



Did U Know?

Australia and West Indies played the first ever floodlit one-day international match at Sydney on November 27, 1979.



What to WATCH

ESPN

12:25pm

Cricket: Tri-Nation Tournament, Kenya Pakistan Vs Australia 5th ODI (Live)

4pm

Cricket: Super Selector - Launch Show

8:30pm

Sport News: Sportscenter Hindi (Live)

9pm

Football: Goals!

9:30pm

Football: English Premier Football League

Manchester United vs Middlesbrough

11:30pm

Sport News: Sportscenter Hindi

STAR Sports

8:30 am

Football: Spanish Football League

Deportivo La Coruna vs Betis

10:30am

International Sports News: Asia Sport Show

1pm

Football: English Premier Football League

Manchester City vs Everton

3:30pm

Tennis: US Open Women's Quarterfinals

7pm

Cricket: Talk Show Harsha Online

8pm

Sport News: Sportsline Tonight (Live)

8:30pm

Tennis: US Open 2002

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Florentino Pérez

(Real Madrid president)

"As everybody knows, Ronaldo is one of the best players in the world, but there is one special thing about him, which is his universal reputation as a human being. I had not had the chance to meet him in person until this moment, but just by looking in his eyes, you can tell he is someone special."

During Ronaldo's presentation as a Real Madrid player



Tick the correct answers, post to

The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm Sept 13, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who won the Cote Premier Division handball title?
BDR Mariner Ajax
- Who became man-of-the-match in the 3rd Test between England and India?
Tendulkar Kumble
- Who won New Haven Open tennis title?
Venus Hingis Serena
- Who are the current English Premier League champions?
Arsenal Man Utd Liverpool
- Who is the new French national soccer coach?
Santini Metsu Hiddink

Name

Class

School Address

Phone: (If any)



Ecstatic Victoria Sporting Club players after their tie-breaker victory over giants Muktijoddha Sangsad in the NBL Premier Division football league at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Victoria vex Muktis

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Muktijoddha Sangsad Kriya Chakra's dream of regaining the Premier Division League title suffered a big blow when minnows Victoria Sporting Club defeated them 4-2 in the tiebreaker at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Both sides were locked at 1-1 after 90 minutes.

Defender Sujon put Muktijoddha ahead through a 71st minute penalty but with five minutes to go before the shootout Victoria forward Abul equalised with a brilliant left footer.

It was Muktijoddha's third successive match that went into a tiebreaker. Although the all-reds won the previous two shootouts against giants Mohammedan and Abahani, but luck was not on their side after a string of brilliant saves by Victoria's substitute goalkeeper Tutul.

The outcome of the match left Muktijoddhas third in the table behind Mohammedan and Abahani.

They have earned 18 points so far from eight matches, two short of defending champions Abahani and four adrift of leaders Mohammedan.

On the other hand, the result raised Victoria's tally to eight points from as many matches.

Muktijoddha were completely disorganised against the

promotees.

It was rather the Victorians who dominated the proceedings against their mighty counterparts.

Victoria came close to scoring at least three times.

In the 57th minute, Abul could have easily put Victoria ahead when he got a rebounder with no man in front following a corner. But he failed to keep his cool and sent the ball over the crosspiece.

The next chance came after two minutes when Polo got the ball from Kaiser. But a diving Muktijoddha custodian Biplab nicely fisted his powerful shot for a corner.

Biplab once again denied Polo in the 67th minute when he tried to place the ball through the first bar

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BFF's EGM today

SPORTS REPORTER

An emergency general meeting (EGM) of the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) will be held at the NSC auditorium today.

Around 127 councilors are expected to attend the EGM that has been convened to discuss and vote on BFF's new constitution prescribed by the Asian Football Confederation (AFC).

If the EGM passes the new constitution, which will reduce the number of members in BFF's executive committee from 31 to 21, a fresh election will be held in the next couple of months.

Meril Cup soccer begins Sept 15

BSS, Dhaka

The Second Media Meril Cup Football Tournament, organised by the Bangladesh Sports Journalists Association (BSJA) under the sponsorship of Square Toiletries Limited, will be held on September 15 to 25.

Interested newspapers, news agencies and electronic media have been requested to send their entries by September 10 along with an entry fee of Taka 200 to BSJA.

The teams would be given Taka 1,000 as appearance fee. Besides, match winners will earn Taka 400 and the losers will get Taka 300.

Mark points at The Oval

REUTERS, London

Australia's Mark Waugh believes the deciding Test between England and India this week could influence the Ashes starting later this year.

England take on India in the fourth Test on Thursday with the series at 1-1.

"I think this Test match at The Oval could have a big bearing on the Ashes," Waugh said at the launch of his autobiography in London.

"It could either hurt their (England's) confidence a bit or they'll go to Australia pretty confident after winning the series."

"I think it (the result) depends on the wicket. If it's a normal Oval wicket which I've seen over the past few years then it'll turn a lot, which will help India with their two spinners. But I've not seen the wicket. So it depends on the pitch a bit and whoever wins the toss and bats first to put a bit of pressure on the opposition."

Waugh, though, said he was still confident Australia would extend their run of success over their traditional arch-rivals.

BFF bows to clubs

Bangladesh going to Asiad sans practice

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh footballers would take part in this month's Asian Games without any preparation as the BFF (Bangladesh Football Federation) has failed to convince the twenty Premier and First Division clubs to suspend the league and give national coach George Kottan some days to run a short camp.

Bangladesh are scheduled to play against India in their opening first round match on September 27, two days before the official opening of the Games, which concludes in Busan, Korea, on October 14.

BFF had a plan to start the camp from September 9, immediately after the end of the first phase of the rain-hit National Bank Premier and First Division Leagues on September 7.

But at an adjourned joint meeting between the clubs, Dhaka Mahanagari Football League Committee and BFF on Monday

night, the clubs refused to entertain the BFF plan and opted to finish the league at one go instead.

Finding no other alternative, the BFF finally bowed to the clubs and decided to forget about the all-important camp.

Anwarul Haque Helal and Ashrafuddin Ahmed Chunnun, representatives of the country's two crowd-pulling outfits -- Mohammedan and Abahani, led the club delegates to win BFF over.

As per the decision, the 'Super Five' would start from September 9, a day after the first round, and would conclude on September 19.

Bangladesh team would now leave for Thailand on the following day to play a practice match in Bangkok on September 22 and then fly to Busan on September 24.

The latest calculation of the league organisers may not work also as rain remains a threat to upset their schedule. The league was suspended seven times so far and 15 days of play were lost to rain since the premier event started on July 6.

Quite understandably, the decision frustrated Austro-Hungarian Kottan as well as Sultan, who took over as the president BFF last October with a mission to lift the dwindling standard of the game.

Talking to The Daily Star Sport over his cell-phone, Kottan, who appealed to the BFF to let him start the camp by August 28, declined to make any comment.

"This is your national interest and I don't want to comment on that," said Kottan. "The organisers have decided about the future of the game and again I don't want to comment."

On the other hand, Sultan thought it was simply pointless to send a team without any preparation.

"I personally think that we should not send the team. Because you can not expect good result from a team that would not train together for a single day even," he said.

"Then again, I don't want to pay fines also. Since we have already made the entry, we would run the risk of getting fined if we don't go now."



BRAVING BLINDNESS: Nazmul Hossain Faruque (L) of the Drishti Protibondhi (visually impaired) chess team in action against Biplab Daba Sangha during their Second Division league meeting at the National Sports Council (NSC)'s Chess Room yesterday.

Eying a centenary party

Cricket

AFP, London

Sachin Tendulkar said Tuesday that he hoped India could mark his 100th Test by clinching a series victory over England.

Tendulkar, speaking here at The Oval, where India face Nasser Hussain's side in the decisive final Test with the series level at one apiece, will become the youngest player in cricket history to reach the landmark when the match starts on Thursday.

India have not won a Test series outside of the sub-continent in 16 years and Tendulkar, 29, said: "It is so important because that's what we've been trying to do for so many years."

"Now the time has come when we stand a chance, a fair chance. But we don't want to put ourselves under pressure, we just want to go out and play."

"Earlier we haven't won outside of India for quite some time and we've been doing that regularly now

so this is another hurdle." Tendulkar, whose 193 at Headingley helped India win the third Test and square the series, has accumulated numerous statistical

special for anyone because not many players have done that. I'm only the fourth Indian (after Sunil Gavaskar, Kapil Dev and Dilip Vengsarkar). It is a proud moment for me.

"Having played for 13 years I have learnt a lot and there are still more things to be learnt."

"Each and every moment I've enjoyed and cherished. This was one of my dreams, to play a hundred Test matches for India."

"That's when a player feels you've achieved something in life and you've contributed to the best of your ability."

But he admitted the huge fame he enjoyed in India had its price.

"It is not going to be a normal life because cricket is so popular back home."

"I can't go out with my family but there are plusses as well as minuses."

He said the Test innings that had given him the most pleasure was a hundred he made against Australia at Perth in 1992.

"They had a very good attack,"

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Div II chess

SPORTS REPORTER

The lead changed hands once again in the Second Division Chess League with Pubali Bank now occupying first place in the standings at the end of the fourth round yesterday.

They have 13 points after beating Uttara Daba Sangha at the NSC chess room.

Hazaribagh Friendship SC and Rajshahi Daba Unnyan are jointly in second position with 12 points each.

The fifth round starts at 3 pm today.

Siraj soccer

CU CORRESPONDENT

Kalarpole Kriya Sangstha and Chittagong Eden Star Club won their respective matches of the Siraj Mohanagari Kishore Football League at the Dampara police lines ground here Tuesday.

In the first match of the day, Chittagong Eden Star Club steamrollered Betaligoli Ekdash 4-0.

Striker Mohsin scored the two goals with the first goal one 9 minutes into the match. Fellow marksman Yasin Arafat scored the two other goals in the 36th minutes and 68th minutes respectively.

In the second match of the day, Kalarpole Kriya Sangstha scored two goals while Abdul Awoal and Farhad netted apiece for the winners.

Sirajul Islam of Principal Abul Khasem Smriti Sangsad pulled one back in the 46th minutes.



National Bank Premier Football League
Brothers Union v Dhanmondi Club (5 pm)
Venue: BNS



THANK YOU: Pete Sampras is relieved after overcoming Briton Greg Rusedski on September 2.

Sampras lives to fight another night

US OPEN 2002 US OPEN

REUTERS, New York

Pete Sampras fed his baying New York crowd a night-time diet of guts and heart, ousting Britain's Greg Rusedski 7-6, 4-6, 7-6, 3-6, 6-4 in a U.S. Open classic.

Both battle-hardened warriors set alight the cold, damp and blustery Louis Armstrong court with explosive power play in the floodlit arena, but it was Sampras who was left standing tall in the fourth round after three hours 15 minutes of high drama.

He next runs into Germany's Tommy Haas for a spot in the quarter-finals, and after a lionhearted display will have nothing to fear from the third seed.

"I feel pretty good," the 17th seed said. "But right now my first thought is to get back to my hotel room and get ready for tomorrow."

Completing a dismal night for Britain, the nation's other representative at the grand slam slumped out in lacklustre fashion when fifth seed Tim Henman was thrashed 6-3, 6-3, 6-2 by Argentine baseliner Juan Ignacio Chela.

The Briton never got down to work on America's Labour Day national holiday.

Sixth seed and Sampras' greatest rival Andre Agassi made it look easy, though, as he romped into the quarterfinals with a 6-2, 6-3, 6-3 demolition of fellow American Jan-Michael Gambill.

"I am healthy and I am eager and I have a life that feels like a dream every day," the winner of seven grand slams said.

"I am in the quarters...that is a look at the basket," he added. "I do believe I can do it."

Agassi will next face Max Mirnyi after the Belarussian beat Roger Federer 6-3, 7-6, 6-4.