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Did U Know?

At the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, the "Players must play predominantly in white" rule was introduced in 1963 and the "Almost entirely in white" rule was introduced in 1995.



Mark Butcher
(Former England cricketer)
"That whiteness is truly horrible and the things they are wearing instead of proper jumpers are just awful."
Who is not so keen on the new England kit.



STAR Sports
French Open Tennis
Third Round
Live from 3:00pm
TEN Sports
West Indies v Australia
Second Test, Day One
Live from 8:00pm
SET MAX
Indian Premier League
Delhi Daredevils v Rajasthan Royals
First Semifinal in Mumbai
Live from 8:30 pm
ESPN
Sportscenter India
Sports News
Live at 8:30pm

Wasim wanted as bowling coach

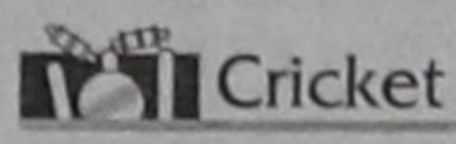
PTI, Karachi
The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) wants former Test captain and legendary pacer Wasim Akram to take over as the national bowling coach.
PCB chairman Nasim Ashraf said Akram was offered the job last year but he refused citing his commitments as a commentator.
"He said due to his commitments he wouldn't be able to take up the bowling coach position on long term basis," Ashraf said.
"But he still took out time to hold a coaching camp for young bowlers last year where he spotted Sohail Tanvir and recommended him to us," he added.
Akram, who is currently holding a specialised camp for young fast bowlers in Lahore, has said that if the board made him a proper offer he would give it a serious thought as he wanted to give back something to Pakistan cricket.
Akram also denied reports that he would give it a serious thought as he wanted to give back something to Pakistan cricket.
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B-Licence for ten coaches

SPORTS REPORTER
Ten local coaches have received the AFC B-Licence coaching certificate after successfully passing the course organised by the Bangladesh Football Federation under the auspices of the Asian Football Confederation.
The course was conducted by AFC instructor Ardeshtir Pour Nemat Nohedi in Dhaka from October 25 to November 14 last year.
In all 24 coaches took part in the course with five failing. Five others, who have been referred, will have to give tests again.
SEE PAGE 18 COL 5

Aussies unsettled

Second Test from today

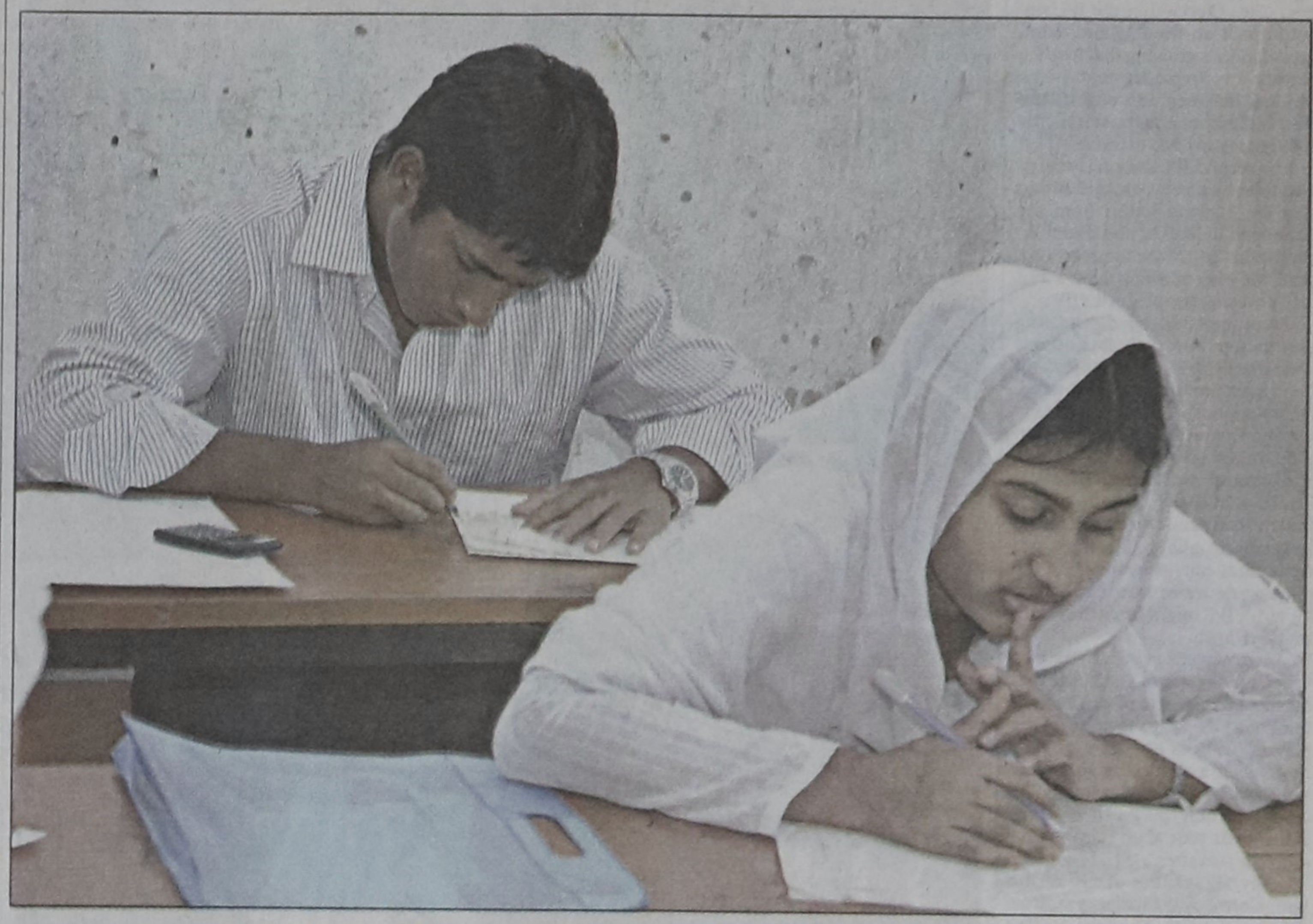


AFP, St. John's

Australia are looking to wrap-up another series victory in the Caribbean, but they will be making a bittersweet entry into the second Test against West Indies, starting on Friday at the Vivian Richards Cricket Ground.
It will be bitter, following the decision to allow left-handed opener Matthew Hayden to return home, after his damaged right Achilles tendon failed to respond to treatment.
Hayden will pursue further treatment options after he visits specialists on his return home, but this immediately casts a burden of responsibility on the left-handed pair of Phil Jaques and Simon Katich at the top of the batting order.
Australia would be anxious for them to come to the grips with the job, considering the perceived potency of the West Indies new-ball attack which could comprise two of either Jerome Taylor, Fidel Edwards, or Daren Powell.
Katich, Hayden's replacement, scored 12 and one, and Jaques made 9 and four, as the two shared

partnerships of 18 and five.
"In both innings (in Jamaica), we lost wickets early and to be four down for 18 in the second innings was a worry," Australia captain Ricky Pontingsaid.
"But there was some good bowling in there. It was a situation where it was an unsettling sort of time to have to bat, only an hour left in the (fourth) day's play, just trying to get through the session rather than playing your natural game."
"But I think that showed that the West Indies bowling attack is going to be dangerous, especially with the new ball. If we can get through this, we should be okay."
For a couple of reasons, the second Test will be sweet for Australia.
First, they lead the three-Test series 1-0, after they completed a 95-run victory in the opening Test last Monday at Sabina Park in Kingston, and know that a victory would see them wrap up the series.
The other reason for Australia to rejoice is that though Hayden may be leaving, Michael Clarke has arrived following his delayed departure, after he was given compassionate leave to grieve with his fiancée following the death of her father.
He will slot into his usual role in the middle-order and the visitors expect him to fortify their batting.
"Michael Clarke will be fine for the Test, and if we do have him, we should be pretty hard to beat," Pontingsaid.
West Indies too, have been boosted for the Test with the return of regular captain Chris Gayle and key fast bowler Taylor.
Gayle returns to the side after being sidelined with a groin injury for the first Test which Taylor also missed with a sore back contrary to earlier reports of a stiff shoulder.
Ramnaresh Sarwan, the West Indies captain for the first Test, felt the home team played well throughout the Test match.
"The bowlers bowled well especially in the second innings, and they gave the batters an opportunity to actually get a total that we could have batted and win the game, but unfortunately it didn't happen that way," he said.
"It's really good for us, and I hope we can keep it up and get better in second Test," he added.
West Indies came close to an upset victory, but then gave up the ghost on the final day when chasing 287 for victory, they were all out for 191.

SEE PAGE 18 COL 2



TOUGHER THAN TESTS! Bangladesh captain Mohammad Ashraful concentrates hard on the first day of the HSC equivalent examinations under the Technical Education Board at the Lalmatia Housing School and College yesterday.

Sachin to miss tri-series & Asia Cup

CRICINFO, undated

Sachin Tendulkar will miss the upcoming tri-series in Bangladesh and the Asia Cup that follows because he hasn't recovered fully from his groin injury.
The injury had forced Tendulkar to miss the second and third Tests against South Africa in April as well as the first half of the Mumbai Indians' campaign in the Indian Premier League.
"Tendulkar is not available for the tri-series as well as the Asia Cup on the advice of Mumbai Indians physiotherapist Nitin Patel," Niran Shah, the BCCI secretary, said. He has not recovered sufficiently from the groin injury.
India will travel to Bangladesh to compete in a tri-series also involving Pakistan between June 8 and 14. The Asia Cup is scheduled to be held in Pakistan between June 24 and July 6.

Bangladesh's 2nd warm-up today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangkok
Coach Abu Yusuf was naturally frustrated following the washout of their first match in the Thai capital just after 15 minutes on Wednesday.
The high-profile local side, losing finalists of the inaugural Asian Champions League in 2003, finished third in the Thai Premier League last season under French coach Christophe Larrouilh.
The two-time Thai Premiership winners also have eight Thailand internationals and it would be a tough test for Bangladesh, who began preparation in late March and so far have played two internationals -- against Afghanistan and

Kyrgyzstan in the AFC Challenge Cup qualifiers -- and two warm-up games against home-based sides.
Yet to win a single international match since their Asian Cup qualifiers victory against Pakistan in December 2005, Bangladesh will take on lowly Bhutan in their SAFF opener in Colombo on June 4.
Bangladesh, who fly to the Sri Lankan capital tonight, face Afghanistan on June 6 and co-hosts Sri Lanka two days later in their final group match.
The SAFF Championship kicks off in Maldives capital Male on June 3 with India playing Nepal in the opener followed by the match between the hosts and Pakistan.



Australian captain Ricky Ponting (C), Andrew Symonds (R) and Michael Clarke go on their knees while taking slip catches at the Antigua Recreational Ground on Wednesday.

A winning formula

INTERNET, undated

Despite its obvious English elements -- player Dmitri Mascarenhas, and chairman Manoj Badale's bona fide British accent -- few people know that the success story of the Rajasthan Royals was scripted in the pristine Queen's tongue, with strategies chalked out in idyllic County grounds where T20 has been a rage for the last five years.
The world is gushing over the Rajasthan Royals now, but its owners Emerging Media say they always knew their league-leading team would emerge as the IPL's finest. "It was a sound strategy from the beginning right from the choice of captain to the selection of the squad. We knew we understood the T20 format since we were being

based out of England where it is quite popular," says the team's CEO Fraser Castellino. "The biggest high point has been how our strategy has yielded exact results," adds Ravi Krishnan, vice-chairman of the team.
Since 2005, Emerging Media holds the managing rights of Leicestershire Cricket Club semi-finalists in the 2003 T20 Cup in England, and winners in 2004. They brought with them key members from Leicestershire who now form the support squad such as psychologist Jeremy Snape, who as a player had hit the winning boundary for the Leicestershire Foxes in the 2004 final against Surrey.
Rajasthan's choice of players at the auctions also had its roots in what they believed would be a successful formula in the IPL. "We knew from the outset that we needed all-rounders. It was never about gathering superstars, only picking the right man for the right job," Castellino says.
Jaipur was sniggered at, but as the lowliest of all the franchises, they managed to not draw too much attention to their assembling squad, staying mum over the rumoured penalty they would invite for not spending enough. "What can I say, let others splurge as much as they want and get the same result," Castellino shrugs. The Royals made investments of \$ 3.5 million, as against the nearly \$ 5m being made by other franchises.
Shane Warne was brought on board as captain-coach for both his international standing and for the rejuvenation he had brought about at Hampshire, which was earlier a losing unit. "Leadership was going to be a defining factor in the IPL. We needed a true leader who was acknowledged and respected by both the youngsters and our seniors," Castellino adds. "Warne was excited about coming

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Blatter assures help to BFF

SPORTS REPORTER

FIFA president Sepp Blatter has promised to give his organisation's full support and help to the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF).
The FIFA boss conveyed this message to BFF president Kazi Salahuddin during a meeting on Tuesday in Sydney.
AFC president Mohamed Bin Hammam who had given his word to Salahuddin during their meeting
SEE PAGE 18 COL 3

Mohammedan edge Ajax



SPORTS REPORTER

No-hopers Mohammedan Sporting Club recorded a hard-fought 2-1 victory against Ajax Sporting Club in their opening Super 5 match of the Green Delta Premier Hockey League yesterday.
Jahid Bin Talib put Mohammedan ahead after three minutes at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey National Stadium and the black and whites held on to the slim lead at the break.
Mohammedan began brightly after resumption but wasted two penalty corners inside as many minutes to give Ajax the chance to come back.
Ajax, who lost 5-0 to leaders Usha Krira Chakra in their first

match of the Super League, pressed hard after and won three penalty corners in four minutes.
After the first one went off the mark, Nurunnabi Rupam scored from the second setpiece to equalise for Ajax but Issa Mia gave Mohammedan full points when the national defender converted a 54-minute penalty corner.
It was Ajax's second defeat in the Super League which placed them bottom of the table with 13 points after ten rounds.
Mohammedan, at third place after same number of games, reached 23 points and virtually have no chance in the title race. They are still seven points behind Usha, who face Sonali Bank in today's lone match.
Abahani are at second place with 25 points and not only have to win their remaining three matches but also wait for the Usha to drop points in any of their games against Sonali Bank or Mohammedan.

| Teams | M | W | D | L | GF | GA | Total |
|-------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|-------|
| Usha | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 30 |
| Abahani | 10 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 25 |
| Mohammedan | 10 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 23 |
| Sonali Bank | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 19 |
| Ajax | 11 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 13 |



Mohammedan's Pakistani recruit Sabbir hurdles past Ajax goalkeeper Imran during their Green Delta Insurance Premier Hockey Super League match at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

LOCAL SNIPPETS

SPORTS REPORTER

The Dhaka-Narayanganj final of the 28th National Cricket Championship will be held today after it was abandoned due to rain at the Sylhet Stadium yesterday.
Dhaka reached the final of the prestigious national meet beating Barisal by 18 runs in the first semifinal on Monday while Narayanganj booked a seat for the final eliminating Rangpur by five runs in the second semifinal of the rain-interrupted final leg on Wednesday.
PIONEER LEAGUE
Papal struck five times as Jatrabari Jhatika Sangsad annihilated Abdul Hadi Lane Jubo Sangha 9-0 in an East Zone match of the Dhaka City Corporation Pioneer Football League at the Jagannath University ground in Dhupkhola.
Apart from Papal's fantastic efforts, Mamun struck twice while Swapan and Sunny netted one goal each.
At the Mohakhali T&T ground, Hasan and Shafiq scored superb

hattricks as Maghbazar crushed Modhubagh Friends Club 8-0 in a North Zone match.
Sumon struck twice apart from the two hattricks to round off the scoring.
Great Wall blanked KR Boys 4-0 at the Outer Stadium ground in a West Zone match.
At the Basabo Tarun Sangha Club ground, Noakhali Football Academy beat Arunodoy Jubo Sangha 3-0 in the Central Zone.
At the Mohammadpur Eidgah, Mohammadpur Kishore Sangha defeated Madrasah 2-0 in a South Zone match.
DIVISIONAL KARATE
The Third Samsung Divisional Karate Competition begin today in Moulvibazar with competitors from Sylhet.
The 14-category two-day meet has been organised by Bangladesh Karate Federation and sponsored by Telecom BD Limited.
The competition for other divisions will be held on June 20-21 (Barisal), June 27-28 (Khulna), July 4-5 (Rajshahi), July 14-15 (Chittagong)

and July 25-26 at (Dhaka).
Later, some 84 champions from six divisions will take part in the final round to be held in Dhaka.
BEACH VOLLEYBALL
Bangladesh Navy finished third in the International Beach Volleyball tournament (men's) beating Bangladesh Rifles 21-16, 21-6 at Laboni Point in Cox's Bazar.
In the women's group, Nepal Police became third after they beat Abahani 21-19, 18-21, 15-12 in a tightly-contested match in the afternoon.
Final matches of both men's and women's groups will be held on Friday afternoon at the same venue with India in the finals of both groups.
India meet Indonesia in the men's final at 4pm and play Nepal Police in the women's final at 5pm.
Chairman of the Ifad group and vice-president of Bangladesh Volleyball Federation Iftakhar Ahmed will be the chief guest in the final and distribute the prizes.