

Go-karting coming to town

BSS, Dhaka

Go-karting, a poor cousin of the Formula One, will be launched in the country shortly.

Some young university graduates have taken the initiative to launch the high-speed game in August on the Tongi-Ashulia road, on the outskirts of the capital.

"Speedway Karting will be the first international standard go-karting circuit in the country," Mahmud Hasan Khan, managing director of Speedway Karting Limited said yesterday.

Venus, Seles to skip Fed Cup

AFP, White Plains

Venus Williams and Monica Seles have withdrawn from the US Federation Cup team due to injuries.

Williams aggravated an abdominal strain at Wimbledon and Seles is bothered by a foot injury.

"Fans around the world watched Venus valiantly compete while injured at Wimbledon and we understand her need to recuperate," said Fed Cup captain Billie Jean King on Wednesday.

"Monica has been a stalwart contributor to the US Fed Cup effort, but she too has been playing hurt and her need to fully heal from a foot injury supersedes this Fed Cup commitment."

Ntini rocks

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Ervine c Pollock b Ntini	17
Matsikenyeri c Boucher b Nel	7
Sims c Boucher b Pollock	24
Streak not out	50
Blignaut b Adams	1
Price not out	17
Extras: (w-22, nb-3)	25
Total: (For 8 wks in 50 overs)	173
Fall of wickets: 1-11, 2-18, 3-18, 4-49, 5-68, 6-74, 7-128, 8-129	
Did not bat: Hondo	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Pollock	10	1	40	1
Ntini	10	1	45	4
Nel	10	3	33	2
Hall	10	2	25	0
Adams	10	1	30	1

**SOUTH AFRICA:** Smith, Gibbs, Dippenaar, Hall, Rudolph, Boucher, Van Jaarsveld, Pollock, Adams, Nel, Ntini

NFL kicks

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**SQUAD**

**GOALKEEPERS:** Raju (Muktijoddha) and Tarek (Victoria)

**DEFENDERS:** Shafiq (captain, Dhaka Wanderers Club), Kingshuk (Badda Jagarani), Showkat (Farashganj Sporting Club), Israfil (Dhanmondi Club), Nezamat (Dhaka Wanderers Club), Apu Barua (Badda Jagarani) and Faisal (Rahmatganj MFS)

**MIDFIELDERS:** Kaiser (Victoria), Askar Babu (Badda), Abul (Dhanmondi Club), Parvez (Dhanmondi Club), Arman (Victoria Sporting Club) and Babu Khan (Agrani Bank)

**STRIKERS:** Shahajuddin Tipu (Rahmatganj MFS), Tapu (Dhanmondi Club) and Yousuf (Dhaka Wanderers Club).

**Coach:** Nazrul Islam Ledu.

Tigers roar

**FROM PAGE 13**

McAdam lbw b Mahmud	1			
Extras: (lb-5, nb-1)	6			
Total: (All out in 90.5 overs)	189			
Fall of wickets: 1-17, 2-42, 3-42, 4-76, 5-105, 6-157, 7-175, 8-176, 9-182				
<b>Bowler</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>W</b>
Monjurul	16	5	20	1
Baisya	12	4	26	1
Mahmud	17.5	6	43	3
Mashrafe	15	5	28	3
Rafique	17	7	29	1
Ashrafur	10	3	23	1
Kapali	3	0	15	0

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Relaxation

5 Andy Capp's hangout

8 Carter's predecessor

12 Tools of osculation

13 Il pre-cedes and follows "rose"

14 Eternally

15 Debugging device?

17 Philosopher

18 Descartes

19 Slim

21 Mideast-ern bigwig

24 Rid of ring

25 Saucy

26 Handy adhesive

30 Grecian vessel

31 Foolish

32 Prune

33 1994 Ray Liotta movie

35 Capri, for one

**DOWN**

1 North Pole

2 Have a bug

3 Agent

4 Lively

5 Recipe

6 News-paper

7 Clingy

8 Carte

9 Heavy weight

10 Ready

11 Cardinal

12 O'Connor's successor

13 Carry over

14 Barrymore

15 Diving bird

16 Bohemian

17 Made cotton candy

18 Medal

19 Sea eagle

20 Liko some

21 OJ

22 Nin

23 Pepys, et al.

24 Addition-ally

25 11th U.S. president

26 Duel tool

27 Garbage barge

28 Museum item

29 Block

30 Dine

31 Mid-May

32 honorees

33 Adam's son

34 Kitchen flooring, for short

35 Lacks the skills

36 Weeder's item

37 Pooch

38 "Born in the —"

39 Sty

No Boje for 4 months

Kallis, Pollock approved break



AFP, Southampton

South Africa's Nicky Boje will be out for at least four months after breaking a leg while fielding against England.

Boje, 30, had a two-and-a-half hour operation in Nottingham on Wednesday to repair a broken left fibula and ruptured ankle ligaments.

He sustained the injury while fielding during the Proteas' four-wicket NatWest triangular series one-day international defeat against England at Edgbaston on Tuesday.

Boje, a left-arm spinner, was fielding as substitute for Martin van Jaarsveld, when he fell and had to be carried off the field by his teammates.

"He will be in plaster for two months," South Africa spokesman Gerald de Kock said here Thursday before the team's match against Zimbabwe.

"It will be four months at least before he's back."



NICKY BOJE

South Africa physiotherapist Shane Jabaar, who accompanied Boje to hospital, said of the injury: "It's the worst I've seen."

Boje lost his place in the team to Paul Adams for Saturday's match against Zimbabwe at Cardiff.

He was not included in the

squad for the five Test series against England which starts at Edgbaston on July 24.

South Africa have already qualified to play England in the Tri Series final at Lord's on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Jacques Kallis and Shaun Pollock will both be given a short leave of absence from South Africa's tour of England, on compassionate grounds, it was announced here Thursday.

All-rounder Kallis' father is gravely ill with cancer while former captain Pollock's wife Tricia is pregnant and so cannot travel to England.

After the NatWest final, Pollock and Kallis will be allowed to return home and are expected back by July 18.

That means they will miss South Africa's first warm-up match, for their five-Test series with England, against Somerset at Taunton commencing on July 15.

But they will be back in time for the second warm-up game, against India A at Arundel starting on July 19.



Eng pitches vex Marsh



AFP/REUTERS, Southampton

Zimbabwe's Australian coach Geoff Marsh hit out at the state of English pitches on Wednesday claiming that they are a poor breeding ground for genuine top class bowlers.

"A lot of the wickets we've played on here this summer have given too much assistance to the faster bowlers," said Marsh after a tour in which his side lost both Tests against England and failed to reach the final of the three-nation one-day series.

"I'm not saying this as an excuse for our batting performances with our inexperience we would probably have struggled on better wickets."

"But playing on pitches offering generous seam and bounce can give a false impression of a bowler's abilities," said Marsh, the former Aussie batsman, coach and national selector.

Marsh said he felt England had a good pace attack, but the public

should not get too excited about their performances, where they routed Zimbabwe by an innings in both Test matches.

"Don't get me wrong, England have a good pace attack with (Darren) Gough, (James) Anderson, (Richard) Johnson, (Steve) Harmison and (Matthew) Hoggard," he added.

"The danger is that they don't develop into complete bowlers who are capable of winning Test matches on flat Asian, Australian, South African and West Indian wickets."

"Gough is an exception to that because he's proved himself overseas, but he may not play much Test cricket in future. It's young bowlers like Anderson, Harmison and Hoggard who will need to learn subtle variations and master different deliveries to take wickets when the ball doesn't swing and seam".

Marsh pointed to the wickets at Lord's for the first Test and Headingley, Cardiff and Bristol in the NatWest triangular series, as examples of bowler friendly conditions.

"It's not just international matches that are affected. We

played at Worcester at the start of the tour where the ball moved off the seam throughout the match."

"Kabir Ali took five wickets in our second innings but in terms of developing his skills he would have been better off bowling on the tracks we played on at Hove or Streaky, where every wicket had to be earned."

"Look at the example of a bowler like (Zimbabwe captain) Heath Streak. He's revelled in the conditions over here because he's a classic English-style swing bowler."

"But he's also learned how to adapt his game to be effective in Zimbabwe and around the world on less responsive surfaces."

Zimbabwe face South Africa in their last match of their tour here on Thursday but they have no chance of making the final which takes place at Lord's on Saturday between England and the South Africans.

South Africa stay back in England for a five-match Test series.

Zimbabwe next meet West Indies at home in a two Test, five one-day internationals in October.

Harbhajan doing fine

BBC ONLINE, undated

Indian spin bowler Harbhajan Singh may not require surgery on his injured finger after all.

Harbhajan flew to Australia last month after Shane Warne recommended a Melbourne hospital where he underwent a finger operation four years ago.

But instead of surgery, he was treated by a physiotherapist and his improvement was such that he was able to bowl in the nets without pain.

Harbhajan has now returned home and although his condition will continue to be monitored, Indian specialist Dr Anant Joshi said: "He is very happy and relieved."

The injury was originally diagnosed as a ligament problem in the knuckle joint of his middle finger, attributed mainly to his tight bowlinggrip.

India return to action in October with two home Tests against New Zealand, followed by a triangular one-day series involving world champions Australia.

Mishra hero on Day One

AFP, Leeds

Leg-spinner Amit Mishra took four wickets to put India A in a strong position on the first day of their tour match against Yorkshire at Headingley on Wednesday.

The 20-year-old extracted plenty of turn on a pitch normally a haven for seamers to finish with 4-42 as the home side reached 246 all out.

Michael Lumb provided the backbone of the Yorkshire innings making 65 with Tim Bresnan scoring a half-century.

Also putting in an impressive display with the ball for India was 18-year-old left-arm-er Irfan Pathan who took 4-60 with his late in-swing-er accounting for Chris Taylor and Gary Fellows, both lbw, while Vic Craven fell for one which moved across him.

Lumb and England international Craig White playing solely as a batsman following the recurrence of a rib injury put on 52 for the fifth wicket before Mishra struck.

Lumb failed to pick his googly as Hemang Badani took a low catch to bring an end to the left-hander's 108-ball innings while White was beaten in the flight.

Andy Gray fell to a leg-break with Badani again showing excellent reactions at slip, while Pieter Swanepoel fell lbw.

Lakshimipathy Balaji had Richard Blake caught and bowled, before Pathan tempted an outside edge from Bresnan.

Jugantor lift DRU football

SPORTS REPORTER

A golden goal from Moniruzzaman Ujjal enabled Dainik Jugantor to clinch the Basundhara-DRU Football Tournament beating news agency NNB in the final at the outer stadium handball court yesterday.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman handed over the trophy to the champions while secretary general of the Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) Jafar Imam to the runners-up team.

The match rolled into extra time after it was locked 1-1 in the regulation 30 minutes.

Majibur Rahman netted for Jugantor and Sarwar Alam, who was adjudged best player in the final, scored for the losers.

Juvenile soccer

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50,000 for the runners-up and Tk 30,000 for the third placed team.

After the simple ceremony Segunbagicha High School thrashed Shahid Nobi High School 5-1 in an exhibition match at the all-purpose venue.

The real battle however kicks off today with ten matches taking place at five different city venues.

A total of 60 Dhaka-based schools split into five zones, are taking part in the under-16 competition. Each zone will comprise four groups. The two top finishers from each zone will qualify for the 10-team final round.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Rayerbazar High School vs Junior Laboratory (3pm) and Loretto vs Saint Joseph's High School (4:30pm) at the Dhanmondi Club ground.

Shahid Ramuzuddin High School vs Uttara High School (3pm) and IAS School vs Monikanan High School (4:30pm) at the Uttara Police Line.

Segunbagicha High School vs Rahmatullah Model High School (3pm) and Millat High School vs Nabakumar Institute (4:30pm) at the Dhaka University ground.

Willes Little Flower School vs Shah Noor Model High School (3pm) and Ali Ahmed High School vs Khilgaon High School (4:30pm) at the Basabo Sports ground.

National Bangla High School vs Rajdhani High School (3pm) and Islami Adarsha High School vs Mirpur Bangla High School (4:30pm) at the East End Club ground.



World and Olympic 100 metres champion Maurice Greene (L) jokes with his American compatriot Allen Johnson at the end of a press conference in Rome yesterday. They will run in the Golden League meeting today.

Greene goes for speed



AFP, Rome

Devout Catholic Maurice Greene will be praying for a quick start when he runs in the third Golden League meeting here on Friday.

The Olympic 100 metre titleholder and three-time world champion was slow out of the blocks in Paris last week and finished a disappointing third behind Deji Aliu of Nigeria and winner Bernard Williams.

Seeking his fifth straight win in Rome, Greene is determined to rediscover the kind of form which saw him conquer all in 1999, with the world championships in France just six weeks away.

"I swear that I will win the world title. I was asleep in my blocks that's the reason for my loss here," said the 28-year-old American after defeat in France.

Dubbed the 'Kansas Comet', Greene has so far been eclipsed by former training partner and 2001 bronze world medallist Williams, who he faces once again at the Olympic stadium on Friday.

Also in the hunt among the sprinters are Aliu - knocking on the door of a sub-10 second time having run 10 flat in Greece last month - and Australia's Patrick Johnson, eager to prove his world-leading 9.93sec time back in early May was

not a fluke.

European champion Dwain Chambers of Great Britain, who defeated world record holder Tim Montgomery in Glasgow last month, is another contender in a strong line-up.

Montgomery, the current world record holder, pulled out earlier this week, to spend time with his family. The American sprinter's girlfriend, triple Olympic champion Marion Jones, gave birth to their first child, a baby boy, Tim Junior, on June 28.

World 5000m record holder Haile Gebrselassie will be out for revenge against Kenyan Abraham Chebib, who edged the 30-year-old Ethiopian last week.

Chebib's electrifying late burst was unanswered by 'Gebr', who had been worried about losing some of his speed after stepping up to run the marathon, in what was his first 5000m in three years.

Gebrselassie has other young pretenders to worry about in the shape of compatriot Kenenisa Bekele, who could well take him on for the world 10,000 metres title in Paris in August, and Kenyan Eliud Kipchoge, third in Oslo with a new world junior record of 12min 52.61sec.

Meanwhile, Morocco's Hicham El Guerrouj, the world record holder over 1500m, 2000m and the mile, races against in-form Kenyan William Chirchir in the 1500m.

Paradorn's agenda



AFP, Bangkok

Thai tennis star Paradorn Srichaphan hopes to perform well in front of his home crowd at the first ever ATP tournament to be held in Thailand this September, his father and coach said Thursday.

Chanachai Srichaphan said several top-10 players were intending to take part in the Thailand Open, which will be held at the Impact Arena stadium in suburban Bangkok from September 22-28.

Chanachai said he expected US

star Andy Roddick, Spain's Carlos Moya, and French Open Champion Juan Carlos Ferrero to contest the tournament.

Asian stars tipped to play in Bangkok include former world number one doubles player, India's Leander Paes, he said.

"Paradorn hopes to do well in the tournament in Bangkok, to impress his Thai fans," Chanachai said in a statement.

Paradorn, the first Asian player to break into the top 10, is hugely popular in Thailand and has won fame the world over with his lucky red shirt and traditional "wai" greeting after matches.

The likeable 23-year-old champion is an official cultural ambassador for his homeland and has a

special diplomatic passport to accompany that status.

He was named Thailand's 2002 person of the year on the back of his meteoric rise to stardom, which took off with a straight-sets defeat of one of his childhood heroes Andre Agassi at Wimbledon last year.

In the week before September's ATP tournament, Thailand will host Davis Cup qualifiers against the Czech Republic.

It is the second straight year that Thailand has played to qualify in the World Group, after losing to a British team led by Tim Henman last year.

Novak in quarters



REUTERS, Gstaad

Former winner Czech Jiri Novak moved into the Swiss Open quarterfinals after coming from behind to defeat Frenchman Paul-Henri Mathieu on Wednesday.

The third-seeded Novak, who won the tournament in 2001, triumphed 1-6, 6-2, 6-3 and will be joined in the last eight by fellow seeds Gaston Gaudio and Juan Ignacio Chela of Argentina, who were both taken the distance high in the Alps.

Novak, 28, was sluggish in the

opening set as 21-year-old Mathieu got the upper hand, but an early break in the second set got the Czech back on level terms.

Another break midway through the deciding set was enough to earn Novak a place in the quarterfinals where he will now face Argentine Chela, the fifth seed.

Chela beat Spaniard Feliciano Lopez 6-4, 6-7, 7-6 while his fourth-seeded compatriot Gaudio, who lost to Spaniard Alex Corretja in last year's final, battled through by defeating German Lars Burgsmuller 4-6, 6-2, 6-4.

Clay-court specialist Gaudio started slowly and was made to pay as Burgsmuller took the first set, but the 24-year-old Argentine hit

back to dump the German out of the tournament.

He will now face Stefan Koubek after the Austrian disposed of veteran Frenchman Anthony Dupuis 6-1, 6-2.

The other second round games will be scheduled for Thursday when newly-crowned Wimbledon champion Roger Federer, the home favourite and top seed, faces Frenchman Jean-Rene Lisnard.

Defending champion and seventh seed Corretja will play compatriot David Sanchez while second-seeded German Rainer Schuettler meets Belgian Christophe Rochus and Czech Radek Stepanek, the eighth seed, faces Swiss Michel Kratochvil.