

30 called up for SAF camp

Sports Reporter



Thirty footballers have been called up by the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) to attend camp in preparation for the national squad which will take part in the fifth SAF Games in Colombo.

A press release of the BFF issued yesterday said these selected players will attend the preliminary camp, scheduled to begin at the Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protisthan (BKSP) premises in Savar from the 15th of next month. However, the actual date and time for the players to report

Mohammedans leave for Lahore today

Sports Reporter

A 20-member Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club team leaves today for Lahore to play their return-leg match against Pakistan Wapda in the Asian Cup football championship on November 1.

Mohammedans won their home leg match 5-0 against the Pakistani champions in Dhaka on October 26.

The team members are: Kanan (captain), Tuhin, Jewel Rana, Kaiser, Mantu, Barun, Shamim, Tito, Johnny, Abul, Shabbir, Naqib, Ayaz Khan, Mizan, Roxy, Chandan, Reaz, Tanvir Haider (Manager), Nasser Hegazi (coach) and Kalkobad (associate coach). Only a 0-6 goals margin deficit can prevent Mohammedans from going through to the next round of the meet.

for the camp has not been finalised and will be intimated in due course.

Not unexpectedly, the Big Three of Dhaka soccer — Mohammedan Sporting Club, Abahani Krira Chakra and Brothers Union (not necessarily in that order) provide 28 of the 30 initially selected players.

The remaining two are provided by national champions Bangladesh Army and Fakirpool Youngmen's Club, each team earning the honour of seeing one of their players getting a call from the national selectors.

Reigning NBL Senior Division league champions Abahani Krira Chakra provide the most with eleven of their teams being called up. Abahani's arch rivals have nine of their stars attracting the attention of the selectors — albeit for the preliminary camp — while Brothers Union, who earned their biggest prize only recently by dethroning Mohammedan Sporting Club as the Federation Cup champions earlier this month, have eight of their stars in the initial list.

The position-wise break-up of the players called up is as follows:

Goalkeepers: Mohsin (Abahani), Kanan (Mohammedans), Panir (Brothers) and Selim (Abahani).

Right full-backs: Pijush and Moon (both Brothers).

Left full-backs: Rubel (MSC), Masud Rana (AKC) and Imtiaz Sultan Johnny (MSC).

Stoppers: Kaiser Hamid (MSC), Jewel Rana (MSC), Monem Munna (AKC), Alaur

(BU), Rehan (AKC) and Rouf Babu (BU).

Midfielders: Waseem Iqbal (BU), Shabbir (MSC), Manik (BU), Mahbubur Rahman Roxy (MSC), Alamgir (AKC), Tito (MSC) and Uttam (BU).

Forwards: Sheikh Aslam (AKC), Naquib (MSC), Mamun Joardar (AKC), Rumi (AKC), Samrat (BU), Masth (Fakirpool), Golam Ghaus (AKC) and Mujibur Rahman (Army).

Debashish East Bengal's hero

NEW DELHI, Oct 29: Two intrepid saves turned goalkeeper Debashish Mukherjee into a hero as East Bengal completed a golden treble of title wins in the Durand Cup soccer tournament here today, reports PTI.

The Calcutta giants edged out tenacious rivals Border Security Force (BSF) 5-3 via the tie-break after the teams were locked 1-1 after a nerve-racking 120 minutes, including extra-time.

Nirmaljit Singh headed in an ingenious lob from fellow-striker Avtar Singh to put BSF ahead in the 58th minute.

East Bengal striker Tushar Rakshit brought about parity 10 minutes later, applying the finishing touches to a move initiated by ace schemer Krishanu Dey.

Dey, captain Bikash Panji and British recruits Steven Prindville and Peter Maguire netted the spot kicks for East Bengal in the tie-break, while only Jagmohan and Avtar could succeed for BSF.



An exciting scene from Dhaka Metropolis judo and karate league yesterday morning at the National Coaching Centre. — Star photo

Armanitola keep slate clean

Sports Reporter

Seventy-six of the scheduled 84 preliminary group fixtures of the AB Bank metro table tennis league which completed the 15th day of its run at the National Coaching Centre gym yesterday.

The eight teams which have reached the super league out of the 28 participating sides in four groups, became known following last Sunday's matches. They are: defending

Flamengo bows to FIFA

RIO DE JANEIRO, Oct 29: Rio De Janeiro soccer club Flamengo bowed to a FIFA deadline on Monday and suspended a lawsuit against the Brazilian Soccer Federation, CBF, reports Reuter.

But the club vowed to resume court action in two weeks if their demands were not met as they sought to overturn the re-election of CBF president Ricardo Teixeira.

FIFA, which prohibits clubs using the courts to settle disputes, had told Flamengo to withdraw the lawsuit by midnight on Monday or face sanctions.

Seles tops earners' list

ST PETERSBURG, Florida, Oct 29: Leading money winners this year on the women's tennis circuit, according to figures issued on Monday by the Women's Tennis Association:

1. Monica Seles (Yugoslavia) 1,552,758 dollars
2. Steffi Graf (Germany) 1,092,336
3. Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina) 922,471
4. Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (Spain) 687,840
5. Martina Navratilova (US) 641,736
6. Jana Novotna (Czechoslovakia) 616,869
7. Mary Joe Fernandez (US) 555,285
8. Natalia Zvereva (Soviet Union) 498,952
9. Jennifer Capriati (US) 464,911
10. Gigi Fernandez (US) 382,703
11. Larisa Savchenko (Soviet Union) 336,765
12. Zina Garrison (US) 321,509
13. Ilicena Sukova (Czechoslovakia) 315,024
14. Conchita Martinez (Spain) 261,865
15. Nathalie Tauziat (France) 251,304
16. Pam Shriver (US) 234,061
17. Katerina Maleeva (Bulgaria) 232,943
18. Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere (Switzerland) 227,153
19. Leila Meskhi (Soviet Union) 213,168
20. Anke Huber (Germany) 194,879

champions Armanitola Juba Sangha and Village Defence Party from Group A, Bangladesh Biman and Azampur Young Star from Group B, Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation and Armanitola Juniors from Group C and Bangladesh Ansars and War Club from Group D.

The four matches decided yesterday left the reigning champions Armanitola JS prevailing by 3-2 sets in the most engrossing contest of the meet today.

VDP took the lead through Mohammad who beat Maruf of Armanitola 21-13, 21-13 in the opening singles. The champions equalised soon afterwards when Badal beat Rashid of VDP 16-21, 21-12 and 24-22 in a nail-biting contest that went to deuce twice in the deciding set.

VDP again surged ahead when Rashid and Iqbal won the doubles against an off-colour Maruf and Pappoo 21-19, 21-17. Yet again, Armanitola turned to Badal to put on par by beating Mohammad 22-20, 21-18 in another close match.

But in a true champions' fashion Armanitola JS rallied superbly to clinch the issue by winning the final set with the help of Pappoo who defeated Iqbal of VDP 21-18, 21-18 in a thrilling finish.

The other Group A match of the day saw Bangladesh Bank beat Ajax Sporting Club 3-0 sets, the second win for the bankers from their six games against the fifth defeat for Ajax.

Renaissance Club posted their third win in six Group A matches by beating West Jatrabari, also in straight sets. League debutants West Jatrabari failed to win any of their six group games.

In the last match of the day, another league debutant Kalpa Taru registered their third victory in six Group B matches by defeating fellow-newcomers Pallima Sanghad by three sets to one.

Pallima have five losses and a win to show for their maiden league campaign.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Kashatilly vs Purbachal Parishad
Victoria Sporting Club vs Dhaka Medical College
Bangladesh Biman vs Young Star
Combined Sporting Club vs Swamibagh Boys

Metro judo ends

Sports Reporter

As many as eleven events were decided on the fifth and final day of the fourth Dhaka Metropolis judo and karate league, organised by the Bangladesh Judo and Karate Federation, yesterday at the National Coaching Centre.

A total of one hundred and eighty one Karatekas from 29 teams took part in the five-day long championships which began on October 25.

Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain gave away the prizes among the winners as chief guest.

Following are the final results of the five days' competitions in different weight categories.

— 45 kg: (1) Naushad Shamim (Dhaka Judo Club); (2) Mohammed Moniruzzaman (Kalyanpur JC); (3) Arifur Islam Khan (Rabitat KFC).

— 50 kg: (1) Sheikh Ali Kawser (Dhaka JC); (2) Sajidur Rahman (Bangladesh JC); (3) Md Nasir Hossain (Kalyan JC).

— 55 kg: (1) Kajal Dutta (Dhaka JC); (2) Mohammed Shah Alam (Malitola JC); (3) A Z M Salauddin.

— 60 kg: (1) S M Shahidullah (Dhaka JC); (2)

Masood Hossain (Brothers Union); (3) Ashique Hasan (Bangladesh JC).

Open weight: (1) Zakir Hossain (Royal Bengal Tiger); (2) S M Shahidullah (Dhaka JC); (3) Din Islam (Bangladesh JC).

— 5 kg: (1) Ghulam Wajed (Brothers Union); (2) Aminul Islam (Bangladesh Kungfu and Karate Club); (3) Khandakar Reza (Shaolin Wushu School).

— 50 kg: (1) Delawar Hossain (DOHS); (2) Samit Chowdhury; (3) Mohammed Monir (Bengal Tiger).

— 55 kg: (1) Bazhur Rahman (Jewel KC); (2) Yaqub Ali (Bangladesh TA); (3) Tareq Tangail (Satakon TA).

— 60 kg: (1) Shah Jamal (BJKC); (2) Taqdeer Hossain (Shaolin Wushu); (3) Shamim Siddique (BJKC).

— 65 kg: (1) Pervaz (DOHS); (2) Selim Ali (Shaolin Wushu); (3) Jahangir Alam (BJKC).

— 71 kg: (1) Kazi Mohammad Tarque (Satakon KA); (2) Sheikh Ahsanur (BJKC); (3) Ramzan Khan (Young Martial Art).

Open weight category: (1) M Pervaz (DOHS); (2) A Razaq Kabir (Bengal Tiger); (3) M Salauddin.

Runners upset over inclusion of transsexual

ERIE, Oct 28: Runners upset over a female competitor who had undergone a sex-change operation asked race officials for guidelines about transsexuals in distance races, a newspaper reported Monday, reports AP.

The 40-year-old woman finished the 6.2-mile (10-kilometer) Great Race of Pittsburgh Sept 29 in 38 minutes and 31 seconds, placing fifth among 40 to 44-year-old women. The Morning News of Erie reported.

The newspaper, which did not identify the woman by name, said another runner had filed a complaint with the race director and The Athletics Congress, which sanctioned the event. Runners who have competed against the woman in other events also complained to race directors.

In the latest complaint, runner Robin Pancerov, 36, called the runner "a male transsexual who is unfairly being allowed to compete as a female."

Both Pancerov and the unidentified competitor have been invited to testify before The Athletics Congress about the issue, said Bill Phelps, president of a local TAC affiliate, Three Rivers Athletics Congress.

The transsexual runner told The Morning News she underwent the sex change operation 15 years ago and that her success came solely after dedicated training.

She said there "are no male hormones there that give me an advantage," and that she "never started running to win trophies and awards."

The woman added, "I'm not doing it to put on a show."



Raktim Sangha went on a goal-scoring spree yesterday putting seven field goals past a hapless Muktiyoddha Sangsad in their Green Delta Div 11 league fixture at the Hockey Stadium. — Star photo

Raktim Sangha win big

Sports Reporter



Raktim Sangha blanked Muktiyoddha Krira Chakra 7-0 in the Group C match of the Green Delta Insurance Second Division hockey league yesterday at the Hockey Stadium.

The winners led 3-0 at the breather.

Khawja Faiz and Shafiqul Islam slammed two goals each while Biplab, Azhar and Tutul scored the three others for Raktim Sangha.

Khawja Faiz started the on-

slaught with a fine field goal in the seventh minute of the match. He doubled the margin in the 21st minute with an other brilliant field goal (2-0).

Shafiqul Islam slammed the third goal utilising a fine pass by Azhar in the 26th minute of the proceedings.

Six minutes later, Shafiqul Islam again found the target off a fine minus from the left flank by Tutul.

Biplab sounded the board for Raktim's fifth goal four minutes into the second half. Azhar in 44th and Tutul in

45th minute added the other two goals for the winners.

In the second match of the day, Farashganj Sporting Club registered a comfortable 2-0 win over Dilkusha Sporting Club.

Sarwar in 27th minute of the first half and Lipu five minutes into the second half were the goal scorers.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Mukta Bihanga vs Dhaka HC (2.30 pm).
Agrani Bank vs Shantinagar SC (3.45 pm).

Flamengo bows to FIFA

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But the club vowed to resume court action in two weeks if their demands were not met as they sought to overturn the re-election of CBF president Ricardo Teixeira.

FIFA, which prohibits clubs using the courts to settle disputes, had told Flamengo to withdraw the lawsuit by midnight on Monday or face sanctions.

repentant: "So, you saw a lot of passes back to the goalkeeper," he said. "I like winning and to win it's sometimes necessary to pass the ball to the goalkeeper."

Ajax goalkeeper Stanley Menzo had more to worry about as the Dutch championship hopefuls lost 2-1 away to FC Utrecht.

Angry coach Louis van Gaal blamed Menzo for several blunders, most notably in the 32nd minute when he was hopelessly out of position as Robert Roset headed home a corner.

Ajax are now eighth overall with 13 points from nine matches. Leaders Feyenoord Rotterdam stayed top with 20 points from 13 matches after drawing 0-0 with FC Groningen.

Feyenoord lost Hungarian international striker Jozsef Kiprich, who broke his arm and will be out for at least six weeks. He will also miss the European championship Group Three qualifier between Hungary and Norway on Wednesday.

Brest fans seize Goycochea's car

PARIS, Oct 29: Argentina's World Cup goalkeeper Sergio Goycochea has had his car confiscated by hard-up Brest's creditors, reports AFP.

The club, relegated to the French Second Division last season for their inability to pay debts of 150 million francs (25 million dollars), have filed for bankruptcy.

And a car-hire firm has taken possession of Goycochea's car. The club astonished French football when they bought the Argentinian in the summer, using a loophole in league regulations to get round their ban on signing new players.

The club is losing 100,000 francs (17,000 dollars) a day and players have not been paid for six weeks.

FIFA, football's governing body, has also asked the French Federation to suspend the club unless they pay Partizan Belgrade a 250,000 dollar transfer fee for Goran Milojevic whom they signed last year.

First Division Caen, whose president Jean-Jacques Fiolet was fond of extolling the virtues of prudent stewardship, needs 32 million francs (6 million dollars) to keep going. The club, which recorded its first away win in two and a half years at Lille last Saturday, say they will not sell any players to stay afloat.

Connors' triumphant comeback



PARIS, Oct 29: Legendary Jimmy Connors, as popular as ever with the Paris fans, made a triumphant return to the French capital on Monday, reports AFP.

The 39-year-old American, who won the hearts of the Roland Garros crowds in May with his extraordinary fighting third-round exit against Michael Chang, took up where he left off, by treating spectators in the Bercy Stadium to a stirring fight-back against French-based Haitian Ronald Agener in the first round of the lucrative Paris Open.

Connors, who lost the first set and who was just one point away from dropping his serve to trial 3-4 in the second, produced a typical defiant recovery to complete a 5-7, 6-4, 6-2 victory in the two-and-a-quarter hour match.

He will now play third seed and French Open champion Jim Courier — the man who ended his United States Open dreams last month — for a place in the last sixteen of the two million dollar event.

Anu Connors is convinced he has a chance to avenge the semifinal defeat in New York. "They put the net up to find out who's the better player on the day. What makes tennis so great is that every time is a new chance."

"He played really well and beat me last time. But may be this time I can do a little better."

Connors paid a warm tribute to the noisy crowd. "I always get fantastic support here, he admitted, adding: "They're just like a

New York crowd. They make a lot of noise. They move during the points. They get involved. But they're my kind of crowd."

Connors, given an enthusiastic welcome as he came out on court crowned with the crowd during the knock-out and showed that he is still following fashion.

The 5 ft 10 in left-hander, who reigned as world number one for a record 159 consecutive weeks between 1974 and 1977 and who has won 109 Grand Prix singles titles, wore white Agassi-style cycle trunks under his shorts and played with a bright yellow fluorescent racket.

And he quickly showed that he can still mix it with the world's top players by hammering down aces in both of his opening service games and wrong-footing Agener with some blistering cross court drives.

Agener, ranked 71 and having lost two of his previous three meetings with Connors, refused to be hustled out of the early match, however. He stuck to his guns, threading some marvellous returns down the flanks to break Connors for a 4-2 lead. And although the 47th ranked American managed to climb back to 4-4 he again dropped his serve in the eleventh game.

Connors, a wild-card entry, looked as though he was heading for a first-round defeat when he trailed 30-40 while serving at 3-3 in the second set. But he worked his way out of trouble with some spectacular passing shots and a marvellous ace.

An angry Agener protested long and loud when a deep drive was declared out to give

Connors a vital 2-0 lead in the final set. But his protests when unanswered and from that moment there was no way back for the Haitian.

Australian qualifiers Wally Masur and Jason Stoltenberg continued to turn the odds on their head by winning their opening matches against difficult opponents and French player Arnaud Boetsch rewarded the organisers for their wild-card entry by putting out Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union in straight-sets.

The 63rd ranked Masur, who ended the hopes of Frenchman Henri Leconte in the qualifying tournament, copped a code violation for refusing to play on at the start of the third set against German Davis Cup player Carl Uwe Steeb. But he battled back to win 7-6, (9/7), 4-6, 6-4.

The 28-year-old Masur, who had lost both of his previous matches against the 45th-ranked Steeb (one of the defeats coming in a first round clash here 12 months ago) refused to come off his chair at the start of the third set in protest at a line call.

The Australian, who had snatched a hard fought first set after a 16 point tie-break, though he had served long no a set point to the German.

But since the serve was not called and Steeb was consequently able to thread a winning return across court.

The incident upset the usually mild-mannered Masur and he continued to quietly but persistently argue the point with Brazilian umpire Paolo Pereira throughout the changeover.

Eventually he was given a

code warning for game delay by the South American official.

Masur, who hammered down seven aces and served consistently well on the fast Bercy Stadium surface, was still quietly protesting during the next three changeovers.

But eventually he turned his mind back to the job in hand and broke Steeb in the ninth game.

Masur now plays seventh-seeded Spaniard Sergio Bruguera for a place in the last 16 of the world's richest non grand slam event. Bruguera was a semifinalist here last year.

Stoltenberg, a 21-year-old from new South Wales who is ranked a modest 88th, also scored an upset win when he recovered from a shaky start to put out Argentina's Alberto Mancini 3-6, 7-5, 7-6 (7/2).

The South American, ranked 22nd, dominated the opening set of the 1hr 54 min encounter with his heavy baseline topspin. But Stoltenberg's non-sensory serve-and-volley tennis increasingly paid dividends to earn him a second round match against the in-form ninth seed Petr Korda of Czechoslovakia.

Boetsch, ranked 60th, rounded off the day's play with an unexpected win over Andrei Chesnokov.

The Soviet player, who is 32 places above the Frenchman in the ATP rankings, was never able to get his game together and he went down 4-6, 2-6.

The day's other winners were Jonas Svensson of Sweden, Andrei Cherkasov of the Soviet Union, Omar Camporese of Italy, Patrick McEnroe of the US



The preliminary group matches of the AB Bank metropolis table tennis league in progress yesterday at the National Coaching Centre. Seventy-six out of eighty-four group matches have been decided till date. — Star photo