

Letters will only be considered if they carry the writer's full name, address and telephone number (if any). The identity of the writers will be protected. Letters must be limited to 300 words. All letters will be subject to editing.

David Beckham



A couple of letters on the former English captain David Beckham published in DS caught my attention recently. I completely disagree with the notion that Beckham is not one of best soccer players of the world as right from the very outset of his outstanding career he has performed consistently and displayed multidimensional skills in every department of the game. He has not only scored a considerable number of goals for the English team, his former team Manchester United and his current team Real Madrid but he has also contributed significantly to the scorings of

a lot of crucial goals through his meticulous crosses and passing. From this perspective, we can figuratively compare Beckham to an adroit midfield-machine, which constantly produce opportunities for scoring goals, which is undoubtedly very important as far as winning a game of soccer is concerned. David Beckham's talent lies in his impeccable free-kicks that avidly terrorise his opponents, his dexterity is explicitly demonstrated by his beguiling long passes, which are inescapable nightmares to the rival defenders, and above all his repute is represented by his imperious presence on the field which relentlessly encourage his team mates and admirers. Under his outstanding leadership Manchester United won the championship title a few years ago and he can be regarded as one of the most admired English captains ever. Another noteworthy point is that he is one of the most expensive players of the world (even more expensive than Ronaldo). If he really hadn't been one of the best players then I think he wouldn't have been paid so highly and a prominent team like Real Madrid wouldn't have hired him to play alongside Ronaldo, Zidane and the likes. Like any eminent sportsman David Beckham's career is distinguished by many ups and downs. We can never forget his sent off in the historic match between England and Argentina in 1998 World Cup, it's difficult to forget the glowing contentment on his face when his solitary penalty score against Argentina in 2002 avenged that defeat. At the same time, we recollect his failure in the tiebreaker against Portugal in the last Euro championship. Actually, after

every English defeat the British press has made him look like a scapegoat. I think success and failure are two very natural aspects of any sportsman's career. Nevertheless, a remarkably brilliant sportsman like Beckham will remain memorable eternally in our hearts. And to talk about the glamour attached to Beckham, I must say that he has achieved it chiefly through his impeccable performance as a sportsman. Sporting events are all about adulating the distinguishable performers and his fame makes him even more adorable to the soccer lovers around the world. He had been popular long before he married Victoria and it would be wrong to claim that he owes his glamour to Posh Spice or anyone else in the world. Beckham has achieved it all by his multifaceted football skills, his unique athletic attitudes, and his irresistible looks that make him 'hero-like' in the true sense of the word. I think every one should understand the fact that nowadays 'sport' is chiefly interlinked with glamour, which incorporates additional flavours into it. David Beckham's glamour and his irreplaceable accomplishment as a soccer player are two unavoidably interrelated aspects of his career, which we should try to view as an organic whole that makes him what he is today.
Kh. Asef Safa Kabir
Lalmatia, Dhaka

BTRC

I think the BTRC should consider the following suggestions:

1. BTRC should establish a self-dependant regulatory commission for cell-phone operators to monitor their activities as well as public interests, as it is a (cell phone) rising sector in Bangladesh. This commission should provide a complaint-box-department so that users can send their complaints to the commission.

2. BTRC should fix the call-charge as well as pick-off-pick time that will be suitable for all users. The highest limit of call-charge should not be more than Tk 3 (including vat) & the sms-charge Tk 0.50-0.75 (including vat). The pick hour time should be from 8:00am to 8:00pm & the off-pick hour from 8:00pm to 8:00am, so that people do not need to wait until midnight to get a cheap rate.

3. All incoming calls should be free & all Sims should provide ISD-line facilities with no added charge to call BTTB or abroad.

4. There should be proper interlinks between all operators so that people will not find the network busy frequently.

5. The line-rent for post-paid users should not be more than Tk 150, including vat.

6. BTRC should also control the advertisements of the operators in the media, which are making some people interested in cell-phone use rather uninterestingly.

Md. Najmul
Taitola, Dhaka

Muslim ummah

What does the Muslim ummah need to do for surviving? This is the burning question today. We have to be organised. We need to care for one of the Muslim country's problem as a problem of the ummah at large. This is essential for more interaction and cooperation among the Muslim countries.

Beduin, Dhaka

Piteous cry

Some days ago I was reading a local newspaper, where a news item caught my attention. It was about a piteous cry of Mitu, a student of class-ix of the Newsprint School. She delivered an impassioned and a heart-touching speech in front of the gate of the Newsprint Mills. In her speech she pointed out the wrong decision taken by the govt which made a lot of people jobless who were dependent on this mills directly or indirectly. But, now they are going without food.

Last week, I went to my niece's school to bring her back. There I witnessed the relevance of that report. A man with frayed clothes, seemed to me weak and feeble, was begging but did not look like a professional beggar. I came to know from him that once he was an

employee of the Newsprint Mills but now he has a huge debt burden.

It is a matter of sorrow that once the Newsprint Mills was a highly viable economic unit, but now it is on the verge of ruination due to lack of good management. Why this starvation, this distressed life and this cry of humanity? Would you (authorities) please think over it?

A citizen
On e-mail

Upgrading of Qawami degree

Prime minister Begum Khaleda Zia has declared that the Qawami degree would be treated as equivalent to the master's degree. She has also said that steps would soon be taken for implementing the government decision.

I think the decision is unwise, given the poor standard of madrasah education in the country.

Kohinur Akter
Dhaka University

Things going wrong

... With Mr. Nizami's becoming the member of the parliament and subsequently a cabinet member and also with his flying the national flag on his car, the holy blood of the brave sons of the nation shed during the 1971 Liberation War was desecrated. It is obviously the saddest event in our life for which we will have to remain accountable to the future generation.

Regrettably, If HM Ershad is taken into the folds of either the opposition or the ruling alliance and becomes the president of this country once again next year, it will be an unpardonable betrayal to the blood of Nur Hossain and others who laid down their lives in the anti-autocracy movement.

Muhammed Rukan Uddin Khan
Dargha Gate, Sylhet

Laudable tactic

Bangladesh have won their first ODI series abroad in Kenya. Though the key batsmen failed to perform well but it was total teamwork which worked finally and a brand new idea from the think tank of the team achieved much applause. Bangladesh's strike bowler Mashrafees was used as the first change bowler. The tactic was to make him face the best as well as the most accomplished batsman of the Kenyan side--Steve Tikolo. And the plan worked.

We hope that the cricketers will improve day by day and make us proud as they did in the past.

Shoaib M. Siddiqui
Elephant Road, Dhaka



Ramifications of disarming Hezbollah

What would happen if the Hezbollah failed to repulse the ground attack of the expansionists? The ceasefire is the result of Hezbollah's solid defence not the mercy of the invaders. The failure of the Hezbollah will let Israel further destroy Lebanon.

The victory of the Hezbollah brings confidence to Lebanese, Syrians and Iranians.

If you are attacked but cannot defend yourself, the consequence is your doom. As long as you can defend and counter attack in retaliation, you can survive. Survival of the fittest!

Hezbollah should not be disarmed. Their military power and strategy are part of Lebanese security and there is a lot to learn from this war, especially about Israel's weaknesses.

If they could defend against Israeli air raids like they did on the ground, Israel would not dare attack them. The Hezbollah should now try to achieve air defence power. This will weaken the expansionists and strengthen the Arab countries.

Fakhru Abedin
Mohakhali, Dhaka

Before the recent Israeli attack on Lebanon, I used to believe that Hezbollah people were terrorists but now after studying the situation I have found that they are protectors of Lebanese people.

The Lebanese army is unable to protect the Lebanese, but Hezbollah is able to do so. That is the reason why the western world wants to brand them as terrorists. If Hezbollah is disarmed Lebanon can be occupied easily like Palestine and Iraq. The United States terrorise the Arab nations through Israel and recently it sold arms worth billions of dollars to the Zionist state.

May I ask President Bush how many children he needs to kill to keep the viability of his arms market?

Dr. Mahboob Hossain
Associate Professor
Department of Pharmacy
The University of Asia Pacific, Dhaka

Government

Procurement

Rush for government procurement front-page lead news in almost all newspapers. One wonders whether the projects under consideration are donor

funded or financed internally. This will determine application of checks and balances to be applied to counter any apprehension of irregular dealings.

However, the news item smells rats in the whole thing.
A Reader, On e-mail

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