

CJKS h'ball

CU CORRESPONDENT

Chittagong City Corporation defeated Mohammedan Blues 38-25 in the CJKS Ruhul Amin and Brothers Handball League at the MA Aziz Stadium on Friday.

Siraj soccer

CU CORRESPONDENT

Madar Muthakantha Club improved their prospects of a place in the quarterfinals of the Siraj Mahanagari Kishore Football League with a thumping 4-0 win over Sandhan Sporting Club at the Dampara Police Lines ground on Friday.

In the day's other match, Pahartali Ekadash thrashed Halishahar Ekadash 8-0.

Youhana set for Trophy take-off

BBC ONLINE, Karachi

Pakistan batsman Yousuf Youhana has been passed fit for next week's ICC Champions Trophy tournament in Sri Lanka.

Youhana has been struggling with a shoulder injury, which led to him being sent home from the tri-series in Kenya after a disagreement with captain Waqar Younis.

But he has now been given the all-clear and expects to join the rest of the squad in Colombo.

Order shrouded

FROM PAGE 13 I have also read news that he is planning early BCB elections. I think the president should wait till the court's final verdict comes.

My suggestion is that Ali Asghar should call a meeting of his directors and fight the petitioner's case in court with the help of his directors and proper lawyers. If he is defeated then that is a different matter. What the president is perhaps overlooking is that if the court has questioned the sports ministry and the National Sports Council and the BCB, it has also questioned him because he is an appointed president of the government.

Some over-enthusiastic persons have already put the present BNP government and sports into a lot of shame by ousting the elected football federation and making an ad-hoc body. Later Bangladesh was expelled shamefully from FIFA and the ban went only when the elected body under president SM Sultan MP was quickly reinstated. Another elected BNP MP should not be made a scapegoat of self-seeking quarters.

However, if the court finds faults in any party after a full hearing, all will be bound to act as per the learned court's directive.

--- Mosaddek S Ali, 30 Bijoyagar, 3rd floor, Dhaka 1000

Aus, Pak share

FROM PAGE 13 Fall of wickets: 1-15, 2-37, 3-37, 4-55, 5-116, 6-158, 7-196, 8-226, 9-227, 10-227.

Table with columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Rows include McGrath, Gillespie, Lee, Watson, Warne.

AUSTRALIA Gilchrist b Wasim 0 Hayden not out 20 Ponting not out 29 Extras: (lb-3, w-12, nb-3) 18 Total: (For 1 wicket in 9.3 overs) 67

Did not bat: M Bevan, S Watson, D Martyn, J Maher, B Lee, J Gillespie, S Warne, G McGrath.

Table with columns: Bowling, O, M, R, W. Rows include Wasim, Waqar.

Result: No result. Man-of-the-match: No award. Toss: Pakistan. Umpires: Aleem Dar (Pak) and RB Tiffin (Zim). TV Umpire: Asad Rauf (Pak). Match Referee: MJ Procter (SA).



PHOTO: INTERNET

KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY: Former Danish international keeper Peter Schmeichel poses with son Kasper, who is also a custodian. Schmeichel junior joined his father at English Premiership club Manchester City on September 6.

Schmeichel junior joins dad

INTERNET, Manchester

Manchester City could have a Schmeichel between the posts for years to come after Kevin Keegan snapped up Peter Schmeichel's 15-year-old son Kasper on a long-term contract.

The teenage goalkeeper has put pen to paper on a deal covering schoolboy, scholar and professional terms.

Schmeichel senior, 38, is seeing

such a wonderful opportunity. "And we're equally delighted that Kasper will make his first steps to achieving his football ambitions with Manchester City."

Keegan, who beat off inquiries from other clubs to sign 6ft-tall Schmeichel junior, added on Monday with BRTC taking on Mirpur Chalanitika SC at the same venue at 4pm.

The relegation teams are: BRTC SC, East End Club, Youngmen's Club Fakirpore, Sadharan Bima and Mirpur Chalanitika SC.

"If he continues to work as hard as he has done so far, he may even be able to follow in his father's footsteps!"

Barthez under threat

BBC ONLINE, Manchester

Fabien Barthez has been told that he is no longer Manchester United's undisputed first-choice goalkeeper.

French international keeper Barthez has been hampered by a hip injury this season, and made his first start in Tuesday's 1-0 Premiership victory against Middlesbrough.

But following the arrival of Spaniard Ricardo from Real Valladolid last month, Barthez has been told that his place is no longer guaranteed.

The Spanish keeper is challenging Barthez and Northern Ireland keeper Roy Carroll, who has impressed in the Frenchman's absence, for the number one jersey.

Old Trafford goalkeeping coach Tony Coton said: "I have told the three senior goalkeepers that we have not got a regular number one."

"Ricardo has just arrived, Fabien has just come back from injury and Roy Carroll has been in charge lately."

"Roy has done himself no harm at all. In fact, he has done a lot of good. But nobody has claimed the regular place at the moment."

"We have a very good trio of keepers fighting it out for one spot. It's up to them to make it as hard a decision as possible for the manager."



FABIEN BARTHEZ

Div II Chess Rajshahi Daba stretch lead

SPORTS REPORTER

Rajshahi Daba Unnayan Sangstha yesterday stretched their lead to 22.5 points in the Second Division Chess League at the end of the eighth round.

They drew with Uttara Central Chess Club at the NSC chess room.

Fighter Krira Chakra were in second place with 22 points after defeating Hazaribagh Friendship Sporting Club.

The losers trail in third position half a point behind.

The ninth and final round starts today at 3pm.

Champs Trophy hockey Hosts to meet Dutch in final

REUTERS, Cologne

Olympic champions the Netherlands will meet Germany in Sunday's Champions Trophy hockey final after inflicting a 5-2 defeat on the hosts in their final pool match on Friday.

It was their biggest win over their great rivals since 1981 and the biggest margin between the teams since Germany won 5-1 in a World Cup pool match in 1998.

Div I soccer

UNB, Dhaka

The National Bank First Division Football Super-League begins today at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

Dhaka Wanderers Club will take on Wari Club in the opening match at 4pm.

Five teams - Dhaka Wanderers Club, Agrani Bank SC, Prantik KC, Sheikh Russel KC and Wari Club -- will compete in the super-league.

The relegation league will start on Monday with BRTC taking on Mirpur Chalanitika SC at the same venue at 4pm.

The relegation teams are: BRTC SC, East End Club, Youngmen's Club Fakirpore, Sadharan Bima and Mirpur Chalanitika SC.

Sheetal h'ball

UNB, Dhaka

Madaripur Handball Training Centre defeated Manikganj Sauria 10-2 in the Sheetal Women's Handball League at the court next to the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Madaripur HTC dominated the first half by 5-0 goals.

But the Madaripur lost their second match to Dilkusha Sporting Club by 6-23 trailing the first half 0-8.

Sunday's matches: Madaripur HTC vs Jatrabari KC and Arambagh KS vs Usha KC.

Colly burns MSC

FROM PAGE 13

Mohammedan custodian grabbed the ball outside the box. The ref did not even show a yellow card to Nizam when the standard rule suggested a red card. Besides, he registered Nakib's name in the list of scorer while the Mohammedan striker himself confirmed after the match that it was Farhad's goal.

With this win Abahani finished with 23 points, one point clear of Mohammedan. Multijoddha finished third with 21 points. Dhanmondi and Arambagh are the other two teams who qualified in the Super Five along with the three title chasers.

TEAMS ABAHANI KC: Apel, Partho (Shuvro), Nazrul, Ghansha, Mintu, Lorenz (Khokon), Liton, Asad, Donald, Bubul (Khokon) and Colly. MOHAMMEDAN SC: Nizam, Jewel (Masud Rana), Hasan, Riad, Titu (Anwar), Abdullah, Saliu Osalio, Monwar, Faisal (Farhad), Kanchan and Nakib. Referee: Maruf Shikder



PHOTO: STAR

TAKE THAT! Dhaka Chess Academy young prodigy Fazle Rabbi advances a piece against his opponent from Biplab Sangha in the Second Division Chess League yesterday.

Rio gets shirty

Football

INTERNET, Birmingham

Rio Ferdinand has rejected Manchester United teammate Roy Keane's assertion England's players were only interested in swapping shirts with Brazil at their World Cup quarterfinal.

Keane had claimed the England squad were over-awed by the prospect of taking on the Brazilians and never truly believed they could defeat them.

He even claimed Nicky Butt had not disagreed with him, but there was no question that Ferdinand and stand-in skipper Michael Owen did so ahead of Saturday's friendly against Portugal.

Ferdinand insisted: "Everyone is entitled to their opinion, but that was definitely a long way down our list of priorities."

The United defender actually ended up with two Brazilian shirts, those of Rivaldo and Roberto Carlos, but he has given them both away to his brother, Anton, as the memories of the game are too painful.

Ferdinand also insisted England

had felt they were the equals of Brazil before the game in Shizuoka. "Everyone's chest was out and, the night before, we sat there in the massage room, saying 'we can beat

maintained. "It's obvious that we gave it our all. It's easy for anyone to say we never did this or that, but whenever we pull on an England shirt for a competitive game, we give it our all.

"At the end, we got knocked out by the eventual winners. We're a young side and if everyone sticks together, the squad will improve."

According to some observers, as well as one unidentified defender, he supposedly lacked inspirational qualities during the half-time break in the quarterfinal.

Talk about history being rewritten. This, after all, is the coach whose calmness under pressure was roundly praised only a few months earlier in contrast to Kevin Keegan's tub-thumping approach.

Ferdinand insisted Eriksson was a positive 'calming influence' as he declared: "You get some managers who rant and rave, but are really ranting about nothing.

"He's very calm, he lets you sit down and then he comes in and gives his analysis of the game and tells you what he thinks, what to do and what not to do.

"We all knew exactly what he had to do, it was just that we couldn't do that on the pitch."



RIO FERDINAND

these' - but we didn't take our great opportunity," he said.

Owen, who is to captain the side against Portugal in the absence of David Beckham, was equally insistent that Keane was mistaken.

"I think that I swapped shirts somewhere down the tunnel about an hour after the final whistle. It was the furthest thing from my mind," he



PHOTO: STAR

Action from yesterday's Sheetal Women's Handball League match between Madaripur Handball Training Centre and Dilkusha Sporting Club at the court next to the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Mahesh, Max lift title

US OPEN 2002 US OPEN

AP, New York

Mahesh Bhupathi won his fourth Grand Slam men's doubles title, teaming with Max Mirnyi to beat Jiri Novak and Radek Stepanek 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 at the US Open on Friday.

The winners took the final game when they broke Stepanek's serve at love. Mirnyi won the last point when his backhand from the baseline went off Novak's racket at the net.

"I think what makes us click is that we know we fight," Bhupathi said. "If we keep fighting, we always put a lot of pressure on our opponents."

In the mixed doubles final, Lisa Raymond and Mike Bryan beat Katarina Srebotnik and Bob Bryan 7-6, 7-6. The Bryans are twins.

In a women's double semifinal, Elena Dementieva and Janette Husarova beat Cara Black and Elena Likhovtseva 7-5, 6-1. The winners play in the final against Virginia Ruano Pascual and Paola Suarez, who won Thursday.

Bhupathi, of India, and Mirnyi, of Belarus, have played just nine tournaments together and were seeded third.

Bhupathi teamed with countryman Leander Paes to win the French Open and Wimbledon in 1999 and the French Open in 2001. He also was runner-up with Paes at the U.S. Open in 1999. Mirnyi won the 2000 doubles title at the U.S. Open with Lleyton Hewitt.

Hewitt is now the top-seeded player in men's singles. Mirnyi,

seeded 32nd in singles, lost to No. 6 Andre Agassi in the quarterfinals. Bhupathi and Mirnyi went ahead 3-1 in the third set when they broke Novak's serve. But Novak and Stepanek, from the Czech Republic and seeded 11th, broke back with the help of a disputed call.

US OPEN IN BRIEF

AP, New York

Highlights Friday of the \$16.17 million U.S. Open tennis championships.

WEATHER Sunny and beautiful. High of 79.

ATTENDANCE 18,375. No night session.

RESULTS: Women, Semifinals No. 2 Venus Williams ousted last No. 10 Amelia Mauresmo, 6-3, 5-7, 6-4, and No. 1 Serena Williams beat No. 4 Lindsay

Men's Doubles, Championship No. 3 Mahesh Bhupathi and Max Mirnyi defeated the Czech team of Jiri Novak and Radek Stepanek.

Mixed Doubles, Championship Mike Bryan, with Lisa Raymond, beat his brother,

Masters Mixed Doubles, Championship Gretchen Magers and Peter McNamara defeated Mary Lou Piatek and Sandy Mayer, 6-3, 6-3.

STAT OF THE DAY Serena and Venus Williams will meet for a third straight major singles championship and four of the last five.

QUOTE OF THE DAY "Lots of people would love to play at the level we play at." -- Venus Williams, on her and sister Serena.

Van Gaal attacks Ronaldo

AP, Madrid

FC Barcelona coach Louis van Gaal has criticised soccer superstar Ronaldo for his attitude prior to his move from Inter Milan to Real Madrid, saying that it led him to rule out the Brazilian as a transfer target.

"Ronaldo showed an attitude that should not be seen in this world. Not from a sportsman or a human being. There were also financial and tactical reasons for not signing him but they were not as important," Van Gaal told a radio station Thursday evening.

Rahul, Sachin

FROM PAGE 13

INDIA: First innings (overnight 66-1) Bangar c Butcher b Hoggard 21 Sehwaag c Cork b Caddick 12

Dravid not out 109 Tendulkar lbw b Caddick 54 Ganguly not out 37

Extras: (b-8, lb-1, w-0, nb-18) 27 Total (For 3 wickets in 76 overs) 260

Fall of wickets: 1-18, 2-87, 3-178 To bat: V Laxman, A Agarkar, A Ratna, A Kumble, Harbhajan Singh, Z Khan

Table with columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Rows include Hoggard, Caddick, Giles, Tudor, Cork, Vaughan.

Toss: England Umpires: David Orchard (Rsa), Asoka de Silva (Sri)

Third umpire: Neil Mallender (Eng)

Match referee: Clive Lloyd (Wls)

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

Cryptogram puzzle grid with numbers 1-51.

CRYPTOQUIP

FAWRV MU KDGSIZMU VA EIAQ XLZRRKV MI EQMELZUD GAWQ CMEL CK LUAFY MX M EMZQASQMEIAQ? Yesterday's Cryptquip: IF YOU PERUSED PLENTY OF BOOKS WHILE SUNBATHING, MIGHT THAT MAKE YOU WELL-RED? Today's Cryptquip Clue: E equals C

Siblings final

FROM PAGE 13 points to level the set in the final game, then blasted two service winners, an ace, and another service winner to reach match point, which she won when Mauresmo's service return landed past the baseline.

Williams was treated for the blister before the 12th game of the second set, a bandage covering the sore area in her right palm, and promptly surrendered a break to lose the set, firing a forehand long on the final point.

She said she did not think the blister would have an effect on the outcome of the final.

Serena Williams, who turns 21 later this month, rose to 9-2 against Davenport by winning 12 of the last 13 points and the final five games of the match after falling behind 5-2 in the second set.

In the 10th game of the second set, Serena saved three set-point chances by Davenport. The first came on her 12th of 13 aces, the second on a forehand winner and the third with a forehand winner

before she held on a smash. Williams then broke Davenport at love and held in five points to win in 82 minutes.

"Nothing seemed to bother her," Davenport said. "She came up with some big serves at the right time in the match, especially in the big game in the second set." Davenport, playing only her fifth event since an eight-month layoff for left knee surgery, had no winners in the first set and only 10 overall to Serena's 35.

"Lindsay was playing really good and I was making a lot of errors," Serena said. "I was just really nervous. I was a little shaky out there."

Venus Williams improved to 5-0 against Mauresmo, the first French woman to reach the US Open semi-finals since Francoise Durr in 1967.

"I just tried to keep playing. What can you do?" Mauresmo said. "She's 0-40 down and comes up with four big serves. There's nothing much I can do about it."