DHAKA SATURDAY DECEMBER 25, 2010, E-MAIL: sports@thedailystar.net

Gillette parts with Woods

Procter and Gamble's Gillette brand will end its endorsement deal with golfer Tiger Woods when their current contract expires on December 31, a Gillette spokesman said Thursday. "The program was created in 2007 and like any brand, we refresh our marketing efforts to ensure they continue to be relevant for our consumers," said Norton, who confirmed that the company's deal with French footballer Thierry Henry will also expire on December 31. "The athletes' contracts ran their full term," Norton said.

The parting with Gillette comes as Woods completes his first professional season without a victory.





NOT A CAPTAIN'S CONDUCT: (Clockwise from top) Shakib Al Hasan's attempted sweep pops up as wicketkeeper Dhiman Ghosh lines up the catch. But the left-hander was none too pleased after being given out and stands his ground. He walks up to umpire Mizanur Rahman Milon to query the dismissal during the Mohammedan-Surjo Torun Premier League game at the BKSP in Savar yesterday. Shakib was later fined Tk 10,000 for this misconduct. PHOTOS: ANISUR RAHMAN



Biman soar over BKSP

SPORTS REPORTER

Mushfiqur Rahim continued his good form by hitting his third consecutive half-century as Biman maintained their winning run with a massive 101-run victory over BKSP in their Premier Division League match at the Shahid Kamruzzaman Stadium in Rajshahi yesterday.

Riding on a 106-run fourth wicket partnership between Mushfigur and Sri Lankan Bathya Perera, Biman posted a challenging total of 252 for seven in 48 overs after being put into bat first in the curtailed over match. Two overs were curtailed for delayed start due to foggy weather.

The wicketkeeper batsman Mushfiqur slammed a 92-ball 80 that contained ten fours and a six while Perera, the 33year old right-hander, contributed 68 off 104 balls that featured four boundaries.

Opener Jahirul Islam also got off to a good start but he was bowled by pacer Shoumya Sarkar for a 21-ball 23 that saw three sweetly timed boundaries while Jeesan Asif was the other notable scorer with 30 off 27 balls.

Left-hander Mosharraf Hossain smashed two fours SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

Fracas, dissent spoil day

Big guns win amid heated scenes

SPORTS REPORTER



Sporadic battles erupted in the Premier Cricket League yesterday, leaving cricket in the lurch.

Two players were suspended for a game each and Shakib Al Hasan was handed a fine as the two incidents in BKSP and Bogra also underlined the need for stronger umpiring in

domestic cricket. Though Mohammedan Sporting Club beat Surjo Tarun by three wickets, thanks to a fine half-century from the defending champions' new Pakistani recruit Mohammad Yousuf, and Abahani crushed

Gazi Tank by seven wickets in a clinical display, cricket became secondary during the latter part of It was found out that none of the umpires' reports at the end of the two matches were an accurate representation of what actually happened. One CCDM (Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolis) official, requesting anonymity, said that the reports clearly indicated the weaknesses of the umpires assigned to domestic matches. The umpiring is not only poor but

many also lack the courage to take important deci-

sions. "It just shows the umpires' limitations. They do

not want to point fingers at the bigger teams," said

the official. "If the umpires gave a true account of

what happened, the punishments would have been appropriate," he added.

At the Shaheed Chandu Stadium in Bogra, Gazi Tank's Sabbir Rahman Rumman and Riyad were suspended for a match each after they squared off mid-pitch following Rumman's sledging of Abahani's Australian import Lee Carseldine. In almost the same time in Savar, Mohammedan skipper Shakib stood his ground for several minutes after being given out. He questioned the umpire Mizanur Rahman Milon's decision before trudging off as his teammates abused the umpires. The left-hander's attempted sweep was adjudged

caught-behind off Sohrawardi Shuvo in the 19th over. The country's premier all-rounder stood his ground in a huff for close to five minutes and went up to the umpire to question the decision. Some Mohammedan players vented their frustration by abusing the umpire in question. "He [Shakib Al Hasan] was not satisfied. He stood down for more than the allowable time. It was not expected from the captain of the team," said match referee Roquibul Hassan.

"He went to the umpire and said that it struck his hand, there was no abusive language from Shakib. I called up Tamim [Iqbal] as witness to Shakib as the vicecaptain is usually asked to do that when the captain is involved," added the former national captain.

In the Bogra incident, a melee broke out between the batsmen and some of the fielders after

Rumman's verbal attack on Carseldine, according to those watching the match. Riyad retaliated and at the same time, Gazi Tank captain Naeem Islam and Nasir Hossain got involved.

"Shakib was fined Tk 10,000 while in Bogra, Riyad and Rumman were both suspended for one match each. Naeem and Nasir were also fined Tk 5,000 and Tk 3,000 each," informed CCDM coordinator Qazi Aynul Islam.

MSC-SURJOTORUN

The Shakib incident apart, it was a tight game after Surjo Torun made a fighting 245-7 from their 50 overs. Hamidul Islam struck four boundaries and three sixes in his 71 and Junaed Siddiqui made 69. Dhiman Ghosh too made sure of a stiff Mohammedan chase with his 19-ball 39 that included four sixes.

Tamim Iqbal again made a good start but his 55ball 66 ended in the 18th over. After Shakib's controversial dismissal, Faisal Hossain (54) and Yousuf added 104 for the fifth wicket, steering the Motijheel outfit to a second win

GAZI-ABAHANI

Before being suspended, Riyad took three wickets as Abahani skittled out Gazi Tank for only 131 runs in 39.1 overs. Pacemen Alauddin Babu and Abul Hasan also took two wickets each.

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Junaed injury not too serious

SPORTS REPORTER

Following Mashrafe Bin Mortaza's knee injury, Bangladesh batsman Junaed Siddiqui was also hurt yesterday during the Premier Division Cricket League match also at BKSP.

The left-handed Junaed picked up the injury to his left foot while he was batting for Surjo Torun Club against defending champions Mohammedan Sporting Club. Thankfully though, BCB's sports physician Dr. Md Manirul Amin confirmed that it was a minor injury.

"It's just a stretched Achilles tendon. It's a minor injury and he will be okay very soon. There is nothing to be worried about regarding his injury," ensured Dr Amin.

Meanwhile, Mashrafe, who is now under conservative treatment and uncertain for the World Cup, sustained an injury on his right knee during the match between Abahani and BKSP on Tuesday.

ICC CRICKET-WORLD CUP HISTORY

Three in a row



The 2007 World Cup was the first to be held in the West Indies. It was a departure of sorts from previous editions. The ten Test nations together with ODI status holder Kenya were joined by qualifiers from the 2005 ICC trophy: Bermuda, Canada, Ireland, Netherlands and Scotland, making it the big-

gest tournament. Champions: Australia

The format may have been different, but the outcome was the same as 2003. Australia occupied a plane above that of any other team. They progressed unchallenged throughout the tournament, extending their World Cup undefeated streak to an eyepopping 29 matches, dating back to the group stage of the 1999 World Cup.

Adam Gilchrist and Matthew Hayden showed their value in the final when they piled on 172 runs for the first wicket against Sri Lanka. Hayden was the highest scorer with 659 runs, and Gilchrist was the man-of-the-final, scoring an explosive 104-ball 149.

The vaunted trio of Darren Lehmann, Michael Bevan and Damien Martyn made way for Michael Clarke and Michael Hussey, excellent players of spin, and Shane Watson. Allrounders Watson and Andrew Symonds looked after the pyrotechnics while also making valuable contributions with their bowling.

With the exception of Sri Lanka's victory in 1996, an exceptional bowling attack has been one of the more important attributes of a cup-winning side, and it was no different with Australia. With Brett Lee out injured, Australia still had the legendary Glenn McGrath leading the charge. He created a new record by

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SPORTS POLL WEEKLY QUESTION

win the Bangladesh League this season? Visit the sports page of

Which team you think will

www.thedailystar.net to cast vote Follow The Daily Star Sport on

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STAR Cricket Australia v England Fourth Test, Day 1 Live from 5:30am (Sunday)



Premier Division Cricket League

Victoria v Cricket Coaching Venue: Bogra Kalabagan v Old DOHS Venue: Rajshahi Prime Doleshwar v Orient

Business end of Ashes'

Fourth Test starts tomorrow

Cricket

AFP, Melbourne

England still have the upper hand going into the final two Tests of an enthralling Ashes series, needing only one more victory to retain the coveted urn against Australia.

Australia go into Sunday's fourth Melbourne Test fuelled by the momentum from their emphatic 267-run victory in Perth, which levelled the series at 1-1. But they cannot afford a slip-up in the last two matches.

"We always talk about the last two Tests in a series being where things are won and lost," England skipper Andrew Strauss said on Friday.

"The first few games set it up and the last couple

bringithome. That is the challenge for us." England looked poised for their first series triumph Down Under since 1986-87 after an innings victory in the second Adelaide Test, before Ricky Ponting's team hit back spectacularly in the third Test at the WACA.

"All of us need to bring it together in the last two games here and at Sydney," Strauss said in Melbourne.

"Most of our guys still feel in pretty good form, but you need those guys to stand up and deliver at the business end of the series."

Alastair Cook has scored 495 in five innings, Strauss and Jonathan Trott hit centuries in Brisbane, and Kevin Pietersen was unstoppable SEE PAGE 17 COL 5



England pacer James Anderson dives to catch a ball during a training session in Melbourne yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

Road show in Panchagarh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

In a bid to inspire and connect the country's people with the upcoming ICC Cricket World Cup, a road show titled 'Catch Bangladesh Catch' reached Panchagarh yesterday after

startingfrom Dhaka on Monday. A colourful procession with festoons, banners, flags was brought out from Martyrs Memorial premises that ended at Panchagarh Government Auditorium after parading the main streets of the town as the District Sports Association and clubs' officials, students from

Nat'l kabaddi

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SPORTS REPORTER

Three teams moved into the finals of the Standard Chartered National Kabaddi Championship after emerging zonal champions at different venues yesterday.

Dhaka clinched the zonal title beating Kishorganj 62-27 in the final. Tangail emerged champions defeating hosts Manikganj 56-22 while hosts Dinajpur beat Joypurhat 29-16 to become zonal champions.

Besides, Jhalakathi, Jessore, Khulna, Chittagong and Comilla advanced into the zonal finals beating their respective rivals.



Surjo Torun batsman Junaed Siddiqui has his left ankle wrapped up during the Premier League match against Mohammedan at the BKSP in Savar yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

Clamour over bleep tests



SPORTS REPORTER

The five foreign players from Brothers Union finally turned up for the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) monitored bleep test yesterday at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. But they all skipped the fitness examination citing injury problems and sickness, triggering a fear that they would not be allowed for the upcoming Bangladesh League.

Brothers Union, the semifinalists of the Federation Cup, had earlier skipped three bleep tests arranged by the BFF, saying that the task of

testing the fitness of the foreign players was a job for the clubs.

Of the five foreign players, four informed the panel of the bleep test that they were injured and would not able to take part in the test while the fifth player skipped the test for sickness.

According to the bylaws of the Bangladesh League, incorporated this year, no foreign players will be given accreditation for the professional football league until he is declared fit through the bleep test.

Arambagh's Mostafa Kaba was also present but did not take part due to injury problems.

Except the five Brothers players, Abahani's Awudu Ibrahim, Mohammedan's Emeka

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