

Star SPORT

DHAKA THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 15, 2011, E-MAIL: sports@thedailystar.net

Mansfield pull off a stunner

Blue Square Premier side Mansfield Town have named 29-year-old Carolyn Still their new CEO, making her the youngest to hold such a position in English football. Still comes from the fashion industry where she previously worked in two luxury goods companies, Bulgari SpA and Gucci Group. She hopes to bring some new ideas from that field to football. "I want to wake sleeping fans with a lot of different initiatives by liaising with them and finding what they want." She's already woken more than a few sleeping fans. And Ryan Giggs has



BFF to tighten noose on match-fixing

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh League Committee has taken an initiative to strengthen the bylaws of the professional league following the bitter experience of match-fixing allegations against Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club and Rahmatganj MFS last season.

Though it is clearly stated in the bylaws of the professional football league that the game's governing body reserves the right to exclude any team from the professional football league if they are found to have participated in any fixed match, neither Sheikh Jamal nor Rahmatganj were relegated for their involvement in match-fixing as they walked out with monetary punishment and short-term bans to a few players and officials.

In a bid to making fill the loopholes

and make the matter more transparent, the League Committee proposed to form a special committee which will comprise acceptable persons to all the parties, even though they won't be associated to any of the clubs. The committee can also seek help from law enforcing agencies if they think so.

"The verdict of the special committee will be considered as the final decision regarding match-fixing and there will be no option to challenge decision taken by the committee," said league committee member Anwarul Haq Helal adding that nothing has yet been finalised. The league committee would sit for a meeting on Saturday to finalise the proposal.

Each and every match of the Bangladesh League will be captured on video camera from the next edition (upcoming) of the league and those footages will be considered as important proof for any investigation

into match fixing allegation.

However, the terms and reference of the special committee will be prepared later if the BFF executive committee gives its green signal.

Helal said there will be an option of deducting six points from the clubs' points tally if they are found involved in fixing matches while that specific match will be declared cancelled.

The former BFF general secretary however could not clarify what the highest punishment for playing fixed match will be. The league committee manager Abu Nayeem Shohag said the next meeting will make this matter clear.

There is also a bar on using mobile phones inside the field during a match currently, although there was no implementation of that rule in the past. Helal said they would be more stringent on enforcing it this time.

The League Committee plans to

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Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt crosses the finish line as he wins the 100 metre sprint in 9.85 seconds, setting a track record at the IAAF World Challenge in Zagreb on Tuesday.

PHOTO: AFP



Bolt's record burst

AFP, Zagreb

Jamaican athletics superstar Usain Bolt ran a track record 9.85sec in the 100m at the athletics meeting here Tuesday, smashing long-standing American rival Tyson Gay's mark of 9.92 set last year.

The 25-year-old Olympic titleholder -- who lost his world crown last month after being disqualified for false starting -- eased away to win in what was for him also a season's best time, though, a fair bit off his world record of 9.58sec.

St Kitts and Nevis's 35-year-old Kim Collins, 2003 world champion and bronze medalist last month, finished second while Trinidad and Tobago's Richard Thompson was third.

Collins timed 10.01sec while Thompson finished in 10.03sec.

Bolt, who nevertheless retained his world 200m crown and also anchored the Jamaican team to a world record in the 4x100m relay, said that he wasn't satisfied with his run overall because of a problem that has been dogging him all season.

"I had a bad start, that's the reason why I had lost concentration, a little bit. It was already happening to me this year," he said.

"But, I felt wonderful here. I remember my last meeting here, in Zagreb [in 2006]."

"Then and tonight again, I had great support from the spectators," he stressed.

Cuba's Olympic champion Dayron Robles won the 110m hurdles in 13.00 seconds, which was also his season's best. World champion American Jason Richardson was second in 13.04sec.

"I did not expect such a

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Siddikur flies for Macau

SPORTS REPORTER

Siddikur Rahman left Dhaka last night for Macau where he will take part in the Asian Tour's Macau Open which starts today. Siddikur, the Brunei Open winner of 2010, will have to compete with the biggest names in Asian golf including defending champion Thaworn Wiratchant of Thailand, Asian Order of Merit leader SSP Chowrasia, Shiv Kapur and Jeev Milkha Singh of India, Marcus Both of Australia and Jbe Kruger of South Africa whom he beat to win the Brunei Open last year.

The 750,000 tournament at the Macau Golf and Country Club will end on September 18. Siddikur will then fly to Japan for the 1,700,000 dollar Asia Pacific Panasonic Open which will start on September 22 and end on 25.

Pakistan sweep series

Cricket

AFP, Harare

Pakistan won the one-day international series against Zimbabwe with a 3-0 white-wash by taking the closing match with 28 runs to spare at Harare Sports Club here Wednesday.

Pakistan, having been put into bat by the hosts captain Brendan Taylor, set a target of 270-5 with Zimbabwe making 242-9 in reply. Pakistan captain Misbahul Haq said afterwards that Pakistan's policy of sending out a young and relatively inexperienced team had paid off and he was delighted with their overall performances.

He said: "This is all a good sign for the future of Pakistan cricket and from that viewpoint alone it was worth coming."

Pakistan, who had scrambled to a five run win in the opening match and took the second by 10 wickets, were always the dominant side. Zimbabwe put up a strong showing, their failing being continually behind the required run rate.

Pakistan got off to a spirited start through Mohammad Hafeez and Imran Farhat, who sped to 32 runs in the first three overs.

The innings settled after that, especially when Harfeez fell for 23 and Farhat for 37.

The run-rate settled on about five an over, even though Asad Shafiq, one of three young players introduced scored 51 and the old campaigner Younis Khan made 81.

It was Shafiq's fifth half century and Khan's 44th. Khan was out to a wonderful caught and bowled by Kyle Jarvis just when he had his sights on a seventh ODI century.

Shoaib Malik once again disappointed with 14 and the finishing touches were aggressively applied to the Pakistan innings by Misbah, 29, and Adnan Akmal with 24.

Their target, stated before the match by Misbah to be 270 to 280 was therefore satisfactory, and seemed on the recent form of Zimbabwe to be well beyond the home team's reach.

However Zimbabwe made a serious effort to get there. But even though Justice Chibhabha with 62 and Vusi Sibanda on 59 made a strong early showing, it didn't have

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Premier Div kabaddi from today

SPORTS REPORTER

Runner 13th Premier Division Kabaddi League gets underway today at the Kabaddi Stadium with 14 teams taking part in the event.

Defending champions Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) will look to defend their title as they take on Azad Sporting Club in one of three matches on the opening day. Fourteen teams, split into four groups, will play in round-robin league format, speakers informed at the press conference at the Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation office yesterday.

Top finisher from each of four groups will qualify for the Super League and the

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Bangladesh women cricketers practise at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in preparation for the Women's World Cup qualifiers in November.

PHOTO: STAR

Harris blow to Aussies

Cricket

AFP, Colombo

Australian fast bowler Ryan Harris looks unlikely to start in the upcoming third and final cricket Test against Sri Lanka after scans revealed a hamstring strain.

Harris had complained of a stiff right hamstring on the last day of the drawn second Test in Pallekele on Monday and underwent scans when the team drove to Colombo on Tuesday afternoon.

Australia, leading 1-0 in the three-match series, are unlikely to risk Harris in the final Test starting at the Sinhalese Sports Club on Friday, although the bowler himself is keen to play.

"I want to play as much as I can but I know I am a risk," Harris, nicknamed 'Rhino' for his burly physique, told reporters after the team's training session on Wednesday, which he missed.

He said he will leave the decision to captain Michael Clarke and the team management, adding: "If Michael is happy to take me in with a slight risk, I

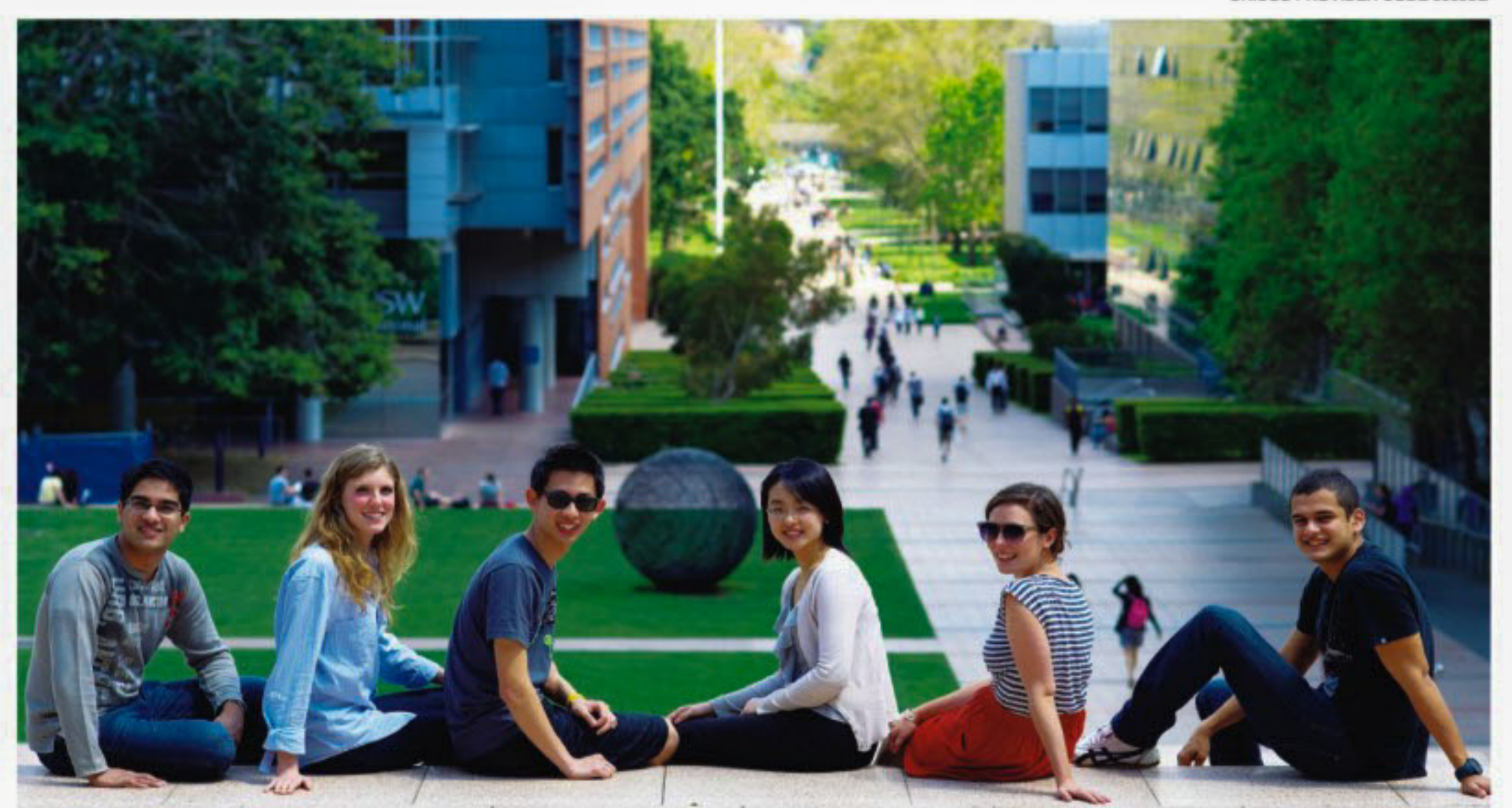
will give it 100 per cent in what is a pretty big game. If not, I will sit out and do as I am told."

The hamstring strain is the latest setback for injury-prone Harris, who has been battling a chronic knee problem since his debut last year.

"It's disappointing because I have done a fair bit of work to be strong again and something minor like this has upset it," he said.

The 31-year-old has been Australia's most successful bowler in the series

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