

CHAMPIONS TROPHY
Australia see
England off

AGENCIES, Jaipur
England were left facing an early exit from the Champions Trophy after a six-wicket hammering by Australia.
Their batting failed again in Jaipur on Saturday, managing just 169, with only Ian Bell (43) and Andrew Strauss (56) resisting.
Damien Martyn (78) then timed the ball superbly to punish some woeful bowling, particularly from Steve Harmison.
Sajid Majmood and James Anderson did reduce Australia to 34-3 but Mike Hussey, who hit a patient 32, saw them home reaching 170 with nearly 13 overs to spare.
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Family of abducted
Ctg businessman
accuse police, Rab
of negligence

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
The family of an abducted businessman accused the police and the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) of negligence in rescuing him while the law enforcers expressed suspicion that he might not have been kidnapped.
Abul Kalam Azad, a dealer of the Sena Kalyan Sangstha and proprietor of Al Amin Store of Chaktai has been missing since October 11 when he left for Fouzi Flour Mill, a Sangstha factory, at around 3:30pm at Jalalabad near Oxygen intersection. His abductors phoned and demanded Tk 1 crore in ransom, his family members had said.
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Bid on to capture DU
halls ahead of
power handover

KAMRUL HASAN KHAN

Tension has been mounting among the student wings of political organisations in Dhaka University (DU) over taking control of the campus as well as residential dormitories as the BNP-Jamaat led coalition government is scheduled to hand over power to a caretaker government next week.

The DU authorities recently have taken special preventive measures on the campus and had talks with the law enforcement agencies in anticipation of violence in the university prior to the national election.

DU Assistant Proctor Mohammad Siddiqur Rahman Khan said the university authorities are keeping a close eye on the student politics and the national politics, especially, the reform talks. The authorities are determined and making preparations to maintain stability and security on campus at any cost.

The authorities have so far

placed additional police at the dorm entrances and the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) will also be deployed in a day or two as part of the preventive measures, Rahman added.

They are also thinking of deploying armed Asnars inside the residential area of the university after the recent murder of Prof Aftab Ahmed on the campus, he said.

However, a number of concerned teachers and students termed the steps insufficient and they reasoned that haphazard and random steps would not ensure security. They emphasised a full-fledged security system under the supervision of the university authorities.

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), the student wing of BNP, and Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of main opposition Awami League (AL), are practically on a head-on collision course and they are believed to face-off the very moment the caretaker government

takes over.

Both organisations are sneaking in and piling up weapons in dorms to have an upper hand in the fight for control of the dorms, a number of leaders from both organisations admitted.

The JCD high-ups directed its leaders at the residential dormitories not to leave the "stations" during the Eid vacation as "BCL may attempt to take over the dormitories" and to make sure the control of the dorms remains under JCD as it had been ever since the alliance government came to power in 2001, sources in JCD said.

On the other hand, BCL sources said it is preparing for taking control of at least two dormitories that are known to be BCL strongholds -- Jagannath Hall and Sergeant Zohurul Haq Hall.

JSD Chhatra League is also believed to be preparing to take

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Raped garment
worker chopped
to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Garment worker Beauty, 17, was chopped into six pieces on Thursday as she warned her violators with legal measures.

Police arrested one Nazrul Islam, 45, in city's Khilgaon area in connection with the killing and rape.

Mustafa, a resident of Pakuria village in Alhadanga, Faridpur, brought Beauty and Khaleda of the same village to the capital three months ago and employed them in Annesha Garments at Ashulia.

On October 18, Mustafa brought the girls to the capital for Eid shopping and kept them busy in trifling matters until 11:00pm. He then took them to the residence of Nazrul in a five-storey building at Ahmednagar in Paikpara, and the two raped them.

After the incident, Beauty threatened Mustafa and Nazrul with legal measures, following which the culprits tied her hands and legs and chopped her into pieces. Mustafa and Nazrul dumped the pieces at two places in two days.

Khaleda was let to go unhurt as she promised to keep mum about the incident.

She, however, informed the police yesterday of the horrible incidents.

The law enforcers recovered the parts of Beauty's body from Mirpur section-2 and Dakkhin Bishil near Gabtoli in two days.



PHOTO: STAR

Only a bamboo sticks out of this open manhole to warn passing vehicles of possible danger at Bakshi Bazar in the capital.

I won't change
Iraq strategy,
says Bush

AP, Washington

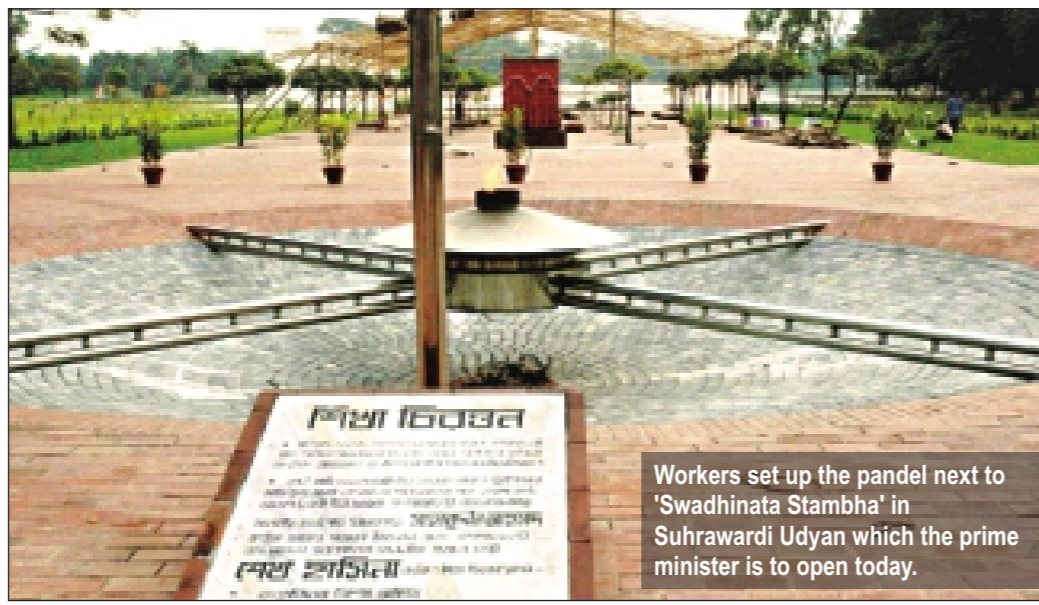
President Bush conceded Friday that "right now it's tough" for American forces in Iraq, but the White House said he would not change US strategy in the face of pre-election polls that show voters are upset.

With Republicans anxious about the potential loss of Congress and with conditions seemingly deteriorating in Iraq, Bush addressed the question of whether he would alter his policies.

"We are constantly adjusting our tactics so that we achieve the objective, and right now it's tough, it's tough," Bush said in an Associated Press interview.

Bush met with Gen John Abizaid, the top US commander in the Middle East, at the White House for a half-hour Friday afternoon. The White House said Abizaid already was in town and Bush asked him over. The president also will consult by video conference on Saturday with Abizaid at US Central Command in Tampa, Florida, and with Gen. George Casey, who leads the US-led Multinational Forces in Iraq, to determine if a change in tactics is necessary to combat the increasing violence.

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Workers set up the panel next to 'Swadhinata Stambha' in Suhrawardi Udyan which the prime minister is to open today.

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Sehri, Iftar timing

Ramadan	Oct	Sehri	Iftar
28	22		5-30
29	23	4-40	5-29
30	24	4-40	5-28

Prayer Timing
October 22

	Azan	
Fajr	4-39	4-49
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-30	4-45
Maghrib	5-30	5-50
Esha	7-30	8-00

Source: Islamic Foundation

Cell operators bemoan
over-regulation

SHARIER KHAN, back from Singapore

With the exception in Bangladesh, no countries in the world shut down mobile phone services, says the GSM Association, the trade body of the world's 12 leading cellphone operators.

The GSMA believes there is over-regulation in Bangladesh which originates from the policy

level. Over-regulation of mobile operation discourages reduction of tele-density, said GSMA officials at a discussion on telecom regulatory issues in Singapore last week.

Measures like imposing special tax on SIM cards only aim at making it difficult for the poor to buy a mobile phone, says GSMA Senior Vice President Ricardo Tavares. On

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4 die after taking
poisonous fish

UNB, B'baria

Four people died in Bancharampur upazila of the district on Friday after eating poisonous blowfish, locally known as 'potka' fish.

The dead were identified as Ibrahim Mia, 28, and his daughter Mariam Begum, 2, of Manikpur village, and Abdul Baten, 45, and Parul Begum, 19, of Kalyanpur village.

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