DHAKA SUNDAY APRIL 10, 2005

METROPOLITAN

The Daily Star

Kushtia outlaw killed in 'crossfire' **OUR CORRESPONDENT,** Kushtia

A top cadre of the outlawed Gono Mukti Fouz (GMF) was killed in a "crossfire" between police and his accomplices at Bot Toila village of Mirpur upazila in the district early yesterday

Police said they raided a field in Bot Toila village on information that a gang of GMF was conducting a secret meeting there at about 4am.

The hour-long gun battle ensued as the GMF men opened fire sensing that police had encircled them and police also returned fire.

Moinal Hossain, 35, son of Belal Hossain of Nischintapur village in the upazila, and a listed criminal accused in 13 cases including six for murder filed with Mirpur, Bheramara and Daulatpur police stations, died during the shootout. His accomplices however managed to escape, police said

Five hand bombs and 15 rounds of bullet were recovered from the spot.

Pipe gun in parcel!

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday seized a pipe gun and one round of ammunition from a parcel sent to a person in Sylhet.

A parcel was booked and sent in the name of 'Bhalobasha.com' from Dhaka through Bangladesh Parcel Courier Service to Habibulah, an official of Eastern bank, Chouhatta Branch, Sylhet.

The courier service staff informed Habibulah about the parcel. In reply, he said he would receive the package after office hours.

Tipped off, Rab members in the meantime went to the courier service office. They found the gun along with the ammunition in the box and seized it.

Upon interrogation, both the courier staff and the consignee just expressed their ignorance about the parcel.

Religious ethics key to HIV/Aids prevention in Bangladesh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Winners of The Daily Star 3rd Inter Hall English Debate Championship-2005 and 1st Inter University Public Speaking Competition-2005 pose with the guests at the Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) auditorium yesterday. Sitting from right are Dhaka University Pro-VC Prof AFM Yusuf Haider and Vice-Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz.

DAILY STAR 3RD INTER HALL ENGLISH DEBATE

Rokeya Hall becomes champion

tion, Tasnoova Zahin Zaki of

speaker

DU CORRESPONDENT

Rokeya Hall was adjudged the best The Rokeya Hall emerged as champion in 'The Daily Star 3rd Inter Hall English Debate Championship-2005' that ended yesterday. The Bangladesh-Kuwait Moitri

Hall became runner-up among the four finalist teams, which took part in the final round of the event held at the Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) auditorium of Dhaka University (DU)

Also, the final round of the 1st Inter University Public Speaking Competition-2005 was held yester-

Nader Rahman of the North South University (NSU) secured the first position while Manzoor Al Matin and Fatema Tuz Zahora of DU obtained the second and third positions respectively. The topic of the competition was 'Where the mind is free and the spirit fearless'. Sponsored by The Daily Star, the

four-day event was organised by the Dhaka University Debating Society (DUDS). In the inter-hall debate competi-

UNB, Dhaka

mon frontier.

UNB, Dhaka

6.00pm today

Office said

tomorrow

City/Town

Chittagong

Rajshahi

Khulna

Barisal

Svlhet

Cox's Bazar

Dhaka

70

cities and towns today were

The other two finalist teams were Haji Mohammad Mohsin Hall and Muktijoddha Ziaur Rahman Hall and

the motion of the debate was 'Performance awards are bad for arts'. A total of 16 DU halls took part in the debate competition and about 40 students from 18 public and private universities participated in the public speaking competition.

Prof SMA Faiz, vice-chancellor of DU, distributed prizes among the winners as chief guest. Speaking on the occasion, Prof

Faiz underscored the need for learning English properly. Acquiring English language skills

is a must to survive in today's competitive world, he added The VC thanked the DUDS for organising the English debate and The Daily Star for sponsoring it.

Speaking as special guest, Mahfuz Anam, editor of The Daily Star, called on the students to put in their best efforts to build a prosperous Bangladesh in order to uphold the dignity and honour of the nation. Emphasising the need for practising the English language everyday, he said learning English as a second language is vital to achieve development in the fields of science and technology as well as in other

arenas He advised the DUDS to organise the English debate throughout the year to produce good debaters. He also assured the Debating

Society of further assistance in organising such events.

Haider said the authorities would increase the allocation for organising English debate competitions.

DUDS President Mehedi Hassan Tamim presided over the prize giving ceremony while Abdur Rahim delivered an address of welcome. Mohammad Asadullah, convenor of the English language debate subcommittee of DUDS, conducted the ceremony.

'909 children in jails despite HC order for release'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A total of 909 children were detained in different jails of the country as of February last despite a High Court ruling requiring their release two years ago.

Among the detainees, 319 children were in Dhaka Central Jail, 59 in Cox's Bazar Jail. 58 in Rajshahi Jail, 55 in Chittagong Jail and 35 in Comilla Jail. Besides, a total of 234 children

were detained in three Kishore Unnayan Kendra (Correction centre for juveniles) of the country during the period. This was disclosed at a press

conference organised by Save the Children, UK in cooperation with its eight NGO (non-government organisation) partners at the National Press Club in the city vesterdav Speakers at the press confer-

ence demanded immediate release of all detained children from the jails. They said illegal confinement of children is still going on unabated in

the country. The speakers proposed that local chairman or village court should act as juvenile court where union parishad members would play the role of jury in decision making. "It is exactly two years of the

judgment of the High Court that called for the release of all children from jails, but the expected result has not come vet." said Advocate Habibunnesa, head of the Justice and Violence Programme of Save the Children.

She, however, said the HC verdict made all concerned alert, and some remarkable decisions and steps have been taken by the government and NGOs in this regard.

These included formation of taskforces at national, district and upazila level for speedy release of children, empowerment of district women affairs officers as jail visitors and upazila social welfare officers as probation officers, amendment of penal code to raise the age of criminal responsibility of a child from seven to nine years, and formation of children council in Kishore Unnayan Kendra, she added.

Habibunnesa said, "Parliament, government and judiciary should wake up now and review the implementation mechanism immediately to save our future generation from further damage.

"We do not believe in the trial of children, rather we demand their proper rehabilitation so that they can return to a normal life," said



Advocate Habibunnesa, head of the Justice and Violence Programme of Save the Children UK, speaks at a press conference at the National Press Club yesterday

Sohana Shabnam, programme manager of Save the Children. The taskforces for speedy

release of children in some districts are really performing well, she said, adding, "Only two children are detained in Barisal jail because of active role of the taskforce there.

She said a total of 4,000 children were released within a very short time last year. A written statement was read out by Khulna Jagrata Jubo Sangha Executive Director Zakir Hossain at the press conference

Save the Children Programme Director David Humphery, Sachetan General Secretary Hasinul Islam, Bangladesh Retired Police Officers Welfare Association's executive committee member Badrul Ahmed were present on the occasion.

Five killed, 7 injured as trucks collide in Savar

UNB, Savar

Five people were killed and seven others injured as two trucks collided on the Nabinagar-Kaliakoir road in Kabirpur area early vesterday.

The dead were identified as Tajmul,28, Lal Babu, 15, Razzaque, 30, Yakub, 31, and Taju, 25.

Police said the accident occurred when a Naogaon-bound truck from Gabtoli carrying day-labourers rammed another timber-laden truck coming from Jessore at about 2.00am in a deadly accident.

"Hearing the sound of collision local people rushed in for rescue and sent the injured to Savar Gono Swasthva Kendra." witnesses said.

Jubo League leader killed Our Patuakhali correspondent adds: One person was killed in a road accident yesterday at Rajapara area on Patuakhali**Gender equality a must** for social progress

The seminar on 'Emerging Gender Issues, Equality and Sustainable Development' was organised by the East West University in the city.

The society cannot afford keeping 50 percent of its population deprived of their entitlements, said M Mujibul Huq, former cabinet secretary.

"A gender rights commission can

human right. The men folk must realise that the society would not progress until gender equality is established, Huq said

He stressed that the drive for eliminating discrimination against women should start from the grassroots level.

"Discrimination and disparity against women are mainly due to absence of women empowerment.' said Salma Khan, former chairperson of the UN committee on elimination of discrimination against women.

Though women have achieved enviable successes in poverty reduction, fertility rate reduction and foreign exchange earnings, they have still been deprived of their

entitlements and equal participation in decision making, she said.

Citing the UNDP report, Salma Khan said Bangladesh has the highest participation of women in the development activities in the South Asian region.

"Still women suffer from high level of malnutrition, violence and deprivation," she said, adding, "Gender is both human rights and

development issues.' President of the board of directors of East West University Dr Mohammad Farashuddin, educational development activist Rasheda K Chowdhury and civil society members were present at the seminar chaired by Hameeda Hossain of Ain O Salish Kendra.

Police sent the bodies to hospital morgue. Acase was filed.

Speakers say at seminar STAFF CORRESPONDENT Discrimination against women keeps half of the country's total population deprived undermining its development efforts, said the speakers at a seminar yesterday.

be established to eliminate prevailing discrimination against women,' he said adding, "Gender right is a



DU Pro-VC Prof AFM Yusuf

Speakers at a seminar nave said religious ethics is the key to HIV/Aids prevention in Bangladesh.

They expressed deep concern over alarming increase of HIV/Aids in neighbouring countries including India and Myanmar.

The seminar on 'Education is the key to HIV/Aids Prevention' was jointly organised by Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP) and Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) at a city hotel on Friday.

Major General (Retd) Dr ASM Matiur Rahman, chairman of the technical committee of National Aids Committee (NAC) was the chief guest.

Prof Golam Rahman, chairman of the mass communication and level of Director General of BDR and journalism department of Dhaka BSF is expected to focus on barbed-University presented the keynote wire fences by Indian BSF within paper.

150 yards of no-man's land, killing of Presided over by Southeast innocent Bangladeshis, arms and University Vice-chancellor Prof M ammunition smuggling into Shamsher Ali, the seminar was Bangladesh, BSF's non-response also addressed by Dr Hasina, Prof to flag meeting and giving shelter to Kazi Nurul Islam and Prof ANM Abdul Mannan Khan

Headmaster confined to office over his reinstatement STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Hundreds of students, guardians and locals staged a demonstration on the Tanore Bohroil High School premises after confining the head master at his office for three hours in the morning

The agitators demanded the removal of head master Lutfar Rahman, who was reinstated by the pro-BNP governing body of the school. Lutfar was dismissed from the school two years ago following a court ruling over a corruption case filed by the then governing body, said the agitators

Later local BNP leaders brought the situation under control.

The current governing body of the school, headed by BNP leader Habibur Rahman, had reinstated Lutfar as the head master of the school

Barbed-wire fences by India to figure in talks

BDR, BSF meet in city April 13

The seven-day meeting at the

Sources said the meeting is also Bangladesh Rifles and Indian expected to discuss anti-Bangladesh campaigns by Indian Border Security Force will hold a top-level meeting here on April 13 to media and web-sites about the discuss crucial border issues presence of Indian terrorists in against the backdrop of frequent Bangladesh. flare-up of tensions along the com-

No change in temperature likely

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind

is likely at a few places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and at

one or two places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions til

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met

Highest temperature 35.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at

The sun sets in the capital at 6:18pm today and rises at 5:41am

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major

25.8

24.9

25.6

25.3 24.6

24.2

Temperature

in Celsius

Mongla and lowest 22.5 degree Celsius at Feni

Max

34.2

78

32.5

34.5

34.2

34.0

32.5

33.6

Bangladeshi criminals.

The sources said Bangladesh side has been pressing for compliance with the border guidelines envisaged in the Mujib-Indira agreement in dealing with border issues or framing fresh guidelines.

BDR Director-General Major General Mohammad Jahangir Alam Chowdhury and BSF Director General Ranjit Shekhar Mooshahary will lead their respective side at the talks.

Humidity in

percentage

Evening

24.7

62

77

79

69

82

Morning

79

88

88

73

72

66

As per understanding, two DGlevel meetings will be held a year-one in Dhaka and another in New Delhi. This will be the first meeting between the two border forces in Dhaka this year.

As per itinerary, the Indian BSF delegation will arrive in Dhaka on April 12. Formal talks will be held on April 13 in the BDR Headquarters They will visit Kaptai hydroelectric project on April 14-15 and go on river-cruise in the Rangamati Lake, a panoramic tourist resort in the hill district.

They will hold concluding session and sign joint records of the meeting on April 16.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A garbage treatment plant, the first

of its kind in the country, went into

(CCC) has installed the plant to

produce charcoal from rubbish and

other wastes collected from the city

Chowdhury inaugurated the plant

near the waste dumping ground of

CCC at Ananda Bazar in Halishahar

garbage into a source of income and

to facilitate effective waste manage-

ment, the mayor said, adding that

The plant will use about 80

percent of 1,500 tons of garbage

produced in the city daily, he said,

more such plants will be set up.

The plant has been set up to turn

Mayor ABM Mohiuddin

daily

vesterday

The Chittagong City Corporation

operation in the port city yesterday.

Kuakata highway. The victim was identified as Manik, joint convenor of the district Jubo League. Manik died on the spot.

Another Jubo League leader Kabir Hossain Talukder, who was injured seriously, was rushed to the Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital (BSMCH).

Patuakhali bound passenger bus hit their motorcycle

Association (WEA) and the Mini Mart Group have organised a threeday Baishakhi Mela beginning on

adding that some 60 employees

would work in three shifts to produce

around 10 tons of charcoal every-

produce compost fertiliser by recy-

cling the by-products, the mayor

Besides, steps are underway to

Mrinal Chowdhury, a political

personality, Prof Dr Syeda Noor

Jahan Bhuiyan, CCC health advi-

sor, Mosharraf Hossain, director of

Chittagong divisional Department of

Environment, Md Mokhter Alam,

chief engineer. and Md Zakaria, the

local ward commissioner, also

(acting) Md Abul Kashem presided

over the inaugural session.

CCC Chief Executive Officer

The fair will be held at Pink City Plaza, ground floor, Gulshan Avenue, next to Wonderland.

Country's first garbage

dav

said

spoke.

treatment plant starts

operation in Ctg city

The accident occurred when a

Baishakhi Mela begins Apr 11 The Women Entrepreneurs'

April 11, says a press release.

Principal Safi College

April 3, says a press release.

two daughters to mourn his death.

Death anniversary

The 15 th death anniversary of Md Shamsud Doha, a music director of Bangladesh Betar and television, will be observed today, says a press

release On the occasion, Qurankhwani followed by a milad mahfil will be held at 15/5 Tajmahal Road, Mohammadpur in the city after Asr prayers.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the milad and pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Dhanmondi Paribesh Unnayan Jote forms a human chain at Dhanmondi in the city yesterday with a slogan 'We will keep our Dhanmondi clean '.

show based on the fairvtale of 'The

Nightingale' and 'The Ugly Duckling' by

Hans Christian Anderson will be held.

Artist Mustafa Monwar will present the

show. Venue: Experimental Theatre

Hall of Shilpakala Academy, Segun

Obituary

Ahmed, former teacher of Netrakona Government College Magura College and Jamalpur Ashek mahmud

passed away at the Combined Military Hospital (CMH) in Dhaka on

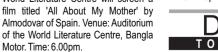
He left behind his seven sons and

Film show World Literature Centre will screen a film titled 'All About My Mother' by

Roundtable

Bagicha. Time: 7.00pm.

Puppet show



Muldhara, a forum of writers, journalists and artists, organises a musical evening. Venue: House-15, Road-7, Dhanmondi. Time: 6.30pm.

A roundtable on electoral reforms, organised jointly by the Prothom Alo. The Daily Star and Sujon, citizen for good governance, will be held. Venue: Cirdap Auditorium, Topkhana Road. Time: 9.30am

organises a seminar on 'Corporate governance: Mobile phone and oil-gas sector'. Venue: WVA Auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.00pm

JICA seminar Japan International Cooperation Agency organises a seminar on 'Challenge for eliminating Filariasis in Bangladesh.' Venue: Sheraton Hotel.



Jatiya Oikya Mancha organises a public meeting with eminent lawyer Dr Kamal Hossain in the chair. Venue: Paltan Maidan, Time: 3.00pm

Meeting

A meeting of the executive committee of Democratic Lawyers' Association of Bangladesh will be held. Venue: Supreme Court Bar Association Hall, Time: 4.15pm.

DHÂKA tomorrow

Seminar Campaign for Good Governance



Musical evening



