

Sport

Natants face amende

Sports Reporter
The steering committee for the sixth South Asian Federation Games...

Shah Sports Cup

Sports Reporter
Antaranga Sporting Club and Dhaka Football Coaching Centre moved into the semifinals...

Shohel and Wasim scored in the 10th and 14th minute of the first half...

Comilla spikers clinch Army title

COMILLA, Oct 5: The hosts Comilla Area clinched the title of the Army volleyball championship...

Naik Md. Afzal Hossain of Comilla Area was adjudged player of the meet.

C'Nawabganj soccer

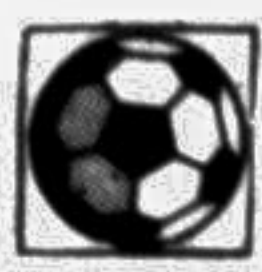
CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Oct 5: Mabarun Sangha trounced Diganta Prosar Eleven 8-1 in the First Division football league...

Khulna Div I soccer

KHULNA, Oct 5: The crucial match of the Khulna First Division football league between arch rivals Abahani KC and Mohammedan SC ended in a one-all draw...

Abul scored first for Mohammedan SC in the 33rd minute of the first half while Abahani neutralised the margin ten minutes away from the final whistle.

Boys step into men's world



Bangladesh Boys achieved a rare feat of winning twin promotion in a year when they beat fellow-promotees from Second Division East End Club...

The match the last of this year's domestic season inevitably crawled to derrier resort spot-kicks when the scheduled 90 minutes followed by another 20 minutes failed to break the 2-2 dead-lock.

In the day's match, Ujjal put East End Club ahead in the seventh minute by a nice placing shot after a header from skipper Liton off free kick from Dipu came his way (1-0).

Mintoo of Bangladesh Boys levelled the margin five minutes later from a penalty (1-1). Bangladesh Boys were awarded the spot kick when Maruf handled the ball in the danger zone.

East End Club again went up in the 15th minute when Selim guided the ball home off a Maruf pass (2-1).

Substitute player Tipu, who replaced Firoz, nullified East End's lead once again scoring the team's second goal two minutes after the breather by a angular shot off a Mintoo pass (2-2).

Besides, East End captain and highest scorer in the league Mahmudul Hoq Liton and Bayazid of Bangladesh Boys failed to score with only the goal to beat.

The match rolled into tie-breaker when both teams failed to score during the extra session of 20 minutes as per bye laws.

In the tie-breaker, Shuvra, Mintoo and Saroj scored for Bangladesh Boys while Nasim and Tipu failed in their attempts.

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On the other hand, Liton and Sumon found the net for East End but Sagar, Shawkat and Dipu could not succeed.



Action from yesterday's Star First Division football league match between Bangladesh Boys Club and East End Club at the Hockey Stadium. —Star photo

Bangladesh Boys, and Manik Sr, Maruf, Sumon and Liton of East End Club were cautioned with the Yellow card during the match.

TEAMS
Bangladesh Boys Club: Tota, Shuvra, Kutub, Saroj (Milon), Rakhal, Nasim, Swapan (Sana), Bayazid, Mintoo, Liton and Firoz (Tipu).

East End Club: Mohsin, Sagar, Manik Jr (Mohsin Miah), Munna, Dipu, Manik Sr, Maruf (Shawkat), Mamun Babu (Sumon), Ujjal, Selim and Liton. Referee: S M Mansoor.

ACB to introduce third umpire

ADELAIDE, Australia, Oct 5: Australian cricket is likely to see a third umpire studying video replays for the first time during the upcoming season's International Test and one-day series in Australia, cricket officials said here today, reports AFP.

Australian Cricket Board (ACB) chief executive officer Graham Halbish said the ACB was currently in talks with the Channel Nine television network about prospects for introducing the video system at Australia's international grounds.

Channel Nine is to broadcast the triangular series involving South Africa and New Zealand. Halbish said the ACB and Australian players were happy with the way the third umpire system worked on recent tours, particularly in New Zealand, and there was no reason why it should not be used here provided the technology was available and the visiting teams agreed.

At an International Cricket Council (ICC) meeting in July, it was decided video replays should be used to decide close run outs, stumpings and hit-wicket decisions if the facility was available and there were no complaints about its use by competing teams.

"Our position is we are looking at introducing it this season if those criteria are met," Halbish said.

"We are speaking about it with Channel Nine, and South Africa and New Zealand already use the system in their respective countries so I don't see any problems with it there."

"Our players were happy with the way it worked, and there didn't seem to be any concerns as long as the guidelines surrounding its use are clearly spelt out."

Halbish said while there were some reservations about the way the video system worked during the Australians' tour of England, the ACB was likely to adopt the NZ criteria which he believed was highly successful.

NZC ready to redraft tour itinerary

AUCKLAND, Oct 5: New Zealand cricket administrators have offered to redraft a planned itinerary for a tour here next year by India, chairman of New Zealand Cricket (NZC) Peter McDermott said today, reports AFP.

A change of administration in India's board of cricket control (BCCI) saw India turn down next year's tour on the grounds that with just four one-day internationals and no Tests it was not feasible.

BCCI's new administration saw I S Bindra succeeding Madhavrao Sindhia as president and Jagmohan Dalmiya taking over as secretary from Chadappa Nagaraj.

"Both the new men in-charge are known to us although the new president is overseas at the moment," McDermott said.

NZC is now negotiating with the Indians, McDermott said after Indian players at the Hong Kong Sixes tournament at the weekend indicated they were keen to come but were hoping to play a Test.

"We are presenting them with alternatives," McDermott said.

"Certainly, they seem keen to play a Test and we are looking at that but at the same time we want to be careful not to overburden our players."

India were initially to play two warm-up matches and four one-day internationals at the end of March but rejected that itinerary last week.

A final decision on the Indian tour here is expected in "seven to 10 days", McDermott said.

"In the meantime we continue our preparations with them being part of it."

Polyunin calls Christie, Cason drug cheats

BONN, Oct 5: Uzbekistan javelin thrower Dmitri Polyunin, stripped of his World Championship bronze medal for using drugs, has accused Linford Christie and Andre Cason of being drug cheats, reports AFP.

"When we were in the laboratory of Professor Manfred Donike, the laboratory technicians told us the English and Americans had big problems," he told the Sportkurier newspaper.

He claimed Christie and Cason, first and second in the 100 metres, had returned positive tests for their first urine samples.

"How is it possible their second tests were negative," he added.

BCCB sestet for Singapore



With cream of country's cricketers busy in the process of annealing themselves for the ICC trophy to be held in Kenya early next year, the middleings with rarefied prospects of making it to the final selection, unless of course some dire necessities spring up later, will be out on an excursion trip to Singapore next year to take part in a six-a-side meet.

The Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) yesterday announced the names of the fortunate six, who sponsored by Littlewood Bangladesh, will partake in the two-day meet to be held on October 9 and 10 in the port city.

The touring troop consists of Selim Shahed, Khaleel Mahmud Sujjan, Imran Hamid Partho, Ahmed Fatyaz Shaheen, Golam Faruque Chowdhury Suru and Ali Ahsan Babu who will accompany the side as the manager.

Organised by the Singapore Cricket Association, the meet

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will feature some of the past and present novos of world cricket. Noted among them are India's legendary run machine Sunil Manohar Gavaskar who will lead an Indian side that will contain his young son Rohan Jayvishwa Gavaskar and Sandip Patil, a former Test cap.

Dennis Lillee, often touted by pundits as the greatest fast bowler of the post war era, will add to the star appeal despite having gone into the vale of years. He will lead Australia, one of the ten teams participating in the cameo meet.

In a tourney where nationality or citizenship will be no bar in the way of pure entertainment, Alvin Kallicharran, the former West Indian skipper and master left handed batsman, will lead hosts Singapore.

His peer in the prime time of West Indian cricket, Joel Garner, the towering fast bowler nicknamed 'Big Bird' will lead a Thai sestet.

Englishman Brian Close, better known for his knowledge of the game than any feats that might have set the Thames

ablaze, will lead the Hong Kong side.

Another top notch of English county, Clive Rice, the South African allrounder, will be in charge of the Malaysian side.

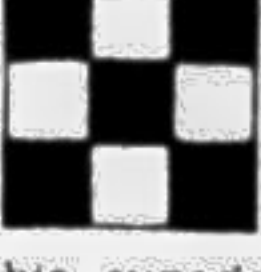
Apart from these crowd pullers some fitter and younger cricketers like Phil Newport of England will be there.

But Shri Lankans, who will be led by the redoubtable Aravinda De Silva, will start as the firm favourites. Arjuna Ranatunga, the perky left hander and the current captain of the Shri Lankan Test team, will be there to rev up islanders' bid.

Fortunately or unfortunately Bangladesh, who have the chance of having former Pakistani Test star Zaheer Abbas among their ranks as a guest player, will take on Shri Lanka in their first match.

Bangladesh along with Shri Lanka, Malaysia, Thailand and Australia have been placed in Group A while Group B will feature England, Hong Kong, India, New Zealand and Singapore.

Kasparov will have the edge



LONDON, Oct 5: Champion Garry Kasparov will use the advantage of the first move in a bid to press home his superiority over British challenger Nigel Short in the 13th game of their world title chess match on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

Kasparov has a commanding 8-1/2 to 3-1/2 lead after five wins and seven draws in the 24-game series, but has endured a patch of shaky form in the last week.

The 30-year-old Azeri-born champion has had to struggle to hold draws in the last three games, and his play has been punctuated by a succession of rare errors.

Kasparov admitted to being fatigued by the intensity of the hard-fought games, but categorised the slump as an

inevitable low period in the course of a long match.

The 13th game marks the beginning of what experts call a 'white week' for Kasparov, who will have the advantage of the white pieces and first move in two of the three coming games.

He has used this edge with deadly efficiency so far in the contest.

Short, 28, has impressed experts with his new-found ability, needs a victory to show that he is a serious threat to Kasparov, if not now, then in a potential re-match in two years time.

Andrew Page, Kasparov's manager, has predicted a push for match victory from the champion this week.

"Garry is going to be very, very dangerous...wait and see," Page told Reuters.

Chess commentators noted that Tuesday's game will have added significance for Kasparov, who is convinced that 13 is his lucky number.

Born on the 13th of April and the 13th official world champion (winning the title match 13-11), Kasparov always makes a special effort to add to his catalogue of lucky thirteens, and will doubtless press hard to increase his lead.

But Short is also preparing hard for the battle ahead. A source close to the Short camp said: "Nigel spends several hours every day - in the morning and afternoon - preparing for the next game, before relaxing with his guitar."

Kasparov needs only a 12-12 tie to retain the title. The first player to 12-1/2 points will take the match and capture the 62.5 per cent winner's share of the 1.7 million pound (2.6 million dollar) prize fund sponsored by the Times of London newspaper.

Brolin to miss key WC tie



STOCKHOLM, Oct 5: Swedish soccer star Tomas Brolin will not be in the lineup when his country plays Finland in a crucial World Cup qualifier next week, reports AP.

Brolin, who plays for Italian First Division team Parma, says he is out of shape.

"It was a difficult decision to take," the 23-year-old midfielder said in an interview published Tuesday by the Expressen newspaper. "But it feels like the right one. It is best for me and the national side if I don't play this game. One should not live on old merits."

Brolin has been one of coach Tommy Svensson's key players on the national team and his decision not to play has raised eyebrows.

Svensson said he tried to persuade Brolin to come home, but realized it was impossible.

"It's pointless to try to persuade a player who is not convinced that everything is on top. You have to be 100 per cent motivated to play on the national team," Svensson said.

Svensson noted that Brolin's new role as a midfielder in Parma has affected his game.

"I feel he has lost some of his sharp attacks we saw during last year's European Championships," the coach said.

Although Brolin's recent performances have not been outstanding, he still would have been picked for the team to face Finland, Svensson said.

Brolin's decision not to play may jeopardise his future for Sweden. On the national team, Brolin plays a defensive forward, where he faces stiff competition from players such as Par Zetterberg of the Belgian club Anderlecht.

Brolin said he had given the matter some thought, but

to the Swedish media, but broke his silence after Parma's 2-1 win at Swedish team Degerfors last month in the Cup Winners Cup.

A victory against Finland Oct 13 would virtually clinch Sweden a berth in next year's World Cup finals in the United States. Sweden trail France by one point, and lead Bulgaria by two in Europe's Group Six. All three teams have two games remaining.

Besides Brolin, Svensson will also have to shape his team without forward Johnny Ekstrom of Italy's Reggina, and striker Patrik Andersson is sidelined following two yellow cards. Midfielders Jonas Thern of Napoli and Stefan Rehn of IFK Goteborg both have leg injuries, but Svensson's surprise choice was Henrik Larsson of Helsingborg, who has played well in recent weeks.

Svensson Monday announced following squad against Finland:

Goalkeepers: Thomas Ravelli, IFK Norrkoping; Lars Eriksson, IFK Norrkoping.

Defenders: Jan Eriksson, Kaiserslautern; Pontus Kamark, IFK Goteborg; Roger Ljung, Admira Wacker; Mikael Nilsson, IFK Goteborg; Roland Nilsson, Sheffield Wednesday.

Midfielders-forwards: Martin Dahlin, Borussia Monchengladbach; Klas Ingesson, PSV Eindhoven; Stefan Landberg, Oster; Henrik Larsson, Helsingborg; Anders Limpar, Arsenal; Mikael Martinsson, IFK Goteborg; Hakan Mild, IFK Goteborg; Stefan Rehn; IFK Goteborg; Stefan Schwarz, Benfica; Jonas Thern, Napoli; Par Zetterberg, Anderlecht.

TOMAS BROLIN added: "The day I feel in shape and can compete for a spot on the team, then I want to play, again."

Svensson pointed out that newspaper reports last summer about Brolin's life off the soccer field might have influenced his decision not to play. Brolin briefly refused to give interviews

Ma's army out on a mission



BEIJING, Oct 5: China's women runners, not satisfied with holding world records in the 1,500, 3,000 and 10,000 meters, will go all out to win the IAAF World Marathon Cup on October 31 in San Sebastian, Spain, coach Ma Junren was quoted Tuesday as saying, reports AFP.

The team, including 3,000 and 10,000 metre world record holder Wang Junxia and 1,500 metre record holder Qu Yunxia, left their camp in China's northeast last Thursday for 3,200 metres of altitude training of the plateaus of Yunnan province, in the southwest, the People's Daily reported.

The team usually has five weeks of altitude training before a marathon, it said, but the time was reduced to give the runners a chance to readjust from China's national games last month, when Wang and Qu shattered long-standing world marks in the three events, the

newspaper said.

Following the national games, the team "had absolutely no time to rest, and after a week of readjustment, avoided all kinds of social engagements in order to guarantee that training proceeded normally."

"We are already very exhausted, but we really want to win the gold at the World

Marathon competition," coach Ma said.

"We will go all out, recover while training and strive after training on the Yunnan plateau to have the runners in the same condition as they were in during the Tianjin Marathon last spring," he said.

The International Amateur Athletics Federation marathon will be the team's last major international competition this year, the paper said.

Filip for South Korea's hopes

SEOUL, Oct 5: Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, on Tuesday visited a ski resort where South Korea hope to host the 2002 Winter Olympics, reports AP.

Samaranch arrived Monday for the celebration of "Olympics Day" at a world exposition in which the IOC and 135 other international organisations and nations are participating.

South Korea hosted the 1988 Summer Olympics.



Smoke screen in the galleries of the Hockey Stadium after police resorted to teargassing to disperse the unruly rival supporters when they engaged in a skirmish during the crucial and final match of the Star First Division football league between Bangladesh Boys Club and East End Club yesterday. —Star photo