

BRAC BANK CUP HSBC win a thriller

SPORTS REPORTER

Hong Kong Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) won by the odd goal in nine against Group 4 in the BRAC Bank Cup five-a-side football tournament at the International School Dhaka (ISD) indoor facilities yesterday.

Scholastica put seven past a hapless Securex, who had earlier lost badly to Beximco Pharma 20-0.

Nestle also won a closely fought battle against Trade Excel 3-2 while mobile phone operators Banglalink won 3-1 against the Royal Danish Embassy.

Sachin back with a ton

AFP, Cambridge

Sachin Tendulkar marked his return from three months out of cricket by smashing a quickfire 155 for the Lashings World XI in a match against Cambridge University on Wednesday.

Tendulkar, who underwent shoulder surgery in March, needed just 91 balls to bring up his 100 and powered on to reach 155 from 119 balls before being caught at mid-on while trying to pull a full toss from medium pacer Ben Jacklin.

The spectacular knock included 25 boundaries and three sixes.

The 33-year-old had been greeted back to cricket with a large cheer from the 300-strong crowd as he walked out at Fenner's, the University's cricket ground.

That was as long as the hospitality lasted however with the legendary batsman on the receiving end of a bouncer for his first ball back at the crease.

It was not however a good enough delivery to trouble a player of Tendulkar's quality and he was able to duck out of the way with ease before setting about the students' attack in robust fashion.

The shoulder surgery forced Tendulkar to miss seven one-dayers at home against England as well as the ongoing tour of the West Indies.

Asked how his recovery was progressing before the start of the match, Tendulkar told AFP: "It is getting better."

But he would not be drawn into predicting that he would definitely be ready for a triangular series in Sri Lanka in August, where India will face their hosts and South Africa.

"I'll try (to be ready)," was as much as he would say on that subject.



Did U Know?

Before each match in the 1998 World Cup, French captain Laurent Blanc planted a big kiss on Fabien Barthez's bald head in the hope that it would bring the team good fortune. Blanc still found the opportunity to perform the ritual before the final, despite not taking part in the game himself.



Talk Turkey



Andriy Shevchenko

(Ukraine star player) "I'm happy for the whole of Ukraine. We can be proud of ourselves again after the bitterness of our defeat to Spain. We had to do well on Monday and we didn't let ourselves down." After beating Saudi Arabia 4-0 in the World Cup.



TEN Sports

West Indies v India Third Test, Day One Live at 8:00 pm



General secretary of Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF) Jamilur Rahman (2nd from R) signs the memorandum of understanding to hold the Begum Laila Alam Women Chess Competition while Begum Laila Alam looks on during a ceremony at the BCF recently.

Sanath show at Lord's

Cricket

AFP, London

Sanath Jayasuriya's 122, his 20th one-day international century, provided the platform for Sri Lanka's 46-run victory against England here Tuesday that saw them go 2-0 up in the five-match series.

England, set a record 319 to win -- their best innings victory chase had been the 306 for five, needing 305, they achieved against Pakistan at Karachi in 2000-01 -- were bowled out for 273 as they went down to a twelfth defeat in 16 one-day internationals.

Together with Sri Lanka captain Mahela Jayawardene (66), opener Jayasuriya put on 160 for the second-wicket as the visitors built on their 20-run series-opening victory at Lord's on Saturday.

And Jayasuriya then cemented his man-of-the-match status by bowling England top scorers Kevin Pietersen (73) and Paul Collingwood (55), taking three for 51 in all with his left-arm spin as Sri Lanka won with 20 balls to spare.

"Sanath batted really well up the order, we wanted one of the guys to bat through and make a big score," Jayawardene told reporters. "He did that job brilliantly."

Jayasuriya said "The thing is to settle in. Today, I settled in for the first 10 overs and after that tried to play my normal game."

England stand-in skipper Andrew Strauss added: "It was tough. You've got to give some credit to Sri Lanka."

"Jayasuriya is a very experienced, high-quality opening batsman and he was ably supported. Chasing 320 was always going to be hard work."

England, who conceded a record 42 extras at Lord's, gave away 33 this time.

"If you are giving away that number of extras you are asking for trouble," Strauss added.

Stephen Harmison led the attack well with three for 31 from 10 overs but fell quick Sajid Mahmood saw his seven overs cost 80 runs.

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Hopes England had of chasing down 320 suffered when openers Marcus Trescothick (nine) and Strauss (18) both fell cheaply to leave them 48 for two in the 10th over.

His frontline partner, Hamburg second-string forward Naohiro Takahara, has failed to hit the mark since scoring twice in a 2-2 warm-up draw against hosts Germany.

"Brazil are awesome up front. Brazil are awesome up front."

THIRDEYE

FROM PAGE 21 striker, playing in his third World Cup, exited this one in the most heartbreaking of circumstances as a possible knee ligament tear saw him leave the field after less than a minute into their clash with Sweden.

The remaining eighty-nine minutes saw a wonder goal from Joe Cole, a superb header from Marcus Allback, England's very own 'Hand of God' and a dramatic late equaliser from the Swedes that followed sub Steven Gerrard's headed goal. It was an eventful match played at high tempo reminiscent of EPL matches. Frank Lampard looked far sharper than he had starting in the head of an attacking diamond. The midfield was ushered by the much-maligned Owen Hargreaves who put in a solid performance. But the star of the show was Joe Cole, a man Pele had described as 'Brazilian'.

The Chelsea man ran the show from the start as his intelligent running troubled the Swedes. He capped his performance with what must certainly be contender for goal of the tournament. A volleyed 30-yard strike that nestled into the top left hand corner. Wayne

Rooney was back as well and the wonder-kid showed plenty of assured touches. He was not totally match-fit and it showed but he was still hugely disappointed to be subbed off for Gerrard. The Swedes though showed plenty of resilience and twice came back to equalise. Marcus Allback with a fine near post header, which was incidentally the 2000th goal in the World Cup and Henrik Larsson very late on after a comedy of errors from Sol Campbell who had replaced Rio Ferdinand. They could even have snatched a win had they not been denied a clear penalty when Jamie Carragher handled inside the box, an infringement that the referee inexplicably failed to see. All in all though, the English played well enough to win the group though much of the match they were glad to have avoided the hosts and now leave the Scandinavians to pass that hurdle.

On the topic of the hosts, the Germans turned in a largely assured performance against an Ecuador side that never really played for the win. In spite of that, the Germans looked pretty comfortable all through the match after Miroslav Klose had given them a

fourth minute lead. With 70,000 screaming fans roaring them on in the stifling heat of Berlin, the Germans added to the tally through Klose (again) as he raced on to delightful chipped pass from Ballack to score. Lukas Podolski, much criticised in recent weeks, came back strongly with a goal goal on the counter-attack after a pinpoint pass from Bernd Schneider. The Ecuadorians looked strangely content with the result and now they must face a tough test of their credentials against England in the round of sixteen.

It would be unfair to the other teams involved yesterday to not mention them at all. Trinidad and Tobago deserve more than a mention with a stolid display in a 2-0 loss to Paraguay that saw them leave the World Cup with heads held high. No such luck for Poland as they face a roasting in the national press following their exit and for Costa Rica, taking part was almost as important as winning.

Scoreboard in the second one-day international between England and Sri Lanka at The Oval on Tuesday: SRI LANKA: 319 (Jayasuriya 122, Jayawardene 66, Sangakkara 51; Harmison 3-31) ENGLAND: Trescothick c Dilshan b Malinga 9 Strauss c Muralidaran b Maharoof 18 Bell c Muralidaran b Malinga 40 Pietersen b Jayasuriya 73 Collingwood b Jayasuriya 56 Dalrymple st Sangakkara b Jayasuriya 37 Jones c Sangakkara b Muralidaran 8 Bresnan not out 11 Mahmood run out 4 Plunkett run out 3 Harmison run out 2 Extras: (lb-5, w-5, nb-2) 12 Total: (All out in 46.4 overs) 273. Fall of wickets: 1-10, 2-48, 3-116, 4-176, 5-222, 6-238, 7-253, 8-258, 9-263, 10-273.

Bowler O M R W Vaas 8 0 42 0 Malinga 8 0 45 2 Maharoof 7 0 39 1 Perera 5 0 40 0 Muralidaran 9.4 0 51 1 Jayasuriya 9 0 51 3 Result: Sri Lanka won by 46 runs and lead five-match series 2-0. Man-of-the-match: Sanath Jayasuriya.

captain Michael Vaughan and pace bowler all-rounder Andrew Flintoff -- were paying the price for wayward bowling, too many extras and losing early wickets. Pietersen drove Ruchira Perera over long-on for six and carried on to a 48-ball fifty before, trying to sweep Jayasuriya, he was bowled to end a stand of 60 with all-rounder Paul Collingwood, who himself went on to complete a 55-ball half-century.

However all-rounder Collingwood was bowled advancing down the pitch to Jayasuriya and, with 10 overs left, England needed 98 to win.

Sri Lanka emphasised their fielding superiority by taking the last three wickets with run-outs. Earlier Upul Tharanga, man-of-the-match at Lord's with 120, edged Harmison to first slip Trescothick for 17.

But Jayawardene, who had won the toss, got off the mark with a whipped legside six off Mahmood.

Jayasuriya, 37 later this month, continued to take a toll of Mahmood, picking him up for six over deep square leg.

England then had a lucky break when a mix-up saw Jayawardene, who faced 62 balls with one six and five fours, run out.

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England stand-in skipper Andrew Strauss added: "It was tough. You've got to give some credit to Sri Lanka."

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LEADING SCORERS

AFP, Berlin

World Cup top scorers after Wednesday's Group D matches: 4: Klose (Germany) 3: Fernando Torres (Spain) 2: Bosacki (Poland), Bravo (Mexico), T Cahill (Australia), Crespo (Argentina), Delgado (Ecuador), Gerrard (England), Maxi Rodriguez (Argentina), Rosicky (Czech Republic), C Tenorio (Ecuador), Villa (Spain), Wanchopo (Costa Rica)

1: Adriano (Brazil), Ahn Jung-hwan (South Korea), Al Jaber (Saudi Arabia), Al Kahtani (Saudi Arabia), Allback (Sweden), Aloisi (Australia), Bakhtiarzadeh (Iran), Barnetta (Switzerland), Cambiasso (Argentina), J. Cole (England), Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal), Crouch (England), Cuevas (Paraguay), Deco (Portugal), Drogha (Ivory Coast), Flavio (Angola), Fonseca (Mexico), Fred (Brazil), Frei (Switzerland), Frings (Germany), Gilardino (Italy), Golmohammadi (Iran), R Gomez (Costa Rica), Gyan (Ghana), Henry (France), Iaquina (Italy), Jaide (Tunisia), Jaziri (Tunisia), Kaka (Brazil), Kalinichenko (Ukraine), Kaviedes (Ecuador), Koller (Czech Republic), B Kone (Ivory Coast), Lahm (Germany), Larsson (Sweden), Lee Chun-soo (South Korea), Ljungberg (Sweden), Maniche (Portugal), Messi (Argentina), Mnar (Tunisia), Mohamed Kader (Togo), Muntari (Ghana), Nakamura (Japan), Neville (Germany), Park Ji-sung (South Korea), Pauleta (Portugal), Pirlo (Italy), Podolski (Germany), Raul (Spain), Rebrov (Ukraine), Robben (Netherlands), Rusol (Ukraine), Saviola (Argentina), Shevchenko (Ukraine), Simao Sabrosa (Portugal), Tevez (Argentina), Van Nistelrooy (Netherlands), Van Persie (Netherlands), Xabi Alonso (Spain), Zinha (Mexico)

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Another draw or a result

Third Windies-India Test starts today

Cricket

AFP, Basseterre

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