

Sport

Bangladesh to play cricket matches in West Bengal

CALCUTTA, Oct 28: A Bangladesh cricket team would play a number of two-day and one-day matches in West Bengal from December 23 to 31, according to the president of the Cricket Association of Bengal, Jagmohan Dalmyia, reports PTI.

He said that the detailed programme of the short tour would be chalked out soon.

Bangladesh was undertaking this trip to prepare themselves for the forthcoming ICC Associate Members Trophy scheduled for January 1994 through which three qualifiers for the 1995 World Cup cricket would be decided, Dalmyia added.

Premier Division soccer next year

Sports Reporter

The much-talked about Premier Division football league comprising the top ten teams of the last season will be launched next year.

This was decided at a meeting of the executive committee of the Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA) with DMFA chief Azizul Haq in the chair last evening.

The remaining ten teams will play in the First Division.

The two bottom-finishers of the Premier Division will be relegated to the First Division while the vacuum will be duly filled in by the top two teams of the First Division.

The meeting which ruled out the possibility of the so-called 'pool' system introduced by the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board this year, decided that each club would be allowed to register four foreign players—three of them would be able to play in a match.

The DMFA also declared the rule regarding the fielding of two new players in the first eleven null and void.

The meeting, however, strongly condemned the flagrant malpractice of arranged matches which has considerably impeded the standard of country's football.

A new rule to stop the tendency of put up matches will be introduced soon.

Meanwhile, the inter-club transfer of footballers will be held in December as scheduled earlier by the Bangladesh Football Federation.

Winners win

Sports Reporter

The Partex First Division basketball super league really resumed yesterday after a prolonged break with last year's runners-up Dhaka Winners Club beating Dhumketu Club comfortably, 53-38, at the wooden floor gymnasium.

Angels benefitted from a walkover given by Panthers on Tuesday, the day league resumed after an eleven day lay-off mysterious malaise in the Bangladesh Amateur Basketball Federation, the organisers of the league championship.

Yesterday the winners led the first half 26-22.

Two Asifs of the Winners, Jafar and the Hossain, were to the fore in the scoring business with 28 and eight respectively.

For the losers Titus scored 16 and Jabbar 10.

Reigning champions Angels Club will take on Greys Club in today's match at 5 pm at the same venue.

Handball clinic from Nov 9

Sports Reporter

Alan Lund, a Danish handball expert will conduct seminars and clinics for local district sports officers, referees, coaches and physical trainers across the country from November 9.

Organised by the Bangladesh Handball Federation the lecture schedule begins with a three-day programme for the district sports officers at the conference room of the National Sports Council in Dhaka on November 9.

Local coaches and referees will be given tips by the Danish coach at the same venue from November 12 to 13.

A youth handball seminar will be held in Rajshahi from November 14 to 16.

The package with seminars to be held on November 19 and 20, in Chittagong.

Sports medicine course from today

Sports Reporter

A two-day training programme on sports medicine under the auspices of the Bangladesh Association of Sports Medicine will begin today at the National Sports Council conference room.

Deputy leader of the House Prof AGM Badruddoza Chowdhury will inaugurate the course as chief guest at 9:30 in the morning.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain will be present as a special guest.

Kalabagan bow out in style

Sports Reporter

Kalabagan Kriya Chakra bow out in style of the 14th Darnal Summer cricket tournament in style as they recorded the highest team total so far in the meet to inflict a crushing 147-run defeat upon Agrani Bank at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Liberated of the pressure to win in order to qualify for the next round Kalabagan made the most of the woefully weak bowling of their opponents.

So relaxed they were that even after the scoreboard had showed them a very dismal reading of three for 37, lanky Nadir Shah did not lack in heart to take the fight to the enemy camp with calculated aggression.

Man of all seasons, Nadir cracked 69 off 83 balls including four boundaries and one sixer before giving Saiful a return catch.

He was well supported in the renovation of the disjointed Kalabagan innings by Shahid who made 36 with five powerful hits to the ropes.

If Nadir and Shahid had any inhibitions while wielding their willow their successors at the wicket — Pilot and Ali threw caution to the wind with some real carefree batting.

Pilot, who was a study in

purism in the last match, scored a gay 45 off 42 balls while Md Ali made good use of the natural strength of pace-



NADIR SHAH ... 69

man with a lusty innings of 44 not out with three fours and one sixer.

Kalabagan finally ran up to a total of 231 for six wickets off 43 overs.

Raja bagged two Kalabagan wickets for 33. Jogesh, Al-Amin and Saiful claimed one wicket each.

Shaon, better known for his batting abilities wrought havoc with the ball to skittle Agrani Bank for 84 in just 25.5 overs.

Tipu topscored with 23 while Kaiser with an unbeaten

17 were the only two to get into the double figures.

Shaon, who took four for 18, was backed by Rafiqul who snared three Agrani batsman for 12 runs only.

UDITY WIN

Udity Club also registered a big win in the day's other match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Batting first Eskaton managed 139 for all the ten wickets in 42.5 overs.

Mona top scored with 58 featuring five fours. Zahid with 34 and Sohel with 30 were the other notable scorers for Eskaton as none of the other batsmen reached the double figures.

Sajal, Rahul and Imran shared two wickets each while Sohel and Durjoy claimed one each among the Udity bowlers.

A solid knock of 60 by opener Anup laid the foundation of a cosy seven wicket victory for Udity as the youthful team put 141 for three wickets in 36 overs.

Anup played 97 balls and hit five fours.

Sipon, the other opener contributed usefully with 29. Mona junior claimed two Udity wickets for 19. Zahid took one for 33.

PWD take on Lalmitia Club in today's only match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Nat'l soccer qualifiers end

Sports Reporter

The qualifying round of the 17th national soccer championship of the Sher-e-Bangla-Cup ended yesterday with Narayanjan and Netrokonia filling in the last two berths of the final round.

The finals comprising the ten zonal champions, reigning champions Bangladesh Army and hosts of the final round Mymensingh DSA will start from November 4 at the Mymensingh Stadium.

At Madaripur, a brilliant hat-trick by Reaz powered the fancied Narayanjan to an emphatic six-one victory over Munshiganj to move into the prestigious final round.

Reaz, the league runners-up Mohammedan Sporting Club media, in fact scored four goals in a row for Narayanjan, who led 3-1 at the lemon break.

However, it was Munshiganj who drew the first blood when Milon found the net ten minutes into the game.

Zakir, the Dhaka league

champions Abahani Kriya Chakra striker, restored parity for Narayanjan in the very next minute (1-1).

Abahani's Abdul Monem Munna, reportedly the highest-paid footballer of the country, put Narayanjan ahead in the 34th minute (2-1).

Taking the cue, Reaz got his first of the four goals a minute from lemon break (3-1).

He made it 4-1 in the 78th minute and notched up his hat-trick in the 88th minute (5-1).

Reaz completed the tally for the winners a minute from time (6-1).

Manir of Narayanjan and Ratan, Amir Hossain and Jasim received the yellow-cards from referee Nazir Hossain for rough play.

Deputy Commissioner of Narayanjan Abdul Sattar Mia witnessed the final as chief guest and distributed the trophies.

Eight DSAs Dhaka, Narayanjan, Munshiganj, Faridpur, Madaripur, Shariatpur, Gopalganj and Rajbari— took part in

the Madaripur zonal qualifiers.

At Netrokonia, the hosts edged past Tangail by a solitary goal.

Golam Ghaus, the Abahani forward, scored the decider in the 66th minute amidst cheers from a large crowd.

Salam Khan of Tangail and Arif Khan of Netrokonia were booked by referee Shaikh Badruddin.

Apart from Narayanjan and Netrokonia, the other teams which have qualified for the final round are Bangladesh Customs, Dhaka University, Bandarban, Chandpur, Khulna, Jessore, Rajshahi and Nilphamari.

A record number of 71 teams including 63 DSAs participated in the qualifying round at ten different venues across the country which began on October 18.

Chittagong University, Jahangirnagar University and Rajshahi University, who had enrolled their names, did not participate in the meet organised by the Bangladesh Football Federation.

Calcutta MSC clinch Kalinga Cup

Muktis lose in penalty shoot-out

CUTTACK, Oct 28: Mohammedan Sporting of Calcutta lifted the glittering Kalinga Cup for the second consecutive year defeating Muktiyodha Kriya Chakra of Bangladesh 6-5 at the finals here today, reports AP.

The fate of the match was decided by 'sudden death' as both the teams were levelled 1-1 at the end of full time, with both missing a chance each in the tie-breaker.

Orissa's Minister for Textiles and Handlooms, Mustafiz Ahmed, who is also the president of the Orissa Football Association, gave away the trophies to the champions and the runners-up team.

The Chief Minister, Biju Patnaik graced the occasion as the chief guest.

In the keenly-contested finals, the defending champions displayed better understanding than their opponents from across the border. However, both the teams missed several

chance of scoring either due to erratic shooting by their forwards or saves by the opponent's custodian under the bar.

The fifth minute after kick-off saw Sanjay Majhi of Mohammedan Sporting miss a beautiful chance. His shot from a close angle was punched away by the Muktiyodha goalkeeper, and in his second attempt he landed a feeble shot straight into the custodian's hands.

In the 25th minute the Bangladesh forwards also missed, as a cross from Hero was well intercepted by Reaz only to be shot over the cross-piece.

After a barren first half, Mohammedan Sporting mounted their attack which was constantly foiled by the Muktiyodha custodian. The 30th minute of the second half saw Sukhen Chakraborty replace Sikander which proved to be a turning point for the Calcuttans.

With in a minute the substitute headed a cross from

Sanjay Majhi from the touch-line into the nets to put the defenders on top.

Towards the end the Bangladeshi outfit made several attempts near the goal mouth of Mohammedan Sporting but in vain. They had almost lost hope when a flag kick was awarded in their favour in the very last minute.

Amman took the kick and Zaeed flicked it into the nets which left Mohammedan Sporting goalkeeper, Ananu dumbfounded and stretched the proceedings into the tie-breaker.

While Ananu stopped Salam Babu's shot in the tie-breaker Muktiyodha managed to level the tie-breaker as Shanta Kumar of Mohammedan Sporting hit the right post, which eventually landed the ball in the hands of the goalkeeper.

Ananu proved instrumental in the final victory of his team when he saved the sudden death shot from Aman, while his teammate Debashis Konar slammed home.

Goal drought worries United boss

Manchester United.

United's neighbours Manchester City also have goal problems in the run-up to the visit of Tottenham.

But while boss Peter Reid would like to see more goals scored he is proud of City's defensive record, and is particularly pleased with the form of Andy Hill.

'Andy Hill has been in magnificent form in the heart of the defence and the back four as a whole has been very solid,' said Reid.

Tottenham goalkeeper Ian Walker looks certain to miss the tie after his collision with Wimbledon's John Fashanu on

Sunday, with Norwegian Erik Thorstvedt ready to take over.

Premier League leaders Blackburn Rovers take on second placed Norwich at Ewood park but no-one is expecting a repeat of last month's, 7-1 thrashing of the canaries.

Kevin Keegan's Newcastle United, runaway leaders of the First Division, face a test of their Premier league potential in front of a full-house at Chelsea as they try to bounce back from a shock home defeat by Grimsby at the weekend — their first of the season.

And the Magpies have injury problems, with top scorer David Kelly and experienced fullback Barry Venison and midfielder Kevin Sheedy both doubtful.

Liverpool aim to continue their revival at Sheffield United, while Premier league bottom club Nottingham Forest face a tricky trip to Crewe Alexandra.

Arsenal are at big-spending derby County while Everton entertain Wimbledon and Southampton meet fellow premier strugglers Crystal Palace.

JU soccer

Physics Department routed Geological Science Department 7-1 in the inter department football tournament of Jahangirnagar University at Savar yesterday, reports BSS.

Babul and Anis scored twice each and Jewel, Azad and Stam netted once each for Physics Department while Titon scored for Geological Science Department.

NZ beat Zimbabwe B

HARARE, Oct 28: New Zealand beat Zimbabwe B by eight wickets in a three-day cricket match ending today.

SCORES: Zimbabwe B: 246 for eight declared and 194; New Zealand :234 for seven declared and 207 for two.

Prantik chess begins today

Sports Reporter

The second Prantik International Masters' chess tournament under the joint aegis of Dhaka Chess Foundation and the Bangladesh Chess Federation will begin from today at the federation chess room.

International Masters and rated players of India, Pakistan and Yemen along with the top local players will take part in the 11-round Swiss league competition sponsored by the Prantik Electronics Ltd.

Seventy-five thousand taka will be distributed as prize-money.

UEFA ban Souness for five matches

LONDON, Oct 28: Liverpool manager Graeme Souness has been banned for five matches by UEFA after he "grossly insulted" the Swedish referee during the Reds recent Cup Winners' Cup clash against Spartak Moscow, reports AFP.

And his goalkeeper, Zimbabwean Bruce Grobbelaar, is out for one match after he was sent off in the October 22 Moscow clash for a professional foul and he will miss the return leg in Anfield next Wednesday.

UEFA's disciplinary committee met in emergency session on Tuesday to consider Souness' outburst towards referee Rune Larsson and meted out swift justice.

Earlier, spokesman Gordon Savage said the least Souness could expect was a ban from the touchline for the return leg.

He said: "We received the referee's report and Souness, words were very bad and insulting so we have no option but to take strong measures in order to prevent similar actions by other coaches because he should be an example to his team."

"I can't say what he actually said because it was so bad, and it went on for so long. He had started even before the penalty incident, and the sending off."

The ban does not apply to Premier League matches. A Football Association spokeswoman said: "It is a UEFA ban governing their competitions and we will not be getting involved."

If Liverpool are knocked out next week — they lost the first leg 4-2 — the ban will remain with Souness until he returns to European action.

The Anfield boss is no stranger to disciplinary hearings and was previously banished from the touchline when he managed Glasgow Rangers.

Menotti quits

MEXICO CITY, Oct 28: Mexico's soccer coach Cesar Menotti has quit 14 months after his appointment, reports Reuters.

Announcing his resignation on Monday night, the Argentine said his decision reflected neither personal nor financial problems, but rather confusion about who is running the Mexican Soccer Federation.

Jansher shows why he is number one

AMSTERDAM, Oct 28: Jansher Khan confirmed his status as world number one with an emphatic 15-12, 15-10, 15-13 victory over second ranked Chris Dittmar of Australia in the final of the Dutch Open squash championship on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

Wearing the kit and using the rackets which had been returned to him 30 minutes before the match after being stolen the previous night, the Pakistani was in majestic form as he repeated his recent World Open victory over the Australian.

But Dittmar played his part in a superb match and could easily have won the first and third games. Jansher, however, exerted pressure at the crucial stages.

A feature of the match was the sportsmanship shown between two players who have frequently clashed physically on court and verbally off it.

Four times Dittmar called his own shots down when the referee was undecided and the Australian even applauded his opponent when Jansher corrected a wrong call by the referee and said Dittmar should have the point.

But there was little charity in Jansher's play. He fought back from 9-6 down in the opening game to win in 27 minutes and from 8-8 in the second game he strode away to take a 2-0 lead from which Dittmar was never likely to recover.



ANC President Nelson Mandela poses to bat during the Indian cricket team's courtesy call to his office in Johannesburg on Tuesday when the team presented him with an autographed bat signed by all the players. — AFP photo

Bacher — trail-blazer of SA cricket

LONDON, Oct 28:

Ali Bacher, man of vision, has brought South Africa to the threshold of a fascinating new era in the republic, reports Reuter.

Bacher, who almost single-handedly guided the sport in his country through its international boycott, sees the culmination of his crusade when Mohammad Azharuddin's Indians launch their tour of South Africa on Thursday.

Indian's tour is momentous not only for being their first in South Africa but also because it marks the return of official international cricket to the republic after 22 years following the gradual dismantling of apartheid.

Bacher, now managing director of the racially unified United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA), provides an intriguing link between the cricket of the pre-isolation years and the current game of such fresh dimensions.

It was Bacher, in his first series as captain, who led South Africa from the field in triumph at the end of their last Test on home soil — the fourth and final match against Australia at St George's Park, Port Elizabeth, in March 1970.

Bacher's side swept the series 4-0, but, ironically, South Africa were about to bow out the Test scene for two decades as one of their most talented and powerful teams was reaching a peak.

They were rich in high-class strokeplayers such as opener Barry Richards, who made batting appear astonish-

ingly easy, and Grace Pollock, all left-handed grace.

Eddie Barlow was an all-rounder of boundless vigour and determination whose medium pace bowling was a key element in an attack spearheaded by the incisive new ball pairing of Peter Pollock and Mike Procter.

Yet the years of exile cut

youngsters.

It is likely to be five to 10 years before there are any black players in the Test side, though such a development is essentially at the heart of Bacher's plans.

Whereas Rugby Union officials have been condemned by black leaders for their failure to promote the game in the townships, the African national Congress (ANC) has strongly backed the return of South Africa to international cricket.

Bacher's UCBSA township programme, with cricket clinics often held by former Test players, has stimulated interest among the black communities, and tours such as that by India are crucial for continued financing of the scheme.

The visit of Mohammad Azharuddin's Indians, whose two-month match schedule includes a four-Test series, is the climax of a compelling and emotional rehabilitation for South African cricket.

From their readmittance to the International Cricket Council (ICC) in July last year, through their "welcome back" tour of India, an outstanding World Cup debut and their inaugural Test against West Indies, the South Africans have arrived at perhaps the most eagerly-anticipated moment of their return — Test cricket on home soil again.

The historic series also represent a gesture of thanks to India.

As Bacher said earlier this year, "Written indelibly into South Africa's sporting annals will be the fact that it was India who proposed our membership of the ICC".

Windies in Australia with a mission

PERTH, Oct 28 :

The West Indies cricket side arrived in Australia early Wednesday and immediately pledged to work towards a tour free of the acrimony which soured Australia's Caribbean visit last year, reports AFP.

"I don't see any reason why we cannot be friends, even on the field", team captain Richie Richardson told reporters minutes after the 16-man team's 17-hour flight from London.

"We are looking forward to a clean series."

Team manager David Holford, cousin of the West Indies great all-rounder Sir Garfield Sobers said, "It is important for the game of cricket that we have a clean series."

"We expect the series to be free of incident, and we are willing to do our part to make sure this happens."

"I would not like to lay blame one way or the other as to who started it (in the West Indies), but the point is we are engaging Australia in a series of Test matches and one-dayers, and we would like the whole programme to go without incident."

Holford said he would like to reach an agreement with Australia, before the major games began, to prevent a repetition of the incidents which marred the 1991 Test series in the West Indies, won 2-1 by the home country.

At the end of the series, Clyde Walcott, president of the West Indies Cricket Board of Control, publicly rebuked both teams for playing in such a mean-spirited and provocative manner.

Richardson said that his side, which includes nine players who have not appeared in a Test in Australia, was looking forward to playing exciting cricket.

The new players include Jimmy Adams, a versatile left-hand batsman, left-arm spin bowler and wicketkeeper, Anderson Cummins, a right-hand batsman and right-arm fast bowler, and Kenneth Benjamin, a right-arm pace bowler.

Richardson quickly dismissed questions about the West Indies' disappointing performances in the World Cup in Australia and New Zealand earlier this year.



ALI BACHER

short the Test careers of this gifted team — Procter played seven Tests and Richards a mere four — and South Africa are now building a side almost from scratch for the new phase of their cricket history.

Captain Kepler Wessels, who played for Australia in the early 1980s, is South Africa's only player with significant exposure to the Test match scene.

Jimmy Cook, if recalled, and veteran Peter Kirsten can offer experience gained from playing on the English county circuit but otherwise South Africa's immediate future lies in the hands of essential untried

Indian people ranging in our ears. They expect a lot of us. We have set high standards, especially against Australia, and we hope we can maintain that. We are pretty confident," he said.

Kanhai was enthusiastic about the condition of players after a 10-day pre-tour camp in Barbados.

He sounded an ominous note for Australia when he said he was hoping for "very, very high performances" from the six-man pace battery.

In addition to Bishop, Benjamin and Cummins, the squad includes Curtly Ambrose, Patrick Patterson and Courtney Walsh.

The first match of the tour will be a one-day festival game against an Australian Cricket Board Chairman's XI at Lilac Hill, Caversham, near here on Monday.

West Indies touring party: Richie Richardson (captain), James Adams, Curtly Ambrose, Keith Arthurton, Kenneth Benjamin, Ian Bishop, Anderson Cummins, Desmond Haynes, Carl Hooper, Brian Lara, Gus Logie, Junior Murray, Patrick Patterson, Phil Simmons, Courtney Walsh, David Williams.



RICHIE RICHARDSON

have a coach (former batsman Rohan Kanhai) for the first time and this will be a great bonus. We believe we have the players to do the job."

Richardson said fast bowler Ian Bishop, who has been rated the fastest in the world, was bowling well after a successful season in England.

Earlier this year, Bishop was forced to return home for rest instead of playing in the World Cup because of back problems.

Richardson said he was not concerned about the team's batting.

"If we decide to occupy the crease we can do as well as any team," he said.

"We can bat as well as teams were have had in the past. We have some very good young players who have an opportunity to prove themselves, and once they show their determination and belief in themselves I am pretty sure our batting will do very well."

Richardson said West Indies fans still believed the side were capable of beating anybody.

"They want to see us beat Australia five-nil if possible," he said.

Holford described the West Indies squad as "a Good Team," a