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DHAKA WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1998



Usha's ace forward Sadeq (C) threatens the Abahani goal while custodian Bappi prepares to intervene during their Club Cup hockey semifinal yesterday. Usha won in the tie-breaker. —Star photo

Schools Hockey Hossa Miah ride high over Ctg

Sports Reporter
Comilla's Hossa Miah High School emerged group A champions in the first round of the 3rd national school hockey championship with a 1-1 draw against Collegiate School of Chittagong in their last group match at the BKSP yesterday.
Kawsar Ahmed of Hossa Miah School and Mushfiqur Rahman of Collegiate School scored for their respective schools.
With the draw, Hossa Miah School, who earlier on Monday edged past Narayanganj High School and Dinajpur Zila School, earned seven points from three matches.
In the day's other two matches, Dinajpur Zila School beat Narayanganj High School 2-1 in the morning and then went on to beat Collegiate School of Chittagong by an identical margin.

Haynes to teach Northants batting

NORTHAMPTON, England, Aug 18 (AFP/Internet): Former West Indies opener Desmond Haynes has agreed to help coach Northamptonshire's batsmen, the county revealed here on Tuesday.
Haynes, who scored more than 7,000 runs in 116 Tests, was contacted by Northants' chief coach John Embury. He has already spent some time this season working with Hampshire.
"We've looked at the possibility of employing a specialist batting coach for some time," explained chief executive Steve Coverdale.
"John looked at several individuals but his preferred choice was Desmond Haynes, who he knows well from their time together at Middlesex."
"He'll be with us next Tuesday for a net session and then see the players in a match situation. The idea is to start planning for next season when we hope to be calling in Desmond, or others, a bit more often."

Koepke's cause of discontent

MARSEILLE, Aug 18 (Reuters/Internet): German international Andreas Koepke is unhappy at having to share goalkeeping duties at Olympique Marseille with newcomer Stephane Porato.
Porato, signed from Monaco where he was understudy to France's World Cup-winning goalkeeper Fabien Barthez, made his debut in Marseille's 1-0 win at Metz in the French First Division on Saturday.
A week earlier, Koepke also kept a clean sheet when Marseille beat Nantes 2-0 at home in their opening match of the French league season.
"I can't accept this because we're not talking about a sporting decision," said Koepke, who stayed in Marseille at the weekend to train rather than sit on the bench at Metz.
"I had a good match against Nantes. I don't understand it," Koepke said of coach Roland Courbis's decision to rotate his squad.
"But it's his decision... I'm preparing to play against Montpellier."
Courbis has not yet said which of the pair will play in goal when Marseille are at home to Montpellier on Saturday.

New Ronaldo revelation

LONDON, Aug 18 (AP): Brazilian soccer star Ronaldo took a tranquilizer before his country's 3-0 defeat in the World Cup final to France, according to World Soccer magazine.
The British magazine quoted Brazil's doctor, Lidio Toledo, as saying Ronaldo took the sedative after suffering a convulsion a few hours before kickoff.
"He gave me half a bluey tablet before I went to the clinic," Ronaldo was quoted as saying.
The magazine suggested that could explain why Ronaldo looked so sluggish in the game.
Ronaldo had been omitted from Brazil's original team sheet. Then his name appeared on a revised team sheet released before kickoff. In the meantime, Brazil did not warm up on the field amid speculation of a rift between players over the exclusion, or inclusion, of Ronaldo.
And then the 21-year-old ace, rated the best player in the World last season, had a very lethargic game.
World Soccer said players, team officials and hotel staff knew that Ronaldo had some kind of fit at lunch-time on the



RONALDO

day of the game.
Brazil's World Cup '98 assistant manager Zico said emergency tests gave Ronaldo a clean bill of health but he was doubtful the player should have taken the field.
"It's always a mistake to play somebody who's not 100 per cent fit," he was quoted as saying. "It was proved that even if he's the best player in the world, he can't go onto the field if he's

Nat'l v'ball

Eight teams — Bangladesh Ansars, BJMC, Rajbari, Bholah, Pabna, Rangpur, Dinajpur and Khulna DSAs — reached the quarterfinals of the national women's volleyball championship yesterday, reports UNB.
All the four quarterfinals will be held today at Mirpur Shaheed Suhrawardy National Indoor Stadium.
Rajbari DSA will face Bholah DSA at 2:30 pm. Pabna DSA will meet Rangpur DSA at 2:30 pm. BJMC will play Dinajpur at 4 pm and Bangladesh Ansars will encounter Khulna DSA at 4 pm.
In the day's women's group matches, BJMC beat Khulna by 16-14, 15-4, 15-7 points. Bangladesh Ansars defeated Rangpur DSA 15-6, 15-1, 15-1.
Four men's group matches were also decided at the same venue.
Khulna DSA beat Comilla by 15-11, 15-7, 9-15, 15-8 points. Bangladesh Rifles beat Rajbari DSA 15-1, 15-2, 15-3. Kushthia DSA defeated Chittagong 15-9, 15-3, 15-3. Bangladesh Army beat Titas Gas 15-3, 15-1, 15-6.

Dalian extend lead

BEIJING, Aug 18: Dalian Wanda stayed undefeated at home and pulled further ahead of the pack in China's Premier football league Sunday with a 3-0 drubbing of Chinese Army, reports AFP.
The defending champions controlled the field throughout the match and overpowered the Army side with goals in the 16th, 50th and 73rd minutes.
The win extended Dalian's home win streak to 10 and widened their lead over second-place Shanghai Shenhua to nine points.
The latter battled Vanguards Huandao (Chongqing) to a scoreless draw, and third-place Beijing Guo'an suffered a 2-0 upset at the hands of Yambian Aodong.
In the other action on Sunday Wuhan Hongxing, led by new coach Qi Wushang, won their second straight game by beating Gindap Haitu 1-0.
Qi, the head coach of the Chinese national team in his previous job, was ousted in disgrace after the country failed to qualify for this year's World Cup finals.
Shandong Taishan Luneng tied Quanzhou Songri 0-0. Shenzhen Ping'an edged Guangzhou Apollo 1-0 and Achiuan Quanzhou rallied to record a 1-1 draw with Shenyang Haishi.

Taylor worried about Warne

SYDNEY, Aug 18: Shane Warne's absence is a far greater concern to Australia, than the fitness of Pakistan pacemen Waqar Younis and Wasim Akram, captain Mark Taylor said Tuesday, reports AP.
"I don't really know what's happening with Waqar and Wasim, I'm only getting a few reports and one is Waqar is finished for the county season and may not play," Taylor said.
"But you never know, he might be just going home for a rest before he hits us in another couple of months."
Taylor said Pakistan had some good potential replacements if the two strike bowlers are missing.
"More crucial is the performance of his bowlers, who were punished on a losing tour of India earlier this year."
Without Warne, Australia's spin attack will rest with inexperienced duo of Gavin Robertson and Stuart MacGill.
"It's not just a matter of Gavin Robertson and Stuart MacGill," said Taylor. "It's our whole side realizing that Warne has been an outstanding contributor for us over a number of years. We have to make sure we lift for him."
Glenn McGrath and Jason Gillespie both missed the Indian tour through injury but are on the comeback trail while Mike Kasprowicz had a strong tour despite tough conditions.
"The good thing is a bloke like Kasprowicz is a much better bowler than he was 12 months ago and Damien Fleming is back, fit and when he bowls well he's very handy in places like the subcontinent," Taylor said.
"Gavin probably has had enough experience now but it's going to be tougher for MacGill who's only had one Test against England at Adelaide. He had some exposure on the tour of India but only played a couple of games."



MARK TAYLOR

There are doubts over the availability of the two brilliant Pakistanis ahead of Australia's tour next month but Taylor has widened their lead over second-place Shanghai Shenhua to nine points.
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Emirates tri-series England in final

Sports Reporter
England qualified for the final of the Emirates triangular one-day tournament despite suffering a 14-run defeat against South Africa at Edgbaston, Birmingham yesterday.
The hosts earned the right to play world champions Sri Lanka in Thursday's final at Lord's when they crossed 198 — the target required to edge out the Proteas on net run rate.
England, chasing 245, were dismissed for 230 in 48.5 overs.
Match adjudicator, former England captain Ian Botham chose wily South African Pat Symcox his player-of-the-match.

ESP will show the final live at 3.30 pm (BST).
SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the Emirates triangular one-day tournament match between England and South Africa at Edgbaston on Tuesday:
SOUTH AFRICA
Kirsten c Stewart b Gough 7
Rindel lbw b Gough 10
Cullinan b Gough 70
Rhodes c Stewart b Mullally 15
Cronje lbw b Croft 31
Kallis b Austin 19
Pollock not out 22
Symcox b Mullally 51
Boucher not out 3
Extras (lb-9, w-5, nb-2) 16
Total (for seven wickets in 50 overs) 244
Fall of wkts: 1-20; 2-25; 3-73; 4-140; 5-160; 6-172; 7-241.
Did not bat: A Donald, M Hayward.
Bowling:
O M R W
Gough 10 1 43 3
Martin 9 0 47 0
Austin 10 0 41 1
Mullally 9 0 33 2
Holloake 2 0 22 0
Croft 10 0 49 1
(incomplete)

C'wealth tickets selling fast

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 18: Tickets for the opening ceremony of the Kuala Lumpur Commonwealth Games have sold out and closing ceremony seats are almost fully booked, a news report said Tuesday, reports AP.
V V S Laxman, who made four, followed next as Aaqub had him caught by Amir Sohail. Sohail-Aaqub combination effected the exit of Javeda (15) two runs later as Azhar XI

Abahani's exit in extended tie-breaker Usha have the last laugh

Sports Reporter
Last year's runners-up Usha Krira Chakra booked a berth in the Jiban Bima second Club Cup final at the cost of holders Abahani Krira Chakra whom they edged past through a tie-breaker in the first semi-final played at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday afternoon.
The regulation 70 minutes affair, which saw Abahani dominating the match throughout against the all-star Usha, ended in a 2-2 draw. The regulation tie-breaker also being locked at 4-4, the umpires were forced to go for sudden death.
Usha defender Khurshid, who scored from the spot while Ashiqzaman of Abahani failed to convert his chance as his slothful hit was effortlessly denied by Usha custodian Tushar.
In Friday's final, Usha will face the winners of today's second semi-final between Mohammedan Sporting Club and Ajax Sporting Club.
Usha, considered the favorites in the 16-team tournament, could not play to their reputation yesterday and at best displayed poor understanding among themselves. The team appeared late on the field and made a nervous start against the Dhanmondi outfit who rather looked more impressive against the star-studded old-timers.
The sky blues launched a series of offensives early in the match but failed to break through the powerful Usha defence because of poor marksmanship. Moreover, they were denied a penalty by umpire Rubam midway through the first half when forward Shamsuzzaman Khokon was brought down by the Usha custodian. The umpire, who was close to the scene, surprisingly signalled for a short corner.
However, the Abahani's

much-expected goal came after a while when skipper Alamgir Alam deflected home a right side Rabiuddin free hit in the 18th minute.
Following Abahani's ahead, Usha also made some half-

hearted attempts which were primarily aimed to earn short corners. They were partially successful before and after the goal as they earned four short corners in the first session. But that did not reap any fruits.
Usha made a rapid change in their tactics in the second session. Abahani in the meantime were labouring from fitness problems. And, after a few abortive attempts, they finally brought back parity in the 44th minute with defender Irteza Kader Guddu converting a short corner.
Inspired by the equaliser, skipper Rafiqul Islam Kamal put Usha in the lead with a brilliant field goal capitalising on a goalmouth rebounder in the 61st minute.
But the lead sustained for only two minutes as Abahani staged a magnificent comeback and levelled the margin with Khokon blasting the board after being fed by Rubel from the right side.
For Usha, Khurshid, Sadeq, Nixon and Tutul scored in the tie-breaker while Musa Miah's penalty push was stopped by Tushar. Abahani's scorers in the tie-breaker were Ashique, Mamun, Rubel and Rabiuddin. Former national skipper Mahub Haroon, recently dropped from the national side, while taking the first push, put his one over the cross-piece to deny Abahani cent per cent success.
Yellow card: Tapan (Abahani KC)

Hostage of evil

Sports Reporter
Security arrangements at the VIP Gallery of Moulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium is unsatisfactory and leaves much room for improvement, as was evident during yesterday's match between Abahani Krira Chakra and Usha Krira Chakra.
Hundreds of unauthorised people entered the so-called VIP gallery yesterday although the Bangladesh Hockey Federation detailed two guards at the main gate.
The presence of those unauthorised people disturbed greatly the sports journalists who were present in the gallery. They could not concentrate on the game because of the offensive behaviour of some of those people. They shouted at the umpires at every call and abused them with filthy words that are more suitable for a brothel. While this went on during the whole match, none of the BHF officials nor the Tournament Committee members who were present in their numbers, took any initiatives to stop those unscrupulous people and restore a peaceful atmosphere at the VIP gallery.
This is not a new practice at the hockey stadium. A lot of reports have been published in this regard in the last couple of years but it seems those unauthorised people are so influential that the BHF officials are helpless and a hostage to their misconduct.

TEAMS
Usha KC: Tushar, Guddu, Isa Miah, Tutul, Khurshid, Zia, Nixon, Sadeq, Kamal, Musa, Ziad, Pappu and Osman.
Abahani KC: Asir, Rabiuddin, Nakib, Bulbul, Tapan, Mirraj, Ashique, Rubel, Alamgir, Khokon, Mamun, Haroon and Bappi.
TODAY'S MATCH
(second semi-final)
Mohammedan SC v Ajax SC (4 pm)

Latif XI regain composure

DOHA, Aug 18: Azhar XI clinched the Coca-Cola friendly cricket title 1-1 after Rashid Latif XI crushed them for an emphatic 141-run victory to notch up a consolation win in the last tie of the three-match series at the Al Akra Stadium here Monday night, reports PTI.
Chasing 263 to wrap up the series with an all-win record, Azhar XI put up a pathetic display to be skittled out for a dismal 121 in 33.5 overs with Aaqub Javed in a devastating mood, picking up five wickets to grab the player-of-the-match award.
Replying to Rashid Latif XI's 262 all out in 43.2 overs — the highest score in the series — thanks to delectable half centuries by pinch-hitter Shahid Afridi (54) and Inzamamul Haq (50), Azhar XI began disastrously losing four wickets, including that of Sachin Tendulkar, for a paltry 37 runs.
Tendulkar, who opened with Ajay Javeda, was the first to depart caught by Moin Khan on the boundary as the master blaster tried to hoist Mohammad Hussain for his third sixer.
In his brief knock the little genius attempted to go on the rampage as he realised 13 runs off just five balls smashing two sixes.
V V S Laxman, who made four, followed next as Aaqub had him caught by Amir Sohail. Sohail-Aaqub combination effected the exit of Javeda (15) two runs later as Azhar XI

reeled at 33 for three.
With the addition of four more runs, young all-rounder Hrishikesh Kanbur departed, snapped up by Mohammad Zahid off Hussain.
Captain Azharuddin, with wicketkeeper Saba Karim, undertook a rescue operation and the duo realised 33 runs for the fifth wicket before the former was stumped by Latif off Sohail for 24.
David returned to the pavilion as he was run out following a misunderstanding between him and Karim and with the board reading 77 for six the writing on the wall was clear.
Top scorer Karim (36) and Robin Singh negotiated the bowling dourly to take their side past 100 runs in the 27th over but Aaqub sent Karim back, caught by Sohail.
From 111 from seven at that stage, the innings folded up with the addition of only 10 runs as the tail failed to wag.
Earlier sent into bat, Pakistani batsmen who had failed thus far put up an improved display as Inzamam found his form to consolidate on Afridi's and Moin Khan chipped in with 43.
Afridi opening the innings with skipper Rashid Latif started in his usual flamboyant manner delighting the crowd with some lusty hitting.
Afridi reached his fifty with a huge six off off-spinner Noel David. His half century off just 37 balls was studded with four sixes and three fours.
Sohail (27), celebrated his

recall as Pakistan skipper, clubbing two huge sixes off Raju in the 16th over to keep up the momentum.
It was then Inzamam's turn to prop up the innings further and he did it creditably hitting two sixes and taking Pakistan beyond the 200-mark in the 32nd over.
County scores
LONDON, Aug 18: The title race warmed up here on Monday as Lancashire and Gloucestershire both won to keep up the pressure on leaders Surrey, reports AFP.
Lancashire moved into second place, 2 points behind Surrey, and Gloucestershire rose to fourth, a further 21 points adrift but with a game in hand.
Left-handed spinner Gary Keedy took five for 35 at Headington as Lancashire beat his old county, Yorkshire, by 59 runs. The hosts began the day in a strong position with a Lancashire 109 for four overnight. But Warren Hegg (85) helped them add another 106 to lead by 242.
Keedy turned the match in Lancashire's favour when he dismissed Yorkshire's Australian star Darren Lehmann lbw for just seven. Gary Yates followed by ripping in to the tailenders. Keedy sealed the win by removing Richard Stemp and Matthew Hoggard.
Carl Hopper hit an inspirational century for Kent but he and his teammates fell well short of the win target at Bristol.
Courtney Walsh, Jon Lewis, Mike Smith and Tim Hancock each grabbed two wickets as Gloucestershire rolled to a 138-run victory.
West Indies all-rounder Hooper smashed 14 fours and a six in a superb second innings as his side chased an unlikely 436 to win. But none of the other Kent batsmen could make an impression after they had begun the last day on 83 for two.
Former England batsman John Morris capped a scintillating second innings in controversial fashion at Chester-le-Street as Durham and Glamorgan settled for a draw.
Morris went from 68 overnight to 163 before being stumped by Ismail Dawood, bowled by Dean Cosker.
The Durham vice-captain Morris was then captured on film offering two fingers towards a section of the crowd.
He issued an apology, but claimed his gesture was "towards a mate" who had lost a bet that Morris would not make a century. There was never any prospect of Durham setting Glamorgan a target.



Hansie Cronje, skipper of South Africa playing a delicate late cut during the Emirates triangular tournament match against England at Edgbaston yesterday. —AP/UNB photo