

## Tyson coming to Islamabad

Former world heavyweight champion Mike Tyson and another top professional pugilist Amir Khan will be in Islamabad to witness the second Benazir Shaheed International Boxing Tournament starting December 20. Pakistan Boxing Federation secretary Akram Khan said Amir, who has already agreed to inaugurate the tournament, had talked to Tyson on behalf of the federation. "Amir has officially given an invitation to Tyson to visit Islamabad for the tournament and he has agreed but asked for dates," Akram said.



## Rubel suffers shoulder injury

SPORTS REPORTER

Pacer Rubel Hossain has suffered a shoulder injury while fielding on the third day of the first Test match at the Zohur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium yesterday.

Rubel will not be available for batting in the Bangladesh second innings as the team management has decided to send him to Dhaka for an MRI. "Apparently it looks like the injury is not serious but we have to wait for the MRI report to know about what exactly happened in his shoulder. We can only say about his future treatment after the report," said BCB's physician Debashish Chowdhury.

"Initially there was no swelling but after two hours it was found in his right shoulder which is not a good sign. The shoulder is not dislocated but what the bowler himself claimed was that it was dislocated first and then relocated. In that case it will take time but again we have to wait for the MRI report," he added.

Rubel had to leave the field after he fell down while trying to dive to save a boundary.

## Lavish batting of no use

BISHWAJIT ROY from Chittagong

The Bangladesh top-order hardly learned any lessons from previous mistakes and the net result at the end of yesterday, the third day, was the short wait for an eventual heavy defeat to Pakistan in the first Test at the Zohur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium.

Younis Khan along with Asad Shafiq made maximum use of the ordinary bowling on the flattened pitch during their 259-run fifth wicket stand that gave the visitors a huge first innings lead of 459 runs. The seasoned campaigner Younis lit up the third day with his third double hundred while Shafiq struck his maiden ton as Pakistan declared their first innings soon after the completion of Younis's double ton and just forty minutes before the tea break at 594-5.

It was however Bangladesh's batting in the second innings that hogged the spotlight obviously for all the wrong reasons. It's hard to believe whether Bangladesh's batsmen, except Test debutant Nazimuddin, can understand the price of a wicket after the way Tamim Iqbal, Shahriar Nafees, Mohammad Ashraful and, alas, Nasir Hossain also gave away their wickets in the second innings as Bangladesh were reduced to 134-4 at stumps.

The defeat is all but a formality following Bangladesh's dismissal for 135 runs in the first innings but at least a show of ability in the second innings to not only restore some pride but also to get back the confidence

was expected. The carnage once again started with Tamim who seemed have forgotten some of his batting. He left a straight delivery from off-spinner Mohammad Hafeez only to see his off-stump pegged back, his poor judgement surprising many. Nafees's poor technique was once again exposed when he was trapped in front by Saeed Ajmal.

The pathetic Mohammad Ashraful three-ball duck raised the question about the Akram Khan-led selection committee's wisdom. The right-hander simply ridiculed the wise men's decision of bringing him back to the fold despite his poor form.

The impressive and gutsy batting in the series suddenly convinced the team think-tank to give Nasir a chance to bat up to the order but the young right-hander seemed to be infected by the disease of his seniors as, rather than capitalising on the promotion, he frustratingly pulled pacer Aizaz Cheema to gift away his wicket.

In the disaster, Nazimuddin lit the light for the Tigers. The right-hander once again showed how the importance of scoring runs in domestic cricket. The local boy set a fine example for his teammates on what should be the approach against this Pakistan bowling attack. He struggled sometimes during his unbeaten 41 but never lost his patience and most importantly, checked his shots brilliantly when his more celebrated teammates tried to play lavishly.

A partnership finally came to fruition when the debutant and Shakib Al Hasan



Pakistan batsman Younis Khan acknowledges the cheers from the dressing room after reaching his double century during the third day of the first Test against Bangladesh at the Zohur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## A double for those not here

SPORTS REPORTER from Chittagong

Younis Khan dedicated his third double hundred to his family that had to deal with a number of deaths in the last few years.

"I'm very happy with the double century. Credit goes to the coaches and management of the Pakistan team. I dedicate this ton to my family. I want to contribute something

for my family and country, especially when my country needs me," said a delighted Younis while speaking at the press conference after making the unbeaten 200 at the Zohur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium yesterday.

When asked whether the number of deaths in his family made him a tougher batsman, Younis said: "It's not possible that this kind of thing makes you stronger. If you lose your family member how can you become stronger?"

But as a Muslim I must deal with that. You know Allah gives us everything and if he wants He can take it back."

"I just play for my country and especially for my family. If I continue performing like this and coming to every single press conference, you people will ask about my family, about my brother and sister who have passed away. This is good for me, every time I realise that they are not with me. But if I

SEE PAGE 17 COL 2



India footballers celebrate with the SAFF Championship 2011 trophy after defeating Afghanistan 4-0 in the final at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

## India retain trophy

SPORTS REPORTER from Delhi

Star striker Sunil Chhetri kept his nerve at a critical moment as India ultimately ran riot with a 4-0 win over 10-man Afghanistan to clinch their fifth SAFF Championship title in the final at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium yesterday.

With the match balanced on a knife-edge, Afghanistan conceded a penalty kick after their defender Faisal Safa brought down Jeje Lalpekula inside the box on the 69th minute. The incident was hotly debated an even though referee Sukhbir Singh had no hesitation that was not the sentiment shared by Afghanistan captain and goalkeeper Hameedullah Yousefzari who pushed the referee and promptly earned himself a deserved red card.

Chhetri kept his nerve through all of this and converted his spot-kick with aplomb on the second try after the first was ruled out by the referee.

With a man and goal down, the dark horses of Afghanistan lost all shape and structure as India plundered their goal with just reward; Clifford Miranda, Jeje and substitute Sushil Kumar Singh filling their boots with a goal each.

Chhetri's goal in the final meant that he overtook the dangerous Belal Arezo to win the golden boot with seven goals. He also finished as both man of the final and man of

the tournament. Billed as a battle between the two hitmans Arezo and Chhetri, it was the Norway-based Afghani who shone for the most part until the penalty when Chhetri stole the limelight and ultimately the trophy.

But that was a far cry from the beginning as some 10,000 Indian fans saw the war-riddled nation get off to a rollicking start with some inventive wingplay.

Afghanistan created some good opportunities with Sanjar Ahmadi particularly culpable for a glaring miss in the 13th minute. Afghanistan's bevy of foreign based midfielders, Yamir Ali, Yousef Mashriqi and Ghulam Hazrat controlled the game superbly and Belal himself hung his head in shame after failing to make the best of a one-on-one opportunity which he hit straight at goalkeeper Karanjit Singh.

India were second best for most of the first half and even though they emerged with much energy after the breather, it did not seem like they would make much headway until the spotkick decision.

But after Chhetri had shown them the light, India never looked back and emphatically trounced their opponents to record a comprehensive victory and retain the trophy at home.

Afghanistan will be left licking their wounds at a scoreline that is quite harsh. But they will find solace from the fact that their wonderful play has won them hearts if not trophies.

## Vinay exudes confidence

CRICINFO, Delhi

Vinay Kumar, the India seamer, has said he is confident of adapting to playing conditions in Australia and believes he is good enough to play Test cricket. A regular in the ODI squad over the last couple of years, Vinay was included in India's Test squad for the first time when he was named as a last minute replacement for the injured Varun Aaron for the tour of Australia.

"I have been to Australia earlier on three occasions with the Karnataka team, and once with India A," Vinay told the Indian Express. "So the place is not new to me and I know the conditions. I don't think adapting will be a problem for me."

"I know I am good enough to play in the longer formats. In 2007, I was the highest wicket-taker in the Ranji Trophy and repeated the feat two years later. I really enjoy bowling long spells. I will have to adjust my line and length in Australia. Hopefully, I will get to play in the practice games and I will bank on my previous experience in Australia."

### CLUB SMART

Buy Samsung Smartphone and get WINTER JACKET FREE!

Corby II MRP 9,990/-

GALAXY Y MRP 12,990/-

Star II MRP 11,990/-

GALAXY POP MRP 15,500/-

GALAXY Pro MRP 19,200/-

GALAXY Ace MRP 27,900/-

GALAXY S MRP 36,900/-

GALAXY S II MRP 56,500/-

GALAXY Tab MRP 45,500/-

GALAXY Tab 7 MRP 60,300/-

Smart Pay Up to 6 months EMI at 0% interest

radio! Tune in to catch "Samsung Smart Hour" at 9:00-9:30 AM (Sun-Tue) and 7:00-7:30 PM (Wed-Thu)

Find us on www.facebook.com/samsungmobilebangladesh

Offer available at selected malls: Dhaka: Bashundhara City, Eastern Plaza, Shimanto Square, Landview, Rajlaxmi Shopping Complex and North Tower. Chittagong: Sanmar Ocean City and Bironi Bitan | Samsung Exclusive Stores: Dhaka: Western Craze - Bashundhara City and Shimanto Square, R.K. Electronics - Eastern Plaza, I.K. Tower - Gulshan 2, Ovi Electronics - North Tower. Chittagong: ATCL - Agrabad. Sylhet: One Tel - Karimullah Market and Tangail: Tanvir Telecom - B.B. Girls School Road | Selected stores of TRANSFORM in Dhaka and Chittagong.