

## US booters on their mettle

BURNABY, British Columbia, Nov 8: For the US national soccer team, the 1998 World Cup begins not next summer in France but Sunday outside Vancouver, reports Reuters.

At least that is the approach US coach Steve Sampson expects from his players when they face Canada in a crucial World Cup qualifier.

"I've told the players that the World Cup is Sunday. That in itself should be enough to motivate the team," said Sampson, whose squad is virtually assured a berth in the finals for the third consecutive time with a win over Canada.

The United States, who currently hold the third and last qualifying place from the CONCACAF zone with 11 points after two wins, five draws and one loss, are coming off a stunning defensive performance.

The confidence-boosting goalless draw in Mexico came on the heels of a much less encouraging 1-1 tie with Jamaica, leaving Sampson to make sure the right squad turns up Sunday.

The Americans have made the task more difficult for themselves by losing the services of three key players — midfielders John Harkes and Tab Ramos, and defender Jeff Agoos.

Goalkeeper Kasey Keller, who plays for Leicester City in England's Premier Division, has a dislocated right thumb and could be replaced by Brad Friedel who is expected to sign with Liverpool.

## It's Cole versus Wright

LONDON, Nov 8 (Reuters): When league leaders Manchester United visit second-placed Arsenal on Sunday, two of England's most exciting strikers will be on show — and both have something to prove.

Ian Wright and Andy Cole are scoring goals like they are going out of fashion and — despite both teams boasting tight, well-organised defences — there are sure to be more at Highbury. Just two months ago, Wright re-wrote the Arsenal record books when he passed Cliff Bastin's club goal-scoring record of 178 set in the 1930s.

That helped him back into the England team and he shared in the glory of Rome when a goalless draw earned World Cup qualification. Cole, after a slow start to his Manchester United career, is finding the form that persuaded Alex Ferguson to splash out six million pounds for him and on Wednesday rattled in his second hat-trick in 10 days as United thumped Feyenoord 3-1 in Rotterdam in the Champions League.

However, both men still seem to feel they have something to prove.

## Berti brings in new faces

BONN, Nov 8: German national team coach Berti Vogts Friday threw down the gauntlet to some of his big name stars by nominating a host of untried players for next weekend's friendly international against South Africa in Dusseldorf, reports AFP.

Top of the list are Oliver Neuville and Marco Rehmer from East German club Hansa Rostock, little known even to fans in this country.

In addition, Borussia Dortmund goalkeeper Stefan Klos, Schalke libero Thoma Linke, Bayern Munich's Dieter Hamann and 1860 Munich's Jens Jeremies have been included in Vogts' provisional 25-man squad.

"I want to shake up a few of the (regular) players and will give new ones a chance," Vogts said after watching his team stutter through the qualifying series for next year's World Cup in France.

## Ctg soccer

CHITTAGONG, Nov 8: The final match and prize distribution ceremony of "Siraj" Mohanagari Kishore football league, organised by Chittagong Mohanagari Krira Sangstha (CMS) will be held tomorrow at Dampara Police Line ground, reports BSS.

Last year's champion Blue Star Club will face Majhghat Ekadash in the last match.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
1 Starer  
5 Much  
8 Datum  
12 Pocket  
13 Louis  
14 King  
15 Counter  
17 Comet  
18 Perry  
19 Wisconsin  
21 Sound  
24 Largest  
25 Expensive  
26 Capsize  
30 "the fields we go"  
31 Wall  
32 Gaffer's  
33 Abroad  
35 Recog-

**DOWN**  
1 Navy rank  
2 Tyler or  
3 Seine  
4 Actress  
5 Rotation  
6 Accom-  
7 Supersaves  
8 Campaign  
9 Jai follower  
10 Nickel, e.g.  
11 Far, in  
12 Prot. or  
13 Navy rank  
14 "Ske-diddle!"  
15 Ukraine's  
16 capital  
17 Fairy-tale  
18 Bird-  
19 related  
20 Extreme  
21 Radio  
22 neighbor  
23 Laugh-e-  
24 minute  
25 broadcast  
26 "The Frost"  
27 the Punkin'  
28 Zoo beasts  
29 Works the

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer**  
POP FEMUR SOD  
ABE ANITA IRE  
NIGHTCLUB GIN  
OHIO RICHES  
ROTTEN REIA  
SHEEP RILGMA  
BIGH BOW NAIL  
MOMUM PEP GNP  
TROT ARISES  
BARTON REC  
AIO LUGTLEAR  
POP ABEET WEAR  
AGE HENRY EKE

## Damal finale today

# Cricket off the hook

Sports Reporter

Country's cricket seems to have survived a turbulent spell as wisdom finally dawned on Mohammedan officials, but not before a war of words between the popular Motijheel outfit and the game's governing body.

Mohammedans, who in a surprise move decided to stay off yesterday's scheduled final of the 18th Damal Smriti cricket tournament against their arch-rivals Abahani Krira Chakra, has finally come to terms, agreeing to play the match today.

But not before they were being assured by Saber Hossain Chowdhury, the president of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), that he would reconsider the disciplinary action taken against Mohammedan skipper Aminul Islam Bulbul and veteran Minhazul Abedin Nannu.

The disciplinary committee of the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) decision was taken following a mutual understanding between the officials of the two giants on Friday night, Abahani said that they were completely unaware of the decision.

"We did not know anything about the late night decision," claimed the cricket chairman of Abahani, Mostafa Kamal, whose side turned up at the Dhaka Stadium in the morning with their star Pakistani recruit Shahid Afridi And Basit Ali.

"We got a letter from CCDM only in the morning. But by that time the players had left for the ground," said a visibly dejected Kamal in a hurriedly-called press briefing at the Dhanmondi club tent last afternoon.

"People in this country love cricket. And we had expected cricket should be played with the true spirit of the noble game. But after what had happened in the last few days, I believe it would be reckoned as a black episode in the our cricketing annals. It will only endanger the future of our cricket."

"We are yet to decide whether we should play tomorrow. But I have drafted a letter for the CCDM. And we are eagerly

awaiting a reply."

"Some of our key players have 'stomach upsets' today. And we don't know how long it will take to make them fit for the game again. Besides, we are also seriously considering to hire some more internationally reputed players. But it will take some time. So, our request to the CCDM that it would be better for them to consult with us before re-fixing the date of the final," said Kamal in a press release issued last yesterday.

But the witty cricket chairman of Abahani, however, promptly added that Abahani would certainly field their team for the sake of cricket.

Meanwhile, sources in BCB and the two clubs confirmed, both Abahani and Mohammedans have agreed to play the final today following a series of discussions among them.

An under-strength Mohammedans, who lost the ser-

vice of their Sri Lankan off-spinner Ruwan Kalpage, are like to fill the void of their key foreign recruit with former Indian Test player Ashoke Mahindra when they finally appear in the final of the season's curtain-raiser at the big-bowl today.

The match will kick-off 9 am. Bangladesh Betar will provide ball-to-ball commentary of the match.

Earlier Sri Lanka made a blazing start with 15 coming off Pollock's first over. But Fanie de Villiers put the breaks by getting Sanath Jayasuriya in the fifth over, caught smartly by Pat Symcox off a miscued lofted shot for 14.

At 95-3, Sri Lanka badly needed a good innings from Aravinda de Silva, who, at three, crossed 7,000 runs in one-day internationals, becoming the fourth batsman to do so.

West Indian Desmond Haynes (8,648), Pakistan's Javed Miandad (7,381) and India's Mohammad Azharuddin (7,334) lead the table.

**SCORE BOARD**

**SRI LANKA**  
Jayasuriya c Symcox b De Villiers 14  
Atapattu c Cronje b Klusener 22  
Mahanama c Hudson b Donald 26  
Aravinda c Klusener b Donald 24  
Ranatunga c Klusener b Pollock 32  
Tillekeratne c Richardson b Pollock 28  
Lanka c Richardson b Pollock 1  
Dharmasena not out 24  
Vaas not out 18  
Extras (lb-8, w-11, nb-1) 20  
Total (for seven wickets) 209  
Fall of wickets: 1-29; 2-66; 3-95; 4-101; 5-155; 6-157; 7-173  
Did not bat: M Muralitharan, S de Silva.

**Bowling:**  
Pollock 10 0 42 3  
De Villiers 8 1 28 1  
Donald 10 0 46 2  
Klusener 7 0 29 1  
Symcox 10 0 37 0  
Cronje 5 0 19 0

**SOUTH AFRICA**  
Hudson lbw b Vaas 7  
Kirsten run out 99  
Klusener c and b Sajeeva 15  
Symcox b Sajeeva 20  
Cullinan st Lanka b Aravinda 20  
Cronje c Tillekeratne b Dharmasena 33  
Rhodes not out 5  
Pollock not out 10  
Extras (lb-7, w-3) 10  
Total (for 6 wickets in 40.4 overs) 210  
Did not bat: Dave Richardson, Allan Donald, Fanie de Villiers.

Fall of wickets: 1-18; 2-40; 3-71; 4-109; 5-188; 6-197.

**Bowling:**  
Vaas 6 1 34 1  
Sajeeva 6 0 46 2  
Muralitharan 10 0 34 0  
Dharmasena 8 4 0 47 1  
Aravinda 5 0 25 1  
Jayasuriya 5 0 22 0

**Result:** South Africa won by four wickets.  
**Man-of-the-match:** Lance Klusener.

INA DAEQVG DEAIAGLBGU  
IV XA P UPGUQIAE  
BQ VZ IAG CPXACALP  
ZPCQA NVVL

Yesterday's Cryptquip: NO GIRL WOULD DATE THE ABOMINABLE PLUMBER BECAUSE HE WAS SUCH A BIG DRIP.

Today's Cryptquip clue: Z equals F

The Cryptquip 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.

Abahani cricket chairman Mustafa Kamal, MP, (L) speaking at a press conference at the club premises yesterday.

Rahmatganj custodian Pannu (C) fists the ball away before a Muktiyoddha substitute could head during yesterday's Premier Division league encounter at the Mirpur Stadium. Rahmatganj upset Muktis 2-1.

**SURJIT SINGH HOCKEY**  
**BSF beat Bangladesh**  
Sports Reporter

Bangladesh suffered their second consecutive defeat in the Surjit Singh memorial hockey tournament when Border Security Force (BSF) outplayed them by four goals to one at Jalandhar in India yesterday.

According to a faxed message received here, the match was locked at 0-0 in the first half. But after the breather, BSF took the lead in the 38th minute while Bangladesh forward Sadeq equalised after two minutes.

However, the tourists' fate was sealed when BSF scored three goals in a row in the 43rd, 57th and 59th minutes.

Bangladesh lost to Punjab Sindh Bank 0-2 in their inaugural match on Friday.

Bangladesh, who have been given a direct entry into the second round in the meet, will take on Railway Coach Factory today before meeting Air India in their last encounter on Tuesday.



Rahmatganj custodian Pannu (C) fists the ball away before a Muktiyoddha substitute could head during yesterday's Premier Division league encounter at the Mirpur Stadium. Rahmatganj upset Muktis 2-1.

## R'ganj halt Muktis run

Sports Reporter

goalkeeper Aminul. After the breather, Muktis intensified their attack bringing on Rakib in place of Rupu. But the midfielder could hardly pose any threat.

However, they had two good chances to equalise. In the 80th minute, Reaz's header from a corner was grasped by Rahmatganj custodian Pannu while Rakib missed five minutes later when he headed a Moon free kick wide of the near post.

The defeat left Muktis on 15 points and pulled them down to second spot behind defending champions Mohammedan Sporting Club who have 16 points on completion of their sixth match.

On the other hand, it was the first victory for Rahmatganj in their sixth appearance which raised their tally to seven points.

**Yellow Cards:** Pons, Biplab Marma and Milan (Rahmatganj)

**TEAMS**  
**RAHMATGANJ MFS:** Pannu, Pons, Biplab Marma, Shakil, Shaiful, Asif, Nayan, Jahangir, Badal, Towhid (Ibrahim) and Milan.

**MUKTIJODHA SANGSAD:** Aminul, Poritosh (Gaus), Jewel Rana, Rajani, Moon, Masood Rana, Tito, Swapan, Rupu (Rakib), Reaz and Nakib.

**WANDERERS WIN**  
In the other match of the day, Dhaka Wanderers Club reg-

istered their second win the First Division with a 2-1 victory over Badda Jagarani Sangsad.

After a barren first half, forward Echo put Wanderers ahead converting a penalty in the 55th minute and then he doubled it with a solo effort after seven minutes.

Parvez pulled one back for Badda from another penalty in the 80th minute.

Dhaka Wanderers raised their tally to seven points from six matches while Badda remained stuck on eight points.

There will be no matches played today.

## Div II h'ball

Sports Reporter

Azampur Samaj Kalyan Sangha recorded a 16-11 victory over Farashganj Sporting Club in the Ashraf Real Estate Second Division league at the handball court adjacent to Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 8-6.

Shahidul Islam scored highest nine goals while Shaiful added three to the winners' credit.

On the other hand, Jashim and Kajo scored five and four goals respectively for Farashganj.

## TODAY'S MATCH

West Jatrabari KC vs Bangladesh Boys Club (3:30 pm)

## Bangladesh Postal Department

Directorate of Post Offices, Dhaka-1000

## Wanted

No. Dir/2-12/96-97 Dated: 3.11.97/19.7.1404BS

Applications are invited from Bangladesh nationals having the required qualifications for appointment on purely temporary basis at the fixed consolidated pay to the undermentioned posts of the project "Procurement of Computer & other Machinery towards Modernisation of Postal Service" (up to 31.05.98) of Bangladesh Postal Department:-

Sl No	Name of post & monthly consolidated pay	Number of post	Age on November 1, '97	Education qualification
1.	System Analyst Tk 9,852/-	01	29-40 years	1. (A) Post-graduate degree in any subject or BSc Engineering or Master's degree in Computer Science. (B) Should possess approved professional computer associate membership. (C) Should possess minimum 5 years' experience in the post of Assistant Programme Analyst or Programmer. (In case of Post-graduate in Computer Science & Engineering 2 (two) years experience, relaxable in special cases). (D) Should be competent as computer analyst.
2.	Programmer Tk 7,806/-	01	27-37 years	2. (A) — Do — (B) — Do — (C) Should possess 4 years' experience in the Post of Assistant Programmer. In case of Computer Science/Engineering, should possess two years experience with Post-graduate degree.
3.	Computer Operator Tk 4,696/-	02	Maximum 30 years	3. (A) Graduate (Science group preferred). Relaxable in case of Departmental Data Entry/Control Operator with 2 years experience in the post. (B) Should be passed in the operators' test.
4.	Data Entry Operator Tk 3,930/-	06	Maximum 30 years	4. (A) HSC (Science group preferred). (B) Should be passed in the operators' test.
5.	Driver (Heavy vehicles) Tk 2,429/-	15	18-30 years	5. (A) Class VIII passed. (B) Should possess valid heavy vehicles driving licence with practical driving experience.
6.	Driver (Light vehicles) Tk 2,295/-	44	-Do-	6. (A) Class VIII passed. (B) Approved licence holder.
7.	MLSS Tk 1,685/-	03	-Do-	7. (A) SSC.

**Terms & conditions of application:-**

- Application of interested candidates superscribing name of post on the envelope, stating own name, father's/husband's name, present & permanent address, date of birth, age (on 1.11.97), nationality, educational qualification, experience, description of training (if any) in plain paper enclosing citizenship certificate, character certificate from first class gazetted officer, recent three copies attested passport size photographs and attested true copies of all certificates should reach Director (Planning), Directorate of Post Offices, Dhaka by registered post within office hours of 15.11.97.
- Postal Order for Tk 50/- (fifty) in favour of Director (Planning), Directorate of Post Offices, Dhaka should be enclosed with the application.
- The project covers whole of Bangladesh. Candidates should be mentally prepared to work anywhere in Bangladesh.
- Interview cards will be sent to candidates by registered post. Interview for the posts will be taken on the prescribed date at the prescribed place. No allowances will be given for candidates who are unable to attend the interview. Selected candidates should be ready to report for duty from the first working day of December.
- The authority reserves the right to cancel this appointment without assigning any reason.

Harendranath Gaine  
Director (Planning)  
Project Director  
Bangladesh Postal Department  
Phone: 9560301

DFP-24944-5/11  
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