Sestriere was invalid.

According to the Italians, an official was standing by the wind gauge when Pedroso jumped 8.96 metres during a contest in which only one other competitor managed a legitimate jump.

The Italian Federation said it would not submit the mark for ratification, a decision gratefully accepted by the IAAF.

But Cuban athletics chief Alberto Juantorena, the 400 and 800 metres champion at the 1976 Montreal Olympics, said his federation would appeal against the decision.

In Sestriere, Cuban long jumper Ivan Pedroso was told that he could keep a 130,000 dollars Ferrari sports car he won for a world record leap, even though the mark is not expected to be ratified.

Organisers of the meeting in the Italian Alpine resort of Sestriere said in a statement that Pedroso could keep the Red Ferrari Spider F355 as a reward for an "outstanding result" in the event last Saturday.

When he was presented with the car last weekend Pedroso said that he did not know how to drive.

Except that O'Brien's days of "drinking a case of beer a day" are behind him after he

this year — he was only deprived of a chance of breaking his own world record by torrential rain — suggested that that control was back.

If he is to become the first man to go over the 9,000 points mark here, the pole vault will prove crucial again.

Contrary to what everybody remembers from 1992, the pole vault is one of my stronger events these days," says O'Brien.

"I have been vaulting really well and it is going to be one of the key events this week if I can break the world record."

A personal best 110m hurdles in the Jenner Classic this year also promises more misery for the men in waiting — Olympics champion Robert Zmelik his number two Antonio Penalver of Spain, Sweden's Henrik Dagard, the European silver medalist, and Stuttgart silver winner Eduard Hamalainen of Belarus.

Worststill, the 29-year-old can't wait to get into action.

"This is probably the most excited I've ever felt about a major meet," he says.

Not what his rivals, who could not even beat O'Brien when he was on the booze, want to hear.

The odds are that they will be left to drown their sorrows here yet again.

finally faced up to the problem last year.

As he admits: "Drinking was just something I did all the time. I'm the kind of person who could have been a drug addict. I have that kind of personality. Sometimes I admit I'm out of control."

His performance in the US national championships

### TODAY'S FIXTURES

Pioneer Division football league:

Angels Club vs Diganto Mojlish (2:30 pm Banani ground)

Kawran Bazar Progoti Sangha vs Nakhilpara Jubo Kalyan Sangha (4 pm Banani ground)

National Football Training Club vs Kanail Young Society (2:30 pm Mohakhali T and T ground)

Gullistan Club vs Rampura Nutun Kuri Sangsad (4 pm Mohakhali T and T ground)

Senpara Jubo Kalyan Sangha vs Agrani Krira (2:30 pm Mirpur Outer Stadium)

Dragon KC vs Kalabagan KC (Mirpur Outer Stadium)

Yoga Shishigina of Kazakhstan, highly-rated in 1995, hurdles past the bar with ease during her 110m hurdles heat at the World Championships in Gothenburg on August 5. Shishigina qualified clocking the 12.80 sec best.

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