Star
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SPORT

FANS MOURN MARADONA'S 'THE BEST'

Hundreds of supporters paid their respects in Rosario on Saturday to former Argentine footballer Tomas 'Trinche' Carlovich, a player Diego Maradona called the best in the world. Carlovich died on Friday at the age of 74 after he was struck on the head during a violent robbery. Carlovich, a player who shunned fame and preferred to play for smaller clubs, had spoken of turning down an approach from Pele to join the New York Cosmos in the 1970s. Last February, Carlovich met Maradona, who was in Rosario for a game in his role as Gimnasia coach. "Trinche, you were better than me," Maradona wrote as he presented Carlovich with a signed shirt. -- AFP

As the coronavirus outbreak grips the people across the world and major sporting events so far hit by the pandemic, it's hard to believe that May was supposed to be the month of lifting trophies as like Real Esteli's players celebrate their win over Managua FC in the final of the Nicaragua Primera Liga in Managua, Nicaragua on Saturday. PHOTO: AFP

'Munna's jersey could have fetched more'

SPORTS REPORTER

While the bat that all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan used in the ICC World Cup was a few days ago auctioned off at an eye-watering Tk 20 lakh as part of the battle against coronavirus pandemic, the jersey of illustrious former footballer Monem Munna failed to draw many takers and was auctioned off at only Tk 3 lakh on Saturday night.

Action 4 Auction, a charitable organisation, had fixed the base price of the number 2 jersey that arguably the country's best ever defender Munna wore while representing Bangladesh and Abahani at Tk 2 lakh, along with former FIFA referee Tayeb Hasan's jersey, but the amount Munna's jersey fetched left many football-lovers in a bit of shock and disbelief.

"I must commend putting up such a memorable jersey for auction for a noble cause at such a tough time, but I believe Munna's jersey has not been evaluated properly because of the downward trend of the country's football," said former national striker Sheikh Mohammad Aslam, who had also been part of the programme of the auction. "I'm really very much disappointed with the amount fetched for Munna's jersey.

"However, it proved that football is not yet dead because the football lovers of the 70s and 80s showed their immense interest by buying jerseys. This jersey could have fetched between Tk 20 lakh and Tk 25 lakh if it was in the football-crazy period in which we played," said Aslam, who played along with Munna for Abahani from 1986 to 1995.

Munna's wife Shurovi Monem was however happy with the amount the two jerseys fetched during the auction, the purpose of which was to help the needy people from the proceeds, although she would never have allowed her husband's jerseys to be auctioned in usual circumstances.

"I'm happy with the amount raised through the two jerseys because people spent money to buy it at a time when economic conditions are not good. I didn't expect more or less than this amount because I desired a respectable price for jerseys that would keep Munna's respect intact," Shurovi told The Daily Star.

"I know the price of this jersey would have been different in normal times but the big thing to me is that a lot of people called me to express their interest, but they didn't have the ability. That meant Munna's popularity has not decreased after his death," said Shurovi. "I would not put it on auction in usual times but I came forward because of the humanitarian cause; I am happy that I can now help some people who are suffering due to the coronavirus outbreak."

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HSBC deputy CEO Mahbub Ur Rahman bought another jersey of Munna outside the auction for Tk 2.1 lakh as the Abahani fan had a short but vivid memory of Munna. He said that he would preserve Munna's jersey with honour and love.

After buying Tayeb's jersey at Tk 5.55 lakh, Satkhaira Chamber of Commerce president Nasim Faruk Khan said, "My effort is not only involved with jersey. This effort will also help the affected people of Satkhira, so I bought it to honour Tayeb bhai, who brought a lot of laurels for Satkhira."

Fencing showing potential amid constraints

ANISUR RAHMAN

Although fencing is a centuries-old sport and has been featured in Olympics since the beginning of the modern games, it is relatively new in Bangladesh.

The sport, which is only 13 years old in the country, drew wide attention after Fatema Mujib grabbed a gold medal in sabre event of the South Asian Games in December last year.

Despite the lack of facilities, regular domestic competitions, quality coaches and sponsors, fencing is considered as a discipline which can earn laurels from beyond the South Asian region due to the nature of the sport which relies more on players' technique and intelligence rather physical prowess.

Fatema, a 21-year-old Navy athlete, believes achieving something beyond the SA Games is a daydream until the existing facilities are improved and junior fencers are given room to be groomed.

"We badly need support from all quarters -- officials and coaches -- to become good fencers. Facilities such as long-term training under quality foreign coaches, a good number of domestic and international competitions and backing of sponsors have to be ensured," Fatema told The Daily Star.

"Without preparation, it will be a daydream to win any medal from international meets," Fatema said. "We need to develop junior fencers, who hardly get opportunities to play competitive matches. They must be given room to compete in domestic and international competitions regularly."

Fatema took to fencing in 2012, thanks to her brother Saddam Mujib, also a fencer, who trained her for one year. In 2013, Fatema, who had initially wanted to be a cricketer, went into competitive circle and kept winning gold medals. She won four gold medals in four successive national championships in 2014, 2016, 2017 and 2018.

"As a fencer, I always keep my sights far ahead and I am always ready to compete. We are happy to play as much as we can. It will be really good for the fencers if we can take part in domestic and international tournaments regularly because the national championship is irregular," said Fatema.

Due to a lack of financial support, the Bangladesh Fencing Federation cannot hold national

championships regularly and cannot pay much attention to new players for comparatively expensive outfit required to play the sport. The fencers need at least Tk 30,000 to buy a jacket, trousers, mask, sword and shoes for the sport.

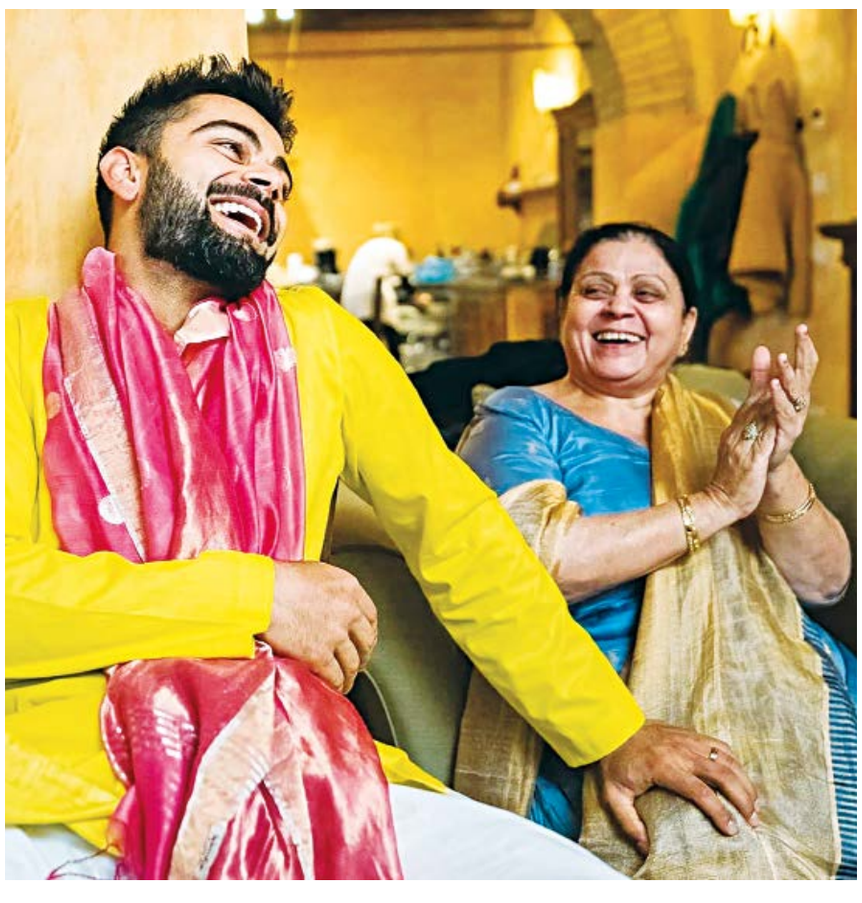
In this respect, Bangladesh Navy and other services team are playing a great role by providing the expensive gears to their players. Fatema is thankful to four-time national champions Bangladesh Navy who have provided all-out support to her since 2016.

Ahead of the SA Games, the lady from Habiganj struggled in the high altitude and cold weather of Kathmandu. But she overcame all those hurdles by running in open space and drinking hot water on the matchdays to win the gold medal ahead of opponents from Sri Lanka, India and Nepal.

She beat an Indian Olympian in semifinals before beating left-handed Rabina Thapa of Nepal in the final, thanks to her experience of practising against her male teammates who were tall and left-handed.

Fatema informed that she had learned a lot of things under the supervision of the Cambodian and Iranian coaches during the SA Games training camp, but she needs more improvement to do well beyond South Asia.

"I believe the technique and intelligence I have is good enough to compete in South Asian region but we need better equipment, individual sponsors and a good foreign coach to improve our physical and technical aspects if we really want to achieve something at higher level of competitions," said Fatema.



Mother's Day celebrations this year were not the same as before for most people due to the global crisis caused by the coronavirus. Virat Kohli was among sports stars who took to social media to celebrate this special day. With no cricket going on currently due to the pandemic, former and current players are keeping themselves busy by engaging with fans on social media. The Indian skipper wished his mother on social media on Sunday and posted a couple of throwback pictures with his mother. PHOTO: COLLECTED

Dresden setback no hindrance

AFP, *Berlin*

BUNDESLIGA

The Bundesliga restart is not at risk even after the entire squad of second-tier Dynamo Dresden was placed in quarantine, the head of the German Football League (DFL) said.

Dynamo were ordered to self-isolate for 14 days on Saturday after testing uncovered two new coronavirus cases.

The blow came just days after Chancellor Angela Merkel's government gave the green light for the Bundesliga season to resume on May 16 following a two-month absence. But DFL boss Christian Seifert downplayed the Dynamo setback.

"It's not a reason to call the entire season into question," he said Saturday. "It was always clear to me that this could happen. We're at the very beginning of the restart."

The Bundesliga will be the first top European league to restart matches since the outbreak of the coronavirus forced lockdown measures to be imposed across the continent.

Matches will be played behind closed doors and with a maximum number of 300 people, including both teams, allowed at each game. In the run-up to the restart, all teams must go into a one-week quarantine training camp.

There are still worries that an outbreak of the coronavirus in the league could halt the season, this time for good. Seifert said that although he saw no problem right now, further cases could throw a spanner in the works.

"It can reach a scale where it's not feasible anymore," he said. "It would depend on how much time there is left to finish the season."

The quarantine means that Dynamo, who are bottom of the second division, will not be able to play their fixture against Hanover next weekend.

The German league said on Thursday that it had recorded 10 positive cases from 1,724 tests of players and staff at the top 36 clubs in the first wave of testing, and two more in the second.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
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e-GP দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, অত্র সড়ক বিভাগাধীন দরপত্র নং- e-GP/73/EE/CRD/RHD/2019-20 (ID-458395), e-GP/74/EE/CRD/RHD/2019-20 (ID-458396), e-GP/75/EE/CRD/RHD/2019-20 (ID-458397), e-GP/76/EE/CRD/RHD/19-20 (ID-458398) ও e-GP/77/EE/CRD/RHD/2019-20 (ID-458399) গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের e-GP Portal এর মাধ্যমে আহ্বান করা হয়েছে; যা নিম্নোল্লিখিত পেটিলে পাওয়া যাচ্ছে। e-GP Portal এ নিবন্ধিত যে কোন আগ্রহী ব্যক্তি/ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠান বিস্তারিত জানার জন্য উক্ত ওয়েবসাইট www.eprocure.gov.bd ভিজিট করতে পারবেন।

Tender/Proposal ID	Name of work
ID-458395 e-GP/73/EE/CRD/RHD/2019-20	Supplying the best quality spare parts repairing & fitting-fixing the J.M. Road Roller No. 518 Maintain by 1st Line Workshop Sub-Division under Chattogram Road Division during the year 2019-2020.
ID-458396 e-GP/74/EE/CRD/RHD/2019-20	Supplying the best quality spare parts repairing & fitting-fixing the Roller No. 42 Maintain by 1st Line Workshop Sub-Division under Chattogram Road Division during the year 2019-2020.
ID-458397 e-GP/75/EE/CRD/RHD/2019-20	Supplying the best quality spare parts repairing & fitting-fixing the Roller No. 519 Maintain by 1st Line Workshop Sub-Division under Chattogram Road Division during the year 2019-2020.
ID-458398 e-GP/76/EE/CRD/RHD/2019-20	Supplying the best quality spare parts repairing & fitting-fixing the Roller No. 38 Maintain by 1st Line Workshop Sub-Division under Chattogram Road Division during the year 2019-2020.
ID-458399 e-GP/77/EE/CRD/RHD/2019-20	Supplying the best quality necessary spare parts repairing & fitting-fixing the Water Tanker No. Chattogram-Metro Dha-1094 Maintain by 1st Line Workshop Sub-Division under Chattogram Road Division during the year 2019-2020.

মোঃ মহিবুল ইসলাম
পরিচিতি নং-৭০০২৪৪
উপ-সহকারী প্রকৌশলী, সওজ
চট্টগ্রাম সড়ক বিভাগ, চট্টগ্রাম

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