

Abbas and Iqbal in top form

By our sports reporter

TOP-SEEDED Abbas Khan and Ginny Rusher crossed their second round hurdle with relative ease in the Al Ghandi Electronics-Dubai Police Ramadan Squash Festival last night.

Abbas, the Dubai Police squash coach, gathered maximum points with a 15-6 15-5 15-3 triumph over Simon Baker at the Chicago Beach Sports Centre.

Abbas's partner Ginny Rusher defeated Penny Morgan 15-8 15-10 15-2 to swell the team tally to 90 points and enter the quarter-finals of the tournament which carries prize worth Dh8,000.

Abbas went through his match against Baker in a confident mood and never looked threatened at any stage while Rusher had to fight over the first two games against Morgan. In the third game Morgan virtually ran out of steam.



Abbas and Rusher are now expected to meet fifth seeded Shaikh Ahmed and Jackie Francis in the quarter-finals.

Last night Jackie stormed to a 15-0 15-8 15-3 victory over Lyn Homji to stack up 45 points. Shaikh Ahmed, who will play his match against Clive Lowe today, is expected to come through without any fears.

Third-seeded Iqbal Khan was another player who showed tremendous confidence as he defeated Mohammed Nagib 15-9 15-4 15-4 to pick up maximum points. Iqbal is the Abu Dhabi Inter-Continental Hotel's squash coach. His partner Jan Deeb, however, lost to Vanessa Chapman 7-15 5-15 14-15. But the pair moved into the next round on the strength of their points tally in this American scoring system.

Eighth-seeded Ramesh Prabhakar and Kate Newns also made it to the next round of the couples competition in style last night.

Ramesh overcame Ishwar Jodha 15-12 15-11 15-10 with some powerful rallies while Newns beat Christine Taylor 15-7 15-6 15-9.



● Iqbal Khan on way to victory.—KT photo