

Dhaka Day by Day

The World Cup Invades Homes

by Adeeb & Pop Chuckles

Is there a home in any city in Bangladesh which is not a victim of the World Cup Football 94 epidemic? Our drawing room has become a control centre with the walls plastered with the fixtures, pictures and statistics of this leap-year crazy festival of one cowhide leather being chased by 22 insane men and billions watching it on TV for a month and enjoying it.

The clip boards are ready, the roll-up white board has been set up (rush trip to the shop to get the marker pens). Wish our local brand of politics were as popular with the school children debating on the caretaker government every five years. Play football, political pundits, to get popular, read-mission into power, and to sign autographs.

The clock must have turned crazy. What time is it, BT GMT or US? When to sleep, and why the dinner, breakfast and snack periods got so mixed up? The sale of potato chips must have gone up by tons, judging by the requisition from the home front every time one leaves the house. Why plain water is not enough in the room, strewn with empty bottles of soft drinks?

Other mini evils invaded our domain before WC '94. The bottle cap invasion came in two versions: car, motor bike and TV set as prizes, then the yo-yo gogo going gaga (never mind the English) with number chasing... "What's under the cap?", accompanied by a hit song of similar wording. The kitchen never closes, nor the eyelids of the housewife. The streets are quiet — Dhaka has become a ghost town.

Football commentaries are blasting you not only from the front via the idiot box (well named, for once), but also from the right, left and behind from the surrounding neighbours going flat out in their flats; as also from the sat-

ellites above (we have snatched from the cable-TV walls). Even the darwans (correction: security guards) hover below the windows to catch some football debris, leaving the streets deserted for the prowlers. Dad actually brought out his heavy police-like wooden stunning baton and kept it beside his armchair, sending mom into hysterics.

In one corner of the control room the teenager has dug into his pile of magazines and clippings to identify the players on the screen before the roster came up. When he failed to identify one star, he got frustrated and pestered his dad to bring him the right magazines.

From all over the house comes the shrill admonitions and what not (can't listen to two voices at the same time, can you?) of the ever-suffering mother. The volume of the TV is louder than it was during WC '90 — now with added stereo-phony.

The volume is lowered (slightly) when the home manager (that's mummy, in football jargon) goes for a nip or a nap, snapped with dreams of a holocaust when a goal is scored. She had fried the noodles, peeled

the mangoes, warmed up the hilsa polao, chilled the nightcap (the abominable milk) and sat for a while pondering over the unexpected demand for a new pair of football boots, as the one in use had suddenly shrunk in size. She was secretly planning to hijack the tennis ball used to practice spot kicks and dribbling in the drawing room. Dad had been offering coaching tips. But the son lost interest when he learnt that he also used to play barefoot in the colonial days. The debate switched over to the WC '94 winner. The arguments will never come to an end — until the grand finale actually produces one.



THIS IS A SPORTS FAN'S DREAM-MACHINE; A COMPUTERISED INSTANT ANALYSER.



SHOURHID



A sequence from a play, *Hamlet O Hamlet* by Biplab Bala, staged at the Guide House auditorium in the city yesterday on the first founding anniversary of Natyadhara.

— Star photo

Work of Barapukuria Coal Mine begins Monday

The work of the Tk 887.36 crore Barapukuria Coal Mine begins on June 27, reports BSS.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will formally inaugurate the work. Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain said this while visiting the coal mine site Thursday. Khurshid Jahan Haque, MP, who is also the president of Dinajpur district BNP, M Faizur Razzak, Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources and Mosharraf Hossain, acting chairman of the Petro Bangla and concerned officials were present during the visit.

Barapukuria Coal Mine, the first coal mine in the country, with an estimated reserve of 303 million tons will be financed by China National Machinery Import and Export Corporation (CMC).

Under the suppliers credit agreement, the CMC will provide US dollar 12 crore 48 lakh worth Taka 775 crore and the rest Taka 112 crore 36 lakh will be financed by the Bangladesh government.

The Geological Survey of Bangladesh (GSB) discovered existence of high quality bituminous coal in the area of 5.25 square kilometre in 1985. Later on, Messrs Wardel Armstrong, an international consulting firm of the United Kingdom, confirmed the coal deposit.

The present government took up the project soon after it assumed power and negoti-

ated for funding of the project. Finally on February 7, 1993, Bangladesh government and the CMC signed the agreement for extracting coal from Barapukuria.

The Energy Minister said that 10 lakh tons of coal would be extracted every year from the Barapukuria Coal mine and the duration of extraction would be 64 years. He said the project would be completed within five years from the date of its inauguration.

He, however, said that coal would be extracted within three years. He said the project would create job opportunities for 3000 people while another 10,000 people would derive indirect benefit from the project.

Dr Mosharraf Hossain said that a 300-megawatt power plant would be set up in the area which would use coal from Barapukuria. He said 83 per cent of the coal extracted from the mine would be used for power generation while the rest 17 per cent would be used for brick field and domestic use.

The minister said the Barapukuria Coal Mine would be a milestone in the field of economic development of the country. He expressed the hope that the energy crisis in the northern region would be solved to a large extent. He said the use of coal would also contributed to the protection of environment.

Happy Birthday to



SHOURHID
— Mama, Ninni, Nanna

Call to resist fundamentalists

By Staff Correspondent

Speakers at an open discussion of the Sammita Sangskritik Jote yesterday called upon the people to resist the anti-liberation fundamentalist forces unitedly.

Held at the TSC auditorium of the Dhaka University, the meeting was addressed by poet Shamsur Rahman, Muzahidul Islam Selim, Syed Shamsul Haq, Khalequzzaman Bhuiya, Ruhul Quddus Babu, Shafi Ahmed, Kazi Nuruzzaman, Kazi Shahed Ahmed, Ajay Roy, Mamunur Rashid, Mofazzel Hossain Maya, Sarwar Hossen Khan, Abu Sayeed Khan and Atiqullah Masud of the daily Janakantha.

Ajoy Roy insisted that all meetings of Golam Azam be resisted in future. He proposed to hold a big rally in front of the Baitul Mukarram Mosque in the city in this connection June 29.

65 circuit houses

There are 65 circuit houses at present in the country. Housing and Public Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Miah, informed the Jatiya Sangsad / Thursday, reports BSS.

To KHALEDA & MUTAHIR

(Mr. & Mrs. SM Uddin)

Heartiest congratulations on your golden wedding anniversary. Many happy returns.

From:

Son, daughters, daughter-in-law, sons-in-law, grand-children and family.

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Ctg mayor demands early construction of embankment

CHITTAGONG, June 24: The Mayor of Chittagong City Corporation today demanded early implementation of the plan for town protection embankment between Patenga and Kumira, reports UNB.

Mayor ABM Mahiuddin Chowdhury told a press conference here after visiting the embankment site that a temporary embankment was being constructed although a plan had been undertaken after the 1991 cyclone for constructing a permanent embankment.

Workshop on cost accounting

State Minister for Planning Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan, MP, said in the city yesterday cost accountants can play significant role in helping an organisation achieve success, reports BSS.

"Cost accounting is the most useful and modern mechanism of administrative control," he said.

He said this while inaugurating a workshop on "cost accounting in use in Bangladesh" organised by the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh (ICMAB) at its auditorium.

2 commit suicide in city

By DMCH Correspondent

Two persons committed suicide by hanging in city's Dhanmondi and Sutrapur areas early yesterday.

A newly married bride, Pakhi Akter, 18, hanged herself at her father's house at Hasan Ali slum at Dhanmondi after the marriage ceremony Thursday night.

The cause of suicide is yet to be known. Police recovered the body of Pakhi and sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) morgue for autopsy.

In another incident, Mohammad Shaheen, 25, hanged himself in his bedroom on the first floor at 5/1 PC Banarjee Road, Sutrapur early yesterday. Sutrapur police recovered the body Friday morning and sent for autopsy in the Mitford hospital morgue.



- 4:30 Opening announcement
Al-Quran
Programme summary
Children's programme:
Moner Katha
News in Bangla
5:10 Puppet show
5:40 Tarunya
6:20 Programme on population: Ongikar Banshari
7:05 News in Bangla
8:30 Maati O Manush
9:00 Magazine Programme
10:00 News in English
10:30 Live Telecast of World Cup Football '94: Belgium vs Holland
2:00 Argentina vs Nigeria



The Garments Sramik Front brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding an end to religious bigotry. — Star photo

What's on today

Drama Festival: Organised by Artonad Theatre to mark its 12th founding anniversary. Today's drama: 'Ebar Razar Pala' presented by Artonad Theatre. Venue: Mahila Samity auditorium. Time: 7 pm.

Rabindrasangeet Sammilan Parishad: A programme in memory of Abdul Ahad will be held. Venue: National Museum, Shahbag. Time: 6:30 pm.

Handicrafts Exhibition: One-day exhibition organised by the Bangladesh Homework's Women Association. Venue: House-II, Road-6 Dhanmondi. Time: From 10 am to 5 pm.

IUBAT seminar: On Engineering Educational Challenge in the Coming Century. Prof Dr Harun-ur-Rashid, Chairman, Engineering Department, Indiana-Purdue University Fort Wayne, USA, will conduct the seminar. Venue: IUBAT seminar hall, House-135, Road-94, Dhanmondi. Time: 5 pm.

Rotary District Assembly: Of Rotary District 3280 Bangladesh organised by the Rotary Club of Dhaka. Chief guest: Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 9 am.

BARC Workshop: On Bio-technology Research in Bangladesh organised by Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council. Chief guest: M Akhtar Ali, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture. Venue: BARC conference room, Farmgate. Time: 9 am.

Rotaract Club of Ramna: Prize giving ceremony of children's painting competition and a meeting will be held. Guest speaker: Afsana Ahmed. Venue: British Council, Fuller Road. Time: 5:15 pm.

ADASS: A discussion on Abuses of drugs and trafficking, organised by Anti Drug and Anti Smoking Society (ADASS) will be held. Chief guest: Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain. Venue: BIRDEM auditorium, Shahbag. Time: 4:45 pm.

Weather

Rainfall likely to increase

Light to moderate rain or thundershower is likely at many places over Chittagong, Rajshahi and Barisal divisions and at a few places over Dhaka and Khulna divisions during the next 24 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met office says day temperature may remain nearly unchanged during the period across the country. Rainfall activity is likely to increase during the subsequent two days, the forecast added.

Meantime, Teknaf experienced the highest 31 mm rain till 6 am yesterday.

Country's highest temperature 33.6 degree Celsius was recorded at Khulna and Chuadanga while the lowest 24.8 degrees at Barisal.

The sun sets today (Saturday) at 6:50 pm and rises tomorrow (Sunday) at 5:13 am.

The maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity of some major cities/towns recorded yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	31.8	27.1	80	72
Chittagong	31.5	26.4	85	98
Rajshahi	33.2	26.5	89	89
Khulna	33.6	26.4	82	91
Barisal	32.0	24.8	92	82
Sylhet	32.8	26.0	73	92
Dinajpur	33.0	25.8	81	67



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এতে রয়েছে বিশেষ এক জার্মিসাইড ইরগাসন

তাইতো যে সব জীবাণু শরীরে ঘামের গন্ধ সৃষ্টি করে সাধারণ সাবানের তুলনায় লাইফবুয় প্লাস সেসব জীবাণু বিলুপ্ত করে কার্যকরী সুরক্ষা গড়ে তোলে।

লাইফবুয় প্লাস

ঘামের দুর্গন্ধ প্রতিরোধ করে