

### Synthetic turf for Ramna Tennis Complex

**Sports Reporter**  
A four-layer acrylic synthetic surface will be laid at the Ramna Tennis Complex for the sixth SAF Games to be held in Dhaka from December 20 to 27. An official of the Bangladesh Tennis Federation (BTF) told The Daily Star yesterday that the artificial surface, which will not cause any radical change in the nature of the original surface, will be ready for use by November.

Meanwhile, practice of the players selected for the SAF Games is going on in full swing. The seven men players participating in the camp are: Shovon Jamaly, Hira Lal, Faisal Syed Huq, Shakh Mohiuddin Wailullah, M M Nawaz Ameen, Shamim Ahsan Ronny and Tozamal Hossain.

Their seven female peers are: Sharmin Shirin Siddique, Hosne Ara Begum, Sathy Sarkar, Khaleida Fausia, Taslima Khatun, Yasmin Ahmed.

A foreign coach is expected to be here by August 15 to add momentum to the preparation of the local players for the seven-nation meet.

The International Tennis Federation is expected to provide the coach. Unlike the Swiss soccer coach, presently in Bangladesh to prepare the footballers for the SAF Games with IOC bearing all the expenses, the Bangladesh Tennis Federation, according to a BTF official, may have to defray half of the expenses regarding the appointment of the coach even if another magnanimous deal with the IOC or ITF is struck by the Bangladesh Olympic Association, BOA or BTF.

Yesterday State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain visited the Ramna Tennis Complex to have a look for himself about the practice of the local players and the facilities available at the complex.

### Four-a-side football

**Sports Reporter**  
Red beat Yellow by a solitary goal in the inter-friends four-a-side soccer tournament at the A. Jampur ground yesterday. Moon scored the all important goal with Suman rolling a neat pass along his path. Moon played well for the losers.

### Henricksson pulls the only upset

**STRATTON MOUNTAIN, Vermont, July 27:** American Ann Henricksson beat 13th seed Clare Wood of Britain on Monday to score the lone upset on the opening day at the dollar 375,000 women's hardcourt tennis tournament at Stratton Mountain, reports Reuter.

Henricksson, 33, who reached the fourth round at Wimbledon in 1990, swept the first six games to wrap up the 6-3, 6-1 victory in 80 minutes.

Top seed Conchita Martinez of Spain and second seed Mary Joe Fernandez of the United States had first-round byes and were not to play their opening matches until Wednesday in the weeklong tournament.

Other first-day seeded winners were ninth seed Kathy Rinaldi of the United States, who beat American Amanda Basica, 10th-seeded American Caroline Kuhlman, who defeated German Caroline Schneider, and 12th seed Claudia Porwik of Germany, who ousted American Julie Shiflet.

Also advancing were 14th seed Christina Papadaki of Greece, who eliminated Julie Salmon of Britain, and 15th seed Christine Singer of Germany, who beat American Elise Burgin.

### WTA's top 20

- ST PETERSBURG, Florida, July 27:** Top 20 women's tennis players, according to rankings issued by the Women's Tennis Association on Monday, reports Reuter.
1. Steffi Graf (Germany)
  2. Monica Seles (Yugoslavia)
  3. Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario (Spain)
  4. Martina Navratilova (US)
  5. Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina)
  6. Conchita Martinez (Spain)
  7. Mary Joe Fernandez (US)
  8. Jana Novotna (Czech Republic)
  9. Jennifer Capriati (US)
  10. Anke Huber (Germany)
  11. Magdalena Maleeva (Bulgaria)
  12. Helena Sukova (Czech Republic)
  13. Manuella Maleeva-Fragniere (Switzerland)
  14. Mary Pierce (France)
  15. Nathalie Tauziat (France)
  16. Amanda Coetzer (South Africa)
  17. Sabine Hack (Germany)
  18. Kimiko Date (Japan)
  19. Katerina Maleeva (Bulgaria)
  20. Zina Garrison Jackson (US)

## Flattering win for Muktis

**Sports Reporter**



Three goals in the second half paved the path for a deceptively facile three-nil victory for Mukti against Arambagh in the Star Premier Division



Scene from yesterday's Star First Division football league encounter between Dhaka Wanderers and promotees Bangladesh Boys at the Dhaka stadium. The First league match after a recess of six days ended in a goalless draw. — Star photo

football league that resumed along with the Star First Division after a break of six days at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Arambagh, who finished fourth in last year's league, put up a spirited performance in the first half and continued in the same vein well into the second half but sudden fatal fissures in their defence led to a rather undue drubbing.

On a ground slowed by the recent application of heaps of sands to cover the soft patches caused by the incessant mon-

soon showers and the relentless stamping of players' boots, Arambagh settled down quickly than their opponents.

But their forwards failed to find enough space for shooting and most of their forays fizzled out in the Mukti D.

Mukti took the lead against

Arambagh remain stuck to their collection of four from eight matches.

### GOALLESS DRAW

In the day's first match, babes Bangladesh Boys and Wanderers Club shared points in a goalless encounter of the

run of the play in the 19th minute of the second half when striker Biplob found the net capitalising a Mizan pass (1-0).

Biplob engineered Mukti's second goal when he floated in a neat cross and Ripon lurking near the goalmouth blasted the ball into the net without much fuss in the 23rd minute (2-0).

Chapal sealed the fate of the match seven minutes before the end when he slotted the ball home after a clever Rana back-pass fell on his path (3-0).

Muktijoddha now have nine points from eight matches while

Star First Division league, played earlier at the same venue.

With one point from yesterday's match Boys now up their tally to ten from eight matches while Wanderers with addition of one point raise their collection to nine from eight matches.

### NO MATCH TODAY

Meanwhile the league committee has cancelled today's two Senior Division encounters for want of adequate security measure. The matches will be played tomorrow causing a bodily shift in the fixture.

## England eyes do what the men failed to do

**LONDON, July 27:** England's women cricketers did something here on Monday that the men have failed to do all summer beat Australia, reports AFP.

On the same day that England's men lost the Ashes and their captain Graham Gooch, who immediately resigned the women were keeping their World Cup hopes alive by beating Australia by 43 runs at Guildford.

A magnificent 139-ball century by Carol Hodgson carried England to 208 for five from their 60 overs. She shared a second-wicket stand of 107 with Janette Brittin (61).

Captain Karen Smithies rocked Australia by removing their prolific one-day scorers Belinda Clark (16) and Denise Annetta (3) with the total at 40.

Smithies took three for 13 in her 12 overs and when Gill Smith returned for her second spell she ripped out four wickets in the space of five overs as Australia were all out for 165.

Smith finished with five for 30.

**Results:**  
Guildford: England 208-5 (C Hodgson 105 n.o., J Brittin 61).  
Australia: 165 (G Smith 5-30).  
Wellington College: Ireland 151, India 152-6, India won by 4 wks.

Wellington College: Denmark 152-7, Holland 122, Denmark won by 30 runs.  
Chiswick: West Indies 96, New Zealand 97-3, New Zealand won by seven wickets.

## Gooch forsakes mantle



**LEEDS, July 27:** Graham Gooch quit as England captain on Monday after his team crashed to defeat Australia by 148 runs against Australia in the fourth Test at Headingley, reports Reuter.

Gooch, 40, announced the news 30 minutes after Australia had completed the victory that gave them a 3-0 lead in the six-Test series and ensured they retained the Ashes.

Gooch, who has led England in 34 Tests, said, "There will be another England captain for our next Test at Edgbaston. The Ashes have gone and I have stood down because I think that is the best way forward for England."

"Chairman of selectors" Ted Dexter knows my feelings and it was a personal decision. I want to wish my successor all the best and I have considered it a great honour to captain England."

"We need fresh ideas and a fresh approach. The players need someone else to look up to and it's right and proper that someone else should have a go."

No immediate announcement of a successor was made but the new captain is expected to be named in two days.

Gooch was appointed until the end of the series, but now says he wants the new man to be given an initial contract covering the remaining two Ashes

Tests plus the tour of West Indies early next year.

Gooch added: "I feel very lucky that I have been able to do the job and overall I know I can look myself in the mirror and say I have done my best."

England team manager Keith Fletcher said: "It is a sad day and I very much regret his decision. Graham always gives his best whenever he plays for his country. But it's not the end of his Test career by any means."

Gooch made it clear he was ready to continue playing for England under the new captain.

"If I'm selected I will give my successor all my support and, hopefully, expertise with the willow," he said.

The three main candidates for the England captaincy are Stewart, Mike Atherton and Mike Gatting.

Stewart twice stood in for Gooch during the tour of India and Sri Lanka earlier this year, but he is being used as a batsman-wicketkeeper and his role would need to be clearly defined as national skipper.

Atherton would bring a fresh outlook to the job but he lacks captaincy experience, being second in command at Lancashire. Gatting has immense experiences but possesses a chequered track record, including being sacked as England captain in 1988.

Gooch's Test captaincy record overall comprises 10 wins, 12 draws and 12 defeats. His decision to step down comes after a sequence of eight defeats in England's last nine Tests, with Gooch leading the side to six of those losses and a draw while Alec Stewart was in charge on the other two occasions.

## Atherton to be at the helm?



**LONDON, July 27:** Michael Atherton, 25-year-old batsman with limited experience as a team leader,

is the favourite to succeed Graham Gooch as England's cricket captain, reports AP.

The team selectors met Wednesday night to decide on a replacement for Gooch, who resigned Monday after England suffered another huge defeat against Australia, their eighth loss in nine Tests. An announcement is expected Thursday.

Atherton, who has played 27 matches for England since his Test debut in 1989, has been considered captaincy material for many years.

Nicknamed FEC (Future England Captain) in his early days at Cambridge University, Atherton's laid-back approach would contrast sharply with the rough-edged, hard-work ethic practiced by Gooch.

The other major candidate is Alec Stewart, vice-captain under Gooch during the last two winter tours. Former captain Mike Gatting was considered along shot, but he all but ruled himself out Tuesday when he said that Atherton or Stewart should get the job.

The five-man Captaincy Selection Committee, headed by Ted Dexter, will be looking for someone to pick up the pieces

from a disastrous year. England's last victory came one year ago this week against Pakistan. Since then, England has not only been unable to win, but most of the matches haven't been close.

The team was swept by India over the winter, and has dropped three out of four this summer to Australia, with one draw. England even lost a Test

part in England's recent debacles. Many feel Atherton was slighted when he was left off the team for the first two Tests in India, despite solid performances in previous matches as an opening partner for Gooch.

Stewart, on the other hand, was not only the No 2 man during the winter tour, but was given the chance as captain for the second Test in India and the Test in Sri Lanka. Both matches ended in embarrassing defeats.

Gatting, the last man to lead England to a series victory over Australia six years ago, has led Middlesex to first place in this year's county championship race. But the 36-year-old all-rounder lost the England job in 1988 and has recently been hampered by injuries.

"Mike Atherton or Alec Stewart should do the job," Gatting said. "My preference would be for Atherton because we have seen what Stewart can do and now would be a good chance to have a look at Atherton. The sensible way would be to appoint him for the final two Tests against Australia. If all else fails, they might fall back on me for the West Indies in the winter."

Other free advice for the selectors has been pouring in from all corners, with Hugh Morris, Kim Barnett and Martyn Moxon also mentioned as candidates.

Atherton is thought to be the favourite, however, because he has not been a full partic-

## Gooch on wheel of fortune



**LONDON, July 27:** Precisely three years ago on Tuesday, Graham Gooch was being hailed as English cricket's modern-day version of Montgomery of Alamein, reports Reuter.

Hammering India's bowlers to all parts of a sun-drenched Lord's, the England captain registered 333, the sixth highest score in Test history, added 123 in the second innings and became the first man to lead his country to successive Test victories for five years.

It was seen as the dawn of a new era, a classic example of leading from the front. No one could blame Gooch for reflecting on life's unfairness as England's Ashes hopes were scattered to the wind at Headingley on Monday.

By general consent, even Gooch's, his four-year tenure as England captain could continue no longer. With Australia 3-0 up after four Tests, England now have only pride to play for in the remaining matches at

Edgbaston and the Oval. In his 34 Tests in charge, Gooch has presided over two of his country's most inglorious overseas tours, to Australia in 1990-91 and India and Sri Lanka earlier this year.

Dennis Lillee, the great Australian fast bowler, described him on Sunday as "one of England's worst captains ever."

Yet his record shows England have won 10 times under his leadership and his batting has been beyond reproach. He now has 8,102 Test runs, just 12 behind Geoff Boycott and 129 adrift of David Gower, England's heaviest run-scorer of all time.

If some of his teammates had contributed half as much, Gooch might yet have had more to celebrate on his 40th birthday last week. As Bobby Simpson, Australia's coach, has pointed out: "It's no coincidence great captains always seem to have the best teams."

Gooch can point to Ian Botham, Bob Willis and David Gower as fellow-England stars who have also learnt Simpson's theory to their cost.

But even compared with that illustrious trio, his own England career has contained an extraordinary variety of peaks and troughs at odds with his famously downbeat public image.

Banned from Test cricket for three years for leading a rebel tour to South Africa in 1982, Gooch's political connections caused the cancellation of England's 1988-89 tour to India.

During the 1989 season, he volunteered to stand down from the England side because of his poor form against the touring Australians, in 1986-87 he decided not to tour Australia because his wife Brenda was pregnant with twins.

When he began his Test career in 1975 — also against Australia — he bagged a pair. Recalled three years later, he

promptly averaged over 50 during a summer of Tests against Pakistan and New Zealand, but had to wait 36 innings before he scored his maiden Test hundred, against West Indies at Lord's in 1980.

Solidly built and uncomplicated in style, he seemed at the peak of his powers when he went to South Africa. During his three-year ban he represented western province, but maintained his allegiance to Essex by scoring over 1,400 runs in each English county season over those three "lost" years.

On his restoration to the England side, however, his batting if anything soared to another plane.

He scored 196 against Australia in the victorious Ashes summer of 1985 and, despite previously being described by chairman of selectors Ted Dexter as having the charisma of a wet fish, was appointed at the end of the 1989 season to lead England out of the doldrums.

It seemed he was being successful when England narrowly lost 2-1 in the Caribbean in 1990, followed by that glorious Indian summer.

His 333 was the highest scored at Lord's and the third highest by an Englishman in Tests, while his match aggregate of 456 beat the previous record of Australian Greg Chappell by 76 runs.

Sadly for Gooch, an increasingly weary-looking figure, his captaincy has failed to find England a way out of the international cricket wilderness.

He wants to carry on playing for England this summer and next, but will not be around to face the bullets in West Indies this winter. The most fitting tribute to Gooch is that, even at the age of 40, he will be missed more keenly than ever.

## Investigators go after Tapie



**PARIS, July 27:** Reopening the second front in the Olympique-Marseille match-fixing scandal, investigators Monday probed deeper into allegations that owner Bernard Tapie tried persuading a rival coach to take the fall, reports AP.

Investigating Judge Bernard Befly questioned Boro Primorac, former coach for Valenciennes, on Primorac's allegations that Tapie offered him money and career opportunities to become a scapegoat. The encounter was expected to last several hours.

The Primorac affair is the only part of the bribery scandal directly implicating Tapie, who called the coach a liar and accused prosecutors Monday of taking a new tack in trying to destroy him.

The meeting between Befly and Primorac in Valenciennes followed Sunday's resignation of Marseille's general manager, Jean-Pierre Bernes, accused of being the moneymen in the main part of the scandal.

Bernes, charged with corruption, said that he did not want the club's season "held hostage" to his case.

A court freed Bernes from prison Thursday after two weeks detention failed to make him confess that he orchestrated bribe offers to three Valenciennes players to throw a league match May 20.

Bernes' silence seems to have momentarily stalled the case against him. But league officials suggest that his soccer career is over.

"He's 36 years old," said League president Noel Le Graet in a television interview Sunday. "He can find a different career in a few months and give a new orientation to his life."

The league's disciplinary board will start punishing those

involved within two weeks. Asked whether he thought that corruption by Bernes and three players charged had been established, Le Graet said: "Yes, I think it's relatively clear."

The Valenciennes players and Marseille midfielder Jean-Jacques Eydelie, who turned

left-wing deputy and served in the last socialist government as urban affairs minister.

In an interview Monday with the leftist daily Liberation, Tapie heaped derision on Primorac's story and excused himself for recent attacks on television crews.

Primorac, fired from his coaching job after Valenciennes were demoted to the Second Division, claims that he met Tapie at the Paris headquarters of his financial group in mid-June.

Primorac claims that the Marseille owner spoke with the club's coach, Marc Bourrier, by telephone during their encounter.

"You can't believe that I'd be talking to the coach of my team in front of Primorac," Tapie told Liberation. "You can believe I'm a hood, but don't think I'm stupid."

The two men confronted each other, in Befly's presence, earlier this month. Primorac has not spoken publicly about the encounter.

"When Primorac was confronted with me before the judge, and I said that this man is a liar, he didn't say anything," Liberation quoted Tapie as saying.

The Marseille Press Club meanwhile denounced Olympique Marseille for refusing to admit cameramen from two state-owned networks into the stadium for Saturday's season opener. Marseille beat Lens, 1-0.

The ban followed incidents where Tapie nearly ran down a cameraman from one of the networks, and threw a camera into a harbour as a crew from the other tried to film Bernes aboard Tapie's yacht.

The right to get news is essential, but there's no right to violate people's privacy," Tapie said.

**BERNARD TAPIE**  
over 250,000 francs (dfrs 45,000) to the wife of a player who faked a match injury, accuse Bernes of ordering the bribes.

Tapie's club reportedly wanted to save energy for the European Champions Cup final six days later against AC Milan. Marseille won, 1-0. But the scandal has soured the elation that followed France's first European soccer title.

A self-made millionaire, Tapie also represents Marseille in the National Assembly as a

Ferreira never felt out of it. "I knew I would break back sometime or another in the second set," Ferreira said. "Every service game he had was difficult for him."

Ferreira won the final four games of the match. AP adds: Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland beat 10th-seeded Wally Masur and Australian qualifier Jason Stoltenberg eliminated No 16 Brad Gilbert. Hlasek beat Masur 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, while Stoltenberg ousted Gilbert in straight sets, 6-4, 7-6 (7-4).

In other matches, Jaime Yzaga of Peru, ranked 49th in the world, beat No 336 Daniel Nestor of Canada 5-7, 7-6 (9-7), 6-2, and Sebastian Lareau of Canada downed Gianluca Pozzi of Italy 6-3, 6-2.

This year's tournament, with prize money of more than dfrs 1.6 million, is expected to be particularly exciting because of the top names who have signed up to play on the cement courts of the Jarry Tennis Stadium, former home of the Montreal Expos.

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