

Column One SPORTS TALK

Bangladesh-Myanmar final tie today

Sports Reporter



Bangladesh will vie for honours in a regional tournament for the first time since 1989 when they take on hosts Myanmar in the final of the quadrangular invitational tournament at Yangon this afternoon.

Earlier, Bangladesh reached the final of the South Asian Federation Games football competition on three occasions. In the first SAF Games (1984) held in Kathmandu, hosts Nepal beat Bangladesh in the final 4-2.

Back into today's final, Bangladesh have a big problem as they will not be able to field their first eleven. Strikers Mizan and Ranjan sit out the final as both the ace forwards have received two yellow cards each in their first round league matches.

Football buffs at home may watch the game live on Myanmar TV via satellite at 3:30 pm (BST). Myanmar took the more formidable side having beaten Bangladesh 4-0, Sri Lanka 2-0 and Singapore Army 3-0 in the preceding round robin league.

The situation was more favourable in 1985 when Bangladesh hosted the second SAF Games in Dhaka. They were the first choice in the final against India. But luck once again played an adverse role for the home side who lost to India in a tiebreaker (4-1) after the match remained locked 1-1 during the conventional time.

Alfaz and Naquib are their likely replacements. There is another possibility of bringing Mamun Joarder back in the forward from the right back position if Hasan al Mamun, the original right defender who is suffering from fever, is found fit today.

The last appearance of Bangladesh in the SAF football final was in 1989 in Islamabad. In that bitterly contested match they suffered a narrow 0-1 defeat to hosts Pakistan.

What ever may be the situation, Bangladeshi boys will be a more confident today against Myanmar than in their previous meet last week. And a warm welcome now awaits for Munna and co if they can bring the first ever international trophy for their homeland.

Kalabagan ride on Zahid

Sports Reporter

Atiar Rahman propelled them to victory in 38-2 overs.

Surjo Tarun club : 140 in 47.5 overs (Shamsul 38; Efee 3/21, Zakir 3/35) Kalabagan KC: 141 for 6 in 38.2 overs (Zahid 49*, Faruque 32; Shamsul 3/25)

Going in to bat on a cloudy afternoon, Kalabagan did not fare well to start with as they lost both openers Wahidul Islam and Nurul Abedin Nobel early in the innings. Skipper Faruque Ahmed tried to stabilise the situation somewhat with a quick knock of 32. Coming in to bat at number three, the former national captain, who fell from grace after the infamous tour of Kenya last year, hammered three boundaries and one over the fence in his 44-ball stay, but seemed to be frustrated by the regular loss of partners as he was bowled by Munna with the scorecard reading 67 for five.

headed Pakistani company till their target was reached. Zahid ultimately remained unbeaten on 49 from 74 deliveries, hitting three fours and competently fulfilling his responsibility as a match-winner, a distinction he acquired last season. Pacer Shamsul Arifin was the main reason for the Premier Division side's initial scare with impressive figures of 10-0-25-3.

Then the responsibility goes to the shoulder of Zahid to steer Kalabagan to victory, a situation not unfamiliar to him. Along with pacer Saiful Islam, who came in after the skipper's demise, he put on 33 for the sixth wicket. When Saiful went for 10 at 100/6, Atiar played a responsible knock of 15 from 40 balls to keep the bal-

In the morning session, new ball bowler Zakir Hossain and off-spinner Saiful Hossain made lives difficult for the Surjo Tarun batsmen as Kalabagan, choosing to try their luck with the leather first, booked their opponents within 140 in 47.5 overs.

Both Zakir and Efee picked up three wickets for the cost of 35 and 21 runs respectively.

Shamsul Arifin who showed his worth with the ball later in the day, returned an all-round performance as he scored 38 watchful runs off 88 deliveries.



Pakistani all-rounder Zahid Ahmed pulled title-aspirants Kalabagan Kirra Chakra out of deep waters with a watchful innings of 49 as his team defeated Surjo Tarun Club by 16th Damal Summer Cricket tourney first-round match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Chasing a modest total of 140, the Bagan men almost made a hash of their presumably easy task when they were reduced to 67 for 5 by the seventeenth over. But responsible batting by Zahid and young wicketkeeper

deep waters with a watchful innings of 49 as his team defeated Surjo Tarun Club by 16th Damal Summer Cricket tourney first-round match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Becker battles to win



PARIS, Nov 3: Three times Paris Open winner Boris Becker survived a scare before moving past American Todd Martin in three sets on Thursday to stay on course for a fourth triumph, reports Reuter.

he said, "I don't know what made the difference but perhaps it was a combination of luck and experience." Becker will go on to meet 12th seed Richard Krajicek, who won the battle of hard-hitting Dutchmen by crushing Paul Haarhuis in straight sets 6-4, 6-2.

behind Guy Forget when he entered Centre Court to challenge Czech Daniel Vacek. But the Frenchman, who had impressed in the previous round by knocking out second seed Thomas Muster of Austria, withdrew in the first set with injury. Forget, the 1991 winner, was 5-2 down when he retired because of a strained muscle.

Third seed Becker, who won the lucrative indoor event in 1986, 1989 and 1992, went 3-0 down in the decider before managing a 6-4, 4-6, 7-5 win to reach the quarterfinals.

If Becker moves past Krajicek, his opponent for a place in Sunday's final could be South African Wayne Ferreira, who beat Spaniard Sergi Bruguera 6-2, 3-6, 7-6. On a day with plenty of close matches, Michael Chang lived up to his reputation of never giving up to tame Andrei Medvedev of Ukraine in three sets.

Others to be inducted here on the final day of this month include former US champion and 1968 Olympian Marty Liguori, high jumper Louise Ritter, former Olympic coach Mel Rosen and the late Don Lash, a distance runner.

After a perfect start, Becker struggled with his usually efficient first serve and started making many unforced errors.

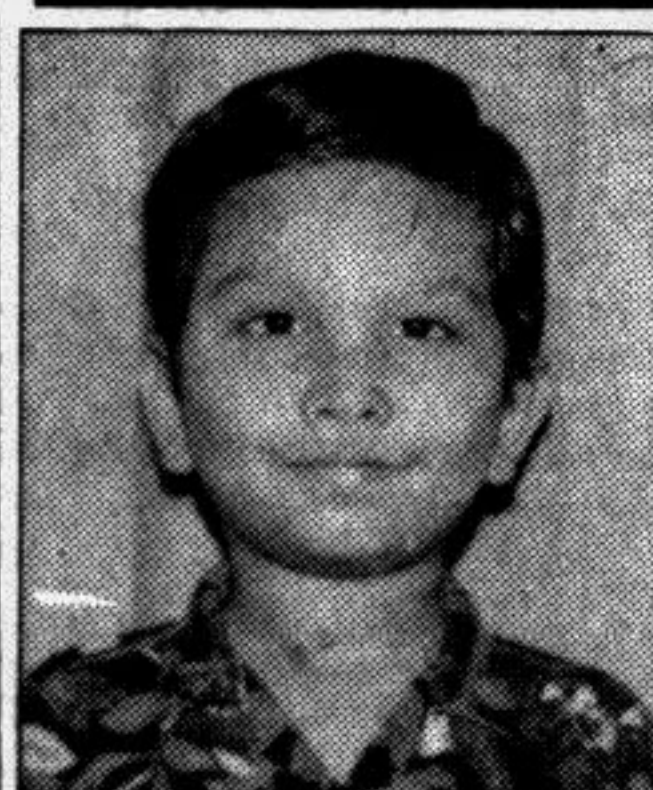
Former French Open champion Chang recovered from a poor start to earn a 2-6, 6-7, 7-5 win and set up an exciting clash with former world number one Jim Courier, who looked close to his best as he beat Swede Magnus Larsson in straight sets.

Norman, 36, halted Jahangir Khan's 5 and a half years unbeaten run when he defeated the Pakistani to win the World Open in Toulouse, France in 1986.

The former world number one German, a long time favourite with the Paris crowd, recaptured glimpses of his old form to come back in the third set and then wasted three match points before converting the fourth with an ace.

The home fans, were all

WHIZZ KID-10 WINNERS



1. Mashkur Hussain Sunnydale Dhaka

2. Johan Louis BIT Gulshan, Dhaka

4. Mahsoun Choudhury Sunbeams School Dhaka

WHIZZ KID-11 correct answers 1. The building containing a cycle-racing track is an Ans: Velodrome 2. The maximum that winners can score in a volleyball game is Ans: 17 points 3. "Fresh" is a term used in Ans: Table Tennis 4. The 1995 SAF Games will begin in Madras from Ans: December 18 5. In night cricket the ball is usually Ans: White



3. Anika Mariam Ahmed Sunnydale Dhaka

5. Ruby A K School & College Dhaka

Indians in KL hockey final

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 3: India reached the final of the sixth Sultan Azlan Shah Cup hockey tournament here with a 1-0 win over Spain in the last preliminary round match at the Tun Razak Stadium here Friday, reports AFP.

They will face reigning Olympic champions Germany in Sunday's final. The Indians needed an outright win to make their third final and they did just that with a solitary goal victory although the scoreline could have been wider.

India, champions in 1985 and 1991, played well and were able to take control of the match from the early stages. The Indians again relied on their centreforward Jagbir Singh to provide the thrust up front and the striker from Agra did not disappoint as he provided at least three goal-scoring chances.

The first chance came in the 20th minute when he beat three defenders but this shot was blocked by Spain's goalkeeper Ramon Jufresa. Baljit Singh, who was following alongside Jagbir Singh, pounced on the rebound to put India ahead.

Ten minutes later, Jagbir Singh was stick-checked in the D but from the ensuing penalty stroke, Mohamed Raiz failed to convert when he sent the ball straight at the goalkeeper.

The second-half saw India in full control of the match but they could not translate their dominance into goals. In the end, the solitary goal was enough to put them in the final.

Nepalese v'ball team to arrive tomorrow

Sports Reporter

An 18-member Nepalese national volleyball team will arrive in the city tomorrow to play a number of exhibition matches with their Bangladeshi counterparts. The tour is part of their preparation for the forthcoming 7th SAF Games in Madras.

New faces in Hall of Fame

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana, Nov 3: Former Olympic champions Florence Griffith Joyner and Valerie Brisco-Hooks were among six named to the US Athletics Hall of Fame here Thursday, reports AFP.

"Flo Jo" won three gold medals at the 1988 Seoul Olympics and owns world records at 100m (10.49 seconds) and 200m (21.34). Brisco-Hooks was the first-ever Olympic double gold medalist at 200 and 400 metres, winning both at the 1984 Olympics.

Others to be inducted here on the final day of this month include former US champion and 1968 Olympian Marty Liguori, high jumper Louise Ritter, former Olympic coach Mel Rosen and the late Don Lash, a distance runner.

But the stocky striker, now virtually unrecognisable from his heyday with thick glasses and greying beard, can be thankful just to have reached his 50s after winning a battle against alcoholism.

Norman calls it a day

LONDON, Nov 3: Ross Norman, the New Zealander who ended one of the biggest records in squash, has decided to retire from the professional game, reports Reuter.

Norman, 36, halted Jahangir Khan's 5 and a half years unbeaten run when he defeated the Pakistani to win the World Open in Toulouse, France in 1986.

Since then Norman has remained one of the world's leading players, but constant tendinitis in his right arm has forced him to quit. "Naturally I'm disappointed, but there was no point in carrying on," he said.

Norman's decision means that he will miss next week's World Open in Cyprus — his first absence for 17 years. Jansher Khan will be attempting to overtake Jahangir and win the title for an unprecedented seventh time.

WHIZZ KID-11 winners

- 1. Razin Mustafiz Omi South Breeze Dhanmondi, Dhaka 2. Vashwar Tajdidur Rouf PDB High School Ghorasal 3. Tareque Shareef Scholastica Dhaka

NOTICE

Question No. 4 of Whizz Kid-11 did not provide the correct option. Winners have been based on the other four questions.



GRAND CONFERENCE: (From Left) Mohammedan SC's Russian GM Mikhail Krasenkov, Armenian GM Ashot Anastashia and Bangladesh GM Neaz Murshed confer with their chairman, Lokman Hossain Bhuiya, during yesterday's match against Parijat Chess Club at the Chess Federation.

MSC keep their pace



Favourites Mohammedan Sporting Club took a solo lead in the First Division chess league after the end of second round yesterday at the chess room of Bangladesh Chess Federation.

Sports Reporter

Matiur Rahman after 51 moves while GM Niaz Murshed outplayed Sumon Malik in 28 moves. Abdullah Al Rakib, the other MSC player, defeated Ruhul Islam after 41 moves.

Fide Master Rezaul Haque who beat Khaled Shawkat Prince while the fourth match between Khandkar Kayes Hasan and Rafiqul Islam ended in a draw.

With the yesterday's victory, MSC, who are participating in the league after nine years, went atop the point-table of 17-team meet with betting full eight points. MSC's way to take the lone lead was paved by Biman's fall on the day. The former champions suffered a 1.5-2.5 defeat at the hands of unheralded Leonine Chess Club.

The win raised Leonine's tally to six points which keeps second in the standings. On the other hand, Biman bagged 4 points. In days other engagements, Bangladesh Ansars beat Mashgul Mahfil 3.5-5. BTMC outplayed Genius Chess Club 4-0, Dhaka University defeated Konica Sangsad 2.5-1.5. Mahakhali Pradeep Sangha outmastered Anushilan Chess Club 4-0. Farashganj SC overcame Narayanjan Chess club 3-1.

The other match between Sheikh Russel Kirra Chakra and Fire Service ended in a 2-2 draw. The third round of the league will start today at 2 pm at the same venue.

Mohammedans, who have three Grand Masters in their four-men squad, recorded a convincing 4-0 win over Parijat Chess Club.

GM Mikhail Krasenkov of Russia, who arrived in the capital on Thursday night, grabbed the first win for MSC yesterday. With playing Sicilian strategy, the veteran Grand Master needed only 18 moves to secure the surrender of his opponent Mujibur Rahman.

Armenian GM Ashot Anastashian, playing with black pieces and adopting Queen's Indian Defence, beat

An icon's irony of fate



BONN, Nov 3: When Franz Beckenbauer turned 50 in September, the German soccer legend was treated to a huge party of VIPs, a television special and a match including some of the biggest names in the game in the last three decades, reports Reuter.

Mueller said on Thursday, "I'm going to do tomorrow. And tomorrow what I'll do the day after."

on the restaurant and a sports shop in Munich. He ended up turning to alcohol to get new kicks in life.

"I'm not jealous at all of Beckenbauer always being in the spotlight. I'm a different person... Franz can't do it any other way anymore. I saw his diary once. He never has a day off. I don't want that."

"It was sheer boredom that almost destroyed the life of a man who was a household name in the 1970s after scoring 68 goals in 62 internationals and leading the goalscorers list with 10 goals at the 1970 World Cup finals in Mexico.

Just five years ago it looked as though drink was going to destroy for ever the sharp reflexes and mind of perhaps the most instinctive goalscorer of all time.

When his fellow 1974 World Cup star Gerd Mueller reaches the milestone today, he will enjoy a quiet, modest get-together of family and friends. The former forward is just happy to be alive.

After leaving Bayern abruptly in 1979 after 15 years at the club, he played

But Bayern saved their former star, giving him a job as a youth and reserve team coach after he finished a course to dry out in 1991. Beckenbauer, the club chairman, and Bayern manager and 1974 World Cup player Uli Hoeness, played a major role.

Mueller was arguably the most devastating striker of all time in the shirt of Bayern Munich and West Germany. In some ways he was a bigger star than Beckenbauer in the Germans' 1974 triumph, scoring the winner in a 2-1 victory over the Dutch in Munich.

After leaving Bayern abruptly in 1979 after 15 years at the club, he played

Mueller went to stay at Beckenbauer's home in Austria. Many of the other 1974 World Cup players, including current Germany coach Berti Vogts, and 1960s star Uwe Seeler, rallied round. "It (alcohol) changed everything. I was lucky to have Bayern Munich," Mueller said. "I'm proud that I don't drink anymore."

But the stocky striker, now virtually unrecognisable from his heyday with thick glasses and greying beard, can be thankful just to have reached his 50s after winning a battle against alcoholism.

While Beckenbauer was becoming a World Cup-winning coach, media star and multi-millionaire, Mueller, bored with life after football, was drinking himself into an early grave.

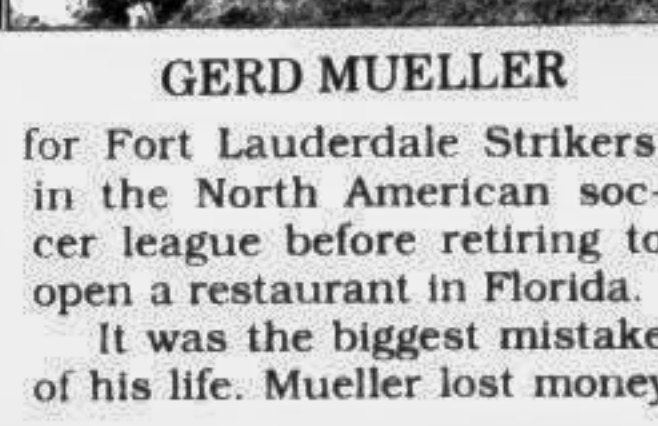
Beckenbauer added: "The fact he managed to kick it was the greatest victory of his career."

It is significant that a man who was once known as "the bomber" because of the destruction he could cause in the opponents' penalty area, has a very simple wish for the future. "I just want to be healthy."

for Fort Lauderdale Strikers in the North American soccer league before retiring to open a restaurant in Florida. It was the biggest mistake of his life. Mueller lost money

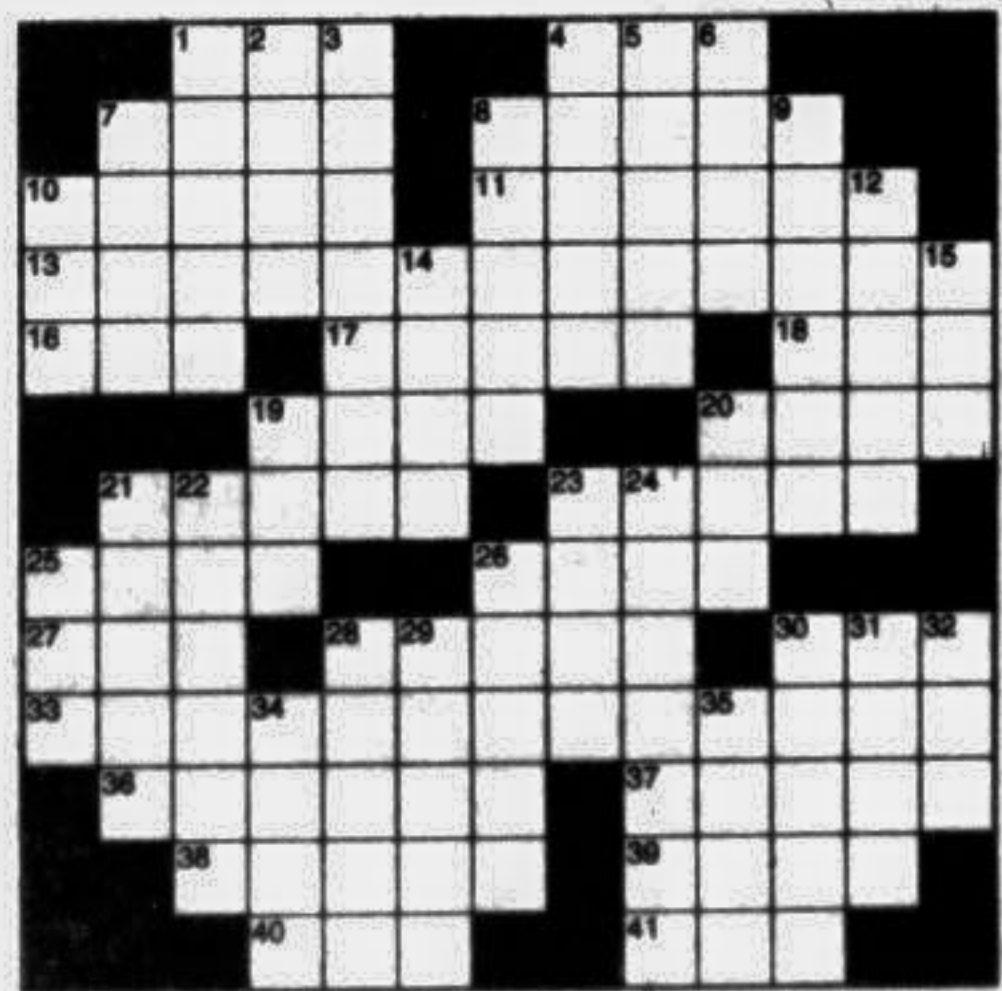
By contrast, Mueller is happy just to spend his days working with unknowns in Bayern's amateur and reserve teams. "I don't need anything. I have everything," he said. "I love to just run around in a tracksuit."

GERD MUELLER



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 "— for the million..." 4 Fat farm 7 Post-Christmas event 8 Ring-shaped road 10 Heart chambers 11 One of the Earp brothers 13 Do an autumnal chore 16 Small shot 17 Legal wrongs 18 Prior night 19 Partner in crime 20 Determination 21 Injured by a bull 23 Asinine crime 25 Quarter-bushel 26 Info 27 Grass-hopper's rebuker 28 Recent Sinatra album 30 Worker's compensation 33 Becomes a philanthropist's ex? 34 Chamberlain comparison 37 North African capital 38 Roof features 39 Southern st. 40 Took control 41 Clitic Suction time: 22 mins. DOWN 1 Report card data 2 Netman 3 Kingdome home 4 Chamberlain comparison 5 Holes in the head? 6 Plankton component 7 Attempt 8 Murphy Brown's son 9 Servants' garb 10 Wall St. wheeler-dealer 12 Casual wear 14 Contain 15 Prepared 19 Clume 20 Hlaus 21 Hereditary factors 22 F# to F#, for instance 23 This and that? 24 Egyptian town at the Nile's mouth 25 Chum 26 "For — sake!" 28 Dig 29 You, to Uruguayans 30 Soft, light velvet 31 Related 32 Absolutely 34 Scallopini base 35 Wished otherwise



CRYPTOQUIP "X J W X I V J C U X D D C K J M 1040 UCWH," LMXV HMN, "Y K J X UCKAV X J J C Y I J C C J M N X A R." Yesterday's Cryptogram: HAIR COLOR GENERALLY FALLS INTO THE CATEGORY OF HUE IT YOURSELF. Today's Cryptogram clue: J equals T The Cryptogram 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.

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-12

Tick the Correct Answer (Competition closes: 8 p.m. Nov 10, 1995)

Table with 5 questions and multiple choice options for the Sports Whizz Kid competition.