

Mancini's son also snubs sub role

Manchester City boss Roberto Mancini could be embarrassed by the news that his own son refused to come off the bench in a game between the club's development squad and Liverpool reserves.

According to the Daily Mail, Filippo Mancini refused to join his younger brother Andrea on the pitch with ten minutes to go in a match on August 10th.

Elite Development Squad coach Andy Welsh was ready to send the first team manager's son on at Hyde United's stadium, but the young Italian refused.



Sajib Hossain of Bangladesh Navy clears 2 metres to win gold in the high jump event of Walton National Summer Athletics Championships at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

SUMMER ATHLETICS

Chumki, Khalil take honours

SPORTS REPORTER

Shamsunnahar Chumki dethroned holder Nasmunnahar Beauty to regain the 200m sprint after eight years on the first day of the two-day Walton 11th National Summer Athletics Championship at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

On the other hand, in the men's 200m sprint, Khalilur Rahman of Bangladesh Army retained his title with a better finish of 22.16 seconds than his teammate Azharul, who took 22.40 seconds to win bronze.

Chumki took 25.45 seconds to finish ahead of Beauty, who clocked 25.90 seconds while BKSP student Papia Rani Sarker finished third with a time of 26.27 seconds.

"I always used to falter at the last hurdle,

but over the last one year I have been training on endurance under BJMC coach Joyal Abedin and improved a lot, which helped me overcome the last hurdle well and beat Beauty," said Chumki, who last won the 200m sprint in 2003.

Chumki's male counterpart Khalil won the 200m title facing stiff competition from Azharul.

"I am much inspired after taking part in the IAAF World championship in Daegu and want to keep up this momentum till the next South Asian Games. I have proved myself today after winning the 200m sprint," said Khalil.

High jumper Sajib Hossain's performance suffered in comparison to the form he displayed in the national meet but he still

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Shakib back from CLT20

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Shakib Al Hasan brushed aside any anxieties about his performance upon return to Dhaka yesterday.

"I got more wickets in the IPL but I think I still bowled well here. It is slightly more difficult for spinners in Bangalore, the ground is smaller. Hyderabad had very good wickets," he said, having come back two days before his scheduled leave to play in the Champions League T20 ended.

The immediate-past Tigers captain was playing for Kolkata Knight Riders, the IPL franchise who have an outside chance of a semifinal berth after their group stage ended with four points from four games. It is unlikely for Kolkata to clinch the last-four place but in that case, Shakib may return for the game.

He scored just 30 runs in three innings with two scores of 13 and picked up just a single wicket (against Somerset) in five games including the qualification ahead of the proper tournament.

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Tigers newcomer Elias Sunny (R) takes part in a warm-up session as Naeem Islam looks on at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

MSC to bank on foreign players

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Powerhouse Mohammedan Sporting Club will be banking on a legion of foreign recruits to deliver them the elusive Professional League title as they completed registering their local players on the second day of players' transfer yesterday.

The Black and Whites registered a total of 20 players, 13 of them are newcomers while the rest have remained with the club from the last edition where they finished in a poorly sixth position.

"The local players are experienced and we also have the young players who played for the club last year. We will be bringing in good foreign players to make the team a formidable one," said Mohammedan manager Amirul Islam Babu.

Mohammedan have applied to the league committee to increase the quota of

foreign players to seven and number of players that can participate in a match to five. Last season, a maximum of five foreigners were allowed to be registered with a club. But the Mohammedan think-tank feels that the local star players, who are small in number, have all been scooped up by one or two big clubs like the previous season, and that is why they want to make their squad stronger by recruiting some quality foreigners.

"There is a shortage of quality players inside the country and most of them have been scooped up by one or two big clubs which is why we appealed to the league committee to increase the quota of foreigners," said Mohammedan's football chairman MA Salam.

"We will be bringing in quality players from Nigeria and maybe even from Europe so that we can compensate for the lack of local star players in the side," said Salam.

Most of the prominent names of the

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Mohammedan players and officials complete registration formalities on the second day of the professional league's pre-season players' transfer at the BFF House yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

T20 after 17 months

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Today's Twenty20 match between BCB Red and BCB Green at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium would be the first in the country since April 21, 2010.

That day last year was the final of the NCL T20s between Rajshahi and Khulna in front of a packed Mirpur crowd but remarkably, the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) didn't hold a Twenty20 competition last season (2010-11) owing to the World Cup and other scheduled commitments.

Though it is a much loved version and its length is thought to be perfect to draw large crowds, it has hardly generated interest among the cricket authorities in the country.

Notwithstanding the indifference, the Tigers have to play a Twenty20

against West Indies and as a result, preparation is necessary. The game today was supposed to be a one-dayer between the same outfits but it has been turned into a three-hour affair, the match slated to begin at 6:00pm.

Apart from Shakib Al Hasan, who is set to play today's game for any of the two line-ups, and some others, there aren't many among the Tigers who have played the game's shortest format this year.

One of those who have played competitive Twenty20s this year, Alok Kapali, reminded everyone the how-to of Twenty20 cricket, especially the batting side of it.

"There are occasions when we have hurried because it is only 20 overs, so there are effects in the way we play. I divide it up like I do in 50-over games," said the man who played in the Singapore tournament a few months

ago, hammering a 22-ball half-century in one of the games.

"There's the first six where I'm cautious and in the middle eight where I will up the ante a bit. In the last six, obviously you go after the bowling," added Kapali.

"The eight overs in the middle are very important. Of course the last overs are crucial like I saw in the Champions League, matches are won or lost in the last six overs. Sometimes batting line-ups need to score 60 in the last six. If we think of it this way, it would help us," he said.

Kapali and a few of the others who have returned to the Tigers' fold have a lot riding on the next four games -- the two practice T20s and the West Indies' two warm-up matches.

"The four matches are of utmost importance for some players. We are trying out different combinations and I

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Shane appeals, Liz agrees

AFP, London

Shane Warne and Liz Hurley are to marry after the former Australia cricketer proposed to the British actress and model during a trip to Scotland, it was confirmed Sunday.

Warne proposed to Hurley, who became famous as actor Hugh Grant's long time girlfriend, after a romantic dinner on Friday at an exclusive hotel in St. Andrews, on Scotland's east coast, where the bowler was taking part in a golf tournament.

"Thanks for all your congratulations," they said on their Twitter pages, attaching a photograph of themselves about to go to dinner in St. Andrews.

Spin legend Warne, 42, got down on one knee and popped the question in front of other diners and when Hurley agreed the couple were given a standing ovation, The Mail on Sunday and The Sunday Telegraph newspapers reported.

Pictures showed the couple smiling as they walked arm in arm across a golf course on Saturday, with Hurley, 46, wearing a large sapphire and diamond engagement ring.

They were greeted by shouts of congratulations from well-wishers as the pro-amateur Alfred Dunhill Links Championship got under way, the Mail said.

The couple first met at an English race meeting in July last year and have since been spotted together regularly.

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