

Susanti's sixth

SOLO, Indonesia, July 20: Susanti, gold medalist Susanti today scored her sixth Indonesia Open victory by effortlessly trashing the country's rising hope Meliawati 11-4, 11-5, reports AFP.

Susanti's win in the championship was achieved without any serious challenge as players from China were absent from the Indonesia Open this year.

The Chinese contingent pulled out of the game at the last minute following visa difficulties faced by some of its members.

Except for South Korea's Lee Jooh Hyun, who she beat in the semifinals.

Susanti dictated the pace and the play in the first set against Meliawati, forcing long, taxing rallies. Susanti took the first set 11-4.

Her strategy, however, did not work early in the second set, when Meliawati turned to aggressive play that kept pressure on her.

The Indonesian ace shuttler, however, forced her junior back to the long rallies that forced a lot of errors from Meliawati and wrapped up the second set with 11-5.

"Perhaps they are all young players who still need more experience, more experience in competition abroad to get more confidence," Susanti said after the game on why she remained mostly unbeaten by her compatriots.

In the all-Indonesia mixed doubles, world's second ranked Trikus Haryanto and Minarti Timur made it a fast, 48-minute affair to defeat Bambang Suprianto and Rosalina Riset, in a straight set 15-11, 15-6.

Francis Jr's finest hour

LONDON, July 20: Dean Francis went one step better than his father at the Wembley arena on Saturday by winning the British supermiddleweight title when he stopped David Starke in the sixth-round of a scheduled 12-round contest, reports AFP.

And he could well be fighting for the world crown before the end of the year.

Francis' father, Trevor Francis, who won the WBA welterweight title in the same Wembley arena in 1972, failed to take the British welterweight crown during his career when he was beaten in a little fight by Pat Thomas.

But Francis Jr took his chances against Starke, who was making his first title defence.

A small cut opened on Starke's right cheek towards the end of the third round, and a gash appeared on his right eyebrow in the fifth.

Francis completed his demolition in the next round landing with three sharp lefts to send Starke down for a count of six.

Although the previously unbeaten champion managed to box on — he was still clearly dazed and when more big punches sent Starke down for a second time the referee wisely called a halt.

"I knew I was going to win. It's my dream come true," said Francis after his triumph.

"I knew I could beat him but I needed to prove it, he's a clever boxer, he picked his punches and he was catching me early before I got on top."

Warren said: "It was a good performance and Dean could be involved in a world title fight by the end of the year, either against Steve Collins, the WBO champion or WBC champion Robin Reid."

Kuwait backs Rome's bid

ROME, July 20: Kuwait Prince Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah, member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), on Saturday sent Rome an optimistic message on its for the 2004 Summer Olympics, reports Xinhua.

The Prince said during his visiting tour to the Italian capital that the city has been well conditioned to stage Olympics.

It boasts of all the match venues and sporting facilities an Olympic Games would need, the IOC delegate evaluated, and what's more, it has experience in hosting international meetings.

The Kuwaitian cited the 1990 World Cup success as an example for the city's ability to handle big sports events.



Groundsmen bring out the covers as rain spoilt the India-Pakistan match in their Asia Cup encounter in Colombo yesterday.

— AFP/UNB photo

Sky opens to save Pakistan

COLOMBO, July 20: Pakistan escaped from the haves caused by Indian seamer Venkatesh Prasad today when rain and bad light forced the crucial Asia Cup one-day match between the teams to be abandoned, report agencies.

Prasad ripped through the Pakistan top order, taking four wickets in five overs, as India, who elected to field in overcast conditions, reduced Pakistan to 30 for five from nine overs.

Bad weather, however, prevented any further play and the match — the winners of which will almost certainly advance to the final — will be played afresh tomorrow.

Prasad started with three wides but struck with the last delivery of the first over as Saeed Anwar offered no stroke to an incoming ball and was declared leg before wicket.

Television replay, however, showed the ball hitting the batsman high on the thigh.

In his second over, Prasad trapped Aamir Sohail leg before with the fourth ball and had Inzamamul Haq picked up brilliantly in the gully by Rahul Dravid off the last.

Pakistan were 10 for three when rain and bad light stopped play, but there was little respite

from Prasad when play resumed three hours later.

Salim Malik, who made 10,



PRASAD ... 4 for 17

attempted to cut another in-swing and only managed to edge a simple catch to Mohammad Azharuddin at second slip.

Prasad's new-ball partner Abey Kuruvilla, bowling off a short run-up to control the swing, then found the edge of Rameez Raja's bat to present Azharuddin with his second catch.

Light rain took the players off the field for a second time and the umpires decided to abandon play because there was no time left to accommodate a minimum of 25 overs a side.

SCOREBOARD

Scorecard of Pakistan's innings against India in the Asia Cup match called off due to rain at the Premadasa Stadium in Colombo on Sunday:

PAKISTAN

Anwar Ibw b Prasad	0
Sohail Ibw b Prasad	1
Rameez c Azharuddin b Kuruvilla	5
Inzamam c Dravid b Prasad	0
Malik c Azharuddin b Prasad	10
Moin not out	4
Afridi not out	0
Extras (lb-3, w-6, nb-11)	10
Total (for 5 wkts in 9 overs)	30
Fall of wickets 1/3; 2/10; 3/10; 4/23; 5/29	
Bowling:	O M R W
Prasad 5 1 17 4	
Kuruvilla 4 0 10 10	

But Bailey, now regarded as the world's fastest man after the June debacle over 150 with American Michael Johnson, was far from happy with Saturday's performance.

"I'm just glad to get out of it not hurt," he grumbled afterwards.

"I shouldn't feel like this two weeks before the world (in Athens). I just don't feel like me. But I've come through in the clutch before."

Esme's second-place timing of 10.10 seconds was a personal best while Surin, once Canada's top sprinter, was visibly disappointed with his 10.15 second and third place.

Komen runs fastest 2 miles

HECHTEL, Belgium, July 20: Kenyan Daniel Komen set a new world best of 7min 58.61sec over two miles at an athletics meeting here on Saturday, reports AFP.

Komen, who also holds the world record for the 3,000m, easily bettered the previous record of 8:01.80 set by Ethiopia's Haile Gebreselassie on May 31.

"I thought I could get under eight minutes and the pacemakers and conditions were perfect," said the Kenyan.

Komen added that he was hoping to record a time of "12 (minutes) 34 or 35 (seconds)" in the 5,000m at the World Championship in Athens next month. Gebreselassie is also the current world record holder over that distance with a time of 12:44.39 set in 1995.

Egypt atop

BEIRUT, July 20: Egypt pulled out all of the stops at the Pan-Arab Games here on Saturday and surged into a big lead in the medals table after adding another 13 golds to their haul, reports AFP.

They now have 36 golds while closest rivals Algeria, who won six more events on Saturday, have 23.

Egypt's latest successes came in weightlifting (6), men's volleyball, shooting, judo (3) and boxing (2).

Although Leila Zeitoun won the 48 kg category in the women's judo — Algeria's other triumphs on Saturday were restricted to boxing where they had five champions.

Euro Youth Olympics on

LISBON, July 20: The fourth European Youth Olympic Games kicked off here Saturday night at the Lisbon University Students Stadium, reports Xinhua.

Around 2,500 athletes from 47 European countries take part in the championships, which features 10 competitive events including track and field, basketball, cycling, handball, football, gymnastics, judo, swimming, volleyball and yachting.

International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch alongside Portuguese President attended the opening ceremony.



Colombian soccer star Carlos Valderrama, escorted by a body guard, leaves the field after a light practice prior to a World Cup qualifier against Ecuador in Barranquilla on Sunday.

— AFP/UNB photo

Mojo Working BB King 3:30 Mainstage 5:30 V Spot

STAR PLUS

6:00am Travel Asia 6:30 Niraad 7:30 Good Morning India 9:00 Business Agenda 9:30 Nine To Five 10:00 Pierre Franey's Cooking in France 10:30 Fashion New York On The Net 11:00 The Wonder Years 11:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show 12:30 Dynasty 1:30 Santa Barbara 2:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 3:00 Priya Tendulkar Show 4:00 Jeetu Bh Do Yaaro 4:30 WWW: Shotgun Challenge 5:30 Doogie Howser MD 6:30 The Wonder Years 6:30 Pierre Franey's Cooking in France 7:00 Living on the Edge 7:30 News (Hindi) 8:00 Small Wonder 8:30 Tu Tu Main 9:00 Jonathan 9:30 Star News 10:00 Yes Prime Minister 10:30 Chicago Hope 11:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 12:00mn Santa Barbara 1:00 Star News 01:30 The X Files 2:30 Star Trek 3:30 Vega 4:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show 5:30 21 Jump Street 5:45 Hayash 2:00 BPL Oye! 3:00

STAR MOVIES

7:30 Adventure: Covington Cross 15 9:30 Action: Bloodfist 15 11:30 Classic: Carve Her Name With Pride 15:30 Minis-

PTV

8:00 TILAWAT AUR TARJUMA/HAMD/NAAT 08:20 CARTOON 08:30 KHAIBRAIN 08:45 Abb Pata Chella 09:05 KHAT FARMASH 09:20 Sargam Sargam 09:45 ILLAJIBL-GHIZA PAKISTAN 10:05 Shab Daigh 10:35 ENGLISH FILM: Goof Troop 10:55 MILLI Nagma 11:00 KHAIBRAIN 11:10 KHAIBRAIN CLOSE DOWN.

STAR SPORTS

9:30am Cliffhangers On Wheels 4x4 Off Road Egilstad 10:30 EPGA Loch Lomond World Invitational 11:30 F1 Powerboats World Champs: 12:00 noon ASP World Championships Quicksilver Pro 1:00 Formula Nippon 1997 Suzuki Circuit 4th Round 2:00 Samsung Nations Cup 3:00 Manchester United's 1997 Tour of Asia Manchester United v The South China FC in Hong Kong 5:00 Sports Unlimited 6:00pm Trans World Sport 7:00 English Cricket 9:30 Sunday 8:00 WWW: 10:00 Thai Premier Cup 3/4 Play-Off 2:00 Sports Unlimited 3:00 Trans World Sport 4:00 1997 World Motorcycle Championships German Grand Prix

DD 7

10:30 Yeadon Ki Baarat (Film Star Magazine show) 09:00 Double O Slip 09:30 Dennis The Menace (Hindi Dub English Film) 10:00 Dream Of Jeannie (Hindi Dub English Film) 10:30 Dallas Famous 11:00 Bewitched 11:00 Task Jhark 11:30 Gaane Jane 12:00 Fasties 12:30 Premie 01:00 Aahat 01:30 The Young And The Restless (Hindi Dub English Film) 02:00 Namaskar 02:30 Feleida 30 (Thriller Serial) 03:00 Feleida 30 (Thriller Serial) 03:30 Hey Ha Ho 04:00 Hindi Feature Film (B/W)

SONY ET

05:35 Desh Bidesher Khela 06:00 Janmabhumi (Serial) 06:30 Tarunder Janney 06:55 Palli Katha 07:30 Bangla Samabd 07:55 Dindin 08:00 Serial: 52 Parba 08:30 Feleida 30 (Thriller Serial) 09:00 Janmabhumi (Serial) 09:30 Drama 10:00 Bengal Movie Club Film Show 01:00 Closed

DD 7

10:30 Gane Gane /Janmadin (Birthday Greetings) 10:35 Daily Sope: Oga Priyatama 11:00 Daily Sope: Rajeshwari 11:15 Classical/Folk Songs 11:30 Parliament Hour 12:30 Serial: Chuti Chuti 01:30 Trisha (Serial) 02:00 Kuasha Zakan 02:30 Daily Sope: Oga Priyatama 03:00 Daily Sope: Rajeshwari 03:30 Feleida 30 (Serial) 05:05 Nepali Program 05:30 News

DD 7

07:00 I Dream Of Jeannie (Hindi Dub English Film) 07:30 Bewitched 08:00 Surf-Wheel Of Fortune (Game Show) 08:30 Humse Barker Gong 09:00 Dekha Tamasa Dekha 09:30 Chamatkar (Serial) 10:00 Shikast (Serial) 10:30 Shikast (Serial) 11:00 Dard (Rpt.) 11:30 Dard (Rpt.) 12:00 Dard (Rpt.) 12:30 Dard (Rpt.) 13:00 Dard (Rpt.) 13:30 Dard (Rpt.) 14:00 Dard (Rpt.) 14:30 Dard (Rpt.) 15:00 Dard (Rpt.) 15:30 Dard (Rpt.) 16:00 Dard (Rpt.) 16:30 Dard (Rpt.) 17:00 Dard (Rpt.) 17:30 Dard (Rpt.) 18:00 Dard (Rpt.) 18:30 Dard (Rpt.) 19:00 Dard (Rpt.) 19:30 Dard (Rpt.) 20:00 Dard (Rpt.) 20:30 Dard (Rpt.) 21:00 Dard (Rpt.) 21:30 Dard (Rpt.) 22:00 Dard (Rpt.) 22:30 Dard (Rpt.) 23:00 Dard (Rpt.) 23:30 Dard (Rpt.) 24:00 Dard (Rpt.) 24:30 Dard (Rpt.) 25:00 Dard (Rpt.) 25:30 Dard (Rpt.) 26:00 Dard (Rpt.) 26:30 Dard (Rpt.) 27:00 Dard (Rpt.) 27:30 Dard (Rpt.) 28:00 Dard (Rpt.) 28:30 Dard (Rpt.) 29:00 Dard (Rpt.) 29:30 Dard (Rpt.) 30:00 Dard (Rpt.) 30:30 Dard (Rpt.) 31:00 Dard (Rpt.) 31:30 Dard (Rpt.) 32:00 Dard (Rpt.) 32:30 Dard (Rpt.) 33:00 Dard (Rpt.) 33:30 Dard (Rpt.) 34:00 Dard (Rpt.) 34:30 Dard (Rpt.) 35:00 Dard (Rpt.) 35:30 Dard (Rpt.) 36:00 Dard (Rpt.) 36:30 Dard (Rpt.) 37:00 Dard (Rpt.) 37:30 Dard (Rpt.) 38:00 Dard (Rpt.) 38:30 Dard (Rpt.) 39:00 Dard (Rpt.) 39:30 Dard (Rpt.) 40:00 Dard (Rpt.) 40:30 Dard (Rpt.) 41:00 Dard (Rpt.) 41:30 Dard (Rpt.) 42:00 Dard (Rpt.) 42:30 Dard (Rpt.) 43:00 Dard (Rpt.) 43:30 Dard (Rpt.) 44:00 Dard (Rpt.) 44:30 Dard (Rpt.) 45:00 Dard (Rpt.) 45:30 Dard (Rpt.) 46:00 Dard (Rpt.) 46:30 Dard (Rpt.) 47:00 Dard (Rpt.) 47:30 Dard (Rpt.) 48:00 Dard (Rpt.) 48:30 Dard (R