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Smart Sox
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Today's match

Second quarterfinal
Sri Lanka vs New Zealand
Time: 2pm. Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium.

TOMORROW
Rest day

Govt-PCJSS talks Nov 2

KHAGRACHHARI, Oct 25: Talks between the government and PCJSS will be held in Chittagong on November 2 to remove differences over implementation of the CHT Peace Agreement, reports APB.

Official and PCJSS sources here said this would be the fourth meeting of the committee for implementing the peace accord signed on December 2, 1997.

Committee convenor and Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah, CHT Affairs Minister Kalparanjan Chakma, PCJSS chief Jyotirindria Bodhipriya Larma alias Shantu Larma, PCJSS stalwarts Rupayan Dewan, Sudhasindha Khisa and Raktotpal Tripura and chairman of the task force on tribal refugees Dipankar Talukder will attend the meeting at the Chittagong Circuit House.

The meeting will try to make a breakthrough in the impasse over formation of the regional

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Shahida's body exhumed for fresh autopsy

By Staff Correspondent

The body of advocate Shahida Begum was exhumed from Azampur graveyard yesterday afternoon under the supervision of a metropolitan magistrate, according to police.

The court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Dhaka, had earlier ordered for exhuming the body for autopsy again following an appeal from the victim's family.

The body was brought to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue. But autopsy was not done following objection of Shahida's father, hospital sources said.

The body was taken to Dhanmondi thana yesterday evening. Fresh autopsy of the body is likely to be done at the Salimullah Medical College Hospital today, the sources said.

Advocate Shahida was allegedly killed by her husband, also a lawyer, at Modhubazar in the city in the early hours of September 28, an FIR lodged with the Dhanmondi thana by the victim's sister Monwara Begum had said.

Fishing trawler sinks in Karnaphuli

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 25: A fishing trawler sank in the Karnaphuli river this afternoon after being hit by a vessel while it was entering the port jetty for unloading foodgrains, port sources said.

But there was no loss of life as the Navy personnel rescued the crew of fishing trawler, official sources said.

Port officials informed that the mishap took place as the in-

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Business

BSCIC to invest Tk 1500 cr in industrial projects this fiscal

Vajpayee announces string of steps to revive sagging economy

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UNORTHODOX YET USEFUL: Neil Fairbrother, the left-handed England batsman, follows a mishit that paced past the outstretched South African wicketkeeper Mark Boucher down to thirdman. Also interested is his captain Adam Hoolioake.

— Star photo by A K M Mohsin

SA send England packing

By Hasan Masood

South Africa at 135 for three in the 27th over.

Skipper Hansie Cronje and Jonty Rhodes took charge from then onwards and steered the team almost to victory with a magnificent 117-run fourth wicket partnership taking South Africa from 135 to 252.

Although they depended on balls which included two huge sixes and five boundaries.

After his departure, Jonty Rhodes and debutante Dale Benkenstein took South Africa home without any further damage.

Rhodes was unbeaten on an almost run-a-ball 61 with the help of five fours while

South Africa stormed into the last four of the Wills International Cup in style with a six-wicket win over England in the first quarterfinal played at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Chasing a commendable England total of 281 in 50 overs, the Proteas, riding on half centuries from Daryll Cullinan, Hansie Cronje and Jonty Rhodes, scored 282 for the loss of four wickets. They had 20 balls to spare.

The half-strength South Africans were off to a flying start in their chase. Opener Daryll Cullinan and Mike Rindel laid the ground with a 113-run partnership, making the task easier for the others. Cullinan, "for setting up the match", was crowned with Player of the Match award.

Cullinan took the mediocre English bowling to the sword with his attacking batting. The right-hand batsman began the onslaught without any orthodox introduction, hammering 13 boundaries in his 70-minute life at the crease.

On way to his 69 off 70 balls, Cullinan also crossed the 3000 mark in his 99th ODI appearance.

While his left-handed opening partner Rindel gave a good support from the other end.

The duo reached their 50 in eight overs and then doubled the score exactly after another eight overs. South Africa were by then firmly placed at 100 without any loss at the end of 16 overs.

The partnership broke in the 20th over when Rindel's half-hearted pull off left arm-spinner Ashle Giles went into the safe hands of Alistair Brown at mid-wicket.

In his 61-ball knock of 41, Rindel hit six fours including three in the 11th over off England medium-pacer Mark Ealham.

Cullinan was next to go in the 26th over when he was brilliantly taken by Neil Fairbrother at mid-wicket off a Graeme Hick delivery.

Jacques Kallis, who took three wickets in the afternoon, followed Cullinan soon after scoring only 15 runs which left

SIEMENS MINI WORLD CUP '98
OSRAM Lighting
THERE IS LIGHT AND THERE IS OSRAM

ones and twos in the early stage to keep the scoreboard moving, England became near impossible for the English bowlers to break the pair once they were settled.

Their 50-run partnership came from only 43 balls while the next 50 came from 46 deliveries.

England probably saw some hope in the 43rd over when Cronje gave a simple catch to Alistair Brown when he tried to pull England skipper Adam Hoolioake through the mid-wicket region.

Cronje scored 67 off just 57

Benkenstein was not out on 13.

Earlier, electing to bat after calling the coin right, England mustered a fighting total of 281 for seven in the stipulated 50 overs with skipper Hoolioake hammering an unbeaten 83.

He was given an ample support by 35-year old left-handed Neil Fairbrother who celebrated his recall to the England team after two and a half years with a workman-like 56.

After the collapse of the middle order, the duo added 112 runs for the fifth wicket to help

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A VIEW FROM THE GULLY

Malaysian Palm Oil
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Tawfiq Aziz Khan

England's specialised 'hit squad' for ODIs bumped into hardened 'criminals' Sunday night in Dhaka. As if to prove their superiority, Cronje's men confirmed their 2-1 victory back in England was no fluke. Australia and England are the two countries seriously trying to find out a winning combination for the instant variety of the game. Whether this is good approach or not, only time can tell, but on the face of it England seemed to be still groping in the dark.

The last couple of days have produced fascinating results and extremely entertaining

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hit perfect with RC COLA

Player of the match



DARYLL CULLINAN

India, Windies arrive

Favourites India and West Indies, the two former world champion teams, arrived in the nine-nation Wills International Cup Cricket tournament, reports UNB.

The tournament, popularly known as mini World Cup, began at Bangabandhu National Stadium in the city on Saturday.

The 18-member Indian team, led by its captain Mohammad Azharuddin, arrived at Zia International Airport at

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ULFA leader put behind bars for 6 yrs

By Court Correspondent

ULFA leader Anup Chetia was sentenced to six years' rigorous imprisonment and fined Tk 6000 by the court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Dhaka yesterday for illegal entry and stay in Bangladesh and possession of a forged Bangladesh passport.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Habibur Rahman awarded the punishment following Chetia's confession of guilt. He was awarded four years' rigorous imprisonment (RI) and fined Tk 5000 for illegal entry and stay in Bangladesh and another two years' RI and a fine of Tk 1000 for possession of forged passport.

Two other cases against Chetia for illegally possessing foreign currency and satellite telephone are still pending with the Special Tribunal, Dhaka.

Chetia's prayer for political asylum in Bangladesh is also ailing with the Home Ministry for about two months now.

Yesterday's sitting of the court, was earlier fixed for recording statement of prosecution witnesses. But no witness turned up yesterday.

Chetia and two of his associates — Babul Sharma and Laksmi Prasad — were produced in the court of Habibur Rahman at about 2:00 pm.

They were arrested on December 21 last year from a residential house at Adabar under Mohammadpur thana in the city.

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Anup Chetia

Rape incidents: 4 arrested in Raozan

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 25: Police arrested four people today in connection with the rape incidents at village Dewanpur under Raozan thana.

Police said two cases were filed with Raozan thana on Saturday after receiving allegations of rape of teenage daughters of two fishermen on October 18 and 19 by a group of terrorists.

The two victims aged 16 and 17 were taken to Chittagong Medical College Hospital for medical test today, police said.

UNB quoting family source said the victims were gangraped by the members of a local terrorist group led by one Zahangir.

The miscreants raped one girl at gun point on Oct 18 night and threatened not to disclose it to anyone, said the villagers.

They raped the victim's cousin the following night as her uncle disclosed it to the local UP chairman.

Local police allegedly refused to register the case despite request from the guardians of the victims.

The guardians later went to the district officials who informed the high police officials about the matter.

DIG and SP visited the spot Saturday and asked the local police to register the cases.

Kotwali thana OC, three policemen accused of killing Akbar

By Court Correspondent

A petition case was filed against the OC and three other policemen of Kotwali thana, Dhaka, yesterday accusing them of killing Akbar Hussain, 13, in Nayabazar area in the city during Thursday's half-day countrywide hartal, called by the BNP-led Seven Party Alliance.

Akbar Hussain's brother Dewar Hussain filed the case with the court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Metropolitan Magistrate Hema yet Hussain will hear the petition today.

Local people at Nayabazar had alleged earlier that police kicked and trampled Akbar when they swooped on a crowd in the area during a clash between pro- and anti-hartal activists.

But, police denied it and said that the boy was injured when he fell from the roof of a house. Police said that had taken the boy to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital in an unconscious state.

Govt in dilemma over increasing VGF cards

By Reaz Ahmad

Aid givers want Bangladesh to gear up its post-flood food relief activity, especially the vulnerable group feeding (VGF) programme, but the speed with which aid arrives cannot match the need.

As a result, the government is now cautiously considering donors' offer for raising the number of VGF cards beyond 40 lakh. Because it would take some time to replenish public food reserve, which gets dried up due to VGF, by food aid.

Officials said foodgrains earmarked for VGF were being released from government's own stock and being replenished through World Food Programme (WFP) and the bilateral donors such as the United States.

After the prolonged deluge this year, as much as 55,000 tonnes of wheat came so far under development programmes, all of which were diverted as post-flood relief to meet immediate needs.

As both WFP and the US, the two major sources of food aid, offered support for increasing the number of VGF cards, the government could not respond immediately. The government was worried about its reserves, an important factor in case OMS (open market sale) became a necessity in the near future.

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Number of voters to set limits of DCC wards

By Morshed Ali Khan

EC officials said although they were trying to maintain an average ratio of about 23,000 voters in each ward, it would not be possible to strictly maintain the figure in every ward.

"We are taking extra care not to disturb the electoral roll or the parliamentary constituencies," said one EC official.

The DC (Deputy Commissioner) office has completed the delimitation of the city wards and is now receiving complaints or objections from the members of the public.

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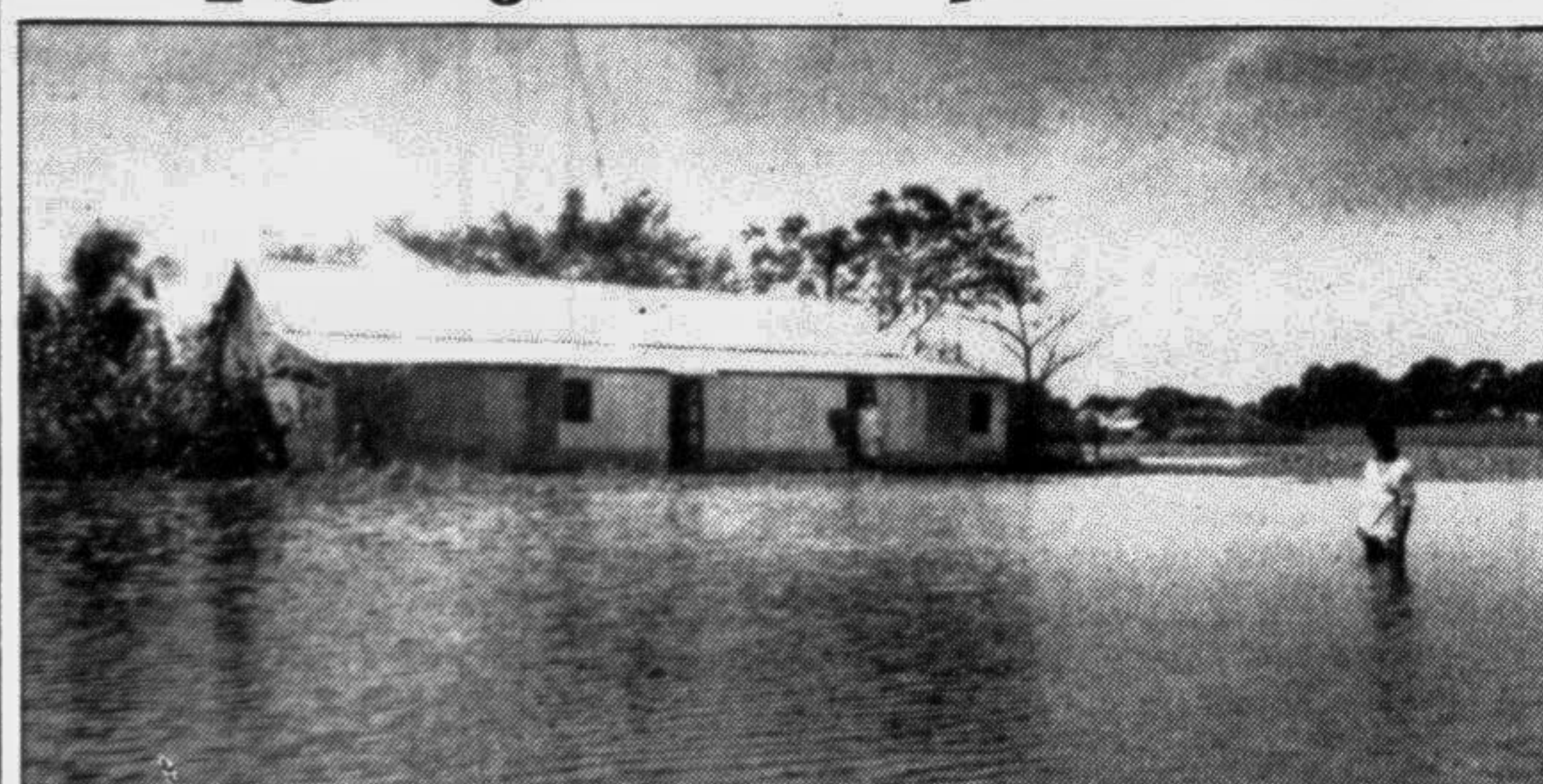
Shibir activists rehabilitated in 3 CU halls

From CU Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 25: Ousted Shibir activists and leaders from three residential halls of Chittagong University were rehabilitated last night.

After a meeting of the provosts and proctor of the University, the authorities reached an understanding with Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) and rehabilitated Shibir activists in Shaha Amanat, Shaha Jalal and Abdur Rab halls.

Rupganj: Where flood water refuses to recede



Contrary to common knowledge that floodwater is long gone, homesteads are still surrounded by knee-deep flood water in some places along the embankment in the Narayan-ganj-Narsingdi Agrani Irrigation Project area at Rupganj.

— Star photo

By Nazmul Ashraf, Parveen Ahmed and Ehsanul Haque

While the country is smarting from the just-gone devastating flood, a large group of people in a protected area of Narayan-ganj district is still fighting against the 'unexpected' flood-water.

Several hundred families of the area under the Narayan-ganj-Narsingdi Agrani Irrigation Project at Rupganj find their houses and farmlands still under water inside the very embankment meant to protect them.

One-fourth of the project area of 1300 hectares, surrounded by nearly an 11-km-long embankment, has been inundated. In the low-lying areas, most of the houses are either under water or not worthy to live in. A vast sheet of farmlands is also either submerged or not cultivated while a good number of industries, especially the small and cottage ones, are not in a condition to resume operation.

"When we were flooded, the area inside the dam was safe. But when there is no water in our area, they (those living in the project area) are still affected," said Mofazzal Hossain Bhuiyan, who owns 15 acres of farmlands inside the embankment, but lives in Tarabo, two minutes' drive from the project area.

Bhuiyan warned some 3000 families who live on farming in his land may be badly affected if he fails to resume cultivation soon. "If the water doesn't recede within the next two weeks, it will be too late to sow seedlings."

Flood waters sneaked into the protected area through some 100 cracks and overflowed at

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