**DHAKA WEDNESDAY JULY 2, 2003** 

# Sport

## The Paily Star

## Nitol-Tata football

**OUR CORRESPONDENT,** Jhenidah

Ihenidah Mohammedan defeated Khulna Abahani 2-0 in Nitol-Tata third National Football League Championship at the Jhenidah Birshreshtha Hamidur Rahman Stadium yesterday.

Tanjilur Rahman Prince netted the opening goal within 12 minutes of the second half while Nur Hossain Ripon doubled the margin in the final minute.

## **School chess** from July 7

#### **SPORTS REPORTER**

The Standard Chartered Bank School Chess Tournament sponsored by Standard Chartered bank and organised by the Bangladesh Chess Federation begins on July 7. The event is open to all school students.

Interested students can enroll their names before July 5 between 3 pm to 8pm at Bangladesh Chess Federation office.

The tournament will be held on Swiss-League system.

## **Aberhart quits Kiwi post**

#### **REUTERS,** Christchurch

Denis Aberhart has left his job as coach of New Zealand. "I was not guaranteed a further

term with New Zealand Cricket (NZC) and another exciting oppor-tunity presented itself and is likely Cricket to be confirmed later in the week," Aberhart said in an NZC statement BBC ONLINE, London on Tuesday.

Aberhart, who has been coach since 2001, said his new job would be outside cricket. year.

He leaves with the Kiwis at number three in the ICC Test standings following a drawn series in Australia, victory in the West Indies and a win over India.

### **Eight unusual** FROM PAGE 13

Philippoussis, who meets Alexander

Popp, a German with an Englishmother, is also ready to seize his chance. He fired 46 aces past Agassi to level Ivanisevic's 1997 mark.

The 26-year-old Australian has had to fight back from three bouts of knee surgery in 14 months but is determined to improve on three previous runs to the quarters. and I am hoping to come back for a couple more years. I'll see what

"To finally get past him, the way it happened, I'm very pleased," said the man nicknamed Scud. happens.' Hall made 23 not out off eight balls against England on Saturday

"My self belief is going up. I've been working hard, things have paid "Playing in county cricket has probably helped Hally," said skip-

"The good thing is I've been in the quarter-finals a few times. That definitelyhelps."

As one of Pakistan's bright young hopes in female squash, 19-yearold Saira Abdul Sattar is not about to bow to a new ban by the local Islamist government on male coaches, especially when her coach is the world's former number two player.

AFP, Peshawar

"I don't support it all," Sattar said of the North West Frontier Province (NWFP) cabinet announcement in May prohibiting men from coaching sportswomen.

"How could I? My coach is Muhibullah Khan," she said, referring to the former world number two, who is brother and coach of former top-seeded world player Jangshir Kĥan.

by a man. Sattar's dilemma echoes that of scores of female athletes in the conservative province, where sexes don't allow them to be coached by are usually segregated and many families prohibit daughters from men," she said. sport because they do not want player Aysha, 18, prefers male them exposed to men.

"There is an attitude among society and families that it's no good to be coached by a male. My family is quite harsh with me about having a male coach," she told this news agency in the NWFP capital Peshawar's Qayum Stadium.

The ban, only partially enforced by the ruling Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal alliance of radical Islamic parties, has won mixed responses.

permission from our families to Most of Sattar's co-players are against it, citing the paucity of female coaches in NWFP, but there play sport. If men were banned, my family would allow me to play more are plenty who appreciate it and games." ek full segregation in sport.

But while male coaches were popular for producing strong players, girls also had to deal with "In Peshawar, male coaches don't do their job properly when they're coaching girls, they get favouritism. distracted," said Sadia Khaled, an

"Female coaches will give us more opportunity because some male coaches give priority to their blue-eyed players," said badminton and volleyball player Shazia.

NWFP's top table tennis coach, Naveed Khan, warned the ban would sound the death knell of women's sport if it was fully enforced.

"This will be the end of women's sport. We have hardly any qualified female coaches in NWFP," he told AFP. "Most good players get no pportunity because their families

Khan can no longer coach students through the school and campus system, but he still coaches women privately and no-one has ordered him to stop.

He cited the dilemma of NWFP's junior squash champion, the only female practising at the Pakistan Air Force's squash academy.

"She plays with males, is coached by a male, and dreams of being world number one in male rankings.'

"She said 'I don't want to play "We belong to a very conserva-tive society... it's difficult to get with females because they don't give me a fight'.

AFP, Leeds

injury.

NWFP women in problem **Cagers leave** for Delhi today

UNB, Dhaka

The Bangladesh national basket-ball team leaves today for New Delhi to take part in the qualifying round of the Asian Basketball Championship to be held on July 10-12

Mainul Ahsan will lead the seven-member team.

India, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan are the other participants. The players and officials yester-

day called on State Minister for Youth and Sports M Fazlur Rahman.

President of the Bangladesh Basketball Federation Maj Gen (retd) ZA Khan, secretary general of Bangladesh Olympic Association Zafar Imam, secretary of National Sports Council Masud Elahi and general secretary Basketball Federation Selim Chowdhury were also present.

## **Pakistan expect** more Indian initiative

the Indian government on Tuesday to do more to restore normal cricket ties between the south Asian neighbours. Pakistan and India came close

to a fourth war in 2002 over the disputed Kashmir region, but relations have thawed in recent months and leaders of the nucleararmed rivals have expressed a desire to return to the negotiating

"We can only wait and see if the Indian government will take more positive steps to pave the way for restoration of complete bilateral ties with us," Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chief executive Rameez Raja told this news agency.

Raja was responding to plans announced last week to send the Indian under-19 team to Pakistan later this year for a junior tourna-

It was the first time since June 2000 that the Indian government had allowed any cricket team from India to visit Pakistan.

The Indian sports ministry has also permitted the Indian board to play host to a Pakistan A team in December for a triangular series also involving Sri Lanka. Dates and venues for the Asian

cricket foundation (ACF) tournaments have still to be announced by the respective boards. Raja said Pakistan had always

maintained it had no problems playing India at any level. "The ball has always been in the

"That remains our stance. So we

do welcome this positive move

## Scud wrecks US dream

WIMBLEDON

AFP, London

Andre Agassi joined Lleyton Hewitt on the Wimbledon scrapheap on Monday - ruining what was otherwise shaping up as a dream of a day for the American contingent at the All England Club.

Andv Roddick, the young pretender to Agassi's crown as the king of American tennis, blasted his way past Paradorn Srichaphan to reach the quarterfinals.

But the hoped-for clean sweep failed to materialise as Agassi crashed in the fifth set under a barrage of hostile fire from the man they call the Scud, Australia's Mark Philippoussis.

The 6-3, 2-6, 6-7 (4/7), 6-3, 6-4 win was a victory to relish for Philippoussis, who has battled back from a recurring knee injury which had threatened to end the 26-year-old's career.

But for Agassi, now 33 and preparing for the birth of his sec-ond child with wife Steffi Graf, it was a defeat that could herald the end of any realistic chance he had of adding another Wimbledon crown to the title he won here in 1992.

Unbowed, Agassi vowed he would be back next year. "Why wouldn't I be back? I'm still a tennis player. This is the place to be.'

Agassi's departure means there are no former winners left in the men's draw. French Open champion Juan Carlos Ferrero - who was two sets to one down to Sebastien Grosjean when their match was suspended - is the only surviving player with a Grand Slam title of any description to his name.

But British dreams of a first Wimbledon champion since Fred Perry in 1936 remain alive after Tim Henman eliminated David Nalbandian, last year's beaten finalist, 6-2, 6-7 (4/7), 7-5, 6-3.

(7/5), 6-4, 6-4. Roddick, the bookmakers favourite even before Agassi's demise, dropped a service game for only the second time in the tournament

That cost him the second set but it was to prove an isolated blemish on an otherwise flawless progression to a 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 win and a quarterfinal against experienced Swede Jonas Bjorkman who got past Max Mirnyi of Belarus 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7/4). Despite the mount-

great opportunity. ing expectations, Roddick refused

## **STRAWBERRIES AND CREAM** SCUD'S UNIQUE RECORD

fourťh seed.

Englishmen, Wilfred Rhodes, WG Grace and Jack Hobbs among them. There is only one Asian player in the top 20.

Rhodes was well into his 53rd year when he played his last Test against West Indies in 1930.

History suggests England have



New Zealand-born Caddick, suffered a stress fracture of the right foot which was expected to have healed within the next two

England and Wales Cricket Worcestershire's hopes of hanging onto Hall may depend on whether he can re-establish himself in the Test squad and he is keen to be seen as more than just a injection in the near future.

by the specialist six weeks from now and if he has not improved, then surgery will be considered as

an option.

34, who has been suffering from sciatica, underwent a scan last week which revealed a prolapsed disc in his back who announced his retirement ment from international one-day cricket after the World Cup, recently

weeks.

Board (ECB) chief medical officer, Peter Gregory said: "Andrew has been given stronger medication to relieve the back problem. If this does not control the pain, the specialist will give him an epidural

"His condition will be reviewed "I thought I had shown my form in the Test arena against Australia and Sri Lanka. I thought I'd be given another chance and a run in the side," he said.

"He will not play cricket during this time and has been advised by

specialist that he should rest for

Indian court.

#### Spectators arriving early at court

Federer, who next faces the Netherlands' Sjeng Schalken, admitted he thought his time in quarters with a 6-3, 6-3 over Mary Pierce. this year's tournament was up. In the all-Russian affair Svetlana "I didn't think I'd be sitting here Kuznetsova ended the dream run today as a winner," said the Swiss of 16-year-old Maria Sharapova.

SCUD FIRES: Australian Mark Philippoussis raises his arms for joy after

defeating Andre Agassi of the United States in the fourth round of

4,7-5.

Wimbledon Championships on June 30.

"There are eight guys still left in and I'm just one of them," the 20-

year-old insisted. "That is the

Roger Federer, seen by many as

Roddick's main title rival, won

against Spain's Feliciano Lopez 7-6

game-plan and I'm sticking to it."

to get carried away.

Sharapova, the teen sensation, "I have to take this lucky match lost 6-1, 2-6, 7-5. today and try to get rid of this and Italy's Silvia Farina Elia won her get ready for the quarters - it's a fourth round match against

Argentina's Paola Suarez 7-5, 7-6. Eighth seed Schalken defeated ninth seed Rainer Schuettler 7-5, 6-

## Young is beautiful FROM PAGE 13

And in a battle a unseeded

In the remaining women's

French Open champion Justine

matches on a rain-interrupted day

Henin-Hardenne stormed into the

players Germany's Alexander Popp overcame Olivier Rochus of

Belgium 5-7, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.

at Wimbledon,

PHOTO: AFF

Aussie men's quarter-finalist Mark Philippoussis, landed a joint record at Wimbledon when he fired 46 aces past Andre Agassi, levelling former champion Goran Ivanisevic's 1997 mark set against Swede Magnus

South African all-rounder Andrew Hall is enjoying his time in England so much he wants to return next Hall began the summer playing county cricket for Worcestershire before joining up with the national side for the triangular one-day series against England and Zimbabwe.

one-day specialist.

athlete who represents NWFP in

sports complex for women,

because it's so unpleasant coming

to a male-dominated sports com-

plex. I feel self-conscious training

in front of the men here. They tease

ince in women's cricket. The 15-

woman team is still being coached

Sattar also represents her prov-

Badminton and vollevball

"I need male coaches to inspire

coaches because they make her

courage. I'll be bold if I'm pushed

Saqina, 22, a provincial-level badminton player, believed the ban would allow more women to

"bold".

play sport.

In love with Worcs

by a male," she said.

"I'd like to see an exclusive

tournaments across Pakistan.

He is not, however, part of the Test squad and is due to return to New Road after the final on 12 July. ANDREW HALL "If Worcestershire get to go up for next season, I would like to

per Graeme Smith. come back and really play again. "He is an integral part of the squad and I am really lucky to have him here. He has really got a big heart and a never-say-die atti-tude." "That would be a new experi-

ence again, to have the opportunity to play in the First Division of the County Championship," he said. "I am on a one-year contract

and followed that with 56 and three

wickets against Zimbabwe.



PHOTO: COURTESY

The India-bound basketball team members pose for an official photograph with the State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman (sitting, 2nd from R) at the National Sports Council yesterday. The team leaves today.

CROSS	WORD	By Eugene	e Sheffer
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26 27 npli ned CRYPTOQUIP ews IDH'FB SBTEMPML VI I'C DМ NTMLBFDHC OZP OKPOO UBTZO, IDH KPSS MBBN T SDV DC TSU. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I TELL THE EXACI TRUTH TO ALL X-RAY TECHNICIANS. THEY CAN SEE RIGHT THROUGH YOU. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals S

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the ngle letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error

the remainder of the season.

England's first Test against South Africa is scheduled to start at Edgbaston on Thursday, July 24.

## **Eng-Zim match**

#### FROM PAGE 13

of the game.

England captain Michael Vaughan was 35 not out and his Yorkshire team-mate Anthony McGrath 15 notout

Because the match had already been reduced to 25 overs per side, the minimum required for the fixture to produce a positive outcome, the stoppage meant the end

England and Zimbabwe received three points apiece for a no-result, putting them on nine points each, three ahead of South Africa.

But Zimbabwe top the table pecause of their better head-tohead record against England after beating them by four wickets in the series opener at Trent Bridge on Thursday

South Africa, who beat Zimbabwe by 46 runs at Canterbury on Sunday, play England in the next triangular match, a day-night fixture at Old Trafford, on Thursday.

from the Indian government, but three on Tuesday were kept enterwe want to see whether this positive thinking moves towards senior balls. cricket," he said.

#### Media Cup FROM PAGE 13

Group-D champions Dainik Jugantor.

The final is on Friday.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman will be present as the chief guest at while Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Ali Asghar and executive director of Transcom Beverage Ltd Golam Quddus Chowdhury are the special guests.

In yesterday's matches, Janakantha defeated Sports Line by four wickets, scoring 97 runs for one wicket in six overs in reply to 95 for one in six overs.

The Financial Express beat ABAS by five runs in the tournament's low-scoring match. Financial Express scored 19 for one while ABAS made 14 for one.

And Dainik Dinkal beat Dainik Banglabazar Patrika by five wickets

Banglabazar scored 81 for one in six overs while Dinkal, in reply, made 82 without loss in six overs

## Star scrape past Dinkal

#### FROM PAGE 13

took a wicked deflection off Dinkal custodian Bodiuzzaman into the net seven minutes before the final whistle.

The goal finally broke a stubborn Dinkal defence that had till then resisted waves of Daily Star attacks. Three minutes from time, Star's latest sensation Zayadul Ashan Pintu swaved past two Dinkal defenders before unleashing an unstoppable grounder past Bodiuzzaman to make it 2-0.

Although the Daily Star missed two seasoned defenders like Syed Ashfaqul Haque and Shamshur Rahman Momen because of mysterious illness, towering newcomer Sheikh Nazrul Islam combined well with rock-solid veteran Morshed to man the backline. Multi-talented journalist cum entertainer Hasan Masood showed his athletic side as he donned the goalkeeper's jersey and went on to make some crucial saves.

Masood also went into the record (!) books when he became the first coach-cum-goalkeeper in the tournament's history.

The forwards of the Star are

tained before play began with an unusual spectacle: tennis without

AFP. London

Makers of the movies "Wimbledon", which is being filmed during the championships, were shooting an on-court scene starring actor Paul Bettany, who stars as a British player who triumphs and finds love along the way.

WIMBLEDON

Bettany unleashed ferocious serves, sweeping forehands and even drop-volleys - but all without a ball, which is being added later by computer trickery.

#### MAC MAKES UP WITH LINE-JUDGE

Former superbrat John McEnroe has continued his march to middle-aged respectability by making up with a former Wimbledon hate-figure.

The ex-champion, now a television pundit, was seen chatting with retired line judge Raghbir Mhajan, whom McEnroe accused of bias in 1981 during a doubles match against Indian siblings Vijay and Anand Amritraj.

Mhajan - who countered the accusation by gently pointing out that while he was ethnic Indian, he came from Kenya - told McEnroe he had given up his on-court duties.

"Why now? I wanted you to give up when I was playing," was the American's half-joking response.

taken a long time to learn the les-Unlike Ivanisevic, however, Philippoussis, won his match and his ace total is the biggest ever in Grand Slam history for a player winning a match. Richard Krajicek, the Dutchman who won Wimbledon in 1996 holds the overall ace record of 49 But he lost his 1999 US Open quarterfinal

Yevgeny Kafelniko **CAPRIATI HAS FRIENDS** days. **IN HIGH PLACES** 

Among the more famous fans cheering along Jennifer Capriati at the championships this year has been actor Matthew Perry, one of the stars of long-running US sitcom

"Friends Perry, a former top junior player in his native Canada before injury nudged him towards a showbiz career. has even been seen shouting "C'mon Jen" at key points.

Perry, who is starring in the play "Sexual Perversity in Chicago" on London's West End, has also been seen cheering on Australian power-hitter Mark Philippoussis. RODDICKISTHE

#### FAVOURITE Andy Roddick is the bookies' favour-

ite to land the men's title at 13/8 among London agents with Swiss fourth seed Roger Federer second favourite at 10/3.

Ladbrokes have local hope Tim Henman at 9/1, behind Australian Mark Philippoussis, conqueror of Andre Agassi, at 5/1, down from 25/1.

son that youth can be trusted (if, indeed, they really have, for at Anderson's age, many Asian prodi gies are already well into their careers) Pakistan's Mushtaq Mohammad, who went on to average just under 40 in Tests, was first capped at 15 years and 124 Sachin Tendulkar first appeared aged 16 and 205 days, while Hanif

Mohammad, Waqar Younis and Gary Sobers were all playing before their 18th birthdays. No that things always work out.

Batsman Hasan Raza first played for Pakistan in 1996, at the record age of 14, but has featured in only four more Tests in the intervening years. Batsman James Troughton, meanwhile, one of England's new wave, lasted three one-dayers this month before he was sent back to finishing school while 21-year-old all rounder Rikki Clarke lasted one match more before being 'rested'.

The trend, however, is clear and welcome breath of fresh air. Young is beautiful.

And everyone, after all, can get bored of a weathered face, even one smiling all the way to the winner's rostrum.

Waugh and his battered, 160-Test baggy green cap should watch out.

regarded as the best in the business, but they failed to live up to that tag yesterday. Although his exotic ball-skills remain, captain Al-Amin has definitely lost pace with age. The porky Rabeed Imam, sporting David Beckham's famous number 7 shirt, hit the bar three times from Beckham-like freekicks but missed two absolute sitters. In contrast, young guns Pinaki

Roy and Shariful gave manager Lenin Gani a lot to cheer about. Although Lenin, reportedly a former Liverpool ball boy, earned applause for his enthusiasm and tactical awareness, the manager still faced the prospect of a onematch ban for not properly informing an avid band of The Daily Star followers including the managing editor Syed Fahim Munaim about yesterday's game in advance.

Meanwhile, in other matches of the day, BSS drew 2-2 with Khabar Patra, Bhorer Dak defeated Dainik Al-Amin 3-1 and Dainik Sangram thrashed Dainik Khabar 5-1.

State minister for youth and sports Fazlur Rahman declared the meet open in the morning.