

Star SPORT

DHAKA SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2011, E-MAIL: sports@thedailystar.net

Diego enjoys first win

Diego Maradona enjoyed his first victory as coach of UAE side Al Wasl on Thursday, a day after telling fans to stay at home and watch a DVD if they found it too stressful to follow his team. Al Wasl's goals against promoted Emirates in the second round of matches in the Etisalat Cup came from Argentina's Mariano Donda with captain Essa Ali scoring twice in the last five minutes. In previous matches under Maradona's control, Al Wasl had lost two friendlies as well as the cup opener 4-3 to Al Jazira.

- AFP



Some performances go unnoticed

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

A tournament final provides opportunities for the lesser known players to make a name for themselves and at the same time, grasp the nuances of performing on the big stage.

The BCB Cup final on Wednesday was an ideal setting for those on the periphery but while most let it slip by, some grabbed it with both hands -- though one of those remained mostly unnoticed.

Obviously there isn't any doubt on Mahmudullah Riyad winning the best player's award in the final. The newly-appointed Tigers' vice-captain not only bowled a tight spell and played the match-

winning knock, the superb catch he took running back from mid-on to dismiss Mushfiqur Rahim was more than enough to win him the man-of-the-match award. Alok Kapali threatened him till the death as the Sylhet batsman had an inspired day with both bat and ball.

It was quite justified that Kapali gave a good account of himself after he was ignored from the Zimbabwe tour on the back of a single game against Australia.

Riyad was the better of the two throughout the tournament, topping the run-getter's chart while also picking up seven wickets while Kapali, one dare say, got limited opportunity except in the last game.

Riyad wasn't the only one to score more than 150 runs as Tamim Iqbal showed that despite all the controversy, his batting form had remained intact. Mushfiqur Rahim continued to thrive on his bright patch while Naeem Islam struck the only century of the tournament. Mohammad Ashraful possibly played the most pleasurable knock but as usual, in what was his only innings of note.

Among the bowlers, Rubel Hossain stood out with nine wickets and his effort in the final is worth mentioning simply because he was defending a paltry total and gave it his all in three excellent spells.

While the recognised faces did what was expected of them, others like Shuvogoto Hom Chowdhury, Shamsur Rahman, Jahurul



Sohel Taj MP follows through on a pull shot during a friendly Twenty20 match between Bangladeshi and British MPs at the Academy ground in Mirpur yesterday. The home side won the game by 24 runs.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Siddikur survives the cut

SPORTS REPORTER

Siddikur Rahman survived falling for a second consecutive cut when he scored a second round 2-under par at the Asia-Pacific Panasonic Open on Friday. Siddikur was on joint 34th position with an aggregate of one-over-par (143) at the 71-par course at the end of round two.

Earlier on Thursday, Siddikur had carded a 2-over par (73) first round that saw him finish the first day on 63rd position. A total of 70 players made the weekend cut which was set at three-over-par.

Korea's S.K Ho was leading the field with a flawless five-under-par 66 to take the second round lead.

Ho signed for a two-day total of nine-under-par 133 to take a two-shot lead over

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WEST INDIES TOUR OF BANGLADESH

Gayle, Bravo ignored

Cricket

CRICINFO, St John's

Chris Gayle, Ramnaresh Sarwan and Dwayne Bravo do not feature in the West Indies Test and ODI squads for the upcoming tour of Bangladesh. Wicketkeeper Denesh Ramdin has been recalled to both squads, while offspinner Shane Shillingford, who underwent remedial work on an action that was deemed illegal last year, has made the Test side.

Gayle has not played for West Indies since the 2011 World Cup, following a breakdown in his relationship with the West Indies board. He chose to participate in the IPL in April, after being left out of a training camp ahead of the home series against Pakistan. In a hard-hitting interview with KLAS Sports, he had questioned his treatment by members of the board, including chief executive Ernest Hilaire, and the coach Ottis Gibson, after he picked up an injury during the World Cup.

Since then, Gayle had a series of discussions with the board, including a one-on-one with Hilaire on August 23. Though the

discussion was reported to be "frank and excellent", Gayle recently revealed that the stalemate was set to continue since he had refused to apologise to Gibson for statements made during the radio interview.

"The outstanding matter relating to Chris Gayle's availability and selection remains unresolved," the board's release read. "The WICB management will submit a report to

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SQUADS

TESTS: Darren Sammy (captain), Adrian Barath, Carlton Baugh, Devendra Bishoo, Kraigg Brathwaite, Darren Bravo, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Fidel Edwards, Kirk Edwards, Keiran Powell, Denesh Ramdin, Ravi Rampaul, Kemar Roach, Marlon Samuels, Shane Shillingford.

ODIs & T20I: Darren Sammy (captain), Adrian Barath, Devendra Bishoo, Carlos Brathwaite, Darren Bravo, Danza Hyatt, Anthony Martin, Kieron Pollard, Keiran Powell, Denesh Ramdin, Ravi Rampaul, Kemar Roach, Andre Russell, Marlon

JFA CUP U-15 FOOTBALL BKSP, Tangail in semis

SPORTS REPORTER

BKSP qualified for the semi-finals of the JFA Cup U-15 Football tournament as they beat Tangail 3-0 in their last group match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

BKSP emerged as group champions with nine points, courtesy of the victory over Tangail. However, the losing side also qualified as group runners-up with 6 points.

Mozahid Mollik put the winners ahead with a 32nd minute strike before Masud-uddin scored twice to ensure a comfortable victory for BKSP.

In the other match of the same group, Kushitia emerged 2-0 winners against Khulna at the same venue. Maruf put Kushitia in front with a 3rd minute strike before Sabuj doubled the margin. However, neither of the teams qualified for the semifinal stage.

Mills returns for NZ

Cricket

RUETERS, Wellington

New Zealand recalled Kyle Mills and included uncapped Doug Bracewell and Dean Brownlie for the one-off away Test against Zimbabwe, the country's cricket board (NZC) said on Friday.

The Black Caps will play their first series since they lost in the World Cup semifinals in March and under new captain Ross Taylor, who replaced Daniel Vettori after he stepped down.

The visitors will play two twenty20, three one-dayers and a lone Test match during their tour of Zimbabwe, which starts on Oct. 15.

32-year old Mills, who last played a test match in March 2009, was recalled in the 16-man squad after injury ruled out frontline paceman Hamish Bennett while Tim Southee raced against time to get fit for the Test match.

"This is a good opportunity for Kyle Mills," New Zealand coach John Wright was quoted as saying in a statement.

"He is keen to play the five day form of the game so he'll take his chance with the other four bowlers. He has done a lot of training this winter and is keen to play."

Bracewell and Brownlie were rewarded

for their impressive performances during the recent emerging player tournament in Australia.

Southee, who suffered a left knee injury, will miss the limited overs series and was still doubtful for the test match though he was named in the squad.

"We will continue to closely monitor Tim Southee's fitness in the build-up to tour and are hopeful that he will recover in time for the Test series," national selector manager Kim Littlejohn said.

The 15-member squad for the shorter versions included 11 players from this year's World Cup squad while three uncapped players -- Bracewell, Rob Nicol and Graeme Aldridge -- were also included.

SQUADS

ODI & T20: Ross Taylor (captain), Graeme Aldridge, Doug Bracewell, James Franklin, Martin Guptill, Brendon McCullum, Nathan McCullum, Andy McKay, Kyle Mills, Rob Nicol, Jacob Oram, Jesse Ryder, BJ Watling, Kane Williamson, Luke Woodcock.

TEST: Ross Taylor (captain), Doug Bracewell, Dean Brownlie, Martin Guptill, Jesse Ryder, Chris Martin, Brendon McCullum, Andy McKay, Kyle Mills, Jeetan Patel, Tim Southee, Daniel Vettori, Kane Williamson, BJ Watling, Reece Young.



Enthusiastic children are being guided by the coaches on the opening day of the Creative Football School at the BUET Ground yesterday. A total of 48 students in U-11 and U-13 age groups have enrolled for the first batch of the school.

PHOTO: STAR

Football for the kids

SPORTS REPORTER

With the concept of making a complete footballer, the Creative Football School supervised by two AFC A licence-holder coaches Maruf Haque and Saiful Bari Titu began its journey yesterday at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) ground.

Some 48 budding players aged between 11 and 13 are the initial students of the school, which has primarily targeted youngsters aged between seven and eleven, a period which is believed to be perfect time for learning.

"Football is not only a game, it is a lifestyle and apart from football training, we will teach our students how to behave with others and how to respect each other, develop their mental strength, physiological and social skill," said Saiful Bari, one of the six directors of the school.

As the school has no permanent premises, the schooling will take place in the BUET ground. The organisers have a plan to extend its campus in Dhanmondi and Gulshan in future if they can get a good response from parents, who however have to pay monthly fees for their children.

"We are not looking for any profit at the moment; rather we want to gain the faith of the parents and others that we are teaching the boys something different. As we will

appoint educated coaches, we will need some money for their wages, so we will collect some monthly fees from the students," said Maruf Haque.

"We have already collected some curriculum from some world famous football coaching institutions and have finalised the syllabus of our students after making those curriculum appropriate in our context," said Haque, who is also the chief instructor of BUET.

There are a few football coaching centres in the capital, even the discipline of football is a major subject in the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan but they could hardly produce any sensible and quality players. However, most of the country's footballers are being groomed up without perfect training that leads them to struggle in the national and international level.

"Coaching system at our grassroot level is so traditional which is being followed for the last 50 years and the traditional coaching system is keeping the boys out of the modern training system.

"If we can run this school for a few years, the standard of our football will be changed," said Haque adding that they would make arrange to take their students to main stream football.

Apart from Haque, Saiful, former footballers Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib, Jewel Rana, Ataur Rahman Ata and national discard goalkeeper

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