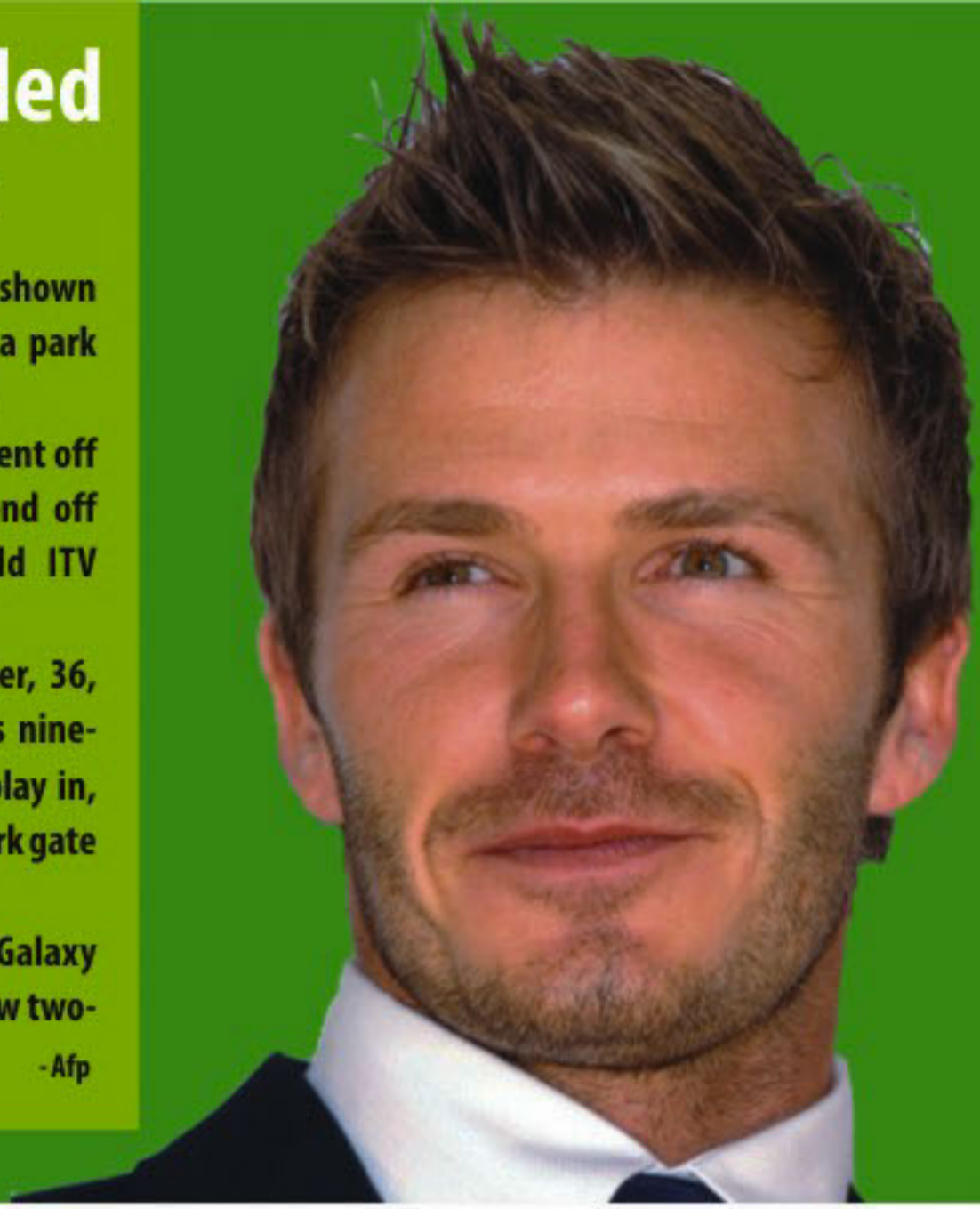


# Star SPORT

DHAKA SUNDAY FEBRUARY 5, 2012, E-MAIL: sports@thedailystar.net

## Becks red carded at kids' match

Football icon David Beckham was shown the red card and ordered out of a park while watching a children's match. The former England captain was sent off after protesting a decision to send off one of the youngsters, he told ITV television. The Los Angeles Galaxy midfielder, 36, who was waiting for a match his nine-year-old son Romeo was due to play in, had to go and stand outside the park gate until the game was over. Beckham's contract was up at LA Galaxy but last month but he agreed a new two-year deal.



Abahani winger Zahid Hasan (2nd from L) smiles at the camera after opening the scoring in their Bangladesh Premier League match against Rahmatganj MFS at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

## Abahani off to winning start

SPORTS REPORTER



Three-time champions Abahani got off to a winning start in the Bangladesh Premier League when they handed a 3-0 defeat to 10-man Rahmatganj MFS at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

National team discard Zahid Hasan was inspirational for Abahani as he scored the first goal and turned provider for the third scored by Ghanaian Twum Frank. Substitute Touhidul Alam scored the second goal in the match completely dominated by the Sky Blues.

Abahani coach Ali Akbar Pourmoslemi started with a 5-3-2 formation fielding three defenders with two half-backs overlapping down the wing. And the wings posed most of the danger to the heavily-manned Rahmatganj defence as Nasirul Islam and Zahid delivered dangerous crosses down the right flank.

Rahmatganj, much maligned for their involvement in match-fixing last season, were intent on soaking up the pressure and they did reasonably in the first half before midfielder Shamsuzzaman Sohel got the marching orders for a second bookable offence in the 36th minute. Minutes later, Abahani's Ghanaian striker Twum Frank got an easy opportunity to break the deadlock but his feeble attempt was stopped by

Rahmatganj keeper Sujon Chowdhury.

The Abahani coach adopted a more attacking approach in the second half as he brought on striker Touhidul to replace defender Mamun Mia which spurred a string of attacks. Frank wasted another easy opportunity at the start of the second half before Zahid broke the deadlock with a clinical finish from inside the box in the 59th minute. Zahid got the ball after Waly Faisal's cross was headed onto his path by Mohammad Sujon, and the nippy winger drove a placing shot past the Rahmatganj keeper at the back of the net.

The second goal came four minutes later when Touhidul played a neat one-two with Awudu Ibrahim before placing the ball at the far end of the net with his left foot. Frank redeemed himself in the 72nd minute when he slapped in a Zahid cross from a difficult angle.

Despite the three-goal win, Abahani coach Ali Akbar was far from happy, as he felt the margin should have been much bigger. "We could have scored 10 to 12 goals with the number of chances we created. Unfortunately our players lost the appetite after scoring the three goals," said Akbar.

Zahid, arguably the best player of the match, was looking at the positives. "Thankfully we have made a good start and if our players can keep the momentum we will do well in the league. I am happy with my own performance as well," said Zahid.

## Barisal, Dhaka South on top

SPORTS REPORTER

Barisal and Dhaka South are in the ascendancy at the end of the second day in the semifinals of the National Under-18 Cricket competition yesterday.

At the Shamsul Huda Stadium in Jessore, Barisal have an overall lead of 183 runs with seven second innings wickets in hand after finishing the day on 81-3. Earlier, they bowled out Dhaka Metro for 123 runs after they made 224-9.

Atiqur took five wickets while Monirul picked up four for Barisal in the first innings.

Away in Faridpur, Dhaka South were 102-2 with Faisal unbeaten on 58 in the second innings against BKSP.

SEE PAGE 17 COL 1

## Bevan arrives for Ctg Kings

SPORTS REPORTER



Former Australia batsman Michael Bevan arrived in the capital yesterday to join Chittagong Kings, the Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) franchise, as their batting coach.

Dean Jones, another former Australian batsman, will arrive in Dhaka today to join the same franchise as technical director.

Former Bangladesh captain Minhajul Abedin, who is a national selector these days, has been appointed adviser of the Chittagong Kings while former national cricketers Mizanur Rahman and Saiful Islam have been named as bowling and fielding coach respectively.

Australian Dean Woodford was named as the fitness trainer of the franchise.

Meanwhile, West Indies superstar Chris Gayle will play for

SEE PAGE 17 COL 1



## Younis props up Pakistan

Cricket

AFP, Dubai

Experienced batsman Younis Khan proved his class with a superb hundred to put Pakistan in a good position on the second day of the third and final Test against England played here on Saturday.

The 34-year-old right-hander scored an unbeaten 115 to repair the Pakistan innings after early wobbles with youngster Azhar Ali (75 not out) through an unbroken third-wicket stand of 194 to take their team to 222-2 at close.

Pakistan, who conceded a 42-run lead in the first innings after England made 141, now lead by 180 runs with eight wickets intact.

So in command was the duo that England's bowlers, who wrecked Pakistan

for 99 in the first innings, looked helpless and it seemed as if the match was not played on the same pitch on which 16 wickets fell on the first day.

Younis, who had only 66 runs in the last four innings, notched his 20th Test hundred -- the first from either side in the series -- with a sweep shot off left-arm spinner Monty Panesar for two, reaching the milestone off 166-balls.

Younis has so far hit 11 boundaries and a six. Ali, who often praised Younis's support for youngsters, batted with caution during his 14th half-century. He has so far hit 11 boundaries and six.

Before the two came together, Pakistan had lost openers Taufeeq Umar (six) and Mohammad Hafeez (21) in another disastrous start, leaving them at 30-2 at lunch and in danger of another collapse.

SEE PAGE 17 COL 2

## U-19s ease to 5-2 win

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Under-19s finished off on a winning note against their English counterparts yesterday. The 76-run win at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium gave the home side the seven-match series 5-2.

Off-spinner Al-Amin put in an excellent all-round performance, picking up 5-33 after he had struck a breezy half-century when the home side batted. England Under-19s were bowled out for just 161 runs in 41.2 overs after they chose to field first in the day-

night encounter.

Daniel Bell made 55 off 68 balls with the help of ten boundaries but the rest simply folded as Al-Amin and left-arm spinner Nasum Ahmed took charge.

Earlier, the home side's opening batsmen Anamul Haque and Soumya Sarkar gave a steady start before the wicketkeeper-batsman fell after a scratchy 12 in the twelfth over. Salman Hossain and left-hander Soumya followed suit before skipper Asif Ahmed became the fourth wicket to fall in the 26th over.

It looked as if the home side were taking it easy because they had already clinched the

SEE PAGE 17 COL 1

**ZAYED KHAN**  
I am coming to watch...

**Dhaka Gladiators**  
...and YOU?

যত খুশি SMS করুন  
DGZA<Space>Name<Space>Age<Space>Location  
এবং পাঠিয়ে দিন 2010 নাথরে  
সর্বোচ্চ SMS প্রদানকারী প্রথম ৫ জন মাঠে বসে খেলা দেখা  
ও প্রিয় তারকার অটোগ্রাফসহ টি-শার্ট উপহার বিল্ডে দিন।  
\*শর্ত প্রযোজ্য।

Media Partner: FM Partner: abe  
Wardrobe Partner: সন্দেশ

Facebook: www.facebook.com/gladiators.dhaka

**BPL 2012**  
05 days to go...

Starts from 10 February 2012  
Keep your eyes on Channel 9

Manchester United vs Chelsea  
**experience the glory**

Today the red Devils will take on the Blues. SMS "ManUtd" to 4321 (free) and get pre match previews, real time match alerts, updates and post match analysis of each Manchester United match.

Subscription charge: Tk. 30/month or Tk. 2/day (VAT excluded)

Call 1212 (free)

**airtel**