



Action from yesterday's 2nd Orient Bread Tokal (street urchins) Kabaddi match between Mirpur and Gulistan at the Kabaddi Stadium.

Chess Olympiad Bangladesh return to winning ways

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh men's and women's teams returned to winning ways at the 38th Chess Olympiad on Monday, defeating Albania and Iceland in their respective fifth round ties at Dresden, Germany.

After both suffered fourth round defeats, the Bangladesh men defeated Albania 3.5-0.5 in the Open section. The men's team now have six match points and 12.5 game points in the open section.

Grandmaster Ziaur Rahman beat FIDE Master Boshku Harallamb, GM Abdullah Al Rakib beat International Master Mehmeti Dritan, FM Abu Sufian Shakil beat FM Rama Lorenc and FM Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar drew with Paci Aleksander.

The women's team recorded a 2.5-1.5 win with Syeda Shabana Parveen Nipa beating Iceland's Thorsteinsdottir Hallgerdur and Tanima Parveen beating Kristinardottir Elsa Maria. Shamima Akhter Liza drew with WFM Thorsteinsdottir Gudlaug while IWM Rani Hamid lost to WGM Ptacnikova Lenka.

The women's team have six match points and 10.5 game points.

After yesterday's rest day, the men's team will play Venezuela and the women against Lithuania today.

Big win for East End

SPORTS REPORTER

East End Club and Prantik Kriha Chakra recorded comfortable wins in yesterday's Second Division Football League at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

Bakar, Jahurul, Gafur, Habib and Ismail joined the goal feast in East End's 5-2 defeat of Police AC, who reduced the margin though Amirul and Al Amin.

Al Amin scored brace in the day's other match, helping Prantik blank Matuail Udayan Sangsad 2-0.

The Steyn

FROM PAGE 17

said that they have a plan against Steyn.

"We have a plan against him. We are hopeful about successfully negotiating him. But we have to be careful against the other bowlers also," said the all-rounder.

Sports family

FROM PAGE 17

vice-president of Bangladesh Swimming Federation, will be best remembered for his effort to support the freedom fighters and create public opinion for Bangladesh's Liberation War in 1971, when he swam non-stop for a then record 90 hours and five minutes in Kolkata.

Ball in

FROM PAGE 17

"My condition is good now and I hardly feel any problem in movement but I can't say what would happen when I started my bowling. It's a very difficult situation for me. What I can assure is that I can manage a little bit of pain," he added.

Whatever the fact was now everything depends on Mashrafe whether he will play his first Test in South African soil today.

Aussies weak: McCullum

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

New Zealand remain full of hope as they attempt to break a 23-year drought without a Test win in Australia and erase some poor recent results. The tourists barely managed to beat Bangladesh in the first Test last month and lost a warm-up game against New South Wales on Sunday, which was not ideal preparation for Thursday's opening match at the Gabba.

The wicketkeeper Brendon McCullum, who is battling a foot injury sustained in Sydney, hopes to be fit and is in no doubt about the difference between the top-ranked Australia and New Zealand, who are seventh, one point above West Indies. "There's such a big gulf in terms of what Australia's achieved and what we've achieved in the last little while in Test cricket," McCullum said. "From that perspective there's probably no reason why people would think it would be an even contest."

Sections of the local media have already called the tourists the weakest New Zealand team to tour Australia for decades, but McCullum has not downgraded his aims and wants their first Test win since 1985-86. "We're incredibly high on self-belief and drive within our unit, and trying to achieve something that hasn't been achieved over here for 20-odd years," he said. "There's huge motivation for us to try and come up with a pretty special victory."

Giants date on November

FROM PAGE 17

Russel on December 1 and 6 respectively.

TOP SCORERS
4 goals: Alfaz (Russel)
4 goals: Idris (RMFS), Emily (Abahani), Bukola, Robin (Mohammedan)

3 goals: Youness (Russel), Mehdi (Khulna Abahani), Emeke (Abahani), Raphael (Ctg MSC)

2 goals: Enamul (Farashganj), Oniya, Manju, Tapu (Brothers), Nasir (Mohammedan),

Towhidul (Ctg MSC), Mithun, Sakawat Rony (Ctg Abahani), Kanchan (Muktijoddha), Ibrahim (Abahani)

PENDING FIXTURE
Nov 24: Abahani v Mohammedan
Nov 25: Brothers v Russel
Nov 27: Mohammedan v Rahmatganj
Nov 28: Muktijoddha v Abahani
Nov 30: Farashganj v Mohammedan
Dec 1: Abahani v Brothers

POINTS TABLE

Teams	M	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Abahani	6	5	0	1	12	2	15
Russel	7	4	2	1	14	5	14
Ctg MSC	8	3	4	1	7	5	13
Mohammedan	5	3	2	0	14	3	11
Rahmatganj	7	3	1	3	7	7	10
Brothers	6	2	4	0	9	6	10
Ctg Abahani	9	2	4	3	4	7	10
Farashganj	7	2	3	2	6	6	9
Arambagh	8	1	3	4	4	10	6
Muktijoddha	7	1	1	5	4	17	4
Khulna Abahani	8	1	0	7	6	19	3

Barisal stay in hunt

FROM PAGE 17

to 286-9 at day's end.

Rabiul Islam was the pick of the Khulna bowlers, taking three for 55.

CHITTAGONG v DHAKA

The hosts added just 35 to their overnight 279-8 before being bowled out in the 18th over of the day. The rest of the day, petered out as Dhaka scored 157-3 in the rest of the 70 overs.

Anwar Hossain scored a painstaking 65 off 198 balls with eleven boundaries while Marshall Ayub remained not out on 58 off 138 deliveries. The right-hander struck seven boundaries.

Dhaka's go-slow tactics -- a run rate of 2.25 per over -- would definitely put the onus on Chittagong as the hosts must bring Dhaka out of the shell if they are to force a result.

BRIEF SCORES

BARISAL: First innings 166 and second innings

177-3 in 49 overs (Rony 41, Faruque 19, Hannan 64*, Imran 18, Nasir 24*, Shuvo 2-60, Shafiq 1-16).

RAJSHAH: First innings 204 all out in 66.5 overs (Mahbub 20, Jahurul 0, Farhad 42, Anisur 38, Shabbir 5, Mashud 41, Mushfiqur 33, Shahzad 0, Alamgir 2, Shafiq 0*, Talha 5-41, Tariqul 3-35, Kamrul 1-59, Dutta 1-45).

CHITTAGONG: First innings 314 all out in 107.2 overs (Salahuddin 0, Nafis 14, Masum 32, Tariq 83, Faisal 102, Nadim 10, Rezaul 3, Kamrul 6, Tariq 24, Youness 25, Raihan 0*, Ashraf 2-43, Imon 2-63, Arafat 3-63, Elias 1-63, Riyad 1-46).

DHAKA: First innings 157-3 in 70 overs (Javed 13, Anwar 65, Shamsur 15, Marshall 58*, Riyad 1*, Tariq 2-33, Kamrul 1-24).

SYLHET: First innings 286-9 in 91 overs (Rahman 5, Imtiaz 8, Saikat 88, Mithun 106, Rajin 41, Kamrul 1, Rezaul 17, Taposh 0, Nabil 0, Rashedur 2, Monir 6*, Zia 1-46, Dollar 1-47, Rabiul 3-55, Atiqur 2-74, Raihan 2-41).

Khulna zonal champions

SPORTS REPORTER

Khulna took the zonal honours after a six-wicket victory over Jessore in the 29th National Cricket Championship at the Jessore Stadium yesterday.

Bishwanath and Rabi took three wickets each as Jessore were bowled out for 101 runs in 42.5 overs. In reply, Khulna breezed to 102-4 in 29.1 overs.

Skipper Riaz struck an unbeaten 39 after Adnan smashed a run-a-ball 27.

In a group semifinal, Chandpur beat Chittagong by 39 runs at the Noakhali Stadium. Batting first, Chandpur crawled to 146-9 in their stipulated 50 overs with middle-order bat Babu scoring 40 off 92 balls. Chittagong were never in the hunt, and finally perished for 107 in 44.5 overs with Alam taking three for 24.

Away at the Pirojpur Stadium, Bhola (201) beat Patuakhali (172) by 29 runs.

BCB declares U-17 team for Nepal

SPORTS REPORTER

Khulna's Jayanto Das will lead the Bangladesh Under-17 cricket team for a tour of Nepal that begins on November 21.

The 14-member squad will play three 'one-day' matches and a two-day game against the hosts during their 10-day stay.

The limited-over matches will be held on November 23, 24 and 26 while the two-day game will be played on November 28-29, most likely at the Tribhuvan University International Cricket Ground in Kirtipur.

The side will return on November 30.

TEAM

Jayanto Das (captain), Mehedi Hasan (vice-captain), Ashiqul Islam, Nurul Hasan, Sayem Al Rizvi, Mamun Hossain, Sabbir Hossain, Mohammad Sentu, Asif Hasan, Sumit Chowdhury, Shanaj Ahmed, Abu Jayed Chowdhury, Didar Hossain, Ikhtedar Nazee Ahmed.

Yuvraj gets top backing

CRICINFO, undated

Kris Srikanth, the chairman of India's national selectors, has backed Yuvraj Singh to take the Test middle-order spot vacated by Sourav Ganguly, the former captain who has retired.

Yuvraj made two consecutive match-winning hundreds (138* and 118) against England in the first two ODIs of the seven-match series over the last five days, and also picked up a four-wicket haul in Indore on Monday. Srikanth told the Kolkata-based Telegraph that he now sees Yuvraj as the front-runner to take Ganguly's slot.

"I see Yuvraj as a potential match-winner in Tests too. Over the years, he has already shown he's a match-winner in ODIs," Srikanth said. "There are others in the running as well (for Ganguly's slot), but Yuvraj is definitely a front-runner."

In reply to a question, Badal said that the management was not unhappy with coach Shafiqul Islam Manik's performance, although his side have scored only two goals in two tournaments, both against Vietnam Under-23s in a 2-2 draw in the Merdeka Cup.

"We have to consider that he did not get enough time to prepare the teams for both events. We will recommend to the executive committee to extend his contract," said the NTMC chairman hinting at extension of Manik's tenure as national coach.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Telly
watcher's choice
4 Seethe
8 Soother
12 Meadow
13 Therefore
14 Sills solo
15 Rowboat
16 UV protection
18 Measure
for Noah
20 "Chicago"
lyricist
21 Mrs. Nick
Charles
24 Squabble
28 Michael
Jackson
move
32 Raise
up
33 S-dis-
penser
34 Footwear
36 Model
Carol
37 Impale
39 Screened-
in veranda
41 Esteem
43 Slay
44 Stitch

DOWN
1 United
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2 Sweet-
heart
3 Low-
diet
4 Gives
5 Tulsa sch.
6 Car
starter
7 Come in
last
8 Sweeney
Todd, e.g.
9 Exist
10 Whopper
11 Fellow
17 Courier's
employer
19 B&B
22 Cheery
sounds?
23 For all to
hear
25 Rip
26 Supersoft
mineral
27 Upright
(Pref.)
28 TV show
set in
Korea
29 "Simp-
sons" bus
driver
30 Mideast
gulf
31 Gambling
game
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Solution time: 21 mins.

RSVP KNEE DIB
OKIE EELY ADO
BINGOGAME NEW
SABER LEMMA
PLUG SPATULA
EON JEANS ODE
DEGAULLE ARIA
ANNA ANIENT
FALSE IAGO
TTO BONGODRUM
VOW URGE EURO
EMS DEES SENT

'Dhoni is lucky'

Cricket

PTI, Karachi

The success of Mahendra Singh Dhoni as Indian cricket captain is a combination of some skill and loads of good fortune, feels senior Pakistan batsman Younis Khan, who says it would be interesting to see how he fares once his luck runs out.

Younis, who returned with the Pakistan team from Abu Dhabi last night, said Dhoni has been very lucky as captain so far.

"But I would like to see how he fares and handles the pressure when the luck runs out. That will be his real test," he said.

He stated that Dhoni had been very lucky so far in that everything he has done has turned out right.

"But in cricket one also has to be prepared to face hard situations when luck does not seem to smile on a player at all," he added.

Younis, who is Pakistan's top batsman in 21 one-day internationals this year scoring 865 runs at 54.06, also urged the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) to give Shoaib Malik more time as captain.

"From what I have observed, Malik I learned the skills of captaincy with every match and he is a good learner," Younis said.

"I would suggest that the Pakistan board give him time and I can see Malik leading the team for the next few years without any major issues," Younis, who will return to Australia to play in their domestic circuit, said he was not interested in the captaincy anymore.

Australian captain Ricky Ponting consid-

ered Mahendra Singh Dhoni and his men better-suited for Twenty20 cricket rather than Tests after their World Cup triumph in South Africa.

Recalling the success of Indian team in the Twenty20 World Cup, Ponting wrote in his book 'Captain's Diary 2008' that Dhoni was a "classic example" of a player who could damage the opposition in the shortest version, which offers little scope for a batsman to showcase his technique.

"Teams that are outclassed in five-day matches and even 50-over games are much more competitive in Twenty20. India offer a good example of this. The shorter the format of the game the more dangerous they become," Ponting said.

"Some of their batsmen -- Yuvraj Singh and M S Dhoni are classic examples -- can hurt you more in shorter games, because their is less opportunity to find ways of picking apart their techniques," he while adding that "Form in Twenty20 really doesn't count for all that much".

Having said so, Ponting also dismissed India's successful journey to the T20 world title, attributing it to more luck and little skills.

"I am not as cynical about the game as I once was, but some negatives still nag at me. There is so much luck involved in this shortened form of the game; it's not always going to be the best team that wins."

"I guess that's true of all sport but it seems to be accentuated here... Little wonder, then, that the tournament has been unpredictable, with many locals stunned that previously unbeaten South Africa was eliminated so comfortably by India," he said.

Yusuf can bat anywhere

Cricket

INTERNET, undated

Having scored a crucial unbeaten half-century down the batting order, all-rounder Yusuf Pathan said he was prepared to bat at any position so long as it helps the team in piling on a match-winning total.

"I am willing to bat wherever I get the opportunity to serve the team the best," said the 26-year-old, who also clarified that he had celebrated his birthday last month and not on Monday as earlier noted by some statisticians.

"This performance will give me a lot of confidence and I dedicate my first ODI half-century to my parents," he told reporters after India's 54-run win.

Pathan, who usually opens the innings, came at No. 7 and smashed an unbeaten 29-ball 50 to propel the team total to a respectable 292-9 and also picked one wicket in the second ODI against England.

The all-rounder, who lasted only two balls in the first ODI at Rajkot when he was sent up the order, said Monday's victory was a team effort and it was important for him not to lose his wicket as batsmen realised that it was not as easy a wicket to bat on.

"We knew it was not an easy wicket to bat on and anything could happen later and I wanted to score as many runs as possible to give our

team a good total in the end," he said.

Pathan said though the opening few partnerships did not work well, the lower order batsmen rose to the occasion and did the job.

"Yes, unlike at Rajkot the opening partnerships did not get off to a good beginning. But it cannot happen every day and the others too need to contribute and did so today (Monday)," Pathan pointed out.

He also said the perception that he was a Twenty20 cricketer after his exploits in the T20 World Championship last year in South Africa was not correct as he had not played as many short duration ties as compared to three, four and one-day ties at the domestic level.

"I have played more three, four and one-day matches in domestic cricket and not as many Twenty20 games. I think the perception that I'm only a T20 player is wrong," he said.

Pathan said it was not easy to choose between the two match-winning efforts of Yuvraj Singh in the first two matches of the best-of-seven rubber.

"Both were important efforts and both were match-winning ones. I enjoyed both his innings. Not only the opposition, but our own bowlers are not able to get him out in the net sessions," said the off-break bowler and hard-hitting batsman about the left-handed stylist's two knocks of 138 not out and 118 at Rajkot and here.

About his younger brother Irfan, who has lost his slot in the Indian team, the senior Pathan said it was up to the selectors.

ICL Bangladesh off to India

FROM PAGE 17

Warriors, as ICL Bangladesh and they will be pitted against ICL India, Pakistan and World XI. The series of matches begin with the Indian side taking on arch-rivals Pakistan XI, no doubt made up of the entire Lahore Badshahs line-up, in the opener in Ahmedabad.

ICL Bangladesh begin their campaign against the strong World XI on November 25. They play against Pakistan and India on November 27 and 28 respectively. All matches will be held under lights.

The fourteen rebel cricketers took part in the breakaway tournament as Dhaka Warriors and were subsequently banned for ten years by the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) in October.

They produced a mixed bag of results, winning half of their eight matches. They narrowly missed a spot in the semifinals as they finished fifth.

But there was individual success, with Alok Kapali hitting the first ICL century and finish-

ing with 324 runs from eight outings, fourth highest in the tournament.

Veteran left-arm Mohammad Rafique finished with 14 wickets with a best of 3 for 28.

Before their departure, Bashir's men faced reporters at the Zia International Airport and expressed hopes of being in the final.

"The players are in high spirits and we are dreaming of playing in the final," said the former national captain.

The support they received so far have inspired them a lot and would spur them on in the World Series, the former Bangladesh captain added.

TEAM

Habibul Bashar (captain), Shahriar Nafees (vice-captain), Nazimuddin, Aftab Ahmed, Alok Kapali, Dhiman Ghosh, Forhad Reza, Dhiman Ghosh, Mahbubul Karim, Monjurul Islam, Mohammad Rafique, Mohammad Sharif, Mosharraf Hossain, Tapash Baisya.

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50	51	52			53	54			55	
56					57				58	
59					60				61	

CRYPTOQUIP

BWDJ H VCQGC DN CF ADDT
HTT QACDG FUDGDQCHJX

ZFOTN KFO VQK H BQV
WQUHJX Q XTOC GDQZCHFJ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A DOCTOR'S EXAM YOU EXPERIENCED LEFT YOU WITH MANY QUESTIONS, WAS IT A QUIZZICAL PHYSICAL?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals R