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- Who will be the match referee in the Bangladesh's inaugural Test against India next month?
Shepherd/Sutaba/Roe/Bucknor
- Who lifted the Princes Cup tennis title?
Sercu/Hings/Dokic
- Who is the new managing director of United Cricket Board of South Africa?
Peter Pollock/Gerald Duncan/Majola/Fletcher
- Who won the Shaheed Major Nazmul Haq International rating chess title?
Refaat/Rakib/Rajeb
- Who is new cricket coach of Zimbabwe?
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SPORTS TALK



Terry Venables
(Former England football coach)
"I do not think there is any bad feeling between me and the FA."

Richards set to retire

NAIROBI, Oct 15 (AFP) — David Richards, the Australian-born chief executive of the International Cricket Council (ICC) announced here Sunday that he will retire in the new year.

"It has been a privilege to work with the member countries in building the new ICC," said Richards, who was appointed to the job in 1993 and has been in the forefront in the fight against bribery and match-fixing allegations that have put the sport in serious doubt over the last year or so.

"We have reached a point where the ICC has the financial resources and governance to take the next step in its growth as the governing body of world cricket."

Richards said he wanted to devote more time with his family and other interests.



DAVID RICHARDS
No successor has been named yet by the ICC Executive Board, which may pick the new man at its meeting in Nairobi starting on Monday.

Richards's fellow Australian, Malcolm Gray, who took over as the new ICC President in June, has paid tribute to his countryman.

"David has led the ICC tremendously effectively since his appointment in 1993. The ICC Development Programme was his creation, and during his term, the ICC has evolved as an effective international sporting organisation," he said.



Mohammedan striker Nakib makes an abortive attempt to shot the ball into the net past Muktiyoddha custodian Bijan Barua during the National Bank Premier Division football league 'Super Four' encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

Muktis close in on MSC

Sports Reporter

Muktijoddha Sangsad Kriya Chakra closed the gap on leaders Mohammedan Sporting Club by a point when they handed the holders a dramatic 6-5 'sudden death' shootout defeat in their crucial 'Super Four' match of the National Bank Premier Division Football League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

During the regulation time the see-saw encounter was locked at 1-1.

Veteran striker Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib scored his 13th goal of the elite league to put the popular Motijheel club in front. National forward Sourav Majumder Raju equalised for the all-reds with a brilliant curling free kick in the second half.

The outcome of last night's match at the big bowl left both giants neck-and-neck in the table having played 12 matches each respectively.

Mohammedan, who also lost the previous clash between the sides (0-1) in the first round, are leading the 'Super Four' table with 30 points while Muktijoddha have 29 points. In third place are Abahani with 21 points from 11 matches.

Having earned a hard-fought 3-2 against Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society 3-2, the black and whites' early domination paid off duly when Nakib

headed home an Allaz cross piece and fell on the goal line but nobody was around to stab the ball into the net. So, Muktijoddha defender Hasan Al-Mamun calmly cleared the threat.

With both sides converting the customary five kicks, the drama moved into 'sudden death'.

And soon as Mohammedan defender Jahangir Patwary struck the ball over the bar, it was left to Muktijoddha defender Sujon to break the champions' hearts.

Star crowned DRU kings

Sports Reporter

Star were deprived of a sure penalty seconds later when Al-Amin, playing with a groin strain, went on to be upended by a Jugantar defender a couple of yards from the post.

After surviving those close calls, Jugantar created some dangerous moves with skipper Abdullah Al-Faruk and Mujibar pulling the strings. They might have scored had it not been for the sheer brilliance of playmaker turned libero Syed Ashfaq Haque.

With the estranged Morshed Ali Khan looking out of sorts and lanky Momen more intent on making surging runs down the flanks, the Star defence was a little vulnerable but Ashfaq, carrying a thumb injury, put in the performance of his life in thwarting almost every Jugantar attack.

In the tie-breaker, Morshed, Partho and Al-Amin scored from the first three attempts while Jugantar missed two out of three. Just as it seemed like Star would run away with the game, Ashfaq, Momen and Sharir muffed up the next three shots while Jugantar leveled by converting two.

At 3-3, Morshed in his trademark style, volunteered to take the sudden-death kick and made no mistake to score. With their fate hanging in the balance, the Star defence was



Players and officials of the victorious Daily Star team pose for photographs with the coveted DRU football tournament trophy at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

ICC KnockOut Kenya 2000

INDIA-NZ SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the ICC Knockout Trophy final between India and New Zealand on Sunday.

INDIA

Ganguly c Harris b Astle	117
Tendulkar run out (Styris)	69
Dravid run out (Styris)	22
Y Singh c Twose b Styris	19
Kambli c O'Connor b Styris	1
R Singh c Spearman b Allott	13
Agarkar not out	15
Dahiya not out	1
Extras: (lb-1, w-4, nb-2)	7
Total: (For six wickets in 50 overs)	264
Fall of wickets: 1-141; 2-202; 3-220; 4-229; 5-237; 6-256.	
Did not bat: A Kumble, Z Khan, V Prasad.	

Bowler

Allott	0	0	54	1
O'Connor	5	0	35	0
Cairns	10	2	40	0
Styris	10	0	53	2
Astle	10	0	45	1
Harris	5	0	32	0

NEW ZEALAND

Spearman c Yubraj b Prasad	3
Astle c R Singh b Kumble	37
Fleming lbw b Prasad	5
Twose st Dahiya b Kumble	31
Cairns not out	102
McMillan c Ganguly b Tendulkar	15
Harris c R Singh b Prasad	46
Parore not out	3
Extras: (lb15, w1, nb7)	23
Total (for 6 wks in 49.4 overs)	265
Did not bat: Styris, O'Connor, Allott	
Fall of wickets: 1-6; 2-37; 3-82; 4-109; 5-132; 6-254.	

Bowler

Zahner	7	0	54	0
Prasad	7	0	24	3
Agarkar	6.4	0	44	0
Kumble	9	0	55	2
Tendulkar	10	1	38	1
Yubraj	10	0	32	0

Result: New Zealand won by four wickets to clinch the ICC Knockout Trophy.
Man-of-the-match: Chris Cairns

Daei Iran's saviour

BEIRUT, Oct 15: A header by Asian footballer of the year Ali Daei saw Iran grab an undeserved 1-1 draw with Thailand and saved the three-time champions and tournament favourites from the greatest ever Asian Cup shock here Sunday, reports AFP.

Draw with Thailand and saved the three-time champions and tournament favourites from the greatest ever Asian Cup shock here Sunday, reports AFP.

The Thais took the lead in the 11th minute through Saksan Pituratana and held out until Daei scored with 17 minutes remaining.

Daei, who is currently at Hertha Berlin after spells at Arminia Bielefeld and Bayern Munich, rose imperiously to head home in the 73rd minute leaving previously unbeatable keeper Phansa Meetasam stranded.

Witke, who guided Thailand to the Asian Games semifinals in 1998, said he was delighted.

"The first game was a real disappointment because I knew that was not the way we usually played," he said.

However, today the players went out and showed that they can play well and I am really proud of them," he added.

His counterpart Jalal Talebi, who coached Iran to their memorable 2-1 win over the United States in the 1998 World Cup finals, was stunned at his side's below-par performance.

"I told my players that this game wouldn't be easy but they evidently didn't listen," he said.

"That was not our true game there today but I am glad we have got that bad match out of our system," he added.

Daei, crowned Asian footballer of the year in 1999 after his Champions League scoring exploits against Chelsea and AC Milan, had looked the most likely scorer for the Iranians as the favourites scrambled for an equaliser.

But the tall hitman had held his head in his hands in the 58th minute when his shot from five metres out was cleared off the line by Niweat Siriwong.

The Iranians were a shadow of the side which comprehensively beat Lebanon 4-0 on the opening day and Thailand easily coped with most of their attacks in the second-half.

The Thais, who were without stayaway striker Kiattisak Senanung, should have wrapped it up by the time Daei scored after Sutee Stumsomkit beat two defenders before slicing his shot across goal with only keeper Parviz Boroumand to beat.

The pattern had been virtually the same in the first half when the Thais took the lead through Sakesan, who slotted home after Boroumand could only block Sutee's shot from five metres out.

Sutee, who was at the heart of most of Thailand's attacks, should have doubled the advantage in the 25th minute when he broke free into the box but his weak shot was deflected for a corner of what appeared to be Behrouz Rahbarifard's hand.

The Iranians showed flashes of brilliance, Khodadad Azizi's backkick releasing Daei but while he beat the defender, he scuffed his shot wide of the post.



Indian captain Saurav Ganguly drives during the ICC Knockout Trophy final match against New Zealand in Nairobi yesterday. — AFP photo

Bangladesh taste defeat

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh lost their one-off first-class match against Queensland West by 82 runs despite yet another brilliant knock from former national skipper Akram Khan in the final day of their four-day in Kimberly yesterday.

According to a late message received here, the visitors chasing a formidable 331 for victory, were all out for 240 in their second innings.

Akram followed up his first innings 129 not out with an unbeaten 51 in the second innings. But apart from a dazzling 70 by Al-Shahriar, there was none to give the burly right-hander any support.

Experienced middle-order batsman Aminul Islam scored a duck. Skipper Naamur made one ten and Rafique, who hammered a hurricane fifty in the first innings, fell for only seven. Opener Javed scored 41.

Earlier, the home team piled up 339 in the second innings after the tourists took a slender first innings lead of nine runs.

Bangladesh scored 333 in response to the provincial side amassed a first innings total of 324.

Karate course

Sports Reporter

A short karate course gets underway at the Alliance Française on Wednesday.

The course comprising elementary, progressive and advanced levels, will be conducted by a trained instructor from Japan.

Classes will be held twice a week on Saturday and Wednesday from 6 pm to 7.30 pm.

Rana buries Gattling hatchet

KARACHI, Oct 15 (AFP) — Pakistani umpire Shakoor Rana said Sunday he was ready to warmly welcome English cricketers and forget bad memories of more than a decade ago.

"What happened 13 years ago is the bitter past and now I welcome England cricketers with an open heart," Rana said in an interview with the news agency.

Rana, 62, now retired, was involved in an on-field shouting match with England captain Mike Gatting when England last toured Pakistan in 1987.

The England team arrives on Monday to play a three-match Test and a one-day series.

"It would have been better had they appointed Gatting their manager, I am still ready to host him," said Rana, who umpired 15 Tests and 19 one-day internationals.

"I used to admire his technique against the spinners and he could have been more helpful for new players who will struggle against Pakistani spinners."

Gatting, sacked as Middlesex director of coaching last August, recently admitted in a radio interview he was at fault in 1987.

Of the incident, Rana recalled: "Gatting moved a fielder behind the batsman which was against the law and when I called it a dead ball he abused me which was against the values of this gentleman's game."

He invoked Law 42 on the grounds of unfair play but the ensuing abusive confrontation between him and Gatting resulted in the loss of a day's play in the Faisalabad Test.

"When I told him that I was against the rules, Gatting retorted saying 'We made the rules,'" Rana said.

The Pakistani umpire demanded an apology from the England captain and the stand-off nearly resulted in the tour being cancelled.

"I took the stand to safeguard the image of the man in white coat. Even the English media supported me and I succeeded," Rana said.

Intervention from the Foreign Office, the Pakistan Cricket Board, and the Test and County Cricket Board, as well as a statement from Gatting saved the tour.

Rana's two brothers and two sons played for Pakistan, while Rana himself is a former first class cricketer.

An assistant director sports for Pakistan Railways, Rana disapproves of the idea of a third umpire and using television.

"The TV umpire has taken the charm out of the game, because batsman can't get the benefit of the doubt," he said. "Why not use a machine to count the deliveries?"

Rana feels Pakistani umpires do not get their dues.

"The International Cricket Council is biased and that's why it doesn't appoint Pakistani umpires. We are not behind David Shepherd and Steve Bucknor who have been highlighted and made famous."



SHAKOOR RANA
August, recently admitted in a radio interview he was at fault in 1987.

Fixing under the spotlight

NAIROBI, Oct 15 (Reuters) — The bad smell of match-fixing continues to hover over cricket and corruption will again take centre stage when the game's governing body, the International Cricket Council, begins its executive board meeting on Monday.

Whether or not the ICC likes it the game continues to be dogged by events of the pitch.

During the ICC Trophy tournament, which reached its climax with the final between India and New Zealand on Sunday, one saga reached a climax while another threatened to unfold.

Former South African captain Hansie Cronje was banned for life by the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCB) and the Pakistan Cricket Board called for a judicial inquiry into two 1999 World Cup matches which have been the focus of recent match-fixing allegations.

UCB president Ali Bacher, who was the first to say some of the World Cup matches had been fixed, welcomed the call.

"I welcome the move and compliment the Pakistan Cricket Board on their decision to ask for a judicial inquiry," he said in Nairobi.

Former Pakistan captain Wasim Akram, fined and censured following a report into match-fixing allegations, said that he hoped the curtain could now be drawn on the whole affair.

"Everybody has had a go at everyone and it is finished now," Akram told the news agency.

"Definitely unfair," he said. "It is very difficult to play with these allegations (going on). Unless

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