

'Nepal tie is the final for us'

SPORTS REPORTER

Fresh from two scintillating performances against India and Maldives, Bangladesh are looking forward to keeping their consistency in the SAFF U-18 Championship when they take on holders Nepal at the Changlimithang Stadium in Thimphu, Bhutan today.

Bangladesh, who are on top of the five-team table with six points from two matches, will take a big stride towards the title if they can overcome Nepal today. Then, all they will need to do is to earn a single point in their last match against Bhutan, who have six points from three matches.

The match against Nepal will be the second biggest test for Bangladesh in this tournament after the match against India as the youngsters from the Himalayan kingdom played well against Bhutan before losing through an 87th-minute penalty. They, however, bounced back in their second match to beat Maldives 2-0.

However, the boys in red and green are upbeat about keeping their momentum going and are fresh from four days of rest.

"Nepal tie is the final for us. If we can beat Nepal tomorrow [Monday], 90 per cent of the job to clinch the title will be completed. Then we will need only a draw against Bhutan in the last match to ensure the championship," said coach Mahabub Hossain Roxy over phone yesterday.

"We all watched the match between Maldives and Nepal and it is possible to beat Nepal if the boys can even implement 60-70 percent of the game strategy," Roxy said. "However, Nepal are good in the attacking third as they have two good players (No. 10 and No. 7) upfront but they are not good at defending."



Bangladesh will be looking to take another stride towards winning the SAFF U-18 title with a win against Nepal today. The players trained at the match venue, the Changlimithang Stadium in Thimphu, on Sunday night.

PHOTO: BFF

Bangladesh will hope to capitalise on the weaknesses of their opposition. The Bangladesh attackers are in good form themselves, having scored six goals in two matches. At the same time, the coaching staff is also working on defensive organisation to keep the backline solid like in the game against Maldives.

"I would keep Nepal ahead of us because

they are the defending champions and they are used to playing in these environments with high altitude. However, we are trying to cope with the conditions by practising for a couple of days at the venue where we will face Nepal," said Roxy.

There may be changes in the starting eleven that faced Maldives, with midfielder Al-Amin likely to replace Saikat Mahmud

Munna. The coach is also aware of the fact that the opposition will try to neutralise his prolific striker Jafar Iqbal, who scored three goals in two matches.

"Nepal will surely not allow Jafar to play his natural game because all teams know how dangerous he is upfront. But we have alternatives in forwards like Rahim Mia and Biplo Ahmed," said Roxy.

Goalie Motaleb no more

SPORTS REPORTER

Former national goalkeeper Motaleb Hossain succumbed to cardiac arrest at his residence in Dhaka yesterday. He was 68.

He left behind his wife, a daughter, a son and a host of well-wishers.

During his football career in the '70s and '80s, Motaleb played for Rahmatganj, BJMC, Abahani and Mohammedan. He represented the national team in the 1982 Asian Games in New Delhi. He also worked as a goalkeeping coach of Abahani.

Motaleb was laid to rest at the Azimpur Graveyard after his namaj-e-janaza prayers were held at the Abahani club and the Palashi mosque.

QUICK SINGLES

The following are a few samples of stories that did not make the print edition. However, if they pique your interest, you can always read them online on The Daily Star website by simply scanning the QR codes listed below:

Shakib seeks help for Rohingya refugees

Bangladesh Cricketer Shakib Al Hasan visits Rohingya camps in the Bangladesh-Myanmar border and urges people to help out the victims. The Unicef Goodwill ambassador visited the Rohingya refugees to see their situation first hand.

Dybala double as Juventus whip Torino

Paulo Dybala scored a double as Juventus outclassed 10-man Torino 4-0 in Saturday's Turin derby to stay top of Serie A alongside Napoli who battled past SPAL 3-2.

Auba hits treble as Dortmund go top

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang grabbed a hat-trick as Borussia Dortmund romped to a 6-1 home thrashing of Borussia Moenchengladbach to regain top spot in the Bundesliga on Saturday.



Swiss maestro Roger Federer (R) and his long-time rival and current World No. 1 Rafael Nadal teamed up to devastating effect in the Laver Cup in Prague, dispatching their opponents with ease in a doubles match.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Fedal lives up to hype

REUTERS, Prague

Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal took care of business in their singles matches before teaming up in an eagerly anticipated doubles pairing to extend Europe's lead over players from the rest of the world in the inaugural Laver Cup on Saturday.

The new team tennis event, kicking off in Prague and moving to the United States next year, was a first chance for the world's top two players to play competitively side by side.

Putting aside a rivalry rekindled this season after Spaniard Nadal and Swiss Federer swept all four grand slams, the pair outlasted and outclassed Americans Sam Querrey and Jack Sock to win 6-4 1-6 1-0 (10-5) in the weekend's headline match.

The doubles victory put Team Europe up 9-3 going into the final day when the four matches are each worth three points.

"We will always forever be rivals as long as we are active. And after this we will be rivals again," said Federer, ranked number two in the world and holder of 19 career grand slam titles to top-ranked Nadal's 16.

"But this was something very special.

Knowing you can trust him in the big moments, seeing his decision-making, his thought process, it was very interesting."

"It was definitely a different day to other days in my life," he added.

After having played singles matches earlier, Nadal and Federer capped the evening with a thrilling win over Querrey and Sock, even after an early miscue almost caused Nadal to hit his partner as they both went for an overhead smash.

"We played with too much energy, so went for everything," Nadal said of the near-miss.

After Federer served to take the first set, the American pair flew through the second 6-1 with some big serves.

Two crushing winners at the net by Nadal gave him and Federer the momentum to take them easily through the tiebreak.

Despite questions over competitiveness most matches have been tight and players have shown their approval.

The Team World bench has stood out with players joking around, choreographing their celebrations after points and leading the crowd in the Mexican Wave.

India beat Oz to seal series

AFP, Indore

Skipper Virat Kohli said Sunday Hardik Pandya is a "great asset" to Indian cricket after the all-rounder steered the hosts to a series-clinching five-wicket win over Australia in Indore.

Pandya's 72-ball 78 and his fifth-wicket stand with Manish Pandey (36 not out) helped the hosts chase down their 294-run target with 13 balls to spare.

Openers Rohit Sharma and Ajinkya Rahane put on a 139-run partnership to lay a foundation for the team to take an unassailable 3-0 lead, but it was Pandya who showed maturity after being promoted to number four in the batting order as he put on 78 runs with Pandey, who scored the winning runs.

"Rohit and Rahane were very good and then Hardik Pandya, only he can do what he does when he bats like that. He [Pandya] is a star," Kohli said. "He possess ability with the bat, ball and in the field as well. We have been wanting a guy like that for the past five, six years."

SCORES IN BRIEF
AUSTRALIA: 293 for 6 (Finch 124, Smith 63; Bumrah 2-52)
INDIA: 294 for 5 in 47.5 overs (Rahane 70, Sharma 70, Pandya 78; Cummins 2-54)
Result: India won by 5 wickets and clinched 5-match series 3-0.
Player-of-the-match: Hardik Pandya.

Kool-BSJA media football from today

SPORTS REPORTER

Kool-BSJA Media Cup football tournament gets underway at the astro-turf of the Bangladesh Football Federation today, with 24 reputed media houses taking part in the six-a-side tournament.

The participating teams, split into eight groups, will play in round-robin format from where the group champions will advance into the quarterfinals. The draw for the tournament was held at the BOA auditorium yesterday in the presence of the national women's football team coach Golam Rabbani Choton and sponsors Square Toiletries' senior marketing manager Jesmin Zaman.

Suarez the man on 100th appearance

Scores 87th goal as Barca stay perfect

REUTERS, Madrid



LaLiga

Lionel Messi was the star of Barcelona's blistering start to the season yet with the Argentine suffering a rare off night and big-money signing Ousmane Dembele missing through injury, it was Luis Suarez who claimed the headlines in his 100th Liga appearance for the club on Saturday.

Barcelona remained perfect with a sixth straight win as Suarez and two own goals secured a 3-0 win at Girona in a match laced with political tension on Saturday.

Real Madrid remain seven points behind Barca thanks to Dani Ceballos's double on his full debut to bounce back from a shock midweek defeat by Real Betis with a 2-1 win at Alaves on Saturday to move up to fourth.

The Uruguayan sealed the comfortable victory over Girona with a clinical finish late on to reach a remarkable tally of 87 goals in his century of league games.

The figures are all the more impressive given that it took Suarez almost two months to break his duck in Catalonia and that his

form has been erratic this season. Before Saturday, he had just one league goal to his name and he sat out Tuesday's 6-1 thrashing of Eibar.

"It's important for a forward who lives for goals to score. We're delighted for him but it's also important to point out that when he hasn't been scoring he has been giving us other, important things: hard work, a team player, linking play," said technical secretary Robert Fernandez of Suarez after the game.

A controversial figure, having twice been banned for biting opponents, Suarez has been a mainstay in the Barca frontline since joining from Liverpool in 2014.

Known for his tireless work ethic, he has also laid on 51 goals in the league for team mates with his 100 games comprising 77 wins, 11 draws and 12 losses.

"Forwards live for goals. They can be low on confidence at times but they score and everything changes," coach Ernesto Valverde said of Suarez.

"His relationship with scoring goals is good for us. We're delighted with how many chances he's able to create."

THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF BANGLADESH (ICAB)
(An Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Commerce, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)

Notice on Professional Examinations

The Institute will hold its next Professional Examinations from **Thursday, 07 December 2017** at Dhaka, Chittagong and London Centres. Applications for admission to the examinations will be received at the following addresses upto **Sunday, 15 October 2017**. Application forms are available at ICAB Website: www.icab.org.bd.

Examinations at London Centre will be held only if at least 10 examinees are available.

Dhaka	Chittagong	London
Counselling Centre CA Bhaban (Gr. floor) 100 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka 1215	ICAB, HBFC Building (3 rd floor), 1/D Agrabad Com. Area Chittagong 4100	Chairman/Secretary-ICAB UK Chapter, 77 Valleyfield Road, Streatham, London SW 16 2HX, UK

The Examination fees of **PS(K): Tk.1,300 per subject, maximum of Tk.8,500, PS(A): Tk.3,000 per subject, maximum of Tk.18,000, AS (Integration): Tk.5,000 per subject, maximum of Tk.12,000 and AS (Case Study) Tk.10,000** shall be paid by cash only in any branch of Southeast Bank Ltd. (Account No.-0015 111 0000 6409), with the prescribed pay slip downloaded from Website.

The Examination fees of each level of Professional Stage for **London Centre is £125**.

N.B. Course Completed (CC) candidates must attach the photocopy of the pay-slip of annual fees with the examination application forms.

Maj Gen Muhammad Imrul Quayes (Retd)
Secretary-ICAB