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SPORTS TALK



Roshan Mahanama

(Sri Lankan former Test star)
"Even a genius like Tendulkar doesn't sit back on his achievements instead practises for hours in the nets before the next assignment."

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-135

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm
Sept 15, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

- Who scored the first hat-trick in this year's Fed Cup football?
Julu Kanchan Tanvir
- Who is Pakistan's cricket team captain?
Wasim Waqar Moin
- Who is the captain of Bangladesh cricket team?
Annuul Akram Naimur
- Who won the AB Bank Men's TT title?
Armanul Boman Mariners
- Who was voted Germany's footballer-of-the-year in 2000?
Kahn Sommer Rnuier

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Class Roll No.

School Address

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POWERED WITH **EN-VITS**
ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

Nairobi tourney

Kapil going with India?

MADRAS, India, Sept 10: Kapil Dev, who is facing speculation over his future as India's national coach following an inquiry into his alleged role in a match-fixing scandal, may train players for the ICC Knock-out tournament in Nairobi, reports Reuters.

A C Muthiah, president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), said that Dev, who appeared before federal police last week, could keep his job for the International Cricket Council's tournament starting on October 3.

"I may even think of inviting Kapil Dev to coach the probabilities," Muthiah said in a statement issued today.

Dev was questioned last Thursday by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in New Delhi in the wake of allegations of match-fixing levelled against him by former Indian all-rounder Manoj Prabhakar.

Dev has vehemently denied the allegations and has so far kept his job as coach.

Fresh speculation about Dev's future sprang up on the day of his meeting with CBI investigators when Muthiah said in Sharjah that he would meet Dev soon.

"I will meet him personally as soon as I reach India. It is only after the meeting that I will decide whether to fire him or retain him," Muthiah said.

Tax officials raided Dev's New Delhi home in July during a nationwide swoop on cricketers, administrators and bookmakers to look for evidence in the match-fixing scandal.

Indian Sports Minister Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa has said that any player accused in match-fixing should step down until his name is cleared. But so far, no-one has offered to quit.

India dropped former captain Mohammad Azharuddin and Ajay Jadeja and off-spinner Nikhil Chopra from the list of probabilities for the ICC Knock-out trophy one-day tournament.

Selectors said the three, under investigation in the match-fixing scandal, were rested because they were felt to be under strain.

Brothers sink further

Sports Reporter



Abahani thumped down a 3-0 defeat on Brothers Union in the National Bank Premier League Football at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The surprisingly facile win of the popular Dhanmondi outfit only suggested that an Abahani-Brothers match is no longer heart-wrecking battle.

Having stripped off the tag of football's traditional third force by Muktioddha Sangsad Kira Chakra, the Gopibagh outfit continued to go down further in an endless abyss. Their pathetic performance in recent past hardly reminded anyone of the brilliant football they used to play only a few years back.

Although there were a few hundred supporters of the Gopibagh club present at the terraces with a giant orange flag, they eventually returned home with even a heavier heart following the harsh treatment of Abahani.

The strike duo of Don and Kennedy were again in the thick of things as Abahani romped to their third successive win. Veteran midfielder Zakir, who won the Federation Cup for Abahani, scored the third goal in the lopsided affair.

Don gave Abahani a lone goal lead in the first half with a powerful right-footer from inside the six-yard box. It was the third League goal for the diminutive national forward. His attacking partner Kennedy, one of the two Ghanaian recruits of Abahani, scored the second goal in the 55th minute after being nicely fed by Arman. It was Kennedy's fourth goal so far.

Playing his first League match Arman, who was sidelined with an injury for about three weeks, also set up the last goal for Zakir four minutes from the final whistle.

But Abahani could have won by even a bigger margin had not Kanchan, Iqbal and Don, with the four-man Brothers defence gasping for air, missed those sitters in the last quarter of the match.

The presence of the Nepalese trio of Hari Khadka, Bal Gopal and Basanta Thapa had hardly helped Brothers to match the excellence of Abahani, who dominated the entire proceedings with Arman and Iqbal operating down the middle.

The only realistic chance Brothers got in the match was early in the first half when Hari delivered a niggling cross from

the right. But both Bal Gopal and Basanta failed to connect the ball in front of an empty net.

The other notable incident of the match was the reluctance of linesmen Tajul Islam to continue his job down the troubled western end of the gallery. He was eventually withdrawn as

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TEAMS

Abahani: Biplob, Titu, Nazrul, Ghansha, Dalal, Iqbal, Zakir, Galib (Arman), Kanchan, Don (Sentu) and Kennedy

Brothers Union: Tony (Milon), Shahjahan, Chanchal, Polash, Sabbu, Proshanta, Parvez, Salahuddin (Monir), Bal Gopal, Hari Khadka and

Basanta Thapa (Jamal) Referee: Tayab Hasan

TODAY'S MATCHES

Premier Division

Aramagh KS v Badda Jagarani (3:30 pm)

Muktioddha v Farashganj SC (5:30 pm)

(Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium)

First Division

PWD v Sadharan Bima (3:30 pm)

Prantik KC v Shantinagar Club (5:30 pm)

(Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium)

Asian U-16

Iran humble Bangladesh

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh were thrashed 4-0 by tournament favorites Iran in their third Group B match in the 9th Asian Youth (under-16) football championship at the Danang Stadium in Vietnam yesterday, according to a fax received here.

Bangladesh, who beat Kuwait 1-0 and lost to Oman 1-3 in their previous two outings, conceded three goals in the first half.

The margin could have been bigger had Bangladesh custodian Munna not saved a penalty in the 65th minute.

The fax also mentioned that the Bangladesh team management has lodged official complaints about the age of the booters from Iran and Oman.

Bangladesh will meet defending champions Thailand in their last group match tomorrow.

Four players -- Harikrishna, Tajes bakre, S Kidambi of India and Syed Mohammad of Qatar -- were jointly leading the table with seven points.

Asian Junior Chess

Rajib in third spot

Sports Reporter

Fide Master Enamul Hossain Rajib beat John Paul Gomez of Philippines in the 10th round of the Asian Junior Chess Championship in Mumbai yesterday.

Rajib joined Indian Nilotpal Das in third position. Both have six points.

Four players -- Harikrishna, Tajes bakre, S Kidambi of India and Syed Mohammad of Qatar -- were jointly leading the table with seven points.

BCB selects Imran for Africa mission

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has retained the services of national coach Sarwar Imran for the forthcoming ICC knock-out tournament in Kenya and the tour of South Africa.

This was confirmed by BCB General Secretary Syed Asraf-ful Haque yesterday.

Imran, the former coach of Bangladesh Kira Shikha Prothian (BKSP), took over the national squad on an interim

basis last May after South African coach and BCB's Director of Development Eddie Barlow suffered a cerebral infarction just before the Asia Cup.

His future with the team was in doubt as the BCB decided to attach another Bangladesh under-19 coach Dipu Rai Chowdhury with the Africa bound national squad when their conditioning camp began at the BKSP on 16th August.

Speculations arose when the 14-member national squad was announced on September 5 without the naming of the coach.

It was learnt that BCB President Saber Hossain Chowdhury was entrusted with the selection of the coach and he picked Imran.

However there was no information regarding the salary of Imran. It could be mentioned that currently Imran is getting a meager 600 Take per day as national coach.

NZ, Zim A draw three-dayer

KWEKWE, Zimbabwe, Sept 10: Daniel Vettori took six for 43 as New Zealand's three-day tour match against Zimbabwe A ended in stalemate on Saturday, reports Reuters.

When the captains shook hands on a draw 30 minutes before the scheduled close, Zimbabwe A were 72 for three in their second innings in pursuit of an academic target of 647.

Left-arm spinner Vettori scythed through the Zimbabwe A middle-order to dismiss the home side for 168 in their first knock in 62.5 overs.

Captain Stephen Fleming declined to enforce the follow-on and opener Matthew Horne marshalled the tourists' second innings with an unbeaten 48 as New Zealand batted briskly to declare on 137 for three.

Zimbabwe A faced 16 overs in their second innings in which Mark Vermeulen scored 46 not out and medium-pacer Craig McMillan took two for three in four overs.

The Greatest Ritual of Sports



International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch playing a didgeridoo while spending some time with a group of Aboriginal dancers at the Olympic Village yesterday. The performers have been employed at the Village to welcome athletes.

SYDNEY SIDELINES

SYDNEY, Sept 10 (Reuters/AFP/AP) - Athletes in need of a culinary lift could do worse than check out the kangaroo prosciutto on offer at the Olympic Village.

Chefs for the Sydney Games have cooked up a storm in "bush tucker" to tempt their guests from 200 countries.

Eating kangaroo meat in the land that gave the world "skippy", the popular television series, may seem odd. But kangaroo steak is a favourite Down Under.

For the less adventuresome, caterers have laid on fare for all tastes and religions.

"We have specifically made sure that items are prepared for athletes with different taste preferences," said Doug Bradley of Philadelphia-based Aramark, which has formed a joint venture with Australia's Spotless Services for the Olympics.

MINISTERIAL APOLOGY

SYDNEY: Juan Antonio Samaranch won an apology today from Australian Olympic Minister Michael Knight after the International Olympic Committee (IOC) president was left stranded when his bus failed to turn up.

Samaranch and the rest of the IOC executive board had planned to visit the Olympic broadcast centre on Saturday but cancelled because the bus laid on by Games organisers was nowhere to be seen.

"We waited 25 minutes outside the hotel and were told that it could be another 10 so the president called off the trip. We now know the transport problems first hand," one executive board member told AFP.

Samaranch confirmed Sunday he had been forced to cancel but denied he had been furious.

AUSSIE PM CLARIFIES

CANBERRA: Australian Prime Minister John Howard has written to Olympic president Samaranch explaining a decision to ban two high-ranking sporting administrators from entering Australia for the Olympics.

Howard said Sunday the decision taken by his Immigration Minister Philip Ruddock was taken after consideration of a number of factors, including the Olympic charter, and safety and security concerns.

Uzbekistan boxing official Gafur Rakhimov and Chinese basketball official Carl Ching Men-Ky were refused entry to Australia because of their alleged criminal connections.

Samaranch wrote to the Australian prime minister last Thursday asking for an explanation about why the two men were denied entry.

SAFETY MEASURES TO BE REVIEWED

SYDNEY: Sydney Olympic organisers said Sunday they would review safety procedures for fireworks displays after sparks set off three fires near the Olympic Stadium on Saturday night.

A fireworks display at the rehearsal of the Olympic Games

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