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The best of times

Players record their moments of glory to Star reporter

By Hasan Masood

Bangladesh skipper Aminul Islam said defeating Pakistan in the World Cup at Northampton was the greatest moment of his life and he considers this a milestone in the history of Bangladesh cricket.

He was talking to The Daily Star in front of the VIP Lounge at Zia International Airport yesterday after the Bangladesh team arrived here after a 13-hour long journey from London.

"I'm the happiest man today and the credit goes to the whole team. We didn't have a reputation before the World Cup, but now the world knows that we can play at the highest level of cricket too," said a visibly tired Aminul.

The Bangladeshis in England gave us tremendous support in all the matches with their presence at the ground. I will never forget that.

"We were the minnows out there (in the match against Pakistan), we tried our best and won against Pakistan. Nothing is sweet like this," added Aminul rushing towards an

Army truck that carried the team to National Parade Square.

Other members of the team that won two of their five first round matches also chimed in with their skipper.

Former national skipper and all-rounder Minhazul Abedin, the last-minute inclusion in the WC squad, said he played the best games of his career in the World Cup and enjoyed every bit of his stay in England.

"I thank the Almighty for giving me the chance to play in the World Cup. It was a dream I have cherished for long. I gave everything for my country in the World Cup, and thank God I'm ending my career after such a historic win against Pakistan," said Minhazul who spearheaded Bangladesh's maiden World Cup victory against Scotland at Edinburgh on May 24 with an unbeaten 68 and a wicket.

Wicketkeeper Khaled Mashud, who inflicted three

run-outs on Pakistan, said that it was a good match to win and that he would remember the victory throughout his life.

Vice-captain Khaled Mahmud, the man-of-the-match against Pakistan, said he was over the moon when he received that m-o-m award from Bob Willis.

"That is the best performance so far in my career and that will inspire me to improve my game in the coming days."

When everybody looked tired, one man was grinning. Neezamur Rashid who made his one-day debut in that historic match against Pakistan said: "It's a different feeling for me. My first match and that too against Pakistan was a dream and the victory was simply the icing on the cake," said the youngest member of Bangladesh team.

Middle order batsman and former national skipper Faruque Ahmed also looked pretty pleased. "It's a great feeling for me," said the veteran

middle-order bat.

The BG 008 flight landed at ZIA at 10:21 am and the team got only 10 minutes to freshen up.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad welcomed the heroes at the boarding bridge while State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader, former State Minister for Sports and BNP leader Sadeq Hossain MP, BNP lawmaker and former national footballer Maj (ret'd) Abdul Hafiz, Bir Bikram, MP also received the team with bouquets.

Bangladesh Cricket Board president and Deputy Minister for Shipping Saber Hossain Chowdhury accompanied the team from London and led the convoy of the team to the NPS for the grand reception along with Obaidul Quader.

Thousands gathered outside ZIA and on both sides of the road to cheer the team waving national flags throughout the way from ZIA to the parade ground.



Time to come closer

Foes turned apparent friends at the airport yesterday. The picture shows (from left) State Minister for Sports Obaidul Quader, BNP sports secretary Hafizuddin Ahmed MP, Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, BNP city leader and former state minister for sports Sadeq Hossain Khoka MP as when they posed for photo while waiting for the cricket heroes to arrive.

— Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Commissioner murder

Nasim promises punishment to killers

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, June 4: A wave of protests continued in the port city against the killing of ward commissioner of Chittagong city corporation and local Awami League leader Liakat Ali Khan.

Liakat was gunned down by assailants in broad day light on Wednesday at Chaldatoli under Panchlaish thana.

A protest rally organised by the City Corporation was held at Laldighi Maidan this afternoon.

Höme Minister Mohammad Nasim and Minister for Civil Aviation Mosharraf Hossain attended the rally.

Presided over by mayor Mohiuddin Chowdhury, the rally was also addressed by local AL leaders.

The home minister assured that the killers of Liakat will be arrested.

He urged the people to extend their support and cooperation to the law enforcing agency personnel to curb terrorism.

Expats to help gain expertise

Technology transfer convention in July in US city

From Govinda Shil

NEW YORK: A group of expatriate Bangladesh experts said here Saturday that it was not a big task for them to transfer technology to Bangladesh but urged entrepreneurs to respond positively.

They said there is a huge technical gap between Bangladesh and the developed countries, which the country has to leap-frog for rapid economic development.

The expatriate experts and investors will hold a Tech-Transfer convention during July 31 to August 1 this year at the Saint Peter's College, New Jersey. Tech-Bangla, an Atlanta-based not-for-profit organisation will host the convention. Commerce and industries minister Tofail Ahmed will be the chief guest.

"We are identifying prospective areas for technology transfer to Bangladesh, but everybody should come forward to materialise it," said Dr Shaikh Mizan, a bio-chemist at the University of Georgia. Mizan came here from Atlanta, Georgia to hold a press conference

with the expatriate Bangladeshi journalists.

The New York journalists were enthusiastic about the idea. They asked the organisers how they were planning to face the socio-political realities of Bangladesh, while building a technology base.

A New York based IT (Information Technology) expert Dr. Abdullah of IBM said expatriates should start, somewhere, amidst political risks rather than sitting back.

"Bangladesh garment industry has been able to establish its reputation for quality products in the international market in spite of frequent political conflict," Mizan said. Tech-Bangla is now working to build up a network of North American scientists and engineers. Entrepreneurs will get necessary information about specific projects, he said. Habibullah, a soil scientist said: Tech-Bangla was trying to match prospective entrepreneurs and experts and expect them to come up with viable manufacturing and industrial projects for Bangladesh.

Tech-Bangla will focus on garment and textile industries, information and communication, agriculture and bio-technology at the upcoming convention. Experts from Washington DC also joined the press briefing.

50 Sudanese troops killed in plane crash

KHARTOUM, June 4: Fifty Sudanese troops, including six officers, were killed when a military plane crashed near Khartoum on Thursday evening, the army said today, reports AFP.

A military transport plane was flying from Kassala in eastern Sudan to Khartoum at 8:00 pm (1700 GMT) Thursday when it suffered technical problems, according to the statement from the Sudanese armed forces general command.

CJ points to dependence on executive

Freedom still remains a far cry, Justice Kamal tells SC Bar

Chief Justice Mostafa Kamal Thursday said independence of judiciary would remain a far cry if its financial and administrative independence was not ensured, reports UNB.

He made the observation at a reception accorded to him by the Supreme Court Bar Association on his assumption of the office of the Chief Justice.

He underscored the need for institutional communication between the Chief Justice and the Supreme Court Bar for better understanding and resolving various problems.

He said he would convene such a meeting within next seven days to listen to the problems facing the bar and what he could do to resolve them.

The new Chief Justice, referring to the dependence of the judiciary on the administration,

said under the present system the Supreme Court is to knock the doors of three ministries if it wants to recruit a peon or even buy a typewriter.

He felt that the Supreme Court should have financial and administrative freedom for quick and effective administration of the judiciary.

He also suggested use of latest technology like computers in the business of the court. It would immensely help the court, lawyers and clients, he said.

He, however, added that the UNDP has planned a project on modernisation of the system of work in the court, which involves a huge fund.

About the fresh detention of a person after his release on bail by the court order, the Chief Justice said the framers

of the Constitution did not keep any jurisdiction of the Appellate Division on this point.

He said only any reference made by the President goes straight to the Appellate Division.

Justice Kamal, known for his expertise in constitutional law, urged the lawyers to bring good cases, especially those relating to Constitution, to the Appellate Division.

He assured the members of the Bar that during his short tenure, he would do his best to contribute to the development of the judiciary.

Speaking on the occasion, Justice Latifur Rahman, a senior judge of the Appellate Division, said with the appointment of Chief Justice Mostafa Kamal, the judiciary has been placed in a safe hand. He called

on the executives and lawyers to co-operate with the new CJ for smooth dispensation of his responsibility.

Bar leaders and senior lawyers speaking at the function urged the Chief Justice to publish the cause list on half-yearly, monthly and weekly basis, and to stop free access of commoners in the court record room.

Advocate Nazrul Islam Chowdhury, without elaborating the present state of the judiciary, said: "We tried to keep this white court building white... I had a plan to groom my only son as a lawyer, now I feel hesitant to advise him to be a member of the bar."

Barrister Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed recalled his long association with the new Chief Justice and termed him as a brilliant man.

He said the historic verdict in the case of the 8th Amendment to the Constitution was a glorious contribution of the judges.

Barrister Nazmul Huda MP alleged that the administration is nowadays undermining the courts. A man coming out of jail at the court's order is again pushed back into the jail by the administration, he said and urged the Chief Justice to find a remedy.

Presided over by Supreme Court Bar Association President Barrister Shafiq Ahmed, the reception function was also addressed by Khandaker Mahbubuddin Ahmed, Abul Baset Majumder, M A Wahab Mia, M Hafizullah and Association general secretary Sayedur Rahman.

They rule!

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, June 4: Some local activists of Jubo League and Chhatra League attacked police with hand bombs and snatched an alleged terrorist at Phulbari Gate Thursday midnight.

The alleged terrorist, Kala Khokon (30), was arrested in the same evening from crime-prone Senpara under Khanjahan Ali thana in connection with several criminal cases, police said.

According to police and witnesses, the ruling party activists also fired shots in air to scare pedestrians, disrupting traffic on the Khulna-Jessore highway for over two hours.

The official car of AC (North) of KMP also came under bomb attack during the clash between police and the activists.

BDR was called in to assist riot police as the incident created tension in the entire Phulbari Gate area where the ruling party dominates local politics.

But BDR was withdrawn this afternoon. Riot police are on duty there to stare off violence.

Meanwhile, police constables including Havildar Abdus Samad were closed at the police lines today.

Greenidge in absentia

PM remembers the fired WC coach

None was left out, bar one. The ecstasy euphoria and pride were shared by all — he went unsung.

The victors of the Bangladesh World Cup squad, who earned the laurels for beating mighty Pakistan, was given a hero's reception yesterday. They also included Australian physiotherapist Allan Hunt. But none remembered the boss.

Except Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, a patron of cricket and sports' fan, herself, nobody mentioned Gordon Greenidge and his contribution to the country's cricket on the most crickingly joyous day of the nation.

Even none of the 'good-boys' of the great West Indian legend, whom he trained for more than two years, first for the 1997 ICC Trophy and later for Bangladesh's maiden World Cup campaign, bothered to name him, once.

Skipper Aminul Islam Bulbul categorically mentioned all to express gratitude. But, much to express gratitude. But, much

See Page 11

Cricket-ernity

Sports Reporter

They might have difference in their political ideology. But they have one thing in common. Love for cricket.

It was a rare scene at the ZIA yesterday morning when State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader hugged his predecessor Sadeq Hossain, now an opposition BNP leader, at the VIP lounge. Both Quader and Sadeq were at the airport to receive the Bangladesh team.

Talking to the group of reporters, Quader said that Sadeq's contribution to sports during his tenure as State Minister can never be underestimated.

Sadeq also praised Quader for his keen interest in sports and wished him all the best.

Motor rally

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has arranged a grand rally for the Bangladesh team today.

The motorcade starts from the Bangladesh National Stadium at 10:30 am. It will circle the capital before ending at the Central Shaheed Minar.

The motor rally will move through Bangladesh National Stadium to Shahjahanpur Rail Crossing to Basabo to Goran to Khilgaon to Rampura Road to Bahadara to Gulshan to Mohakhali to Bijoy Sharani to Asad Gate to Satmasjid Road to Science Laboratory to New Market to Shaheed Minar.

BNP charts its agenda for JS session

By Staff Correspondent

BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Jatiya Sangsad Begum Khaleda Zia last night had a nearly two-hour meeting with her party's legal experts and senior colleagues and discussed various issues relating to the Sangsad session beginning tomorrow.

The closed door meeting held at her official residence was attended by Khandaker

Delwar Hossain, Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Moudud Ahmed, Khandaker Mahbubuddin Ahmed, Nazmul Huda, MK Anwar, Aminul Haq and Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan.

Sources said the meeting mainly discussed the outcome of the opposition leaders' meeting with Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury on Thursday.

The BNP Parliamentary Party's meeting scheduled for this evening and the issue of voters' ID card also figured at the meeting.

When contacted, MK Anwar told The Daily Star that they met the Speaker as he had earlier requested the Opposition to attend the meeting of the JS Business Advisory Committee. See Page 11



Mark Waugh of Australia who scored 83 runs against India at the Oval in London on Friday walks away from the wicket after being caught by Venkatesh Prasad during the 1st match in the Super Six series of the Cricket World Cup.

Faysal Bank
A way of life حياة
Sharing in Success

A view from the Gully

From Page 1

players would go back to England on 8 June to complete some formalities, and gather 'expertise' by watching the rest of the matches. It was known on Friday that there were no such plans. They are not going back to England. If this is an actual situation why the civic reception could not be deferred to a more comfortable time and place with better arrangements? Do we have to try to gain political mileage from every sporting success? While there was no declaration of cash prize for the 'sacked' coach — Gordon Greenidge — it was nice to hear that a 'crest' will be presented to him at a later date! But the major disappoint-

ment for the cricket enthusiasts was the speech of the Prime Minister where she promised to do everything for improvement of cricket in the country, stopping short of declaring Bangladesh National Stadium as the 'home of cricket' for Bangladesh. It was a strong rumor that made its rounds during the last two days. This would have been the greatest gift of the prime minister to the cricket heroes.

But the gentleman who presided over the function yesterday, had already dug up the square at the stadium and put the costly electronic scoreboard under lock and key. A fine example of cutting the roots and caring for the branches.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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BNP yet to fix reception date

Opposition BNP will accord a reception to the national cricket squad in a couple of days, reports APB.

Party leaders yesterday said that they had announced the programme earlier, but were yet to fix the date for the reception.

BNP would choose either Paltan Maidan or 29 Minto Road, the official residence of the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, as a possible venue for the reception, the party leaders said.

A four-member team of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) led by its city convenor Sadeq Hossain Khoka received the national cricket team separately from government-arranged formalities at the Zia International Airport yesterday morning.

Terror at parade square

By DU Correspondent

At least 10 DU students were injured when some unruly youths attacked them at the National Parade Square yesterday noon.

Witnesses said the students came under attack as they tried to resist the youths who were spraying coloured water on some female students. The youths also damaged window panes of a university bus.

Family donates ancestral home for Bangabandhu Mausoleum

Descendants of Sheikh Abdul Hamid, grand father of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, yesterday donated their ancestral home to the government for construction of the Bangabandhu Mausoleum at Tungipara, reports UNB.

The descendants Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Sheikh Rehana, Sheikh Helaluddin and others — donated their home at Tungipara in Gopalganj district to construct the mausoleum on the mazar of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib.

The successors of Sheikh Abdul Hamid recently obtained possession of the land in a legal process and decided to donate it.

ANC close to two-thirds majority

PRETORIA, June 4: Riding on a massive election victory, the African National Congress was close today to gaining a two-thirds majority in parliament, giving it the power to amend South Africa's constitution, reports UNB.

That possibility alarms opposition parties — particularly majority-white ones — but the successor to Nelson Mandela, ANC President Thabo Mbeki, sought to reach out to whites in his victory speech.

জলমগ্ন সড়কে গাড়ীর ইঞ্জিন বন্ধ হবে না

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