

# Star SPORT



DHAKA FRIDAY, JULY 12, E-MAIL: sports@thedailystar.com

## Drogba mobbed on torch relay

Chelsea's Champions League hero Didier Drogba was given a rapturous welcome as he carried the Olympic flame on Wednesday, the day after announcing he was leaving the club. Drogba was mobbed by thousands of people lining the route as he jogged through Swindon town centre in western England with his torch on the fifth day of the relay ahead of the 2012 London Olympics. Despite being far from Chelsea's west London base, many of the crowd were wearing the club's shirts.



## Big wins for Azad & Sk Jamal

SPORTS REPORTER

Azad Sporting Club and Sheikh Jamal DC Club won their respective matches by massive margins against Rising Girls Cricket Academy and Dhaka Northern Women's Cricket Club in the 4th Women's Club Cricket League yesterday.

Azad Sporting Club won the toss at the BKSP-2 and decided to bat, scoring 233/3 in the allotted 40 overs with player-of-the-match Ritu Moni top-scoring with a quickfire 64. In reply, Rising Girl's Cricket Academy were bowled out in 13.4 overs for a meagre 28 with Khadija Tul Kubra taking three wickets for two runs and giving Azad victory by 205 runs.

At the BKSP-1, Dhaka Northern Women's Cricket Club won the toss and chose to bat but were skittled out for a paltry 31 in 23.1 overs, mainly due to player-of-the-match Panna Ghosh's 4 for 11. In reply, Sheikh Jamal took just 7 overs to reach the target without the loss of any wickets.

## Marsh to sue SLC

ANI, Colombo

Former national team coach Geoff Marsh is suing Sri Lanka Cricket over his dismissal five months ago.

According to Sports24, Sri Lanka Cricket President Upali Dharmadasa confirmed on Wednesday that Marsh had sent a letter of demand, but refrained from discussing the contents of the letter, saying it is a legal matter.

Sri Lanka fired former Australian player Marsh as coach in January, only three months into his two-year contract, and replaced him with former South Africa coach Graham Ford.

There were no reasons given for removing Marsh, who had been in charge for only two Test series involving the Sri Lankan team.

**HATTRICK HERO:** Muktijoddha Sangsad's Brazilian midfielder Souza Lima (L) celebrates one of his three goals which drove them to a 4-1 victory over Abahani in their Grameenphone Bangladesh Premier League encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

## Lima puts Muktis on top

SPORTS REPORTER



A brilliant hat-trick from Brazilian midfielder Souza Lima helped title contenders Muktijoddha Sangsad KS join leaders Abahani with a comprehensive 4-1 win over Arambagh KS in their Grameenphone Bangladesh Premier League encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

It was the league's seventh hat-trick while Mamunul Islam netted the other that ensured Muktijoddha Sangad secured the full three points to join Abahani with 30 points each. Abahani though are still ahead by virtue of having played a game less.

With their eighth defeat in 14 matches, Arambagh KS lie second from bottom with 10 points and are in danger to be relegated with

only six games left.

Muktijoddha Sangad grasped all opportunities with both hands in an effort to catch the league leaders after Mohammedan defeated Abahani.

From the start, Muktijoddha Sangad looked more organized with their crisp passing and controlled the midfield against Arambagh who basically played a counter-attack based game.

Arambagh came close to an early

lead in the 11th minute from a counter attack but goalkeeper Mashudur Rahman Mustaq rescued Muktijoddha Sangad with a brilliant save when Eleta Kingsley availed a defensive lapse to dodge past three defenders before hammering a powerful shot from inside the box.

Afterwards, it was a one-side affair though Muktijoddha had to wait for 45 minutes to take a lead

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## TOUR OF IRELAND BCB wants only T20s



SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has come up with new proposal for their Irish counterparts -- playing five T20 internationals instead of the earlier planned five ODIs, keeping in mind the Tigers' preparation for the ICC World T20 in Sri Lanka in September.

The BCB's media committee chairman Jalal Yunus revealed this change of plan yesterday after the emergency meeting of the board of directors at the BCB headquarters in Mirpur.

"We are interested to play T20 series instead of one-day series right at this moment, so we will ask them (Cricket Ireland) whether it will be possible for them to arrange. It's not possible to play the one-day series before the ICC Twenty20 World Cup, so we will play the series at a convenient time after the World Cup if they don't agree to host the T20 series," said Yunus.

As per earlier decision the Tigers are supposed to play five ODIs during the two-week trip to Ireland in late July.

A three-member committee headed by BCB vice-president Ahmed Sajjadul Alam was formed during the meeting to oversee the tender process for the BCB's next worldwide media rights. BCB Directors Mirza Salman Ispahani and Aziz Al Kaiser are the other members of the committee.

"Draft copies have already been distributed to all directors and they have been asked to come up with suggestions to fine-tune the tender that will be floated for the new TV deal while a committee has been formed to oversee the whole issue," said Yunus.

The six-year contract with Nimbus ended on April 30.

Taking lessons from previous errors, the board has been

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## Players pledge big



SPORTS REPORTER

The players-backed panel led by GM Niaz Murshed yesterday revealed its manifesto of the upcoming polls of the Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF) and officially introduced their candidates who will vie for various posts during the May 31 elections.

Five Grandmasters -- Niaz, Ziur Rahman, Reefat Bin Sattar, Abdullah Al Rakib and Enamul Hossain Razib -- were present at a press conference held at the National Press Club, where they promised to hold the domestic and international meets with regularity round the year.

The panel vowed to organise seven different international rating tournaments in seven divisional headquarters apart from the yearly GM and IM tournaments to be

held in Dhaka.

They have also pledged to take the school chess tournaments, which are currently held only in Dhaka, across the country and arrange chess leagues in all 64 districts regularly. If elected, they have pledged to start a fixed deposit of Tk 1 crore over four years to increase the funds of the BCF. They will also appoint professional staff in the chess federation to conduct the regular jobs and events of the federation.

They also urged voters to support the revival of chess, which has gone nowhere in the last two-and-a-half years during the reign of the ad-hoc committee, and to deny their votes to those who are not involved with chess.

The speakers also claimed that their rival panel, backed by the District and Divisional Organisers' Association, has been trying to

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## This Summer, it's raining Goals!

What an exciting time! Everyone is competing; from the rooftops to the classrooms, from office blocks to traffic jams; to see who will score the most goals. Everywhere around you, its only goals and goals. Just the other day I saw someone at a phuchka stand jump up shouting goal and spilling hot sauce all over himself in the process. Another time I saw two gangs arguing amongst themselves over who scored the most goals. It all started with the tea stall boy who quite innocently asked me "Hey, how many goals did you score?"

"Proudly I answered '5!' and was promptly treated to a barrage of laughter from the neighboring table. The moment I looked in their direction one of them responded with '20.' Hearing this the smartest and best looking young man from the neighborhood scoffed and said 'My score is 55!' This got me thinking, it's high time I dived head first into the game. So I started drinking Pepsi and scoring goals everyday. This is how my 'Pepsi Football Remix Festival' journey began.

You can get started too. All you have to do is

send the unique code found under the white Pepsi pet bottle caps and SMS to 6969. The moment you send the code your phone number will be registered and you will receive the contest rules along with a question. The next step is getting another code which you have to send to 6969 followed by a space and your answer(a or b). From then on you will keep on getting questions and every correct answer means you score a goal. The top 50 goal scorers will make it to the 'Pepsi Rhythm of football' event, and from there three lucky winners will win the coveted trip to Spain. The

biggest draw for this campaign is the chance to party in Ibiza with one of the worlds top DJ's, Clavin Harris. Don't miss this chance of a lifetime. All you have to do is drink Pepsi and score goals. The more you score the greater your chances. Along with this there are also other prizes up for grabs. Samsung Galaxy tabs, Samsung Corby Phones, Pepsi Branded Bags footballs and 3-D sippers, Pepsi football star wallpapers and much more. So why wait any longer? You should get started too. Drink Pepsi, score goals, and win a trip to Spain!



FOOTBALL REMIX FESTIVAL

Drink Pepsi, Score goals, win a trip to Spain!

CHANGE THE GAME



SMS the code under the cap to 6969, answer the question and keep moving ahead.

\*Conditions apply

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