

Asian under-16 soccer in Rajshahi

Coach confident of finishing top

Sports Reporter

Md Arman of Dhaka and Imadul Huq of Sathkha have been elected captain and vice-captain of the Bangladesh squad for the fifth Asian youth under-16 football qualifying competition beginning from May 3 at Rajshahi.

The twenty-nine member final list announced by the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) includes 20 players and four stand-bys while the remaining five are team officials.

Following is the list of players and officials. (The numbers against the players' names suggest their jersey numbers):

Goalkeepers: Milon Hossain 1 (Khulna), Nasirul Huq 20 (Sunamganj) and Mosaddequr Rahman Tipu 21 of Madaripur.

Defence: Imadul Huq 2 (Sathkha), Biplob Marma 3 (Rangamat), Ujjal Chakraborty Shibu 4 (Naogaon), Ruhul Amin 5 (Bhola), Md Masud Zafar 15 (Rajshahi) and Md Syed Abedin Shovon 16 (Sherpur).

Midfield: Md Arman 7 (Dhaka), Paritosh Dewan 6 (Rangamat), Md Alauddin 9

(Chittagong), Md Nazimuddin 19 (Narsingdi) and Zahidul Islam Nayin 14 of Rajshahi.

Forwards: Mozammel Huq Chowdhury 10 (Chittagong), N A Arif Hero 11 (Rajshahi), Moniruzzaman Munir 12 (Narayanganj), Md Hafizur Rashid 17 (Faridpur), Abdullah Al-Mujahid Shoaeb 18 (Narsingdi) and Jahangir Hossain 8 of Khulna.

Stand-bys: Md Yousof 22 (Narayan ganj), Zafar Hossain 23 (Chittagong), Alok Kumar Buxy 24 (Bagerhat) and Bazilur Rahman 25 of Sathkha.

Officials: Sheikh Md Shaheb Ali-Manager, Shamsuddin Khan Majlis-Asstt Manager, Hassanul zzman Bablu—Coach, Anwarul Huq Panna—Asstt Coach and Mahmud Jamal—team official.

The under-16 youth team will leave Dhaka for Rajshahi tomorrow.

Hassanuzzaman Bablu explained that the absent eight players had to be released from the team camp for the First Division football league matches.

"I've not been able to find them all together because of the ongoing football league", Bablu regretted.

Despite these irregularities in the coaching, Bablu expressed optimism about his team's performance in the forthcoming tournament.

"I'm confident that we will finish the competition as champions", he said.

Meanwhile, the BFF has booked the Rajshahi Parjatan motel and the International Coastal Hotel for the participating teams.

Hosts Bangladesh and the Maldives are likely to stay at the Parjatan motel while Nepal, Pakistan and India will put up at the hotel, a highly-placed BFF official said.

All the participating teams with the exception of the Maldives, who are already in the capital, are expected to arrive in the city by May 1. However, the BFF is yet to finalise the rates of tickets for the competition.

INDIAN TEAM

Meanwhile, the All India Football Federation, the governing body of Indian soccer, has sent the list of 21 booters for the competition.

The list includes three goalies, four side-backs, three stoppers, five midfielders, four wingers and six strikers.

Amit Das, the Indian under-16 team captain, is a midfielder.

Following is the list of Indian booters.

Goal-keepers: Goutam Roy, Avijit Barua and Sandipan Moitra.

Defenders: Dulal Biswas, Riazul Mustafa, Sumitava Sengupta, Sanjay Dayal, Amit Ghosh, Maha Majhi and Amitava Ghosh.

Midfielders: Amit Das, Prasenjit Paul, Anup Mukherjee, Baichung Bhutia and Basudev Mondal.

Wingers: Baburam Kisku, Sukhlal Tirkey, Ratan Singh and Surendra Singh.

Strikers: Jeshu Singh, Trilak Singh, Ajay Singh, Joseph, Lakshman Chatterjee and Tarun Roy.

COACH CONFIDENT

The Daily Star met the side at the Dhaka Hockey Stadium yesterday. Only twelve of the final 20 players took part in the afternoon practice session.

When asked, coach

Timman through to semifinals

LINARES, Spain, Apr 28: Dutch Grandmaster Jan Timman beat Russian Artur Yusupov on Monday to go through to the semifinal playoff of the World Chess Championship, reports Reuter.

He won the match 6-4 after taking the 10th and final game after 30 moves and three hours and 50 minutes play.

"I was optimistic before the match and before the last game," Timman said.

"There were a lot of nerves and mistakes, but that's normal in such an important match."

Yusupov, who turned up for his last two games in a dinner jacket, switched from his habitual Russian to a Sicilian defence.

But he caved in to Timman, playing white. Neither player managed to win with black pieces during the match.

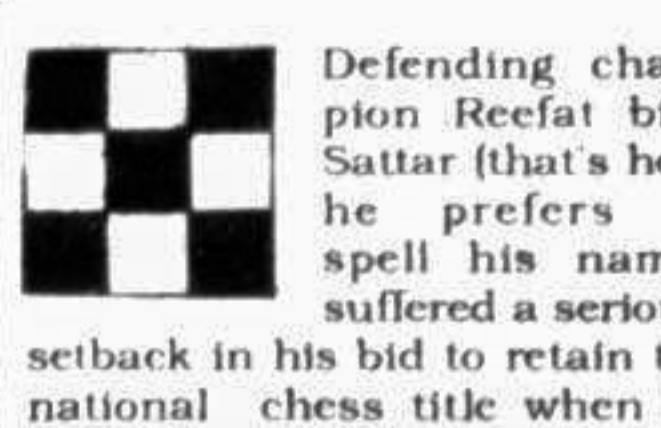
Timman now meets the winner of the other match in which British Grandmaster Nigel Short leads former world champion Anatoly Karpov 5-4 and needs only a draw to qualify.

Karpov, under mounting pressure, took a time out. The pair will play their 10th match today.

The semifinal playoff takes place in Spain in January. The venue has yet to be decided.

Zia shocks Reefat in Round 3

Sports Reporter



Defending champion Reefat bin-Sattar (that's how he prefers to spell his name) suffered a serious setback in his bid to retain the national chess title when he

lost to former champion Ziaur Rahman in their third round match at the National Sports Council chess room yesterday.

Reefat, who had won his first two matches on Sunday and Monday, to go to the top of the points table in this 16-player robin league competition yesterday allowed Ziaur Rahman, his schoolmate from St Joseph's High, who won the national championships in 1988, to share the lead with two points from three matches each.

Zia, who started the meet rather fortuitously having received a walk-over from Ziaul Kader Tuhi in his opening match, lost his second round game to another former champion Jamilur Rahman of Ansars yesterday morning after the game was adjourned Monday night. Jamil, too, has two points from three matches, recovering well after his opening round loss to Reefat to post successive wins against Zia and M R Hafiz of Dhaka Metropolis.

It was sweet revenge for Ziaur Rahman yesterday, avenging his loss to Reefat in the last junior nationals.

Playing white, Zia made a d4 opening with Reefat, Zia's Biman teammate, allowing the Queen's gambit accepted. Both players maneuvered for an initiative for a while until, in a rather unusual move, Reefat's black launched the first attack with two knights, a bishop and the queen. But unfortunately for Reefat, and thanks more to the astute defending by Zia, the play failed. Frustrated, Reefat blundered on the 41st move - Qd1—which forced him to resign in the 60th move of an engrossing contest.

Jamilur Rahman, the moody former champion whose chess column appeared—though all too briefly—on these pages, but his opening day debacle against Reefat well behind him by posting two straight wins in the following rounds. Having beaten Zia in the morning in the adjourned second round contest, Jamil needed only 30 moves to force M R Hafiz of

Dhaka Metro into submission. Hafiz, playing with the white pieces, moved d4 to which Jamil replied with a Dutch defence. But Hafiz repeated faltered, failing to place his pieces in right places, thereby allowing the more experienced Jamil to gain the whiphand.

Abdul Khaleq of Jamalpur drew his third round match with Khandaker Kayes Hassan of Ansars.

Khaleq opened with e4 and Kayes opted for the French Winawer defence. On the seventh move Khaleq played Qg4, which earned him Kayes's g7 and h7 pawns while Kayes picked up the d4 and e3 pawns in the bargain, a situation that closed the centre. Kayes castled on the queen-side with Khaleq countering with a king-side castling, allowing both players to agree to a draw after only 16 moves.

Anisur Rahman of Dhaka Metro scored his first victory of the meet after two draws when he defeated Nahid Miazi of Chittagong in 41 moves. The result left Anis with two points from three games while Miazi's first loss left him with one and a half point.

Anis opened with d4, Miazi defending with the Queen's gambit, but the player from Chittagong made a weak c5 move in the 13th, which spelled his doom and he resigned in the 41st move.

Iqbal Rakib, playing black, pulled off a good win against his Dhaka Metro team mate Amir Hossain yesterday.

Amir opened with d4, Rakib countering with the King's Indian defence which eventually turned into a four-pawn attack. Rakib then made a weak move, Bh3, in the 26th making his position very passive. He then exchanged his bishop for three pawns, giving Amir's white scope to go for an all-out attack. Yet, to everyone's surprise, Amir blundered on his 46th move, Kh3, a mistake that left him no choice but to resign in the 60th move.

It was a lucky day for Syed Ruhul Kabir Shiplu of BTMC, the youngster fortunately managing to retrieve an almost impossible situation, thanks to the poor play of his Dhaka Metro opponent Md Kalam.

Playing with the white pieces, Shiplu opened e4 and Kalam adopted a French defence. Shiplu made a bad move in the 16th, Ne6, which made Kalam an exchange up. But Kalam then mishandled his options, progressively weak-

ening his own position. On the 44th move, Nd4, Kalam got a chance for repitition of the move but in a sudden fit of impetuosity, caused not a little by time pressure, bungled his 50th move, Nh7, and lucky Shiplu walked away with the full point.

International Woman Master and national women's champion Rani Hamid, the only lady in the competition, saw her game against her Biman colleague Syed Tahmidur Rahman—1990 champion—being adjourned until this morning.

Rani opened with e4 and Tahmid opted for a Sicilian defence of the Richter Rauzer attack variation. Misplaying by Rani slightly favoured Tahmid's black but, under time pressure, the bearded former champion made some bad moves, leading to an adjournment.

Commenting on the position of the game, former national champion Zillur Rahman Champak, winner in 1986 and '87, felt the game should result in a draw when it resumes this morning.

The other third round match, between Neyamul Huq Niru and Ziaul Kader Tuhi, was also adjourned until today after 61 moves.

Tuhi, playing with the black pieces, adopted a Sicilian Pelican defence to Niru's e4 opening. Niru's misplaying helped Tuhi earn a good bishop advantage and open file control, but Tuhi then bungled his 36th move, Qd4, which tended to equalise their relative positions.

About this game, too, Champak felt the chances were brighter for a draw.

Biman team-mates Syed Tahmidur Rahman(L) and Rani Hamid during their adjourned third round match of the 18th national chess championship at the NSC chess room.

SA booters to play Cameroon in July

JOHANNESBURG, Apr 28: A six-member delegation of the South African Football Association (SAFA) will leave for Cameroon Thursday to arrange South Africa's first international match in 16 years, state-run radio reported today, reports AFP.

SAFA secretary general Solomon Morewa said in the eastern port city of Durban on Monday night that the matches between South Africa and Cameroon would be held between July 5 and July 11 in Durban, Cape Town and Johannesburg.

Morewa also said South Africa will also take part in this year's Africa Cup of Nations, and will play against Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mauritius.

South Africa expects to be re-admitted to football's world controlling body, FIFA, in July, Morewa added.

South Africa was expelled from FIFA in 1976 over the white-minority government's apartheid policies.

Driver jailed for Davis' death

MONTREAL, Apr 28: A driver who fatally injured Olympic swimming gold medalist Victor Davis in 1989 was sentenced to 10 months in jail on Monday after a judge called him a callous coward, reports Reuter.

Davis, 25, who set an Olympic 200 metres breaststroke record at the Los Angeles Games in 1984, died of brain injuries on November 13, 1989, two days after being struck and hurled nearly 50 feet (16 metres) by a car driven by 21-year-old Glen Crossley.

Although the impact broke the car's windshield and damaged the roof and side-view mirror, Crossley did not report the accident to police for 40 minutes.

The court cannot accept such callousness, which is the characteristic of a coward," judge Pierre Brassard told Crossley. "You were afraid to stop your vehicle. Most important, you failed to assist a human being who was injured."

Crossley told the court he believed Davis caused the damage when he threw a soda bottle at the car.

ATP's top 20

- MONACO, Apr 28: Following are the leading men's rankings, issued by the Association of Tennis Professionals on Monday.
1. Jim Courier (US) 3,655
 2. Stefan Edberg (Sweden) 3,241
 3. Pete Sampras (US) 2,633
 4. Boris Becker (Germany) 2,561
 5. Michael Stich (Germany) 2,522
 6. Michael Chang (US) 2,125
 7. Guy Forget (France) 1,877
 8. Goran Ivanisevic (Croatia) 1,856
 9. Petr Korda (Czechoslovakia) 1,660
 10. Ivan Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 1,551
 11. Karel Novacek (Czechoslovakia) 1,421
 12. Magnus Gustafsson (Sweden) 1,414
 13. Emilio Sanchez (Spain) 1,396
 14. Alberto Mancini (Argentina) 1,394
 15. Aaron Krickstein (US) 1,329
 16. Andre Agassi (US) 1,306
 17. Richard Krajicek (Netherlands) 1,274
 18. Alexander Volkov (CIS) 1,247
 19. Brad Gilbert (US) 1,223
 20. Jakob Hlasek (Switzerland) 1,201

Wins for Agrani, Wanderers

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation retained their habit of taking it lying down as Agrani Bank thrashed the relegation-bound club 3-0 in the First Division football league yesterday at the Dhaka Stadium.

The office team which looks all set to go down the leader after a two-year sojourn in the Senior Division could do nothing to salvage some prestige in the first match of the day as the bankers ran all over them with a two-nil first-half lead.

The bankers took an early lead when mid-fielder Pappu found the net with a fine shot that gave no chance to the BJMC custodian in the fifth minute of the match (1-0).

Bakhtiar, one of the BKSP products, made his friends in the opposition camp a bit green with jealousy when he sold a dummy to a couple of BJMC players to double the margin with a placing shot one minute before the short whistle (2-0).

Bakhtiar engineered the third and final goal for Agrani Bank that came at the flag end of the match. He ran down the flank to send in a neat cross across the goalmouth which found Gias in perfect position to tap the ball home (3-0).

Agrani Bank, who have done reasonably well by their standards, collected two more points with this win to raise their collection to 17 from 16 matches while BJMC, whose battered, bruised and beleaguered BKSP players must now be praying for the 'tamasha' to be over as soon as possible, remain at three after their sixteenth match.

Pappu, Bakhtier, Mangal, Jahangir (Gias), Jamal and Sattar (Pony).

BJMC SC : Tipu (Nasir), Mukti, Shovon, Miaz, Milon, Mastan, Shaheed, Barik (Aminur), Shipu, Papel and Shankar.

Referee : Sheikh Badruddin.

WANDERERS WIN

Dhaka Wanderers Club perhaps ensured themselves a new lease of life after having wandered in the woods of uncertainty for quite a while with a one-nil victory against Muktiyoddha Sangshad in the second match of the day yesterday at the same venue.

Whether the presence of their president, Lt General (Retd) Shawkat Ali, worked wonders in the traditional club or some all-too familiar

English booters avert strike

LONDON, Apr 28: An English First Division soccer players' strike was averted when their union agreed on Monday their share of revenue from television coverage of the new Premier league due to kick off in August, reports Reuter.

The Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) will receive 10 per cent of the first 10 million pounds sterling (£1.72 million dollar) of television income and five per cent of the balance.

During the first television contract, the payment will be at least 1.5 million pounds (£2.66 million dollar) per annum.

A strike looked likely when players voted overwhelmingly in favour three weeks ago after turning down an offer of five per cent.

League suspended

Meanwhile, the First Division football league goes on a 24-day hibernation because of the involvement of the Bangladesh junior teams in two tournaments, with the five-tournament Under-16 starting in Rajshahi on May 3. The league will resume, hopefully, on May 23.

Torino, Ajax clash in UEFA Cup

TURIN, Italy, Apr 28: Two teams with a legendary past and a modest present seek their first international victory in years as they clash in a first-leg final of the UEFA soccer Cup on Wednesday night, reports AP.

Torino, which play at home and are supported by a sellout crowd at Delle Alpi Stadium, can earn an initial advantage against Ajax of Amsterdam, which will have the home-factor on their side in the second-leg final on May 13.

The UEFA Cup is the only European tournament for clubs with a two-leg final and tactics can have an important role.

The home team tend to be offensive-minded in the first-leg to possibly pick up a safe advantage prior to the return game.

But Torino's best sector is defense and the Italian team is not expected to upset their usual scheme against the Dutch, who play zone defense and can carry extremely dangerous and fast counterattacks.

Torino's coach Emiliano Mondonico said his team will play for a victory "without forgetting defense."

The Turin team have the best league defense with 17 goals allowed in 30 games.

On Wednesday night, however, they will miss suspended sweeper Luca Fusi and midfielder Roberto Poltrano.

The offense is led by Belgian Vincenzo Sfriso, Spain's Rafael Martin Vasquez, Brazilian Walter Casagrande and Italian International Pierluigi Lentini.

Ajax forward line may miss

a key player, striker Denis Bergkamp.

The Dutch forward, who scored 24 goals so far this season, pulled a right knee ligament in training last week and said Tuesday he was afraid to miss the first-leg final.

"My knee is aching. I can hardly make it," Bergkamp said at nearby Asti, where the Dutch players are preparing for the game.

Bergkamp's regular substitute, Danc Dan Petersen, is nursing a tendon inflammation and is an uncertain starter as well as midfielder Aron Winter and forward Bryan Roy.

Coach Louis Van Gaal told reporters he had high hopes to have at least Roy and Winter on the starting lineup.

Torino reached its first final in a major European Cup by eliminating powerful Real Madrid of Spain in the semifinals.

The red-and-white Dutch dominated the Italian league in the 40s when it won four consecutive Italian titles, was faced with a long crisis after his best players were killed in a plane crash in May 1949.

The Turin team, which dominated the Italian league in the 40s when it won four consecutive Italian titles, was faced with a long crisis after his best players were killed in a plane crash in May 1949.

The plane taking players home after an international game hit the nearby hill of Superga and exploded in flames in Italy's worst sport tragedy.

Torino's most recent history includes an Italian national title in 1976 and two Italian cups.

Ajax won a Cupwinners Cup final in 1987 following a legendary triple triumph in the Champions Cup, between 1971 and 1973, when the team was captained by superstar Johan Cruyff.

Plans to revive Anglo-Italian Cup soccer tourney

LONDON, Apr 28: The English Football League plans to revive the Anglo-Italian Cup next season when its top 22 clubs break away to form the Premier league, reports AFP.

Talks are already at an advanced stage with their Italian counterparts and the league envisage the top division clubs taking part in a qualifying tournament to face opposition from Italy's Serie B.

League officials still need FIFA approval for a renewal of the Anglo-Italian competition, last played in 1973.

"From our point of view, the Anglo-Italian would replace the Zenith Data Systems Cup which will now go with the Premier league," said Trevor Phillips, Football League commercial director.

The competition could be part of a package offering financial security to clubs outside the Premier league.

Phillips has assured the 71 remaining clubs the package will leave them "considerably better off financially."

Clubs met the Football League's "shadow board" for four hours at Walsall on Monday, seeking assurances over their future once the Premier league starts.

Phillips told them a television firm has already signed a contract for coverage of Football League matches, but would not reveal details.

"We are withholding the details at the request of the company in case it prejudices other negotiations they may have with the Premier league," he said.

"But we have been able to assure our clubs they will be considerably better off financially than currently."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Sweet potato

4 Author Jong

9 Small mass

12 Yale man

13 Boca —

14 French friend

15 Paper identification

17 Word before brass or banana

18 — tee (exactly)

19 Bowling lanes

21 "Wanted" poster word, often

24 Poet who authored 58 Across

25 Eggs

26 Cul-de-river

31 — precedent

33 Low-spirited

35 Look to for support

36 Sphere of combat

38 D.C.

bigwig

40 "Live and Let —"

41 Sitarist Shankar

43 Analyzes a sentence

45 One seizing by force

47 Tall tale

48 Swiss canton

49 Crucial turning point

54 Fictional sleeper

55 Growing out

56 Shoshone

57 New Guinea town

58 "They — on mince..."

59 Downing Street number

20 Lion's retreat

21 Painter Bonheur

22 "Did You — See a Dream Walking?"

23 Hookah

27 Game show prize

29 Nobelist

6 Call — day

30 Bread choices

32 Med. school subject

34 Use up gradually

37 Declared openly

39 Coupled natives

44 Legal matter

45 Ringle

46 Domingo offering

50 Beach bonus

51 Crude cabin

52 Hot time in Paris

53 Dad's retreat

Solution time: 27 min.

MAY TABS GLEE
 ABE IDOL RORY
 PEA DATA ANTE
 STRAIGHTEDGES
 CEE ILE
 JOKER INK FIB
 ARES GOG ZERO
 BAY PAN DOZEN
 ST COP SON
 STRAITJACKETS
 OWES AUNT DOE
 FINK INTO GOT
 ANTS NEAR ELS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13						14		
15		16							17		
		18			19		20				
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25		26		27		28			29	30	
31		32		33		34		35			
36			37		38		39		40		
		41		42		43		44			
45	46										
48			49		50				51	52	53
54			55						56		
57			58						59		

CRYPTOQUIP

Q V B B U D V O B M T S T L Y N Y U A
 S U R B Z S R S T O L A B Q A B V
 Q M N V Y T Z A M D Q

Today's Cryptoquip clue: V equals R

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.