

# Star SPORT

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## Voronin gets top award

Ukraine striker Andriy Voronin, who is currently playing with Russian Premier League side Dynamo Moscow, was on Thursday named player of the year in the former Soviet Union region.

The 32-year-old striker - who previously played for German Bundesliga sides Borussia Mönchengladbach, Cologne, Bayer Leverkusen and Hertha Berlin as well Liverpool in England - collected 175 points in a poll conducted by Russian sports daily Sport Express among 45 newspapers and magazines in the former Soviet republics.

The award caps a triumphant return to eastern Europe for the Odessa-born Ukrainian.



## BPL players' list revealed

SPORTS REPORTER

The preliminary lists of local and foreign players, who will be available for the players' auction of the Bangladesh Premier League (BPL), has been released yesterday.

The players' auction will be held on January 19.

The BPL governing body also informed that the fresh list and a list of Indian players will be announced soon.

### LOCAL PLAYERS

**Grade A** (Base Price \$45000) Mahmudullah Riyad, Abdur Razzak, Nasir Hossain, Junaed Siddiqui, Imrul Kayes, Mashrafi Bin Mortaza.

**Grade B** (Base Price \$30000) Nazimuddin, Rokibul Hasan, Elias Sunny, Sohrawardi Shuvo, Rubel Hossain, Shafiul Islam, Nazmul Hossain, Forhad Reza, Mohammad Mithun, Jahurul Islam, Sahadat Hossain and Naeem Islam

**Grade C** (Base price \$20000)

Tushar Imran, Nadif Chowdhury, Nazmul Hossain, Farhad Hossain, Shabbir Rahman, Asif Ahmed, Mahmudul Hasan,

Rajin Saleh, Mehrab Hossain, Mominul Haque, Faisal Hossain, Aftab Ahmed, Shohag Gazi, Arafat Sunny,

Mosharraf Hossain, Nazmul Hossain Opu, Nur Hossain, Enamul Haque, Robiul Islam,

Moktar Ali, Syed Rasel, Alamin, Mahbubul Alam, D o l l a r M a h m u d ,

Mohammad Sharif, Arafat Salahuddin, Ziaur Rahman, Dhiman Ghosh, Shuvagoto Hom, Shamsur Rahman,

Alauddin Babu, Anamul Haque, Rony Talukder, Nafis Iqbal, Abishek Mitra, Soumya Sarkar, Nasir Uddin Faruque,

Mysukur Rahman, Fazle Rabbi, Marshal Ayub, Abul Bashar, Tasamul Haque,

Tanvir Haider, Saqlain Sajib, Sanjamul Islam, Shaker Ahmed, Murad Khan,

Sahagir Hossain, Kamrul Islam, Delwar Hossain, Taposh Baysha, Shuvashish Roy, Kazi Kamrul, Tazin Ahmed, Abul Hasan, Jubair Ahmed, Ejaj Ahmed, Imtiaz Hossain, Mohammad

Sahajada, Sahin Hossain, Ariful Hoque, Mahbubul Karim, Rezaul Karim and Abu Zahed Rahi.

### INT'L PLAYERS

**Grade A** ( Base price \$100,000)

Chris Gayle, Kerion Pollard, Dwayne Bravo, Marlon Samuels, Ramnaresh Sarwan, Kumar Roach, Jerome Taylor, Matt Prior,

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Bangladesh Biman players celebrate after their 43-run win over Brothers Union in a Dhaka Premier Cricket League match at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Akmal dazzles Fatullah



Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Old DOHS topped the table after the fourth round of the Dhaka Premier Division Cricket League when they outclassed Cricket Coaching School (CCS) by 125 runs at BKSP yesterday, but it was Pakistanis Kamran Akmal and Khaled Latif who hogged the spotlight on the day.

Kamran slammed a hundred as Prime Doleshwar registered their first win in four games with a 43-run victory in the high-scoring match against Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium.

At the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur, Latif missed his hundred by two runs, but his knock helped Biman record their second win with a 43-run victory over Brothers Union.

Their third win and a better net run rate helped Old DOHS top the table while Gazi Tank, Abahani, Mohammedan and Victoria followed them tied on six points.

### OLD DOHS - CCS

In the match curtailed due to dense morning fog Old DOHS amassed 245 runs for five wickets in 38 overs, thanks to explosive innings from Adnan Raza

and Ziaur Rahman.

As a pinch-hitter Ziaur slammed four sixes and three boundaries during his 48-ball 59 while Adnan hammered 80 off 61 balls with the help of nine fours and two sixes. Shuvagoto Hom was the other notable scorer with run-a-ball 40 that saw three boundaries.

In reply, CCS were bundled out for 120 runs in 28 overs. Zohaib Khan and Enamul Haque caused the damage taking three wickets each.

### BIMAN - BROTHERS

Due to early morning fog the match was reduced to a 42-overs-a-side affair and Biman put in a strong batting display through a 104-run third wicket partnership between Junaed Siddiqui and Latif to put up 234 for four in 42 overs.

Junaed made 54 off 66 balls that saw four boundaries while Latif was not out on 98 off 122 balls that featured six fours and a six.

Another Pakistani Faisal Iqbal hit 44 off 47 balls with three fours and a six.

Brothers continued their poor fielding in the competition as they dropped several catches as well as being sluggish with their ground fielding.

In reply, Brothers were all out for 191 runs in 37.2 overs. Aftab Ahmed was the top scorer with 38.

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## LOCAL snippets

SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka Residential Model College emerged zonal champions in the Islami Bank National School Football Tournament when they defeated Dolairpar High School 1-0 in the Dhaka Metropolis zonal final at the Teachers' Training College ground in Dhaka yesterday.

Zahidul struck the decisive goal in the 29th minute to take Dhaka Residential to the 16-team final round where Dolairpar High School will also be participating as zonal runners-up.

Earlier in the day, Dhaka Residential defeated Rajdhani High School 2-1 to move into the final while Dolairpar High School thrashed Nahar

International School 4-1 in the second semifinal to set up the final clash against Dhaka Residential.

### Nat'l Hockey Championships

Rajshahi, Bangladesh Army and Bangladesh Air Force won their matches of the National Hockey Championship beating their respective rivals at the Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Rajshahi thrashed Joypurhat 7-1 with Bappi and Lalon scoring two goals each for the winners.

Bangladesh Army blanked Satkhira 7-0 in the one-sided affair as Krishna and Milon struck two goals while Rokon, Billal and Sirajul netted one goal each.

However, Bangladesh Air Force registered a hard-fought 5-4 win over Dinajpur. Mobarak scored twice while Azizul, Mukitl and Moniruzzaman scored one goal apiece for the winners. For the losers, Sumon scored twice and Amin and Mamsum each pulled one

## Generous BCB

SPORTS REPORTER

Liquidity crisis might be an issue widely discussed in the business community of the country nowadays, but it is not a problem for the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) at least.

The most affluent sports body is not only spending heavily from its coffers to run the cricket affairs of the country but it has also undertaken the burden of taking care of the expenditure incurred so far related to the Bangladesh Premier League (BPL).

It was learnt that the board has spent Taka 1.5 crore to meet the initial expenditures of the BPL. However, the board officials claimed that they have disbursed the money as loan to Game On Sports, the Indian company which earned the event management rights of the T20 money-spinning event for a staggering \$ 44.33 million for a six-year term.

Gazi Ashraf Hossain, chairman of BPL's governing body, said that there was nothing wrong if the BCB had paid the money to the

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## Feni bring down Sky Blues

SPORTS REPORTER



Holders Abahani were stunned in the Grameenphone Federation Cup when they suffered a 2-1 defeat to minnows Feni Soccer Club in their last group match at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

The defeat, however, was not enough to stop Abahani from progressing as they had already secured their qualification berth prior to the encounter. For Feni Soccer, the victory was a case of bowing out with sweet memories as they failed to make it into the last eight. Arambagh KS piped them to the runners-up spot with a 2-0 victory over Bangladesh Police at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Nigerian midfielder Amadi Mosses put Arambagh ahead in the 20th minute while his compatriot Umokoro Godwin sealed the match scoring eight minutes from time.

Both Arambagh and Feni Soccer have four points each but Arambagh confirmed their berth by virtue of goal difference.

After having confirmed the quarterfinal place with two successive victories, Abahani might have taken the Feni Soccer game lightly and coach Ali Akbar experimented by resting four first-team players including in-form striker Lucky Paul. The result however



PHOTO: STAR

The two goal scorers of Feni Soccer Club Mohammad Yasin (R) and Ronald salute the sparse crowd at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur after their stunning 2-1 win over giants Abahani.

was an embarrassing loss against the same side who had stunned them last season in the Bangladesh League.

Left-back Wali Faisal and right-back Nasirul Islam were two of four rested players and their absence created a big hole in the Abahani defence and attack.

Though Abahani could not launch their preferred flank attacks, they did enjoy superior ball possession throughout the game and were repeatedly denied by Feni goalkeeper Masud Ahmed Uzzal.

The lanky goalkeeper thwarted at

least three scoring chances to keep Abahani at bay and give Feni Soccer something to cheer about. His best moment came when the thwarted defender Siraji's long-range effort in the 21st minute with a stunning save.

The next minute, Feni took a surprise lead as Abahani goalkeeper Shahidul Alam and defender Mamun Mia both hesitated to clear a Shahed through ball and Feni's Nigerian striker Ronald grasped the opportunity to send the ball home with an angular shot to silence

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India's cricket great Sachin Tendulkar (L) will be in the spotlight again when he takes the field against Australia in the third Test that starts at the WACA in Perth today. The little master will desperately try to end the pensive wait for his 100th international century.

PHOTO: AFP

## A team keeps changing

SPORTS REPORTER

The selectors were once again forced to make wholesale changes to the Bangladesh A team for the third one-dayer against the visiting England Lions to be held at the Zohur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong today.

The fiasco surrounding the second string Bangladesh side has continued unabated as the Akram Khan-led selection panel had to kowtow to the wishes of the clubs from the Premier Division Cricket League.

Mahmudullah Riyad led Bangladesh A to a six-wicket victory in the first game and then there were six changes made to the team for the second match, which under the leadership of Rokibul Hasan the home side lost by six wickets.

Left-arm spinner Sohrawardi Shuvo now leads

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## Dhoni to quit Tests?



Cricket

REUTERS, Perth

Mahendra Singh Dhoni has hinted he will quit Test cricket if he decides to lead India in their World Cup defence in Australia and New Zealand in 2015.

Dhoni, who led the cricket-obsessed nation to a 50-overs World Cup triumph last April, said it was still too early to decide if he would be around for the next tournament.

"Well if I want to see the 2015 World Cup in, I'll have to retire from one of the formats," he told a news conference ahead of the third Test against Australia.

"It's too early right now. I am not that old. I am just 30. There is still time. We will see by the end of 2013."

Dhoni, who is captain of India's Test, one-day internationals (ODI) and Twenty20 sides, carries the extra burden of keeping wicket and said making sure there was a successor ready was a factor in the 2013 deadline.

"What I really meant with that was by 2013 I would have to see where I stand when it comes to my body, whether I will be able to survive for the 2015 World Cup," he said.

"Of course form is a big factor but also, what I need to see is, if I play till 2014 and all of a sudden say I can't survive till the World Cup, then all of a sudden you have a new keeper coming in who has not played more than 30 international games.

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## More bad news for Muktis

SPORTS REPORTER

Muktijoddha Sangsads suffered another blow before their Federation Cup's quarterfinal tie as their key defender Ariful Islam has been handed a one-match ban yesterday following his indecent behaviour with the referee.

"Based on referee Abdul Hannan Miron's report, Ariful has been suspended for one match and the respective club has been informed about the decision of the disciplinary committee," said BFF acting general secretary Abu Nayeem Shohag.

Arif hurled abusive words toward referee Hannan Miron after Muktijoddha Sangsads' match against Mohammedan SC.

The suspension means

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