

Pepsi 17th nat'l handball from Saturday

SPORTS REPORTER

The first phase of the Pepsi 17th National Handball Championship starts in Bagerhat on Saturday.

A total of 29 teams, split into three zones, will compete in the men's competition while 19 teams, also divided in three groups, will participate in the women's section.

In the men's field, top two teams from each group along with last year's semifinalists Bangladesh Rifles, Bangladesh Ansar, Dhaka DSA and Bangladesh Police will play in the 10-team final round to be held in Dhaka in mid-February.

The women's field will be little different as nine teams -- top two from each group and last year's top three finishers BJMC, Bangladesh Ansar and Dhaka DSA -- will compete in the final round. However, the date and venue have yet to be decided.

General secretary of Bangladesh Handball Federation Asaduzzaman Kohinoor disclosed the details at a press conference at the federation hall yesterday.

Federation vice-president and chairman of the organising committee Hamida Ali and Marketing Manager of sponsors Transcom Beverages Limited Golam Moshar

also spoke.

Div I cricket

Karim's six-for goes in vain

SPORTS REPORTER

Pacer Faizul Karim bagged six wickets including a hattrick but his team Azad Sporting Club still lost the match against Young Pegasus-B by two wickets in the First Division Cricket League at the BKSP cricket ground yesterday.

Despite Faizul's devastating bowling Young Pegasus reached their target scoring 122 in 45.5 overs in reply to Azad's 118 in 47 overs.

In another match also at the BKSP, Wari Club inflicted a 64-run defeat on Nabin Sangha. Wari dismissed Nabin Sangha for 99 in 38.2 overs having made 163 all out in 49.4 overs.

In the day's another matches, Dhamondi recorded a massive 109-run victory over Lalimata Club at the City Club ground and Sonargaon Cricketers beat Bangladesh Boys by five wickets at the Dhamondi Cricket Stadium.

Wiser and slower?

FROM PAGE 13
The 29-year-old Akhtar conceded he needed to bowl with greater control.

"Over the years, as you play cricket a lot, you learn how to bowl," he said.

"I'm learning from McGrath and I'm learning from (Jason) Gillespie that I've got to learn to ... slow down and become a bit patient."

"I'm not patient basically -- I always go out hard and look, I've just got to put the ball in the right areas."

"It was a very small and secret wedding -- only family and a few very close friends were invited," the source told the magazine.

Kournikova first wowed crowds as a teenager in the late 1990s and became known as the "Britney

Problems for both SA, Eng

Cricket

AFP, Port Elizabeth

South Africa and England start a five-Test series at St George's Park Friday with question marks over both teams.

South Africa, hoping to end a sequence of disappointing results, have worries about the fitness of key players, while England are short of form going into one of the most intensive Test series of all time.

Five Tests will be played in the space of 40 days with no other matches in between.

South Africa are likely to be without Nicky Boje, their vice-captain and only spin bowler, who is struggling to prove his fitness after a recent operation to remove a cyst from his left shoulder, while star all-rounder Jacques Kallis may be unable to bowl because of an ankle injury.

The balance of the South African side depends on the final fitness assessments.

There is no other spinner in the squad, and no-one on standby, so if Boje does not play South Africa will be forced to field an all-seam attack, backed by the occasional spin of Graeme Smith and Jacques Rudolph.

If Kallis is unable to bowl, South Africa will have to leave out one of the batsmen in their 13-man squad in order to accommodate an extra bowler, virtually ensuring that

untried fast bowler Dale Steyn will make his Test debut.

Steyn, 21, was picked for the squad after just seven first-class games. When he reported for a training camp in Pretoria last week end it was the first time he had met senior players Shaun Pollock and Kallis, while when the side assembled in Port Elizabeth Tuesday it was the first time he had visited the coastal city.

With fast bowling expected to dominate the series, South African coach Ray Jennings found an unorthodox way to get his batsmen used to pace again after their recent series on the slow pitches of India.

He had Davis Cup tennis player Wesley Whitehouse serving a red tennis ball at them at speeds beyond the capability of even the fastest bowlers.

Steve Harmison, currently the top-ranked bowler in World Test cricket, will lead a strong England pace attack but a key factor will be how quickly Harmison, Matthew Hoggard, Andrew Flintoff and either Simon Jones or James Anderson find the right length to get the most advantage from what is expected to be a well-grassed St George's Park surface.

South African assistant coach Vincent Barnes noted after coaching the South Africa A side in Potchefstroom that the home bowlers had made better use of the conditions than the Englishmen.

While the England bowlers did not hit top form in Potchefstroom, it

was the side's poor batting that caused most concern in the England camp.

England's top order batsmen struggled, showing the effects of a two-and-a-half month break from first-class cricket since the end of the English season.

Mark Butcher's place in the important number three batting position is likely to be debated.

Three innings in South Africa have brought just nine runs, while rival Robert Key slammed 87 in a low-key one-day warm-up game.

Pepsi V-Day v'ball Navy oust Police

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Navy eliminated Bangladesh Police from the Pepsi Victory Day Volleyball Tournament at the Shaheed Suhrawardi Indoor Stadium yesterday.

The sailors won 25-14, 25-15 and 25-21.

Kathmandu Metropolitan City will take on the winners and Bangladesh Army face Titas Club at the same venue today.

Federation Cup

FROM PAGE 13
already secured the tokens of their desired players and officials will only appear at the transfers to complete the formalities.

Jacobs quits at end of season

REUTERS, London

Former West Indies wicketkeeper Ridley Jacobs is set to retire from cricket at the end of the domestic season in the Caribbean.

"I think the upcoming season will be my last year in first-class cricket so I want to give it my best shot and come out on a high," said Jacobs after being selected in the Leeward Islands side for the domestic season.

Mark Butcher's place in the important number three batting position is likely to be debated.

Three innings in South Africa have brought just nine runs, while rival Robert Key slammed 87 in a low-key one-day warm-up game.

The 37-year-old, who played in 65 Tests and 147 one-day internationals for West Indies, had knee surgery earlier this year and lost his place in the side on the tour of England.

The hard-hitting left-hander scored 2,577 Test runs and made three centuries, the last of which kept the England bowlers away from the West Indies tail as Brian Lara made a world record 400 not out in Antigua in April this year.

The Antiguan, who made his Test debut at the comparatively late age of 31, took 207 catches and made 12 stumpings in Tests.

Attack is their

FROM PAGE 13

"It would be nice if we could have that showdown that everyone is looking for I guess -- the Pakistani fast bowlers against all of our fast bowlers and how each batting side is going to react to that."

Ponting said Akhtar was unquestionably the fastest bowler he had ever faced but it would be a mistake for Australia to put too much focus on him.

"We're very aware of Pakistan's strengths and weaknesses," he said.

"Mohammad Sami is the other one that we can't forget about. He's a very good new ball bowler -- he's as quick as Shoail and he'll make it very difficult for us to bat against him as well."

"We as players certainly haven't focused that much on Shoail at all."

"We know what he's capable of, we know what he can do but quite often when you have a guy like that in your side it can be the other guys who sneak under your guard a little bit and we don't want that to happen."

While the WACA wicket is not a favourite hunting ground for spin bowlers, both captains remained adamant that they would be included in their starting side.

Australia's Shane Warne has a remarkable record against Pakistan, taking 76 wickets in 12 Tests at an average of 18.60, although the pace-friendly WACA is his least successful venue anywhere in Australia.

But Ponting said it would not be feasible to leave him out of the side and if Australia opted to start with four pace bowlers they would omit a batsman instead.

TEAMS

PAKISTAN (from): Inzamamul Haq (c), Imran Farhat, Salman Butt, Yasir Hameed, Asim Kamal, Younis Khan, Younis Youhana, Kamran Akmal, Shahid Afridi, Abdul Razzaq, Shoail Malik, Shoail Akhtar, Mohammad Sami, Rana Naved, Danish Kaneria, Mohammad Asif, Mohammad Khalil.

AUSTRALIA (from): Ricky Ponting (captain), Justin Langer, Matthew Hayden, Damien Martyn, Darren Lehmann, Michael Clarke, Adam Gilchrist, Shane Warne, Jason Gillespie, Michael Kasprowicz, Glenn McGrath, Bree Lee.



PHOTO: STAR

A GRAND WARFARE: Country's two Grand Masters Niaz Moshar (L) and Ziaur Rahman are engrossed in deep thinking during their ninth round engagement of the Maan Bangladesh Grand Masters Chess Tournament at the National Sports Council conference room yesterday.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Commandant

Military Institute of Science and Technology (MIST)

Phone: 8019950, Fax: 8012035

Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Laboratory Equipment for ECEC Dept of the Military Institute of Science and Technology (MIST), Mirpur Cantonment

Re-Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the reputed suppliers for supply, installation and commissioning of following laboratory equipment for MIST, Mirpur, Dhaka as per terms and conditions stated below:

1. Project Name	Construction of Physical Facilities of the Military Institute of Science and Technology at Mirpur Cantonment.
2. Source of fund	ADP allocation in local currency (Taka) by the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.
3. Tender package No.	MIST/ECE-1.
4. Invitation for tender no. and date	MIST/ECE/LAB/2004 Dated: 10 December 2004.
5. Eligibility of tenderers	All tenderers except those of Israel having (i) at least five years experience of supplying goods and related services, (ii) at least two years experience of supplying the similar goods and related services, (iii) current year trade licence, (iv) up-to-date income tax, VAT registration and bank solvency certificates.
6. Name and address of the office selling tender document	Eligible tenderers may purchase the documents during office hour up to 1400 hours from Saturday to Wednesday and up to 1200 hours on Thursday from 15 December 2004 from the office of the Director Administration of MIST on written request in his letterhead pad along with evidence of eligibilities.
7. Name and address of the office receiving tenders	Tender should be dropped in the designated tender boxes kept at the office of the Director Administration, MIST, Mirpur Cantonment, Dhaka-1216.
8. Name and address of the office opening tenders	Conference Room of MIST.
9. Last date and time for tender submission	1000 hours on 03 January 2005.
10. Date and time for tender opening	1100 hours on 03 January 2005. Tenderers or their authorised representatives are allowed to attend.
11. Date and time of pre-tender meeting	1000 hours on 29 December 2004.
12. Place of pre-tender meeting	Conference Room of MIST.
13. Brief description of goods and services	

Lot Number	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount in Taka	Price of tender document	Time for completion in weeks/months	Remarks
1	Communication Equipment for Telephone Line & Exchange Laboratory	MIST premises	Tk. 1,75,000.00	Tk. 1,000.00	120 days from the date of signing the contract	Tender may be submitted for any number of lots
2	Instrumentation & Control Laboratory Equipment	MIST premises	Tk. 75,000.00			
3	Test & Measuring Equipment	MIST premises	Tk. 75,000.00			
4	Computer & Office Equipment	MIST premises	Tk. 75,000.00			
14.	Special Instructions					
	• Tender security money must be submitted along with the tender through Bank Draft/Pay Order/Irrevocable Bank Guarantee from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of Commandant, Military Institute of Science and Technology, Mirpur Cantonment. Tender security should be valid for a period of 120 days.					
	• Tender information may be collected through www.mist-bd.org of MIST and www.cptu.gov.bd of Central Procurement Technical Unit, IMED, Ministry of Planning.					
	• If there happens any transport disruption or govt. holidays on the abovementioned dates, the next normal working day will be treated as the valid dates of selling, dropping and opening of the tender. Time shall remain unchanged.					
	• The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders prior to acceptance.					
	• This tender shall be governed by the PPR 2003.					

ISPR/Army/04/1122
DFF-30184-13/12/04
G-1266Commandant
Military Institute of Science and Technology
Mirpur Cantonment

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Shesh Dash Din
On Channel i at 7:50pm
Special Drama Serial (Part 3)
Cast: Raisul Islam Asad, Shams Shuman, Mir, Litu Anam
Script: Rabeya Khatun, Direction: Saidul Anam Tutul



Shurjo Dighal Bari
On ntv at 2:35pm
Bangla Feature Film
Cast: Dolly Anwar, Keramat Meola,
Direction: Sheikh Niamat Ali

9:00	Operation Hot Pursuit	3:00	Asia Golf Travel (R)	4:30	Vs India 2nd Test Day 1 (L)
9:30	Adventure Challenge	3:30	MRF National Motocross Championship 2004 Highlights (R)		Follow Through
10:30	Riddles Of The Dead S2		Tiger Cup 2004 Thailand Vs Philippines Group B (L)	5:30	Chittagong Bangladesh Vs India