

## Chess Olympiad Bangladesh taste defeats

Sports Reporter

The Bangladeshi men's team suffered their third loss in the 34th Chess Olympiad when they went down 3-1 to Bosnia-Herzegovina in the fifth round in Istanbul yesterday.

International Masters Rezat-bin-Sattar and Ziam Ralman lost to Grand Masters P Nikolic and I Sokolov. While IM Abdurrahman Al-Rakib and Emanuel Hossain Rabu shared points with GMs Kurnajca and M Simeonovic respectively.

Bangladesh have earned 10.5 points so far in the meet.

Germany are leading the table with 16.5 points followed by Russia who are a point.

The leaders defeated Israel 3-1 while the Russians brushed aside Brazil 3.5-0.5 in the Turkish capital.

In the ladies' competition, Bangladesh were outplayed 0.5-2.5 by Slovenia. They have earned five and a half points.

Georgia with 12 points stay atop in this section. They earned a 2-1 victory over Yugoslavia in the latest round of matches.

The Bangladeshi men meet Azerbaijan while the ladies led by IMW Rani Hamid, entertain the hosts in today's sixth round.

## Agrani Bank earn promotion

Agrani Bank were promoted to the Premier Division beating BRTC SC 2-1 in the 'super-three' of the NBL First Division football league at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

With the day's outcome, bankers increased their tally to 33 points from 16 matches while BRTC completed their campaign with 28 points from 17 matches.

In the day's match, the bankers trailed 0-1 goal behind in the first half when Siraj scored for BRTC in the 34th minute.

Sohag netted the equaliser for Agrani in the 63rd minute while Rabi scored match-decider after 13 minutes.

Friday's match: PWD SC vs Sadharan Bima.

## Green Delta h'ball

Shamimnagar Hall of Dhaka University earned a massive 15-0 victory over Dhaka Women's College in the 6th Delta Lite girls' handball competition here yesterday, reports UNB.

The winners dominated the first half 11-0 at the Dhanmondi Sultana Kamal Women's Sports Complex with Swapna netting four and Mukta three.

In the day's other matches, Lalmaia Women's College, Siddhesvari Girls College, Eden Women's College and Bangladesh-Kuwaiti Motri Hall (DKU) won their respective matches.

## Rajshahi soccer

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Nov 2: Rajshahi University Five Set moved into the final of Professor Sarwar Janur Suttori football tournament.

University Five Set defeated Brothers Five Set 2-0 at the Tikkapara Eidgah playground today. Shamsul scored both the goals.

## CRICKET

Prativa Sangha defeated Firoj Suttori Sangha by 78 runs in the Shohor MIM Qamruzzaman Hossain cricket tournament at the Adarsha College playground today.

Prativa collected 190 for nine in the stipulated 25 overs. Shohag with 82 was the best scorer.

The winners booked Firoj Suttori for 112 runs in 22.5 overs.

## Purabi b'ball

The Eagles and the Gregs Club won their respective matches in the Purabi Insurance Metropolis First Division basketball league at the Dhanmondi Basketball Gymnasium yesterday, reports UNB.

In the day's first match, the Eagles earned a comfortable 77-58 points victory over Rangers Club after dominating the first session by 42-27.

Shakil cased 25. Aibr 25. Nabab 11 for the winners while Sharif 21 and Pikit 14 for the losers.

In the other match, the Gregs managed a hard-fought 49-47 points win over the Shams Club after leading the first half by 25-21.

Faisal made 20 and Aibr 14 for the winners while Shanta and Sajid 10 each for the losers.

## New ICC boss' apprehension

SYDNEY, Nov 2: The new president of the International Cricket Council (ICC) said today he feared the worst may still be to come in the match-fixing scandal that has plunged the sport into a deepening crisis, reports AFP.

Australia's Malcolm Gray told a local radio station he believed a damning Indian police report into cricket corruption suggested the problem was worse than most people thought.

"I would think we're getting to the bottom of it now but I can assure you that it is a lot deeper and has been a lot deeper and broader than anybody realised or expected," Gray said.

## Serie A

# Inter clip Roma's wings



MILAN, Nov 2:

Inter Milan consigned AS Roma to a 2-0 defeat Wednesday night at the San Siro, ensuring that unfashionable Udinese and Atalanta led Italy's First Division after four rounds of games, reports AFP.

Goals from Turkey's Hakan Sukur and his Uruguayan strike partner Alvaro Recoba abruptly halted overnight leaders Roma's perfect record, leaving Udinese 2-1 victors at Juventus - top on goals scored from Atalanta, 3-0 winners at home to Verona.

Sukur rose unopposed to head in Clarence Seedorf's corner after 18 minutes with an unintended deflection from Roma defender Alessandro Rinaldi putting the ball right in the Turk's path.

Recoba wrapped up victory with a first-time finish halfway through the second period after being played in by Inter's new Slovak signing Vratislav Gresko to confirm that Udinese and Atalanta stayed in pole after displacing Roma at the summit in the afternoon.

Inter coach Marco Tardelli said: "We showed we can play and score goals at the same time. The players all pulled together and this is important - it shows the right mentality."

His Roma counterpart Fabio Capello, a one-time team-mate of Tardelli's at Juventus, said: "Inter were more decisive. They were very effective opponents."

Struggling Parma gave their beleaguered coach Alberto Malesani a lift in the other evening match with a double strike from Cameroonian Patrick Mboma sufficient to eclipse AC Milan 2-0.

Frenchman Johan Micoud and Portuguese winger Sergio Conceicao were involved in both goals and Micoud now appears to have placated the critics who blamed him for his club's poor start.

Udinese had earlier dispatched Juventus at the Turin giants' Stadio delle Alpi fortress with Argentinian Roberto Sosa bagging both goals before Alessandro Del Piero pulled one back from the penalty spot.

Sosa's first goal saw him beat hesitant Juventus goalkeeper Edwin van der Sar to a loose ball - the latest in a catalogue of blunders by the Dutch custodian.

His second also came from close range after a delightful counterattack launched by Stefano Fiore and Dane Martin Jorgensen.

Sosa almost blotted his copybook when his handball allowed Del Piero to reduce but Udinese prevailed.

Udinese coach Luigi De Canio said he was delighted with his side's position at the top.

"We profited from the discomfort of Juventus," he told RAI TV. "We have a great little team and I am delighted with all the lads."

Juve's coach Carlo Ancelotti declined to scapegoat van der Sar, saying: "It's too easy to blame individual players."

Juve's French playmaker Zinedine Zidane had an indifferent game and was replaced at the interval and Auelotto admitted that when Zidane fails

so does the team.

"The real Juventus is the Zidane Juventus," said Auelotto.

Bergamo-based Atalanta prevailed 3-0 at home to Verona with first half goals from Fausto Rossini and Damiano Zenetti and an injury-time strike from Nicola Ventola.

Meanwhile, Sven Goran Eriksson's first match in what should be an eight-month-long goodbye to Italian champions Lazio started with a comeback 2-1 win over Brescia at the Olympic Stadium on Wednesday.

But they remain bottom after Vicenza picked up their first victory with a 1-0 home win



Inter Milan's Dutch international playmaker Clarence Seedorf is under pressure from AS Roma's Cristiano Zanetti during their Serie A clash at Milan on November 1.

- AFP photo

Two goals from substitute Simone Inzaghi answered an early strike from Dario Hubner for the visitors in Sweden Eriksson's first game in charge of the Italian champions since it was confirmed he would take up the post of England coach in the summer.

Goals from Luis Oliveira - a Brazilian with a Belgian passport - and Jonathan Bjorklund were enough for Bologna to record their third consecutive victory this time 2-0 at the expense of Reggina.

Faith Terini's Fiorentina were involved in a thriller with visitors Bari who shared a 2-2 draw after Manuel Rui Costa gave the Florence outfit a first-half lead.

A header from Phil Masinga squared the match and then the South African set up Antonio Cassano to put the visitors went in front before Rui Costa's Portuguese compatriot Nuno Gomes equalised for Terini's men, heading home after being set up by Tomas Repka.

Bari's Antonio Bellavista was sent off in injury time.

The reigning league champions and cup holders endured a German Cup humiliation by losing on penalties to fourth division FC Magdeburg, reports AFP.

Wednesday night's second round match was locked at 1-1 at the end of extra-time and eastern German side Magdeburg won 4-2 on penalties in a battle of two sides who once ruled Europe.

Bavaria Stuttgart ensured they didn't end up with egg on their face as they dispatched their own amateurs 3-0.

## Lopez out for four months

ROMA, Nov 2: Lazio's Argentinean striker Claudio Lopez has been ruled out of football for four months after medical tests Thursday on the injury to his left knee he sustained in Wednesday's 2-1 First Division side victory over Brescia.

Doctors have advised the player to undergo surgery although Lopez, who hobbled off after 13 minutes against Brescia, is yet to agree to that advice.

Thursday morning Lopez had a magnetic resonance scan on the knee and the club doctor Andrea Campi diagnosed the injury as worse than had been first thought.

The scan revealed problems to the knee ligaments and is similar to an injury sustained by Christian Vieri when he was at the Roman club two years ago although in Lopez's case it was worse.

"The game will no longer take place. The cancellation was at the instance of our host Tunisia," Shuaibou Amoudou one of the coaches attached to the Nigerian Super Eagles told AFP.

Nigeria had hoped to use the November 7 friendly to prepare for the crucial World Cup qualifying match against Sudan in Lagos in January.

Nigeria will also host Zambia the same month in an African Nations Cup qualifier.

"We deserved to win - perhaps not by such a high score

## 'Chilagoal' relishing the prospect

STRASBOURG, France, Nov 2: Colourful Paraguayan international goalkeeper Jose Luis Chilavert, who on Wednesday signed a two-and-a-half-year deal with ailing French First Division team Strasbourg, said he was looking forward to a major challenge, reports Reuters.

Those who are successful are those who take on big challenges," Chilavert told a news conference after finalising his contract.

"I'm completely dedicated to my work and hope I can do well here."

Chilavert, who joins Strasbourg from Argentine First Division side Velez Sarsfield, signed after two days of talks with Strasbourg officials and after passing a medical.

Chilavert, 35, cost Strasbourg an estimated 15 and 20 million francs (2 to 3 million dollars).

## Parliament to investigate CBF accounts

BRASILIA, Nov 2: The Brazilian parliament voted on Wednesday to investigate the bank details of the national football federation (CBF) and its president Ricardo Teixeira, reports AFP.

A parliament commission voted by 14 to nine to launch the investigation in connection with Brazil's 10-year contract with Nike, signed in 1997 and worth a reported 180 million dollars.

The Brazilian parliament also summoned several sports journalists on November 7 over suspected irregularities in the deal by the powerful sports company and the CBF.

World Cup legend Pele, in his role as former Brazilian sports minister, or former FIFA president Joao Havelange will also have to appear in parliament on November 9.

Former Brazil coach Mario Zagallo and team doctor Lidio Toledo have been summoned to appear on November 21. Brazilian internationals Ronaldinho, Robert Carlos and Edmundo are also set to appear on November 23.

Parliament said they had launched the inquiry to clarify whether the contract is breaking Brazilian law.

"I think it might happen," he said. "At this moment I'm not sure, I'm hopeful."

"I will have a contract with the Football Association from July 1, 2001, but we're still talking about the World Cup qualifying games in March and June. We have a lot of time to talk," said Eriksson at a London press conference.

Eriksson said he will be confident he could handle the pressure that goes with being England coach, pointing to his current job as Lazio coach as evidence that he could remain cool under fire.

"I have been in a good school for the last few years. To be in Rome when things go badly is not easy for sure," insisted Eriksson, who guided Lazio to the Serie A title last season.

Asked if the number of foreign players plying their trade over here had a detrimental effect on England's chances of success, Eriksson said: "No, it is the same all over Europe, the same in Italy."

"Everyone is talking about too many foreigners. If you're a good football player you will come through. It's good for players in the country to have foreign players around them."

# Eriksson can't wait

LONDON, Nov 2: New England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson on Thursday said he was "hopeful" with Lazio president Sergio Cragnotti for Eriksson's early release.

He said: "We're very hopeful we can secure his release for those qualifying games. President Cragnotti has been incredibly helpful but we have agreed to let it rest for a few days."

"Lazio need to take stock of their position. Things have moved incredibly quickly over a 48-hour period."

"I think at the beginning of next week we will take up those decisions. They will be done properly and hopefully with the right conclusion."

"I am always been a big fan of English football, I have been since I was very young."

"I have been in the Boot Room at Liverpool with Joe Fagan and on the bench for one game when Bobby Robson won the title with Ipswich. I have always been very close to England and English football."

Eriksson's assistant, Tord Grip, has already taken over as England's new chief scout as the FA put in place the new management team following the resignation of Kevin Keegan on October 7 following defeat in the World Cup qualifier against Germany at Wembley.

Asked where he thought England currently are in world terms, Eriksson replied: "A few years ago Manchester United won everything that they could win and I'm sure the England team can also do that. If I hadn't been sure about that I would never have taken the job."

"I am very positive about the future for the England team. For me, it's a big job and it's a very proud honour."

Eriksson said he was confident he could handle the pressure that goes with being England coach, pointing to his current job as Lazio coach as evidence that he could remain cool under fire.

"I have been in a good school for the last few years. To be in Rome when things go badly is not easy for sure," insisted Eriksson, who guided Lazio to the Serie A title last season.

Asked if the number of foreign players plying their trade over here had a detrimental effect on England's chances of success, Eriksson said: "No, it is the same all over Europe, the same in Italy."

"Everyone is talking about too many foreigners. If you're a good football player you will come through. It's good for players in the country to have foreign players around them."

"I will have a contract with the Football Association from July 1, 2001, but we're still talking about the World Cup qualifying games in March and June. We have a lot of time to talk," said Eriksson at a London press conference.

Eriksson said he will be confident he could handle the pressure that goes with being England coach, pointing to his current job as Lazio coach as evidence that he could remain cool under fire.

"I have been in a good school for the last few years. To be in Rome when things go badly is not easy for sure," insisted Eriksson, who guided Lazio to the Serie A title last season.