

6th Bangladesh Games begin Dec 18

The Sixth Bangladesh Games '96 will begin in the capital from December 18 next, reports BSS.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who is the chief patron of the Games will inaugurate the meet at the National Stadium number one. The Games will continue till December 25.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the organising committee with Finance Minister SAMS Kibria, who is also the president of the committee, in the chair.

C'wealth Open

Zia zaps Laisram

CALCUTTA, Dec 8: Grand Master Colin McNab of Scotland and International Master Ziaur Rahman of Bangladesh registered easy victories in the fourth round to consolidate their position in the Commonwealth Open chess championship at the Netaji Indoor Stadium here today, reports PTI.

McNab defeated his Indian challenger P D S Girmath in 35 moves. Zia played a brilliant game to demolish Laisram Imocha of India in 47 moves on a day which saw a number of matches ending in draws.

Brothers beat Arambagh

Sports Reporter

Brothers Union recorded a 2-0 win over Arambagh Krira Sangha in one of the two Danish Premier football league matches at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

After a barren first half, striker Don put the Gopibhadra outfit into the lead in the 59th minute with a spectacular header off a measured cross from medio Tipu, who added the second shooting home from close eight minutes from the final whistle.

It was Brothers' sixth win in the double-leg league to claim the fourth position with 23 points on completion of their 17 league matches.

Arambagh, who along with East End and Agrani Bank locked in a heady battle to avoid the dreaded relegation zone, with this defeat remained glued to their previous collection at the end of 17th matches.

On the other hand, Agrani Bank, who posted a lone goal win over Farashganj in the first match of the day — thanks to a 55th minute strike from Munna — increased their tally to 16 points on 17 outings.

But with one match to go for both the teams, Agrani Bank are relatively in a better position to stay in elite group as they are going to face Bangladesh Boys, who have already confirmed one of the two relegation slots.

On the other hand East End with 14 points from 16 matches, are left with a tougher task to avoid relegation as they are scheduled to face Fakirerpool in their penultimate league match tomorrow before meeting Muktiyodha.

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LATEST

MUNICH, Dec 8: Boris Becker served with devastating efficiency against the most ferocious server in the game and beat Goran Ivanisevic in straight sets to win the most lucrative prize in tennis Sunday, reports AP.

Riding the support of a partisan crowd of 10,000 in the city where he lives, Becker routed Ivanisevic 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 in the final of the 6 million dollar Grand Slam Cup.

The victory earned Becker 1.875 million dollars. Ivanisevic had to settle for 812,500 dollars.

V-Day athletics

Sports Reporter

The Victory Day open women's athletics championship, under the aegis of the Bangladesh Women's Sports Federation, begins at the federation's complex at Dhanmondi today.

Slate Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader will inaugurate the meet at 9 am.

Mexican mauls S Korean

PALM SPRINGS, California, Dec 8: Mexico's Ricardo Lopez, the little guy with dynamite in his fists, overwhelmed South Korean challenger Myung-Sup Park, stopping him in the first round to easily hold on to his World Boxing Council strawweight title on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Lopez went right after Park from the opening bell and just 2:22 into the fight he had completed his 18th consecutive title defence, raising his record to 44-0.

Park managed to duck a wild right by Lopez, but the champion followed with a devastating roundhouse left hook to the face that put Park on his back with blood from his nose splattered all over his body.

The dazed Korean got to his feet before being counted out, but Lopez landed a couple more unconscious blows to the challenger's head and the referee quickly stepped in and stopped the fight.

"I wasn't looking for knock-out," Lopez said through an interpreter. "I just take advantage of what comes."

"I missed and then I hit him very well."

Selim Shahed comes alive

Huge wins for Bagan, Wari

Sports Reporter



National left-arm seamer Anisur Rahman and his new-ball partner Zakir Hossain revolved on the artificial turf at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium to bowl title contenders Kalabagan Krira Chakra to a huge 179-run win over Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club (GMCC) in one of the two Premier cricket league matches yesterday.

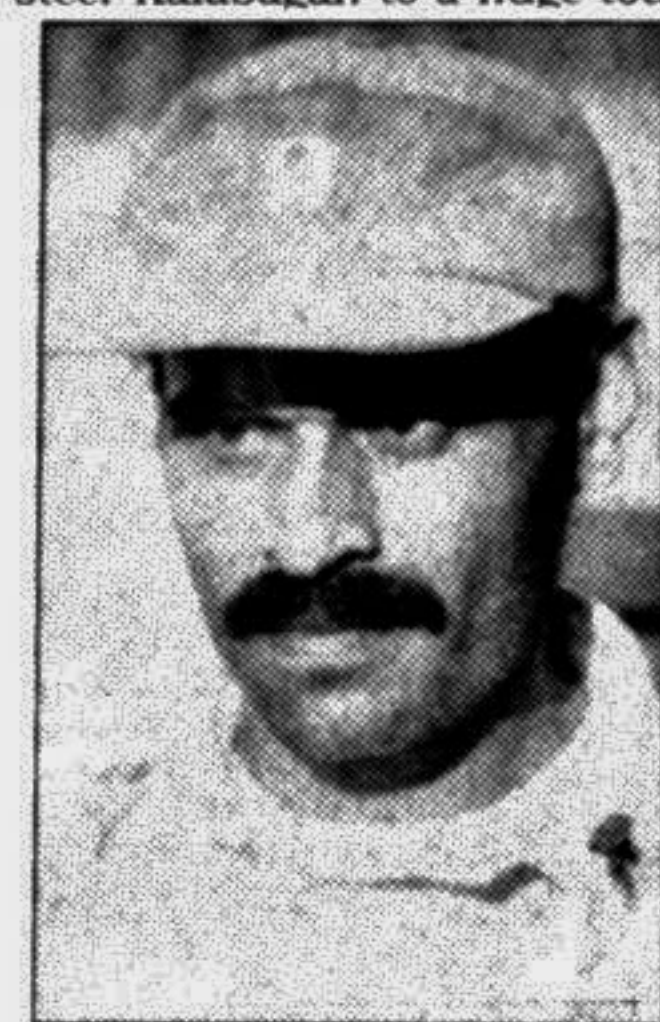
The couple, who were in devastating form with the cherry, evenly shared six wickets among them as GMCC, chasing an imposing Kalabagan total of 266 in the stipulated 50 overs, were shot out for a meager 87.

Zakir, the more aggressive of the two, celebrated his maiden call to the national camp for the ensuing ICC trophy with three wickets for only 15 runs in his 10 thrifty overs.

BRIEF SCORES

KALABAGAN KC: 266 for six in 50 overs (Selim Shahed 68, Imran Nazir 34, Atiar 33, Al-Amin 2/47, Ferdous 2/43).
GMCC: 87 all out in 27.2 overs (Md Ali 23, Zakir 3/15, Anis 3/20).

WARI CLUB: 254/9 in 50 overs (Amir Wasim 64, Tareq Mehboob 54, Totam 56; Shantoo 3/46).
LALMATIA: 155 all out in 46.1 overs (Nahid 42 n.o.; Tareq Mehboob 2/26).



AAMIR WASIM ... 64

after opener Harun-ur Rashid Liton and Atiar gave their side a flying start putting on 65 runs for the first wicket.

Atiar hammered a rapid-fire 33 while Liton chipped in with 26 before both were removed in successive overs by Faiyaz, who finished with two for 43 in his ten overs.

After the quick departure of both the openers, Selim Shahed, who came in to bat at his customary position of number three, featured in two vital partnerships with Imran Nazir

wicket of the last GMCC wicket, finished with three for 20 in his 6.5 overs.

Earlier, batting first after winning the toss, Kalabagan piled up a commanding total with one-down Selim Shahed celebrating his first half-century of the season.

The stylish right-hander, who was going through a lean patch for the last couple of seasons, scored a polished 68 to steer Kalabagan to a huge total.

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After Anis gave the breakthrough in the fourth over by having GMCC opener Ali Shah clean bowled for 9, the right-arm seamer with deceptive outswingers up his sleeves, captured two wickets in the next over reducing GMCC to 27/3.

Faiyaz, the other GMCC opener, departed for only four after nicking an outgoing delivery from 17 overs.

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Brawny start for Usha

Sports Reporter

National centre forwards Mohammad Sadeq and Rafiqul Islam Kamal excelled on the newly laid artificial turf at the Hockey Stadium with some imaginative display to throttle title aspirants Usha Krira Chakra to the next round of the Bijoy Dibosh Hockey Tournament with a 9-1 thrashing over Farashganj Sporting Club in one of the two matches billed for yesterday.

The two, who formed a formidable duo in the up-front, staged some brilliant brand of attacking display to roll up a hapless Farashganj sharing five goals among them including a hat-trick by Sadeq.

After Naqib opened the goal in the ninth minute converting a penalty stroke, Sadeq scored in the 18th, 22nd and 28th minute as the star-studded Usha, who made the mockery of a clash, took an unassailable 4-0 lead at the breather.

Kamal then added two more goals in a span of two minutes to wrest a 7-0 lead midway through the second half while Tutul Kumar Nag compounded the Farashganj misery scoring twice in the 77th and 67th minute respectively.

For the lowly Farashganj Moni struck the consolation goal in the 59th minute.

In day's first match in the morning, Sadharan Bima moved into the next round when beating Bangladesh Sporting 2-0. The winners led the first half by a lone goal.

Habib opened the winners account with a field goal in the 18th minute before Ripon sealed the fate of the match scoring the second in the 52nd minute.

Meanwhile, in the other engagement of the day, Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club recorded a resounding 4-0 win over Victoria Sporting Club with Rubel scoring twice, one piece in each half.

Rubel apart, Musa Miah and Fazal Mahmood scored the other two goal for the winners.

JU cricket

Government and Political Science Dept moved to the quarter-finals of the inter-department cricket tournament of Jahangirnagar University beating Archeology by four wickets at the central playground yesterday, says a press release.

Batting first, the Archeologists made 93 for nine off their stipulated 30 overs. Mukti scored 30 and Momen 23 while Mukta grabbed four wickets for 11.

In reply, Political Science reached the target of 94 losing six wickets with 10 overs to spare. Rinku remained unbeaten on 36.

Brisk lobbying in Bangkok

BANGKOK, Dec 8: Lobbying for the 2004 Olympic Games is about to reach a new intensity with many of the 11 cities lining Asian votes at a meeting here while an International Olympic Committee team visits front-runner Cape Town, reports AFP.

Representatives from the 11 cities are in Bangkok to win the hearts, minds and the 17 IOC votes from the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA).

Each will make a presentation to the OCA general assembly on Monday and with the stakes so high the bid heavyweights have travelled to the Thai capital.

An IOC evaluation commission is visiting Cape Town this weekend, the last of the bid cities to be looked at.

A short list of four or five candidates from Athens, Buenos Aires, Cape Town, Istanbul, Lille, Rio de Janeiro, Rome, San Juan, Seville, Stockholm and St Petersburg will be named in March. A final decision is to be announced on September 5.

Cape Town is many people's favourite because Africa has never staged the Games and because of the country's emergence as a sporting power since apartheid rule was ended.

President Nelson Mandela told the IOC team on Saturday "Give us these Games, we are ready for them."

He added: "They will be good for us. They will be good for Africa. They will be good for the spirit of the Olympic Movement."

The commission made it clear to Mandela, however, that the various criteria on which the fitness of Cape Town to run the Games will be judged did not include sentiment.

Athens, beaten by Atlanta for the 1996 Games, also has a strong sentimental claim as the home of the Olympics but is pushing more than its ancient Olympic tradition this time.



Gordon Greenidge, coach of the national cricket team, makes a point in his first meeting with 44 cricketers called in the camp for the forthcoming ICC Trophy at the BCCB office yesterday.

Kiwis win Karachi tie



KARACHI, Dec 8: New Zealand wrapped up their Pakistan tour with a convincing seven-wicket victory in the third and final one-day international here today after losing the first two encounters, reports AFP.

Batting first Pakistan made 234-4 in 50 overs and New Zealand romped home in the 46th over at the National Stadium before a cheering crowd of nearly 50,000 fans.

Pakistan won the one-day series 2-1 while the earlier two Test series was drawn 1-1.

Aggressive batting by New Zealand's openers Nathan Asstle and Bryan Young set the Kiwis on the victory path by putting on a quickfire 96 runs.

Asstle, who was declared man-of-the-match, scored 60 off 69 deliveries, studded with four fours and a six, before he was run out.

Three balls earlier Young, who had reached 32 from 38 balls, was caught by Pakistani skipper Wasim Akram off leg-spinner Shahid Afridi.

Stephen Fleming and Adam Parore further consolidated the New Zealand position with an 84-run third wicket partnership.

Parore scored 47 before he was given caught behind off Wasim Akram and Fleming, who won the man-of-the-series award for New Zealand, remained unbeaten on 48.

The other not out Kiwi batsman was Chris Cairns of 25.

New Zealand opens look

full advantage of some wayward bowling by Mohammed Zahid playing his first international one-day match in place of Waqar Younis.

Earlier Wasim Akram and Ijaz Ahmed blasted the New Zealand attack in the last five overs of their innings making 68 of their 108-run fifth wicket partnership.

Pakistani opener Saeed Anwar was declared man-of-the-series for Pakistan.

Today's victory was the 17th for New Zealand against Pakistan in one-day matches. The two countries have played 47 one-day matches of which 28 were won by Pakistan while one was tied and another was abandoned without a result.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the third and

final one-day international between Pakistan and New Zealand

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Zealand on Sunday

PAKISTAN

Anwar c Young b Vaughan 16
 Elahi b Hart 51
 Inzamam at Germon b Hart 7
 Ijaz not out 73
 M Wasim c and b Harris 8
 Akram not out 66
 Extras: (lb-5, w-5, nb-3) 13
 Total: (for 4 wks in 50 overs) 234

Did not bat: Shahid Afridi, Moin Khan, Mushtaq Ahmad, Saqlain Mushtaq, Mohammad Zahid.

Fall of wickets: 1-38; 2-62; 3-103; 4-126

Bowling:

	O	M	R	W
Doull	4	0	23	0
Vaughan	10	3	59	1
Cairns	9	0	45	0
Asstle	8	2	27	0
Hart	10	1	33	2
Harris	9	0	42	1

NEW ZEALAND

Young c Akram b Afridi 32
 Asstle run out 60
 Parore c Moin b Akram 47
 Fleming not out 48
 Cairns not out 25
 Extras: (b-1, lb-10, nb-6, w-6) 23
 Total: (for 3 wks, 45.1 overs) 235

Did not bat: C Harris, M Greatbatch, L Germon, M Hart, J Vaughan, S Doull.

Fall of wickets: 1-96; 2-99; 3-183

Bowling:

	O	M	R	W
Akram	8	0	36	1
Zahid	6	0	41	0
Mushtaq	10	0	49	0
Saqlain	10	0	43	0
Afridi	8.1	1	39	1
Ijaz	1	0	6	