

Sport

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT Eusebio, the greatest Portuguese footballer in history, did not, in fact, come from Portugal at all. He was born and brought up in Mozambique, then still a Portuguese colony. Eusebio was the first African player to gain worldwide reputation. So big was it that Mario Soares, President of Portugal, was compelled to comment that "Everywhere I go, Eusebio is the name people mention."

The big Portuguese clubs such as Benfica, Sporting and Porto financed nursery teams in Mozambique and Angola and unearthed a wealth of talent, which they then transported to not only Portuguese football but also the Portuguese national team.

The young Eusebio was a product of Sporting Lisbon's nursery. But, when he was summoned by Sporting for a trial in Lisbon in 1961, he was virtually kidnapped off the aeroplane by Benfica officials and hidden away until the fuss had died down and Sporting, having all but forgotten about him, lost interest.

Now we could have our nursery in St Martin's... But, more importantly, I am disappointed because I thought, if not anything, we had contributed "hijacking" to football.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-95

Tick the correct answers Post to The Daily Star Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm on May 29, 1998

1 How many teams are representing Asia in France '98?

1 2 3 4

2 Chile's No 1 tennis player is

Rios Santos Mario

3 Which team lifted the English Premier league football title?

Man United Arsenal Liverpool

4 West Indies all-rounder Carl Hooper plays county cricket for

Kent Middlesex Sussex

5 Current First Division hockey league champions are

Usha Abahani Mohammedans

Name .....

Class .....

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

POWERED WITH EN-VITS ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK

Atletico Madrid's 1-0 win at Racing Santander was enough to give them a place in Europe next season, while Celta Vigo will play in a continental competition for the first time in 28 years after beating Merida 2-0.

Merida will go straight back down to the Second Division alongside Sporting Gijon, who were relegated several months ago. Compostela beat Oviedo 1-0 but both teams will face sides from the second Division in relegation play-offs.

Tenerife turned round their fortunes to get out of trouble in two minutes at the end of their game with Valencia to win 3-2, while Salamanca thrashed champions Barcelona 4-1.

Atletico took second place behind Barcelona thanks to a controversial 40th-minute goal from Joseba Etxebarria.

Julen Guerrero hit the bar after a move down the left and Etxebarria knocked in a loose ball from the edge of the area with Zaragoza keeper Juanmi Garcá stranded.

Television replays suggested that Juanmi had been kicked in the face by Guerrero while on

the ground.

Athletic had other chances to score but in the end fans at the San Mames stadium were made to suffer as both Madrid and Sociedad went ahead, meaning a draw would not have been enough for the Bilbao side.

People in Bilbao took to the streets to celebrate their side's result, which was achieved by a team which uses only Basque players.

European Cup finalists Madrid, who finished fourth on goal difference, would probably have seen their game suspended in normal circumstances as

heavy rain in the Spanish capital had left the Santiago Bernabeu pitch virtually unplayable.

Betis were reduced to 10 men midway through the second half when captain Alexis Trujillo was sent off.

Betis fans will be backing Madrid in the game against Juventus, as victory for Real would free another UEFA Cup Place.

Mallorca will play in the European Cup Winners' Cup as beaten cup finalists.

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High hopes at Hyderabad

Sports Reporter



"Pray for so that we can do our best and if we do our best, we will win," appealed manager Gazi Ashraf Hossain to Bangladeshis on the eve of their crucial match against Kenya. The two will meet in the second match of the tri-nation Coca-Cola Cup tournament at the Lal Bahadur Shastri stadium in Hyderabad this afternoon.

Talking to the Daily Star over telephone last night from his hotel room in Hyderabad, the Bangladesh team manager said that with Akram back in the side, Mehrab Hossain will be rested. About any other changes in the side that lost to India at Mohali last Thursday, Hossain said that if a morning inspection of the wicket shows it to be very slow, "we might try another spinner in Enamul Haq", but added that the chances were rather feeble. The wicket was covered till late last evening when the Bangladesh team returned from a flood-lit practice session at the Shastri stadium. The playing eleven, however, will be finalised by the coach Gordon Greenidge, the captain Akram Khan and manager Hossain this afternoon before the match. All the Bangladesh players were fit. However, Minhazul Abedin was continuing with the treatment on his knee that was troubling him from Dhaka.

Replying to another question, Hossain said, Bangladesh is most likely to bat first, as that was the advice of cricket experts with experience on the Hyderabad wicket. The wicket may be dry with temperatures



GAZI ASHRAF LIPU

replied with an "of course" when questioned whether Bangladesh would win against Kenya on the day. "Otherwise, we will not survive in the tournament", added the confident manager. About Bangladesh's strategy today, Hossain said, "We will do our best. Let them do the mistakes".

Yesterday rising to 38 degrees Celsius despite the looming clouds. The decision on Enamul Haq will primarily rest on their judgement whether the wicket, after watering in the morning, will be spin-friendly or not.

"The team morale was fine, specially because we've got back Akram", said Hossain who

replied with an "of course" when questioned whether Bangladesh would win against Kenya on the day. "Otherwise, we will not survive in the tournament", added the confident manager. About Bangladesh's strategy today, Hossain said, "We will do our best. Let them do the mistakes".

Nat'l cricket Final round from May 22

Sports Reporter

The final round of the 24th national cricket championship, involving ten teams, will begin in Sylhet from May 22. Five zonal champions — Comilla, Chapainawabganj, Rajshahi, Khulna and Narayanganj — along with defending champions Chittagong runners-up Bangladesh Biman and two losing semifinalists, of last year — Dhaka and Dhaka University — as well as hosts Sylhet will compete in the phase, to be played on knock-out basis.

Chittagong will take on Rajshahi in the inaugural match. The tournament will be 50-over-a-side affairs excepting the semifinals and the final. The semifinals will be played over three days while the final will be a four-day match.

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BFF picks 20 for Asian U-19 meet

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) yesterday announced a 20-member team to participate in the 31st Asian Youth U-19 championship in the Sri Lankan town of Kandy May 23-30, reports UNB.

Bangladesh have been placed in Group 5 along with Sri Lanka, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan.

In the inaugural match of the four-team fray, Bangladesh will take on the hosts on May 23.

Bangladesh will play Tajikistan on May 26 and will face Kazakhstan on May 29.

Bangladesh: Biplob Bhatlacharya, Aminul Huq, Mohammad Shimul, Gobinda Chandra Sarker, Shaiful Islam, Zillur Rahman Lajuk, Jahangir Alam Mintu, Riad Mahmood, Amit Khan Shovra, Rezaul Karim, Ameer Khan, Motiur Rahman Munna, Rezaul Karim Liton, Masud Haidar, Mustafa Anwar Parvez, SM Papal Mahmood, Saifur Rahman Moni, Majibur Rahman Ritu, Alid Khan and Saiful Islam Saif.

Div III cricket from May 20

The Danish metropolis Third Division cricket league will begin on May 20 at the different city venues, reports UNB.

A total of six teams, split into four groups, will participate in the league.

Four matches will be held in the inaugural day.

New Eglets will take on Cricket Coaching School at the City Club ground, Saxex Club will meet CCS Blue at Mirpur Outer Stadium, Anirban Sangha will play against Postal CC at T&T ground and Dikusha SC will take on Magbhasa Jubo Sangha at Dhanmondi Club ground on the day.

RELEGATION LEAGUE

Meanwhile, the relegation league of the metropolis Second Division cricket league will begin on the same day at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Mill Barrack CC will take on Lalbagh Anwar SC in the inaugural match.

Azad Boys will face Lalbagh Anwar on May 22 while the same team will meet with Barrack, on May 24.

Unofficial poll results of BSF body

The National Sports Council yesterday announced the unofficial election results of the executive committee of Bangladesh Shooting Federation (BSF), reports BSS.

According to the results, Jalaluddin Ahmed, Azizul Huq, ABM Fazle Karim Chowdhury and M. Wahidul Huq were elected vice-presidents while Azfal Karim as general secretary.

The other office bearers are: Ishtiaq Ahmed Bablu (joint secretary), Advocate Giasuddin Chowdhury (joint secretary), Nazimuddin Chowdhury (treasurer).

Members: SM Ansar Ali, Fazlul Karim, Kutubuddin Akbar, AHM Karam Ali, Mahmud Al-Farid, Ziauddin Ahmed, Mohammad Anwarul Kabir, Ishtiaq Ahmed, KSA Mohammod Manik, Prof. Abdur Rahman, Mahbub Ahmed, Yusuf Gani Chowdhury, Abul Kashem Humayun, Mobarak Hossain Ratna and Advocate Wajedul Islam.

Costa books his place

ROME, May 16: Clay-court specialist Albert Costa reached the final of the Italian Open Saturday, defeating fellow Spaniard Alberto Berasategui in three closely contested sets, reports AP.

Costa, who is unseeded here, took one hour 49 minutes to beat the No. 12 seed 6-3, 4-6, 6-3.

Sheetal h'ball

Menjis Krira Chakra, Old Ideal and Jatrabari Krira Chakra won their respective matches in the Sheetal four-a-side handball tournament at the court next to Dhaka Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Menjis beat Kamalapur Sher-e-Bangla Railway High School 34-11 after leading the first half 16-5.

BKSP, Scholastica zonal final today

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Krira Shikha Protisthan (BKSP) and Scholastica set up a Dhaka Zonal final clash of the 16th national schools cricket championship defeating their respective semi-final opponents by flattering margins at different city venues yesterday.

The final, though will merely be of academic interest, between the country's lone sports institute and the reputed English medium school will be held at the Bangladesh National Stadium today. Both BKSP and Scholastica and the two losing semifinalists — Willes Little Flower and Maple Leaf — have qualified for the final round by virtue of making it to the last four from the zone.

At the Mirpur City Club ground, Scholastica recorded a comfortable six-wicket win over Willes Little Flower.

In a low-scoring affair, Scholastica, set to score 97 in the stipulated 35 overs for an outright victory, raced on to collect 98 for four with more than six overs to spare. Momen scored highest 31 runs for the winners while Jawad chipped in with 26.

Earlier, Willes Little Flower could muster only 96 before being bundled out in 33.3 overs in the face of some controlled bowling by Scholastica.

Hasan Aziz with three for 13 runs was the wrecker-in-chief while Raihan, Russel and Ali Shah, son of former national right-arm seamer Jahangir Shah Badsha, evenly shared six wickets among them.

Away at the Uttara Friends' Club ground, BKSP recorded a huge 102 run win over Maple Leaf.

Batting first, BKSP piled up a mammoth total of 250 for seven in their share of 40 overs with Mahfuz hammering a brilliant 85.

Mahfuz apart, Kuntal with a swashbuckling 63 did half of the job for the sports institute team.

In reply, Maple Leaf, who required to score more than 6.25 runs per over, caved in meekly scoring 148 for eight before exhausting their quota of 40 overs. Nasir scored highest 38 runs for the vanquished followed by Tamim, who made 22.

For BKSP Farid, Imdadur and Hossain evenly shared six wickets.

Telemachus' tour may come to an end

SA's tune-up goes well

LONDON, May 16: South Africa experienced the first bodyblow of their England tour on Friday when fast bowler Roger Telemachus suffered a worrying dislocated shoulder injury, reports AFP.

Telemachus required the use of sedation and was anaesthetised as his right shoulder was put back into joint at a local hospital in Worcester. He could be out of the whole three-month tour as well as next week's one-day series against England.

The irony was that Telemachus was not even playing in South Africa's three-day tour opener, which has otherwise provided Hansie Cronje's side with ideal match practice for the international battles ahead.

Telemachus, a coloured Cape Town who played his first four limited-over internationals in South Africa recently, had been pencilled in by South Africa's tour management to share the new ball in the Texaco matches.

A decision on whether Telemachus will have to go home, and if he will need an operation, has been deferred until after he has been examined by a specialist. The signs, however, do not look good.

Lance Klusener and Gary Kirsten, meanwhile, were the main South African beneficiaries of a day in which Worcestershire declared 59 runs behind on first innings and then fought hard to restrict their opponents to 107 for two by the close.

Today, they will hope to be given a fair chase — and acting captain Graeme Hick will get his final chance to make England's selectors sit up and take notice before selecting the 14-man one-day squad.

Hick added just 10 to his highly-promising overnight 23 not out when Worcestershire resumed on 31 for one after mis-hitting a flick off his toes to square leg.

That was Klusener's third wicket, the bustling all-rounder already having bowled Philip Weston.

The Natalian, a highly underrated support act to Allan Donald and Shaun Pollock in South Africa's test team, later returned to end David Leatherdale's combative 69.

Jacques Kallis contributed two sharp spells of away-swing, picking up Gavin Haynes' wicket and showing that his influence on this summer's Test series will not just be with the bat, in the final session he also added a composed 44 not out to his first innings 75.

Steve Rhodes offered defiance with 45, hooking Donald once thrillingly for four — but South Africa's main strike

Nat'l cycling BJMC finish on top

From Our Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, May 16: The 23rd national cycling championships ended here today with Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) establishing their supremacy by clinching highest 11 golds.

In the four-day meet, BJMC, who held the reigns right from the start, finished with a haul of 11 gold, 10 silver and six bronze medals. Anvars and VDP returned with a distant second place capturing six gold seven silver and two bronze medals. On the other hand hosts Sylhet got the other gold up for grab in the championships.

The meet, got underway on May 13, involved 110 competitors including 20 women. Sport Secretary ASM Shahjahan, who was present as the chief guest on the concluding ceremony, gave away prizes.

Bandarban soccer

BANDARBAN, May 16: An excellent hatrick by national striker Nakib powered Customs Club to a 5-0 win over Rising Star Club in the Bandarban Swadinata Gold Cup football tournament at the local stadium this afternoon, reports UNB.

Left-arm spinner Paul Adams also enjoyed the sunshine, earning himself his first wicket of the tour, and then opener Kirsten put behind him his first innings failure by cruising competently to 51.

Polish soccer in thick soup

WARSAW, May 16: FIFA has threatened it may bar Poland from international soccer events unless the government reinstates purged top football officials, but the Polish sports minister was defiant on Thursday, reports Reuters.

"I don't believe FIFA would adopt such restrictions... but if it came to this, then maybe it would be the price of cleaning up Polish soccer," minister Jacek Debski told PAP news agency.

Last week Debski's office of physical culture and tourism suspended the whole leadership of the Polish soccer association (PZPN) and he said he aimed to save the sport from scandal.

He appointed a lawyer to run the body until it holds a congress to elect a new leadership.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues: 1 Cleveland cager, for short; 4 Apr. address; 7 Chest material; 12 9mm sub-machine gun; 13 Fond du...; 14 "Moon-struck" subject; 15 However; 16 Seattle-based coffee company; 18 A couple of cups?; 19 Hold-up man?; 20 Canine call; 22 Author Deighton; 23 Wharf; 27 Idolater's emotion; 29 Fashion originating in Seattle; 31 Jetsons' pooch; 34 Cloaks; 35 Seattle-based aircraft company; 37 "—Tik"; 38 Prompts; 39 Where an inno is worn; 41 Proof-dresser; 45 Chili sauce; 47 Every bit; 48 "— in Seattle"; 52 Young fellow; 53 It's from the heart; 54 Bk. after Ezra; 55 Reason to keep playing; 56 Nonbeliever; 57 Parched; 58 Texas ex-governor; 59 Where an inno is worn; 61 Pigeon-hole; 62 Blue hue; 63 Essential; 64 Ingrid; 65 opposite; 66 Bogey; 67 Rick; 68 Crit toy; 69 Map datum; 7 Urban; 8 Beast on the fiece; 9 Coat of arms; 10 Elmer; 11 Bugs; 10 Torah; 17 Phoned; 21 Helen's captor; 23 Marie; 24 Sturm — Drang; 25 Improve, as wine; 26 Undeniably; 28 Got the gold; 30 Platonic P; 31 Drew Carey's network; 32 Old French coin; 33 Gadget for Tom Kite; 36 Target; 37 Mouth; 40 Tobacconist's offering; 42 1954 conference site; 43 Easily understood; 44 Bygone; 45 Duration; 46 War; 48 Potential syrup; 49 Mauna — 50 Work unit; 51 Author Hoffmann

Cryptquip puzzle grid: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11; 12 13 14; 15 16 17; 18 19; 20 21 22 23 24 25 26; 27 28 29 30; 31 32 33 34; 35 36 37; 38 39 40 41 42 43 44; 45 46 47; 48 49 50 51; 52 53 54 55; 56