Franchises' deadline today

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) governing council chairman Gazi Ashraf Hossain said that they will be able to give a clear picture regarding players' dues by today.

"We have given them (franchises) a deadline till next working day but today (Saturday October 20, which was the stated deadline) is not a working day. I hope we will be able to give you a clear picture tomorrow (Sunday). What I can say is that things are progressing and we hope for a good outcome in the next board meeting on October 24," said Gazi Ashraf. After Friday's board meeting it was told that the board has asked each and every franchise to complete all payments, failing which the board will take a decision regarding the BCB's relationship with these teams during the October 24 board meeting.

Cricketers Welfare Association of Bangladesh (CWAB) had earlier stated that 54 players who took part in the BPL had yet to be paid their due wages.

Greig diagnosed with cancer

AFP, *London*

Former England captain Tony Greig revealed on Saturday that he has been diagnosed with lung cancer.

"I have had a few scrapes in my life and this is another one," South African-born Greig, 66, told The Sunday Telegraph in Australia.

"Vivian (his wife) and I are going to put the boxing gloves on and fight this like we've never fought anything before."

Greig will undergo a biopsy next week on his lung to precisely diagnose the seriousness of the cancer.

Greig said that he first became aware that he had a problem when he was commentating on Australia's series against Pakistan in the United Arab Emirates in September.

PHOTO: AFP

Real Madrid's star forward Cristiano Ronaldo goes off on a celebratory run after scoring his team's second goal during their La Liga match against Celta de Vigo at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid yesterday.

Real ease past Celta

AFP, *Madrid*

LFP

Gonzalo Higuain and Cristiano Ronaldo hit a goal apiece in either half as Real Madrid eased past Celta Vigo with a 2-0 victory on Saturday.

Argentine striker Higuain gave the current La Liga champions a lead on 12 minutes before Ronaldo wrapped up the points with a second-half penalty for a Madrid side that never really got going against unambitious opposition.

The result means 'los blancos' move within five points of Barcelona and Atletico Madrid at the top of La Liga, having played a game more.

Coach Jose Mourinho needed to shuffle his pack after a number of players returned with injuries from international duty.

Brazilian international Kaka was called to start his first league game of the season while Raphael Varane took over in the centre of defence for only his second.

There was also room for recent signings Michael Essien and Luka Modric as Mourinho kept one eye on Wednesday's Champions League tie at Borussia Dortmund.

It was Sergio Ramos, filling in at right-back, who had the first chance of the game when he headed a corner just over on three minutes and from that point a pattern of Madrid dominance was established.

By the 12th minute Madrid were ahead when Higuain powered down the left wing and hit what looked like a cross that curled into the top far corner.

On 25 minutes Celta mounted their first attack when the impressive Iago Aspas forced a way through the Madrid defence and produced a diving save from Iker Casillas.

The visitors were showing more signs of life with some neat passing but Madrid continued to look comfortable and could have doubled their lead on 37 minutes when Ronaldo clipped the bar with an inventive volley.

Unhappy with only the one-goal advantage at the interval Mourinho called time on Kaka's return by replacing him with Angel Di Maria for the second period.

Ronaldo and Varane both headed wide of the post in the second half and Madrid's anxiety was increasing as time ticked by with the single goal lead.

However, the referee came to Madrid's rescue when he gave what appeared to be a contentious penalty when Mesut Ozil went down under a challenge from Gustavo Cabral on 68 minutes.

Ronaldo made no mistake from the spot to make it nine league goals for the season, one more than Lionel Messi and Radamel Falcao.

Substitute Jose Callejon forced a save from Celta's reserve keeper Sergio Alvarez and Quique de Lucas did the same at the other end for the visitors.

Earlier, Malaga moved to within two points of Barcelona and Atletico Madrid at the top, ahead of their games later, with a hard earned 2-1 home victory over Valladolid.

The visitors took an early lead when former Manchester United striker Manucho fired home after Omar Ramos had caused chaos in the Malaga defence with a mazy run.

A superb Isco levelled the game for Malaga before the interval, before Joaquin grabbed a winner on 87 minutes, only two minutes after blasting a penalty over the bar.

Cricket back in Pakistan

AFP, *Karachi*

Security was tight on Saturday as Pakistan hosted and won the first match of an international flavour in the country since 2009, when militants attacked a bus carrying the Sri Lankan team, leaving eight people dead and seven Sri Lankan players wounded.

Around 5,000 policemen and para-military staff cordoned off the stadium in a top-level security arrangement and one dozen police vehicles led both the teams to the ground).

A sell-out 32,000 crowd at the well-cordoned National stadium watched an International World XI led by former Sri Lankan captain Sanath Jayasuriya play All Stars Pakistan led by current allrounder Shahid Afridi. The All Stars, riding on a hattrick by Tabish Khan, won the T20 encounter by 84 runs.

Norwich stun Arsenal

AFP, *Norwich*

Norwich stunned Arsenal as Grant Holt punished a mistake from keeper Vito Mannone to seal a shock 1-0 victory over the Gunners at Carrow Road on Saturday.

Arsenal's Italian third-choice keeper's poor handling was decisive when he failed to hold on to a long range shot from Alex Tettey and Holt followed up to put away from inside the six-yard box to give Norwich their first Premier League win of the season.

Arsene Wenger's side are now 10 points behind leaders Chelsea while Norwich climb out of the relegation zone thanks to their first win over Arsenal for 20 years.

Lions enter semis

STAR SPORT DESK

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE TWENTY20 2012

Highveld Lions defeated Yorkshire comfortably by five wickets in a Group B encounter of the ongoing Champions League Twenty20, which effectively dashed the hopes of two IPL teams, defending champions Mumbai Indians and Chennai Super Kings.

The Lions, with three wins from four games, have now joined Sydney Sixers as the other team from Group B in the semi-finals. Both the teams have 12 points.

Opting to bown, the Lions first restricted Yorkshire to a modest 131 for seven and then chased down the target, reaching 134 for five, with four balls to spare.

Young Quinton de Cock top-scored for the Lions with 32 off 35 balls with the help of two fours and as many sixes.

Even though the Lions panicked a little towards the end, Jean Symes (27 not out off 22) and Dwaine Pretorious (25 off 14) played useful cameos to see the side home.

Needing 20 runs off 12 balls, Symes hit Oliver Hannon-Dalby for a six and a four to pick 14 runs off the penultimate over. Symes then finished off the match in style, clobbering Steven Patterson for back-to-back boundaries.

In the day's other match Mumbai and Chennai played out a humdinger even though their match was a dead rubber. A 33-ball 52 from faf du Plessis and a 19-ball 35 from skipper MS Dhoni had taken Chennai, despite a five-for by Mumbai's Lasith Malinga, to 173 for eight. Mumbai seemed down and out needing 74 off the last five overs. Some seminal hitting from Dinesh Karthik (74 off 45 balls) and Kieron Pollard (17-ball 31) brought Mumbai within touching distance, needing 19 from the last 10. But the wickets of Karthik and Pollard put paid to their hopes and Chennai emerged victors by 6 runs.

SCORES IN BRIEF

YORKSHIRE: 131 for 7 (Jacques 31, Gale 21; Tanvir 2-25, Phangsio 2-23).

LIONS: 134 for 5 in 19.2 overs (de Kock 32, Symes 27 not out; Patterson 2-21, Rafiq 1-14)

Result: Lions won by 5 wickets

CHENNAI SUPER KINGS: 173 for 8 (du Plessis 52, Vijay 39, Dhoni 35; Malinga 5-32)

MUMBAI INDIANS: 167 for 7 (Karthik 74, Sharma 32, Pollard 31; Hilfenhaus 2-14).

Result: Chennai Super Kings won by 6 runs.

LOCAL snippets

SPORTS REPORTER

GM Ziaur Rahman shared the second position in the NIT Nagpur Grandmasters Chess Tournament at the close of the seventh round in Nagpur, India yesterday.

Zia drew against Ukrainian GM Kravusiv Martyn to earn 5.5 points from seven games.

After the seventh round, GM Abdullah Al Rakib earned five points, GM Enamul Hossain Razib and IM Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar earned 4.5 points each while FM Taibur Rahman, FM Debaraj Chatterjee and WIM Shamima Akter Liza earned four points each.

U-19 women's football

Bangladesh U-19 women's team suffered a 1-0 defeat against India in their first match of the Asia U-19 Women's Football Championship qualifying round at the Hang Jebal Stadium in Melaka, Malaysia yesterday.

Div-II Hockey

PWD recorded a 4-3 win over Dilkusha SC in the Green Delta Insurance Second Division Hockey League at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

In the day's other match, Shantinagar SC beat Tejgaon Agragami 1-0 with Raihan scoring the winner.

Batsmen sparkle on Day One

FROM PAGE 16

home side slumped to 33 for 2 after they lost both their openers in the first 12 overs. Enamul Haque Jr and Nazmul Hossain took two wickets each for Sylhet as the first day ended on a balanced note. Rangpur will be depending on Naeem to extend their score on the second day.

KHULNA vs BARISAL

The newly crowned Test stadium saw a good batting performance from home side Khulna as the team scored 289 runs for the loss of 9 wickets on the first day. Opener Soumya Sarker, who fell four short of a century and veteran Tushar Imran were the main scorers for the home side. Syed Rasel, with figures of 3 for 43, topped the bowling charts.

DHAKA vs RAJSHAHI

It was a disappointing day in Mirpur as a majority of the batsmen from both sides lost their wickets due to rash strokes. Dhaka, after being put to bat, were bundled out by the reigning champions within 46 overs for a paltry 116 runs. They struggled to face the spin-duo of Saqlain and Sanjamul Islam, who shared 7 wickets between them. In reply, Rajshahi ended the day on 137 for 6 with a struggling Forhad Hossain top-scoring with 39 not out. The visiting side's batting order missed their captain, Mushfiqur, who had to leave the field after a head-on collision with team-mate Saqlain.

SCORES IN BRIEF

Chittagong: First innings 345 for 2 in 90 overs (Tamim 176 not out, Mominul 120 not out; Taskin 1-44).

Rangpur: First innings 222 for 6 in 90 overs (Naeem 88 not out, Mahmudul 60; Nazmul 2-18, Enamul 2-81).

Khulna: First innings 289 for 9 in 89.5 overs (Soumya 96, Tushar 69; Rasel 3-43).

Dhaka: First innings 116 all out in 45.4 overs (Nurul 24; Saqlain 4-33, Sanjamul 3-22);

Rajshahi: First innings 137 for 6 in 41 overs (Forhad Hossain 39 not out, Forhad Reza 39; Shahadat 2-31, Mosharraf 2-28).

Tamim off

FROM PAGE 16

dream start," added a satisfied Tamim.

While there wasn't much of an audience to witness the innings, they however received praise from national selector Minhajul Abedin. "Both Mominul and Tamim showed real temperament for the longer version. They played brilliantly," said Abedin.

Mushfiqur

FROM PAGE 16

scan report showed everything is okay but still we admitted him to hospital as a precautionary measure. Mushfiqur is also okay and hopefully he can bat tomorrow (Sunday) but as a precautionary measure we will do a CT scan tonight," said Dr. Debashish.

The incident happened when Saqlain ran from long leg to take a catch off the bat of Dhaka's Shahid, who played a mistimed pull shot against Forhad Reza, and collided with wicketkeeper Mushfiqur who ran back to try and grab the chance.

Jamal v Russel

FROM PAGE 16

Ikechukwu Okemmiri to unsettle the backline. The Nigerian midfielder whipped a well-judged lob for Otajareri who headed it home to put Sheikh Jamal ahead.

Arup, coming in place of winger Alamgir Rana, wrapped the victory with an angular shot from the right side after being set up by a through-pass from Shakil Ahmed three minutes from time.

One-year

FROM PAGE 16

domestic matches organised by football's governing body.

"BFF vice president Arif Khan Joy will be closely monitored by the BFF in all types of football activities from tomorrow (Sunday) and the suspended ban will be imposed automatically if he breaks further rules and regulations," said BFF acting general secretary Abu Nayeem Shohag, adding that Joy will have to leave his BFF vice-president's post if there is a repeat offence.

Sheikh Russel KC winger Zahid Hossain has also been given a three-match ban which means he will miss the Federation Cup final against Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club.

Titu retained as coach

FROM PAGE 16

November 28.

Titu, who is also coach of Mohammedan SC, had earlier been appointed to coach the national team in two FIFA International Friendlies against Nepal in September though Bangladesh had played only one friendly on September 20 -- a 1-1 draw -- after the first one was washed out due to rain.

"The national team is always the first priority to me and I am ready to take charge of both sides," said Titu, who was on Friday assaulted by Mohammedan supporters after the Black & Whites' 2-1 loss to Sheikh Russel KC in the Federation Cup semifinal at the Bangabandh National Stadium.

The former national footballer was disappointed and upset with the incident but no Mohammedan official contacted him as of yesterday noon. Titu is now considering whether he should continue with the Black & Whites.

"I expected my club will support me in this situation but surprisingly nobody from the club has called me yet. Now I am seriously thinking whether I will continue my relationship with them,' said a disappointed Titu.

The spectators are often entered into the field soon after the final whistle due to lack of security measures and all responsibilities regarding the security fall on the shoulder of the Bangladesh Football Federation.

BFF president Kazi Salahuddin told reporters that they would not tolerate such indiscipline on the field and take actions against the parties related to the incident. He also promised that there will not be a repeat of such an incident in future.

Meanwhile, Football Coaches Association of Bangladesh condemned the attack on its information secretary Titu and demanded immediate punishment of the culprits and the provision of adequate security during matches.

CROSSWORD *By Eugene Sheffer*

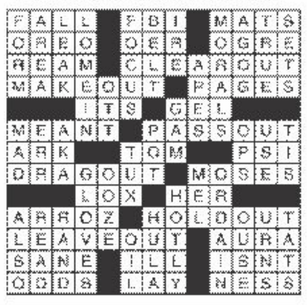
ACROSS

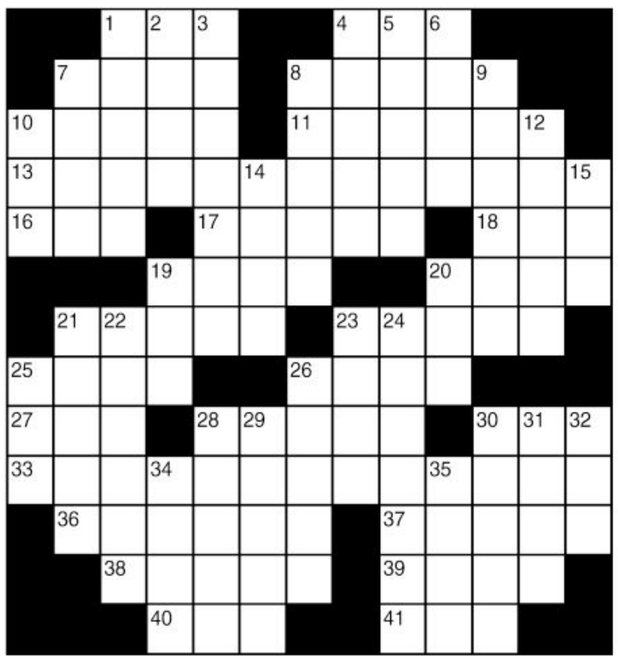
1 Moo goo gai pan pan
4 Snitch
7 Prop for Sherlock
8 Intrinsically
10 Insertion mark
11 Mountaineering tool
13 New Orleans section
16 Scoundrel
17 Storefront sign info
18 Raw rock
19 Olympic sled
20 Desert-like
21 Harvests
23 Ski trail
25 Nevada city
26 Sex Pistols genre
27 Suitable
28 Highlanders
30 Island garland
33 "3rd Rock From the Sun" cast member
36 Baltimore bird
37 Change
38 Hairnet
39 Carry
40 Mimic
41 Crafty

DOWN

1 Sent a telegram
2 Admitting customers
3 Burger enhancer
4 Happen again
5 Neighborhoods
6 Despot
7 Prefix with legal or medic
8 Resentment
9 Blackmail
10 Ozone depleter (Abbr.)
12 Weird
14 Swine
15 Scarlet
19 "7 Faces of Dr. ---"
20 Request
21 Copy, for short
22 Goes in
23 Green shot
24 Entomologist's study
25 U.K. fliers
26 Sat for a picture
28 Ice cream tool
29 Actress Sevigny
30 Non-clergy
31 Sea eagle
32 "--- Impossible"
34 NPR's Totenberg
35 Sweater material

Solution time: 21 mins.





CRYPTOQUIP

Z I Q B V O I D T S D L L T T S B M K U T X F O R X T S M I U F D Q L D T M B X D I O , U A B L S D N A L K T V O B K D F T ? B Z X D F N I L T T R B X .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE TWO PARTIES MADE A FORMAL COVENANT OF BENEVOLENCE THAT BECAME KNOWN AS A PACT OF KINDNESS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals O