

Exhibition match at BNS today

SPORTS REPORTER

An exhibition match between Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) XI and EU football team will be held today at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

The match will kick off at 11am. The match has been arranged with an aim at giving encouragement to this much loved game in Bangladesh.

In our yesterday's report it was wrongly mentioned that the game would be held on Friday.

Salahuddin

FROM PAGE 17 tenure of Sri Lankan Ruwan Kalpage while bowling coach Champaka Ramanayake is now under treatment.

Champaka's contract will expire by the end of this month and BCB is looking forward to his treatment immediately.

"We are giving priority on his treatment right at the moment," said BCB's media committee chairman Jalal Yunus yesterday.

The Sri Lankan will need surgery on his thyroid and board is unsure about the seriousness of the former Lankan pace bowler's illness.

Head coach Jamie Siddons has only former national skipper Khaled Mahmud besides him and that's why BCB has decided to assign Salahuddin, the fielding coach who didn't get the extension, again in the role.

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Umpiring

FROM PAGE 17 debut in one-day cricket during this series, South Africa's Marais Erasmus had his debut in Bangladesh's last home series against India, and the list goes on.

Bangladesh have expressed their concerns over this issue in various platforms before. When it was raised to ICC general manager Dave Richardson at a media conference in Dhaka last year, he was as passive as he could be saying that they had no other option.

"We cannot make experiment on Ashes series, so Bangladesh have to accept the reality."

Two trophies were decided yesterday and it was Chinese girls Xuanshuo Ou and Meng Ning Deng who beat Indian pair Ratnika Batra and Sharon Paul 6-2, 6-3 while N Kadchapan and Leander Lazaro beat Phassawin Burapharitta and Sai Kartik Nakireddi 6-3, 7-5 in the boys' doubles final.

Nathan McCullum, the offspinner, is expected to come in for Vettori if he doesn't make it, a move which would give Ross Taylor his second match in charge. New Zealand are

Sharipova

FROM PAGE 17 7-6. Their final will also be held today.

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They were batting or fielding. AFTAB FOUND HIS FANS AGAIN

Though Tamim Iqbal was the centre of attraction of the cricket fans of Chittagong during yesterday's match, their eyes finally went to another local boy -- Aftab Ahmed -- who remained out of the limelight for a long period.

Remaining also out of form after returning to the team, Aftab was in tremendous pressure after having not scoring many runs.

But yesterday's 46 off 60 balls featuring seven fantastic boundaries helped him find thousands of fans who were once eager to enjoy wonderful cricket from him in home and abroad.

Bad luck dogged him after his rejoining in the team since the New Zealand tour where he scored 18 and 10 in two ODIs and two and four in the first two ODIs against the visiting England.

DROPS AND MIX-UPS Tigers and missed chances and run-out mix-ups go hand-in-hand.

Sohrawardi Shuvo dropped Morgan at deep square off Sakib Al Hasan when the total was 188 for two and Morgan was at 2.

Later, Mahmudullah Riyad dropped Morgan at mid-on bowled by Shakib again when the visitors total run was 218 for three.

Beside this, Aftab was victim of a run out in a wrong calculation with Mushfiq in the twentieth over.



The Netherlands players celebrate a goal as Canadian captain Ken Pereira (R) watches during their World Cup match at the Major Dhyan Chand Stadium in New Delhi yesterday. The Netherlands won 6-0.

HOCKEY WORLD CUP

Dutch down Canada

AFP, New Delhi

Rogier Hofman and Taeke Taekema scored two goals apiece as the Netherlands routed lowly Canada 6-0 for their third successive win in the men's field hockey World Cup on Friday.

Ronald Brouwer and Rob Frederix were the other scorers as the three-time champions hit top gear in the second session, after the first had ended 0-0 at the Dhyan Chand National Stadium.

The Netherlands, who lead Group A with nine full points, must win one of their two remaining games against world champions Germany on Sunday and South Korea on Tuesday to qualify for the semi-finals.

New Zealand have six points, while Germany will move to seven if they beat Argentina later on Friday.

Meanwhile, New Zealand stayed in contention for their first-ever appearance in the semi-finals with a 2-1 win over South Korea.

Both goals for the Black Sticks came in the first half as Andrew Hayward converted a penalty

corner in the fifth minute, before captain Dean Couzins pushed in a penalty stroke in the 22nd.

South Korea reduced the margin in the final minute through a stroke by Lee Nam Yong.

New Zealand, who have not finished higher than seventh in the World Cup, must win their last two games against Argentina on Sunday and Germany on Tuesday to book a semifinal spot.

South Korea, the Asian champions, are virtually out of the race with just four points in the bag.

Korean coach Shin Seok-Kyo blamed his team's poor display in the tournament so far on the lack of proper preparation.

"We should have trained better for the World Cup, but the cold weather at home did not help," he said. "It is not a good feeling now because we are almost out of it."

New Zealand's Couzins said the 3-1 win over South Korea in the Beijing Olympics boosted his team's confidence.

"We have a good record against them and that helped," he said. "We are still in the fight for the semi-finals because we have played quite well."

Vettori still doubtful

Cricket

CricketInfo, undated

Daniel Vettori is in danger of missing Saturday's second ODI against Australia with a nagging neck injury. Vettori, who sat out the dramatic opening victory, was unable to bat or bowl at training in Auckland on Friday and is hoping the problem improves dramatically overnight.

"I got through the fielding session well but I didn't bat today so I'm just going to leave it until the last possible minute," Vettori said after training. "I've had this injury for about 13 years. It flares up and down occasionally. I'm just hoping I wake up feeling good in the morning."

Nathan McCullum, the offspinner, is expected to come in for Vettori if he doesn't make it, a move which would give Ross Taylor his second match in charge. New Zealand are

already without Jacob Oram, who hurt his knee on Wednesday and is expected to be out for up to a month.

The Chappell-Hadlee Series had a heated opening when Mitchell Johnson and Scott Styris bumped heads late in the first game. Johnson was fined 60% of his match fee and Styris had to pay 15% in an incident giving extra space to the contests.

"We're going to make sure we try to play it in the right spirit of the game without crossing that line," Vettori said. "A lot of people enjoy that intensity. We've just got to make sure it doesn't go too far. It's the responsibility of both teams and both captains to make sure it doesn't happen."

Shane Watson said Ricky Ponting had spoken to the team about behavior. "It's an important part because we want to make sure that we are competitive but we don't step over the line," Watson said. "Ricky had a chat to us after the game to let us know that there is a line and no matter what we can't cross it."

Five hit ceiling price

Cricket

CricketInfo, undated

FROM PAGE 17 by Chittagong Mohammedan. But, the second player Mashrafe was not called even in the base price for sale at first. However, in the repeat auction he was bought only at Tk 50 thousand by Dhaka Sports.

As soon as name of the Bangladesh Skipper Shakib Al Hasan was pronounced, representatives of all the seven teams were locked in race to buy him pushing the price to the highest Tk 4 lakh. Five teams offered Tk 4 lakh for Shakib and finally Top Sport won him through lottery.

Tamim was also sold through a race of four teams and was snapped up by Chittagong Tigers at Tk 4 lakh price. Later, Mushfiqur Rahim was bought by the Pirates of Chittagong, Mahmudullah by Chittagong Tigers and Naeem Islam by Mohammedan at Tk 4 lakh amid lottery.

In B-category Imrul Kayes, Aftab Ahmed, Alok Kapali, and

Shahriar Nafees were bought at the highest Tk 2.5 lakh respectively by Brothers Union, Pirates of Chittagong and Top Sports. In the same category Abdur Razzak and Zunaed were bought by Brothers Union at Tk 1.6 lakh and Tk 50 thousand respectively. Rokibul Hasan was bought at Tk 30 thousand by Top Sports while Syed Rassel and Nazmul Hossain were drafted in by Dhaka Sports. Enamul Haque jnr went to Brothers Union and Dollar Mahmud was bought by Mohammedan for Tk 30 thousand.

B-category players Rubel Hossain and Shafiqul Islam and C-category players Shahadat Hossain Mahbubul Alam, Mehraj Hossain jnr and Sahagir Hossain were not bought by any participating teams. Indian Bengal Tigers didn't take part in the auction.

In the auction for the first PCL held last year in the port city, Tamim had been bought

by Abahani at the highest Tk 7.70 lakh, when the highest limit was not fixed.

The next best price was Tk 1.70 lakh for Sohrawardi Shuvo who was bought by Pirates of Chittagong, Tk 1.31 for Zunaed bought by Dada Warriors and Tk 1.10 for Razzak bought by defending champion Brothers Union.

Satellite Television Channel ATN Bangla Chairman and Chief Adviser of the Tournament Dr Mahfuzur Rahman was the chief guest at the ceremony while the PCL Foundation Chairman AJM Nasir Uddin, Vice Chairman Ali Abbas, General Secretary Sirajuddin Mohammad Alamgir and Awami League Lawmaker Shamsul Hoque Chowdhury were also present.

Boxing for a bright

Cricket

CricketInfo, undated

FROM PAGE 17 that the parents not only enrol their children for a hope of getting job, but also to keep encourage discipline in their children.

"We always take care of each of our boxers looking into their education, personal life and their friends and these things inspire the parents to enrol their children in boxing," said Masud adding that they have now over 300 students.

The coach said some of the parents have been inspired at the success of the SA Games gold medalist Jewel Ahmed and promised to enrol their children into boxing.

Meanwhile, some 300 budding boxers from 64 districts, education boards, pourashavas, boxing clubs participated in the five-day competition.

First face

Cricket

CricketInfo, undated

FROM PAGE 17 some performance against Sheikh Russel as we have no alternative but to win the game if we want to consolidate our position on the point table," said Biplob.

On the other hand, Sheikh Russel have seemingly set their sights on snatching a point, much like they did against Mohammedan.

"It was a big matter for us to snatch a point from Mohammedan and our boys are ready to repeat the same feat against Abahani," said coach Mahmudul Haque Liton.

The Sheikh Russel coach, however, was not confident about the victory.

"It is hard to say about the victory because Abahani are a better side compared to us. But I can assure you that we will fight for points," said the former national booter.

Meanwhile, holders Abahani defeated Sheikh Russel 3-0 in home and 2-1 away in their matches last season.

Ansar emerge

Cricket

CricketInfo, undated

FROM PAGE 17 grabbed two golds, two silvers and one bronze.

In the junior group, Anik Hawlader of Ansar defeated Abu Talha Jubair of Rajshahi City Corporation in the 25kg category. Rakib Sheikh of Ansar beat Rahim Reza of BKSP in 29kg category, Asif Ali of BKSP beat Aquib Javed Khan of Gazipur in 35kg category, Sajib Hossain of Ansar beat Ariful Islam of BKSP in 42kg category and Aslam Sheikh of BKSP defeat Shah Alam of Chapainawabganj in the 45kg category to win gold medals in their respective events.

In the intermediate group, Shahadat Hossain of Ansar beat Gregory Hazda of Rajshahi in 46kg category, Khorsheed Alam Tipu of Ansar beat Al Mamun of Rajshahi in 51kg category, Monirul Islam of BKSP defeated Aquib Ahmed of Ansar in 54kg category, Junaed Rahman of BKSP beat Manik Ali in 57kg category and Arif Hossain of Ansar defeated Sourav Krishna Chakma of BKSP in 60kg category to win gold medal in their respective events.

The 23-year-old fast-medium bowler conceded a six, a four, and a single to Nikita Miller off the first three balls of the final over before he bowled Dwayne Smith for four, and had Suleiman Benn caught at deep mid-wicket off successive

balls, to get Indies narrowly failed to West 15 runs from the final over.

Zimbabwe's spinners again choked the West Indies' top-order batting, despite Shivnarine Chanderpaul hitting the top score of a run-a-ball 70, home team captain Chris Gayle making 57 from 66 balls, and fellow opener Adrian Barath 50 from 96 balls on debut. Between Zimbabwe's four frontline spinners - their captain Prosper Utseya, Ray Price, Graeme Cremer, and Greg Lamb - they delivered 40 overs at four runs apiece, and removed Gayle and Kieron Pollard, the West Indies two most dangerous hitters.

The victory gave Zimbabwe a 1-0 lead in the five-match series with the second match set for the same venue on Saturday.

Opener Vusumuzi Sibanda had struck five fours and one six in 95 from 162 balls to be the cornerstone of Zimbabwe's 254 for five from their quota of 50 overs after they decided to bat.

But the match came down to the final over, and Zimbabwe captain Prosper Utseya gambled with Masakadza.

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Small

Cricket

CricketInfo, undated

FROM PAGE 17 forward to a probable place in England's final squad for the T20 World Championship that kicks off in April 30.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the third and final one-day international between Bangladesh and England at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong on Friday:

ENGLAND Cook c Mushfiqur b Shakib 32 Kieswetter b Razzak 107 Pietersen lbw b Razzak 22 Collingwood c Razzak b Sohrawardi 36 Morgan c Tamim b Shafiqul 36 Wright not out 32 Bresnan not out 6 Extras: (lb-3, w-10) 13 Total: (For five wks in 50 overs) 284 Did not bat: Prior, Shahzad, Swann, Plunkett.

Fall of wickets: 1-59, 2-96, 3-170, 4-237, 5-257.

Bowler O M R W Shafiqul 5 0 35 1 Rubel 6 0 62 0 Razzak 10 0 40 2 Shakib 10 0 45 1 Naeem 7 0 36 0 Sohrawardi 10 1 45 1 Mahmudullah 2 0 18 0

BANGLADESH

Tamim c Bresnan b Shahzad 0 Imrul c Prior b Bresnan 17 Aftab run out 46 Mushfiqur c Bresnan b Swann 40 Shakib lbw b Pietersen 38 Mahmudullah c Cook b Bresnan 33 Naeem c Wright b Swann 18 Sohrawardi c Shahzad b Bresnan 11 Razzak not out 17 Shafiqul c Prior b Bresnan 0 Rubel not out 2 Extras: (lb-3, w-14) 17 Total: (For nine wks in 50 overs) 239 Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-40, 3-96, 4-125, 5-162, 6-204, 7-211, 8-228, 9-228.

Bowler O M R W Shahzad 9 0 55 1 Bresnan 9 1 28 4 Wright 2 0 16 0 Plunkett 2 0 12 0 Collingwood 10 0 51 0 Swann 10 0 38 2 Pietersen 8 0 36 1 Result: England won by 45 runs and clinched three-match series 3-0.

Man-of-the-match: Craig Kieswetter.

Man-of-the-series: Eoin Morgan.

Toss: Bangladesh Umpires: Rod Tucker (AUS) and Enamul Haque (BAN) Match referee: Jeff Crowe (NZL)

FIRST TEST AGAINST BANGLADESH Broad, Onions to be back

Cricket

CricketInfo, undated

England face an anxious wait to see if Stuart Broad and Graham Onions will be fit for the Test series against Bangladesh although were boosted when scans showed no major back problems in the two pacemen. They are hopeful the pair will be available for the first Test against Bangladesh on March 12 although neither will play the warm-up match starting on Sunday.

England's pace attack has been hit by a spate of injuries with Ryan Sidebottom ruled out of the Test series after aggravating a thigh problem during the first ODI, while Broad picked up his back problem during the second match and Onions has been struggling since arriving for the Tests.

"Both players have back spasms as a result of bowling. MRI scans have ruled out any new acute injuries," said an ECB statement. "Neither will be available for the warm-up game. Both will continue to undergo a programme of rehabilitation with a view to being available for the first Test."

Although the fears of both being sent home have receded for now it is hardly the perfect preparation for a Test series, especially with England

already without James Anderson for this tour. "It's obviously not ideal," said Alastair Cook. "There is good news today with the scan showing no major structural damage, but we all know that backs with bowlers are very important, so we've got to work hard on those guys and keep our fingers crossed."

"We can only let the back spasms settle, and hopefully they can be fit. Ideally they'd need some overs under their belt in the three-day game, but we can't have that so we have to wait and see and play it by ear."

Tim Bresnan, who claimed a career-best 4 for 28 in the final ODI, will remain on the tour as a replacement for Sidebottom and was England's stand-out quick during the one-day series.

"Bres was fantastic," said Cook. "All his overs were in the tough Powerplays, he stood up to be counted, as he has done in the last three games, and he thoroughly deserves his call-up to the Test team. He knows where it's going, he's very confident, talking to him in the Powerplays, he's setting the fields and bowling to those fields which takes a huge lot of skill. He's putting his name forward."

Meanwhile, Steven Finn, the uncapped Middlesex quick, has been called up as cover for Broad and Onions. Ajmal Shahzad and Liam Plunkett are the other squad pacemen and both played the one-day in Chittagong with Shahzad taking a wicket with his third ball.

Zimbabwe shock WI

Cricket

CricketInfo, undated

Shingirai Masakadza held his nerve in the final over to help Zimbabwe earn a two-run victory over West Indies in the first One-Day International here on Thursday.

Masakadza, on his ODI debut, collected three wickets - two in the final over - for 36 runs from three overs, as Zimbabwe successfully defended a target score of 255 on a typically slow Guyana National Stadium pitch.

The victory gave Zimbabwe a 1-0 lead in the five-match series with the second match set for the same venue on Saturday.

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But the match came down to the final over, and Zimbabwe captain Prosper Utseya gambled with Masakadza.

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Table with 2 columns: No. and Details. Contains information about the Bangladesh government's decision to purchase 100,000 tons of wheat from the USA. It lists the names of officials involved, the amount of wheat, and the price per ton. The table is numbered 1 through 19.