

## Djoker wins Laureus

AFP, London

Serbian tennis star Novak Djokovic was named Sportsman of the Year at the annual Laureus World Sports Awards here on Monday. Kenyan distance runner Vivian Cheruiyot was named the Sportswoman of the Year.

Djokovic enjoyed one of the best years of any player in the history of professional tennis in 2011, winning three of the four Grand Slams by taking the Australian Open, Wimbledon and US Open titles.

Djokovic saw off competition for the award from sprint star Usain Bolt, Formula One champion Sebastian Vettel and Barcelona football maestro Lionel Messi.

The Laureus Awards, chosen by a panel of 47 sports stars, saw Cheruiyot win out over the likes of golfer Yani Tseng and tennis player Petra Kvitova.

Spanish and European football champions Barcelona won the Team of the Year award while Northern Ireland golf celebrated two gongs.

In other awards, South Africa's 'Blade Runner' Oscar Pistorius collected the World Sportsman of the Year with a Disability and American surfer Kelly Slater was named Action Sportsman of the Year.

## Razzaq out, Afridi in

AFP, Karachi

Pakistan on Tuesday included all-rounders Shahid Afridi and Hammad Azam in its one-day and Twenty20 squads for the series against England in UAE.

The first of four one-day matches will be played in Abu Dhabi on February 13. The one-dayers will be followed by three T20Is.

All-rounder Abdul Razzaq has been dropped for poor performance.

### ODISQUAD

Misbahul Haq (captain), Younis Khan, Shahid Afridi, Mohammad Hafeez, Imran Shafat, Umar Akmal, Asad Shafiq, Adnan Akmal, Umar Gul, Junaid Khan, Aizaz Cheema, Saeed Ajmal, Abdul Rehman, Wahab Riaz, Azhar Ali, Hammad Azam.

### T20 SQUAD

Misbahul Haq (captain), Shahid Afridi, Mohammad Hafeez, Imran Farhat, Umar Akmal, Asad Shafiq, Adnan Akmal, Awaiz Zia, Umar Gul, Saeed Ajmal, Abdul Rehman, Wahab Riaz, Aizaz Cheema, Junaid Khan, Hammad Azam.



Serbian world number one tennis player Novak Djokovic (R) and Jelena Ristic arrive for the annual Laureus World Sports Awards in London on Monday. Djokovic won the Sportsman of the Year 2011 award.

PHOTO: AFP

LOCAL snippets

SPORTS REPORTER

Palestine Football Association has invited Bangladesh national football team to take part in the Al Nakba International Football tournament, scheduled to be held in May.

In this regard, Palestinian ambassador to Bangladesh Shaher Mohammad met BFF president Kazi Salahuddin at his office yesterday afternoon and delivered the official invitation.

BFF president said they are yet to confirm the participation and would let inform the Palestinian association in April.

### School hockey

A treble from Shihab powered holders Armanitola School to a comprehensive 6-0 win over Dr Mohammad Shahidullah School in the opening match of the Shah Sports 2nd Dhaka Metropolitan School Hockey tournament at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

### Women's handball

Mohammedan, Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club and RN Sports Home won their respective matches of the Cute First Division Women's Handball League at the Handball Stadium yesterday.

Mohammedan defeated Azad Sporting Club 20-13 while Mariner Youngs recorded a massive 37-8 win over Jatrabari Krira Chakra. RN Sports also posted an easy win when they mauled Arambagh KS 30-1 after leading the first half 17-0.

### 2nd Div football

Karwanbazar Progati Sangha and Prantik Krira Chakra played out a goalless draw in the lone fixture of the Destiny Group 2nd Division Football League at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

### School Football

Five more teams moved into the district-level competitions of the National School Football Tournament after emerging champions in their respective Upazilas yesterday.

Hariyavanga High School defeated KSM Academy 3-2 in tiebreaker to clinch the Kalukhali Upazila title while Moheshpur High School defeated Pathura High School 2-1 in the final to emerge Moheshpur Upazila champions.

# Misbah wants to move on

## Cricket

AFP, Dubai

Pakistan's cricket team put its numerous problems behind them through consistent performances as they wiped out the world's best team England 3-0 with captain Misbahul Haq aiming to move on to further heights.

Bedeveloped by the spot-fixing scandal of 2010, which ended in lengthy bans and ultimately jail terms for three of its key players -- Salman Butt, Mohammad Asif and Mohammad Aamer -- Pakistan registered their first-ever whitewash over England here on Monday.

The victory, Misbah believes, will help Pakistan move on.

"It's a wonderful win but the most important thing in any sport or life is that whatever you achieve it goes in the past. If you stuck with it you can't move ahead and improve," said Misbah after beating England by 71 runs in the third Test.

Pakistan's resurgence is not only surprising but praiseworthy as they have not lost a Test series, winning nine of the 15 Tests, with one defeat and five draws -- all under Misbah.

Moreover, there have been no problems off the field, something which

have consistently derailed Pakistan's on-field progress.

Former Pakistan captain Ramiz Raja showered huge praise on the players.

"The current players have become the latest pin-up boys of world cricket," Raja told AFP. "It's a dramatic turnaround for Pakistan and hats off to their discipline, consistency and distinction."

"Sky is the limit for them because this wasn't an easy series. Now this win will help this team build in confidence," said Raja, who warned against complacency.

"I would still call it a work in progress, the beginning of something special," said Raja, now a widely travelled commentator.

"We have got to beat South Africa and Australia on their grounds and I am sure this team can achieve that."

Misbah acknowledges the challenge of playing well on away tours.

"That's another challenge, this team loves challenges and that challenge is in our minds and everybody is just focusing to prove themselves outside Pakistan, so we are looking forward. If we just go to South Africa and Australia, we just want to do well there."

Misbah, a veteran at 37, said the current team is a blend of youth and

experience.

"Only time will tell what you can achieve or what you can do. We just want to do well and that's what we are aiming for and youngsters are coming up, Azhar Ali, Asad Shafiq, Mohammad Hafeez are doing well and seniors are supporting them," said Misbah.

Another former captain and coach Waqar Younis praised Misbah.

"He (Misbah) has been tremendous leader of a young and transformed team," said Waqar, also here as a commentator.

"His cool and calming influence is good for the team and credit to the management for keeping discipline in the team," said Waqar, who quit as coach in September last year after developing health problems.

And the win Misbah said will force other nations to take Pakistan seriously.

"This England win will send a strong message to the cricket world, and that is that we are a strong and powerful cricketing nation and deserve respect and more international matches," said Misbah.

"We have been ignored for quite some time, but our performance will help us get better scheduling and respect," said Misbah.

## Axe falls

**FROM PAGE 16**  
fitness assessment during the preparation period as he continues his recovery following an elbow operation," said the England and Wales Cricket Board.

Buttler, 21, hit two centuries and a half-century in his last five innings against Sri Lanka A, including one century from just 56 deliveries, while 20-year-old Briggs is one of three spinners in the 16-man squad.

### ODISQUAD

Alastair Cook (captain), James Anderson, Jonny Bairstow, Ravi Bopara, Tim Bresnan, Danny Briggs, Stuart Broad, Jos Buttler, Jade Dernbach, Steven Finn, Craig Kieswetter, Eoin Morgan, Samit Patel, Kevin Pietersen, Graeme Swann, Jonathan Trott.

### T20 SQUAD

Stuart Broad (captain), James Anderson, Jonny Bairstow, Ravi Bopara, Tim Bresnan, Danny Briggs, Jos Buttler, Jade Dernbach, Steven Finn, Alex Hales, Craig Kieswetter, Eoin Morgan, Samit Patel, Kevin Pietersen, Graeme Swann.

## BPL good

**FROM PAGE 16**  
back into rhythm had the message of hope saying that he would give his full attention. "It is a great opportunity for me to show my best as an opener of the team of my own division," he said.

"I think I will regain my rhythm and be able to show my best cricket in the T20 tournament," he said.

Kings CEO Samir Q Chowdhury, technical director and former Australia batsman Dean Jones and advisor Minhazul Abedin Nannu, the former national captain, were also present at the press conference.

# Is this his 'teesra'?

## Cricket

AFP/CRICINFO, Dubai

Pakistan spinner Saeed Ajmal on Tuesday created more confusion about his bowling action, by claiming he has special dispensation from the game's governing body to straighten his arm beyond the allowed 15 degrees.

The 34-year-old off-spinner, who took 24 wickets in the 3-0 Test series whitewash of England, claimed that the International Cricket Council (ICC) has allowed him extra leniency, up to 23.5 degrees.

As per the ICC rules a bowler can only straighten his arm up to 15 degrees, beyond which his action will be deemed illegal.

"I don't know about my bowling action, but somebody was telling me your action is bad. ICC has allowed me 23.5 because my arm is not good because of an accident, that is why a problem," Ajmal told BBC television on Monday after being declared man-of-the-series.

"Otherwise no problem, straightaway cleared by ICC."

His bowling action, reported by match officials during a one-day series against Australia

here in 2009 before it was cleared after remedial work by experts, once again came under suspicions following his career-best 7-55 in the first Test, also played in Dubai.

Former England paceman Bob Willis raised suspicions over his 'doosra' (second one) -- a ball which turns the other way than a normal off-break -- while England coach Andy Flower said he has his own opinion and left the matter to the ICC.

An ICC spokesman denied that was the case. "There is no dispensation for anyone," he said. "It is worth remembering that his first language is not English and this may have been a slip of the tongue."

It may be that Ajmal, having bamboozled England's batsmen all series, was simply leaving his best trick until last. Renowned for his sense of humour, it could be that Ajmal, who started the series talking of a teesra delivery that never materialised, was simply joking.

But after Ajmal's claim on relaxation, Flower on Tuesday showed surprise.

"If that's the degree, then there's a problem, said Flower when asked about Ajmal's claim of special dispensation. "That's ridiculous."



DHS Motors chairman Obeid Nizam (seated left) and Game On Sports Management CEO Syed Zakaria Zuffri exchange agreement documents in Mirpur yesterday. DHS will award the BPL's player of the tournament a brand new Honda City 1.5L.

PHOTO: COURTESY

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### স্টাফবাস ভাড়ার দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড (বিডিবিএল), ঢাকা অফিসের নিম্নবর্ণিত ১টি ফ্লট ব্যাংকের কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারীদের অফিসে আনা-নেয়ার জন্য ২০০০ সালের বা তৎপরবর্তী মডেলের ১টি মোটর গাড়ী (৫২ সিটের বাস) ০১/০৩/২০১২ তারিখ থেকে পরবর্তী ২ (দুই) বৎসর মেয়াদে ভাড়া করার নিমিত্তে পরিবহন ঠিকাদার প্রতিষ্ঠান/প্রকৃত বাস মালিকদের (মালিক না হলে মালিকের সম্মতিপত্রসহ) নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আবেদন করা যাবে।

| ক্রমিক নম্বর | ফ্লটের নাম   | গাড়ীর আকার | গাড়ীর সংখ্যা |
|--------------|--|-------------|---------------|
| (১)          | গাজীপুর টোরাঙ্কা-বোর্ড বাজার-গাজীপুরা-টংগী কলেজ গেট-চেরাগআলী মার্কেট-ষ্টেশন রোড-আনারকলি-আব্দুল্লাহপুর-হাউজ বিল্ডিং-রাজলক্ষী কাওলা-খিলক্ষেত-কারওয়ান বাজার-মতিঝিল ফ্লট। | ন্যূনতম ৫২  | ১টি           |

## Old DOHS finish

**FROM PAGE 16**  
Mohammad Ashraful picking up three wickets.

**SCORES IN BRIEF**  
**MOHAMMEDAN:** 170 all out in 45.4 overs (Mabud 42, Naeem 38; Trego 4-21, Forhad 1-14).  
**ABAHANI:** 173-5 in 44.3 overs (Riyad 48 not out, Anamul 45; Yasim 2-28, Amit 1-28).  
**Result:** Abahani won by five wickets.  
**GAZI TANK:** 245-9 in 50 overs (Nasir 72, Milon 36; Tapash 4-28, Rubaiyat 3-43).  
**SK JAMAL:** 242-8 in 50 overs (Mushfiqur 116, Limon 45; Sami 4-55, Alauddin 1-15).  
**Result:** Gazi Tank won by three runs.  
**OLD DOHS:** 198 all out in 49.5 overs (Rameez 64, Shuvagoto 27; Tajul 3-35, Arafat 2-28).  
**DOLESHWAR:** 177 all out in 48.2 overs (Manvinder 65, Nafees 26; Ashraful 3-28, Shuvagoto 2-33).  
**Result:** Old DOHS won by 21 runs.

## Kamal bullish

**FROM PAGE 16**  
would love to become president even for a day.

If the ICC vice-presidency is a major issue to deal with at the international level, then sending a security team to Pakistan for a pre-series inspection is no less important for the BCB boss.

"I will accompany the security team because as president I must lead from the front," said Kamal. BCB is however yet to confirm the schedule for the trip although their Pakistan counterparts are pushing them hard.

"We also have to get the green signal from the ICC," he added.

However, there is an immediate issue to solve for Kamal on the domestic front as the twelve clubs of the Premier Division Cricket League demanded a share in the earnings of the Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) T20, the new venture of the BCB which will kick off from February 10 at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.

The club officials, led by Manzur Ahmed, the president of new powerhouse Sheikh

Jamal Dhanmondi Club, addressed a letter to BCB president in which they have demanded a 25 per cent share of the income from the BPL as well as 25 per cent from the players' earnings. And the clubs threatened that they would not release their players if the board failed to meet their demands or discuss with them about the BPL.

"I will meet with the club representatives tomorrow to discuss everything and I hope everything will be solved in the meeting," assured Kamal.

## Toklis powers

**FROM PAGE 16**  
1-1 draw but this time Victoria came proved the superior power, thanks to the treble from Toklis, who had also scored in their Federation Cup fixture.

Toklis put the title contenders ahead in the 15th minute before doubling the lead three minutes later. The top-scorer of the second division league, Toklih completed his hattrick in the 58th minute to ensure an easy win for Victoria.

### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
1 Weak, as an excuse  
5 Thickness  
8 Amble  
12 Wicked  
13 Tall tale  
14 Press  
15 "The Glass Menagerie" playwright  
17 Building block name  
18 Old insecticide  
19 Conk out  
20 Explosion  
21 Moist  
22 Luau bowlful  
23 Lisa Marie's dad  
26 Former  
30 Work hard  
31 Small barrel  
32 Stare  
33 Pursued obsessively  
35 Knee counter-part  
36 Salary  
37 Dinner for Dobbins

**DOWN**  
1 Lascivious  
2 Eager, plus  
3 Vibraphonist  
4 Right angle  
5 Braid  
6 Citrus fruit  
7 "Certainly"  
8 As a volunteer would  
9 Vicinity  
10 Yule fuel  
11 Entanglement  
16 Mid-month date  
20 Greet the villain  
21 Energetic determination  
22 Boxer  
23 Type squares

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

|         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|
| CAD     | BOW     | MAJJA   |
| ALLOT   | AIR     | ICON    |
| VIEW    | ALE     | DENT    |
| EASEL   | YARN    |         |
|         | LEG     | KNIFIED |
| TRIVIAL | AGILE   |         |
| EASE    | PAS     | HAUL    |
| ANNOY   | SEATTLE |         |
| SITCOM  | ASH     |         |
|         | LUAU    | KOOKY   |
| MEMO    | MPG     | UVEA    |
| BLOCK   | BOA     | RINK    |
| AMOK    | ONS     | DOES    |

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 |    |    |    | 13 |    |    | 14 |    |    |    |
| 15 |    |    |    | 16 |    |    | 17 |    |    |    |
| 18 |    |    |    | 19 |    |    | 20 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 21 |    |    | 22 |    |    |    |    |
| 23 | 24 | 25 |    |    | 26 |    |    | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |    |    |    | 31 |    |    | 32 |    |    |    |
| 33 |    |    |    | 34 |    |    | 35 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 36 |    |    | 37 |    |    |    |    |
| 38 | 39 | 40 |    |    | 41 |    |    | 42 | 43 | 44 |
| 45 |    |    |    |    | 46 |    |    | 47 |    |    |
| 48 |    |    |    |    | 49 |    |    | 50 |    |    |
| 51 |    |    |    |    | 52 |    |    | 53 |    |    |

### CRYPTOQUIP

L Q Z Y J Y G D Q Z Z M A J N Z F M  
I X L Q D C N Z M Z A F O X J V  
D F W W Z D L X C H D L Q J L I Z V Z  
V Z J O O G O J N Y - Y V J X H Z P X P Z J D.

**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** ADDITIONAL NOTES ONE MIGHT FIND SCRIBBLED INSIDE SCRIPTS FOR "THE SIMPSONS": MARGE-INALIA. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals B