A team play PTCL today

SPORTS REPORTER

The visiting Bangladesh A team will play their second match in the Inter-Departmental Cricket Champion-ship today against Pakistan Tele Communication Limited (PTCL) at the Karachi National Stadium.

Mushfiqur Rahman's men will take on PTCL in a limited-overs match that will be followed by a four-day affair.

The tourists started on a winning note in the Pakistan's first-class competition beating Defence Housing Authority (DHA) by 35 runs in the abridged version.

But they drew against the same opponents in the longer-version and managed to collect three points by virtue of taking a first innings lead.

On the other hand, PTCL lost their opening encounter against Pakistan Customs but the four-day match ended in a draw which their opponents bagged three points.

Taekwondo meet

Ansars top the table

UNB, *Dhaka*

Bangladesh Ansars secured the top slot in the Korea Cup taekwondo tournament with eight gold medals that concluded yesterday at the National Sports Council (NSC) gymnasium.

Bangladesh Army finished second collecting four gold while Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC), Cox's Bazar, Narsingdi and Dhaka DSA bagged one gold each.

Rocky Junior of RCC (boys' junior), Lamia of Dhaka DSA (girls' junior), Sohel (men's senior) and Beauty (women's senior) of Bangladesh Ansars were named as best players from their respective groups to win a colour TV each.

A total of 165 players took part in the two-day meet.

Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Bangladesh Kyu-Hyung Lee was present as chief guest at the closing function and distributed prizes among the winners.

Pepsi v'ball

BSS, *Dhaka*

Rajshahi District Sports Association (DSA) moved into the quarterfinals of the Pepsi Volleyball League defeating Chittagong DSA 25-17, 21-25, 25-17 and 25-21 at Dhaka Volleyball Stadium yesterday.

In the other matches of the day, Kushtia DSA outplayed Comilla DSA 25-21, 25-18 and 25-10, while Khulna DSA posted a 25-17, 25-15 and 25-22 win over Dinajpur DSA.

In the women's section, defending champions BJMC maintained their supremacy as they earned an overwhelming 25-9, 25-6 and 25-8 win over Gazipur DSA, while Bangladesh Ansars and VDP thrashed Dinajpur DSA 25-10, 25-8 and 25-7 in the other one-sided affair.

Rangpur DSA earned walkover against Rajbari DSA in the day's other fixture.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Western Union Premier Div Football League
Abahani vs Victoria (5:00 pm)
Venue: Sher-e-Bangla Nat'l Stadium, Mirpur

Nat'l Cricket League (Day-4)
Dhaka vs Chittagong
Venue: BNS
Khulna vs Barisal
Venue: Jessore Stadium
Sylhet vs Rajshahi
Venue: Cricket Garden, Rangpur

PHOTOS: AFP

WELL DONE: Sri Lanka centurions Thilan Samaraweera (L) and Mahela Jayawardene respond to the crowd after reaching their respective hundreds on the third day of the third Test against England at Colombo yesterday.

Twin-ton up Lanka

Cricket

AFP, *Colombo*

A record double-century partnership between Thilan Samaraweera and Mahela Jayawardene helped Sri Lanka take firm control of the third and final cricket Test against England here on Saturday.

Samaraweera slammed a career-best 142 and Jayawardene an impressive 134 as Sri Lanka posted a massive 563-5 at stumps on the third day in reply to England's modest first-innings total of 265.

The pair put on 262 for the third wicket to surpass the previous record of 243 between Sanath Jayasuriya and Aravinda de Silva against England at the Oval in 1998.

Tillakaratne Dilshan (72 not out) and Upul Chandana (54 not out) also made merry against a mediocre England attack as they put on 107 for the unbroken sixth wicket.

England's fast bowlers and spinners struggled for success on an easy-paced track as they could grab just three wickets in the day after the hosts had resumed at 264-2.

Worse, the tourists' fielding also was sloppy as Jayawardene and Samaraweera each got two "lives" during their big knocks.

The middle-order Sri Lankan batsmen made the most of the chances to boost their team's hopes of winning the series after the two drawn Tests at Galle and Kandy.

Jayawardene and Samaraweera frustrated England with their determined knocks as they denied the tourists success for more than three hours on Saturday.

Samaraweera, 27, batted 493 minutes to overtake his previous highest score of 123 not out against Zimbabwe at this venue in 2001.

He completed his third century in 14 Tests in the second session, but not before surviving a chance on 98 when Marcus Trescothick dropped him at slip off spinner Gareth Batty.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close of play on the third day of the third and final Test between Sri Lanka and England at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground on Saturday:

ENGLAND: First innings 265 (Flintoff 77, Trescothick 70; Muralitharan 3-40, Vaas 3-64)

SRI LANKA: First innings (overnight 264-2)

S'kara c Trescothick b Kirtley	31
J'suriya c Trescothick b Flintoff	85
Samaraweera run out	142
J'dene c sub (C'wood) b Flintoff	134
Dilshan not out	72
Tillakaratne b Giles	12
Chandana not out	54
Extras: (b-6, lb-16, nb-6, w-5)	33
Total: (For 5 wkts in 172 overs)	563

Fall of wickets: 1-71, 2-138, 3-400, 4-428, 5-456

To bat: Atapattu, Vaas, Fernando, Muralitharan

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Kirtley	26	4	98	1
Anderson	24	5	85	0
Flintoff	18	0	47	2
Giles	60	16	159	1
Batty	41	4	137	0
Vaughan	1	0	5	0
Trescothick	2	0	10	0

Rafique spins Dhaka ahead

FROM PAGE 13

tured three wickets each.

KHULNA VS BARISAL

At Jessore, Right-handed Tushar Imran was unbeaten on 73 runs as Khulna made 143 runs for four wickets in 61 overs after Barisal invited them to bat first at the Shamsul Huda Stadium.

The dashing batsman hit four boundaries and one over boundary in his 164-run innings while country's number one batsman and Khulna skipper Habibul Bashar scored 28 off 101 balls.

SCORECARDS

Scoreboard on the third day of the three Mirzapore Tea Fifth National Cricket League matches played at different venues across the country yesterday:

Dhaka VS Chittagong
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

DHAKA: First innings 143 all out in 80.3 overs (Al Shahriar 35, Halim 39 n.o, Mahmud 26, Alamgir 5-44, Arafat 3-35, Sabbir 1-19).

CHITTAGONG: First innings (overnight 61 for two wkts in 26 overs)

Anisul c Naimur b Rafique	8
Masum c Rashedul b Rafique	29
Azam c Sanwar b Rafique	27
Faisal c Rafique b Mahmud	52
Minhazul b Rafique	2
Akram c Al Shahriar b Rafique	0
Sabbir lbw Naimur	2
Sabibul c Sajjad b Mahmud	2
Arafat c Sajjad b Rafique	0
Alamgir c Sanwar b Mahmud	9
Debrobata not out	1
Extras: (lb-2)	2
Total: (All out in 65.3 overs)	134

Fall of wkts: 1-24, 2-39, 3-84, 4-90, 5-90. 6-101, 7-109, 8-110, 9-124, 10-134

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Mahmud	16.3	8	31	3
Shahriar	3	1	10	0
Neeyamur	3	0	13	0
Rafique	26	11	45	6
Naimur	13	6	21	1
Muntasir	4	1	12	0

DHAKA: Second innings

Rashedul run out	12
Al Shahriar c Anisul b Sabbir	87
Sanwar c Sabibul b Sabbir	52
Halim c Masum b Sabbir	8
Naimur c Arafat b Sabbir	38
Neeyamur c Arafat b Arafat	8
Sajjad batting	5
Mahmud batting	4
Extras: (b-5, lb-1)	6
Total: (For 6 wkts in 67 overs)	220

Fall of wkts: 1-29, 2-145, 3-160, 4-198, 5-211, 6-211.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Alamgir	11	2	34	0
Sabbir	28	5	77	4
Arafat	26	5	94	1
Faisal	2	0	9	0

Rajshahi VS Sylhet
Venue: Cricket Garden, Rangpur

SYLHET: First innings 102 all out in 85.1 overs (Parvez 31, Hadi 19, Moula 12; Aminul 2-7, Shahjada 3-23, Saifullah 4-43)

RAJSHAHI: First innings 200 for nine dec in 81.2 overs (Kabir 11, Nuruzzaman 26, Mashud 15, Hasanuzzaman 77, Shamimul 33 n.o, Tapash 2-37, Nabil 5-41, Al-Wadud 2-26)

SYLHET: Second innings (overnight 15 for 2 wkts in 9 overs)

Tanna c Parvez b Shahjada	8
Shishir lbw Aminul	0
Nayeem c Rafiqul b Shahjada	1
Himel lbw Shahjada	36
Parvez c Shahjada b Kabir	91
Nahid c Shamimul b Saifullah	24
Hadi c Hasanuzzaman b Saifullah	3
Tushar b Saifullah	34
Tapash c Shahjada b Kabir	6
Al-Wadud not out	11
Nabil lbw Kabir	0
Extras: (b-14, lb-3, nb-2)	19
Total: (All out in 97 overs)	233

Fall of wkts: 1-1, 2-2, 3-21, 4-101, 5-136, 6-140, 7-199, 8-215, 9-230, 10-233

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Aminul	22	7	24	1
Shahjada	22	8	41	3
Saifullah	29	6	83	3
Parvez	10	1	40	0
Kabir	10	1	22	3
Nuruzzaman	4	1	6	0

Khulna VS Barisal
Venue: Shamsul Huda Stadium, Jessore

KHULNA: First innings

Sajjadul c Shahin b Anisur	5
Raju run out	4
Bashar c Anisur b Mustadir	28
Tushar batting	73
Hasanuzzaman c Nahidul b Arman	17
Hasibul batting	2
Extras: (b-1, lb-2, nb-7, w-4)	14
Total: (For 4 wkts in 61 overs)	143

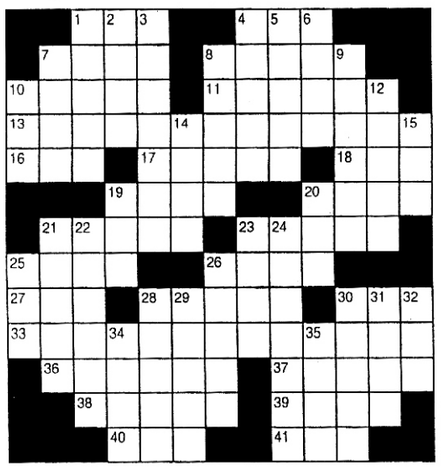
Fall of wkts: 1-5, 2-24, 3-79, 4-106

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Bikas	8	0	21	0
Anisur	11	1	26	1
Jamal	9	3	17	0
Kamal	7	2	15	0
Mustadir	12	3	29	1
Arman	13	2	31	1
Imran	1	0	1	0

CROSSWORD *By Eugene Sheffer*

ACROSS
1 Resort
4 One-name R&B/pop singer
7 Grand
8 Black Flag target
10 Show position
11 Snowfall statistic
13 Yo-yo trick
16 Pussy-cat's partner
17 Snug
18 Festive
19 Gets dressed in
20 Microscope view
21 Laissez follower
23 Magnetic measure
25 Semester
26 "Sorry"
27 Computer language
28 Elroy's dog
30 Actor Ferrigno
33 In TV lingo, begins to decline after peaking
36 South Dakota's capital
37 Sample
38 Wagnerian extra's prop
39 Fibs
40 Peculiar
41 Mess up

DOWN
1 Decoy customer
2 The other white meat
3 IRS employee
4 Calendar page
5 America's Cup contender
6 Rue the run
7 Melt
8 King's 1973 tennis rival
9 Maze walls, often
10 Seesaw quorum
12 Goes with the eagles
14 Fellini-based musical
15 Sock-hop venue
19 Poorly lit
20 Songwriter Kahn
21 Unable to take any more
22 D'Artagnan companion
23 Bullring wound
24 Adherent
25 — Mahal
26 Different
28 — as a beet
29 Ritzy fiddle
30 "Star Wars" weapon
31 Doggie bag contents
32 Guitar's cousin
34 Squash or cucumber
35 Kojak's lack



Solution time: 21 mins.

CRYPTOQUIP

UZNS ALQV ZLTN MH ZLHC CL SNUYA ZXCKZNR CNVTMCNH, KLQYR CZNA EN EXENH MS CZN ULLR?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FAMISHED, THE CAT ATE A BUNCH OF CHEESE AND WAITED FOR A MOUSE WITH BAITED BREATH.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals O

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Brazil world youth champs

AFP, *Dubai*

A late goal from substitute Fernandinho sealed a fourth world under-20 football championship title for Brazil with a 1-0 win over 10-man Spain on Friday in Abu Dhabi.

Fernandinho, brought on as a substitute after 70 minutes of stalemate, finished off a corner by Daniel Alves with a header three minutes from the final whistle.

The Spaniards had been a man down for virtually the whole match after Real Betis midfielder Juan Alberto Andreu 'Melli' was sent off after just five minutes' play.

Brazil's goal hero Fernandinho was also sent off by Italian referee Roberto Rosetti two minutes into extra time, but it was already too late for the Spanish who had been fighting a battle with their numerical inferiority.

The South Americans reclaimed the title which they also won in 1983, 1985 and 1993, and puts them equal on titles with Argentina who were earlier defeated 2-1 in the third-place play-off by Colombia.

Biman beaten

SPORTS REPORTER

League leaders Bangladesh Biman tasted their first defeat in the First Division Chess League as they lost their 12th round board to Bangladesh Ansars by 0.5-3.5 points at the Chess Federation Auditorium yesterday.

Leonine Chess Club kept the second slot beating Mohakhali Prodip Sangha 3-1.

In other matches, Titas Club beat Kamalapur Samaj Kalyan and Krira Sangha 2.5-1.5, Destiny 2000 beat Monipur Chess Club 4-0, Narayanganj City Chess Club beat Nakhalpara Jubo Kalyan Sangha 4-0, Dhaka University Chess Team beat Rajshahi Daba Unnyan Sangstha 3-1, Anushillan Daba Krira Chakra beat Fighter Krira Chakra 3-1 and Sonali Bank drew with Farashganj Sporting Club 2-2.

The 13th round games begin today at 3:00pm at the same venue. The matches are: Kamlapur vs Nakhalpara, DU vs Titas, Biman vs Rajshahi, Prodip Sangha vs Ansars, Monipur vs Leonine, Farashganj vs Destiny, Anushillan vs Sonali Bank and Narayanganj vs Fighter.

Matthew stakes a claim

REUTERS/AFP, *Hobart*

Sidelined paceman Matthew Nicholson bowled his way towards a possible Test recall with four for 25 to help dismiss India for 245 in their tour match against Australia A on Saturday.

India resumed on their overnight score of 37 for one in reply to Australia A's 311 for five declared.

Australia A were 57 for three at the close of the second day's play of the three-day match, an overall lead of 123.

Test hopefuls Michael Clarke, on 22, and Brad Hodge, on 11, were the not out batsmen.

SCOREBOARD

Scorecard at stumps on the second day of a three-day match between Australia A and India at Bellerive Oval on Saturday:

AUSTRALIA A: First innings 311 for 5 declared (Love 94, Rogers 70, Hussey 67)

INDIA: First innings (overnight 37-1)

Chopra run out 46

Ramesh c Wright b Nicholson 4

Dasgupta lbw b Tait 21

Tendulkar c Rofe b Wright 36

Sehwag c Seccombe b Tait 30

Ganguly c Hussey b

Lara, C'paul prop up WI

AFP, *East London*

Brian Lara and Shivnarine Chanderpaul hit half-centuries to lift an otherwise disappointing West Indian batting display against Border at Buffalo Park on Friday.

Lara (81) and Chanderpaul (98) made the bulk of a West Indian total of 278 all out. Opening bowler Tyron Henderson took five for 57 for the provincial side, who replied with 68 for two at the end of the first day of a four-day match.

Ferdinand's Euro dreams over

Football

AFP, *London*

Manchester United and England defender Rio Ferdinand has been banned for eight months and fined 50,000 pounds after being found guilty of misconduct following his infamous missed drugs test.

The decision, taken by an independent commission on Friday after a two-day hearing, means the 25-year-old England defender, who signed for United from Leeds in a British record deal of 30 million pounds in July 2002, will miss the Euro 2004 finals in Portugal if an appeal fails.

He will also miss United's title challenge in the Premiership and the Champions League.

The ban begins on January 12 next year.

Ferdinand refused to comment on the outcome but United solicitor Maurice Watkins hit out at the judgement.

"We are extremely disappointed by the result in this case and in particular by the savage and unprecedented sentence which makes an appeal inevitable," said Watkins in a statement as the player stood by his side.

"Rio has the support of Manchester United and the PFA (Professional Footballers Association) and there will be no further comment."

Earlier in the day, Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson appeared as a character witness at the tribunal which met at the Reebok Stadium in Bolton.

The charge of misconduct was brought after the player skipped the drugs test on September 23.

Ferdinand was charged by the FA for "failure or refusal" to take the test at United's training ground. He says he forgot to take the test.

And he claims that when he remembered he rang back but the part-time controllers refused to let him return to be tested.

The FA's independent commission spokesman Nick Baron confirmed the decision in a statement.

"The commission unanimously found that the charge was proved against Rio Ferdinand," he said.

"It was further decided that he be suspended for eight months from January 12, 2004 and fined a sum of 50,000 pounds.

"Having requested a personal hearing, he is subject to pay the costs of the hearing.

RIO FERDINAND

"Such decisions are subject to the right of appeal."

Ferdinand passed a drugs test 36 hours after missing his scheduled appointment and has not been picked for England since then.

But he has continued to play for Manchester United, sparking a controversy that has even got FIFA president Sepp Blatter involved.

Blatter wanted Ferdinand suspended until a decision was made, and suggested United could be docked points for the matches they have won with Ferdinand if he was found guilty.

United pointed out that Manchester City's Christian Negouai escaped suspension and was fined 20,000 pounds when he missed a drugs test under similar circumstances earlier this year.

And United's lawyers stress that Negouai's case was conducted in private.

Ferdinand's case became public when the FA ordered coach Sven-Goran Eriksson to remove him from the team for the October Euro 2004 qualifier against Turkey in Istanbul.

Under FA regulations, Ferdinand faced a maximum two-year suspension although most observers believed a three-month ban would eventually be imposed by Barry Bright, who chaired the three-man disciplinary panel.

However, the player has a 14-day period to lodge an appeal, clearing him to face Tottenham at White Hart Lane on Sunday, plus the following league games against Everton and Middlesbrough.

He can also play in further league games at Bolton on January 7 and at home to Newcastle on January 11 as well as the FA Cup third round tie away to Aston Villa on January 4.

Friday's decision followed 18 hours of deliberation over the past two days after evidence was heard by the FA's three-man disciplinary commission of Barry Knight, Peter Herd and Frank Pattison.

Those called included Ferdinand, Ferguson, club doctor Mike Stone and Manchester City midfielder Eyal Berkovic.

UK Sport, the agency which tests more than 1,200 players every season, said they could not comment on the punishment until they had received the FA's report.

"Our main concern is that in dealing with any anti-doping offence, the governing body acts fairly and adheres to their rules and regulations. We are satisfied that the FA has done so in this case," said a spokesman.

"The FA is within its rights to set a penalty at less than the recommended two years for a doping offence. Their reasons for doing so will no doubt be stated in the report from the hearing which we expect to receive from the FA in the next week or so."

NZ pile up record runs

Cricket

AFP, *Hamilton*

Century makers Stephen Fleming and Daniel Vettori plundered ineffective Pakistan bowling in a record-breaking spree Saturday as New Zealand piled up a massive 563 in their first innings on the second day of the first Test against Pakistan.

Pakistan were 118 for two at stumps after beginning their reply in rollicking fashion until both openers fell in the space of three overs, and then the chase became more circumspect.

If Fleming was the star for New Zealand with his 192, Vettori was the hero. He came in at number nine and stayed till the end notching his first Test century with an unbeaten 137.

New Zealand's 563 is a record against Pakistan, Fleming and Vettori set an eighth wicket record partnership against Pakistan of 125, while Vettori and Daryl Tuffy posted a ninth wicket record of 99.

The run-fest was an unexpected outcome after Pakistan won the toss and sent New Zealand in on what appeared to be dream conditions for seam bowlers.

Black Caps skipper Fleming admitted to some trepidation at batting first and it was no surprise when opener Lou Vincent fell cheaply.

That brought Fleming to the crease for a majestic stand which included 31 fours, and aided by wayward bowling and a sloppy 57 extras, the captain anchored three century stands and led his side to a commanding total.

But after 476 minutes at the crease, Fleming was dismissed with a lazy effort soon after lunch when Umar Gul had him trapped plumb in front and there was no hesitation by umpire Steve Davis in raising the finger.

Fleming's sixth Test century was also his second highest Test score, while Vettori's maiden century in his 49th Test was among the top 10 highest scores of all number nine Test batsmen.

Playing on his home ground at Westpac Park, Vettori brought up his 100 on the first ball after drinks in the afternoon session when he cover drove Mohammad Sami to the boundary for one of 24 boundaries including a six in his innings.

Tuffy chimed in with his highest score before being clean bowled by Umar Gul for 35.

For Pakistan it was a bowling performance to forget. The New Zealand score was the highest first innings against a Pakistan side after they won the toss and the extras were a record high for a New Zealand innings.

The one leading light was Shabbir Ahmed who ended with a thoroughly deserved five wicket haul and was by far the most economical of the bowlers.

Sami, who went into the match as the most experienced frontline bowler following the late withdrawal of the injured Shoaib Akhtar, gifted 15 no balls from his 27 overs, and when the new ball was taken he was removed from the attack after just three overs.

PHOTO: AFP

New Zealand's Daniel Vettori (R) is being congratulated by teammate Daryl Tuffey after scoring his hundred on the second day of the first Test against Pakistan at Auckland yesterday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the second day of the first cricket Test between New Zealand and Pakistan on Saturday:

NEW ZEALAND: First innings

Richardson run out (Gul)	44
Vincent c Inzamam b Shabbir	8
Fleming lbw b Gul	192
Styris c Umar b Kaneria	33
McMillan c Umar b Kaneria	22
Cairns c Moin b Shabbir	11
Oram b Shabbir	6
Hart c Youhana b Shabbir	10
Vettori not out	137
Tuffey by Gul	35
Butler c Farhat b Shabbir	7
Extras: (b-4, lb-12, w-9, nb-33)	58
Total: (All out in 151.2 overs)	563

Fall of wickets: 1-16, 2-117, 3-217, 4-249, 5-266, 6-274, 7-314, 8-439, 9-538

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Sami	27	2	126	0
Shabbir	43.2	9	117	5
Razaaq	18	2	74	0
Gul	31	5	118	2
Kaneria	32	6	112	2

PAKISTAN: First innings

Farhat c Hart b Oram	20
Umar c Butler b Tuffey	27
Hameed not out	36
Youhana not out	24
Extras: (lb-3, nb-8)	11
Total: (For 2 wkts in 28 overs)	118

To bat: Inzamam, Razzaq, Moin, Sami, Shabbir, Kaneria, Gul

Fall of wickets: 1-47, 2-55

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Tuffey	7	2	26	1
Butler	6	0	41	0
Oram	5	1	18	1
Cairns	4	0	14	0
Vettori	6	0	16	0

Another MSC

FROM PAGE 13

Afala, Nakib (Saurav Raju) and Farhad (Zahir).

Dhaka Wanderers: Himu, Shahin, Dulal, Yusuf, Jahangir (Tareq), Selim, Hanif (William), Masud. Shipon, Ritu and Monir

Referee: Tayeb Hassan.