

Former Greece national team coach Otto Rehhagel will be honoured during an international friendly between Greece and Canada on February 9, 2011, the Greek Football Federation announced Friday. Rehhagel, 72, coached Greece for 106 matches from August 2001 to this summer's World Cup, registering 53 wins, 23 draws and 30 defeats. The German coach, known as 'King Otto' in Greece, is best known for leading his team to a surprise Euro 2004 title and participation in Euro 2008 and the 2010 World Cup. Rehhagel was succeeded by Portugal's Fernando Santos who is



# SPORT

DHAKA SUNDAY NOVEMBER 28, 2010, E-MAIL: sports@thedailystar.net

## School soccer from Dec 29

SPORTS REPORTER

The Ashiyon City Dhaka Metropolitan School Football Tournament kicks off on December 29 at the Birshreshtha Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur.

Fifty school teams from Dhaka metropolis, split into five zones, are expected to take part in the meet.

Regarding the event, Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) signed a MOU with sponsors Ashiyon Group at the conference room of BFF House yesterday. Chairman of the BFF National School Football Committee Mahfuzur Rahman and deputy managing director of Ashiyon Group Saiful Islam Bhuiyan signed for their respective sides.

Mahfuzur hoped that Ashiyon would partner BFF for a long time and help groom talented young booters.

Saiful's assurance was: "We have sponsored different sports events earlier but this is our first involvement with football. We want to continue this relationship."

## Div I Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Hossain's 68 took Bangladesh Boys to a facile five-wicket win over North Bengal Cricket Academy in the First Division Cricket League at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Batting first, North Bengal made 205-6 in 50 overs with Atique scoring an unbeaten 61. But Hossain's half-century was enough for Bangladesh Boys as they romped home in just 39 overs, losing five wickets.

In the day's other match, Young Pegasus (176-8) beat Gopibagh Friends Association (175 all out) by two wickets at BKSP. Aslam top-scored for Young Pegasus with 51.

## Ansar win all 3 gold

SPORTS REPORTER

Ansar & VDP captured all three individual gold medals decided on the second day of the 34th NCC Bank National Cycling Championship yesterday.

Tariqul Islam won the men's 24km mass start (track) with a timing of 46:52.25 minutes, Sharifa Akter Tania won women's 6km individual time trial clocking 12:07.36 minutes while Anwar Hossain won the men's 10km individual time trial in a time of 17:19.19 minutes.

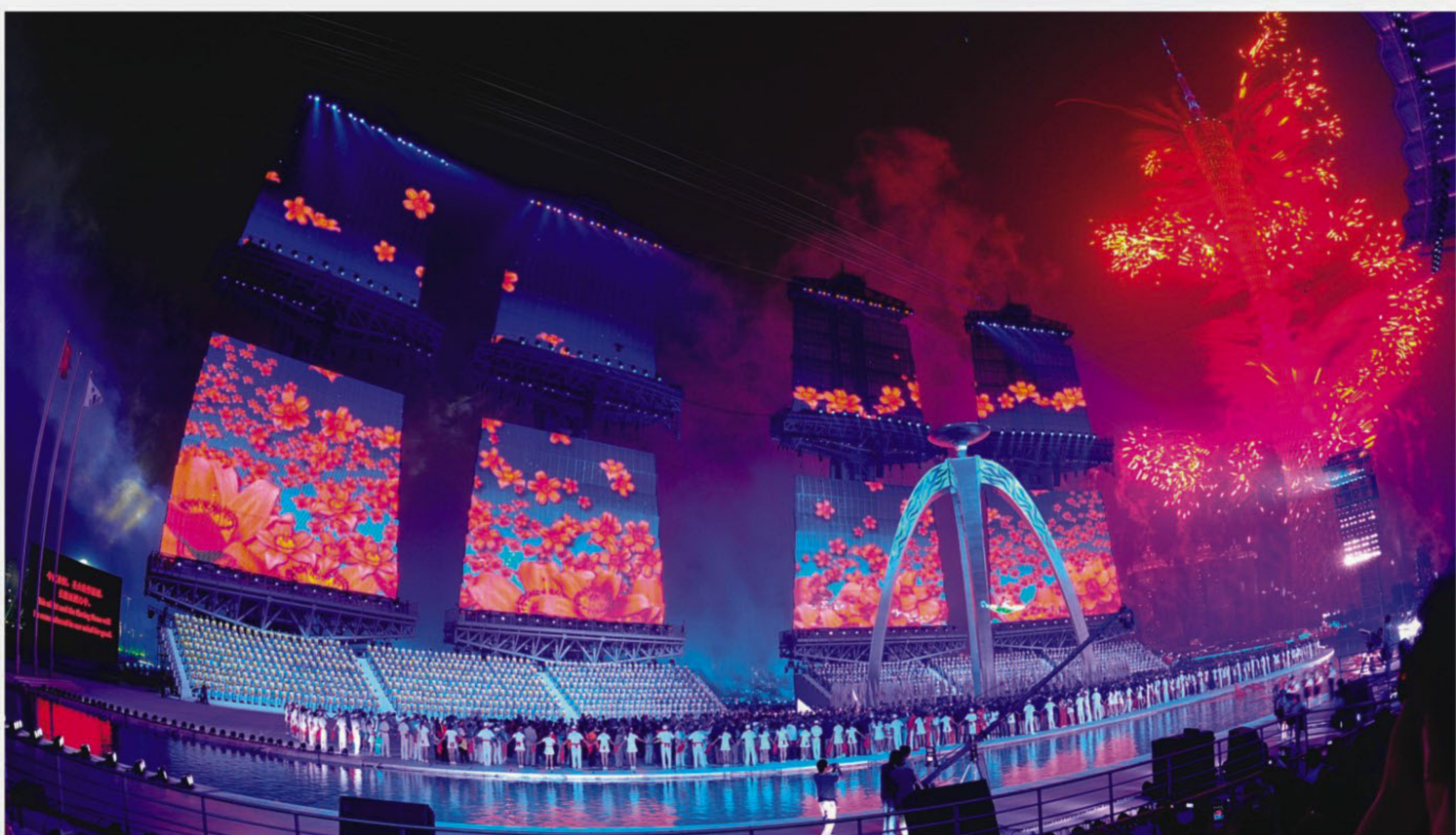
The other four events that started in the evening could not be finished yesterday due to insufficient light.

## SPORTS POLL WEEKLY QUESTION

Should the national selectors include Mohammad Ashraf for the series against Zim?

Visit the sports page of www.thedailystar.net to cast vote

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Spectacular scenes as fireworks go off at Guangzhou as the 16th Asian Games come to a close yesterday through a breathtaking closing ceremony. The Asian Games were a tremendous success, further reinforcing China's credentials as hosts of world sporting events after their successful staging of the Olympics two years ago. Bangladesh had a share in the glory too, winning their first ever gold medal in the men's cricket event.

## Games end with a bang

AFP, Guangzhou

The 16th Asian Games officially closed on Saturday in the southern Chinese metropolis of Guangzhou with a rousing and colourful outdoor spectacular.

Like the acclaimed curtain-raiser just over two weeks ago, the closing gala was held not inside a stadium but on a boat-shaped island in the middle of the Pearl River, which meanders through the heart of China's third-largest city.

"The 16th Asian Games, which has been a huge success, comes to an end," said Olympic Council of Asia president Sheikh Ahmed Al Fahad Al Sabah.

"This edition of the Games has, without a doubt, been one of the most outstanding in the history of the event."

On a warm night, a volley of red and white fireworks was unleashed from the 610-metre Guangzhou Television Tower to signal the evening's festivities were underway, as a Games dominated by Chinese athletes neared its climax.

Thousands more fireworks, in green, red, gold and silver, boomed out across the vast city's hazy skyline.

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## ICC CRICKET WORLD CUP HISTORY

### Cup facts

Eight teams participated in the 1983 World Cup, the third consecutive World Cup to be hosted in England, and the third overall.

The participating teams were India, West Indies, England, Pakistan, New Zealand, Australia, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe.

Sri Lanka were awarded Test status in 1981, and Zimbabwe were the sole associate nation in the tournament, having qualified through a separate tournament between the Associate members called the ICC Trophy.

The format had been changed from the tournament's first two editions. As before, there were two groups of four teams each, with the top two qualifying for the semifinals. The difference in 1983 was that each team would play its group members twice, in an attempt to reduce the impact of weather interruptions. Consequently, there were 27 matches in the 1983 World Cup, as opposed to 15 each in the earlier editions.

England, Pakistan, New Zealand and Sri Lanka made up Group A, while West Indies, India, Australia and Zimbabwe were in Group B.

Zimbabwe bagged a victory in their first international match, on the opening day of the World Cup, beating Australia at Trent Bridge on June 9.

The unbeaten partnership of 126 between Kapil Dev and Syed Kirmani against Zimbabwe at Tunbridge Wells on June 18 is the highest for the ninth wicket in World Cups, and the second highest overall for the ninth wicket.

New Zealand's Martin Snedden holds the record for conceding the highest number of runs in a World Cup game, in the first match of the 1983 World Cup, against England at The Oval on June. He was taken for 105 runs off his twelve overs.

Pakistan's total of 338 for five against Sri Lanka at Swansea on June 9 was the highest total for the 1983 World Cup, and the then highest World Cup score.

David Gower was the highest run-scorer of the tournament, heading the batting charts with 384 runs (one 100, one 50). Master blaster Viv Richards was seventeen behind with 367 (one 100, two 50s).

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## 'Zim should feel scared'

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Given the recent record between the two sides, it was no surprise that someone from the Zimbabwe camp called themselves the 'underdogs' while their opponents would feel confident.

Bangladesh have won the last five one-day series against Zimbabwe and the overall win-loss ratio too is tilted towards the Tigers, who have won 25 out of 47 matches since their first ODI encounter in 1997.

So when Bangladesh's fielding coach

Julien Fountain thinks the Zimbabweans are right to call themselves the little guys, the confidence doesn't seem misplaced.

"I think they are probably right. They are the underdogs. We are at home; it is our wicket, our conditions and our crowd. They should feel a little scared," said Fountain after practice at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

Fountain said this after Elton Chigumbura, the Zimbabwe captain, recognised themselves as the underdogs, saying, "Definitely they [Bangladesh] are playing well at home. We are the underdogs but we just need to play our best cricket," he said.

Of course, the change of guard has taken place during the five series wins over the past four years. And over the past year or so however, Zimbabwe have slowly returned to some semblance of form, stringing together a useful side that beat the Tigers twice last year.

Heath Streak, here as the team's bowling coach, believes Zimbabwe have improved quite a bit since the last time they visited these shores. "We played a lot between now and then and we had a good series at home against Sri Lanka and India and quite a competitive series against South Africa."

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**Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan (C) enjoys a light moment with his teammates during the national team's practice session at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Dhaka yesterday.**



PHOTO: STAR



Australia batsman Michael Hussey pulls a ball on his way to scoring a Test-best 195 on the third day of the first Ashes Test in Brisbane yesterday.

## Hs put Aussies on top

Cricket

AFP, Brisbane

England were battling to avoid going one down in the Ashes series after centuries for Mike Hussey and Brad Haddin gave Australia a massive innings lead in the first Test on Saturday.

Hussey registered his highest Test score of 195 and Haddin contributed 136 in a Gabba record stand of 307 runs to propel Australia to a 221-run first innings lead on the third day.

England, who have not won a Brisbane Test since Mike Gatting's team prevailed by seven wickets in 1986, reached the close at 19 without loss with Andrew Strauss on 11 and Alastair Cook six.

Australia kept England toiling in the field for 158.4 overs and almost 12 hours before they got their second turn batting, but Hussey said the job was not done yet.

The six-and-a-half hour partnership ended 20 minutes after tea when Haddin was snapped up by Paul Collingwood at first slip off spinner Graeme Swann for 136.

The six-and-a-half hour stand trumped the previous Gabba record partnership of 276 between Don Bradman and Lindsay Hassett for the third wicket against England in 1946-47. It also ranked as the 12th highest stand in

Ashes Tests and the fifth best in Australia. Hussey surpassed his previous highest Test score of 182 against Bangladesh in Chittagong in 2006, more than justifying the selectors' faith as he registered his 12th Test century.

The century ended a lean run since his last hundred (134 not out) against Pakistan in Sydney last January, 14 Test innings ago.

The 35-year-old was finally out when he pulled Steven Finn to Cook at deep square leg, ending an eight-hour 330-ball vigil which included 26 fours and a six.

Haddin's third Test century, his second against England, came in 398 minutes with 16 fours and one six and he brought up his ton with a flourish, slamming Swann over his head for six.

It was a deflating day for England, who began promisingly and had little luck in the extended morning session but fell away under the onslaught from the Australian pair.

James Anderson put Haddin down on 113 in Stuart Broad's 29th over after the wicketkeeper had given an earlier chance on 63, when Cook could not take a running catch at long-off from Collingwood's bowling.

The tourists' fielding became ragged and there were several fumbles as Hussey and Haddin continued to pick runs off their bowlers.

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## 'Cos bosses are away

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) announced a 14-member BCB XI team yesterday for tomorrow's practice match against visiting Zimbabwe which will be held at BKSP in Savar.

It was also expected that the BCB would announce the national team for the five-match one-day series against the Africans on Saturday as the team is scheduled to check into hotel today and the first ODI is on December 1 at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.

But surprisingly the governing body failed to announce the team yesterday despite the fact that the three-member selection committee, led by Rafiqul Alam, has already submitted the list to the authority.

The reason behind not announcing the squad was as funny as it could be in these modern days; the board high-ups including president AHM Mustafa Kamal are abroad.

"For some technical reasons we cannot announce the team as some of our board high-ups including our president are now abroad. We are waiting for the return of board president who is due here today. And definitely it will be announced before the team checks into the hotel tomorrow [Sunday]," explained

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## What to WATCH

- STAR Cricket**  
Australia v England  
First Test, Day 4  
Live from 6:00am
- NEO Cricket**  
India v New Zealand  
First one-day international  
Live from 9:00am
- ESPN**  
English Premiership  
Newcastle v Chelsea  
Live from 7:25pm
- Tottenham v Liverpool  
Live from 9:55pm