

Column One SPORTS TALK



Arnaut Boetsch

(French Davis Cup team member) It is a very special moment. It was a dream come true to win the Davis Cup...

After winning the prestigious title this year.

Sports WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

WIN TK, 2000/- PRIZE BOND EVERY FORTNIGHT

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-61

Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes : 8 pm Jan 17, '97

- 1 How many teams are taking part in the Bangabandhu Cup football tournament? 12 13 14

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

BCB U-16 lose opener

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh under-16 cricket team got off to a wrong foot in the Calcutta Mayor's Cup...

The local side batted first and piled up a huge 230 for nine in the stipulated 45 overs...

Shudhakar Das scored highest 87 for the home side followed by Ritesh with 52 while Swarajit added 30 runs to the Mayor's eleven account.

For Bangladesh, Tariqul captured three wickets for 38 runs while Rezwanul Haque took two wickets for 47 runs.

In reply, Bangladesh were restricted to 176 for eight with Selim hammering an unbeaten 54...

T&T athletics

The two-day annual athletics competition of the Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board...

Post and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim inaugurated the meet in the morning as the chief guest...

TODAY'S MATCHES

Bangabandhu Cup Silver Jubilee of Independence Football Tournament: (Venue: Dhaka Stadium) Ujung Pandang (Indonesia) vs All Star FC (Thailand) 4:00 pm

Abahani vs Mohammedan SC (Calcutta) 6:00 pm Premier Division Cricket League: Mohammedan SC vs Wari Club (BKSP)

Biman vs Victoria SC (Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium).

Dull display at big bowl

Sports Reporter

The sparse crowd at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday witnessed an awful display of soccer as Cosmos Club virtually made their exit from the Bangabandhu Cup invitational football tournament...

The Russian outfit, dubbed as favorites in the 12-team meet, appearing in their last group league match at the big bowl, were held to a one-all draw by lowly-rated Malaysia Red.

Both the goals of day's lone engagement came in the first half. A very ordinary-looking Russian outfit took the lead in the 27th minute when striker Gladishev blasted the opponents net with a first time left-footer...

But, apart from the two goals, it was the worst match so far in the 11-day meet. Moreover, the most eye-sore aspect of the listless encounter, marked by frequent exhibition of physical display, was the frequent flashing of cards which included the sending off of Gladishev a few minutes from the final whistle.

The Cosmos scorer, who involved in a tussle after swooping on an opponent player without the ball, got the marching order by referee Ram Krishna Ghosh in the 88th minute. Not only that, the man-in-black, whose poor supervision eventually led to a random confrontation between the rival booters throughout the lack-lustre 90-minute, had also shown five yellow cards to quell the situation.

It was Cosmos' second consecutive draw after their goalless encounter with Muktiyoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra of Bangladesh. They will now have to wait for the outcome of the last Group D engagement between Muktiyoddha and Malaysia Blue tomorrow.

Although Cosmos has still an outside chance for a semi-final berth, Nicolai Alexandru, the manager of the mediocre First Division outfit from Moscow league thought it was a foregone conclusion.

"The local side (Muktiyoddha) has a bright chance to qualify for the last semifinals," said a dejected Cosmos manager.

"We were desperately looking for a win. Perhaps, my boys played a bit rough but it was the referee who spoiled everything," claimed the grey haired Cosmos manager adding that the man-in-black had deprived them of a certain penalty.

On the other hand Irfan Bakhti, the coach of Malaysia Red, termed the opponents approach as the middle as disgraceful to football.

"I don't know whether they (Cosmos) are a professional side. But the way they played it was disgraceful to football," said Irfan.

The happy Malaysian coach who is confident to beat Muktiyoddha in their tomorrow's crucial engagement, however, abstained from making any comment about the refereeing.

"I'm satisfied with the outcome. We are looking forward for a semifinal berth. Inshallah we are going to beat Muktiyoddha tomorrow," claimed a con-



for a semifinal berth. Inshallah we are going to beat Muktiyoddha tomorrow.

claimed Malaysian coach who claimed that this is the better side among the two Malaysian selections in the fray.

"This side is a bunch of professional players from different clubs of Malaysia," said Irfan. Red card: Gladishev (Cosmos Club)

Yellow card: Zverev, Gavrilin, Gladishev, Kosebokov (Cosmos Club), Khairil Zainal, Khairil Anuar, Tuan Kamree (Malaysia Red).

TEAMS COSMOS CLUB: Platonov, Yastrebkov, Volkov, Zverev, Gusev, Gavrilin, Dvofelazov, Russian Shagorov, Voronun and Rybin (Kosobokov) MALAYSIA RED: Azmin Azam, Khairil Zainal, Khairil Anuar, Nazaruddin Zain, Anuar Jusoh (Ching Hong Aik), Idris Karim, Tuan Kamree, Ahmad Shahruil, Cik Zambil, Halim Jantan and G Shanmugam. Referee: Ram Krishna Ghosh (Bangladesh).



Cosmos Club midfielder Gladishev returns to the dressing room wearing a bizarre expression on his face following his marching order during their Bangabandhu Cup match against Malaysia Red at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. —Star photo



An unidentified Cosmos Club defender thwarts a Malaysia Red attack during their Bangabandhu Cup encounter at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday afternoon. —Star photo

Div 1 cricket results

Sports Reporter

BRIEF SCORES

ESKATON SS: 150 all out in 44.3 overs (Mitu 53, Mazed Hanif 16, Shaheen Ahmed 4/18, Babu 2/31).

GOPIBAGH FA: 151 for 2 in 37.5 overs (Asim Rizvi 72*, Setu 49, Kazi Asad 2/34). Result: Gopibagh FA won by 8 wickets.

DHANMONDI CLUB: 210 for 7 in 45 overs (Nasir Ali Khan 63, Anis 42, Maqsood Raza 3/37, Vola 2/55).

AJAZ SC: 190 all out in 42.3 overs (Babu 57, Rafique 41, Raju 28, Sabir 3/31, Imran Parvez 2/24). Result: Dhanmondi Club won by 20 runs.

Gopibagh Friends Association and Dhanmondi Club won their respective First Division cricket league matches held in different city venues yesterday.

At the Jagannath Hall ground, Gopibagh Friends Association handed Eskaton Sabuj Sangha an eight-wicket defeat while Dhanmondi Club recorded a 20-run victory over Ajax Sporting Club at the City Club ground.

History rewritten

Sports Reporter

Country won freedom through the sacrifice of the valiant freedom fighters and the sanguinary war of the people at the mango-wood of Mujibnagar on April 17. (shauterol apriler mujib nagarer amrokanone janogoner ekraktakhoyee sangar ebong bir muktiyoddhader tyag otitikhar maddhyaome desh suadhinata laav korlo).

Believe it or not, this latest historical innovation of our country has recently been carried in a guideline published by the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF). The bizarre sentence is written on the second page of the cute handbook.

This sensational revelation tends to set at naught the fact that the declaration of country's independence was made on March 26 in 1971 and the victory was achieved on December 16 of the same year after a bloody nine-month war.

The cute handbook has reportedly been published by the media committee as a guideline for the nine foreign teams now taking part in the Bangabandhu Cup invitational football tournament.

Indira Gandhi Cup men's hockey from Feb 1

Sports Reporter

NEW DELHI, Jan 4: Asian and Asian Games champions South Korea and hosts India will lead the campaign in the Indira Gandhi Gold Cup men's international hockey tournament to be held at the National Stadium here from February 1 to 10.

Malaysia, Belgium, USA, Poland, Russia and South Africa will complete the eight-team field in the prestigious event. Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) sources told Press Trust of India (PTI) here today.

IHF, which has made elaborate plans for the event, will also organise a four-nation tournament at Chandigarh in February soon after the Indira Gandhi Cup.

Gomes lifts inter-Philips badminton title

Sports Reporter

Rupert Gomes won the singles title beating Iqbal Hossain in the final of the inter-Philips badminton tournament held at the Philips complex in Mahakhali yesterday.

In doubles, Shahjahan Sharif and Helal Uddin lifted the title thwarting Kalim and Iqbal in the final.

Besides, Afaz Hossain and Ali Ahmed won the over-40 doubles championship.

A total of 24 shuttlers including 12 from the Over-40 aged group participated in the tournament organised by Transcom Electronics Limited.

BTC int'l TT from Monday

Sports Reporter

The four-day silver jubilee of independence BTC international table tennis championships, organised by the Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation, begins at the National Indoor Stadium tomorrow evening.

A total of 34 players including 16 from Nepal, Bhutan and Maldives will compete in seven events of the international tournament. Hosts Bangladesh will field three teams under the banner of green, red and white.

A press briefing was held in this regard at the NSC conference room yesterday with State Minister for Jute and Textiles A K Faizul Haque, the president of the organising committee, in the chair. BTTF president Syed Yusuf Hossain, Golam Moinuddin, the acting managing director of the sponsoring company BTC and other officials were also present on the occasion.

The events of the meet are — men's and women's team showings, singles, doubles and mixed doubles. State Minister for Youth, Sports and Culture Obaidul Quader Chowdhury is expected to inaugurate the tournament.

While talking to the press, the acting general secretary of BTTF Nurul Alam Chowdhury informed that a total of 7,35,775 Taka will be spent for the tournament off which sponsors BTC will provide 3,50,000 Taka. The rest of the fund will be arranged by the federation from its different sources and donations.

India and Myanmar were also invited to the tourney, but due to their busy schedules they could not manage time for the meet.

The participants of the championships will board and dine at the Mirpur Krira Palli.

TEAMS NEPAL: Sandeep Singh Mahat, Rajendra Kapali, Rabindra Sakya, Sandhya Sakya, Gita Mahat, Kiran Sakya (manager) and Shankar Gautam (coach).

INDIA: Ugyen Tshering, Kuenga Penjor, Sonam Phuntsho, Kezang Wangchuk, Shering Choden, Hema Chhetri, Przem Rai (manager) and Tadashi Hiraga (coach).

MALDIVES: Ali Rasheed, Ahmed Ibrahim, Mohammad Yassir, Raihaana Ibrahim, Muzeena Mohammad and Yousuf Tholal Hussain (manager).

BANGLADESH GREEN: Saidul Haq Sadi, Nasimul Hasan Kochi, Mohammad Hanif Hamlet, Mahubul Alillah, Zovera Rahman Linu, Tania Tarmir Rinu, Saleha, M Shahjahan (manager) and Hafizur Rahman (coach).

BANGLADESH RED: Golam Mainuddin, Naimul Haq Munna, Mansuruddin Badal, Shamima Tarmir, Farhana Parveen Tumpa, Ratna Rani Das, Munira Rahman Helen (manager) and Al Mustafa Billah (coach).

BANGLADESH WHITE: Mohammad Tuhin, Gautan Kumar Das, Pavel Biswas Pappu and Abu Taher Salauddin.

Windies set for Aussies

Sports Reporter

BRISBANE, Jan 4: In-form West Indian batsman "Stratford" Chanderpaul was over the worst effects of a wisdom tooth extraction and was expected to play against Australia in the one-day World Series cricket international here Sunday, manager Clive Lloyd said today, reports AFP.

In the absence of big scores from Brian Lara, Chanderpaul has been the best performer of the West Indies batsmen on the Australian tour, but missed Friday's six-wicket win over Pakistan here following complications from a pulled wisdom tooth on December 30.

Lloyd said the Guyanese left-hander's condition had improved dramatically and he was expected to play against Australia.

But he is not as confident about the prospects of strike bowler Curtly Ambrose, who played against Pakistan with a hamstring strain and appeared at times to favour his right leg while bowling and fielding.

"Captain Courtney Walsh bowled Ambrose for 10 overs straight (1/26) to avoid the risk of his trump bowling card cooling down before returning for a second spell.

"We didn't want to bring him back a second time," Lloyd said. "He has increased sense of pain. As long as he feels fit to play and wants to play that's fine.

"The only thing we want to ensure is that he's right for the matches and the one-day finals if we make it.

"We have a number of rest days and games he can be rested from."

Chanderpaul's return, plus Lara's improved showing Friday, comes a boost to the West Indies, who have hit form after a sluggish start to the tour.

Lara compiled a well-crafted 48 before falling to Pakistani tearaway Mohammad Zahid, but had shown enough during his innings to suggest he was on the way back.

Meanwhile, Australian skipper Mark Taylor said today there was no need to panic about having never beaten the West Indies in a one-day game here.

The West Indies, Australia and Pakistan are level on two wins from four games at the halfway stage of the triangular limited over tournament.

West Indies have won all five one-dayers against Australia here, and have won 14 of their 16 games at The Gabba which has a reputation for being a fast bowler's paradise.

Australia have lost three games on the trot, including their third Melbourne Test and their last two one-dayers against Pakistan.

BHUTAN: Ugyen Tshering, Kuenga Penjor, Sonam Phuntsho, Kezang Wangchuk, Shering Choden, Hema Chhetri, Przem Rai (manager) and Tadashi Hiraga (coach).

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Africa ready for action

Sports Reporter

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 4: African stars face a stamina-sapping year with places at the 1998 World Cup and African Nations Cup finals up for grabs, reports AFP.

The 20 World Cup survivors resume battle on January 10 for five tickets to France with Nigeria, Egypt, Zambia, Cameroon and Morocco seeded to win the qualifying groups.

Nigeria boast a vast array of European-based talent and the ambitions of Group 1 rivals Guinea, Kenya and Burkina Faso cannot extend beyond finishing second.

Egypt made a dream debut in Group 2 by slamming seven goals past Namibia and with George Weah-led Liberia losing at home to Tunisia, the section has rapidly developed into a North African affair.

Zambia, who lost most of their national squad in an air crash during the previous qualifiers, were upset by Congo, leaving them with ground to make up in Group 3, which includes African champions South Africa and Zaire.

Cameroon began their Group 4 campaign with a 4-2 victory in Togo, an impressive result which suggests the "indomitable lions" will prove too strong for Zimbabwe and Angola.

Morocco have improved consistently under French coach Henri Michel and look set to top Group 5 provided they avoid defeat in Ghana, whose poor cup record reduced them to their seeds behind Gabon.

Africa disappointed at the 1994 World Cup in the United States with only Nigeria reaching the knockout phase and leading continental official Issa Hayatou performed a miracle by winning two extra berths.

When countries are not battling for World Cup points, they will be trying to secure one of the 14 places at the Nations Cup finals in Burkina Faso, where South Africa defend the title.

Olympic champions Nigeria will be notable absentees as they are serving a two-year ban for refusing to defend the Nations Cup in politically hostile South Africa.

Among the outsiders, Zimbabwe could upstage the Angolans, Mali have sufficient ammunition to test the struggling Ivorians and Sierra Leone must be wary of Guinea.

While South Africa are spared the rigours of qualification, they will tackle Saudi Arabia for the Afro-Asian Nations Cup and return to Riyadh in December for the Confederations Cup.

The first edition features world champions Brazil, hosts Saudi Arabia, confederation kings Uruguay, Mexico, Australia and South Africa plus side-door entrants United Arab Emirates and the Czech Republic.

European champions Germany declined to compete, opening the way for the Czech team they defeated through a golden goal, and Saudi success in Asia created a similar opportunity for runners-up UAE.

Amid all the competition for international glory, the East and Central Africa senior Challenge Cup will not be staged as an annual event for the first time since 1927.

Financial restrictions and overworked programmes saw only six of the 14 member nations compete in Sudan last year, and the tournament is to become a biennial event with Rwanda the next hosts.

Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Namibia and Tanzania will hope the Castle Cup is revived after the new event ran foul of world controlling body FIFA last October.

Zimbabwe and Tanzania incurred 12,000-dollar fines following the opening match in Harare as FIFA clamped down on organisers who had not sought permission to stage the event.

It may be revived under the confederation of southern Africa football associations, although the cash-strapped nations will be more interested in the 250,000-dollar prize money.



Obaidur Rahman Khan (C), the executive Director of Transcom Electronics Limited, seen along with the winners of the Inter-Philips badminton tournament at the factory ground in Mahakhali yesterday. —Star photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer. Includes crossword clues and a cryptogram puzzle.