

No play on Day 2

The semifinal match of the 24th national cricket championship between holders Chittagong DSA and Rajshahi DSA was postponed on the second day due to rain at Sylhet Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

England 153/4

Star Sport Monitor At the time of filing of this report late last night, England scored 153 for 4 in their second innings of the first Test against South Africa at Edgbaston.

Michael Atherton, who slammed 103 in the first innings, was not out on 43. South Africa, struggling at 192 for 5 overnight, put up 343 before being all out on the fourth day of the match, thanks to a gritty contribution from Jonty Rhodes and Lance Klusener who scored 95 and 56 respectively.

Scifo scores the winner

BRUSSELS, June 7 (AFP/Internet): Enzo Scifo turned 'super-sub' and scored Belgium's only goal in their final World Cup friendly against Paraguay here Saturday.

Belgium dominated the match territorially but it took the arrival of Scifo, who came on for Wilmots at the start of the second-half, to seal a victory in the 56th minute.

Romania on a rout

PLOIESTI, Romania, June 7 (AFP/Internet): Romania, who were jeered off the pitch when they beat Paraguay 3-2 on Wednesday, finished off their World Cup preparation here Saturday by hammering Moldova 5-1.

Yugoslavs draw

BASEL, Switzerland, June 7 (AFP/Internet): Yugoslavia, who beat Japan 1-0 on Wednesday, were held 1-1 by Switzerland in Saturday's final pre-World Cup friendly here.

Iceland hold S Africa

BAIERSBRONN, Germany, June 7 (AFP/Internet): South Africa will go into the World Cup finals next week without a victory over European opposition after a 1-1 draw against Iceland here on Saturday.

It was the seventh time Bafana Bafana (The Boys) have played a team from the continent and the best they have managed is draws against the Czech Republic, Germany and Iceland.

Tunisia tune up well

TUNIS, June 7 (AFP/Internet): Tunisia warmed up for their World Cup clash with England in Marseille on June 15 by outplaying Wales 4-0 in Saturday night's friendly here.

A relief for Ravanelli

SENLIS, France, June 7 (AFP/Internet): Italy striker Fabrizio Ravanelli was breathing a sigh of relief on Saturday, after learning that his alling three-year-old son should soon be leaving hospital, Luca was rushed to hospital, suffering from diarrhoea, vomiting and a high fever, after being hit by a mystery virus while the Olympique Marseille ace was in Sweden for last week's friendly.

FIFA rivalry reaches pinnacle

PARIS, June 7: A bruising three-month battle for the FIFA presidency reaches a climax on Monday when Sepp Blatter and Lennart Johansson contest the biggest job in soccer, reports Reuters.

Blatter, 62, from Switzerland, and Johansson, a 68-year-old Swede, are former allies who have waged an escalating war of words in their battle for the vacancy created by the



LENNART JOHANSSON retirement of 82-year-old Brazilian Joao Havelange after 24 years.

It will be the first of their lives and the only certainty about Monday's vote at the 51st FIFA congress is that Havelange will become honorary FIFA president.

But the real drama will centre on the choice of the man to lead FIFA, the world's most powerful sports federation, into the 21st century.

A total of 186 out of FIFA's 198 members are eligible for the ballot, with a two-thirds majority of first-round votes guaranteeing victory. If a second round is needed, the winner will be decided by simple majority.

Blatter, who stepped down from most of his duties as FIFA general secretary after announcing his candidature in March, and Johansson, the UEFA president, have very different personal and management styles - although their election platforms embrace very similar ideals.

Both are determined that FIFA will continue to grow financially. Both want to improve development at the grassroots level of the game, and both want to strengthen the national football associations and increase the standing of the important continental confederations.

But they differ in their beliefs on how the organisation should be run. Blatter wants to limit the power of the executive committee and introduce a seven-man executive board which would meet once a month and take binding decisions.

Johansson wants a far more 'transparent' approach and believes Havelange's dictatorial methods are outdated. The election will be the last item on the agenda of the congress which starts on Sunday and ends on Monday - and both men are optimistic.

On Thursday Blatter wrote to FIFA's European members - Johansson's power base - seeking their support. Johansson, who has been travelling the world virtually non-stop since March in his quest for votes, arrives in Paris today for the last crucial days of electioneering.

Other items on the agenda will also have a big impact on the future of the sport.

Following is a factfile of the career of FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter, candidate to be president of FIFA:

Born: Visp, Switzerland, March 10, 1936.

1962-63: Amateur player for FC Dalgach soccer club.

1964: Appointed general secretary managing director of Forbys-Forsbaga, one of the biggest manufacturing concerns in Sweden.

1970: Director, Sports Timing and Public Relations for Longines, involved in organisation of the 1972 and 1976 Olympic Games.

1975: Appointed FIFA's director technical development programme's putting president Joao Havelange's projects (under-21, under-17 world competitions) into motion.

1981, November: Appointed FIFA general secretary.

1990: Appointed FIFA chief executive officer.

1994: Awarded Olympic Order.

1993: Declares intention to run as FIFA president.

1997: Declares intention to run as FIFA president.

1990-96: Vice-chairman of France 1998 World Cup organising committee.

1997-continues: Chairman of World Cup organising committee.

1997: Declares intention to run as FIFA president.

1990-89: Business career outside football saw him rise from shop-floor worker to

managing director of Forbys-Forsbaga, one of the biggest manufacturing concerns in Sweden.

1970: Director, Sports Timing and Public Relations for Longines, involved in organisation of the 1972 and 1976 Olympic Games.

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Sylhet in final eight

Sylhet DSA emerged the Dhaka Zone champions to reach the eight-team final round of the Gazi Tank 18th national youth cricket championship yesterday, reports UNB.

They beat Barisal DSA by 89 runs in the final at the Dharmadhi Cricket Stadium.

Earlier, six teams qualified for the final round. They were: Rajshahi DSA, BKSP, Mymensingh DSA, Dhaka DSA, defending champions Comilla DSA and runners-up Khulna DSA.

In the two-day final, Sylhet batted first to score 235 all out in 78.4 overs on Saturday. Raju made highest 69 runs while Kazal added 33 runs.

In reply, Barisal opened their innings yesterday and were all out for 146 in 60.2 overs with Jalin making 42.

Barisal DSA : 235 in 78.4 overs, Raju 69, Kajal 33, Alok 25, Nadir 24, extras 39; Sylhet 146 in 60.2 overs, Jalin 42, Hisam 27, Ibrahim 16, extras 23; Asdak 3/24, Mishu 3/26, Nayeem 2/25.

2nd one-dayer rained off Sports Reporter

The second one-day match between Bangladesh and hosts Ireland fell through due to heavy rain, according to a faxed message received here last night.

The match was called off without a single ball being bowled. Meanwhile, to accommodate the washed out affair, the Irish Cricket Association has made some changes in the fixture. It is learnt that, there will be two one-day matches on June 8 and June 9 instead of the two-day affair. Both the matches will be held at the Elvington ground in Derry.

Bangladesh, who are now in Ireland on a 45-day preparatory tour for the 1999 England World Cup, lost their opening match against the Irish national team by four wickets.

Int'l rating chess Prize-giving ceremony held

Award giving ceremony of the recently concluded Prime Bank First international rating chess tournament was held yesterday at the NSC conference room, reports UNB.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader handed over the prizes as the chief guest.

Former minister and chief patron of the tourney organisers, Leonine Chess Club, Shaiful Ghani Swapan was present at the function.

International Master Reefat bin Sattar emerged champion while Khandaker Aminul Islam finished second in the meet, participated by 80 players.

The state minister also distributed the best player award for the years 1996 and 1997.

IM Ziaur Rahman and IWM Rani Hamid received the best male and female player award for 1996 while Abdullah Al Rakib and Syeda Shabana Parveen Nipa bagged the awards for 1997.

Div I b'ball Holders Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club registered a facile 104-57 points victory over Hornets Sporting Club in the Purabi Insurance Metropolitan First Division Basketball League at the Dharmadhi basketball gymnasium yesterday, reports UNB.

Gregorians Club beat Suradh Club 83-51 after dominating the first half by 29-20.

Croats savage Australia ZAGREB, Jun 7: Croatia beat Australia 7-0 (half-time 3-0), in a World Cup warm-up friendly on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Milk Vita national jr athletics conclude Shamsul robs BKSP's joy

Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP) reigned supreme in the Milk Vita 16th national junior athletic championships when the country's lone sports institute won eleven of the nineteen golds up for grab on the concluding day of the two-day meet at the National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

BKSP, who captured four golds on the inaugural day, finished with a haul of 15 out of a possible 30 medals. Satkhira and Khulna with three golds apiece jointly finished in the distant second position.

Although BKSP ruled the field, the day's only record breaking performance by Satkhira's Shamsul Alam, who won the javelin throw event with a distance of 55.96 metres. Shamsul's fantastic feat in the boys' 16-year age group gave Satkhira their second gold in the meet.

With Shamsul's record, four records have been created in this meet.

Fawzia Akhter of BKSP with a delightful double was other notable individual performer on the day. Fawzia, who led the late rally of BKSP on the inaugural day on Saturday, gave her team an ideal start in the morn-

ing by winning the 100m sprint of the girls 16-year age group with a timing of 12.5 seconds. Fawzia, who earlier clinched the 200m event on Saturday, went on to capture the long-jump event for her unique treble.

Fawzia apart, Mohiuddin Siraj, Umme Jannatul Kulum, Ruhul Amin, Maushumi Akhter, Azadur Rahman and Mukta Afroze captured a gold each in their respective events.

Yakub Ali captured the lone gold for Khulna on the day by winning the 16-year age group boys high jump event.

BKSP also won four of the five relay events on the day. Kishoreganj were about to return home empty handed before Khairul Islam and Lipi gave them something to cheer about. Khairul won the shot put gold while Lipi clinched the high jump gold of the 14 year girls section.

A total of 500 athletes including 150 girls, braving the sweltering heat, competed in the age group competition.

Medals Table Team G S B BKSP 15 13 6 Satkhira 3 1 4 Khulna 3 1 2 Dhaka 2 1 4 Kishoreganj 2 1 2 Noakhali 1 3 1 Rajshahi Board 1 2 6 Narail 1 2 0 Kushtia 1 1 3 Jheridaha 1 1 1 Nilphamari 0 1 0 Jessore 0 1 0 B'baria 0 0 1 Laxmipur 0 0 1 Munshiganj 0 0 1

Scoreboard on the fifth and final day of the second Test between Sri Lanka and New Zealand in Galle Sunday: NEW ZEALAND: First innings 193

SRI LANKA: First innings 323 NEW ZEALAND: Second innings (94 for 5 overnight) Young c Tillekeratne b Bandarattilleke 11 Horne lbw b Bandarattilleke 3 Fleming lbw b Muralitharan 10 Astle b De Silva 13 McMillan c Jayasuriya b Bandarattilleke 1 Parore not out 32 Cairns c Tillekeratne b Bandarattilleke 16 Harris c Jayawardene b Muralitharan 9 Vettori run out 0 Wiseman c Tillekeratne 0

Previously regarded as the whipping boys of English cricket, Durham were indebted to Mervyn Betts' all-round performance.

Betts, who picked up nine wickets in the match to take him to 51 this season, stepped on his partner's toes and made an unbeaten 29 to see his team home with one wicket and one over to spare.

It was Durham's third win in four matches - a streak that has taken them to third place from last season's 17th placing out of 18.

Surrey and Sussex stand above them after both won their matches.

Surrey's Pakistani off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq took seven for 41 for a match haul of 11 for 157 as Worcestershire were bowled out for 186 at the Oval to lose by 79 runs.

Surrey are 17 points ahead of Sussex who dismissed Kent for 206 to win by 75 runs.

Young pace bowler James Kirtley decided that match with a spell of four for eight. Kent crumbled after Carl Hooper was dismissed for 49.

Champions Glamorgan lost to Hampshire who had been bottom of the table.

Gary Butcher's brave 85 for the Welshmen only delayed the home team's inevitable victory by nine wickets.

Hampshire's win pushed Essex, who drew with Nottinghamshire, to the bottom of the table.

REGRETS Due to space constraint our regular item CROSSWORD could not be accommodated. - Sports Editor

ROLAND GARROS DIARY From Tawfiq Aziz Khan

PARIS, June 7: The eventful 1998 French Open tennis championships draw to a close today.

The two-week-long second Grand Slam of the year will be climaxed by the men's singles championships match between two Spaniards, 12th seeded Carlos Moya and 14th seeded Alex Corretja scheduled for 7 pm (BST) at the Court Central.

All other matches, including the ladies' doubles, which is being played right now should be over before the men's singles.

It has been an amazing experience, these last two weeks at the Roland Garros. Sixteen of the 22 courts are used for the tournament that includes juniors' competitions also.

The facilities for the press are quite adequate and the two press centres located at the Court Central and Suzanne Lenglen provide all information efficiently. There are however two aspects that invites close attention - the absence of

a lift or escalator at the main centre for elderly and senior tennis writers who have to climb up and down all these days and smoking in the press box.

But the most remarkable aspect is that no one of the press needs a special pass for the box during the last four days as is necessary in the three other Grand Slam Centres. This is the best part about Roland Garros.

A word about France Television: The TV coverage is fantastic. Channel 2 and 3 work almost round the clock to bring live coverage to the viewers from as many as six courts. The use of camera and specially the slow motion replays are the best so far I have seen. It is not the equipment or their positioning but superb imagination of the men behind these machines that make the difference. And the viewers are never irritated by the invasion of commercials during the coverage.

Moya and Corretja may be good friends. But none will be willing to give quarters to the other. Great tennis awaits us.

FRANCE '98 SIDELINES

UNDATED, June 7 (AP): Turks and Caicos, the island nation in the Caribbean, will likely become the 200th member of FIFA, international soccer's governing body.

The organisation currently lists 197 member associations, and the Palestinians - who have provisional status - are almost certain to gain full membership at a FIFA congress on Monday. The official agenda then calls for votes on Eritrea and, finally, Turks and Caicos.

The archipelago, with a population of only 15,000 people, "has a sports infrastructure which leaves a great deal to be desired," said a FIFA statement.

"The association, however, is keen to benefit from the islanders' enthusiasm for football, and promote official structures."

CFO'S WARNING Legal action may be taken against travel agents selling non-existent game tickets, the World Cup organising committee warned.

"Certain unscrupulous agents have undertaken to sell tickets for World Cup matches, in sometimes unbelievable quantities, which they are now unable to hand over to their buyers," the French Organising Committee (CFO) said Saturday.

The CFO singled out Great Portland Entertainments of England, which reportedly sold 2.4 million pounds (\$3.9 million dollars) worth of 40,000 tickets it could not supply.

In another case, a travel agent claimed to have purchased from the Cameroon Federation tickets representing 15 per cent of the capacity of a stadium - for a game in which Cameroon wasn't even playing.

TREZEGUET ON TARGET David Trezeguet, the 20-year Monaco striker, laid his claim for a starting place in France's World Cup team scoring twice Saturday in a 3-1 win against Finnish champions club HJK Helsinki.

Trezeguet scored the only goal Friday as France's probable team for the World Cup game against South Africa next Wednesday downed Finland 1-0.

DEL PIERO OPTIMISTIC Italy's World Cup star Alessandro Del Piero said Tuesday he felt freed from a right thigh strain and increasingly confident to regain his place on the team.

"I believe it still can be: Del Piero's World Cup," said the young striker of Juventus, whose presence at France '98 had been put at risk by the injury suffered during the Champions Cup final against Real Madrid last month.

However Del Piero looked tense and cautious as he kicked the ball and joggled by his own during Italy's first training in France, at the sports centre of Senlis.

Team doctor Andrea Ferretti and coach Cesare Maldini both confirmed that Del Piero's thigh lesion had disappeared.

TIGHT SECURITY Fans were kept away, and parking of cars was forbidden close to the walls of the sport centre of Senlis where Italy's World Cup team is preparing for the upcoming matches.

Tight security was common at all places hosting World Cup teams.

BAGGIO ON PANTANI Italian veteran soccer star Roberto Baggio was full of praise for cyclist Marco Pantani, who virtually clinched the Tour of Italy on Saturday.

"We both experienced a lot of sufferings and unexpected comebacks. We proved you must never give up," said Baggio, who is starting in his third World Cup after overcoming a streak of injuries and controversy.

BROWN NOT HAPPY Scotland, upset over a FIFA dictate which prohibits treatment of players on the field, is threatening to take referees to court and sue them for negligence should the rule result in players' injuries being aggravated.

"You could have a case when a player with a severe head injury could be carried off," manager Craig Brown said.

Monday 8th June

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

BTV 3:00 Opening announcement, Al Quran, Programme summary 3:10 Recitation from the Bible 3:15 Patriotic songs 3:20 Zoo Adventure 3:45 Sports Programme 4:00 Khabar 4:45 Country & Science 5:15 Open University 6:00 Health programme 6:15 Dolanappa 6:30 Khabar 6:40 Bidhaaga 7:25 Bashari 8:00 News in Bangla 8:45 Package Drama 10:00 News in English 10:30 The Story of World Cup 11:00 World Cup Final '90 11:30 News 11:40 Tomorrow's Programme summary, Closed down

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: Water - Every Drop Counts 7:00 BBC News Followed by Weather 12:30 BBC World News Followed by Weather 1:30 World Living: Future Fantastic: 'I Robot' 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 World News: Nomads Of The Wind 10:10 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report Followed by Weather 7:30 The World Today 8:30 World Living: Film 9:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 9:30 Hardtalk 10:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 10:30 Style 11:00 The World Today 12:30 Hardtalk 1:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 1:30 World Focus: Window On Europe 2:00 BBC World News: World Living Report 2:10 World Business Report Followed by Weather 2:30 World Living: Holiday: Fasten Your Seatbelt 3:00 BBC World News 3:10 Europe Direct 4:00 BBC World News 4:15 World Business Report Followed by Weather 4:30 Hardtalk 5:00 BBC World Headlines 5:05 USA Direct 5:30 World Focus: Correspondent 6:00 BBC News Followed by Weather 6:30 World Living: Earth Report: Water - Every Drop Counts 7:00 BBC News Followed by Weather 7:30 Asia Today 7:45 World Business Report

[V] 7:30 Rewind VJ Sophia 8:30 Turn On T [V] 9:30 House Arrest 10:00 Turn On T [V] 1:30 By Demand VJ Trey 2:30 Liberty-First Day First Show 3:00 Channel [V] Out There 3:30 Turn On T [V] 4:30 Volume Double 5:30 Turn On T [V] 6:30 By Demand VJ Trey 7:30 Liberty-First Day First Show 8:00 House Arrest 8:30 BPL Oye 9:30 Turn On T [V] 10:00 Liberty-First Day First Show 10:30 Hot Seat 11:00 Turn On T [V] 11:30 Over The Edge 12:00 Turn On T [V] 2:30 By Demand VJ Trey 3:30 Turn On T [V] 4:00 Speak Easy 4:30 Simply South 5:00 Channel [V] Present The Drum

STAR PLUS 6:00 Travel Asia 6:30 Ninaad 7:30 Good Morning India 9:15 The Trial Show 9:30 Bakeman's Ooh La La 10:30 Living On The Edge 11:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 12:00 The Manor Born 12:30 L A La 1:30 Santa Barbara 2:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 3:10 Mystery Movies - Prime Suspect - The Lost Child 5:00 World News: Nomads Of The Wind 10:10 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report Followed by Weather 7:30 The World Today 8:30 World Living: Film 9:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 9:30 Hardtalk 10:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 10:30 Style 11:00 The World Today 12:30 Hardtalk 1:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 1:30 World Focus: Window On Europe 2:00 BBC World News: World Living Report 2:10 World Business Report Followed by Weather 2:30 World Living: Holiday: Fasten Your Seatbelt 3:00 BBC World News 3:10 Europe Direct 4:00 BBC World News 4:15 World Business Report Followed by Weather 4:30 Hardtalk 5:00 BBC World Headlines 5:05 USA Direct 5:30 World Focus: Correspondent 6:00 BBC News Followed by Weather 6:30 World Living: Earth Report: Water - Every Drop Counts 7:00 BBC News Followed by Weather 7:30 Asia Today 7:45 World Business Report

CHANNEL V 6:30 Amed 7:00 Turn on T

News 1:00 Newhart 1:30 The X Files 2:30 Fire 3:30 Charles Angels 4:30 Santa Barbara 5:30 T The Opera Winfrey Show

STAR MOVIES 7:30 Action: The Boys in Company (15) 9:45 Family: The Secret of Treasure Mounting (12) 11:30 Western: Band of 10 (15) 1:30 Romance: Lady Sawk (pg) 3:30 Comedy: The Scare (15) 5:30 Thriller: The Crush (15) 7