



A goal mouth incident from yesterday's Transcom national school hockey championship match between Ahmed Bawani Academy and Manikganj Model High School at the Hockey Stadium yesterday. Ahmed Bawani won the match 2-0. — Star photo

Transcom schools hockey
Ahmed Bawani beat Manikganj

Sports Reporter
Last year's runners-up Ahmed Bawani Academy began their round robin league campaign with a 2-0 win over Manikganj High School in the lone match of the Transcom national schools hockey championship at the Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Mamunur Rashid opened the winners' account in the 16th minute from a nice field goal.

Mahmud Ahmed consolidated the lead from a free-hit. The penalty was in the 18th minute of the second half.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Rajshahi Medical College Campus High School vs Armanitola Govt High School at 10 am.

Dhaka Residential Model High School vs Muslim Govt. High School at 2.45 pm.

Narayanganj High School vs Moyezuddin High School at 4 pm.

BVF picks 18

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Volleyball Federation (BVF) has called 18 players to attend the national training camp for the seventh South Asian Federation (SAF) Games to be held in the Indian city of Madras later this year. The camp is scheduled to begin from June 16 at the Mirpur Indoor Stadium.

The Federation has appointed Yaad Ali as chief coach and Sohail Hossain Dollar as his assistant.

The BVF has requested all players and officials to report to the team manager Khairul Islam Mollah at the Mirpur Sports Village by 5 pm on June 15.

Following are the names of the players: Naimur Rahman, Ashit Kumar Nandi, Shafiquddin, Farooki Hossain of Bangladesh Rifles, Ali Farhad, Probr Kumar Mollik, Asadul Alam, Shahidullah, Mohiuzul Islam of Bangladesh Navy, Afzal Hossain, Sohrab Hossain, Er-tazul Islam, Noornabi Siddiqi of Bangladesh Army, Tolmur Rahman, Golam Mustafa, Moidul Islam of Bangladesh Air Force, Abul Mansoor of Titus Club and Ziaul Haque of Water Development Board.

Friends in CJKP cricket final

CHITTAGONG, May 30: Friends Club moved into final of the CJKP Ispahani Youth cricket tournament beating Town Club by 123 runs at the Chittagong Stadium here today, reports BSS.

After winning the Friends opted to bat first and scored a huge 220 for seven in the stipulated 40 overs.

Irfan of Friends made a brilliant unbeaten century (104) playing 119 balls netting seven boundaries and one sixer.

In replay, the Town Club were all out for only 97 in 28.1 overs.

Regency win big

CHITTAGONG, May 30: Regency Sports Club beat Young Star Club by nine wickets in the Dettol Metropolitan cricket league at the Dampara Police Line ground here today, reports BSS.

Batting first, the Young Star were all out for a paltry 88 runs in 39 overs.

In reply, Regency scored 92 losing only one wicket in 13.5 overs. National skipper Akram Khan and his younger brother Afzal Khan played significant roles in batting and bowling respectively for Regency's crushing victory.

Futre recalled

LISBON, May 30: Striker Paulo Futre was brought back into the Portuguese national squad on Monday for a European Championship qualifier against Latvia after a long absence due to a knee injury, reports Reuter.

Portugal coach Antonio Oliverira included Futre in an 18-man squad for next Saturday's Group Six qualifier in Oporto.

Partex overpower Biman

Sports Reporter



Skipper Mahabubur Rahman hammered a brilliant unbeaten half-century to propel Partex Group to the Cup final of the second office cricket league with a crushing six-wicket win over Bangladesh Biman in the first semifinal at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

The right-handed middle-order batsman scored a swash-buckling 59 off only 58 balls as Partex, chasing Biman's modest total of 151 in the stipulated 40 overs, rattled up 157 for four with more than six overs to spare.

The stockily-built My-mensingh cricketer, who came at number five when Partex were struggling at 54 for three in 13 overs, not only steadied the innings sharing 50 runs for the fourth-wicket with Selim Shahed but also gave a fitting finish picking the winning run in style.

With Partex needing three runs for a win in the 34th over, Selim pulled national left-arm spinner Enamul Haq Moni over wishful mid-off for a massive sixer.

In his enterprising and chanceless 58-ball knock, Selim, who played for GMCC in the Navana Premier cricket league, also clubbed two fours and yet another towering sixer off Shanevaz Shanu.

Selim Shahed, who played the perfect foil for his skipper, scored a priceless 45 off 60 balls which included four sparkling hits to the fence.

For Biman Ali Ahsan Babu, a former national cricketer, was the most successful bowler with two for 20 in his six overs.

Despite being out from the competitive cricket for the last couple of seasons, Ali Ahsan made the early breakthrough for Biman claiming the wickets of Partex openers Zahid Razzak Masum (16) and Sanwar (9) respectively.

But his valiant effort went in vain when the more recognised bowlers like Golam Nawsher Prince, Jahangir Talukder Dulu, Enamul Haq Moni and Ziaur Rashid Rupom failed to make any headway with a depleted attack.

Only Shanevaz Shanu, an occasional right-arm spinner, got the prized scalp of Selim Shahed to finish with one for eighteen in his five overs.

Earlier, winning the toss and electing to bat, Biman were cruising comfortably with 100 for two in 23 overs.

But a sad departure of young

Habibul Bashar Sumon, who was run out after scoring a sparkling 54, inflicted a dramatic batting collapse with Biman losing their last eight wickets for the edition of only 51 runs.

Sumon, a recently blooded middle-order batsman in the national team, hammered six hits to the fence in his polished 71-ball knock.

Shahnewaz Shanu, who shared 65 runs for the third-wicket with Sumon, chipped in with a patient 75-ball 38.

Enamul Hoq Moni, the Biman all-rounder, with 26 was the other notable run getter for the losers.

Saiful Islam and Anisur Rahman, the two national new-ball bowlers, did most of the damage to Biman's batting evenly sharing six wickets among them.

However, Saiful, who had a wonderful season with Abahani last year and was the most successful Bangladeshi bowler in the Sharjah Cup with a four-wicket haul against Sri Lanka, was the most economical. He gave only 25 runs in his impressive seven overs which included three maidens.

Spinner Shariful Haq Plabon with two for 23 in his eight-over spell was the other notable wicket-taker for Partex.

Partex will now have to wait for the outcome of the second semifinal between defending champions Acme Laboratories and Regen Sea Line, who are scheduled to meet in the second semifinal at the same venue today.



MAHABUBUR 59 n.o.

group finals in the 21-team knock-out first leg.

In the day's second match, Rahmatganj, who moved into the Premier Division this year, recorded a convincing 5-2 win over Diganta Proshari with striker Mamunul Karim notching the third hat-trick in the meet.

The well-built forward, who played for Abahani Krira Chakra a couple of seasons back, gave his side a 7th minute lead with a powerful grounder before being doubled

Beximco 13th Federation Cup
Good day for old-towners

Sports Reporter



Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society sauntered past Diganta Proshari of Rajshahi while Farashganj Sporting Club had to struggle to beat Police Athletic Club in one of the two first phase matches of the Beximco 13th Federation Cup football tournament at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The victories of both the old town outfits means that they moved into the respective

group finals in the 21-team knock-out first leg.

In the day's second match, Rahmatganj, who moved into the Premier Division this year, recorded a convincing 5-2 win over Diganta Proshari with striker Mamunul Karim notching the third hat-trick in the meet.

The well-built forward, who played for Abahani Krira Chakra a couple of seasons back, gave his side a 7th minute lead with a powerful grounder before being doubled

the margin heading home a Jaghu flag-kick from the left two minutes later.

But the Rajshahi outfit, who were always on the receiving end in the face of fluid Rahmatganj attacks, reduced the margin through their speedy winger Atiqur Rahman quite against the run of play.

In the 17th minute Atique, who had also scored the other goal for Diganta Proshari in the second half, banged the Rahmatganj net with fierce low drive from inside. Mamunul Karim then scored his second goal in the 36th minute with a gem of a side-volley to give Rahmatganj a 3-1 lead at the breather.

Abul Hassan, who revealed the Diganta defence with a sudden burst of speed through the right-flank time and again, gave Rahmatganj an unassailable 4-1 lead five minutes into the second half with neat placing shot.

In the 78th minute Atique scored his second goal for Diganta Proshari with a spectacular header before Mamunul Karim got his cherished hat-trick two minutes away from the final whistle when he stabbed the ball home from the close after being set up by Abul Hassan.

In the day's first match, Farashganj prevailed over a spirited police AC 4-3 in the tie-breaker after the services outfit held them to an 1-1 draw during the 90-minute regulation time.

Riaz, who missed the only 12-yarder for Farashganj in the tie-breaker, gave his side a 68th minute lead before substitute Bulbul of Police neutralized the margin seven minutes from the final whistle.

TODAY'S MATCH
Bangladesh Boy's vs Arambagh (6 pm)

Open Bridge competition

Sports Reporter

A day-long Open Bridge competition was held under the auspices of Bangladesh Bank Club on Friday.

The competition was followed by the biennial general meeting of the Dhaka Metropolis Bridge Association (DMBA).



An ariel tussle during yesterday's Beximco 13th Federation Cup football tournament match between Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society and Diganta Proshari Club of Rajshahi at the Dhaka Stadium. Rahmatganj trounced Diganta Proshari 5-2. — Star photo

Ansars' gymnasts to the fore

The Ansar Group 21st national gymnastic championships, organised by the Bangladesh Gymnastics Federation (BGF), began at the NSC gymnasium here yesterday with Bangladesh Ansars and BTMC dominating the floor, reports UNB.

BGF president M Nurul Huda MP inaugurated the two-day meet in the morning, participated by 75 leading gymnasts of the country.

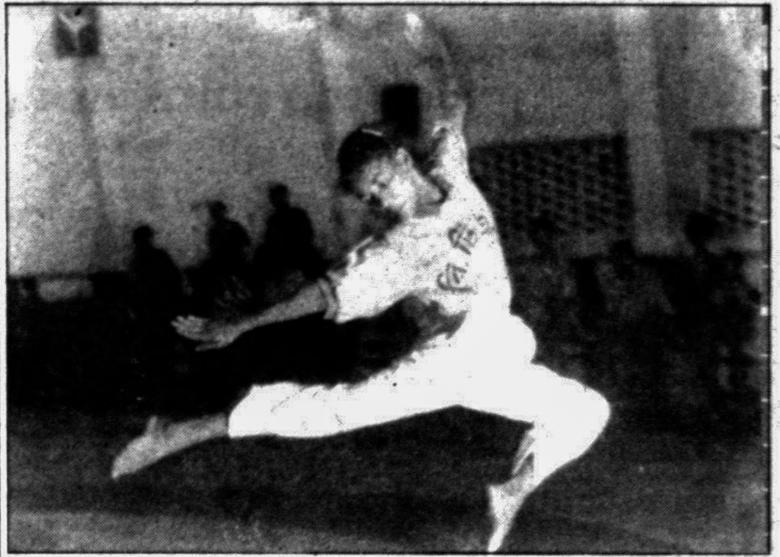
Later, in the afternoon, Food Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan distributed prizes.

Bangladesh Ansars established their supremacy in the men's group by winning five medals out of six.

Delwar Hossain of Ansars clinched the both golds in the men's parallel bars and Roman ring securing 17.40 and 17.50 points respectively.

In the women's groups, Sharif Marzina Hossain Shima of BTMC won the gold in the uneven bars scoring 13.40 points. Sharmin Sultana Sumi also from BTMC won the silver.

In the women's floor, Sharmin Sultana Sumi of BTMC lifted the gold scoring 14.70 points. Sharif Marzina Hossain Shima also from BTMC won the silver while Marzina Chowdhury Ruby of Ansars won the bronze medal.



Sharmin Sultana Sumi of BTMC performs her routine in the Afsar Group 21st national gymnastic championships at the NSC gymnasium yesterday. She bagged a gold medal in the women's floor event. — Star photo

Atherton on ball tampering



LONDON, May 30: England cricketer captain Mike Atherton, the centre of a ball tampering controversy last year, has called for the practice to be legitimised, reports AP.

footholds, which used to be allowed, or use their fingers to keep one side of the ball dry as I was seen to do at Lord's in 1994?

"There is nothing new with players trying to alter the con-

Hadlee said bowlers should be allowed to use means on their person, such as finger-nails, to scratch the ball, but not introduce implements such as bottle tops.

"I am not suggesting that anyone should flout the laws as they stand at the moment but I have to say that I agree with Sir Richard," Atherton wrote.

"I believe that if the laws were changed it would help to provide a better balance between bat and ball."

Atherton's book was scrutinized by England cricketer's ruling body, the Test and County Cricket Board, before it approved of its publication.

Mike's book was submitted to us for approval and vetted thoroughly, said TCCB chief executive Alan Smith.

"If he's asking for an examination of the laws, that's a perfectly reasonable point of debate."

In his newly published book, Atherton urged for seam lifting and ball doctoring to be allowed.

"I am not alone in thinking that the laws should be changed to allow certain actions which the players tacitly accept as part and parcel of the game," he wrote in A Test of Cricket: Know the Game.

What, as Imran Khan asked recently, is wrong with lifting a seam which was prominent when the ball was new but has become flattened after 40 overs?

"Why should players not rub the ball in the bowlers' "



MIKE ATHERTON

dition of the ball.

"They have been picking the seam since the game began. And they have used all kinds of agents like hair oil, sun cream and lipsalve to improve the shine and make it swing."

In last year's home Test series against South Africa, Atherton was captured by television cameras apparently rubbing dirt on the ball to rough up one side.

With one side rough and the other smooth and shiny, the ball swings and moves in the air, making it more difficult for the batsman to play.

Atherton escaped with a 2,000 pounds (\$3,200 dollars) fine, amid various calls for him to be sacked as captain over the incident.

He said he agreed with former New Zealand great Sir Richard Hadlee who said in a recent newspaper column in New Zealand that the time has come to legalise ball tampering.

Grobbelaar ready for action

HARARE, May 30: Zimbabwe's first choice and English Premier Division goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar, who had decided to pull out of the crucial African Nations Cup qualifying match against Zaire in Kinshasa because of the deadly ebola virus, will after all play on Sunday, reports AFP.

The Zimbabwe Football Association (ZIFA) said today that Grobbelaar telephoned on Monday inquiring about the situation in Zaire and the travel arrangements.

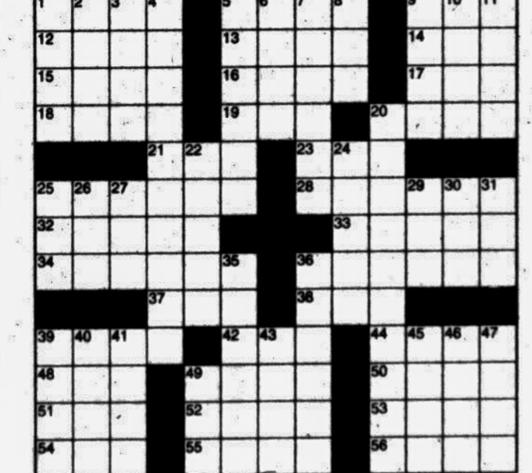
The Southampton goalkeeper, who feared being quarantined back in Britain if he had travelled to Zaire, said he would seek clearance from the British health authorities and expected to arrive here Friday.

The Zimbabwe team will leave for Kinshasa Sunday morning on a chartered flight.

Two other overseas-based players, midfielder Norman Napeza of Galatasaray, Turkey, and agent Savu of Lausanne, Switzerland, whose clubs had refused to release them because of fears over the killer disease, will be also available for the match.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Gamblers' choice
 - 5 Rarin' to go
 - 9 Send out invitations
 - 12 Since
 - 13 Composer Khachaturian
 - 14 Take the prize
 - 15 Rhythmic swing
 - 16 They're the tops
 - 17 Bullring bravo
 - 18 Hardy cabbage
 - 19 Galley need
 - 20 Circulate
 - 21 Postal Creed word
 - 23 Puzzle direction: abbr.
 - 25 Sentimental sort
 - 28 Pasta form
 - 32 Use
 - 33 Rig
 - 34 Approaching the treasure
 - 36 Repulsive
 - 37 Geological period
- DOWN**
- 1 "Columbo" star
 - 2 Largest of the seven
 - 3 Hot-dog holder
 - 4 With numerous repetitions
 - 5 Aplenty
 - 6 Silks solo
 - 7 Bay of Bengal city
 - 8 Type units
 - 9 Off base: abbr.
 - 10 Storage structure
 - 11 Had more than a hunch
 - 20 With numerous repetitions
 - 22 Houston athlete
 - 24 Go over again
 - 25 Spotted
 - 26 Eggs
 - 27 Remote
 - 29 Light (Sp.)
 - 30 Taylor or Smith
 - 31 Agent
 - 35 Narrow valley
 - 36 Burned slightly
 - 39 Word after inner or vacuum
 - 40 Pod vegetable
 - 41 Calendar quota
 - 43 Peruvian ancestor
 - 45 Cairo's river
 - 46 Antelope's playmate
 - 47 Submerged
 - 49 See 49



CRYPTOQUIP

AMR MDENRUA DO XEE
AMR' ODJRUAXSNQX'EU
XJR AMR KEGFPH FMNKQDSPU.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE PERSPICACIOUS GUITARIST WAS KNOWN FOR PICKING HIS FRIENDS.
Today's Cryptoquip clue: O equals F

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.