

Star SPORT

DHAKA THURSDAY MAY 19, 2011, E-MAIL: sports@thedailystar.net

Defoe unsettled at Spurs

England striker Jermain Defoe has said he would consider leaving Tottenham if he fails to make it back as a regular starter in the side. Defoe has dropped out of Harry Redknapp's first-choice team this season as he has struggled for goals, with only four in the league all campaign. "I want to help the club achieve things, win trophies and get in the Champions League, but when you feel like you are working hard, training hard and being professional, and then for some reason you are not playing, it is difficult," Defoe told Sky Sports News.

- AFP



PHOTO: STAR

Brothers Union striker Syed Rashed Turjo (R) is at full stretch as he tries to get a boot on the ball before the Mohammedan defender during their Bangladesh League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Sylhet: Draws deliver bronze

The 12th National Cricket League has concluded on May 14, bringing an end to the country's first-class season. Eight months ago, The Daily Star Sport ran previews of all six divisional sides taking part in the competition and now as part of its evaluation of the campaigners, today it is publishing the fourth episode, that of Sylhet's. Tomorrow, the fifth part of this series will be published.

Cricket

MOHAMMAD ISAM

Before the season began, Sylhet had to break the jinx of a 25-game winless record. That streak has been extended by eight more games and another year, but that would hardly put off anyone related to cricket in the north-western division.

As the third-placed side in the National Cricket League this season, Sylhet walked away with Tk 3 lakh and recognition for being the most improved team in the competition after they finished sixth last season.

When the NCL was first scheduled to begin (in September last year), the players trained at the stadium where the facilities are well below required standards. Since the rainy season was at its peak during the camp, the indoor facility was the only resort and there too, the

players found out it was not good enough. So how did the division that has virtually no cricketing infrastructure to speak of and after years of poor performance, make such progress?

Left-arm spinner Nabil Samad believed that several factors led to this year's better showing, all linked to batting and the batsmen's form.



RAJIN SALEH

SYLHET

Position in 2010-11: Third (no wins)
Top scorer: Rajin Saleh (569 runs)
Most wickets: Shaker Ahmed (30 wickets)
High point: Tasamul Haque
Low point: Collapse against Rajshahi

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Nat'l camp from June 4

SPORTS REPORTER

The national cricketers will start their fitness training from June 4 at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.

The Akram Khan-led new national selection committee will pick a 30-member preliminary squad for the camp in their first assignment. The camp will be conducted under the guidance of trainer Grant Luden for the Tigers next assignment against Zimbabwe in July-August.

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Mizan propels Rajshahi to final

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Mizanur Rahman slammed an unbeaten hundred as Rajshahi reached the final of the 31st Inter District Cricket Championship with a comfortable seven-wicket victory against Sylhet in the second semifinal at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday. Rajshahi will play Friday's final against Mymensingh at the same venue.

Sanjamul Islam set the platform for Rajshahi to coast to an easy victory as the left-arm spinner claimed four wickets for 33 runs in a ten over spell to dismiss Sylhet for 196 in 49 overs.

In chase of the paltry target, Rajshahi opener Mizanur Rahman and Asif Naeem foiled any attempt of



Rajshahi opener Mizan acknowledges the cheers after reaching his century against Sylhet in the second semifinal of the 31st Inter District Cricket Championship at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Tk 11.4 lakh in Sadi fund

Different organisations and personalities have come forward to extend their helping hands in support of ailing sports reporter Al Musabbir Sadi, who is currently fighting against cancer.

So far, an amount of Tk 11,40,000 has been donated to the account opened with South East Bank for his treatment.

Amongst the latest to donate are: Bangladesh Cricket Board with Tk 2 lakh, Matin Chowdhury, managing director of Malek Spinning Limited and event management company Masthead PR with Tk 1 lakh each.

Bangladesh Sports Writers Association and Enayet Hossain Seraj, a director of BCB, have each donated Tk 50,000 to the fund.

The appeal to save Sadi,

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