

LIPRO
Presents
HIMOINSA
DIESEL GENERATORS
FROM SPAIN

RANGE: 8KVA-2200 KVA
400 KVA, 350 KVA
100 KVA & 20 KVA
Ready Stock
Perkins Engine
Stamford Alternator

Lipro Energy Ltd.
Call: 8826635, 9893469, 01199 802011

16 DAYS TO GO

SOUTH AFRICA 2010
FIFA WORLD CUP

Rossi fixes it

WORLD CUP 1982 CONTINUED
But the Brazilians, everybody's favourites to win the trophy, were soon to meet their own Waterloo. In a World Cup classic, they were beaten by an Italian side waking up from the slumber of the first round. Paolo Rossi struck a hat-trick as Brazil, despite classic goals from Socrates and Falcao, exited, with Serginho guilty of some glaring misses.

The semifinals saw Italy face Poland, who were still featuring Grzegorz Lato but had star man Zbigniew Boniek suspended. Rossi was again the man for the occasion as his two goals put Italy into their first final in 12 years.

The other semifinal is often recognised as the modern World Cup's greatest-ever game. France had recovered from their opening defeat to play some fantastic football with celebrated midfielders Michel Platini, Alain Giresse and Jean Tigana leading the charge. With the scores at 1-1, on came substitute Patrick Battiston, who was almost immediately played through the middle.

Charging in on goal, he came up against German keeper Harald Schumacher, who, just as Battiston reached the ball, clattered him with a forearm smash. The ball trickled wide of the net but, amazingly, Dutch referee Charles Corver awarded a goal-kick as Battiston lay motionless on the field, having lost two teeth.

Despite having to restructure once again, when extra-time came, France stormed into a 3-1 lead with goals from Giresse and Marius Tressor. But the Germans, showing typical resolve and dismissal of romance, fought back to equalise through Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, carrying an injury but on as an emergency substitute, and Klaus Fischer. So began the World Cup's first-ever penalty shoot-out. As was to become customary down the years, it was the Germans who were victors as Didier Six and Maxime Bossis both missed spot-kicks. Gigantic striker Horst Hrubesch smashed home the winner.

Germany, highly unpopular after the Schumacher incident, ran out of luck in the final. Both finalists had started slowly in the competition but the Italians finished far stronger as Paolo Rossi opened the scoring and Marco Tardelli smashed in their second, celebrating in legendary fashion.

Substitute Alessandro Altobelli sealed it for the Italians in the 80th minute before Paul Breitner scored a late German consolation, his second in a World Cup final. In truth, Italy had outclassed the Germans and, having beaten the holders in Argentina, the favourites in Brazil and the pantomime villains in West Germany, they were worthy winners.



PHOTO: STAR ARCHIVE
So now you're going to believe us, we're going to win the Cup. After Paolo Rossi's third goal against Brazil, people have to take Italy's chances seriously.

Abahani's hat-trick triumph

Enamul eyes golden boot

SPORTS REPORTER

Abahani completed a hat-trick of Bangladesh League titles when they handed a 4-0 defeat to Farashganj Sporting Club with a match in hand at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Prolific striker Enamul Haque struck twice after Rajani Kanta Barman and Abul Hossain netted one apiece after the barren first half at the Big Bowl where approximately 2000 people turned up to watch the celebration as the Abahani fans brought band party to rejoice the triumph.

With the 22nd win in 23 matches, an unconquered Abahani took an unassailable lead with 67 points, nine clear of arch-rivals Mohammedan Sporting Club, who now have to be content with a runners-up trophy for the third time in a row though they have two matches remaining against Chittagong Mohammedan and the incumbent champions.

It was the second hat-trick of titles for Abahani at the top-level since their treble in the then First Division League from 1983 to 1985 and overall, it was their 14th league title.

Before the match the Dhanmondi-based outfit needed only a single point against a youthful Farashganj to ensure the prestigious title and the nature of the game indicated that the match was heading for a dull draw. But Abahani got an unexpected goal in the 60th minute after two efforts by Enamul and Sherif Deen Mohammad struck the bar in the initial moments of the second half.

Defender Rajani Kanta Barman whipped in a cross from the right and defender Mahfuzur Rahman's clearance found the back of his own net with a deflection from a teammate. But referee Abdul Hannan Miron awarded the goal to Rajani.

After that Abahani toyed with Farashganj as they added



PHOTO: STAR
Abahani players rejoice their hat-trick of Bangladesh League titles at the end of their match against Farashganj at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

RESULTS

Abahani 4 (Rajani Kanta 60, Abul Hossain 77, Emanul Haque 79, 87) Farashganj SC 0

SEE PAGE 18 COL 5

Tamim to defy pain?

Cricket
CRICINFO

Tamim Iqbal is expecting to take his place at the top of the Bangladesh batting order when the first Test at Lord's gets underway on Thursday, despite struggling during the tour of England with an injury to his left wrist that may yet require surgery at some stage this year.

Tamim first sustained the injury while fielding during Bangladesh's domestic Twenty20 competition in 2009, but the problem flared up again ahead of the recent World Twenty20 in the Caribbean, in which he played only a minor role during their 21-run defeat against Pakistan in St Lucia and missed the defeat to Australia in Barbados.

Upon arrival in England, Tamim sat out Bangladesh's first two fixtures against Surrey and Essex, but showed glimpses of form with scores of 36 and 19 in the team's nine-wicket defeat against England Lions at Derby last week, and the lure of a Lord's Test is likely to persuade him to push through the pain barrier.

"I've pushed myself five per cent more than maybe I would have done on other grounds," Tamim told Cricinfo. "I'm really excited to play at Lord's in a Test match. It will be a dream come true and I really want to play, because I don't know when I'll get another chance."

Tamim conceded that the prospect of surgery had not been entirely ruled out, but given

Bangladesh's hectic schedule, which includes the Asia Cup straight after the Test series, followed by the one-day leg of the England tour in July, finding a three-month window that will allow him sufficient time to recuperate ahead of the World Cup next February is a tricky balancing act.

"I went to a specialist yesterday, and he said you've got two choices," Tamim said. "Either you play with taping and hope there won't be any harm, or you can have surgery that will take three months. We have a very busy schedule so the team management told me to decide, so I am seeing another doctor today [Monday], and if he gives me the green signal, then I'll play the first match, and think about surgery when I am free."

Tamim was the stand-out performer for Bangladesh during England's tour of the country in March, in which he scored a brilliant century in the first ODI in Dhaka, followed by three free-flowing half-centuries in four innings during the Tests. Whether fully fit or otherwise, his presence at the top of the order will provide his side with vital experience in alien bowler-friendly conditions.

"Test cricket is most important, so I don't want to take any chances, but I'm batting okay in the nets and the pain is getting better day by day," he said. "This is my third tour to England, and last time I played okay. I scored some runs against South Africa and the county teams, so there won't be any problem adjusting to the wickets. I am an international cricket player, so

SEE PAGE 18 COL 2

D'MONDI PLAYGROUND Bapa serves legal notice

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Barrister Sara Hossain, lawyer of Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) sent a legal notice to the Dhaka mayor to ask him to take immediate action to remove the illegal construction and semi-pucca structures at the Dhanmondi playground.

The legal notice, which was sent on May 24, said Bapa has been continuously campaigning for five years to ensure that this area maintains its character as playground available to children and others, and has repeatedly exposed efforts and land grabbing or illegal occupation of the area.

Most recently an organisation called the "Sheikh Jamal Club" has claimed that it had been given a lease of the area and has plans to develop a stadium and shops.

An official report filed in the High Court in January this year from Mayor's office had confirmed that this area is designated

SEE PAGE 18 COL 8

WI A lead despite Faisal's century

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER

Faisal Hossain continued his rich vein of form with a solid hundred but Bangladesh A only managed a slim four-run first

innings lead against visiting West Indies A on the third day of the second and final four-day at the BKSP in Savar yesterday.

The seasoned left-hander converted his overnight 64 into a exactly 100 before becoming ninth man out, as the home team were all out for 272 after resuming the day on 205 for five.

West Indies A who are leading the series 1-0 after winning the first four-day by 114 runs, scored 109 for three in the second innings before stumps were drawn for the day.

Opener Omar Phillips was batting on 47 while in-form Brandon Nash, who missed the hundred in the first innings by just one run, remained not out at 32.

Two overnight batsmen Faisal and Sahagir Hossain added only 17 runs in the morning before off-spinner Shane Shillingford had Sahagir caught by Imran Khan for an unwearied 115-ball 35 that featured three boundaries.

Faisal however continued his leather hunt to put up a decent total on the board. The man who has stayed out of favour of the national side for six years, hit five sixes and eight fours during his 199-ball 100.

Shillingford claimed three wickets conceding 82 runs while leg-break Odean Brown picked up three for 79 runs.

SCORES IN BRIEF
WEST INDIES A: First innings 268 and Second innings 109-3 in 47.3

SEE PAGE 18 COL 7

CONFIDENCE CUP
Barisal College zonal champs

SPORTS REPORTER

Barisal College emerged as champions of Barisal Division beating Kashipur College 2-0 in the zonal final of the Clear Men Confidence Cup football tournament. In Rajshahi division, Rajshahi New Govt. Degree College emerged champions beating Rajshahi University School & College 2-0 in the zonal final. The divisional champions will come to Dhaka for the quarterfinals that will be held on 3rd June.

What to WATCH

Star Sports & SuperSport 1
French Open
Second Round
Live from 3:00pm

SuperSport 3
USA v Czech Republic
Int'l Friendly
Live from 6:30am
Holland v Mexico
Live from 11:45 pm

Argentina cruise

AFP, Buenos Aires



Two-time World Cup winners Argentina eased to a 5-0 victory over Canada here on Monday for a morale-boosting win ahead of flying to South Africa on Friday for the World Cup finals, which run from June 11-July 11.

Even without the side's superstar Lionel Messi, who was rested and sat watching from the stands, the Argentinians had little trouble from one of the game's minnows as they cruised to a fifth successive victory this year, albeit three have come against second tier opposition.

Nevertheless Argentina's unpredictable coach Diego Maradona was delighted with the performance and the outcome in what was the largest victory recorded by his side since he assumed the post at the end of 2008.

"The most positive thing is that we have made people happy," said the 50-year-old, who became a national hero as he virtually single-handedly inspired Argentina to the 1986 World Cup trophy.

"And also that we were eager to show what we were capable of and a lot more besides that."

Maradona, too, was delighted with the way that his idea of playing three up front, albeit with Carlos Tevez and Gonzalo Higuain playing in a more advanced role than

Carlos Pastore, who stood in for Messi.

"This performance showed that Argentina can play with three strikers at the World Cup finals," said a confident Maradona.

Liverpool wing Maxi Rodriguez grabbed a double, scoring with a 16th minute freekick and then grabbing his second in the 32nd minute after being teed up by Tevez.

Benfica midfielder Angel Di Maria added a third with a stunning shot with the outside of his left foot in the 37th minute before Tevez deservedly got on the score sheet, after superb work by Higuain, who on three occasions was denied when one on one with the goalkeeper.

Maradona's son-in-law Sergio Aguero rounded off the scoring with a fine individual

effort 18 minutes from fulltime.

Argentina - who struggled through the qualifiers and whose squad is lacking several notable players including Inter Milan duo Javier Zanetti and Esteban Cambiasso - are in Group B at the World Cup finals along with 2002 semi-finalists South Korea, Euro 2004 champions Greece and African giants Nigeria.



PHOTO: AFP
Argentina forward Carlos Tevez (L) avoids a tackle from Canada defender Nikolas Ledgerwood during their international friendly at the Monumental Stadium in Buenos Aires on Monday.

DAY'S EVENT

Bangladesh League
Mohammedan v Ctg Mohammedan
Time: 4:00pm
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

Bangladesh A v West Indies A
Second Four-Day Match, Day 4
Time: 9:15am
Venue: BKSP

Henin's winning return

AFP, Paris



Four-time winner Justine Henin made a winning return to Roland Garros by beating Bulgaria's Tsvetana Pironkova 6-4, 6-3 to reach the French Open second round on Tuesday.

Henin, the number 22 seed, is appearing at her first French Open since she last won the event in 2007, having retired from tennis in 2008 and then returned to the sport at the beginning of this year.

The 27-year-old Belgian will face Czech Klara Zakopalova.

"I never expected to be back here again on this court," said Henin after taking her first steps on Court Philippe Chatrier since she overwhelmed Ana Ivanovic in the 2007 final.

"When I woke up this morning I wasn't sure what the emotions would be. But when I got out there, a lot of things came back to me.

"It was fantastic and it was an honour to be scheduled there."

Henin secured the first break of the match when she dispatched a crisp backhand return winner in the seventh game of the first set and a deft volley at 5-4 up brought her the set.

The decisive break in the second set also arrived in the seventh game and Henin went on to wrap up victory in one hour and 29 minutes when the Bulgarian lashed a backhand into the

tramlines.

Russian 29th seed Anastasiya Pavlyuchenkova booked her place in the next round with a 6-4, 6-2 defeat of home favourite Alize Cornet, while Slovakian 23rd seed Daniela Hantuchova thrashed Thai veteran Tamarine Tanasugarn 6-1, 6-1.

Israeli 18th seed Shahar Peer and Russian 21st seed Vera Zvonareva will also compete for a place in round three after both won in straight sets.

Four-time men's champion Rafael Nadal begins his campaign later on Tuesday when he takes on French teenager Gianni Mina and sixth seed Andy Roddick, the former world number one, faces Finland's Jarkko Nieminen.

Nadal's fellow Spaniard Fernando Verdasco, the seventh seed, breezed past Russia's Igor Kunitsyn 6-4, 6-2, 6-2, but Argentine 26th seed Juan Monaco fell 7-6 (8/6), 3-6, 7-5, 6-3 to Slovenian qualifier Grega Zemlja, the world 141.

Verdasco had to apologise earlier this week after shouting abuse at the French fans during his defeat to Richard Gasquet in the Nice final on Saturday and he refused to be drawn on the incident again.

"You keep asking me questions about this incident," snapped Verdasco at his post-match press conference.

"I said I don't want to add anything. If you keep asking the same questions, I'll answer the same answer, and then I get fed up."