

Sports Journalism From A Worm's–Eye View At *New Age*

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Table of Contents:

Sl no	Topic	Page
01	Introduction	01–02
02	History of <i>New Age</i>	03
03	Being at <i>New Age</i>	04–06
04	Work apart from Sports Desk	07–08
05	Press Releases	09–11
06	Press Releases to News	12–17
07	Translation	18–19
08	Score Card	20–25
09	Editing	26–28
10	Online Sourcing	29–30
11	Life at <i>New Age</i> : A Personal Account	31–32
12	Conclusion	33–35

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I would like to express my gratitude to the people who have made it possible for me to write this report, and made my whole internship and report writing an unforgettable experience. I would like to thank my BRAC University supervisor Ms. Roohi Huda for her patience, guidance and support during my internship period. I would like to thank my *New Age* supervisor, Sports Editor Mr. Azad Majumder, who has made my internship period as enjoyable and educational as possible. He also taught me various aspects of writing sports news stories and print media in the short period of time allotted for my internship. Furthermore I would like to thank other members of the *New Age* sports desk, as they have all helped me during my internship in their own way. I would also like to thank Ms. Mushira Habib, lecturer, Department of English and Humanities, BRAC University for guiding me while choosing my internship area. Mostly, I would like to thank my parents for their endless support and love that made my time in BRAC University and *New Age* possible. Finally I would like to thank *New Age*'s Deputy Editor Mir Ashfaquzzaman for granting me the internship.

Tahsin Hafiz

Introduction

In today's world news has become part and parcel of our lives. News is an important part of our lives, because by reading news we are updated about current events in the world. We are constantly bombarded by news stories and we, the people are more often becoming the subject of the news stories. And this news is broadcasted through print, electronic and online media.

As a Media and Culture student at BRAC University's English and Humanities department, I had to do an internship which is required to finish my under graduate program. I found newspaper agencies to be a suitable sector. That is why I did my internship program at a well known daily newspaper agency of our country.

I had a desire to do my internship in a renowned organization like everyone else. This is why I tried to be a part of the national English daily *New Age*, and fortunately I got a chance to do my internship there. It was our department's guest faculty Mir Ashfaquzzaman who gave me the opportunity to intern at *New Age*.

I completed my internship program at the sports desk under the supervision of the sports editor Azad Majumder. Interning at the sports desk broadened my knowledge and idea about sports and world of the journalism world as well. What I achieved during the three month internship period is priceless. The journalists at the *New Age* sports desk taught me how to write sports news, collect news, interview a sports personality and so on. My internship program would not have been so easy if I did not get the support from the sports desk team and especially from my editor Mr. Azad.

I will discuss in my report what I learnt during the precious three month internship period. During my internship period I attended several press conferences, wrote a series of sports news stories, observed different types of games, did editing and collected online reports. I will discuss all this in my report.

History of *New Age*

New Age is English daily which started its journey on 7th July, 2003 in Tejgaon Holiday building. Late Enayetullah Khan was the founder editor of the Holiday publication and *New Age* daily as well. Since 1965, Holiday publication's weekly magazine named *Holiday*, which publishes on every Fridays. Later on Nurul Kabir took charge of *New Age* as an editor.

New Age is a 20 page daily which is prepared by near about 150 journalists. Sometimes the page number exceeds due to any kind of important news. For example, election news, world cup news etc. The different sections of *New Age* are National, Metro, International, Timeout, Op-ed, Editorial, Sports and Business. Besides this it has two weekly magazines, Trends and Extra. Sometimes *New Age* publishes a special magazine, for example, this year they published a magazine on Brazil Football World Cup name A Complete Guide to World Cup.

Besides having printed copies *New Age* has an online version too. One can easily access the online news that is published after 12am. This is available earlier than the printed version. In the online version readers have the freedom to express their opinions about all kinds of news and they can participate in various online contests like football, cricket and general knowledge etc through the *New Age* website.

New Age's popularity is rising day by day because of its publication of neutral news. *New Age* is not biased towards any particular group of people, which made this paper different from other dailies. It publishes news for the general people. *New Age*'s slogan is 'The outspoken daily' and they follow their motto strongly. Now-a-days *New Age* is considered the best selling newspaper after *The Daily Star*.

Being at *New Age*

Interning at *New Age* was a great achievement for me. Almost every day came with something new for me. During my three month internship period, I wrote a series of sports news stories on several sports events like cricket, football, volleyball, handball, swimming, taekwondo, chess and so on. During my internship period, I got a chance to visit the field for reporting with my senior colleagues Mr. Atif Azam and Mr Sudipta Ananda for the purpose of reporting. Besides this, from the desk job I gained priceless knowledge that cannot be acquired from any other place. My colleagues helped me a lot which made my job easier.

Every day I usually went to office at 4pm which was the scheduled time for me. Seldom I was late due to traffic but my supervisor Mr. Azad was never disappointed in me because of that. I used to spend four to five hours in the office, but sometimes this duration exceeded depending on sports news stories. A few times I had to remain in the office for a long time for reports to come. I got the information or press releases from the editor to write. After I wrote the sports news stories and the editor checked it, I was free to go. Sometimes we had to rely on online reports. I along with other colleagues waited for the final result of a game so that we would write about it. This happened especially in case of cricket, chess and golf news. Often it happened that the game went on till after 9pm and the work for page make up had to start by 9pm. So we had to write sports news stories on whatever information we got. Due to this, it took time to wrap up our work. Usually required news items were gathered within 9pm.

In the office, everyone's job was different from others. We were a total seven colleagues in the office. I am mentioning their names below:

1. Azad Majumder, Sports editor

2. Sujan Mehedi, Senior subeditor
3. Atif Azam, Senior staff correspondent
4. Sudipta Ananda, Senior staff correspondent
5. Mujibur Rahman, Proof checker
6. Mizan Islam, Page designer

The most crucial part of the sports desk is done by Mr. Majumder. After all sports news stories have been written he goes through the errors and looks for any mistakes in term of the accuracy of the news or lack of proper language which can make a news story not interesting for a reader to read. His selection of words and way of writing gives a news story a different appeal and it grabs a reader's attraction. No news item can be sent for proof checking without his clarification. Mr. Mehedi works on international sports news like football, tennis and swimming etc. Basically his job is to download news from various international news agencies like AP, AFP and Reuters and work on it. 2014 Brazil World cup's special magazine of *New Age* was made under his supervision. Mr. Azam deals with cricket news from home and abroad. He is well known to all journalists and cricket personalities. Mr. Ananda works on football along with other national sports news like athletics. Mr. Mujibor Rahman can be called our dictionary. He goes through all the lines for an overall correction of the news stories. After his checking a news story is given to the page designer Mr. Islam. He arranges the pages according to the importance of news with the help of Mr. Majumder. His work is to make pages in a way that it gives a paper proper shape. And my job was to write sports news stories on national sports, press release, cricket and chess etc.

Besides the desk job, I had an opportunity to go to the Sher-e-Bangla cricket stadium with Mr. Azam for writing a news story on our National cricket team's practice session. Once there, I got the chance to see the players from a very close distance and Mr. Azam introduced me to the other journalists from the newspapers and TV channels during that visit. This was my first time step in the national cricket stadium's ground. Later on I got a chance to watch a football match with Mr. Ananda in the Bangabandhu National stadium. It was a new experience for me to watch a match from the press box. I was also sent to several places to attend in press conferences in order to collect information for news stories I had to work. Overall life at *New Age* was interesting for me and my experiences were priceless.



A picture with the *New Age* sports desk members

Work apart from Sports Desk

Interning at *New Age* gave me an opportunity to see sports journalism closely. Not only did the desk job broaden my knowledge about sports the outside work also broadened my knowledge. During my internship period I got an opportunity to visit stadiums and attend press conferences to gather information. On May 26th, my colleague Mr. Azam took me to Sher-e-Bangla stadium to see the practice session of our national cricket team. There I saw Mashrafe Mortaza, Abdur Razzak, Habibul Bashar, Tamim Iqbal and many others from a close distance. It was a great achievement for me. For the first time I saw how journalists interviews sports personalities. There Mr. Azam introduced me to other sports journalists. Once I was send to the airport to interview our national cricket team's new bowling couch, Heath Streak. I never imagined that I would go so near him in my life, but it happened because of my internship program.

Another experience was watching a football match between Sheikh Jamal and Abohani sitting inside the press box. My colleague Mr. Ananda took me there. It was at the Bangabandhu National stadium. There I also got a chance to be near footballers, this would not have been possible if did not choose sports journalism as the area of my internship.

Besides visiting stadiums I was often sent to various places to attend press conferences to collect information. I was often sent to the Olympic Bhaban to observe and take notes from the press conference. Once I was sent to the Dhaka Bank head office to attend a press conference about the trophy revealing ceremony of Bangladesh vs. West Indies cricket series. If I consider

the time of my internship period, I have to admit it was very short, but what I had learned during this time was invaluable.

Press Releases

A press release is a written or recorded message prepared by an organization for news agencies to publish something for the readers and viewers. A press release can come in either soft or hard copy. It is actually a message for the readers or viewers which an organization publishes through news agencies. It is distributed through mail, e-mail and press conference. An organization can publish its press release on its own by or a person from the organization can act as a medium to get it published through news agencies. It is a key element of certified news agencies. Without press releases, writing news stories are near to impossible. Ivy Lee is known as the creator of the press release. He wrote about a train accident and it was published on October 30th, 1906 in *The New York Times*.

During my internship, I came across a lot of press releases. I collected some press releases by attending press conferences and some got from the sports editor, Mr. Majumder. The press releases which I collected were all in printed form, and Mr. Majumder used to e-mail me the selected press releases which were going to be published. I was given a few press releases with which I worked in order to write news articles based them.

DHAKA, Friday, 16 May 2014

Media Release

University T20 Challenge Cup 2014

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) will organise a Twenty20 cricket tournament with the participation of ten public and two private universities. The competition titled University T20 Challenge Cup 2014 will run from 19 to 23 May at the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP). Walton is the title sponsors of the tournament.

The universities taking part are: Dhaka University, Jahangirnagar University, Chittagong University, Rajshahi University, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Islamic University Kushtia, Khulna University, Jagannath University, Bangladesh Agricultural University Mymensingh, Noakhali University of Science & Technology, American International University, and University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh

The tournament will follow a league system with the 12 team being divided into four groups. The group champions will qualify for the final.

MEDIA CONFERENCE

A media conference in connection with the University T20 Challenge Cup 2014 will be held tomorrow (Saturday, 17 May 2014) at the Dining Area of Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium Media Block at 11am. The groups will be decided also through a lottery during the course of the media conference.

www.tigercricket.com.bd

--- ENDS ---

Corporate & Public Affairs Relationship Division

Press Release

May 22, 2014

Fahad Rahman Becomes Prime Bank's Brand Ambassador

The Youngest Fide Master of the World Md. Fahad Rahman became Prime Bank's Brand Ambassador for next one year. An Agreement was signed between Prime Bank and Fahad Rahman on 22nd May in a plain ceremony held at the Head Office premises of the Bank. Under the Agreement Fahad Rahman will represent Prime Bank in all the National and International level chess tournaments in next one year. On behalf of Prime Bank Managing Director (current charge) Ahmed Kamal Khan Chowdhury and Fahad Rahman signed the Agreement. Deputy Managing Directors of the Bank Quazi A.S.M. Anisul Kabir and Habibur Rahman, and parents of Fahad Rahman Md. Nazrul Islam and Mst. Hamida Khan were also present at the agreement signing ceremony.

It should be mentioned that Fahad became the youngest Fide Master of the World declared by the World Chess Federation at an age of only 8 in June 2013 by winning the ASEAN Age Group Championship in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Ferdousi Sultana

Executive Vice President

& Head of Public Relations

Caption:

The Youngest Fide Master of the World Md. Fahad Rahman became Prime Bank's Brand Ambassador for next one year. An Agreement was signed between Prime Bank and Fahad Rahman on 22nd May in a plain ceremony held at the Head Office premises of the Bank. Under the Agreement Fahad Rahman will represent Prime Bank in all the National and International level chess tournaments in next one year. On behalf of Prime Bank Managing Director (current charge) Ahmed Kamal Khan Chowdhury and Fahad Rahman signed the Agreement. Deputy Managing Directors of the Bank Quazi A.S.M. Anisul Kabir and Habibur Rahman, and parents of Fahad Rahman Md. Nazrul Islam and Mst. Hamida Khan were also present at the agreement signing ceremony.

From Press Releases to News:

A press release is a piece of writing prepared by an organization or individual that has information which needs to be published through news agencies. News agencies are the medium that help to deliver any sort of information to the people. News stories based on press releases had to be written following the house style *New Age*. A press release contains only information, so it is necessary to write according to the house style of the news agency where it is going to be published. During my three month internship period, Mr. Majumder gave me most of the press releases, based on which I had to write news stories. After I finished writing Mr. Majumder used to edit it, then it was send to Mr. Mujib for proof checking. Last of all, it was sent to the page maker Mr. Islam. He placed the news items in the appropriate places of the sports page with direction from Mr. Majumder. Below I have attached some news stories which I wrote based on information in the press releases that were given to me.

Bangladesh become runners-up in SA basketball

Staff Correspondent

May 19, 2014

Bangladesh beat Nepal by 80-73 points to become runners-up in the third South Asian Basketball Championship held in Kathmandu, Nepal, from May 13-17.

Rasheduzzaman and Tareq scored 19 and 12 points respectively for Bangladesh in their last game

India won the tournament while Sri Lanka and Nepal took the third and fourth places respectively.

Handball league begins Friday

Staff Correspondent

May 22, 2014

The 18th Cute Premier Handball League 2014 will begin at the Paltan handball stadium on Friday.

The first game will be played between Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club and Bhratritta SKS (Bangla Club) at 10:00am. Nine teams will participate in the league, which will be formally opened at 3:00pm on the day.

In this connection a press was arranged at the Bangladesh Handball Federation office on Wednesday where BHF general secretary Asaduzzaman Kohinoor, chairman of the league committee and other members were present.

Fahad name PB ambassador

Staff correspondent

May 23, 2014

Fahad Rahman, the youngest FIDE Master of the country, has become the brand ambassador of Prime Bank for the next year, the bank announced.

He will represent Prime Bank in all the national and international chess tournaments for the next one year after signing an agreement on Thursday.

Fahad became a FIDE Master at the age of eight after winning the ASEAN Age Group Championship in Thailand in 2013.

Dhaka Div Gold Cup football from Friday

Staff Correspondent

May 25, 2014

The 5th Dhaka Divisional Commissioner Gold Cup Football Tournament will start on Friday with the participation of all 17 district teams under the division. The teams will be divided into four groups and the group matches will be played in 14 venues. The tournament will start with Munshiganj hosting the opening group games.

The teams will be given Tk 40,000 each as participation money. The winners will receive Tk 1 lakh as prize money.

Each team can field a maximum of four players from outside the district or the country.

Harun named arbiter for Chess Olympiad

Staff correspondent

May 27, 2014

Md.Harunur Rashid, an international arbiter of Chess from Bangladesh, has been nominated by the World Chess Federation for the Chess Olympiad in Norway which will be held from August 1 to 15.

Other than these a sports news story was published where my name appeared as a reporter rather than staff correspondent. I had to collect some information for that news story, hence my name appeared in the newspaper.

Businesses eye boom in WC sales

Sudipta Ananda and Tahsin Hafiz

May 30, 2014



Customers look at the replicas of the World Cup trophy and football boots in a sports goods shop in Dhaka's Bangabandhu Avenue on Thursday. — New Age photo

With the World Cup football knocking at the door, the football fans across the country are busy collecting their favourite teams' jerseys and other football souvenirs to join the quadrennial festival.

From the street hawkers to the posh shopping malls in the city, businessmen are ready to cash in on the football mania in sports-crazy Bangladesh.

The local made jerseys of Brazil and Argentina, the two South American sides that have huge

fan base in Bangladesh, flooded the street shops and jerseys made in China and Thailand are on display in the posh sports goods shops.

The replica of World Cup trophy and Brazuca ball, which will be used during the June 12-July 13 tournament are also a hot item in sports goods shops.

Regal Sports, a prominent wholesale and retail sports goods shop at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium market, has alone targetted selling more than 9 lakh jerseys during the World Cup.

‘We imported 9 lakh jerseys this year and we are hoping that the all of them will be sold out before the World Cup kicks off,’ said Nazimuddin Babu, manager of Regal Sports.

‘Most of the fans are coming here to buy Brazil and Argentina’s shirts. Some people are looking for Germany, Portugal, Spain and Italy’s jerseys. We have sufficient jerseys of all the teams,’ Babu added.

The owner of Ideal Sports, Mohammad Tayeb, however, said that the response was little bit less than the last edition of World Cup four years back.

‘We are preparing for a long time to sell a huge number of jerseys this year but 14 days before the World Cup we didn’t see much response from the buyers,’ Tayeb said.

The street hawkers and small jersey manufacturers, however, are satisfied with their business because the retailers outside of Dhaka prefer low-price local made jerseys.

The unprivileged and lower middle-class people also busy buying the low-price jerseys, ranging from Tk 80 to Tk 150.

Nuruddin, a street hawker, who is running his business for about 15 years in the Gulistan area, said that most of the office-going people are buying Brazil and Argentina jerseys for their children.

Amzad Hossain Maznu, owner of Style Sports in the Bangabandhu Avenue, said, ‘Usually we

make huge profit by selling jerseys after the World Cup as many local clubs across the country organise football tournaments after the event. But this time the World Cup will end in the middle of Ramadan, so I think this time the local and rural football clubs will not organise football tournaments and that will affect our business.’

Students are the main buyers of jerseys and they are getting prepared to enjoy the most exciting tournament of the world.

Mushfiqur Rahman, a student of Ahsanullah University who came to buy five sets of jerseys for his friends,

said that they are eagerly waiting to see the World Cup on the giant screen of their university campus.

‘I decided to enjoy the games with my friends on the university campus and I like to present some jerseys to my close friends and that’s why I am here,’ said Mushfiq who will support Argentina at this World Cup.

Not all fans, however, are flocking at the jersey shops.

Salahuddin Raiyan, a BBA student of North South University, said he bought a jersey of Germany through online at a price of Tk 650.

‘It’s easier to buy through online as the shop owners deliver it at the residence. I am really happy as I could buy the jersey of my favourite team relatively at a cheaper price,’ he said.

Translation

The first language of Bangladesh is Bangla and second language is English. Bangla is our mother tongue and it is used widely everywhere in the country as it is easily understandable. But now-a-days the usefulness of English is increasing day by day because English is an international language, and it is the language which can be easily understood by the foreigners. In most of the places of Bangladesh, people either use English or Bangla and English together as their source of communication. For example; in banners, posters and advertisements etc. English is especially used in urban areas where most of the foreigners live. People from various nations live in this country, so for their understanding and because of westernization, many Bengali people are starting to use English more extensively. Using English helps foreigners to understand the meaning of everything. Beside this, English is used as a trend in our country. Educated people often use English words in their conversation to become trendy and this creates an impression on the listeners. But English in news agency is a necessity rather than trend. To cope up with the modern world, using English in news agencies is essential. Without knowing English properly, news agencies are good for nothing because English is the only and best way to communicate with the whole world since it is an international language.

When I was interning at *New Age*, almost every day the sports editor used to give me press releases to write news from and most of the press releases were in Bangla. So, all the time I had to write the news stories by translating Bangla press releases into English. At the very beginning of my internship, I was given a Bangla press release which I was told to translate into English in order to write news stories based on it in English. I translated it line by line. Seeing this, the sports editor taught me how to write press releases by translating it from Bangla to

English. This process helped me learn how to translate information in a Bangla press release into English, in order to write news stories for the English dailies.

During my university life, I have learned from ENG 465 Translation Studies course that there are two types of translation. One is 'word for word' and another is 'sense for sense'. In word for word translation, the translator translates just following the words, but not following what the text is trying to say. But in sense for sense translation, the translator translates the text understanding its inner meaning. At first when I was told to translate a press release at *New Age*, I followed word for word translation. After that the sports editor corrected my word for word translation and showed me how to translate Bangla press releases following the sense for sense translation method, where the basic meaning of the message stays the same, but the exact word for word translation is not followed, therefore the syntax of the sentence changes.

During my internship period, I got lots of press releases which I had to translate from Bangla to English in order to write news stories. What I was being told was to take the gist from the text and write news stories following *New Age* house style. So, I used to take the main idea from the press release keeping name, year and other facts unchanged in order to write the news stories. At *New Age*, I had to follow the sense for sense translation method which enabled me to reduce the amount I had to write. It also helped me to write in a simple way.

Score Card

Interning at *New Age* was really interesting for me. I have learnt many things from *New Age* about sports journalism. The work I did was quite simple for me except writing news stories following score cards. It was challenging for me from rest of the tasks. A score card contains a sport's score and a reporter has to write news following that score card. And those news stories have to be written in such way that they make the readers feel that the reporter was present on the spot. Otherwise news will not be interesting enough to grab the reader's attraction.

To write news following score card, writer has to have good idea about the sport about which he is going to write. Without knowing enough about the sport it is very tough to write good quality news stories about that sport. I faced this type of problem when the sports editor gave me a golf match result from which I had to write a news story. But I could not write it as I did not have minimum knowledge about golf. Apart from this, the reporter should have enough knowledge about the sport's previous results as well. While I was writing sports news stories based on score cards, *New Age* sports editor Mr. Majumder taught me that adding previous information with the present news story helps a reader to compare the previous and present condition of that sport. This also ensures quality of the sports news story.

To write news based on score cards, either I had to wait for a score card to come or collect it online. It often happened and that I collected a score card online from the espn website. For national sports results, sometimes I had to rely on local field reporters for the sports result. Writing news stories about local sports results was not that problematic for me, because I was familiar with almost all the local sports like football, cricket and swimming etc. Besides this, local sports events used to finish earlier, that is they finished before sunset. So, in the evening I

used to get the match result and within an hour I wrote news stories based on the score cards. After editing and proof checking it was ready to be submitted to the page maker Mr. Islam. The problem I faced while writing international sports news stories was the timing. In most cases there was a huge difference between our local time and the time of the country where the game was taking place. For example; I got a chance to write two sports news stories, one was in the Caribbean island where test cricket match between Sagicor High Performance vs. Bangladesh A team took place. The other was about an International Chess Olympiad that took place in Norway. Both places are at least five hours behind our local time. As the time difference was much too long I seldom got the opportunity to get the match's final result during our suitable time which was before 9pm. What happened was I had to write news stories based on the information which I got within 9pm. The *New Age* sports desk does not usually wait longer than 9pm to get their required news. But the exception happens when the sports news story is about a major sport like football cricket etc. In this case, the sports desk reporters wait for the result to come in order to publish it. News stories should be published with as much updated content as possible because readers read news stories to know what is happening around the world and keep themselves updated. I remember once it was past 10pm by the time we got the result of a match. Mr. Majumder took the initiative to complete it and he submitted it to page maker before 11pm. So writing sports news stories following score cards is not as simple as other assignments that were give to me at *New Age*.

Words that are used in the regular news stories are not the same as the words that are used in the score cards. A reporter has to write these sort of news stories in such way that it seems that he/she was present while the game was going on. Another important part of this type of news is presentation. It needs to be written in an interesting way so that it grabs the readers'

attention. Choice of attractive words attracts the readers to read the sports news story. These are examples of phrases, 'fought back,' 'home side in a commanding position,' 'clawed their back to end the opening day on a satisfactory note,' 'waiting to open his account' that are used frequently when writing sports news stories.

Below, I have included a sample score card and a sports news story written based on that score card.

Bangladesh A tour of West Indies

 Tweet 15

Sagicor High Performance Centre v Bangladesh A

First-class match | 2014 season
 Played at Kensington Oval, Bridgetown,
 Barbados
 2,3,4,5 June 2014 (4-day match)

Match drawn

Sagicor High Performance Centre 1st innings		R	M	B	4s	6s	SR
CAK Walton†	c Robiul Islam b Taijul Islam	8	22	16	2	0	50.00
AB Fudadin	c Marshall Ayub b Shuvagata Hom	4	32	28	0	0	14.28
J Blackwood	c †Nurul Hasan b Muktar Ali	45	94	84	6	1	53.57
LR Johnson	lbw b Taijul Islam	74	184	117	6	1	63.24
JL Carter	c Mominul Haque b Shuvagata Hom	54	80	77	7	1	70.12
SW Ambris	c Nasir Hossain b Elias Sunny	34	56	49	3	1	69.38
CR Brathwaite*	c Taijul Islam b Robiul Islam	42	90	69	4	0	60.86
AR Nurse	lbw b Elias Sunny	22	30	34	4	0	64.70
D Bishoo	c Nasir Hossain b Muktar Ali	6	32	12	1	0	50.00
SS Cottrell	c †Nurul Hasan b Robiul Islam	42	45	31	4	3	135.48
ML Cummins	not out	9	35	20	1	0	45.00
Extras	(lb 6, w 7, nb 1)	14					
Total	(all out; 89.2 overs; 356 mins)	354					(3.96 runs per over)

Fall of wickets 1-11 (Walton, 5.1 ov), 2-16 (Fudadin, 8.2 ov), 3-100 (Blackwood, 32.2 ov), 4-187 (Carter, 51.4 ov), 5-207 (Johnson, 55.1 ov), 6-251 (Ambris, 66.3 ov), 7-284 (Nurse, 76.3 ov), 8-293 (Brathwaite, 80.3 ov), 9-303 (Bishoo, 81.3 ov), 10-354 (Cottrell, 89.2 ov)

Published on May 28th, 2014

A team fight back in Windies

Staff Correspondent

Robiul Islam and Taijul Islam shared six wickets between them as Bangladesh A team fought back to dismiss Sagikor High Performance Centre for 292 in the first innings of their opening four-day match in their tour of West Indies on Monday.

Jermaine Blackwood struck a quick 140 off 160 balls to put the home side in a commanding position at the Windward Park in Barbados before visiting Bangladesh side clawed their back to end the opening day on a satisfactory note.

At close on the opening day, Bangladesh A were 5-0 with Imrul Kayes making four and Shamsur Rahman still waiting to open his account.

Blackwood, who hit 23 fours and a six, shared 112 runs with Assad Fudadin (22) after Robiul had Kraigg Brathwaite caught behind for a duck off the fourth ball of Sagikor innings.

Naeem Islam ended the onslaught of Blackwood, who is yet to make his debut for West Indies, as Robiul took the catch at deep.

Leon Johnson held one end to provide Blackwood valuable support before left-arm spinner Taijul made his mark trapping the left-hander leg-before for 56 off 122.

The home side lost their remaining six wickets for 67 runs as Taijul and Robiul finished with 3-83 and 3-86 respectively.

Robiul ended the Sagikor innings abruptly trapping Sheldon Cottrell and Miguel Cummins leg-before off consecutive deliveries, raising a prospect of a hat-trick in the second innings.

Beside cricket news I got chance to write chess news following live score card. It was the 41st Chess Olympiad at Tromso, Norway. News which I was written on chess is given under. All the news I wrote was edited by Mr. Majumder to make news more appealing.

Published On August 4th, 2014

Bangladesh start well in Chess Olympiad

Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh got off to a winning start in the 41st Chess Olympiad as both the men's and women's team posted win in their respective opening round games in Trozmo, Norway on Saturday.

Bangladesh men's team beat Zimbabwe by 3-1 points with Grand Masters Abdullah Al Rakib, Niaz Murshed and International Master Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar winning their respective matches.

Rakib beat Mandizha Farai, Niaz beat Mushore Emerald Takudzwa and Sagar overcame the challenge of Masango Spencer while GM Enamul Hossain Rajib suffered a loss to Zimbabwean IM Makoto Rodwell.

In the women's section, Bangladesh surpassed all the expectations to beat Ghana 4-0 with Women's International Masters Shamima Akter Liza, Rani Hamid and Women's Fide Masters Nazrana Khan Eva and Zakia Sultana all posting a win. Liza beat Sena Sarah, Eva defeated Allotey Dorcas, veteran Rani beat Ayiku Angela and Zakia prevailed over Ashley Christiana.

In the men's category, a total of 177 countries and in the women's category, a total of 136 countries are participating.

Bangladesh men's team were drawn against Chile in the 2nd round while women's team were playing against Armenia.

Editing

The most crucial part of any writing is its editing. Without editing a news story cannot be said to be perfect. It's the editing which gives assurance that the writing is correct. The word 'editing' is a short and simple word, but it is not that simple. Editing helps to correct a sentence in terms of grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, sentence structure etc. Other than these, editing looks after the accuracy, word choice, writing style and consistency in a piece of writing. Editing gives a piece of writing proper shape and make it errorless. This helps a reader to enjoy reading. According to the *Grammar About* website editing is, 'A stage of the writing process in which a writer or editor strives to improve a draft (and sometimes prepare it for publication) by correcting errors and by making words and sentences clearer, more precise, and more effective.' C.K. Webb author of the book *Cruelty To Innocents (The 911 Abductions, #1)* expressed her thoughts on the importance of editing by stating that, 'Edit your manuscript until your fingers bleed and you have memorized every last word. Then, when you are certain you are on the verge of insanity...edit one more time!'

While editing, a few things are needed to be kept in mind. They are grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization and sentence structure. Among these items, grammar is more important. If a sentence is grammatically correct then the major part of editing is completed. Tense and verb are the key elements of grammar. A writer often makes mistakes with verbs and tenses. If a writer uses past form in his/her writing then he/she should follow only past tense to maintain consistency, otherwise the reader will lose track while reading. This causes the writing to lose its charm. Writers need to use verbs carefully. If he does not use verbs properly then it will change the meaning of the sentence. A simple alphabet can make a sentence wrong. For

example, in a sentence if the writer writes 'close' instead of 'closed' then the sentence will be wrong. In an article where only past tense has been used, if the writer writes 'He close the door' instead of 'He closed the door' then the sentence will be wrong in term of tense. Only for the alphabet 'd' the sentence will be wrong. This is how verb and tense can affect writing.

Spelling mistakes in writing are considered to be the lack of word knowledge. Spelling mistakes are not acceptable in writing. It can change a sentence's meaning. For example; if writer writes 'hat' instead of 'hut' then it will totally change the meaning of the sentence, and it will be impossible for the reader to understand what the writer is trying to say in his/her news story. For example, 'The man was wearing a Cuban Hut.' In this sentence it should be 'Hat' instead of 'Hut.' This simple spelling mistake makes the sentence wrong. Because a hut means a small house, it is not something that can be worn. Before writing anything writer have to have good command over the words which will be needed for the completion of his writing. Correct word helps to make writing richer.

Another important thing in editing is punctuation. Punctuation is a very small thing to look at, but it plays vital role in writing. A simple punctuation mark can change the meaning of a sentence. For example; if anyone writes 'Ill' instead of 'I'll' then the sentence will be wrong. Only (') symbol has changed the meaning. A minor mistake can lead to a devastating consequence.

Though punctuation is an important part of editing, capitalization is not to be ignored while editing. It plays an important role to make a piece of writing correct by using small and block letters in suitable places. It's a universal role that the first alphabet of a sentence would be a block letter and the rest in small letters. But exception happens in terms of name, abbreviation,

designation and so on. For example; if anyone uses 'who' instead of 'WHO' in a sentence then it will be wrong. WHO is the abbreviation for World Health Organization. So, this easily proves how mistakes in capitalization can make a sentence wrong.

At *New Age*, most of the editing part was done by the sports editor Mr. Majumder. His choice of words and writing style make people interested to read what he edited and wrote. Other than him, senior subeditor Mr. Mehedi edits the news. *New Age* follows the British English in their writing. News writing is not like fiction writing. In news writing, the reporter includes as much information as possible in the lead paragraph, answering the five 'Ws' and one 'H.' Among the five Ws, 'why' often creates difficulty for the reporter to answer. Every sentence in the lead carries information about the five W's and one H. And all are sorted in a systematic way by correcting grammar, spelling and other errors. Editing refines and corrects writing and it helps a reader to read smoothly. Spelling or grammatical error may not make a good piece of writing totally bad, but it creates disturbance for the reader while reading. Thus, a reader may lose his/her concentration.

Online Sourcing

In the modern world, news agencies have to stay updated to keep pace with the world. The more updates a news agency has the more demand there is for the information. Being updated keeps a news agency alive. For staying updated, news agencies quickly need information from around the world. But it is not possible for a news agency to assign reporters around the world. Fortunately this problem had been solved as journalists are united and help each other to gather information. In every corner of the world there is a single or several people playing the role of a reporter who sends information to the center. For example in Bangladesh, a person is assigned to be a part time reporter from the district reporters' unit of a specific place. Generally a long time resident of that area is assigned to be a part time reporter. This is because the person is familiar with the place and its people. And he/she can gather information easily and correctly. This local reporter passes information to his/her nearest district reporter's unit and they pass it to the central reporter's unit, from where not only the country, but also the whole world is able to collect information. Sometime news is directly sent to the news agencies from the district reporter's unit. At the end of the twentieth century, mankind was able to pass news from one corner of the world to the other through internet, whereas before it was done with the help of regular mail, air mail or telegram. But now-a-days it is very easy to exchange news with anyone in the world via the internet.

All news agencies rely on online sources. It can be from home or abroad. Whenever and wherever an incident occurs, immediately the assigned reporters electronically send information to the news agencies. Like other dailies, *New Age* also relies on online news. Information about incidents occurring within the country is delivered through e-mail. But incidents occurring

outside the country are collected from re-nowned news agencies like AFP, AP, Reuters etc. These are the most popular news agencies from where *New Age* collects international news. These are the most trusted and followed news agencies in the world. The news of sports events like football, tennis, cricket etc which take place abroad, are collected through the mentioned agencies. Dailies that get facilities from the above agencies, have to pay them in order to collect news from their website. As I was an intern, I had no access to the AFP, AP and Reuter's server. Online sources made today's dailies' work easier, otherwise getting updated news would have been an extremely difficult task.

Life at *New Age*: A Personal Account

I started my internship program at *New Age* from May 15, 2014 and it ended on August 15, 2014. It was the first organization where I worked like an employee. My colleagues treated me like an employee from the first day of my internship. Not for single moment they did not let me feel that I was an outsider.

On the first day of my internship, I was being assigned to work on desk with a computer on it. The sports editor Mr. Majumder told me rules for working under him. I was told not to argue with him, if I needed to say anything about any work, then I was allowed to ask, but arguing was unacceptable. He further told me to be punctual and honest. Last of all, most of the time he used to say that, it's not important how you work and it's important how you behave. He also told me that at the end of my internship I will have a certain amount of knowledge. This knowledge helped me to write my formal report, but the office mannerisms I learnt from *New Age* will remain with me forever. And that will be useful for the rest of my life, because it has taught me how to conduct myself properly in a workplace.

Interning at *New Age* was never boring for me. Each day came with something new to learn and something new to experience. My first achievement in *New Age* was watching the national cricket team players from a very close distance. I never thought before that I would be able to go so close to the players. Mr. Azam introduced me with other sports journalists, which is a great memory that I will cherish for the rest of my life. My first step on the Sher-e-Bangla Mirpur stadium ground was beyond my imagination. I got this opportunity because of Mr. Majumder, and Mr. Azam who helped me to see cricket and its surroundings from a very close distance. Once I was sent to the national airport to take an interview of Heath Streak, the new

bowling coach of the Bangladesh national cricket team. I got a chance to record his speech just by standing in front of him.

Except experiencing cricket, I experienced a live football match sitting in the press box of the Bangabandhu national stadium. Watching a live football match from the press box made me feel that I was a VVIP person. There I enjoyed Abohani fc vs. Sheikh Jamal fc. Sheikh Jamal won the match and got the trophy. Being the winning team captain, footballer Mamun was surrounded by the journalists who wanted to take his interview. As I was playing the role of a *New Age* reporter, I went near Mamun and listened to him from a close distance and recorded his speech. It might not have happened if I did not choose sports journalism as the area of my internship.

Other than these, I was often sent to press conferences to collect information. During my three month internship period, I attended near about ten press conferences. Most of them took place in the Olympic Bhaban situated near Gulistan. Attending press conferences was quite interesting for me. I seldom had to come empty handed from the press conferences. The sponsors used to provide gifts (pen, diary, t-shirt and mug etc) for the reporters most of the time. Another interesting thing at *New Age* was the gossip inside the office. When I had no work to do in the office, I passed the time chatting about various topics with my colleagues. And in the evening we, the sports desk members used to collect money for the snacks and the popular snack was jhal-muri. Other than this, there were sudden treats for various reasons, for example, announcement of national budget, world cup winning etc. Overall life at *New Age* was very enjoyable and I never felt bored during my internship period.

Conclusion

I spent three months at *New Age* as an intern. The time was very short for getting acquainted to sports journalism well, but what I came to know so far is priceless. This limited three month period was not enough to get in-depth knowledge about any sort of job. A person can only get an idea about the organization and his/her job during this limited period of time. During my internship, I learnt and experienced many things about sports journalism. I learnt how to write sports news stories following press releases, score cards and online sources, how to collect information by attending press conferences and so on. And another crucial thing I learnt was office mannerism.

Interning at *New Age* was kind my dream after taking Mr. Mir Ashfaquzzaman's English for Print Media course. Mr. Ashfaquzzaman is the sub editor of *New Age*. He is the person who gave me the opportunity to intern at the *New Age* sports desk; there I was assigned to work under the sports editor Mr. Majumder. *New Age* sports desk taught me a lot about about sports journalism. I was often given tasks which helped me know more about the sports world. Most of my work at *New Age* consisted of desk jobs. So, I got some idea about the house style of *New Age*. For example; *New Age* writes a month's name first then the date and then mentions day rather than tomorrow or yesterday or three days ago, December 5 Saturday. *New Age* first writes the full form of the word and later only the abbreviation is written. Besides this, I was sent to attend various press conferences to collect information. There I experienced the atmosphere of a press conference.

Life at *New Age* was quite interesting for me. Most of the time we the sports desk colleagues used to gossip about various topics. Sometimes the topics were related to the

collected reports and some were about our daily lives. While interning at *New Age*, I got the opportunity to visit Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium and Bangabandhu National Football Stadium. So, the time I spent at *New Age* is really a great achievement for me.

Interning at *New Age* broadened my knowledge about the life of a journalist. There are many sides of journalism and the work of the journalists is very intense. During my three month internship period I got the opportunity to mix with the journalists and get an idea about their daily lives by working with them. The life of a journalist is not as easy as I used to think it was. To buy a newspaper I have to spend only Tk 10, but the efforts given by the journalists to put together this newspaper cannot be measured with money. I myself experienced how hard a journalist's job is. Though I was an intern, the work I did at least gave me an idea of the work a full time journalist does. I was an intern and I had to collect information from press conferences by attending them, and after that I had to come back to the *New Age* office and prepare sports news stories from the collected information. A journalist's work is not limited to only collecting information; he/she has to write news stories about the collected information with the addition of previous stories (if needed) on related topics in order to make the news stories more interesting. A journalist has to update about news so that he/she can give his/her readers the latest news stories to read. People read news to keep themselves updated, so to keep the readers updated a journalist has to be aware of what is recently happening inside and outside the country.

While interning at *New Age*, I found some similarities between what I wrote in the sports news stories and what I learnt in my Eng 401 Editing course. These similarities were in terms of editing. In my Editing course at BRAC University, I read the rules for writing a headline. I learnt that to write a headline the beginners should follow six steps; among them one of the steps is 'Choose specific, precise words,' (Smith and O'Connell 140) I noticed this at *New Age*. For

example, Handball league begins Friday, Businesses eye boom in WC sales and so on. These headlines use specific and precise words. Besides this, I found similarity in terms of quoting people. What I learnt in my Editing course and what I wrote at *New Age* was quite similar in terms of method. I learnt about the three types of quotes in my course and among them I found the use of direct and indirect quotes in *New Age*'s sports news stories. Use of partial quotation is not that popular at *New Age*.

In a nutshell, it can be said that, because of interning at *New Age* I got the opportunity to know about sports journalism by working with the sports journalists. My internship has helped me in my growth as an individual. Not only have I learnt professional mannerism as I mentioned earlier in this report, I have also become more punctual and responsible than before. Apart from this, Eng 401 Editing course that I took at BRAC University helped me a lot to relate my learning with the internship. This made my work easier.

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