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Star SPORT

DHAKA TUESDAY MAY 29, 2001, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com

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Did U Know?

The most Olympic gold figure skating medals won by a woman is three by Sonja Henie (Norway) at the Winter Olympic Games of 1928, 1932, and 1936. Sonja was born in Oslo, Norway, in 1912 and won her first skating championship aged five. Following success in national figure skating competitions, she entered her first Olympic Games in 1924, when she came last. Undeterred, she came on winning national competitions and, in the winter of 1926-27, aged 14, she won her first world championship, becoming the youngest person ever to do so. At the next Olympics in 1928, she won gold and her career took off. She won a further two Olympic golds and 10 consecutive World Championships between 1927 and 1936. Following her success at the 1936 Olympics, she turned professional and embarked on a national tour of the USA, signing a five-year film contract with 20th Century Fox. Although she made 10 films, Sonja carried on performing ice-ballet shows until her retirement in 1933. She died of leukaemia in 1969.



Raul
(Real Madrid super star)
"It's been a complicated season but we've shown that we had the balls to finish off the league."
After winning the Spanish League title.



ESPN
Serie A
Highlights
1:00 pm
Star Sports
Harsha Online
Cricket Talk Show
8:30 am & 1:00 pm
Primera Liga
Vallecano vs Mallorca
8:30 pm

Sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 150
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
June 1, 2001 and draw shortly afterwards

- What was the result of the one-day international series between South Africa and West Indies?
6-1 5-2 4-3
- Who became UEFA Cup champions?
Arsenal Liverpool Alaves
- Who clinched the Standard Chartered National School Cricket title?
New Model BKSIP Manikganj High
- Who lifted the Premier Division Cricket League title?
Abahani MSC Biman
- Who holds the top position in the current FIFA World rankings?
Brazil France Italy

Name:
Class: Roll No:
School Address:
Phone: (If any)



Mohammed's hat-trick hero Alfaz Ahmed (L) and a Prantik Krira Chakra player fight for possession during their Federation Cup encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Alfaz bites Prantik again

Football
SPORTS REPORTER
Ace national forward Alfaz Ahmed scored a brilliant hat-trick and set up the other goal for midfielder Monwar as title contenders Mohammedan Sporting Club started their football season with a 4-2 win over Prantik Krira Chakra at the floodlit Bangabandhu National Stadium on Monday.
The 'black and whites' were on a roll in their first match of the Nitel White Cement 17th Federation Cup with Alfaz unearthing his scoring prowess once again against the First Division outfit. Incidentally Prantik suffered at the hands of Alfaz at the same stage last year too when the dapper forward blasted four goals in a 5-2 thrashing.
The match was over as a contest in the first half with Mohammedan marching into a 4-0 lead with Alfaz, arguably the number one marksman in the country, striking twice in the space of six minutes.
Alfaz sent the MSC supporters into ecstasy shooting the ball home from top of the box after

being fed by new team captain Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib. Alfaz then dribbled past a couple of Prantik defenders after receiving a hopeful through pass from midfielder Tushar and beat the pocket-sized Prantik custodian Selim Miah with a left-foot grounder.
Monwar, the hard-working midfielder who joined Mohammedan this year from Badda Jagorani, scored his first goal for the traditional giants when he beat substitute custodian Moshir with a neat placing shot in the 28th minute.
Two minutes later Alfaz completed his when he raced into the left-hand corner of the box before unleashing a fierce right-footer past Moshir.
The second half saw a sea of change with Mohammedan deciding to sit on their comfortable four-goal cushion. That gave Prantik the chance to take the attack to their much-vaunted opponents.
The only First Division side in the eight-team second phase, Prantik got their reward when Monim and Anwar pulled two goals back.
With the Mohammedan midfield looking tired, Prantik had their first goal from a quick counter attack with Momin stabbing home from close. The scorer of the first hat-trick in the Federation Cup, Momin is also the leading marksman in the tournament with four goals.
Prantik made it 2-4 a minutes away from the final whistle with striker Anwar blasting a grounders past an advancing Mohammedan goalkeeper Bijon.
Conceding the goals in the second half was disappointing for Mohammedan. The most worrying aspect for their new coach Pakir Ali was the vulnerable back line that cost Mohammedan the Premier League title last season.
The Mohammedan defence is packed with experienced players like Jewel Rana, Faisal and Masud Rana but age seems to be catching up with the veteran trio.
Yellow card: Joy (Mohammedan)
TEAMS
Mohammedan SC: Bijon, Pappu, Faisal, Jewel, Masud Rana, Tushar (Shoib), Monwar, Tipu (Faisal), Joy, Alfaz and Nakib.
Prantik KC: Selim (Moshir), Ashraf, Yousuf, Murad, Mohsin (Biru), Lovelu (Rashed), Tutul, Belal, Naim, Anwar and Momin. Referee: Ibrahim Nesar.

Pybus warns of wounded Ws

Cricket
REUTERS, Manchester
Pakistan expect Waqar Younis and Wasim Akram's wounded pride to play a central role in the second Test against England at Old Trafford.
crashed to an innings defeat inside three days after winning the toss.
"We had a big defeat after the first Test. We played incredibly poorly," said Pybus.
"But getting a bit of a hiding may stand the guys in good stead."
"I know Waqar and Wasim were very disappointed with the way they bowled. They're both very proud men. There'll be a big improvement from Old Trafford."
They both felt very rusty, bowled a poor length and failed to exploit the surface. You can't set a field for bad bowling.
The second and final Test starts on Thursday, before Pakistan take part in a triangular one-day series also involving Australia.
Waqar and Wasim, Pybus added, showed they were back to form in the final warm-up game against Leicestershire. Wasim finding significant swing in the first innings to take four for 19 off 12 overs in the first innings while Waqar took five for 23 off nine.
"If we play like that against England, we are in the ball game. That display of fast bowling was top class," Pybus said.
Pakistan's problem may be over who to leave out.
Off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq seems certain to be recalled after

the tourists went into the first Test with an all-steam attack.
Shoaib Akhtar is improving all the time after arriving in England short of match fitness -- he showed the value of his pace by breaking England captain Nasser Hussain's finger at Lord's -- while all-rounders Abdur Razzaq, with a half-century in the first Test, and Azhar Mahmood, with four wickets, will also be hard to drop.
The tourists could risk going

India not going down under Cricket diplomacy

Cricket
AGENCIES, New Delhi
India's initiative at subcontinental cricket diplomacy has meant sacrificing the planned one-day series with Australia.
An Indian cricket official Monday said that the Indian cricket team would prefer an Asian Test Championship game in Pakistan to a one-day series in Australia in case of a clash of dates for the events, both set for this September.
"As it remains, the dates are clashing. We'll tell them (the Aus-

tralian board) we cannot go," Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) secretary, Jaywant Tele, told Reuters by telephone from Baroda.
"We will certainly play in the Asian Test Championship," Tele said. "This is a regular competition in whose conception India played a crucial part. We are not going to skip this for any event... It is a question of priorities."
"The BCCI cannot help it if the dates of the planned three one-dayers against Australia clashes with the Asian Test Championship."
Tele said the one-day games in

Aminul's distinction

SPORTS REPORTER
Country's lone Test centurion Aminul Islam has become the first Bangladeshi cricketer to be invited to play for the famous Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) in a three-day match against Australia next month.
The match will be held at Arundel, home of Sussex County Cricket Club, from June 25 to 27.
Aminul revealed this while talking to Daily Star Sport by telephone last night.
"It's a great honour for me to be the first Bangladeshi to play for MCC. I will try my best to return the honour bestowed in me," said Aminul.
The right-handed middle order bat, who scored 145 against India in the inaugural Test last year, will also play an exhibition match for Sober's Eleven against Hadlee's Eleven at Trent Bridge, Nottingham on June 30. Bangladesh captain Naimur Rahman will also feature in that match.

CJKS Div I cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong
Shaheed Shahjahan Sangha, Friends Club and Customs SC won their respective matches of the CJKS-Ispahani First Division Cricket League at different city venues yesterday.
SS Sangha defeated Kallol Sangha by five wickets at the Dampara Police Lines ground.
Friends Club beat Abahani (Junior) by nine wickets at the MA Aziz Stadium while Customs SC recorded a 83-run victory over Andorkilla KC at the Medical College ground.
BRIEF SCORES
KALLOL SANGHA: 119/9 in 34 overs (Jiku 42, Iqbal 15, extras 21; Biplob 3/29)
SS SANGHA: 124/5 in 22.5 overs (Mithu 49, Rana 31, Edie Amin 3/19)
ABAHANI (JR): 91/10 in 28 overs (Tutul 34, Mohsin 16, Arafat 4/13, Saad 3/18)
FRIENDS CLUB: 92/1 in 15.3 overs (Arif 42, Aftab 37, Shoaib 1/37)
CUSTOMS SC: 139/7 in 20 overs (Faruq 34, Hamed 24, Sumon 24, extras 30; Mohin 3/5)
ANDORKILLA KC: 56/10 in 16.1 overs (Rajib 7, Sumon 3/4, Syed 3/10).

It's Bharti again!

AFP, New Delhi
Indian Sports Minister Uma Bharti criticised Monday the national cricket board's announcement that it would participate in the Asian Test Championship (ATC) in Pakistan later this year.
"The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) should not take the liberty of making such announcements," she said here.
"To play in Pakistan, the BCCI has to first give a written proposal to the Sports Ministry which in turn would forward it to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). The final decision rests with the MEA," Bharti said.
"No such proposal of a tour of Pakistan in September has been received by the Ministry."

Crowd causes ECB a concern

INTERNET, London
English chairman of selectors David Graveney has called on the public to show their support as England take on Pakistan at Old Trafford on Thursday.
Graveney is weary of the Old Trafford Test being marred by low attendances.
The last two to be staged in Manchester, against New Zealand and West Indies, were poorly attended.
As a result Old Trafford has been overlooked for the more prestigious Ashes series.
Lancashire lodged a complaint to the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) about the decision.
They insist they enjoyed the next biggest attendances behind Lord's last time Australia visited in 1997.

Australia were scheduled for September 14, 16 and 18 while the Asian Test Championship match is due to run from September 13-17.
"I am going to ask Australia to give us fresh dates and we'll try to squeeze them into our programme... if we are free we'll go, otherwise not," Tele told the Associated Press.
India's tour of Australia in September was going to be part of a barrier arrangement in which Australia were to return the visit for three one-day internationals in India next year.

Saber sounds hopeful

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER
Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Saber Hossain Chowdhury reassured yesterday that the irregularities, if any, in the February 25 election would definitely be addressed.
He renewed his commitment not to let the polls conspirators go untouched. The first Board deliberation was not over yet and they would take necessary action after seeing the report when the adjourned meeting resumes on June 4. Saber pointed out to a group of journalists at the BCB office at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in the afternoon.
"We have adjourned the meeting till June 4 only to get the report in our hand," said Saber, adding that he is yet to get the report from the Ministry of Sports. "But I'm sure it will reach me before the June 4 meeting."
"I know there are discussions all around the corner that the investigation of the committee is an eye-wash. But what I can tell you is that the time is not over yet."
"Some media reports claimed that by holding the first meeting

without any action on the report, the BCB virtually recognised the newly elected directors. It's not true. But the NSC itself has recognised the new board through a gazette notification much before the meeting was convened," he said.
He, however, revealed that the Board might not get the complete report, which was revised and submitted to the Ministry of Sports on May 20 by the three-member probe committee. "The Board might only receive the recommendation of the probe committee," he said.
Saber however did not tell whether the Board has asked for the full report at all.
He disclosed that Board formed a committee headed by Enayet Hossain Siraj to review the new constitution.
When asked whether he would call an AGM if any major flaws in the constitution are discovered, Saber said a general meeting would be enough instead of an AGM to mend those.
"We can not hold two AGMs in one year," added Saber. The last AGM was held in Cox's Bazar September last year.
Meanwhile, the Asian Cricket Council headquarters will be moved to Dhaka from Pakistan shortly because of the rotation system. A final decision on when to shift ACC headquarters from Lahore would be taken in the ACC's next meeting in London on June 20.
Saber could not tell for sure where they would hold the two Test matches against Zimbabwe next December. But the Board was giving more priority to Chittagong, Sylhet, Rajshahi and BKS than Dhaka, as they would not get the Bangabandhu National Stadium from football before October 1.
"Forty-five days are too less to prepare a ground for Test matches. However, there is a chance we could play the second Test in Dhaka," Saber said.
To solve the venue crisis, initiatives are being taken by the Board to establish two private stadiums in Gazipur and Savar in a bid to hold international matches in future.
Answering to another question, Saber informed that he has categorically instructed the chief selector to handle the media and the other two will not speak to press. The selection committee would work independently under a BCB guideline, he assured. Saber also revealed that a new list of cricketers would be prepared by the end of June as the contract with 22 national players would be over after July.



Action from yesterday's Federation Cup fixture between Muktijoddha and Rahmatganj.

Rajshahi soccer

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi
Sports Club and Majibhai Smriti Sangsad won their respective matches of the Rajshahi Second Division Football Super League at the local stadium yesterday.
Sports Club defeated Hasan-Imam Smriti Sangha 1-0 in the first match.
Amzad netted the match-winner in 61st minute.
In the other match of the day, Majibhai Sangsad beat Borendra Sports Academy 3-0.
Mahabub opened the account in the 16th minute. Selim doubled lead in the 19th minute. Robin finished scored the last goal in the 28th minute.

Muktis fly on Farhad

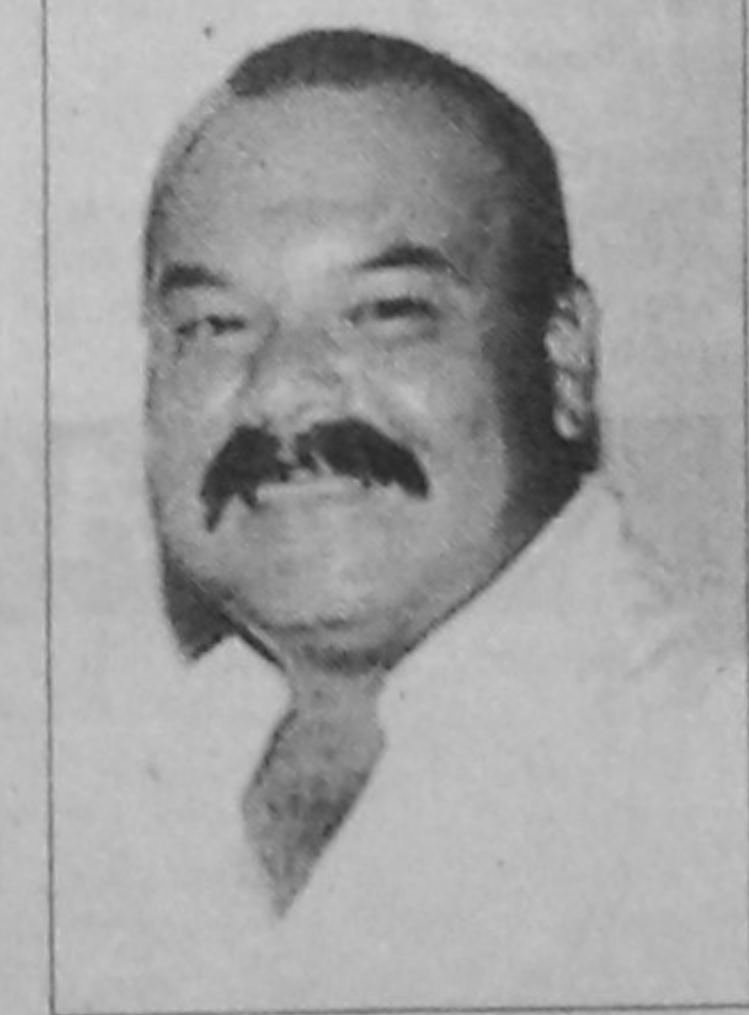
Football
SPORTS REPORTER
The introduction of Farhad in the second session saw Muktijoddha Sangsad pull off a hard-fought 2-0 over Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society in the Nitel White Cement 17th Federation Cup at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.
The new-look Muktijoddha, who lost as many six pool players from their League-winning squad, made a rather rusty start to their Group B opener against the old-town outfit.
Though they created some early pressure through new recruits Mizanur Rahman Don and Manju, yet they failed to penetrate their opponents' rock-solid defence in the first 45 minutes.
After weathering the brief Muktijoddha storm, Rahmatganj staged a couple of counter-attacks. However, a brilliant save from Muktijoddha custodian Aminul and then a mis-directed shot from Chanchal, denied them taking a well-deserved lead.

Then it was Muktijoddha's turn to launch an offensive.
Asif's header was superbly knocked away for a corner by Rahmatganj defender Kingshuk in the 42nd minute.
Frustrated by their first half performance, Muktijoddha changed their formation to 4-4-2 from 5-3-2 and also brought in midfielders Farhad and Nayan in place of forward Manju and defender Prodeep Barua to increase their offensive.
Farhad, the lethal left-footed Muktijoddha striker, who scored some crucial goals on way to claiming their second league title, transformed the whole complexion of the match. Within 12 minutes of his arrival Muktijoddha scored both goals.
The speedy forward sent a neat cross from the left in the 47th minute which was met by Matir Munna at the other end. The nimble playmaker who made headlines after leaving Mohammedan this season, fired a low shot that only Asif deflected into the net.
Farhad's introduction after the break paid dividends when muscular medio produced another

Trying to be fitter

Cricket
AP, Colombo
Sri Lankan cricketers who have gained weight ahead of a gruelling home series against India and New Zealand are being put on a tough fitness drill, the coach said in a published column.
The players, led by skipper Sanath Jayasuriya, are being told to swim and attend aerobic classes regularly so that they can lose weight before the arrival of the Indian and New Zealand teams in August, coach Dav Whatmore wrote in his exclusive column in the Web site cickinfo.com.
The team's physiotherapist had detected a few extra kilograms (pounds), "the result of too much lounging in the dressing rooms, too many rich hotel meals, and not enough time spent doing general fitness training," the Sri Lankan Australian coach wrote.
"It may seem strange but five months of nonstop international cricket has had a slightly detrimental effect on the fitness levels of the Sri Lankan players," Whatmore added.

Whatmore, known for his discipline, said he would make the players go through tough physical exercises over the coming 12 weeks.
India, New Zealand and Sri Lanka will play a triangular series, which will be followed by a three-Test series between India and Sri Lanka beginning August 13.
An official at Whatmore's office said the coach was busy training with the players.
Whatmore wrote on the Web site that the team's physiotherapist "will be pushing them hard - reducing their weight, increasing the strength of their muscles and joints, and improving their flexibility."
"These efforts will be essential in the ongoing struggle to prevent injury," Whatmore said. "The Indian Test series will be especially gruelling with three Tests in the space of 20 days."
Sri Lankan players are now required to attend a compulsory 1-hour swim at the Taj Samudra Hotel pool every morning.
During the first phase of preparation, the players would concentrate on general aerobic fitness, including group sessions in the gym, swimming pool, and some road running, Whatmore wrote.
"Gradually we raise the tempo until, sometime in mid-June, a base level of fitness and a stamina has been achieved," he added. "When India and New Zealand arrive in Sri Lanka, I expect our 22-man squad to have extremely high fitness levels and be fully prepared for the ensuing competition."



DAV WHATMORE