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CHEMISTRY
Nobel for new protein find

AP, Stockholm
Two Americans and one Japanese won the Nobel Prize in chemistry yesterday for the discovery and development of a brightly glowing protein first seen in jellyfish, work that has helped scientists study how cancer cells spread.
Japan's Osamu Shimomura and Americans Martin Chalfie and Roger Tsien shared the prize for their research on green fluorescent protein, or GFP, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said.
The protein is a widely used laboratory tool to illuminate processes in living organisms, such as development of brain cells or the spread of cancer cells.
Shimomura first isolated GFP from a jellyfish found off the west coast of North America in 1962 and discovered that it glowed bright green under ultraviolet light.
In the 1990s, Chalfie showed GFP's value "as a luminous genetic tag," while Tsien contributed "to our general understanding of how GFP fluoresces," the academy said in its citation.
It said that their work has enabled "scientists to follow several different biological processes at the same time."
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Top 'corrupt' govt staff to get notice

Vows Tac chairman; hopes politicians, businessmen to respond

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Truth and Accountability Commission (Tac) will begin issuing notices on high government officials in a week, directing them to answer their alleged complicity in corruption, its Chairman Justice Habibur Rahman Khan yesterday said.
The commission took the decision on the basis of information collected from low-tier public officials who have voluntarily confessed before it to having ill-gotten wealth, he said.
He said the Tac has not got any applications for clemency from high-profile politicians and businessmen, but hoped that things will change soon as the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) is about to go back to full-bore graft-busting drive again.
Justice Habib was talking to

reporters at a regular press briefing on the commission.
On why top politicians are not hitting the commission, he said, "A change has come in the political landscape after many accused politicians came out of jail on bail. None of them want to be disqualified for the general election by making confessions."
He named a list of government departments well-known for rampant corruption from where no officials applied to the commission to make self-confession.
"There is no reason for any accused to live tension-free. They must pay back if involved in any misdeed," he said.
He said corruption needs to be rooted out or kept to a tolerable level for the sake of restoration of democracy.
"The accused politicians and businessmen won't roam like free

birds. They will either come to us or be brought to book during the imminent anti-corruption drive," he said.
Former BNP state minister Maj (ret) Kamrul Islam applied to make confession on September 18. But the ACC has not yet forwarded his case to the Tac.
"We don't want to deal with the minions for now. We'd like to focus on the big ones," Tac member Maj Gen (ret) Manzur Rashid Chowdhury said.
"At present, much of our work concerns corruption by government officials," he said. "We've motivated the low-rank government officials to speak out and are getting stunning stories on graft involving high officials."
The Tac came down hard on tainted high public officials as none of them are showing up at the
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Hosaf goes to court to skip penalty

SHARIEF KHAN
To avoid punishment for its failure to complete a power project in due time, Hosaf group's shell company Energy Prima resorted to court seeking injunction on the government move to penalise it.
The District Judge's Court, Dhaka, in a show cause notice on September 29 -- prior to the Eid holidays -- asked Power Development Board (PDB) and National Credit and Commerce Bank Ltd (NCCBL) to respond by November 9.
The notice asks them to explain why an injunction should not be issued to restrain the PDB from terminating Energy Prima's Bogra 20 megawatt rental power contract, and allow the company to proceed
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Proshika chief Faruk floats political party

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Proshika Chairman Kazi Faruk Ahmed yesterday floated a new political party named United Citizen Movement (UCM) by holding its first national council at the Institution of Engineers in the city.
A 121-member central executive committee with Kazi Faruk as the president and Abdus Samad Pintu as the general secretary was formed through an election at the council.
Kazi Faruk in his speech said the members of the UCM will fight against ill-governance and poverty to bring about qualitative changes.
"We will launch a movement to establish the ideals of the Liberation War and materialise the dreams of Bangabandhu Sheikh
SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

7 engineers of CDA sued for graft

CU CORRESPONDENT
The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday filed 15 separate cases against 24 persons including seven engineers of the Chittagong Development Authority (CDA) on charge of grafts and irregularities in the construction of a road.
The ACC's Chittagong Deputy Assistant Director Shams Uddin Ahmed filed the cases with concerned Kotwali Police Station after primary investigations.
CDA began the construction of the six-kilometre long Oxygen-Kuwaish connection road in November 2001.
During the investigation, ACC found irregularities in the money withdrawn by the construction
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A man gathers discarded syringes outside Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) Hospital yesterday. These syringes are reused mostly by drug addicts, posing health risk.

Sit with parties to talk emergency

Akbar Ali asks govt
SHAMIM ASHRAF
Former adviser to caretaker government Akbar Ali Khan has proposed a meeting between the government and political parties to discuss ways to relax the state of emergency during parliamentary polls.
"Since some provisions of the emergency rules need to be relaxed for holding the polls, and the government wants to continue with the emergency for the sake of violence-free polls, it can sit with the (political) parties to decide which provisions need to be relaxed and how," the former cabinet secretary said in an interview with The Daily Star on Monday.
Strongly opposing 'too many conditions' for political parties' registration, Akbar Ali said it would make the move difficult to implement.
He proposed a 'behind the scene negotiation' before the much-talked-about meeting between BNP Chairperson Khaleeda Zia and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina.
Akbar Ali, also chairman of Regulatory Reforms Commission, touched upon different issues including performance of the caretaker government, role of the
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First ODI against Kiwis today

SPORTS REPORTER
Bangladesh take on New Zealand in the first one-day international of the three-match series at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur today.
The match will be telecast live on Bangladesh Television and Channel 5 from 9:00am.
"Bangladesh will have to make several changes to their starting line-up from the team that played against Australia in Darwin last month after several national players left to play in the rebel Indian Cricket League (ICL)."
Further loss comes in the form of batsman Rokibul Hasan, who still hasn't recovered for a finger injury he sustained in the first ODI against Australia.
Middle-order batsman Nayeem Islam will make his debut while paceman Mahbubul Alam might be made the 12th man if Shahadat Hossain passes a fitness test this morning. Shahadat hurt his left hand at practice and was a cause of concern for the team management.
New Zealand will have hard-hitting opener Jesse Ryder back in their line-up while it is likely that captain Daniel Vettori might take an extra spinner in the form of Jeetan Patel, the offie, in the playing eleven.
Records are definitely with the
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Bijoya Dashami today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Hindu devotees will take the Durga idols to the riverbanks today for immersion on occasion of Bijoya Dashami, marking the end of the five-day-long Durga puja festival.
After worshipping the Mahadashami puja at the different puja mandaps, devotees will bring out Bijoya Dashami processions carrying idols of the deity Durga and her children -- Lakshmi, Saraswati, Kartik and Ganesha and carry them to the riverbanks in the evening.
In a message, President Iajuddin Ahmed greeted the Hindu community yesterday saying that Durga Puja is a part of Bengali culture and Bangladesh is a bright example of communal harmony.
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LTTE claims killing of 52 soldiers

Tigers beating back Lankan advance; India slams offensive

AFP, Colombo/ New Delhi
Sri Lanka's Tamil Tigers yesterday said they were beating back an army advance into their northern territory and had killed 52 soldiers, though the claims were disputed by the government.
The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) also said 50 soldiers were wounded in Tuesday's heavy fighting across several fronts in the Kilinochchi district, the pro-rebel Tamilnet website reported.
It did not give rebel losses but said the guerrillas had seized arms and ammunition from the military.
The defence ministry, however, said troops killed 31 rebels while losing only two soldiers in fighting around Kilinochchi on Tuesday.
The ministry said eight other rebels were killed in clashes across other northern fronts.
Casualty figures from either side cannot be verified as the defence ministry blocks independent journalists from travelling to the frontlines.
Some 7,258 rebels have been killed by troops since Sri Lanka pulled out of a Norwegian-brokered truce in January, while

707 soldiers have died in the same period.
The LTTE have been fighting for a separate Tamil state since 1972.
Meanwhile, India criticised Sri Lanka in a rare intervention into the island's internal affairs, saying civilian deaths during a military offensive against Tamil rebels were a cause of grave concern.
India's National Security Advisor MK Narayanan summoned Sri Lanka's representative in New Delhi on Monday to convey strong reservations about the intensifying military onslaught against Tamil separatists, officials said.
The 80 million population of India's southern Tamil Nadu state share cultural and emotional links with minority Tamils in Sri Lanka.
Narayanan said that "the escalation of hostilities in the north and the resultant fall out was leading to a great deal of concern in India," an Indian foreign ministry statement said.
Sri Lanka must "act with greater restraint and address the growing feeling of insecurity among the minority community," it said.
India directly intervened in the

Sri Lankan conflict in 1987 by sending troops to supervise a bilateral peace pact, but the soldiers ended up fighting Tamil Tigers.
New Delhi withdrew its troops three years later after losing 1,200 soldiers. Since then, India has maintained a hands-off policy towards Sri Lanka.
According to Colombo, Sri Lankan troops are advancing on the Tigers' political capital of Kilinochchi in the north as part of an offensive launched a year ago.
The fall of Kilinochchi would be the biggest loss in 13 years for the Tigers.
Tamil Tiger rebels have fought since 1983 to create an independent homeland for ethnic minority Tamils who have faced discrimination at the hands of successive governments controlled by majority ethnic Sinhalese.
The guerrillas are blamed for more than 240 suicide attacks.
On Tuesday, former Tamil Tiger leader Vinayagamoorthi Muralitharan, also known by his nom de guerre "Karuna," was sworn in as a legislator in Sri Lanka's parliament.

Malaysian PM to step down in March

AP, Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia's prime minister announced Wednesday he will step down in March and hand over power to his deputy, averting an open rebellion from party members that could have led to a humiliating ouster.
Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, whose term expires in 2013, told reporters that he was stepping down early to prevent a split in his United Malays National Organisation party, which forms the core of the ruling National Front coalition.
"In all my years of service, I have always been guided by my conscience ... and I do not want a divided party and governing coalition, but one that is united and harmonious," he said, flanked by his successor, Deputy Prime Minister Najib Razak.
Abdullah had very little choice. His own party members have been clamouring for a new leadership after he led the National Front in
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Traders encroach upon the river Shitalakkhya for carrying out sand trade. The photo was taken at Kanchpur in Narayanganj yesterday.

PROMOTIONS IN ARMY
Three made major generals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Three brigadier generals including a DGF director have been promoted to the rank of major general and given new postings, according to highly placed sources.
They are ATM Amin, director of counter terrorism at the Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI), Abu Belal Md Shariful Huq of Army Headquarters and Md Abul Kalam of Mymensingh cantonment.
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Maldives goes to maiden multi-party polls

Opposition complains of vote rigging
AFP, Male
The Maldives voted yesterday in its first multi-party presidential elections that could see Asia's longest-serving president ousted by a former political prisoner.
The polls on the Indian Ocean archipelago pitted Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, 71, the islands' president for the past 30 years, against five bitter rivals.
But the election -- a test for the Muslim nation's often tense transition to democracy -- was hit by
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McCain, Obama trade barbs in debate

AP, Nashville
John McCain dismissively called rival Barack Obama "that one," Obama mocked McCain's "Straight Talk Express," and both left the debate stage to return to the campaign trail Wednesday.
It took just eight minutes into Tuesday's presidential debate for Republican candidate McCain to land the first blow, blaming Obama and Democrats for the collapse of mortgage giants Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae.
"They're the ones that, with the encouragement of Senator Obama and his cronies and his friends in Washington, that went out and made all these risky loans, gave them to people that could never afford to pay back," McCain said.
Obama responded: "I've got to correct a little bit of Senator McCain's history, not surprisingly. ... In fact, Senator McCain's campaign chairman's firm was a lobbyist on behalf of Fannie Mae, not me."
McCain campaign manager Rick Davis has a stake in a Washington lobbying firm that received thousands of dollars a month from Freddie Mac until recently.
Davis is one of the many figures in both campaigns and near them who have been targeted as reasons why each should not be supported. As they head back on the road Wednesday, both campaigns say those associations would again be highlighted.
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Prayer Timing

October 9		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-45	5-20
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-15	4-30
Maghrib	5-53	5-56
Esha	7-30	8-00

Source: Islamic Foundation

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