

Rajshahi consolidate

SUHRWARDI vs BIRMINGHAM CITY... Dhaka Metro Green's Suhrwardi grabbed six wickets in the Under-17 Development Cricket Tourna-ment final...

Grover steals spotlight

SHAHJ GROVER, a student of standard four in Kuachi Hansaraj Model High School in New Delhi, was exuberant while playing his first game against Bangladesh FIDE Master Khondokar Aminul Islam.



Grand Master Ziaur Rahman makes a move against Shawkat Hossain Pallab during their first round encounter of the United Insurance IM Chess Tournament at the NSC conference room yesterday.

Probe report due May 12

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) secretary general Zafar Imam is expected to be the last individual to be interviewed by the probe committee investigating the national football team's 9th SAF Games debacle in Islamabad.

like Kazi Salahuddin, Golam Rabbani Helal, Sayeed Hasan Kanan, is in charge of running the whole show. Coaches appointed by the BFF under guidance of the NTMC, had selected the preliminary squad ignoring key players who were still eligible for the under-23 competition.

Nalbandian in last four

ARGENTINE fifth seed David Nalbandian, the highest seed left at the Rome Masters, beat Vincent Spadea 6-4, 6-3 here on Friday to set up a semifinal clash against Albert Costa.

What to watch

Liverpool vs Birmingham City Live at 10:30 pm Primera Liga Real Madrid vs Mallorca Live at 2:00 am (Sunday)

Star Whizz Kid Competition 21. Tick the correct answers, post to The Daily Star. Win attractive prizes. Competition closes at 8 pm May 21, 2004 and draw shortly afterwards.

Table with 5 questions about Bangladesh's fastest woman, Zimbabwe's cricket captain, the man-of-the-series in the India-Pakistan Test series, Brian Lara's runs in the first innings of the final Test against England, and the Singer 30th national award winner.

GP Corporate Cricket League. Ispahani vs BADC Kriya Sangha. Venue: Fatullah Cricket Stadium.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across, Down, and Cryptiquip. Includes a solution time of 27 mins.

Cryptiquip puzzle grid with clues. Includes a solution time of 27 mins and a note that B equals P.

Olympic door open for Pillay

Dhanraj Pillay may still realise his dream of playing in a fourth Olympics, India's hockey chief said on Friday, lashing out at the national upheaval over the veteran playmaker's omission from the list of 30 probables.

Acme win big

Gazi Tank fell into early trouble when opener Harunur Rashid Pintu was out for a six-ball duck and despite a half century by Ali Nishan, they were skittled out for 191 in 45.2 overs.

Jr athletics

Jainal Abedin of Mgrua DSA set new national record in the 1500m run on the opening day of the Milk Vita 21st National Junior Athletics Championship at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

Marvan, Sanath show

Although none of the middle order took full advantage, Sri Lanka ended the day firmly in charge. Zimbabwe have been forced to field a weakened team after 15 experienced players made themselves unavailable in a dispute with the Zimbabwe Cricket Union.

Cricket scorecard table showing runs, wickets, and bowling figures for Dilshan, Uthaya, Mahwire, Samaraweera, and others.

Premiership preview More than a game

Players dream of winning things and when you don't it is frustrating. It is going to take a couple of games to get this out of our system. United's preparations for the match have hardly been any better.

Gunners boss Arsene Wenger is confident this side can continue a run he attributes to the bonds that have been forged among his multinational collection of players. "People might think we have just assembled a few players together, but spirit can be created by those who come in if they love the club, no matter where they come from," Wenger said.

Primera Liga preview

Title almost theirs

laughing and shaking hands out there," warned Sevilla captain Pablo Alfaro. Valencia will go into battle without their top marksman Mista Ferrer, Thursday's hero who scored the only goal in 180 minutes of the all-Spanish semi-final.

Real Madrid will not be relishing the visit of Real Mallorca, who have been the Spanish giants bogey team in recent seasons, especially with their current slump in form. Last season, Mallorca were the only side to win at the Santiago Bernabeu but they did it in style with a 5-1 thrashing.

Confidence

As ever Mohammad Rafique has to carry the weight of the bowling in both forms of the game and he will get an exciting partner for the Tests in fellow left-arm spinner Enamul Haque Junior. Barely 18, Enamul is a star of the future and has maturity beyond his years.

Maradona on the mend again

5-foot eight-inch) Maradona was reportedly tucking into a diet of grills and pasta, washed down with red wine and welcoming a stream of visitors between stints of golf and football. "He was readmitted to hospital because he was doing everything that he should not have been doing," medical sources claimed.

Maradona's entourage, which includes ex-wife Claudia Villafane and his private doctor Alfredo Cahe, want to transfer him to a specialist drug rehabilitation center, the sources added. "We're waiting for a sign from the family -- for them to take the bull by the horns," one source told Clarin newspaper.

Human error

through oppressed people forgiving their oppressors." Cronje confessed in 2000 that he had accepted up to 15,000 dollars from a bookmaker. "I felt like I had just experienced a terrible nightmare," said Bacher, who had accepted Cronje's initial denial that he had been involved in any wrongdoing.

Wins for BU

Batting First Brothers scored 254 for seven in 50 overs. Rashed Hanif made highest 67 while Nayem followed him with 50. Hasan Jamil took three wickets.

Time to tango

"Now I'm determined to cement my place in the national team with some solid performances in West Indies," said the confident Faisal. While the southpaw was eagerly waiting to don the Bangladesh cap, another rookie Razzak knew his chances of forcing a way into the playing eleven would be limited especially with experienced Mohammad Rafique and useful Manjural Islam around.

UEFA Cup Marseille meet Valencia in final

Newcastle United's UEFA Cup dreams were shot down by Marseille striker Didier Drogba here on Thursday as the French side booked a place in the final with a well-deserved 2-0 win. The Ivory Coast star scored both goals to take his tally to 11 in the tournament this season and keep up his extraordinary record of scoring in every round.