

# 73 bidders for only two berths

Sports Reporter



Rangdhanu Sports Club outplayed Kalabagan Krira Chakra by six wickets on the opening day of the Second Division cricket league qualifying competition yesterday at the Dhaka Stadium.

Rangdhanu skipper Zakir won the toss and sent Kalabagan Krira Chakra in to bat after the early morning in-

Sittanath made 39 while Lablu scored 20 but the rest of the Kalabagan batting caved in, including a slump from 100 for 5 to 100 for 7, and the whole side was bowled out for 110 in 32.3 overs, two and half overs short of their quota of 35 overs.

Skipper Zakir led the attack for Rangdhanu by claiming two for 15. Tuhin took two for 22 while Pappu claimed

nine hits to the fence and with Zakir holding the other end up with patience befitting a skipper, Kalabagan's fortunes suffered a sea change in the nasty heat of late May.

Earlier, Anis had dismissed three of the Rangdhanu batsmen at a cost of 27 runs. His partner Bhola was the other successful bowler with figures of one for 31 as Rangdhanu did not have to lose more than four

cial guest. Officials of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) were also present at the opening ceremony that was marked by a grand rally of the participating teams and releasing of multi-coloured balloons.

With Lekha Chhere Maath, one of the teams pulling out of the competition, the 73 teams split into eight groups fight for



Foreign Minister A S M Mustafizur Rahman and other BCCB officials being introduced to the teams at yesterday's inauguration of the Second Division cricket qualifying meet at the Dhaka Stadium. —Star photo

awful ceremonies. Sittanath and Zakir, the two openers of Kalabagan KC who have representatives in the senior level of cricket put on 22 for the first wicket before Zakir departed for three. Next man Zisha fell for one with the score on 23 but Lablu gave good support to Sittanath — the eventual highest scorer — and took the score to 62.

one for 12.

A telling opening burst by Kalabagan opening bowler Anis reduced Rangdhanu to four for eight with the chances of a victory looking very slim but superb batting by Tuhin made things hum again for Rangdhanu.

Tuhin, who came at number five, played a cavalier, unbeaten knock of 67 including

wickets.

Earlier, Foreign Minister A S M Mustafizur Rahman, chief of the BCCB, inaugurated the 73-team meet which will culminate in the qualification of the champions and the runners-up for the Second Division league next season.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeq Hossain was present on the occasion as a spe-

cial guest. Officials of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) were also present at the opening ceremony that was marked by a grand rally of the participating teams and releasing of multi-coloured balloons.

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# TCCB accepts sweeping changes



LONDON, May 20: English cricket chiefs insisted change is for the better — despite the opposition of eight countries to a new domestic package and the vicissitudes of players led by England captain Graham Gooch, reports AFP.

competition adds up to radical restructuring of the domestic game.

Coloured clothing in the later contest was not part of today's reorganisation but is likely to follow.

Those opposing the package were not named, but are believed to include Essex, Yorkshire, Somerset, Glamorgan, Northamptonshire and Gloucestershire.

And many players are opposed to a longer Sunday game. Gooch said: "I would have liked it to stay the same. It's quite demanding to ask sides to play a 50-over game in the middle of a hard four-day match."

But TCCB chief executive Alan Smith said the Cricketers' Association — the Players' Union — was fully consulted by the Murray report.

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"We had a very healthy debate in a 90-minute meeting, but I'm confident all the countries went away determined to make this new programme work."

A special meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board at Lord's on Tuesday voted 11-8 for wholesale change to the summer programme, to be brought in immediately for next season and for a trial period of three years.

The main proposal of the Murray report, for a 17-match championship of four-day cricket, won almost unanimous support.

Constitutionally, there was no chance for any amendments to be voted on these needing to have been submitted two weeks ago.

But the 18 countries, plus the MCC and the minor counties (who abstained), did insist on a review of the new structure taking place after three years and not five.

Mike Murray, the Middlesex chairman who led the eight-man working party set up in August last year, accepted there remain some individual county problems.

But Murray indicated central reserves available to counties each year from the TCCB could be increased to offset any losses which result from the reduction in the amount of county cricket played — the championship programme is slimmied from 72 days to 68.

Murray estimated an extra surplus of 100,000 pounds will be available in the 1992 share-out, with another increase likely in 1993.

But the narrowness of the single vote, for the whole package of proposals, revealed the areas of dissent.

The scrapping of the Benson and Hedges Cup group stage and the re-birth of the Sunday league as a 50-over

Smith said: "This exercise was not marketing-led, except we had marketing experts like Brian Downing and Sir Ian MacLaurin on the working party."

"Overall, the approach has been 'let's get the product right first. This is a momentous day for English cricket.'"

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onship based on three-day cricket for more than a hundred years — but this new package is designed to strengthen our cricket and help produce better international players."

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# Exiles dominate CIS squad for Sweden



MOSCOW, May 20: Foreign-based players dominate the CIS squad to represent the Commonwealth of Independent States at next month's European soccer championship finals for the first and probably the last time, reports Reuter.

Vladimir Salkov, assistant to chief coach Anatoly Byshovets, on Tuesday named 15 foreign-based starts in a short list of 25 for the finals in Sweden, although he said a definitive squad of 20 would not be announced until UEFA's May 31 deadline.

The Russian-based contingent is dominated by six players from Spartak Moscow, including goalkeeper Stanislav Cherchesov and defender Andrei Chernyshov.

Ukraine, which has launched its own soccer championship this season and formed a national side, is making its players available to the CIS for the last time in Sweden.

Goalkeepers — Stanislav Cherchesov, Alexander Uvarov, Dmitri Kharin.

Defenders — Andrei Chernyshov, Kakhaber Tskhadadze, Andrei Ivanov, Akhrik Taveiba, Vasily Kulikov, Oleg Kuznetsov, Dmitri Galyamin.

Out go most of Valery Lobanovsky's Soviet side who finished runners-up in the last championship but failed dramatically in the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy.

The main survivors from those sides are two Glasgow Rangers team mates, defender Oleg Kuznetsov and midfielder Alexei Mikhailichenko, and midfielder Sergei Aleinikov from Italian side Lecce.

The backbone of the new side comes from clubs ranging from Portugal to Israel, who have lured ex-Soviet players abroad in the past few years with lucrative hard-currency contracts.

Benfica of Portugal provide three players — Vasily Kulikov, Alexander Mostovoi and Sergei Yuran. From Espanol of Spain come Dmitri Galyamin, Dmitri Kuznetsov and Igor Kornev, all formerly with Cska of Moscow.

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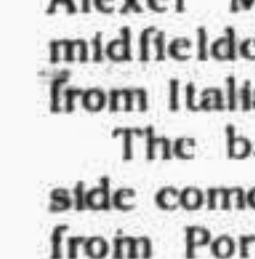
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# UK hooligans, beware!



LONDON, May 20: British soccer hooligans who cause trouble at the European football championships in Sweden next month may be banned from travelling to other matches, reports Reuter.

The British Home Office said on Tuesday that a new government order came into effect on Monday to allow courts to stop trouble-makers travelling to matches abroad.

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"Let this be a warning to the hooligan minority not to cause trouble," Home Office minister Lord Ferrers said in a statement.

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# Becker skips Paris

PARIS, May 20: Boris Becker will miss the French Open starting next week because of a hamstring muscle injury which forced him to pull out of last week's Italian Open, reports AFP.

British police said on Monday they had sent Swedish authorities a list of 200 known hooligans they fear could cause trouble at the championships. Undercover police are also

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# Dhaka Mayor's boys win 2-1

CALCUTTA, May 20: The Dhaka Mayor's under-16 team beat South 24-Parganas District Magistrate team 2-1 at the Diamond Harbour football ground here this afternoon, reports BSS.

All the goals came in the second half. Abid and Mozammel scored for the Dhaka Mayor team while Atanu reduced the margin for the hosts.

West Bengal Sports Minister Subhas Chakravarty and Law Minister Abdul Gaiyum Mollah witnessed the match. The Deputy High Commissioner of Bangladesh in Calcutta Syed Noor Hossain and other officials of the Deputy High Commission were also present to see the match.

Meanwhile, reports reaching Dhaka from Calcutta Wednesday tended to contradict Tuesday's reported trouble during the Dhaka Mayor's team's match against a local selection in Bashirhat district of West Bengal state. The latest reports refuted the allegations, attributed to the private secretary of the Dhaka City Corporation Mayor Mirza Abbas now with the team, that some Bangladeshi players were injured following a fracas in which the spectators invaded the pitch and assaulted our boys. The Daily Star, despite frantic efforts until late last night, failed to get confirmation of either report. Considering the implications of the issue, The Daily Star regrets having attached credence to an unconfirmed report.

# Abahani win in N'ganj charity soccer tie

NARAYANGANJ, May 20: Abahani Krira Chakra beat Narayanganj District Player's Welfare Association 3-1 in a charity football match played here at Chashara Osmani Stadium this afternoon, reports BSS.

The two teams were locked in a one-all draw at the first half.

Rumi of Abahani Krira Chakra opened the account for his team in the 28th minute. Sujit of the Player's Welfare Association equalised in the 39th minute.

In the second half, Zhukov scored the second goal for Abahani in the 65th minute of the match while Rumi scored the 3rd goal for the winners in the 72nd minute.

The match was organised by the Narayanganj District Sports Association in aid of veteran sports organiser R K Chandan of the town.

# Careca Brazil's hero against AC

MILAN, May 20: A goal from Napoli striker Careca gave Brazil a 1-0 win over new Italian champions AC Milan in a soccer friendly on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

Careca, who came on as a second-half substitute, combined brilliantly with Bebeto, working a neat one-two which he rounded off with a simple header in the 57th minute.

Milan had the better of the first half but three of their top players, Franco Baresi, Ruud Gullit and Marco Van Basten, were substituted at halftime and the Brazilians, taking heart from Careca's goal, had more of the game after the break.

# Boxers' managers come to blous!

NEW YORK, May 20: The managers of heavyweight boxers Riddick Bowe of the United States and South African Pierre Coetzee nearly came to blows during a press conference here over apartheid, reports AFP.

Monday's press conference was to promote the Bowe-Coetzee fight at Las Vegas on July 18. But the American's manager Rock Newman took the opportunity to attack racial segregation in South Africa.

The boxers, both ranked in the world top 10, tried not to get involved. They concentrated on posing for photographers. But Coetzee's manager Alam Towel and promoter Cedric Kushner reacted angrily.

# Volleyball result

ROTTERDAY, Netherlands, May 20: China beat Egypt 3-0 on recently, in a tough, unstyley tie in the Olympic volleyball qualifying tournament here, reports AFP.

# England's sweet revenge



LONDON, May 20: England beat Pakistan by 79 runs in the first one-day cricket international at Lord's on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

Stewart: England 278 for six (55.2 overs); Pakistan 199 all out (54.2 overs).

An earlier report said: England looked on course to avenge their World Cup final defeat by Pakistan in the first one-day international at Lord's

ball with his customary authority until he was well into his 40s, but once past 50, he unfurled the range of powerful strokes which have made him one of the most feared batsmen in the world.

He and Stewart put on 95 in 20 overs for the second wicket after England captain Graham Gooch had fallen for just nine, caught at the wicket by Moin Khan in the sixth over following Pakistan's decision to field first.

And after the combative

England's total with 25 before he was comfortably taken at backward point by Mujtaba.

The return of Wasim Akram to bowl five of the last nine overs slowed England's scoring and the brilliant all-rounder also ended another unhappy stay for Graeme Hick.

The Zimbabwean-born batsman made just three from nine balls, albeit coming in at number six with little to gain, before being bowled by a big inswinger.

Ian Botham, England's World Cup opener, was this time allowed little more than four overs batting and he finished 10 not out from number seven.



ROBIN SMITH ... making up for missing World Cup final here on Wednesday.

Derek Pringle and Ian Botham grabbed two wickets apiece as the tourists slipped to 88 for two off 25 overs at tea in reply to England's 55-over total of 278 for six.

Pringle took a wicket in his first over and the second of the innings, catching Rameez Raja off his own bowling for a duck.

Stewart had departed to a firm-footed square drive to Asif Mujtaba at backward point for 50 in 69 balls, Smith found the ideal partner in Allan Lamb.

Once again showing that his international career is far from over, the South African-born veteran helped add 98 in 18 overs.

But Salim Malik, the one disappointment of Pakistan's triumphant World Cup campaign, looked capable of leading a murderous assault on England's total as he raced to 24.

However, aiming to drive Botham at 48, the tourists' vice-captain edged a simple catch to Alec Stewart behind the wicket.

Javed Miandad followed Malik back to the pavilion when he was well held by the diving Graeme Hick — at square leg off Pringle for seven at 74.

That was the cue for a cluster of wickets. Aamir Sohail was run out four runs later for 36 following a superb throw from Phil DeFreitas to the midwicket boundary and without addition to the score Botham caught Inzamam-ul-Haq off his own bowling for two.

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# Army soccer

COMILLA, May 20: The Savar Area team and the hosts Comilla Area team moved into final of the Army football championship — '92 yesterday, an ISPR press release said, reports BSS.

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# Mummy display may lead to boycott of Olympic Games by Africans



BARCELONA, May 20: The mummified body of an African tribal chief is still on display in a Spanish museum, bringing the potential boycott of the Barcelona Olympics by African nations a step closer, reports AFP.

The Town Council in Banyoles, 100 km north of here, where the Olympic rowing competition is to be held, are refusing to remove the exhibit from the local museum, despite requests from the Games organisers, COOB.

Committees over the affair, asking the organisers to write to the Mayor.

The matter came to light several months ago when Haitian-born Doctor Alfonso Arcelin, who lives in the region, threatened to mount a campaign calling for African nations to boycott the Games if the mummified exhibit was not removed.

Towel started by bringing his fist down on the table in front of Newman, said Mike Boorman, spokesman for the Las Vegas promoters main events.

Towel said it was unfair to talk about apartheid because he had been one of the first to invite black boxers to South Africa," he added.

Ganga, who organised the African boycott of the 1976 Olympics in Montreal over a New Zealand rugby tour of South Africa, called the mummy's presence a "degrading spectacle" and "a shameful and unacceptable exploitation."

The Mayor initially agreed to the part of the museum containing the mummy being closed for the duration of the Games but the IOC felt that was not enough and that the entire museum should be closed throughout the Olympics. Abad's letter referred to the IOC meeting in Seville on May 9, when they noted "numerous protests" from several national committees over the

Local Mayor Joan Solana has received a letter from COOB executive Josep Miguel Abad, asking that the mummy be withdrawn from display for the duration of the Games, from July 25 to August 9.

But the Mayor announced he had no intention of intervening in the matter.

The International Olympic Committee reacted to a request from Jean-Claude Ganga, president of the Association of African National Olympic

presence of the mummy in a town hosting Olympic competition.

He called on the council to "consider the matter and its implications, particularly on an international scale."

But the town is standing firm, asserting that the IOC "has no authority whatsoever to put pressure on the Town Council", while the local inhabitants are set to demonstrate their solidarity with the officials and denounce what they see as the "cowardice" of trying to conceal the mummy during the Olympics.

The council decided unanimously as long ago as last November not to allow the mummy to be removed. "That's seven months we have had to think about it and we're still clear in our minds about it," one councillor announced.

The mummified body of the Botswana tribal chief was exhumed and brought to Spain at the start of the century and has been on display, in a standing position and with a spear in its hand, among wild animals since 1915.