

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Aldair

(Brazil's veteran defender)
"He must reduce the number of trips and his commercial activities. Otherwise he's going to pay for it in terms of stress and exhaustion."
His wise words for superstar teammate Ronaldo.

Sports

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-94

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
on May 15, 1998

1	Jahangir Talukdar Dulu plays (competitive)	Football	Crick	Tennis
2	In how many stadia World Cup '98 will be held	9	10	11
3	Gordon Greenidge was a	Bowler	Batsman	Wicketkeeper
4	Bangladesh's current FIFA ranking is	138th	142nd	148th
5	Bangladesh U-16 football team scored 11 goals against	Nepal	Sri Lanka	Guam

Name

Class, Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

Jansher clears the air

KARACHI, May 3: Eight-time world squash champion Jansher Khan said Wednesday he would travel to play in the World Open in India despite threats by a rightwing Hindu militant party, reports AFP.

"Nobody even Shiv Sena can deprive squash fans from watching the great players in action in India. The fans in India love me and I love them. I will play," 30-year-old Jansher told.

He said he had only cancelled his planned visit to India scheduled for May because of surgery and not the World Open due to be held in Bombay in December this year. "I read it in the newspapers today and it is ridiculous."

The Indian squash professionals' association had invited him for three-day coaching clinic next month in Bombay which is in Maharashtra, he said.

Jansher had complex cartilage tears on both of his knees which were operated on Sunday at a private hospital in Lahore. He said he will go for six-week training before participating in the Hong Kong Open starting in August.

The Shiv Sena, which governs the western state of Maharashtra, has vowed not to allow Pakistani sportsmen or artists to perform on Indian soil "until Islamabad stopped backing Muslim insurgents" in Indian administered Kashmir.

Monday 4th May

(All programmes are in local time but subject to last minute change.)

BBC

8:00 BBC News Followed by Weather 8:30 Asia Today 8:45 USA Direct 9:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 9:30 Asia Today 9:45 USA Direct 10:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 10:30 World Focus: Correspondent 11:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 11:30 World Living: Earth Report: East Africa 12:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 12:30 Hardtalk 1:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 1:30 World Living: The Clothes Show 2:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 2:30 World Focus: Correspondent 3:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 3:30 Hardtalk 4:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 4:30 World Living: Top Gear 5:00 The World Today 6:30 Wild World: Nomads Of The Wind 7:00 BBC World News 7:15

BFF's tardy U-turn

Sports Reporter



Bangladesh has pulled out of the Rajiv Gandhi memorial youth (under-21) football tournament only 48 hours ahead of the four-nation meet.

The tournament --- also featuring Iraq, Uzbekistan and hosts India --- is scheduled to begin in Goa from May 5. The eleventh-hour decision taken by the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) last night left the Indian organisers in a state of disbelief.

Earlier, the BFF had agreed to send the under-19 team as part of their preparations for the Asian Youth Football championship qualifiers to be held in Sri Lanka from May 20 to 30.

But the federation had expressed its reluctance to compete in the tournament pointing out the over 1500-mile bus journey from Calcutta to Goa. In response, the All-India Foot-

ball Federation, the tournament hosts, had agreed to fly the team from Dhaka to Goa via Calcutta and Bombay.

BHF includes four more for C'wealth camp

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) has included four more players from Bangladesh Army in their primary camp for the Commonwealth Games.

These four players were selected through a trial at the National Hockey Stadium yesterday.

They are --- Wahid, Salam, Maksudul Haque Siddique and Sirajul Islam --- have been asked to report at the National Hockey Stadium this morning at 7 am.

Earlier, 38 players were chosen for the camp last week.

But the sudden change of mind on the part of BFF, will not only be a dent in the BFF-AIFF relationship but is also expected to put the organisers in disarray as they have already prepared the fixture of the tournament and finalised other arrangements.

According to BFF joint-secretary Badal Roy, the federation had to take the decision as they were left with no other alternative.

Initially we planned to send the under-19 team with some reinforcements. But the performance of seniors --- Al-faz, Amin Rana, Partho and Rezaul --- whom we hoped to include in the team, were not up to their mark according to reports from the coaches. Besides, some key members of the under-19 team were also unavailable because of exams. We had to finally pull out because we can not afford any bad results," said a dejected Badal over telephone last night.

3 teams move into zonal semis

Sports Reporter



Niphamari, Rajbari and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) moved into the zonal semifinals of the 24th national cricket championship winning their opening matches at different zonal venues across the country yesterday.

Niphamari posted a comfortable six-wicket win over Pabna in their opening zonal match at the Bogra Stadium. Chasing a paltry Pabna total of 72 in 50 overs, Nadim hammered unbeaten 46 as Niphamari went on to reach 75 in 24 overs with six wickets to spare. Uman was the other contributor to the Niphamari innings with 10.

Earlier, opting to bat first, Pabna were shot out for a poor 72 in 32.4 overs.

Poton was the highest wicket-taker for Niphamari with three for 15 while Abid, Safer and Elaj evenly shared six wickets among themselves.

In the two-day semifinal scheduled at the same venue from May 6, Niphamari will face Nawabganj.

In Satkhira, BUET made their way into the zonal semi-

finals with a hard-fought two-wicket win over Patuakhali.

Batting first, Patuakhali could muster 182 before they were all out in 36.4 overs. Kabir scored highest 40 for Patu-

Div II badminton

BBF forms 13-man body

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Badminton Federation (BBF) has formed a 13-member organising committee for the Omar-Sultan Second Division league headed by Yousuf Guni Chowdhury. Shafiqur Rahman Montu has been appointed as the secretary of the committee while Golam Aziz Zilani, Jobayedur Rahman Rana, Marium Tareque, Masum Chowdhury, Rashida Yasmeen, Delwar Hossain Dili, Mustaque Ahmed, Mahmud Jamal, Noor Islam, Hedayetul Islam and Zahir Ahmed have been included as members.

The league will begin in the city from May 20.

Interested teams have been asked complete registration formalities by May 12.

akhali while Murad (28), Kishore (26) and Sujit (16) were the other notable run getters.

Kaisar and Harun captured three wickets each for BUET conceding 33 and 35 runs respectively.

BUET, in their chase, reached home in the 36th over with only two wickets in hand. Swapan topscored with 36 while Sabbir added 26 runs to the winners' credit. Besides, Shuvro and Rashed were unbeaten on 22 and 12.

In the May 7-8 semifinal, BUET will face either Bogra or Faridpur.

Rajbari also made it to the last four in Patuakhali zone with a four-wicket victory over Chuadanga.

Chasing a moderate Chuadanga total of 198 in 50 overs, Rajbari scored 201 for six with more than eight overs to spare.

Chanchal contributed highest 39 while Sabuj and Tito added 24 and 25 runs respectively for the winners.

Earlier, electing to bat first, Chuadanga were all out for 198 in exactly 50 overs with Gias hammering highest 45.

Rajbari will play the May 7-8 semifinal against the winners of today's match between Magura and Narayanganj.

Rai leaves behind another to cherish

PSG's second in a row



PARIS, May 3: Rai and Marco Simone scored two fine goals as Paris St Germain won their second successive final at the Stade de France to lift the French Cup with a 2-1 victory over Lens on Saturday, reports Reuters.

The pair also scored both goals when PSG won the League Cup a month ago in the first final played at France's new World Cup stadium they beat Bordeaux on penalties on that occasion following a 2-2 draw after extra time.

It was cup specialists PSG's third French Cup triumph since 1993, a period in which they have also lifted the European Cup Winners' Cup and the league Cup twice.

Czech winger Vladimir Smicer scored a late consolation goal for league leaders Lens, who must wait another week for their next change to win their first major trophy.

Lens, whose colourful fans in vivid red and gold helped fill the Stade to its 80,000 capacity, have missed the French league and cup double but are favourites for the championship with one game to go away to Auxerre next Saturday.

Experience was the key for PSG, embodied by Alain Roche who equalled the record of five French Cup victories by a player, his fellow defender Paul Le Guen, former Brazil captain Rai and ex-ac Milan striker Simone.

"It's the end of a cycle for lots of us but if I have to leave (PSG)

it will be with my head held high," Roche said.

PSG had a poor league campaign and have now gone four seasons without winning the championship, their chief goal.

In 25th minute PSG captain Rai, on the right, headed a superb opening goal in his penultimate game. He has one away

three close chances, two for lens. Left-back Mickael Debeve had a low 25-metre shot pushed out for a corner at the base of the near post by PSG goalkeeper Vicent Fernandez in the 16th minute.

A minute later, Simone was sent clear on the right by a superb ball from playmaker Franck Gaura behind Dehu, but the Italian delayed his shot and Dehu recovered to deflect the ball for a corner.

In the 22nd minute Smicer jinked through the PSG defence from deep, beating three men before hitting a shot which the diving Fernandez turned over the bar.

PSG went two goals up seven minutes into the second half. Simone met a cross from the right from Maurice outside the box, slipped behind Dehu and unleashed a drive that found the top near corner of the diving Warmuz's net.

PSG, comfortable playing a counter-attacking game, missed good chances to put the result beyond doubt but with the defence keeping the Lens attack under control they looked to be cruising to victory.

But then Smicer taped the ball home from close range after winger Tony Vairrelles broke through on the left and that gave Lens new heart and had PSG wobbling.

But on the night, Lens couldn't match the form that has put them on the brink of their first league title.

French president Jacques Chirac presented the trophy to Rai, who is leaving PSG after five wonderful seasons.

The goal was preceded by

RAI

league game left next Saturday before returning to Sao Paulo.

Rai rose behind Libero Fred-eric Dehu to meet a cross from the left by striker Florian Maurice and place his header over goalkeeper Guillaume Warmuz and just under the bar.

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