

RAIN INDUCED HAVOC



Water sloshes on the entry to Kamalapur Railway Station (left); cars trying to make way through knee-deep water at Bijoy Swarani; office commuters try to catch a bus at Motijheel; a stalled yellow cab needs to be pushed to destination; women cook as water seeps indoors.

From oblivion to forefront



Maloti, once a destitute woman abandoned by her husband, now runs a shop at Bogra's Sabgram village.

Bogra destitute women find a new dignity as scheme brings them to market place

SHAMIM AHSRAF

Maloti never dreamt of it and neither did others.

What a transformation! Sometimes she wonders. Once abandoned to her fate after being abused by husband for dowry and thrown out with two minor daughters, Maloti now runs a grocery shop and attends decision-making meetings with local elected representatives.

She had to fend for herself and her children by doing menial jobs for a long time.

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Federer lifts US Open

AFP, New York

World number one Roger Federer put on a punishing display of power tennis here Sunday to defeat Australian Lleyton Hewitt 6-0, 7-6 (7/3), 6-0 in the US Open men's final.

The 23-year-old Swiss star became the first man since Mats Wilander in 1988 to win three Grand Slam tournaments in a single season, following his triumphs at Wimbledon and the Australian Open.

Federer needed just 18 minutes to win the first set and took the first eight games of the championship match at the 17.8 million dollar Grand Slam event.

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US planes pound Iraq militant bases: 16 die

Al-Qaeda group downs US spy aircraft

REUTERS, AP, Falluja

US forces launched air strikes on the rebel-held city of Falluja yesterday, targeting what they said was a meeting of key loyalists of their top foe in Iraq, Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

Iraqi doctors at Falluja Hospital said 16 Iraqis were killed, including women and children. But the US military said its intelligence suggested only Zarqawi followers were killed.

The Falluja attacks followed one of the most violent days in Iraq in recent months in which at least 110 people were killed in Baghdad and other Iraqi towns.

"Intelligence sources reported the presence of several key Zarqawi operatives who have been responsible for numerous terrorist attacks against Iraqi civilians, Iraqi security forces and multinational forces," a

US military statement said.

"Intelligence reports indicated that only Zarqawi operatives and associates were at the meeting location at the time of the strike," it said. "Iraqi Security Forces and multi-national forces effectively and accurately targeted these terrorists while protecting the lives of innocent civilians."

Doctor Iyad Mohamed of Falluja Hospital said 16 Iraqis were killed and 12 wounded in the US attacks in Falluja, 32 miles west of Baghdad. The US military has accused Iraqis in Falluja of exaggerating the extent of civilian deaths, while most Falluja residents insist civilians are being targeted.

Meanwhile, a militant group has claimed to have shot down a US drone aircraft near Fallujah, but the US military has reported no such loss near the embattled Iraqi city.

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EPW special issue rates Dhaka high

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Internationally reputed publication Economic and Political Weekly (EPW) in a special issue on Bangladesh has rated the country high for its economic liberalisation drive but detected governance inefficiency in some sectors due to politics.

The September 4 issue of the Bombay-based weekly has assembled well-researched and thought-provoking papers on 13 key issues written by eminent economists, researchers, academics and scholars of the subcontinent.

The special issue accommodated write-ups of eminent economists Prof Wahiduddin Mahmud, Prof Rehman Sobhan, Zaidi Sattar, I s h e r

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Prayer Timing

September 14		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-35	5-10
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-30	4-45
Maghrib	6-14	6-17
Esha	7-45	8-15
Source: Islamic Foundation		

4 drown in Padma

UNB, Shariatpur

Four members of a family, including a child, drowned yesterday when a passenger-carrier trawler capsized in the Padma here.

The deceased were identified as Achiya Begum, 70, Rana, 10, Shahnaj Begum, 40, and Begum Bibi, 44, of Painpara Rupaiyakandi in Jajira upazila.

Police said the trawler sailing from Jajira capsized in a storm at noon.

The other passengers swam ashore. Local people recovered the bodies. The trawler remained untraced.

Bill for women's reserved seats introduced

UNB, Dhaka

A bill was introduced in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday outlining a complex procedure of election to 45 reserved seats for women on the basis of proportional representation of a party or alliance in the House.

The 14th Amendment to the Constitution has introduced the 45

reserved seats raising the strength of the 300-seat parliament to 345.

Law Minister Barrister Moudud Ahmed introduced the Jatiya Sangsad (Women's Reserved Seats) Bill 2004 to execute the 14th amendment.

The bill provided for a detailed but complex modality for election of

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Mutilated Savar rape victim suffers gangrene 1 accused held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The housewife, reportedly gangraped and left on Jahangirnagar University (JU) campus on August 22 with her throat cut, is suffering from gangrene, while police nabbed an accused Saturday.

Gangrene has set in in her body

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