

## Saniya wins Unilever golf title

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Saniya Ebisawa and Shamim Inteqhab clinched the men's and women's titles respectively in the fourth Unilever Independence Day Golf Tournament-2006.

A total of 127 players including seven women golfers from home and abroad took part in the meet at the picturesque Bhatiani Golf and Country Club (BGCC) on Friday.

BGCC senior vice-president and GOC of 24 Infantry Division Major General Sina Ibne Jamali gave away prizes among winners at a function in the evening.

Unilever Bangladesh Limited chairman and managing director Sanjib Mehta was also present during the presentation ceremony that was followed by a colourful cultural function.

### FULL RESULT

Winner: Saniya Ebisawa, Runner-up: MA Hashem, Second runner-up: M Shahidul Islam, Best gross: SM Rahman, Senior winner: Shamsul Huda, Ladies winner: Shamim Inteqhab, Ladies runner-up: Nahid Islam, Best front nine: Azam Khan, Best back nine: Liaqat Ali Chowdhury, Nine hole winner: Major Sheikh Mohammad Shahjahan, Men's longest drive: Nafid Nabi, Ladies longest drive: Shereen Ispahani, Nearest to pin: Major Faruque.

## Hosts ready

FROM PAGE 12  
US dollars to organise the Challenge Cup, which will be held in every two years.

"The preparations here are on track and I hope it would be a good football time in Bangladesh," the Sri Lanka added.

Organising committee secretary Anwarul Hoque Helal informed that the publicity will begin today through electronic media while posters, festoons and banners will cover the two cities to attract the fans.

"Bangladesh Television will telecast all matches live from Dhaka and Chittagong through its terrestrial and satellite channels," Helal said.

However, as hosts, Bangladesh team's preparation was not up to the desired expectations of coach Diego Cruciani, whose plea for a few practice matches in Thailand was turned down by the Bangladesh Football Federation president SA Sultan.

"Our experience of sending the team to Thailand is bitter. There have been complaints of indiscipline and lack of competitive practice matches. I feel that most of the players have played in the AFC Cup with their clubs. So, they are in touch."

"We have been keeping in touch with the team management and are trying give them all possible support. We have also given the coach absolute freedom. It's his baby and he can do whatever he wants. There have been injuries and recalling experienced players who have been dropped is under consideration, he said adding, "Our first target is to reach the semifinals."

## Prolific Ricky leads

FROM PAGE 12  
caught by Nel on long-off left-arm spinner Nicky Boje for 24, made off nine balls. Ponting declared immediately.

In contrast to the first three days, the weather was overcast and the floodlights were on for all but the second hour of play.

The light deteriorated markedly shortly before tea. Umpires Steve Bucknor and Billy Doctrove discussed the light during the last over before the break but allowed play to continue.

Australia won the series in Australia 2-0 and won the first Test of the current series in Cape Town.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard at tea on the fourth day of the second Test between South Africa and Australia at Kingsmead Monday.

**AUSTRALIA:** First innings 369  
**SOUTH AFRICA:** First innings 267

**AUSTRALIA:** Second innings (overnight 125-1)  
Langer c Pollock b Boje 37  
Hayden c Boucher b Ntini 102  
Ponting c Boje b Pollock 116  
Martyn not out 15

**SOUTH AFRICA:** Second innings  
De Villiers not out 15  
Smith not out 3  
Extras: (nb-1) 1  
Total: (For no loss in 5 overs) 19

**Bowler** O M R W  
Lee 3 0 16 0  
Clark 2 0 3 0  
To bat: H Gibbs, J Kallis, A Prince, J Rudolph, M Boucher, S Pollock, N Boje, A Nel, M Ntini

**Umpires:** S Bucknor, B Doctrove (both WIS)

**RAJSHAHI**  
FROM PAGE 12  
Result: Barisal won by six wickets.  
**KHULNA:** 248 and 231 all out in 90.1 overs (Sahagir 47, Sazzad 55, Jamaluddin 50, Aslam 16 n.o., extras 19, Hasibul 5-57, Rezaul 1-6, Nabil 1-64, Rahman 2-15)

**SYLHET:** 329 and 151-1 in 19.5 overs (Rahman 63 n.o., Imtiaz 61, Mabud 16 n.o., Monirul 1-29).  
Result: Sylhet won by nine wickets.

**FOUR-DAY TABLE**

Teams	M	W	L	D/L	Pts
Rajshahi	10	6	2	0	40
Chittagong	10	4	3	3	36
Barisal	10	4	2	0	33
Dhaka	10	3	4	2	28
Sylhet	10	4	5	1	28
Khulna	10	1	6	1	15

**ROLL OF HONOUR**

Year	Champions	Runners-up
1999-2000	Chittagong	Sylhet
2000-2001	Birhan	Chittagong
2001-2002	Dhaka	Rajshahi
2002-2003	Khulna	Dhaka
2003-2004	Dhaka	Sylhet
2004-2005	Dhaka	Rajshahi
2005-2006	Rajshahi	Chittagong



PHOTO: AFP

Real Madrid players are jubilant after their second goal against Deportivo La Coruna in their Primera Liga match at the Santiago Bernabeu on Sunday.

## PRIMERA LIGA

# The real Madrid returns

Football

AFP, Madrid

Real Madrid notched their first win in four games and moved back up to second place in La Liga after thrashing Deportivo La Coruna 4-0 in the Spanish Primera Liga on Sunday.

"That was a spectacular game. I have been congratulating our players more than ever. We've been going through a difficult time and I think you've seen the quality of the players," beamed Real coach Lopez Caro.

Deportivo handed Real the lead when Hector Berenguel del Pino turned a David Beckham free kick into his own net from the edge of the six yard box after just nine minutes.

With their noses in front, Real then started to show some of their traditional style which has been noticeably lacking in the last six weeks.

Ronaldo proved that he is recovering the touch that has made him World Player of the Year three times by getting Real's second goal on 36 minutes, and his second in four days, connecting at close range with a Roberto Carlos pass.

Spain international defender Sergio Ramos headed home Real's third, from a Beckham free kick, after 69 minutes.

Julio Baptista completed the scoring eight minutes from time with a rasping, curling free kick around the Deportivo wall from just

beyond the edge of the area as Beckham for once relinquished the dead ball duties.

Real have 57 points from 30 games but bitter rivals Barcelona still have a huge 11-point lead with just eight games of the season left, despite being held to a 0-0 draw at bottom club Malaga on Sunday.

Barca's best chances fell to the Spanish first division's leading scorer Samuel Eto'o, who had a goal controversially disallowed just before the break and who also hit the cross bar in injury time.

Osasuna slipped back a place to third after they went down 1-0 at Athletic Bilbao on Saturday, the only goal of the game coming from a Luis Prieto header after 59 minutes.

Fifth-placed Sevilla left it late but a Jordi Lopez header two minutes into injury time gave them a 1-0 win over 2004 champions Valencia.

The win moved Sevilla closer to a Champions League place with 51 points, just two behind Valencia who remain fourth.

The goal redeemed Jordi, who earlier put a 76th minute penalty against the crossbar after Javier Saviola had been hacked down by his fellow Argentine international Roberto Ayala, who was then shown a red card for the challenge.

Athletic Madrid's ambitions of a long-awaited return to European competition took a knock when they were held to a 1-1 draw at struggling Cadiz.

Mateja Kezman put Athletic in front six minutes before the break, finishing off a quick-counter attack.

Cadiz have slipped to second from the bottom after going 11 games without a win but salvaged a point from a Lucas Lobos penalty after 68 minutes after Luciano Galletti had brought down the host's Jonathan Sesma.

Mallorca's seven-game unbeaten run since Gregorio Manzano took over as coach, a streak which has taken them out of the relegation zone, came to an end with a 2-0 defeat at Celta Vigo.

Two well-taken early goals inside the area from Pablo Contreras and Fernando Baiano, making the most of some slack Mallorca defending, gave Celta an unassailable lead.

Real Sociedad's relegation worries increased when they went down 2-1 at Getafe. Mariano Perna put Getafe ahead from the penalty spot on 19 minutes after Mikel Alonso had brought down Jaime Gavilan.

Sociedad equalised in injury time at the end of the first half thanks to a spectacular left foot free kick by Chilean international Mark Gonzalez from 35 metres before Daniel Guiza put Getafe back in front nine minutes into the second half.

The San Sebastian side played the last 21 minutes with 10 men after John Viáfara got his second yellow card.

Real Sociedad, who were league runners up just three seasons ago, are now third from bottom and face dropping out of the top flight for the first time in 39 years.

## St. Gregory mini b'ball

SPORTS REPORTER

Spurs won the seniors title while Celtics claimed it for the juniors in the daylong mini basketball championships of St. Gregory School on Friday.

Spurs emerged best among the six senior teams, defeating Bulls by 27-18 point in the final at school premises. Celtics on the other hand had to fight it out in a clash of ten teams in the junior section.

Brother Nicholas distributed prizes among the winners.

## Gaibandha Cricket

Mohammedan Sporting Club defeated Gorshthanpara Kira Sangstha by 54 runs in the Naheed Cotton First Division Cricket League at the Gaibandha Stadium on Sunday.

Winning the toss, Moha-mmedan batted first and scored 194 for 8 in their stipulated 48 overs. In reply Gorshthanpara Kira Sangstha were bundled out for 140 runs in 37.2 overs.

Wasim of Mohammedan was m-o-m after scoring thirty and capturing three wickets.

**Razzaq:** 10 1 43 0  
**Kaneria:** 17.5 3 44 3  
**Afridi:** 2 0 6 1

**PAKISTAN:** First innings  
Malik c Tharanga b Maharooof 13  
Farhat c Bandara b Malinga 69  
Younis c Sangakkara b Maharooof 0  
Iqbal c Maharooof b Malinga 2  
Inzamamul not out 30  
Razzaq not out 1

**Bowler** O M R W  
Malinga 8 2 24 2  
Maharooof 8 2 29 2  
Fernando 3 0 20 0  
Bandara 7 1 32 0  
Muralidaran 6 0 18 0

**Toss:** Pakistan  
**Umpires:** Steve Davis (AUS) and Rudi Koertzen (RSA)

## Giggs motivates United victory

AFP, Manchester

Ryan Giggs inspired Manchester United to a comfortable 3-0 win over Birmingham City as Sir Alex Ferguson's men made it seven straight victories at Old Trafford to leapfrog Liverpool back into second place in the Premiership here Sunday.

Birmingham were hoping to restore some pride following their seven-goal thrashing at the hands of Liverpool in the FA Cup quarter-finals on Tuesday.

But they had to rely on some poor finishing from England striker Wayne Rooney to let them off the hook and spare them another thumping, even though this defeat still left them third from bottom and fighting for their Premiership lives.

Ferguson named an unchanged line-up which included captain Gary Neville, making his 500th appearance to become only the eighth player in the club's history to achieve such a landmark.

United started brightly and Martin Latka felled Cristiano Ronaldo in the third minute to concede a free kick and Giggs stepped forward to curl a delightful effort over the wall and into the top right hand corner, despite the best efforts of Maik Taylor.

Giggs doubled his side's advantage just 13 minutes later, firing home his second of the game with a cool finish after charging onto Rooney's sublime pass.

United ran riot for the rest of the first half but Rooney twice squandered glorious chances. However he atoned for it seven minutes from time in a sketchy second half after beating Taylor from a Ronaldo headed pass.

Elsewhere, Charlton beat Newcastle 3-1 at the Valley making it two fruitless trips to London in the week for the Magpies.

Also, Bolton Wanderers' charge towards a top-six English Premiership finish was given a severe jolt by Middlesbrough after an injury-time goal saw them crash to a 4-3 defeat in a thrilling game.

## 'Beware of the snake'

INTERNET, undated

Arsene Wenger has warned his defence to watch out for the snake in the grass who could destroy their hopes of a place in the semi-finals of the Champions League.

Arsenal face Juventus on Tuesday night in the first leg of their Champions League quarter-final in a game that will see the return of former captain Patrick Vieira to Highbury for the first time since he quit the club last summer.

The French midfielder had nine glittering years at Arsenal before accepting a five-year deal with the Italian giants and he is certain to receive a hero's welcome from the Highbury faithful.

But the Arsenal chief is more worried about the damage that could be inflicted on his side by the man who possesses enough venom in his attacking play to kill them off before the return leg - David Trezeguet.

"Trezeguet is a snake - he is a bit quiet and then suddenly he kills you," said Wenger.

"Trezeguet is a guy who comes alive in the box. He does not upset you for half an hour but once you give him the chance, he will just kill you."

"Trezeguet is that type of snake - he is a cobra. He has a great intelligence in the box and a great sense of anticipation. He is right and left-footed and what is very dangerous with him, is that he is very good in the air."

## Sheva rates Juninho

REUTERS, Paris

Brazil and Olympique Lyon midfielder Juninho is better at free kicks than compatriot Ronaldinho, says AC Milan striker Andriy Shevchenko.

Juninho will be suspended on Wednesday as Ligue 1 leaders Lyon entertain AC Milan in a Champions League quarter-final at the Stade Gerland.

"Yes (this will be advantage for us). Because Lyon will probably get more free kicks at home than at San Siro," Shevchenko told sports daily L'Equipe on Monday.

"He is just incredible. To me, he is better (at free kicks) than Ronaldinho. He can take them in many different ways. Ronaldinho is good when close to the goal," added the 2004 European Footballer of the Year.

Shevchenko, however, warned that AC Milan had their own weapons at set pieces.

"I do not forget Andrea (Pirlo). He is a great free kick specialist." Juninho has scored 26 direct free kicks in 193 games since joining Lyon for 2001/02 season.

# Catalan legend plots Barca downfall



AFP, Lisbon

Benfica coach Ronald Koeman is plotting the downfall of Barcelona in the Champions League Tuesday - 14 years after inspiring the Catalan giants to their greatest victory in European football.

Koeman assured himself of a place in Barca folklore by rifling in the extra-time freekick that earned the club a 1-0 victory over Sampdoria in the 1992 European Cup final, their lone triumph in the competition.

That famous win at Wembley was the highlight of six successful seasons at the Nou Camp for Koeman, who also had a brief spell as assistant coach to Barca during the 1990s.

But Koeman's emotional ties to the Spanish champions will count for nothing in Tuesday's quarterfinal first leg at the Stadium of Light, as the Portuguese champions attempt to pull off another giant-killing act.

Benfica have already accounted for holders Liverpool and Manchester United in this season's competition but Koeman is adamant his side will be firm underdogs in Lisbon.

"I'd put our chances of going through at less than 50 percent," said Koeman, who will be pitting his wits against Barcelona coach Frank Rijkaard, his former Holland team-mate.



AFP, London

If Juventus wreck Arsenal's dream of Champions League glory this season, Arsene Wenger will have only himself to blame.

The Gunners manager has had, directly or indirectly, a hugely influential role in the careers of three Frenchmen who form the spine of the side the Italian champions will field in Tuesday's quarterfinal first leg at Highbury.

From the ethereal composure of Lilian Thuram at the back, through the unrivalled enforcement qualities of Patrick Vieira in midfield to the predatory instincts of David Trezeguet in attack, Wenger can claim credit for helping to create the defining ingredients of the current Juve mix.

Thuram may be a 34-year-old with World Cup and European Championship winner's medals sitting at home, but the great French defender has never got out of the habit of referring to the man who gave him his professional debut 15 years ago as "Monsieur Wenger."

Thuram played 98 games for Wenger at Monaco before he became one of France's most successful exports to Serie A. He has never forgotten how much he owes to his first manager and the admiration is mutual.

"Lilian is the rock at the heart of the Juve defence," Wenger confided to AFP in the build-up to Tuesday's match.

"Mentally, he is very, very strong - even when he was very young he always astonished me with his capacity for concentration."

"And he never gives up. He is a player with the right mentality to play

"They're an attractive side who like to force the pace and go all out in attack. They have a great forward line and don't really have a weak spot."

"But when you play a team like Barca you're totally up for it. We know that people consider Barcelona the superior side but I think we can surprise them."

Benfica's chances have been boosted by the fact that Barcelona's defence has been decimated by injuries and suspension.

Barca captain Carles Puyol misses the first leg after picking up a yellow card against Chelsea in the previous round, while Brazilian defender Edmilson and Mexican international Rafa Marquez are both absent through injury.

Yet while Argentinian prodigy Leo Messi will also be missing from the Barcelona attack, the Catalans still have a fearsome array of talent to call on, with World Player of the Year Ronaldinho the focal point.

Barcelona's Portuguese midfielder playmaker Deco has sounded a note of caution for those forecasting an easy win for the Spaniards, the tournament favourites.

"We have to respect Benfica because they are a great team," Deco said.

"I think we know that it is going to be difficult to dominate them in the Stadium of Light, it's an inferno. I'm expecting it to be a very intimidating atmosphere but we are very motivated and we'll be playing to our

limit."

Koeman meanwhile has some selection worries of his own, missing Portuguese international Nuno Gomes through suspension.

Koeman knows they cannot afford any slip-ups at home if they are to emerge from the second leg at the Camp Nou on April 5 with a ticket to the last four.

While Barcelona suffered a slight blip in their race to the Spanish league title, drawing 0-0 away at Malaga on Saturday, Koeman reignited Benfica's bid for domestic honours with a 1-0 win against 10-man Sporting Braga.

Sunday's training session was closed to the press, but Koeman admitted the team's spirits are riding high.

"It was very important for us to win ahead of the Barcelona tie. We know they're a great team but we also know that we can surprise them. Anything is possible," he said.

Rijkaard's Barcelona had to make do with a goalless draw against Malaga, but they remain comfortably on course for the Spanish title, leading La Liga by 11 points. The Dutchman rested Brazilian midfielder Ronaldinho for the match, which saw Malaga keeper Francesc Arnau, and some poor Barca finishing, ensure the match remained scoreless.

Rijkaard will only be hoping that Ronaldinho and strike partner Eto'o, who hit the cross bar in the dying minutes on Saturday, do not suffer the same fate in Lisbon.

# Wenger wary of pupils



AFP, London

in England. Several times I tried to bring him here to Highbury, but he was always too expensive for us."

Vieira's debt to Wenger is even greater. It was the Arsenal manager who rescued a player now recognised as Europe's finest defensive midfielder from the purgatory of the AC Milan reserves and turned him into a Highbury legend.

Vieira may have opted to quit Arsenal last summer in search of the motivation generated by a fresh challenge, but he is still expected to be warmly received by the Gunners faithful in recognition of his role as one of the cornerstones of the revolution orchestrated by Wenger in north London.

"Only eight months ago, he was still the captain of my team," Wenger reflected.

"He was a massive player for Arsenal for nine years. He arrived very young and grew with the club. His physical potential is amazing but Patrick is also a leader of men."

Wenger has not had any direct involvement in the career of Trezeguet, who arrived at Monaco two years after he had left.

But it was the youth development structure created by Wenger which allowed the 28-year-old to evolve into one of Europe's most feared strikers.

"He loves to be in the box," Wenger said. "That's his job, it's what he loves and what he's always loved. He is a great finisher, good with both feet and with his head. He's the player every coach wants to have."

Juve's traditional caution means this encounter is unlikely to produce the exhibition of sustained attacking football that made Arsenal's win over Real Madrid in the last round such a delight.

"It is different this time because we have the first game at home,"

Wenger said. "Psychologically it is harder because you have to attack but you know conceding a goal is a big problem."

"But the Real Madrid result has given us more self-belief."

Arsenal should be fresh going into the match following the last-minute postponement of Saturday's Premiership match at Portsmouth.

Wenger could however have done with the opportunity to assess the sharpness of Sol Campbell. The England center-half was expected to be available to play after shrugging off a recurring problem but has suffered a minor setback as a bruised toe courtesy a bad tackle in training has ruled him out of the midweek clash.

"It's nothing major," Wenger said, "but Sol will not be available for Tuesday."

Juventus will be without all-time leading scorer Alessandro Del Piero, who strained a hamstring strain in Saturday's 1-1 home draw with Roma, and Czech playmaker Pavel Nedved, who is suspended.

## Sehwaq boost

FROM PAGE 12  
have to perform to our ability and do the basics right."

England began the first Test without regular captain Michael Vaughan, Marcus Trescothick, Simon Jones and Ashley Giles.

They suffered more setbacks losing opener Alastair Cook and fast bowler Steve Harmison for Mumbai, but overcame the odds to stun India with England's first Test win here in 21 years.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
1 Wound cover  
5 Favorite  
8 Robin Cook novel  
12 Sites  
13 Raw rock  
14 "Planet of the —"  
15 A Baldwin  
16 Parade venue  
18 Hoodlum, e.g.  
20 Appear  
21 Brazilian river  
23 Nourished  
24 NBC soap opera  
28 Fly with the eagles  
31 Illustrations  
32 African capital  
34 Hooper  
35 "Yup!"  
37 Meadows  
39 — long way

**DOWN**  
1 Thick chunk  
2 Pop flavor  
3 Scored 100 on  
4 Arm muscles  
5 "NSYNC, for neration  
one  
6 Historic time  
7 Criterion works  
8 Frame-works  
9 Freedom of access  
10 Diner's card  
11 Pronto, in an e-mail  
17 Wiedersehen preceder  
19 Pace  
22 Nicole Smith and Devereare Smith  
24 Remu- card  
25 Exist  
26 Play area  
27 Sororal  
29 Shock and —  
30 Literary mono-gram  
33 Impale  
36 Cinder-ella's mice  
38 Suave  
40 Fuss  
42 October stone  
43 Crooner Jerry  
44 Squashed circle  
46 Rainbow  
47 Zeroes  
48 Merri-ment  
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**Solution time: 24 mins.**

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