

V-Day soccer

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Manikganj

Manikganj district police won the Victory Day football tournament title with a 7-2 goalfest against Saturia Upazila in the final at the Police Lines ground in here yesterday.

Police made the contest all but over when they took 5-1 lead in the first half.

Nigerian player Ameca, who scored a brace for Police, was adjudged the best player and got Tk 2000 as prize money.

Manikganj Police Superintendent Sheikh Muhammad Maruf Hasan gave away prizes among the winners. Chairperson of Victory Fair freedom fighter Iquebal Hossain Khan was also present on the occasion.

Winter Bridge

SPORTS REPORTER

Grameenphone Winter Bridge Carnival will start at the Engineering Institute Club, Dhaka on Thursday. The tournament is being sponsored by Grameenphone and organized by Dhaka Metropolis Bridge Association (DMBA). Interested teams, pairs and individuals have been asked to register their entries.

Lou eyeing
NZ place

CRICINFO, undated

Almost two years after he gave up a New Zealand Cricket contract to join the Indian Cricket League, Lou Vincent has returned to the country and revealed his desire to return to the national side.

Vincent, 31, has been living mainly in Britain since moving on from the unofficial ICL and could also potentially qualify to play for England in less than two years. However, given the comebacks Shane Bond and Daryl Tuffey made after they were granted amnesty on quitting the ICL, Vincent has reason to be optimistic about a New Zealand call-up.

"I'm still classified as an overseas player there [in England] until I get my residency and passport," Vincent told the Herald on Sunday. "That means I could play as a local on the county scene. That's an option but I'm going to test myself in New Zealand first."

Vincent played for an Auckland club side Takapuna on Saturday and hoped to join the Auckland squad next week. His first assignment for Auckland will be the one-day competition, before the domestic Twenty20 tournament in the following month.

"Cricket's been back on my mind in recent months. I want to get back to the top level. It's time to give it one more crack. I wanted to come back and play rather than have a holiday. I can't guarantee a place with Auckland this summer but I'm going to be training every day to prove my worth."

No Bangladesh

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interest ahead of SA Games," said BFF general secretary Al Musabbir Sadi after the emergency committee meeting at the BFF House yesterday.

Sadi said that SA Games was a big event in this sub-continent and BFF had to pave the way for the renovation works as well as the rehearsal at the BNS.

He also said that they would sit with representatives of all 13 participating teams tomorrow (Monday) before taking final decision about the venue.

The Bangladesh League only resumed on Saturday after a one-and-a-half month break due to Eid-ul-Azha and the SAFF Championship.



Chris Gayle

(West Indies cricket captain)
"At the moment when [Nathan] Hauritz is bowling to me, it's like I'm bowling to myself. Dealing Australia's lead spinner a blowout."



Winners of Gemcon Victory Cup Golf Tournament pose for photographs at the Kurmitola Golf Club on Saturday. Brig Gen SK Abu Bakr (retd) and chairman of Gemcon Group Lt. Col (retd) Kazi Shahed Ahmed, MP, are also seen with the winners.

SPORT

The Daily Star

SA name side
for 2nd and
third Tests

AFP, Centurion

The South African selectors on Sunday named a squad of 14 players for the second and third Tests against England, in Durban from December 26 and Cape Town from January 3.

The squad included the 11 who played in the first Test at Centurion, plus batsman Alviro Petersen, all-rounder Ryan McLaren and fast bowler Dale Steyn. Dropped from the original 15-man squad for the first Test was left-arm fast bowler Wayne Parnell.

Steyn was due to play at Centurion but was withdrawn from the side because of a tight hamstring on the morning of the match.

SQUAD
Graeme Smith (captain), Hashim Amla, Mark Boucher, AB de Villiers, Friedel de Wet, JP Duminy, Paul Harris, Jacques Kallis, Ryan McLaren, Morne Morkel, Makhaya Ntini, Alviro Petersen, Ashwell Prince, Dale Steyn.

**Mathews to
return home**

CRICINFO, undated

The injury crisis in the Sri Lankan camp has deepened, with the all-rounder Angelo Mathews set to return home after straining his right quadricep muscle during the second ODI in Nagpur on Friday. The Sri Lanka Cricket media manager Brian Thomas has confirmed to Cricinfo that the Wayamba all-rounder Thisara Perera will join the squad in India on Sunday for the three remaining ODIs.

Mathews' injury is likely to take up to four weeks to heal, thereby putting him in doubt for the tri-series in Bangladesh starting on January 4. He suffered the injury while setting off for a run during his match-winning unbeaten 35, but continued his innings with the aid of a runner (Chamara Kapugedera).

**Sponsors off
Woods**

AFP, New York

An embattled Tiger Woods faced a dwindling roster of sponsors Saturday, after Swiss watchmaker Tag Heuer said it was dropping its US advertising campaigns featuring the golfer-champion.

Tag Heuer's move came in the footsteps of consulting firm Accenture ending its six-year deal with the golf superstar and razormaker Gillette dropping him from its advertising after the 33-year-old Woods took an indefinite break from the sport and acknowledged infidelity.

"We recognise Tiger Woods as a great sportsman but we have to take account of the sensitivity of some consumers in relation to recent events," Tag Heuer chief executive Jean-Christophe Babin told Swiss newspaper Le Matin on Friday.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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