

## Nat'l rowing Sept 30

Sports Reporter

The 20th national and second junior rowing championships will be held simultaneously next Saturday (Sept 30) on the Buriganga river near the Bangladesh-China Friendship Bridge.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas will inaugurate the championships in the morning at 11 am, while Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman will distribute prizes among the winners in the afternoon at 4:30 pm.

Every year, the rowing competition attracts thousands of spectators along the banks of the river. It is a colourful spectacle participated by rowers from all over the country.

## Div II chess

Sports Reporter

Uttara Daba Sangha, Golden Chess Club, Touch Stone Club, Jhilmili Sporting Club, Jagarani Club, MCC Chess Club, Surja Sathi Parishad and Khalequzzaman Chowdhury Adarsha School won their respective second round matches of the Second Division Chess league on Wednesday at the chess room of Bangladesh Chess Federation.

With yesterday's win, Uttara who beat Mirpur Jubilee Club 4-0 in Round Two, earned full eight points and moved atop the standings. Golden Club, who beat Mirpur Chess Club 3.5-5 on the day secured the second slot with 7.5 points.

## Four-a-side v'ball tomorrow

Sports Reporter

A "four-a-side" men's and women's one-day volleyball tournament will be held at the Mirpur national Indoor Stadium tomorrow to mark the game's centenary.

A total of seven men's teams and four teams of eves are due to participate in the day-long meet which is limited to one set only. The men's tournament will begin at 9 am and the eves' meet will start at 2 pm.

### TEAMS

**Men's group:** Bangladesh Navy, BAF, BDR, Police, Titas Gas, East End Club and Naba Jagarani Sangha.

**Women's group:** South Bridge School, Basabo Girls School, Narayanganj DSA and Basabo Junior Girls School.

## Japan in Asian women's soccer semifinals

KOTA KINABALU, Malaysia, Sept 27: Japan beat Uzbekistan 17-0 here today to clinch a place in the semifinals of the Asian women's football championship, reports AFP.

The Japanese topped qualifying Group C with a maximum nine points from three games. South Korea will have to wait a little longer before they know whether they will be the last team to reach the semifinals despite a 5-0 win over India in another Group C match today.

## FIFA officials to visit ROK, Japan

ZURICH, Sept 27: A five-man group from the International Football Federation (FIFA) will visit South Korea and Japan in October and November to inspect potential venues for the 2002 World Cup, FIFA said on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

The two countries are the only candidates bidding to host the first World Cup of the 21st century.

The latest edition of the federation's monthly FIFA News said the group, headed by German Football Association general secretary Horst Schmidt, would tour South Korea from October 31 to November 3 and would visit Japan from November 4-7.

Other members of the group are Solomon Morewa, president of the South African Football Association, Hank Steinbrecher, general secretary of US Soccer, Ernie Walker of the Scottish FA who is an expert in security and Richard Bunn representing an international television consortium.

FIFA News said the group would make a comprehensive report on their findings to the FIFA executive committee, which is to decide on June 1 next year which of the two countries will be awarded the 2002 finals.

Japan is to formally present its bid to FIFA at the federation's Zurich headquarters on Thursday, and South Korea will follow on Friday.

# Azhar sees good season



MADRAS, Sept 27: Indian skipper Mohammad Azharuddin has predicted a 'good season' ahead and a keenly-fought series against the visiting New Zealand cricket team, 'like that against the West Indies' last year, reports PTI.

Expressing satisfaction over the all-round progress made at the training camp underway here since Sept 1, Azharuddin said, "We had good sessions here and the boys enjoyed practice."

Azharuddin, who along with Sachin Tendulkar, Ajay Jadeja, Vinod Kambli, Salil Ankola, Venkatesh Prasad and Sanjay Manjrekar, is scheduled to leave here for Hong Kong today to play in a six-a-side tournament to be held there on Sept 30 and Oct 1, said Madras had always been a lucky venue ahead of a series.

Azharuddin, in keeping with his stress on fitness, said most of the players had 'come fit' to the camp and there was no problem on that

count. Asked whether this brief camp would be effective as he had always been for longer ones, he said, "15 days are quite enough. The weather is quite humid and tiring and overload leaves the players exhausted. The boys also need breaks in between sessions."



AZHARUDDIN

Asked how many spinners he would be opting for in the

series, Azharuddin quipped 'wait and see'. There are five spinners — Anil Kumble, Utpal Chatterjee, Aashish Kapoor, Rajesh Chauhan and Venkatapathy Raju — in the camp.

Azhar had all praise for the net pitches in the MRF Pace Foundation. "The pitches were very good and the players are very happy with it. With the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association (TNCA) not allowing us to practice at the Chepauk ground as work was in progress there, MRF venue was very useful," he added.

The training sessions were held in the presence of Sandeep Patil, who would be taking over from Ajit Wadekar as cricket manager after India's World Cup campaign. Patil, who arrived here on Sunday, was actively giving fielding practice to the players.

Azharuddin, who has hit it off well with the current manager Ajit Wadekar, presented him with a watch, "as a sincere token of respect and symbol of affection."

# Wandering in wilderness



SIALKOT, Sept 27: Pakistan's cricketing fortunes plunged to arguably their lowest ebb on Tuesday amid promises to sort out their troubles before the World Cup next year, reports Reuters.

Pakistan went down by 144 runs in the third and final Test against Sri Lanka and were beaten 2-1 in the series — the first time they had lost a home rubber in 15 years.

Zulfiqar Ali Shah Bokhari, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman, said 24 hours earlier he was unhappy with the team's performance after their victory in the first Test, and promised accountability when the series ended.

"We will sort out every problem before the World Cup which is a real challenging task ahead of us," he told reporters in Lahore.

Pakistan are joint hosts with India and Sri Lanka of the World Cup between mid-February and mid-March. Former Pakistan Test batsman Haroon Rashid said:

"Pakistan's cricketing structure needs to be reorganised in a professional manner if we are to produce players of the calibre of Imran Khan and (Javed) Miandad."

Pakistan's problems were compounded against Sri Lanka by the absence of strike bowlers Waqar Younis and Wasim Akram.

Wasim bowled his side to an impressive innings and 40 runs victory in the first Test at Peshawar but a shoulder strain in the middle of the second Test forced him to miss the rest of the series.

Waqar, who had been out of competitive cricket since returning home from the tour of South Africa last November with back trouble, never found his rhythm and opted out of the series after an unimpressive effort at Peshawar.

The captaincy has also posed problems for Pakistan.

Salim Malik, who won seven of his 13 Tests as a captain, was sacked following bribery allegations by Australian spinners Shane Warne and Tim May in the Karachi Test last year.

He remains in the wilderness as investigations continue into the claims and he has been stopped even from representing his side in the domestic championship.

In the wake of defeats against South Africa and Zimbabwe on the 1994-95 tour, vice-captain Rashid Latif and Basit Ali also retired from international cricket, only to change their decision a few months later.

Bereft of star players, Pakistan lost badly in the Asia Cup at Sharjah under the captaincy of Moin Khan last April.

With Javed Miandad declaring himself unavailable, the PCB picked Rameez Raja as a compromise captain for the series against Sri Lanka.

Playing his first Test in 27 months, Rameez earned the rare honour of winning by an innings on his debut as a captain at Peshawar.

However, his joy was short-lived as the doxy Sri Lankans bounced back to upset the home side with a worthy all-round performance in the last two Tests.

# Aussies, Germans ascend



BERLIN, Sept 27: Australia and Germany maintained their successful records in the Champions' Trophy on Tuesday with victories over the Netherlands and England respectively, reports agencies.

Matthew Smith of Australia and Oliver Domke of Germany scored their first goals of the tournament.

Smith's effort was enough to give his team a 1-0 win over the World Cup finalists.

Domke presented the Olympic and European champions with an early lead in a 2-0 triumph.

Australia and Germany moved two points clear of their four rivals with three games played. Pakistan can join them if they beat the Dutch in a rematch of the 1994 World Cup final on Wednesday.

Domke set up Germany's early goal before scoring it. He took advantage of a rare error by England defender Julian Halls to put away left winger Christoph Bechmann and then turned in the centre when the ball was laid back to him.

England played well in defence and midfield but their attack could rarely find a way past deep defenders. Carsten Fischer, in his comeback tournament, and Jan-peter Tewes.

Germany made sure of victory when Seven Meinhardt scored from their second and last penalty corner in the 58th minute. The ball was switched to him and the England defence was wrong-footed when he slipped but managed to get in a flick shot.

England coach David Whitaker said: "They were better than when we beat them in the European Cup and deserved the two-goal margin."

His German counterpart Paul Lissek said: "England were much improved on their Dublin performance with a defence and midfield

that made us work very hard."

Australia, bidding for a record seventh Champions' Trophy, overcame pouring rain and a tough Dutch side to keep their clean state intact following their 6-2 thrashing of former Olympic champions India on Sunday.

Matthew Smith scored Australia's 10th goal of the tournament in the 57th minute to steal victory after a dour struggle that had looked set to be goalless. He met a cross from right winger Darren Duff at the far post and flicked past Ronald Jansen in the Dutch goal.

The Dutch were again missed midfielder general Marc Delissen, out with a hamstring problem. Without him, they lacked the creativity to break down a sound Australian defence.

Roelant Oltmans, the Dutch coach, said: "We were fairly well organised but without Delissen, the soul of our team was missing."

"The conditions were appalling," Kookaburras team manager Ken Read said after the game. "It was pouring rain and very, cold. But we toughed it out. We took our opportunity at the 57th."

"That was only the third game Holland has lost since the Olympics, and they would have played some 50 or 60 games. I suppose," Read said, "So we're very happy to beat them."

Smith was also happy with scoring the only goal.

"All the European teams are tough. They can keep it tight on you. So I'm glad we got lucky and scored," he said.

Australia's next game is against Germany on Thursday.

The Champions' Trophy tournament pits the world's six best field hockey teams against each other in the last major test before the Atlanta Olympics next year.

### STANDINGS

Standings at end of the third day of group matches at the men's Champions' Trophy hockey tournament on Tuesday (tabulate under — played, won, drawn, lost, goals for against, points):

Country	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
Australia	3	2	1	0	0	5	5
Germany	3	2	1	0	5	0	5
Pakistan	2	1	1	0	4	3	3
Netherlands	3	1	0	2	5	2	2
India	2	0	1	1	2	6	1
England	3	0	0	3	1	5	0

# Peter's adviser detained

BONN, Sept 27: German prosecutors said today they had detained a consultant suspected of hiding tennis star Steffi Graf's wealth from tax authorities, reports Reuters.

Investigators swooped at the home of tax adviser Joachim Eckhardt at his home near Frankfurt on Tuesday, searching his office there and seizing documents.

"There is a strong suspicion of tax evasion of a particularly serious nature," said Peter Wechsung, state prosecutor in the western city of Mannheim.

Media report said Eckhardt was suspected of tax evasion of up to 10 million marks (7 million dollars).

Eckhardt advised Graf's father, Peter, who managed the world tennis number one's finance for years. He is now in a German jail also on suspicion of tax evasion.

Peter Graf was placed in investigative custody in August to prevent him fleeing or altering evidence. Steffi Graf is also a target in the probe, but prosecutors have said they have no plans to detain her.

Graf, who this month added the 1995 US Open title to her glittering collection of prizes, has said she entrusted her financial affairs to her father at the start of her career and has no idea how much money she has earned.

Wechsung said a judge would decide later today whether to remand Eckhardt in custody.

The 23-year-old grand champion, the highest rank in sumo — who won his 11th sumo title at the weekend, has been appointed a goodwill ambassador by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP).

The internationally renowned wrestler, whose real name is Koji Hanada, will lead UNDCP campaigns aimed at eradicating drug abuse in the world, the ministry said.

Takanohana's investiture as goodwill ambassador will take place on October 9 in Vienna during his visit to the Australian capital for a sumo exhibition tournament.

Takanohana is the UNDCP's their goodwill ambassador, following in the footsteps of members of the Chung Tug — a Korean classical music group — and the Tahuichi Aguilera Football Academy of Bolivia, the ministry said.

The UNDCP hopes that Takanohana's appointment as goodwill ambassador will allow it to better help governments boost their drug abuse prevention programmes, using the example of the successful campaigns launched in Japan.

Kasparov spent only six minutes for his first 21 moves, compared with Anand's clock time of one hour and 22 minutes, a clear indication the Russian was

well-prepared with the white pieces after his poor performance with black on Monday. After the opening, the moves followed in the style of Game Eight played on Friday until Kasparov sacrificed a pawn on his 14th move.

Anand thought for 45 minutes on his 15th before trading pieces in an attempt to get out of his difficulties. Kasparov dramatically sacrificed a rook at move 17 to

leaped back into the World Chess Championship on Tuesday with a convincing victory in the tenth game, reports agencies.

The Russian Grand Master, defeated on Monday by India's Viswanathan Anand after eight consecutive draws in the beginning of their best-of-20 game Professional Chess Association series produced new moves in the opening that confounded his opponent.

"I checked extremely carefully and it looked to me that this was a very good idea," Kasparov said at the post-game news conference. "I feel better, I'm back in business but the match was a really tough one. I hope this game will change the course of the series."

Grand Master observers said a bishop and a knight move by Kasparov took the players into uncharted territory in the Ruy Lopez or Spanish opening.

The champion swiftly enforced a positional advantage despite the sacrifice of one of his powerful rooks.

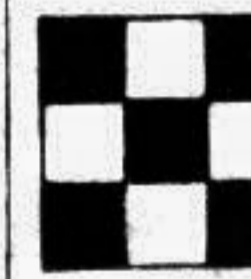
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Spectators watching the match on the 107th floor of



World one-kilometre cycle race winner Shane Kelly of Australia (C), flanked by second placed Florin Rousseau (R) of France and third placed American Erin Hartwell, waves to the crowd at Bogota, Colombia on September 26. —AFP/UNB photo

# Garri's rapid reprisal



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leaped back into the World Chess Championship on Tuesday with a convincing victory in the tenth game, reports agencies.

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the World Trade Centre were startled by the speed of the Russian's opening play and his aggressive demeanor.

"This guy is just fuming," said British Grand Master Daniel King as Kasparov rushed out his opening moves.

Spanish chess journalist Leontxo Garcia said: "Kasparov was so quick today, he was like a bull going into the ring."

Kasparov has a phenomenal ability to pull out opening novelties in World Championship matches," said US Grand Master Yasser Seirawan. "Opening novelties are to Grand Masters what a quick draw was to gunmen in the Wild West."

During his first 21 moves, Kasparov would move almost instantaneously and then retreat to a rest room behind the playing area. On his 19th move, he slammed down a dramatic bishop sacrifice and banged the door as he left.

American Grand Master Patrick Wolff, a member of Anand's team, criticised Kasparov's behaviour. "Visny wasn't slamming doors yesterday when he was winning," he said.

"We are all human beings," Kasparov replied at the news conference. "I was excited about the possibility to play this line. You play without a rook, I was nervous."

Both players have five points mid-way through the championship.

Wednesday is a rest day and the eleventh game is scheduled for Thursday with Anand playing with white pieces.

# Olympic ticket trauma



ATLANTA, Sept 27: Olympic ticket buyers are finding out this week what they'll be seeing in 1996, and for many the long-awaited news is disappointing, reports AP.

Because of the high demand, Atlanta organisers developed a lottery for the initial deluge of ticket orders and urged people to list second and third choices. Relatively few people got seats to the events they most wanted to see.

Miles Zaremski of Chicago ordered mope than 1,000 dollars worth of tickets to

about a dozen events. All he got, according to the letter he received Monday confirming his order, were tickets to two baseball games.

"We did poorly, very poorly," he said. "We were very disgusted."

Zaremski said he's dropping his plans to come to Atlanta.

"It's not worth it," he said. "My son is at Emory University. If he's there I'll give them to him or donate it to the Emory baseball programme."

After setting aside about 4 million tickets for sponsors, other VIPs and international Olympic committees, the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games put about 7 million tickets on sale to the US public May 1. ACOG says about 4 million seats are still available, though tickets to such premium events as the opening ceremonies and gymnastics are long gone.

ACOG said most people who ordered tickets got something, even if it was not their first choice. Some people opened their mailing from ACOG, however, and found they got nothing.

"I was sick when I opened the envelope and read it. We've really looked forward to this," said Diana King of suburban Marietta, who ordered 436 in tickets to swimming and track and field events.

"I haven't told my kids yet. I'm not looking forward to that. I don't know how to tell them that this great experience is going to be going on in this town and our family won't be a part of it."

Debbie Thomas of Stuart, Florida said she got none of her first choices, which included diving, gymnastics, equestrian and track and field. She ended up with two of her third choices, volleyball and baseball.

"We're still going to come."

but it's kind of disappointing. We followed all the rules and it just didn't work out," she said.

ACOG's ticket agent in Minneapolis mailed 286,000 notices Friday, 114,400 of them to Georgia. Another 28,000 ticket buyers already had been sent rejection letters because of problems with forms and payment, such as overcharged credit cards.

The typical ticket buyer received nine of the 17 tickets ordered, ACOG said. Forty-seven per cent of ticket buyers got one or more of their top choices.

# Preparing for the worst

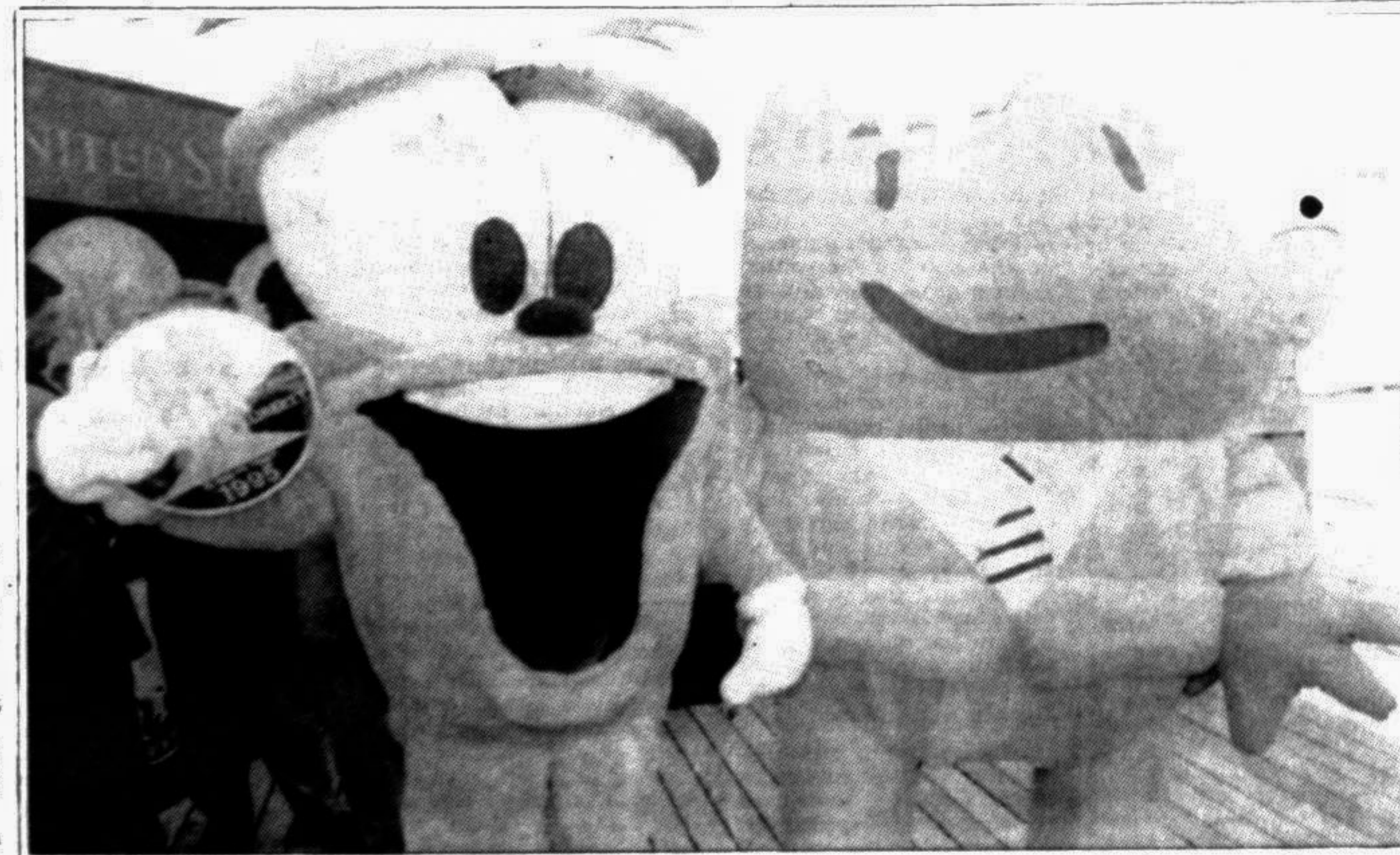
ATLANTA, Sept 27: In an empty, partly finished stadium Tuesday, law enforcement agents imagined an arena brimming with Olympic spectators and terrorists holding one of the crowd hostage, reports AP.

The FBI, Atlanta police and Olympic organisers began a 36-hour exercise aimed at preparing officers for the unspokenable: a terrorist attack at the 1996 Summer Games.

The FBI-led drill, one of several exercises planned by federal agencies to prepare for the Games, was closed to reporters. FBI spokesman Jay Spadafore said it was designed to simulate a hostage situation.

Participating were about 200 officers from the FBI, the Atlanta Police Department, the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority and the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games.

"This is mainly to test... how they interact with each other," Spadafore said.



The Atlanta Olympic Games mascot "Whatizit" (L) and the Barcelona '92 mascot "Cobi" pose together at a