

Star SPORT

DHAKA FRIDAY MAY 18, 2012, E-MAIL: sports@thedailystar.net

Alves out for two months

FC Barcelona's Brazilian star Dani Alves is expected to be out of action for up to two months after undergoing surgery on Wednesday on a broken collarbone, the Spanish club announced.

"The expected recuperation period is to be between six and eight weeks," the Primera Liga side said, adding that the player would leave hospital on Thursday.

The defender will miss Barcelona's final clash of the season - the King's Cup final against Athletic Bilbao on May 25.



BCB names 27 for Zim camp

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) announced a 27-member preliminary squad yesterday for the tour of Zimbabwe in June.

Left-handed batsman Shahriar Nafees and left-arm spinner Sohrwardi Shuvo were the notable omissions from the long list.

The Tigers will fly for Zimbabwe on May 13 to play a tri-nation T20 tournament involving hosts Zimbabwe and South Africa.

The players have been asked to report to the national team strength and conditioning coach Grant Trafford Luden at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur on May 20 at 8:30am.

The cricket operations committee was in a state of confusion over the start of the camp after the board decided to resume the Dhaka Premier Division Cricket Super League from May 31, and they are still uncertain about whether they can carry out the camp.

"We have to release the players when the clubs start their camps, so we are in doubt over how many players can continue in the camp

SEE PAGE 17 COL 4

Abahani extend BPL lead

SPORTS REPORTER

A brace from Twum Frank helped Abahani consolidate their lead in the Grameenphone Bangladesh Premier League with a 2-0 win over minnows Arambagh KS at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The Sky Blues are now six points clear of second-placed Mutkijoddha Sangsad who have 24 points from 12 matches while Arambagh lie at the bottom of the 11-team point table with nine points from 12 outings.

Under the floodlights, Abahani were forced to take the field without the four-goal hauler in their previous match, Lucky Paul, who broke his leg during Tuesday's practice to be ruled out for four weeks.

Despite the absence of the league's top-scorer, the Dhanmondi-based outfit did not face much trouble in finding the opposition net as Ghanaian hitman Frank, who was drafted in place of Nigerian Lucky, did not disappoint his Iranian coach Ali Akbar, providing a six-minute lead.

Frank converted the spot kick after Abahani were awarded a penalty following a bad tackle on speedy winger Zahid Hossain by defender Jahidul Hasan Dalim.

Abahani adopted a formation of 4-3-3 that had initially lacked



PHOTO: STAR

Abahani striker Twum Frank exults after scoring one of his two goals against Arambagh KS during their Bangladesh Premier League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

coherence in the midfield but they gradually asserted their authority with hard-working midfielder Yoko Samnik and came close to doubling the lead,

but Arambagh KS goalkeeper Biplob Kumar Bishu thwarted a low header from midfielder Arman Aziz in the 14th minute. Arambagh, playing a counter-

attack based game, mustered their first effort on target one minute from the break and almost equalised but defender Mohammad Sujan made a goal-line save off an

Invasion at NSC!

SPORTS REPORTER

The dormitory of the National Sports Council, the old building of NSC, is generally used to accommodate athletes ahead of any tournaments, championships or training programmes. But the leaders of the District and Divisional Organisers' Association (DOA) have made it their own accommodation after occupying five to six rooms.

Of the four rooms at the fourth floor, one is being used by DOA general secretary Ashiqur Rahman Miku while two rooms at the third floor are being used by the two general secretaries of Bangladesh Weightlifting Federation and Bangladesh Cycling Federation though BWF and BCF have separate offices at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Those rooms have been air-conditioned and decorated with floor mat and nice window screens, dissimilar to that of the athletes' rooms where upto five to six athletes are accommodated in each room. Currently, some players of taekwondo and athletics are staying there to receive training for the upcoming

SEE PAGE 17 COL 8

Rubel to have arthroscopy today

SPORTS REPORTER

Injured pacer Rubel Hossain will undergo an arthroscopy today in South Africa.

"His (Rubel Hossain) next course of treatment will be decided after this arthroscopy and it will also clear how much time he will need to return to action," informed BCB physician Dr Debashish Chowdhury yesterday.

The right-arm pacer went to South Africa on May 14 to avail the treatment on his injured shoulder. Rubel has been out of action since the Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) due to a shoulder injury and it is all but confirmed that he will miss the ICC Twenty20 World Cup to be held in Sri Lanka in September this year.

C'paul stands in ruins

Cricket

AFP, London

Shivnarine Chandernaul prevented another complete West Indies collapse on the first day of the first Test here on Thursday as England's Stuart Broad enjoyed yet more success at Lord's.

Chandernaul's 87 not out, his latest rescue mission for his beleaguered side, was the cornerstone of a total of 243 for nine in an innings where no other batsman has so far made more than opener Adrian Barath's 42.

Paceman Broad took six wickets for 72 in 24.4 overs -- his first five-wicket Test innings haul at Lord's.

It secured him a place on the Lord's bowling honours board to set alongside his Test-best 169 against Pakistan at the ground in 2010.

That Chandernaul, who came in with West Indies struggling after an all too familiar top-order collapse left them 86 for three, led many to wonder why the left-hander, now officially the world's best Test batsman, had not been promoted from his favoured

number five spot.

Without taking undue risks the ever-gritty Guyanese, whose wide open stance confounds purists and opponents alike, completed a relatively brisk fifty in 102 balls featuring seven fours.

However, the fact that Thursday also saw former West Indies captain and proven Test opener Chris Gayle, who only recently ended his stand off with Caribbean cricket chiefs, smash 128 not out off just 62 balls in the lucrative Indian Premier League was a reminder of the firepower the tourists were missing.

England did not have things all their way after captain Andrew Strauss won the toss and fielded in overcast, bowler-friendly conditions.

Barath's bold cover-driving saw to that but James Anderson still took two wickets for nine runs to clean bowl opener Kieran Powell and have Kirk Edwards leg before.

Unfortunately for the West Indies, Barath -- who struck 36 in boundaries alone -- had added just one run to his lunch score of 41 when the diminutive opener drove loosely outside off stump against Broad and third

SEE PAGE 17 COL 2



Paperboy Pappu's cricket journey

SHAHNOOR RABBANI

During the four-day screening camp at the National Cricket Academy Ground over May 12-15, it was evident that the 50 boys selected (from around 9,000) that had shown up from various parts of the country had the passion and dedication required to become a cricketer.

They would each toil all day under the sun performing various drills to test their abilities to be among the best 24 players for the under-17 combined school primary team. Among them a young left-arm spinner showed exceptional grit and gusto to tough it out under the scorching heat and go about the task merrily, encouraging his friends through the process.

A quick chat with him provides a much clearer picture. Amit Hasan Pappu, a 16-year-old from Dinajpur Zilla School, was a paperboy before he discovered his talent in cricket.

"My best friend Abdul once told me to come to the cricket practice with him and I did. I enjoyed it and did well. It came as a surprise because I never really liked cricket that much growing up. It was always football," he says.

Having lost his father, who was a rickshaw puller, at a very early age, Pappu lives with his mother and his older brother, who works at a computer shop. "Selling papers was the only option I had to make a living and pay for my school. I remember when I first started playing cricket there would be many days where I couldn't even afford two meals a day," he goes on.

Pappu found early success playing for his school team and would later be called up for his divisional team Rajshahi.

SEE PAGE 17 COL 6

FOOTBALL REMIX FESTIVAL

To register have a Pepsi and SMS the code under the cap to 6969. Once you register, you will get a series of questions. To send the answer, type a new code from under a Pepsi pet bottle cap, give a space and then the answer (a or b) and send it to 6969. Giving the right answer means scoring a goal and a guaranteed gift. Score a series of goals and get a chance to win a trip to SPAIN.

Win exciting prizes everyday

Samsung Galaxy Tab

Samsung Corby

Soccer bag

3D Sports Sipper (Mug)

Soccer ball

Pepsi star Wallpaper

* Regular Pepsi will also be available in the market without the offer. • The promotional bottles for this campaign have white caps and a picture of Messi on the label. • This offer is only applicable for Pepsi PET bottles (Pepsi 250ml Go pack, 500ml, 1 liter and 2 liter). • Promotional offer not applicable for Diet Pepsi. • Each code can only be sent once through SMS. • Consumers will have to submit the cap as a proof while receiving the prizes. • SMS charges applicable. • All decisions taken by Pepsi will be regarded as final at any stage of the program. • Winners will have to arrange passport and visa on their own. • Persons associated with Transcom Beverages, Asiatic MCL and Asiatic Events are not eligible to take part in this promotion. • Participation in this promotion is completely voluntary. • Participants have to be above 18 years. • Conditions apply.

For details call 09666-71-6969 or visit www.facebook.com/pepsibangladesh

CHANGE THE GAME

asiatic@pepsi.com