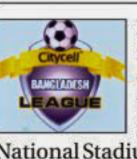
# MSC end on a high

SPORTS REPORTER



Mohammedan found fulfillment in the end with a 2-1 win over champions Abahani in their last Bangladesh League game at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Mamunul Islam's 74th minute strike fortheaward. decided the contest that only sprang to life after Zahid Hasan Emily opened the scoring for the Black & Whites after 30 minutes, and once more when both sets of fans climbed the railings and chased each other with sticks and bricks after the game. The small number of police struggled to calm the supporters who had turned up with band parties despite this being an insignificant

The win against Abahani meant Mohammedan not only broke Abahani's impressive 34-match unbeaten run in the league, but also recorded their first victory against their cross-town rivals in the profesthis league with 62 points from 24 games,

remaining unbeaten throughout.

The only thing that could have been decided in the game was the golden boot crown but that too would now fall into Enamul Haque's lap after Emily, who reached 19 goals with the opening goal in this game, left three minutes later due to a knee injury. Enamul, who didn't score yesterday, is on 21 goals and is a sure shot

Emily's goal was cancelled out by a superb strike from Abahani's foreign recruit Awudu Ibrahim in the 42nd minute. The Ghanaian striker collecting a throw-in, stepped towards the box and drove in a spectacular dipping shot to level the margin for Abahani, giving Mohammedan's goalkeeper Aminul Islam no chance.

But the experienced Aminul made two brilliant saves in the second half to keep them alive and having survived from those two close calls, Mohammedan reorganised to press hard to get the reward through a combined attack.

Nigerian Bukola, who squandered a couple sional football league. Mohammedan ended of scoring chances in the first half, ran down the **SEE PAGE 18 COL 1** 



ONE FINAL CHASE: Arif Khan Joy, Abahani's skipper, chases Mohammedan striker Alamu Bukola in their last Bangladesh League encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. This was the popular midfielder's final competitive game.

### **LOCAL SNIPPETS**

SPORTS REPORTER

The Citycell 30th National Badminton Championship got underway on Friday at the newly-built Wooden Floor Gymnasium with a record number of participating teams.

Some 290 shuttlers including 45 women from 70 teams from different districts, divisions, institutions and educational boards will take part in the championship, informed organizers at the press conference at the National Sports Council yesterday.

The sponsor and co-sponsors are providing Tk 18 lakh. Prize money will be given for the first time in the history of the national championship.

Bangladesh Badminton Federation president Rubaba Dowla, general secretary Mahbubur Rob, sponsor Citycell's head of marketing Taslim Ahmed, tournament director Golam Faruque Dewan and Riz Event managing director Rizwan Bin Faruque were among others present on the occasion.

BANGLADESH LEAGUE

Feni Soccer Club finished fourth in the Bangladesh League after playing a 1-1 draw against Brothers Union in their final game at the Shaheed Salam Stadium in Feni.

Enock Bentil put Brothers Union ahead in the 16th minute before Monayem Khan Raju leveled the margin for the hosts, SEE PAGE 18 COL 1

Industries Limited, at the BM College Auditorium in Barisal yesterday.

Bangladesh League

Shuktara v Ctg Mohammedan

Time: 3:30pm

Venue: Narayanganj Stadium

Farashganj v Arambagh

Time: 4:00pm

Venue: Bangabandhu National

Stadium, Dhaka

**TEN Sports &** 

SuperSport5

Zimbabwe v India

Tri-Series, Fourth ODI

Live from 1:00pm

STAR Sports &

SuperSport1

French Open Women's Singles SFs

Live from 6:00pm

**TEN Sports &** 

SuperSport2

West Indies v South

Africa

Fifth ODI

Live from 7:30pm

The Baily Star MRANGS TOSHIBA

## Brazil brighten Harare

AFP, Harare



Brazil weathered a Zimbabwe storm before scoring twice late in the opening half to set up a 3-0 victory on Wednesday in a World Cup warm-up game

It was easy in the end for the team ranked first in the world against one that does not even feature among the top 100, but the South Americans stamped their authority only after surviving several goalmouth

There will be one more African safari for the Brazilians, against Tanzania in Dar es Salaam next Monday, before they face likely Group G whipping boys North Korea on June 15 in Johannesburg.

Left-back Michel Bastos converted a freekick on 41 minutes, Robinho snatched an opportunist second three minutes later and Elano grabbed a soft third goal 11 minutes into the second half.

President Robert Mugabe and Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai were among a capacity crowd as Brazil faced African rivals for only the fifth time in their history after matches against Cameroon, Egypt, Nigeria and South Africa.

The 'Warriors' should have taken the lead on 19 minutes when shambolic Brazilian defending presented France-based Ovidy Karuru with a glorious close-range chance he blazed over.

Zimbabwe, who have never qualified for the World Cup, were stroking the ball about with the same aplomb as the five-time winners in warm, overcast weather at the 60,000-capacity National Stadium.

They came close again when livewire striker Knowledge Musona won a goalmouth aerial duel only to be denied by a diving parry from goalkeeper Heurelho Gomes, who had replaced Julio Cesar a few minutes earlier. Warm-up games do carry the risk of injuries

**SEE PAGE 18 COL 6** 

## it a day

SPORTS REPORTER

Former national skipper Arif Khan Joy hung up his boots after playing his last Bangladesh League match against Mohammedan Sporting Club at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Joy played for 30 minutes for Abahani before he was replaced by winger Zahed Hasan Chowdhury. Joy, who started his career in PWD in 1993 and played for popular outfits Mohammedan, Brothers Union and Muktijoddha Sangsad, put an end to his 17-year football career.

He was also a proud member of Bangladesh's winning squad of SAFF Championship in 2003 as he represented Bangladesh from 2000 to 2006.

He was later accorded a good reception outside the playing arena during the interval as the club officials, former players, his well-wishers and Bangladesh Football Federation greeted him offering flowers and crest.

Roger Federer

insists there will

be no inquests

into his shatter-

ing French

title instead.

year ago.



## Zidane starts a legacy

WORLD CUP 1998 CONTINUED

The remaining quarterfinals were enduring classics. Brazil held off the Danes in Nantes with two goals from Rivaldo helping them to a narrow 3-2 win. In Marseille's Stade Velodrome, Argentina and Holland served up a feast. An early exchange of goals from Patrick Kluivert and Claudio Lopez led to an even match of flowing football. But, in keeping with an unhappy tradition, Argentina then pressed the selfdestruct button as Ariel Ortega was dismissed for headbutting the chin of Holland keeper Edwin van der

Just when the game seemed destined for extra time, Dennis Bergkamp produced a goal that would grace any stage. Controlling a long pass instantly in the air, he wrong-footed a defender and prodded it with the outside of his boot into the roof of the net. Keeper Carlos Roa could do nothing but look on in admiration.

Marseille hosted the Dutch once more as they faced Brazil in the semifinal. After Ronaldo had scored a typical goal just after half-time, Brazil seemed to have a place in the final in their grasp, but Patrick Kluivert fired in three minutes from time. Again, the golden goal rule restricted both sides' ambitions and it was a penalty shoot-out once more. Brazil converted all four and Phillip Cocu and Ronald de Boer's misses put the favourites in the final.

There they would meet the hosts, who could thank defender Lilian Thuram's sudden discovery of a scoring touch when the game seemed to be turning towards Croatia. The Croats, for whom Davor Suker finished as the tournament's top scorer, satisfied themselves with a win in the third-place play-off over Holland.

The furore that blew up before the final is one of the greatest scandals in World Cup history and the true facts are still to be revealed, perhaps now lost in the mists of time and memory. When the teams for the match at Stade de France were initially announced, Ronaldo was missing from the team-sheet with Edmundo in his place.

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Heading for greatness. Zinedine Zidane smiles with the World Cup after heading out Brazil with two goals in the final. PHOTO: STAR ARCHIVE

### A game of 3 halves

REUTERS, Tokyo

Japan will play an extra half in their final World Cup warm-up against Ivory Coast on Friday, said coach Takeshi Okada.

"I want to give everyone a run-out and Ivory Coast have agreed to play another 45 minutes," Okada told Japanese reporters at the team's Swiss training camp on Wednesday.

"After we have completed the regular 90 minutes we will do another 45 when both sides will give the reserve players a game."

Japan, who have never won a World Cup game on foreign SEE PAGE 18 COL 5

#### Inter-College football

SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka College and Notre Dame College moved into the quarterfinals of the Inter-College Clear Men Confidence Cup football tournament beating their respective rivals at the Army Stadium in Banani yesterday.

Dhaka College defeated Residential Model College 5-3 in tiebreaker after the regulation time ended in a goalless draw.

In the day's other match, Notre Dame College crushed St Joseph College 3-0.

different if the tie was played said the 16-time Grand Slam out beneath bright sunshine rather than the damp, chilly murkiness which has shrouded most days at Roland

"You can't really practise with these kind of conditions,"

Open quarterfinal defeat, claiming he is already dream-

Roger to move on

ing of a seventh Wimbledon The world number one was bludgeoned into submission by the Swedish sledgehammer of Robin Soderling which also

pion Rafael Nadal's first Roland Garros career loss a Federer's shock 3-6, 6-3, 7-5, 6-4 defeat, which ended his one-year reign as French Open champion, also brought to an end his record, six-year

Slam semifinals appearances. But the great Swiss refuses to dwell on the implications of the defeat which could also see him relinquish the world number one spot to Nadal should the Spaniard clinch a fifth Paris crown on Sunday.

run of 23 successive Grand

accounted for four-time cham-

Federer believes Tuesday's outcome may have been Garros.

"You just take them the way they come. That's why it's **SEE PAGE 18 COL 2** 

interruption.

title winner whose rhythm

against Soderling was further

unsettled by a 75-minute rain



World number one Roger Federer of Switzerland tries to come to terms after his stunning defeat against Sweden's Robin Soderling in the French Open men's singles quarterfinal at the Roland Garros in Paris on Wednesday. Soderling won 6-3, 3-6, 5-7, 4-6.

## Mim has a refrigerator bigger than herself

The winners from the audience pose for photographs with former Bangladesh captain Zakaria Pintoo (2nd from R), chief guest of The

Daily Star-Rangs Toshiba World Cup Quiz Round 1 draw ceremony, and Rumee Hossain (2nd from L), managing director of Rangs

Draw of The Daily Star-Rangs Toshiba WC Quiz Round 1

ATIQUE ANAM from Barisal

Kamaluddin Ahmed, an avid football fan and a long-time subscriber of The Daily Star, watches football matches with his entire family.

His joy will be many fold this time around since his fiveyear-old daughter Nurjahan Mim won the first prize -- an 8 CFT Toshiba refrigerator -- in the first round of The Daily Star-Rangs Toshiba World Cup Quiz 2010 held at the famed BM College Auditorium here yesterday.

When contacted about his daughter's success, Kamaluddin was overwhelmed with emotions. "I dropped coupons for my wife, daughter, son and myself in the hope that one might win a prize. But I never thought we would win the first prize," he said in his instant reaction

overphone. "I'm so happy that I cannot express my feelings. I'm going to call my family and share the good news," said Kamaluddin, a service holder who resides in

SuperSport3 Golapbagh of the capital. Friendly Internationals The coupons were picked Spain v South Korea up before a large audience by Live at 8:30pm renowned personalities. Italy v Mexico Interestingly enough, all the Live at 11:30pm winners were from Dhaka.

However the audience present Rumee Hossain thanked the BM College authority for at the hall were not left staging this event. dejected since they too won attractive gifts through a lottery on entry coupons.

"We and The Daily Star

SEE PAGE 18 COL 6

All five, except for one little girl who came from Khulna to perform on the stage, were either students or job holders from Barisal. Rashed Khan Shumon, Tapan Mazumder, Ali Jasim, MA Qayyum and Orko were the lucky winners.

Apart from the prizes, there were performances from local singers that added to the festivity of the occasion.

The programme started with an introductory speech from the Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam who highlighted the spirit of football as supreme and termed the World Cup the most unifying month in four

"During the 90 minutes of World Cup matches, people from all corners of the world come to one point, forgetting the divide.

"This great game teaches us how to be part of a team in order to be successful and also the spirit of competition to

Managing director of sponsors Rangs Industries Limited





Semi 1

Winner of Match 1 VS Winner of Match 4

Time: 9:30am - 10:30am

Semi 2

Winner of Match 2 VS Winner of Match 3 Time: 11:00am - 12:00pm

**Army Stadium** 





• Match 1 R.C.C.I Public College VS Rajshahi New Govt. Degree College • Match 2 B L College VS Govt. Barishal College • Match 3 Dhaka College VS B.A.F Shaheen College • Match 4 Notre Dame College VS Madanmohan College