

Mohammedan appoint Joshi

SPORTS REPORTER

Former national winger Kazi Jasimuddin Ahmed Joshi has been appointed as the head coach of Mohammedan SC while Abdul Kaiyum Sentu has been made his assistant for the upcoming football season, which is scheduled to get underway with the Federation Cup from December 19.

Joshi successfully guided the Mohammedan junior teams (U-16 and U-18) to two consecutive titles in the youth championship in the last two years. The former Mohammedan winger also worked with the senior team in the 2005 season after the departure of Korean coach Man Yang Kang and steered the Black and Whites to a second-place finish behind ultimate champions Brothers Union in the now-defunct Dhaka Premier League.

Mohammedan will start their training camp from November 27 and will likely take part in the DC Gold Cup in Narshingdi from December 8.

Burglary at BOA

SPORTS REPORTER

Tk 7.95 lakh and 1100 US dollars have been stolen from the vault of the Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) during the public holiday last weekend, confirmed BOA treasurer Kazi Rajibuddin Ahmed Chapal yesterday.

Chapal informed that employees of the BOA, on Sunday morning, found the vault open, grills of the window broken and valuable documents scattered all over the place.

The BOA has filed a burglary case with the Paltan police station without naming anyone and police are investigating the matter, informed Chapal.

Senanayake undergoes retesting

CRICINFO, Colombo

Banned off-spinner Sachithra Senanayake underwent an official retest of his action in Chennai on Sunday, with the results expected within the next two weeks, Sri Lanka Cricket has said.

The retest is the culmination of months of remedial work, which Senanayake has carried out under the supervision of both human movement specialist Daryl Foster as well as with local coaches.

Senanayake had been reported during Sri Lanka's ODI series in England in June, then banned in July, following an official biomechanical test in Cardiff. The report from that test said Senanayake straightened his elbow by as much as 43 degrees.

Anxious time for Clarke

AFP, Sydney

Injured Australian skipper Michael Clarke said Monday he will miss a vital lead-up game, raising fresh doubts about his chances of playing in next month's first Test against India.

Clarke, who was named in a 12-man squad Monday subject to a fitness test on his left hamstring, was selected to play for a Cricket Australia XI against the tourists in Adelaide on Friday.

Clarke later confirmed that he will not be playing in that match, placing his position in the Test squad in doubt.

"I've been pulled out of, or passed unfit to play the game in Adelaide,"



Bangladesh captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza upon arrival at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport last evening. The Tigers and the Zimbabweans returned to Dhaka from their trips to Khulna and Chittagong and now play the last three ODIs in Mirpur.

PHOTO: STAR

Abahani's mountain to climb

SPORTS REPORTER

A demoralised Abahani will face an uphill task to qualify for the semifinals of the King's Cup when they take on already-qualified Pune FC in their last match of Group B at the Changlimithang Stadium in Thimphu, today.

The four-time professional league champions are in third position with four points from three matches, three behind defending champions Manang Marshyangdi Club of Nepal, who handed a 5-1 defeat to Ugyen Academy yesterday, and five points adrift of Pune FC, who have already emerged group champions with a hundred percent record.

As things stand, Abahani will need to beat Manang Marshyangdi by margin of five goals to overtake on the second spot with a superior goal difference. But that will be quite a handful for the Sky Blues, who don't have any such big-margin win even in domestic circuit in recent times.

Abahani got off to a decent start in the tournament with a 1-0 win over the Assam Electricity Board before suffering a shock 0-1 defeat against Ugyen Academy, a team which has proved to be punching boys of the tournament.

The Sky Blues further jeopardised their position in the next match when they relinquished a two-goal lead against Manang Marshyangdi Club and drew the match 2-2. A positive result in that match would have kept Abahani's chances of qualification very much alive.

Abahani's forward line-up, comprising Ismael Bangoura, Wahed Ahmed and Aminur Rahman Sajib, has proved to be their thorn in the side, as the three of them squandered at least 10 scoring chances in the first three matches while managing to score only three so far.

Abahani will hope that Pune FC will field an experimental side today and that their profligate strikers finally find the target quite a few times. Otherwise, the best outcome would be a respectable exit from a tournament where they reached the semifinal stage in their first appearance in 2004.

BHF decision on banned players, coach today

SPORTS REPORTER

Suspended forward Rasel Mahmud Jimmy, defender Imran Hasan Pintoo and goalkeeper Zahid Hossain are set to get their suspensions lifted when the executive committee of the Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) sits for a meeting today.

Jimmy, Pintoo and Zahid have already served one year of their two-year domestic and three-year international suspensions handed last year due to disciplinary reasons as well as deliberate under-performance in the Asia Cup in 2013.

The BHF working committee has already recommended lifting of the ban on these three players to the executive committee after the suspension on midfielder Kamruzzaman Rana was lifted.

Today's meeting will also decide about a foreign coach for the national team as the already contacted Indian coach AK Bansal is believed to be unavailable. The meeting will likely approve appointment of Mamanur Rashid as the head coach until a foreign coach takes over, as per recommendations of the Coaches' Committee.

Clarke told reporters in Sydney.

"The medical team in the Australian cricket team have ruled me out of that game."

But he said he was hopeful of playing in a Sydney club game at the weekend to prove his fitness, if he was allowed to take part.

"I would hope with my experience that the selectors, my team-mates, Cricket Australia, will all respect my opinion," he said.

Clarke has been struggling to avoid missing his first home Test match after injuring the hamstring in the recent one-day series against South Africa in Perth. He also continues to undergo daily treatment for an ongoing back condition.

Chief selector Rod Marsh had earlier

suggested that Wednesday was a deadline day for Clarke to get himself ready to play in the Adelaide match and if he played and recovered well, he would take his place in the Brisbane Test side.

No possible Test replacement has been named.

While the focus was on Clarke, uncapped New South Wales paceman Josh Hazlewood was rewarded with a call-up to the squad for his strong recent performances against South Africa in the one-day series.

SQUAD: Michael Clarke (captain), Brad Haddin, Ryan Harris, Josh Hazlewood, Mitchell Johnson, Nathan Lyon, Mitchell Marsh, Chris Rogers, Peter Siddle, Steve Smith, David Warner, Shane Watson.

Jahurul lifts Legends

SPORTS REPORTER

WALTON
Bashundhara CEMENT
Dhaka Premier Division Cricket League 2014-15
Out-of-favour Jahurul Islam missed a century for only five runs but his effort helped Legends of Rupganj to continue their all-win record in the Dhaka Premier League (DPL) with a comfortable seven-wicket victory against Victoria at BKB yesterday.

The right-hander struck nine boundaries during his 127-ball 95 as defending champions Legends of Rupganj reached the target of 192 for three wickets in 46.1 overs to secure their fifth win in as many matches.

Meanwhile, former Bangladeshi captain Khaled Mashud continued playing for Kalabagan Cricket

Academy. Mashud, the Kalabagan coach, scored only four runs batting at number ten but inspired his side to manage an exciting four-run victory against Prime Doleshwar at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium. This was the second consecutive win and overall third for the Academy side in five matches.

In another match at BKSP, Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club registered their third win as they beat Brothers Union by seven wickets. Myshukur Rahman hit 87 and Shahriar Nafees contributed an unbeaten 75 to ensure Jamal's easy sail.

SCORES IN BRIEF

VICTORIA: 191-7 in 50 overs (Nafid 57, Shuvo 37, Enamul 42 not out; Shohid 4-30)

LEGENDS OF RUPGANJ: 192-3 in 46.1 overs (Jahurul 95, Ashar 44 not out)

Result: Legends of Rupganj won by seven wickets.

BROTHERS UNION: 219-8 in 50 overs (Yasir 36, Liam 30, Roman 34; Sajib 4-40, Nahidul 2-40)

SHEIKH JAMAL: 221-3 in 48.4 overs (Myshukur 87, Nafees 75 not out)

Result: Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club won by seven wickets.

KALABAGAN CA: 208 all out in 49.4 overs (Irfaan 72, Imtiaz 38, Miraz 32; Mukter 2-21, Habibur 3-51, Elias 4-36)

PRIME DOLESHWAR: 204-7 in 50 overs (Mehedi 42, Jubair 41; Miraz 2-27)

Result: Kalabagan Cricket Academy won by four runs.



Norwegian chess prodigy Magnus Carlsen retained the world title beating Indian legend Viswanathan Anand for the second year in a row in Moscow on Sunday.

Mathews to lead SL

INTERNET, Colombo

England will face many familiar opponents at the start of their one-day international series against Sri Lanka, after a 15-man squad was announced on Monday for the first three of seven matches.

Angelo Mathews will lead a lineup including the veteran batsmen Mahela Jayawardene and Kumar Sangakkara, as the pair embark on their final winter of ODI cricket culminating in the World Cup.

Sangakkara appears set to keep wicket, after Dinesh Chandimal, who deputised in the final two matches against India, was dropped following that 5-0 trouncing earlier this month.

The injured fast bowler Lasith Malinga will not be available again until early next year at best, but the left-arm spinner Rangana Herath is back.

The first match of the series will take place at Colombo's Premadasa Stadium on Wednesday.

SQUAD

A Mathews (capt), T Dilshan, K Perera, K Sangakkara (wkt), M Jayawardene, L Thirimanne, J Mendis, T Kandamby, R Herath, D Perera, A Mendis, S Eranga, D Prasad, T Perera, L Gamage.

WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Carlsen beats Anand again

AFP, Moscow

Norwegian prodigy Magnus Carlsen retained his title as world chess champion on Sunday, defeating rival Viswanathan Anand for the second year in a row.

The 23-year-old world number one beat India's Anand, title-holder of the championship from 2007 to 2013 when he was dethroned by Carlsen, in two of 11 games of the competition, with the others ending in draws.

"I am very happy," Carlsen was quoted as saying by Russian press agency TASS. "It was a very difficult match, much more difficult than last year."

"Anand is a very strong chess player, but he had practically no chance of winning."

Carlsen had been playing since November 8 against Anand, who is nearly

20 years his senior, in the Russian Black Sea resort of Sochi.

The victory, secured with a difference of just two points, will mean one million euros in prize money for Carlsen just a week before his 24th birthday.

"Overall, throughout the match, Carlsen played better than I did," Anand was quoted as saying by TASS.

Carlsen turned Grand Master at 13 and in 2010, aged only 19, became the youngest player in history to be ranked world number one. He won the Candidates Tournament in 2013 to earn the right to challenge Anand.

His breakthrough in chess came in 2004, when as a 13-year-old he defeated Russian former world champion Anatoly Karpov, forced Russian legend Garry Kasparov to a draw, and became a Grand Master.