

**JFA Cup finals from today**

SPORTS REPORTER

The final round of the JFA Cup Under-15 football tournament begins today at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in Dhaka. The eight qualifying teams from eight groups will play in two groups in the round robin league system in the final round of the tournament, which is organised with the financial assistance of Japan Football Association. In the opening match today, Tangail DSA will take on Kushtia DSA while BKSP will take on Khulna DSA in the second match, said speakers at a press conference at the BFF house yesterday.

"The final round of the tournament was earlier scheduled to be held in Kushtia. But due to constant rain and the unplayable condition of the field, the fixtures have been shifted to Dhaka and at a time when the local football season is over," said Kazi Nabil Ahmed, chairman of BFF's Development Committee.

Although there will be no prize money in the tournament, the teams will be provided with an amount of Tk 25,000 each apart from a daily allowance of Tk 2,000 during their 10-day stay in Dhaka. The accommodation of the teams will also be arranged by BFF.

The organisers informed that 10 coaches are working with the clubs and will also scout during the tournament to find out the potential for age-group national teams.

The two semifinals will be held on September 25 while the final will be held on September 27. The tournament will be played in the 80-minute format with 40 minutes for each half.

TEAMS: BKSP, Tangail DSA, Kushtia DSA, Khulna DSA, Narayanganj DSA, Metropolitan Schools XI, Chittagong DSA, and Chapainabganj DSA.

**Second tier**

FROM PAGE 16 provided any financial assistance from the BFF.

Another thing that they seem to have finalised is that there will be eight teams in the league initially, with the top two finishers gaining promotion to Bangladesh League and the bottom two to be demoted to the first division and vice versa. However, it was said everything still depends on the interest, financial stability and logistics of the clubs.

Officials of Chittagong Mohammedan, Beanibazar, Cox City, Narayanganj Shuktara, Agrani Bank, Victoria SC and Uttar Baridhara attended the meeting.

**Sacking**

FROM PAGE 16 Siraj also dismissed the notion that he deliberately skipped the last board meeting. "You know we have our own business commitments, so it's sometimes difficult for us to attend a meeting when the schedule is changed. You see the next meeting was scheduled for September 19 but now it will take place on September 20, so how would it be possible for me to attend the meeting if there is a prior appointment on that day?" explained Siraj.

The influential board director however ensured that he will attend the next board meeting and give his opinion regarding the issue.

**Karim lone**

FROM PAGE 16 which was the last date of submitting nomination papers.

The elections for the president and 16 directors are billed for September 21. And if everything goes accordingly, Karim, who has previously refused offers to run the club, will take the hot seat of the popular Motijheel outfit uncontested, ending a long reign of Mosaddek Ali.

But with two previous attempts to hold elections falling through after aggrieved ones of the 213 stakeholders took the matter to court, many feel it is not unlikely that someone might turn to the court again next morning or the day after.



**THE FINAL ACT: England debutant Jonny Bairstow hammers one down the ground during his sparkling 29-ball 41 in the fifth and final ODI against India at the Sophia Gardens in Cardiff on Friday, giving England a 3-0 win in the series.** PHOTO: INTERNET

**Winless India remain**

Cricket

AFP, Cardiff

England defeated India by six wickets in a rain-affected match here Friday to complete a 3-0 one-day series victory over the reigning world champions.

India looked to have posted a formidable total after piling up 304-6 off their 50 overs, with Virat Kohli lashing a superb century and veteran Rahul Dravid contributing 69 in his farewell one-day.

But rain left England with a revised Duckworth-Lewis victory target of 270 off 40 overs, which was later reduced to 241 to win after further interruption.

England captain Alastair Cook (50) and number three Jonathan Trott (63) anchored the home side's run chase, before debutant Jonny Bairstow blasted a dazzling unbeaten 41 off 29 balls with Ravi Bopara scoring 37 not out.

England eventually finished on 241 for four off 32.2 overs for victory by six wickets as India's hopes of salvaging a win from their miserable summer, which also included a 4-0 Test series whitewash, were dashed.

Bairstow was ecstatic at his promising debut.

"To start off like this is a dream come true really," said Bairstow, who had received his cap from fellow Yorkshireman Geoffrey Boycott earlier Friday.

Before rain tilted the game in England's favour, India had looked to have given themselves an excellent chance of finishing the tour with a win courtesy of Kohli's sixth career ton.

Dravid, playing his 344th and final one-day

international, weighed in with a valuable 69 off 79 balls before being bowled by Graeme Swann. India piled on the agony for England's bowlers late on, with skipper MS Dhoni scoring 50 off just 26 balls as the tourists left the home side with a challenging target.

India had a lucky escape early in the innings, when Ajinkya Rahane's thick outside edge flew straight to Samit Patel at third-man only for the Nottinghamshire all-rounder to spill a straightforward catch.

Yet England did not have long to wait for the breakthrough, Jade Dernbach tempting Rahane into a mishit flick which was brilliantly caught by Steven Finn running in from the boundary to leave India 52-1.

Rahane's departure heralded the arrival at the crease of Dravid, who received a stirring ovation in his farewell match.

However India were soon in trouble as Parthiv Patel holed out to mid-on in Swann's first over as England kept the brakes on the touring side's run rate.

Yet the entrance of Kohli swung the match back in India's favour, with the talented 22-year-old flaying England's attack to all corners of the ground in a knock which included eight boundaries and one six.

**SCORES IN BRIEF**

INDIA: 304 for 6 (Kohli 107, Dravid 69, Dhoni 50 not out; Swann 3-34)

ENGLAND: 241 for 4 in 32.2 overs (Trott 63, Cook 50, Bairstow 41; Kumar 1-42, Kohli 1-44)

Result: England won by six wickets (D/L method)

Man-of-the-match: Jonny Bairstow.

**Ameer confesses?**

Cricket

PTI, Karachi

After claiming to be innocent for long, banned Pakistan pacer Mohammad Ameer has reportedly confessed to his involvement in the spot-fixing scandal that shook the core of international cricket last year.

According to the News International, Ameer "submitted his written confession during a hearing at the Southwark Crown Court in London."

The 19-year-old was found guilty of spot-fixing and banned along with the then Test captain Salman Butt and pacer Mohammad Asif after it came to light that the trio conspired to bowl deliberate no balls during the Lord's Test against England on the instructions of a Britain-based bookmaker Mazhar Majeed.

The daily reported that Majeed has "also submitted his written confession at the London court."

"The News has learnt through reliable sources that in his written confession, Ameer has claimed that he was forced to deliver the

no-balls in the Lord's Test. Sources said that Ameer has tried to dispel the impression that he bowled the no-balls in return of money," the newspaper reported.

"However, it is not clear whether Ameer has accused Salman Butt, who was Pakistan's captain at that time or the player has blamed any external factors for the no-balls he bowled during the Test," the daily said.

Sources said that Ameer submitted his confession in the court through his British lawyer Gareth Pierce's legal firm Birnberg Peirce and Partners.

A court hearing regarding the spot-fixing case is set to take place on October 4 in London. The daily said that Ameer has been told to plead guilty by his lawyers as they believe it would help him get a lenient view from the judges because of his young age. Ameer was banned for five years, Butt for 10 years while Asif was handed a seven-year ban. Ameer, in fact, ran into trouble while serving the ban a few weeks back when he was cautioned by the International Cricket Council for turning up for Surrey side Addington in a village county match in England.

**India slip to 5th**

Cricket

PTI, Dubai

Their failure to win even a single match in the ODI series against England has led to world champions India dropping a couple of rungs to fifth, their lowest position in three years, in the latest ICC one-day rankings issued on Saturday.

"It is Mahendra Singh Dhoni's side's lowest ranking since October 2008 when they spent three months at the number-five position to sum up a disappointing summer in England where they slipped from number-one position in the ICC Test Championship to third spot after losing all the four matches," the ICC said in a statement.

India had entered the series in third position on 117 ratings points and finished on 112 ratings points after they lost the second, third and fifth ODIs while the first match at Chester-le-Street was washed-out and the fourth

at Lord's had ended in a tie.

In fact, India had slipped to fourth position after the third ODI at The Oval where they went down by three wickets according to Duckworth-Lewis method and then slipped further behind after defeat in another rain-reduced match in Cardiff on Friday.

In contrast, England have gained a place moving to fourth position. For remaining unbeaten in the series, Alastair Cook's side has earned six ratings points which has left it a point ahead of India and as many as three behind third-ranked South Africa.

However, India will have a chance to not only reclaim lost ground but potentially move to second depending on how they perform in the five-ODI series against England which starts at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in Hyderabad on October 14.

But India will also have an eye on how the three-ODI series between South Africa and Australia, which starts at Centurion on October 19, pans out.

**Premier Kabaddi Army, BGB & Police win**

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Army, Border Guard of Bangladesh (BGB) and Bangladesh Police won their respective matches of the 13th Runner Premier Division Kabaddi League yesterday.

Army thrashed Dilkusha Sporting Club by 63-10 points with 4 creditable lona after leading the first half by 25-4 points.

BGB also recorded a huge victory as they defeated Shaheed Mozaffar Smrity Sangsad by 65-14 points. However, the biggest margin of victory was recorded by Police as they outplayed Jurain Janata Club by 101-11 points. The winners led the first half by 57-6 points. Meanwhile, an emergency meeting of the executive committee led to Bangladesh Navy being declared winners against the Jail team in their postponed match on the opening day.

**Warne could make T20 return!**

ANI, Melbourne

Former Australian leg-spinner Shane Warne has confirmed that he is considering coming out of retirement to play in Australia's Twenty20 Big Bash League.

Warne had retired from all forms of cricket in May following the end of the Indian Premier League (IPL). The 41-year-old, however, said that he was balancing family and business responsibilities before deciding if he could commit to the Twenty20 tournament.

**DRS use still**

FROM PAGE 16

The players are using the new rules in the ongoing BCB Cup to accustom with these before the home series against West Indies, who will arrive in Dhaka on October 4.

They will play two Tests, three ODIs and a Twenty20 international against the Tigers.

**Razzak's turn**

FROM PAGE 16

earlier and we wanted to try everything out, batting, bowling and even vice-captaincy. I think we should see before appointing a deputy," said Akram.

Mushfiqur and Riyad are the most talked about names in the captaincy race but the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) are looking for options during this competition.

Meanwhile it was learnt that Tamim Iqbal could miss today's game due to a stiff neck.

**Brussels, Bolt & Blake**

Athletics

AFP, Brussels

Jamaican sprint kings Usain Bolt and Yohan Blake sprinted to landmark times at the Diamond League on Friday, Bolt running the fastest 100m this year and Blake the second fastest 200m in history.

Blake sprinted home in 19.26sec, just behind the world record of 19.19sec held by Bolt, but overtaking Michael Johnson's mark



**Jamaica's Yohan Blake is on his way to the second fastest 200m in history in the Diamond League event in Brussels on Friday. He sprinted home in 19.26sec, just behind the world record of 19.19sec held by Usain Bolt.** PHOTO: AFP

of 19.32.

The world 100m champion from Daegu, 21-year-old Blake finished ahead of America's Walter Dix (19.53) and another Jamaican Nickel Ashmeade (19.91).

"I was looking for this and I got it. I expected to run fast but not this fast," said Blake.

"The last 40 metres was crazy, but I'm like a beast when that happens. I just take control of the track...the 19-second barrier is not insurmountable."

Blake managed to overshadow Bolt, whose 100m world title he took in Daegu last month when his world record-holding compatriot was disqualified for a false start.

Bolt, 25, clocked 9.76sec to win the 100m, bettering the previous season-leading time of

9.78sec set by compatriot Asafa Powell in Lausanne on June 30.

Olympic champion Bolt, who still collected gold in the 200m and 4x100m in South Korea, arrived in Belgium straight from Zagreb where he ran 9.85sec on Tuesday, his best time of the season until Friday.

"I never doubted that I could run this fast," said Bolt. "I was happy with my race although I didn't get to my transition very well."

Bolt insisted that false-starting was a thing of the past.

"I made one mistake -- it won't happen again."

He also suggested he had a hand in Blake's stunning performance.

"I've seen him run a couple of 200m and he's run them badly. I told him to take it easy round the bend. He ran a wild time," said Bolt.

Double Olympic champion Kenenisa Bekele ran the fastest 10,000m of the season, clocking 26min 43.16sec.

The 29-year-old bettered the previous leading time of 26:46.57 set by Britain's Mo Farah in Eugene in June.

Kenya's Lucas Rotich (26:43.98) and Galen Rupp of the United States (26:48.00) took second and third respectively.

Bekele, who won 5,000m and 10,000m gold at the Beijing Olympics in 2008, has endured a miserable, injury-hit season.

He was a no-show in heats for the 5000m at the world championships in Daegu after limping out of the 10,000m, in which he was also defending champion from Berlin in 2009.

Bekele dropped out of the 10,000m with 10 laps to go, saying he was still suffering with a groin injury that affected his right hip muscle.

Elsewhere, women's high jump world champion Anna Chicherova cleared 2.05m and then attempted to smash Stefka Kostadinova's 24-year-old world record of 2.09m.

But the Russia was unable to clear the bar set at 2.10m.

Australian world champion Sally Pearson fell in the 100m hurdles but shrugged off the setback.

"I'm pretty shattered, but I wouldn't trade my world title for anything. You take the highs with the lows," she said.

"Something came up and bit me. I remember I hit the hurdle and then I was on the ground."

South African double amputee Oscar Pistorius was third in the 400m behind Belgian twins Jonathan and Kevin Borlee.

"It's my second fastest time. I was a little tired after the worlds, but I wanted one more good race," said Pistorius, who timed 45.46sec.

**Lanka solid in reply**

FROM PAGE 16

the left-handed opening pair of Tharanga Paranavitana and Lahiru Thirimanne took 25 overs to put on 56 on the board.

Thirimanne, a 22-year-old playing only his second Test, scored a watchful 28 off 80 balls when he was bowled by seamer Peter Siddle just before tea.

Paranavitana made 46 when he fell to a sharp catch at short cover by Ricky Ponting off Mitchell Johnson to leave Sri Lanka 97-2.

But Sangakkara and Jayawardene, whose partnership of 624 against South Africa at the same venue in 2006 is a world record for any wicket, settled in to build Sri Lanka's reply.

Hussey was last man out for Australia, bowled by debutant seamer Shaminda Eranga, who finished with four for 65 after taking a wicket with his first delivery in Test cricket on Friday.

Left-arm seamer Chanaka Welegedara claimed three for 75, while new-ball partner Suranga Lakmal took 2-60.

Brad Haddin put on 75 for the sixth wicket with Hussey when Australia resumed the day at 235-5 before he was the first batsman to be removed in the morning session, caught behind off Eranga.

Hussey reached the 5,000-run mark with two consecutive boundaries off Welegedara

that took his score to 99.

Hussey then watched from the other end as Mitchell Johnson and Peter Siddle were dismissed off successive balls by Welegedara, but Trent Copeland denied the seamer a hat-trick.

Hussey reached his century with a flick off Rangana Herath for a single, earning himself warm applause from his teammates in the dressing room and 2,000 fans at the ground.

Welegedara picked up his third wicket when he had Copeland caught at second slip by Mahela Jayawardene as the Aussies slipped from 293-6 to 295-9.

Hussey scored 18 in a last-wicket stand of 21 with Nathan Lyon, including a reverse sweep off Herath to the third man fence after Sri Lanka had placed seven fielders on the leg-side.

Australia had been reduced to 22-2 in the ninth over on Friday after being sent in to bat by Sri Lanka skipper Tillakaratne Dilshan.

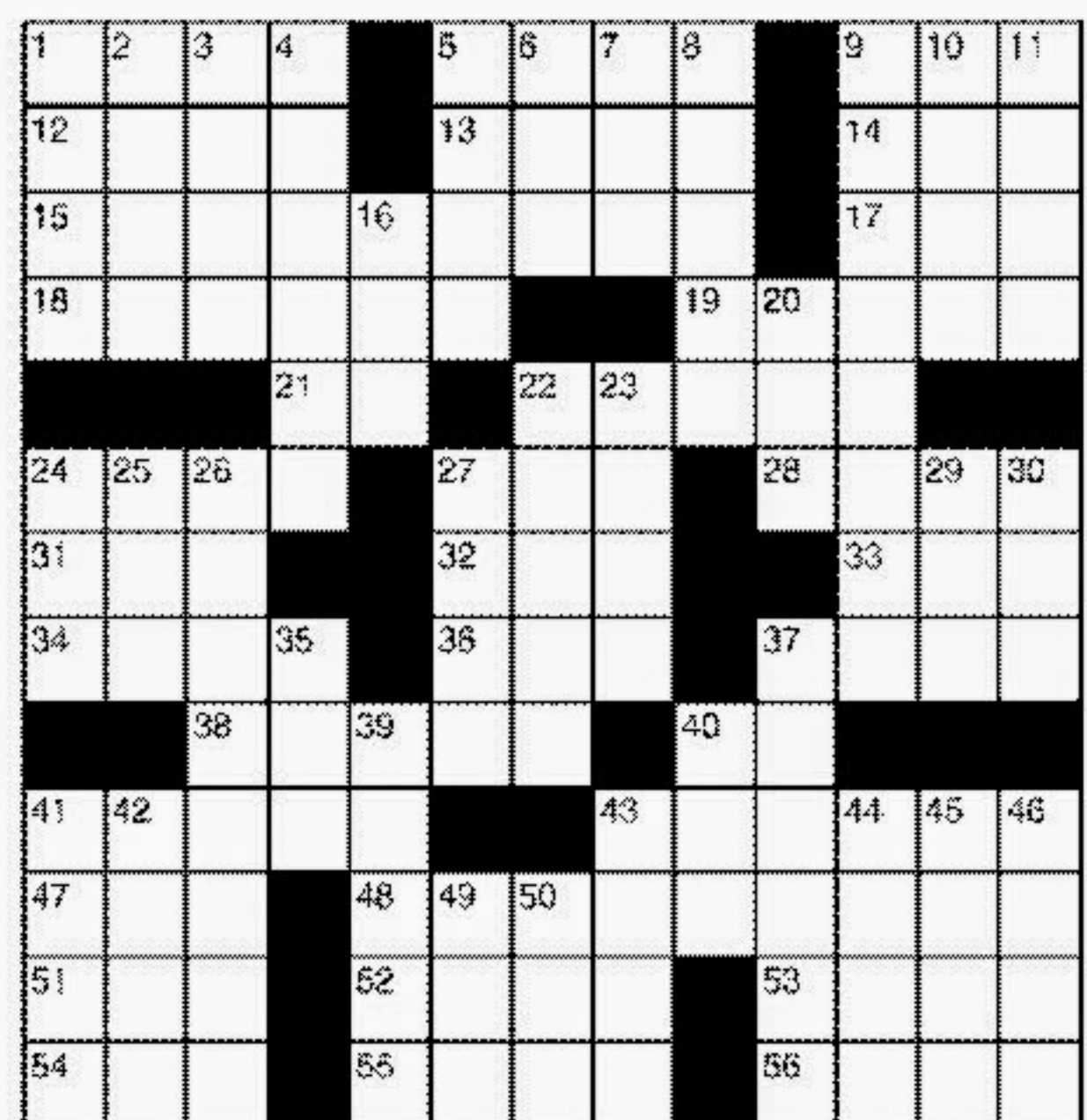
**SCORES IN BRIEF**

AUSTRALIA: First innings 316 (Hussey 118, Marsh 81, Ponting 48; Eranga 4-65, Welegedara 3-75)

SRI LANKA: First innings 166 for 2 (Sangakkara 61 not out, Paranavitana 46; Siddle 1-25, Johnson 1-49)

**CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Macrame and origami
  - 5 Spill the beans
  - 9 Swine home
  - 12 Old Italian money
  - 13 Parks or Bonheur
  - 14 Rage
  - 15 "Animal House"
  - 17 Aviv preceder
  - 18 Garb
  - 19 "Monopoly" building
  - 21 Therefore
  - 22 "SNL" alumna
  - 24 Bridge coup
  - 27 Writer Buscaglia
  - 28 Giant in a night-mare, maybe
  - 31 Moray, for one
  - 32 Under the weather
  - 33 Towel designation
  - 34 Post-bath application
  - 36 Aviate
  - 37 Halt
  - 38 Wild West show
  - 40 2009 Pixar movie
  - 41 Backbone
  - 43 Quiver contents
  - 47 Funny guy
  - 48 "Sleep well"
  - 51 Potsdam pronoun
  - 52 Sleeping
  - 53 Merriam-Webster
  - 54 Bumped into
  - 55 Old letter opener?
  - 56 Appear
- DOWN**
- 1 —
  - 2 Romeo
  - 2 Urban disturbance
  - 3 Horse's gait
  - 4 Great cruelty
  - 5 Cheese choice
  - 6 Journal
  - 7 Blond shade
  - 8 Wash in a tub
  - 9 Wait patiently
  - 10 Genealogy chart
  - 11 Holler
  - 16 To and —
  - 20 Acapulco gold
  - 22 Yo-Yo Ma's instrument
  - 23 Sacred
  - 24 Collection
  - 25 Meadow
  - 26 Fine
  - 27 Biography
  - 29 Carnival city
  - 30 Kreskin's claim
  - 35 Inmate
  - 37 Parsley servings
  - 39 "La Toilette" painter
  - 40 Coffee vessel
  - 41 Take to the pool
  - 42 Gait
  - 43 Finds the sum
  - 44 Look lustfully
  - 45 Roller coaster cry
  - 46 Goblet feature
  - 49 Sapporo sash
  - 50 "— the ramparts ..."



**CRYPTOQUIP**

R G W Q S Q S H V Q ' T " T Q T R Z Q  
T W S Q Q W " S B B Z R R W Q E R T I B S H,  
V E B H O Q S E K B M S Q M R S Q O  
K V T I Q S W U Q S W V G V U R W Q.

**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** IF YOU PARTOOK OF A HORRID-TASTING CHICKPEA PATTY, I WOULD GUESS YOU ATE AN AWFUL FALAFEL.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals W