

## Badminton for the Deaf from tomorrow

Sports Reporter

The 7th National Deaf Badminton Championship, under the aegis of the Bangladesh Deaf Sports Federation, will begin at the federation's Bijoy Nagar complex from tomorrow.

Thirty-two shuttlers from seven organisations for the deaf will take part in the four-day meet, which will conclude on December 15.

## Kostadinova divorces husband

SOFIA, Dec 10: Bulgaria's Olympic high jump champion Stefka Kostadinova divorced her husband and coach Nikolai Petrov here on Wednesday, reports AFP.

The 33-year-old, who recently retired after garnering two world outdoor championships and five indoor world crowns, had been married to Petrov for nine years, with whom she had a son also called Nikolai.

## Mia disheartens Indonesians

BANGKOK, Dec 10: Teenager Mis Audina, whose boyfriend was thrown out of Indonesia's training camp for disturbing team morale, committed a flurry of errors during her defeat by South Korea's Kim Ji-Hyun in the Asian Games women's team semifinal on Thursday, reports AFP.

The 19-year-old Mia, twice the heroine of her country's Uber Cup women's team victories over China, had been expected to give Indonesia a 1-0 lead but the squad crumbled after her loss and went down 3-1 to their fierce rivals.

Mia hit several smashes long in her 11-6, 11-5 loss.

## Buchwald plans to wave his final goodbye

BONN, Dec 10 (Reuters/Inter): Former German international Guido Buchwald is considering retirement.

"I have to think about it all quietly during the winter break and see if it makes sense to carry on," the 37-year-old Buchwald, currently with second division Karlsruhe SC, said.

Buchwald, who won 76 caps for Germany and was a member of the 1990 World Cup-winning team, has come under fire after a string of poor performances in his new libero role.

Originally a defensive midfielder, Buchwald returned to the Bundesliga last January by joining Karlsruhe SC after four seasons in Japan's Red League with Urawa Red Diamonds.

## Asian Games roundup

BANGKOK, Dec 10: China won a diving gold Thursday that it considered not enough, and South Korea had to give up an Asian Games bowling medal — because it had too many, reports AP.

The Chinese had three gold medals from three diving events after Zhou Yilin came from behind on his last dive to beat compatriot Yu Zhoucheng by less than four points on the 3-metre springboard.

But like the other major teams at these Games, China are looking ahead to the 2000 Olympics in Sydney.

China won three gold medals in diving at the 1996 Olympics but missed out altogether at the world championships in Perth this year.

South Korean bowlers swept the top three places in women's singles Wednesday night, but Malaysia, which had the fourth-place finisher, objected to giving the Koreans gold, silver and bronze.

Under Games rules, only two competitors in an event are allowed to win medals and their names must be registered before the start of competition.

Overall, China was dominating these Games. Early on the fourth day, it had 27 golds — and more certain to come in gymnastics — far ahead of Japan's 16 and South Korea's

15.

Aside from Zhou's diving victory, it had a gold from Zhao Haijuan, who beat teammate Ma Huizhen by 36.42 seconds for gold in the women's 25-kilometre race, holding off Kazakhstan's Dmitry Fonov and Pavel Nevskiy.

Host Thailand gained its fourth gold of the Games when its air rifle team won its event with 1,769 points to 1,768 for South Korea and 1,762 for Japan.

After a Jordanian weightlifter was expelled from the Games early Thursday for testing positive for a banned diuretic, Asia's top Olympic official accused weightlifting's governing body of not doing enough to combat doping.

Ayed Khawaldeh, 25, admitted the offense at a meeting between Olympic Council of Asia officials and the Jordanian team, the OCA said in a statement. He was the first athlete at these games to test positive for banned drugs. He had placed seventh in the 56-kilogram division Monday.

But Jordan's team doctor, Mohammad Abu-Ain, said he hoped Khawaldeh would escape with a caution. He said Khawaldeh had not known that the drug, which he took in Turkey while preparing for the games, was banned and he was not trying to cheat.

### MEDALS TABLE

BANGKOK, Dec 10 (BSS): Medals table at the end of the fourth day of the 13th Asian on Wednesday.

Country	G	S	B	T
China	25	21	18	64
Japan	16	19	16	51
Korea	15	7	10	32
Kazakhstan	6	6	9	21
Chinese Taipei	4	3	9	16
Thailand	3	8	11	22
North Korea	2	4	2	8
Mongolia	2	0	2	4
Vietnam	1	2	2	5
Iran	1	1	4	6
Uzbekistan	1	1	3	3
Kuwait	1	1	1	3
Pakistan	1	0	0	1
Turkmenistan	1	0	0	1
Malaysia	0	2	2	4
Jordan	0	2	1	3
Indonesia	0	1	3	4
Myanmar	0	1	1	1
Kyrgyzstan	0	1	0	1
Philippines	0	0	4	4
Hong Kong	0	0	2	2
Nepal	0	0	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>281</b>

## Sir Don's baggy green cap recovered

LONDON, Dec 10 (Reuters/AP): There were 36 goals but few real goals dramatic twists and turns as the European Championships reached the end of its qualifying phase on Wednesday.

The cap which Bradman wore throughout the 1948 "invincibles" cricket tour of England has been found in England and was to be presented to current Australian captain Mark Taylor by his English counterpart Alec Stewart today in Adelaide.

It will then be loaned to the South Australian State Library for its Bradman collection.

The 1948 tour was Bradman's last before he retired.

Earlier in the day a Real Sociedad fan died in Madrid after being stabbed by Atletico Madrid fans before the teams' UEFA Cup match clash on Tuesday night.

Supporters of Real Madrid showed their respect for the victim, 28-year-old Alfonso Zabala, with a short silence before their 2-1 home win over Spartak Moscow.

Goals from Raul after 33 minutes and Savio Bortoloni (65) gave the defending champions the win that secured their place in the last eight as one of the two best runners-up.

While Juventus somehow won Group B, Olympiakos emerged victorious from Group A after drawing 10-10 with Croatia Zagreb. It was the first time the Greek champions had reached the quarter-finals of the European Cup.

Ajax Amsterdam, winners

## No hiccups for the giants

four seasons ago and runners up a year later, went out after losing 3-0 to FC Porto.

Inter Milan clinched top spot in Group C with their 2-0 win at Sturm Graz with Javier Zanetti (64) and Roberto Baggio (80) scoring for Inter in the second half.

Ronaldo, Inter's Brazilian superstar who was making a comeback after an injury, missed a great chance in the 3rd minute after faking Austrian defenders. With an open goal before him, Ronaldo's shot beat over the net.

Ronaldo was taken out on the hour, apparently still not fully fit for 90 minutes after his injury.

Only four minutes later, Zanetti scored Inter's goal, burying a thunderous shot from the right side.

Baggio, a substitute, sealed the victory with a neat placement 10 minutes from time.

A crowd of 14,000 at the Arnold Schwarzenegger stadium saw Graz lose their fifth of six games in the group.

Manchester United and Bayern Munich drew 1-1 at Old Trafford in Group D which meant they both qualified — Bayern as group winners with 11 points and United as runners-up with 10.

United skipper Roy Keane opened the scoring with a fierce drive after 43 minutes and Hasan Salihamidzic scrambled the equaliser 13 minutes later.

In the other Group D match, a dead rubber in Copenhagen, Barcelona beat Brondby 2-0 despite having skipper Josep Guardiola sent off after 41 minutes.

Dynamo Kiev clinched top spot in Group E with a 3-1 win over fellow hopefuls Lens in France, giving them 11 points to Lens' eight.

Lens were up against it after skipper Frederic Dehu was sent off for a professional foul after only three minutes.

Arsenal ended their unsuccessful campaign in Group E with a 3-1 win over Panathinaikos.

Kaiserslautern, the German champions who had already won Group F, beat bottom-placed HJK Helsinki 5-2 thanks to a hat-trick from Uwe Rosller, Eindhoven and Benfica drew 2-2 in the other match and both were eliminated.

Five European Cup winners — Real Madrid, Bayern Munich, Manchester United, Inter Milan and Juventus — have made it into the quarter-finals with the draw to take place in Geneva next Wednesday, December 16.

The draws for the quarter-finals of the UEFA Cup and European Cup Winners' Cup will take place at the same time.

## Corinthians, Cruzeiro prevail in violent semis



## 13th Asiad's first doper

BANGKOK, Dec 10: A Jordanian weightlifter was revealed Wednesday as the first drug cheat of the Bangkok Asian Games.

Ayed Khawaldeh, 25, who finished 14th in the men's 56kg class on Monday, was found to have taken the diuretic triamterene.

Khawaldeh was immediately disqualified and expelled from the Games by the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), which held an emergency meeting to discuss the case Wednesday night.

Khawaldeh's opponents in the final will be Cruzeiro, who beat Portuguesa 1-0 away in their third leg on Wednesday, Djair scoring the winner in the second minute.

Cruzeiro won the tie by six points to three, having also won the first leg 3-1 and lost the second 2-1. Portuguesa could face disciplinary action after Dida was struck by the stone as the

two sides.

Corinthians went through on having the better goal aggregate in a previous match on Sunday, had been relatively well behaved until the incident.

But the final match of the three-leg tie was still a fiercely contested and bad tempered affair with more than 60 fouls, split almost evenly between the two sides.

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