

Sport



Bangladesh Sporting Club became the Delta Life Second Division hockey league champions following their 3-0 win over Barnak Samaj in yesterday's super league encounter at the hockey stadium. —Photo Kiran

Bangladesh Sporting are Div Two champions

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Sporting booked their berth in the top division next year by emerging champions in the Delta Life Second Division hockey league with their thumping 3-0 win over Barnak Samaj at the hockey stadium yesterday.

The winners led by a solitary goal at the breather.

The win took Bangladesh Sporting's points tally to twelve from six matches with half a dozen straight wins and the result of their remaining match in the eight-team super league cannot affect their chances adversely. Their near-

est rivals, Raktim Sangha, have eight points from five matches but should they, succeed in winning their remaining two games they cannot match Bangladesh Sporting's better goal average.

The defeat dashed Barnak Samaj's own title aspirations, leaving them on eight points from six games with a game in hand.

Bangladesh Sporting shot into the lead with a field goal by Shimal in the 17th minute of play. In the second half Selim converted a penalty corner in the 37th minute to double the margin while Manu completed the tally two minutes from time with a fine

field goal.

In the day's other match, Raktim Sangha got the better of Agrani Bank, also by three goals to nil.

Sohel gave Raktim the lead in the 9th minute, Abdullah made it 2-0 in the 50th and Tutul rounded it off by making it 3-0 in the 54th minute.

Bangladesh Sporting defeated Shisu Kishore, Combined SC, Farashganj SC and Agrani Bank in their earlier matches and will face Raktim Sangha in the last super league encounter tomorrow, Friday.

Only one team qualified for promotion to Green Delta First Division league.

Korean talks on joint team founder

PANMUNJOM, Korea, Jan 30: Talks between North and South Korea on forming a joint team for sports events were deadlocked on Wednesday after Pyongyang called for an end to Seoul's joint military exercises with the United States, reports Reuter.

The meeting at the truce village of Panmunjom astride the tense border between the two Koreas produced no records and even failed to set date for another round of discussions.

Northern chief delegate Kim Hyong-Jin said the annual manoeuvres were a main factor preventing peace on the peninsula, divided since 1945.

The Team Spirit '91 joint military exercises directed against the dialogue partner are being forced in defiance of strong opposition by the people at home and abroad," Kim said during the session.

"All fellow countrymen and sportsmen in the North and South are surprised at these facts and express deep con-

cern over the future of the sports talks and the formation of the unified teams," he said.

When the talks broke up after two and a half hours, South Korean chief delegate Ohang Chung-Shik accused the Northern delegates of bringing up issues not directly related to the talks.

"It seems that they (North Koreans) are not interested in achieving progress. The talks will not be fruitful unless the North changes its attitude," Ohang told reporters.

The North has in the past used team spirit as a pretext to a break off contacts with South Korea. Seoul and Washington announced last week they would hold this year's exercises on a greatly reduced scale from previous years.

Ohang said the Southern side made a concession during Thursday's talks by accepting a Northern formula that each side nominate an equal number of athletes for the joint team for the 41st world table

tennis championships in Japan in April.

The South previously demanded members of the joint team be chosen on the basis of results in selection matches in each other's capitals.

Ohang said the two sides differed on training sites. The South insisted the team be trained both in the North and the South, while the North said it should be trained in Japan.

Time is too short for team members to visit the North and South for training. The method will also be a psychological and materialistic burden to them. Northern delegate Kim told reporters.

"If the Southern side does not accept our idea, the talks will break down," he added.

Lanka-NZ first Test from today



WELLINGTON, Jan 30: New Zealand and Sri Lanka must put behind them a busy programme of one-day cricket when they begin the first Test of a three match series in Wellington on Thursday.

Both teams have played few games outside one-day competitions in recent months. New Zealand took on Australia and England in a World Series one-day contest in December and January, while Sri Lanka has played only a handful of games of more than one day since a Test in November against India.

Sri Lanka's six-week tour has so far been dominated by two one-day internationals, both won comfortably by New Zealand.

New Zealand captain Martin Crowe said it should not be too difficult adapting to Test matches.

"You just have to concentrate on what you are doing," he said. "It's a matter of making a conscious approach. You just have to quit the one-day approach and get into good habits... back to basics."

Crowe showed in playing a four-day match last week for Wellington that he could quickly make the transition, scoring an attractive 101.

Crowe, with 12 Test centuries to his name, and seasoned opener John Wright, who has scored 10 Test centuries, will provide the backbone of New Zealand's batting in the series.

But in Andrew Jones, Mark Greatbatch and Ken Rutherford, the New Zealanders have the potential to also score heavily in the middle order.

Without retired champion bowler Sir Richard Hadlee, the bowling attack looks inexperienced. But young pacesman Chris Pringle, along with the more seasoned Danny Morrison, have performed well in recent months.

The Sri Lankans lost both Tests and all three one-day matches on their only tour of New Zealand eight years ago. Their early form on this tour has been patchy, but they improved in the second one-day international on Monday in Auckland, which they lost by 41 runs.

Captain Arjuna Ranatunga

Bizarre scene
NEW DELHI, Jan 30: Indian Test bowler Rashid Patel used a stump to beat up a batsman after softening him up with a bouncer in domestic cricket's showpiece Duleep trophy final, Indian Newspapers said today, reports Reuter.

Spectators then went on a rampage, trying to set parts of the stadium on fire on the last day of the match between North Zone and West Zone in the Eastern town of Jamshedpur on Tuesday.

said the cooler New Zealand climate and rain had made it difficult for his players to prepare for the Test match. Early injuries, most of which had cleared up, had also disrupted preparation.

"We've not played a lot of long games since the Test match against India at Chandigarh last November," he said. "We'll have to see how it goes. But at least we've had a bit of practice here now."

Ranatunga, accomplished batsman Aravinda de Silva, and Asanka Gurusinha, who smashed 81 runs off 90 balls in Auckland, are the keys to Sri Lanka's stroke-making batting lineup.

Medium-fast bowler Chamapaka Ramanayake has performed well in the early games and will combine with Ramesh Ratnayake and Graeme Labrooy to produce what local commentators expect to be a containing rather than penetrating attack.

Shibulal retains Nat'l jr. title

Sports Reporter

Defending junior champion Shibulal retained his singles crown beating Dilip 6-3, 6-2 in the final of the National juniors tennis championship yesterday at the National Tennis Complex.

On the concluding days Mithun, a student of class eight of Siddeshwari Girl's High School became the champion in the Girl's singles defeating Urmil in straight sets 6-3, 6-0 in the final.

Faisal and Sumon clinched the boys doubles title registering a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Shibulal and Dilip in the final.

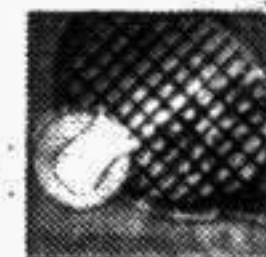
Khondakar Asaduzzaman, President of the Bangladesh Tennis Federation gave away the prizes among the winners as chief guest.



The proud winners with Bangladesh Tennis Federation officials after yesterday's finals of the national junior championships at the National Tennis Complex, Ramna. —Star Photo

Nissan Cup from today

Sports Reporter



The fourth Nissan Cup tennis championship organised by Gulshan Club begins at the club court today.

One hundred and fifty-five participants, including players from Chittagong, Comilla, Rajshahi and Mymensingh, will be vying for honours and prizemoney -- in four categories of competition -- the boys' under-12 and under-16 singles and the men's singles and doubles. There are 27 competitors in the under-12, 40 in the under-16, 42 in the men's singles and another 46 in the doubles.

The eight-day tourney, sponsored by Pacific Motors, carries a total prizemoney of Tk. 60,000, of which the men's singles winner will receive Tk. 15,000 and the runner-up Tk. 9,000. The champion men's pairing will equally share Tk. 8,000 while the runner-up pair will collect Tk. 5,000. The boys' under-16

champion earns Tk. 3,000 and the runner-up Tk. 1,500. The organisers have thought it wiser to keep the boys' under-12 winner and runner-up above the temptation of money at such a tender age.

The players from outside Dhaka will be paid a daily allowance of Tk. 300.

In the men's singles, national number one Shovon Jamaly has been made the top seed, followed by Hiralal, Maruf, Sami Razzak, Sandru Salam, Shibulal, Dilip, and Byazid Rahman.

Haroon and Maroof head the men's doubles seedings, followed by Byazid-Hiralal, Shovon Jamaly-Sarder Ifakhar, and Sandru Salam-Sami Razzak.

ABS Sirajuddowla, president of the host club, addressing a press conference on the eve of the meet at the club yesterday, said a Czechoslovak coach, Karen Maley, had been training the under-12 boys and girls of the

club for the past few days. The two-month long visit of the coach has been sponsored by Mr. K. Z. Islam, former president of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board.

The boys' under-12 and under-16 matches will begin at the National Tennis Complex, Ramna from tomorrow, Friday.

The finals are scheduled at the Gulshan Club for February 7, starting at 2:30 in the afternoon.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Men's Singles (Qualifying)
Starting at 2:30 pm
Anwarul Amin vs Shujauddowla Najmul Hasan vs Habib Masud
Tark Taher vs Rabbi Zaker vs Chun Lai
Kabir Chowdhury vs Monju Ijaz vs Enayattullah
Zahidur Rahim vs Z. N. Misra
Akhlak Chowdhury vs Jon Summers
Shamsuddoha vs Sarwar Sadek
Mehran Islam vs Saquib T. S. Babu vs Akhtar Hossain
Roxy vs Kazi

Wins for Nabin, Dhanmandi

Sports Reporter

Nabin Sangha and Dhanmandi Club registered wins in their respective matches of the Rank-Xerox Second Division cricket league at the Dhanmandi Cricket Stadium (DCS) yesterday.

Nabin Sangha crushed Eastern Sporting by seven wickets at the DCS East ground while on the western part of the ground Dhanmandi Club beat East End Club by 34 runs.

Eastern Sporting, electing to bat first, were skilled out for

DU volleyball
Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Hall beat Sir A. F. Rahman hall two sets to one in the inter-hall volleyball championship of the Dhaka University yesterday.

a paltry 96 runs in 34.1 overs. Ali and Moni with 5 each and Johnny with 11 managed to reach double figures for Eastern.

Nabin Sangha's Masoom returned with figures of three wickets for eight runs off six overs. He was well supported by Kamran with two wickets for 10 runs.

In reply, Rubel's hard-hitting innings of 45 off 58 balls helped Nabin Sangha to 100 for the loss of three wickets in only 20 overs.

Milon and Dulu Afendi took one wicket each for Eastern. Dhanmandi, deciding to bat, managed 135 runs in 34.3 of the stipulated 35 overs. Shipu topscored with 47 for Dhanmandi. Noman was the

most successful East End bowler with three wickets for 28 runs.

East End Club in reply, were bowled out for 101 runs in 30.3 overs. Noman turned in a good all-round performance with 30 runs.

Moin with three wickets for 17 runs was the leading wicket taker for Dhanmandi.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Azad Boys vs DOHS Club (DCS east)
Orient SC vs English CC (DCS west)

Mariners TT

Sports Reporter

The fifth Mariners table tennis tournament, under the aegis of the Dhaka Mariners Young Club, commenced at the National Coaching Centre gymnasium yesterday afternoon.

Yousuf Hossain, president of the Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation, inaugurated the five-day, 73-player meet.

On the opening day, five matches were decided in the boys' team event and one in the men's team event at the time of filing this report.

In the boys' event, Dhaka Mariners Young Club outplayed Armanitola Juniors by three sets to one, Bangladesh Ansars trounced Rupali Sangshad 3-0, while Azimpur Young Boys downed Wari Club, also in straight sets 3-0.

Bangladesh Ansars beat Rupali Sangshad by three sets to nil in the men's team match.

Several national stars are competing in the tourney.

Border not happy with his side's batting

Sports Reporter

SYDNEY, Jan 30: Australian captain Allan Border believes Australia will have to improve a great deal to beat West Indies on their tour starting next month, reports Reuter.

Speaking after Australia drew the fourth Test against England on Tuesday, Border said he was disappointed with his side's batting performance this season and hoped partners Mark Taylor and Geoff Marsh would find their form in the Caribbean.

"I don't think we have played anywhere near our best this summer but we've managed to get ourselves out of jail on a few occasions," Border told journalists.

"We'll have to improve hell of a lot to really threaten the West Indies because they won't allow us back in the game the way we've been able to get back against England," Australia lead England 2-0 with one Test to play.

Big opening partnerships by Marsh and Taylor helped Australia beat England 4-0 in 1989, but the two batsmen have managed only two stands

of more than 50 runs in eight Test innings this season.

"Mark Taylor had such a golden run and, with Geoff Marsh, we got off to really good starts. This summer the order hasn't happened as it did in the middle order has been exposed and we haven't played as well as we can," Border said.

"I'm hoping that once we get to the West Indies, it will all click into place for us. All of us have to really buckle down to it."

Graf dismisses pretender Huber

TOKYO, Jan 30: World number one Steffi Graf of Germany opened the defence of her singles title with a straight-sets win over her teenage compatriot Anke Huber at the 350,000-dollar Toray Pan Pacific Open women's tennis tournament here Wednesday, reports AFP.

Top-seeded Graf, the 1988 golden Gland Slammer who failed to defend her Australian Open title last week, showed no mercy in beating the most dangerous floater 6-2, 6-3 in the second round.

Nana Miyagi of Japan also advanced to the quarter-finals, beating her compatriot Kimiko Date 7-5, 6-1.

The 16-year-old Huber, who is being hailed as an heir-apparent to Graf, fought bravely against the current world champion in a hard-hit base-

line tussle which lasted only 51 minutes, but she was never able to break and lost her own twice in both sets.

The 24th ranked German had her only break opportunity in the fourth game of the second set, but Graf comfortably erased it with a service winner.

Huber, who started the match with a sluggish double fault, ended it with another double fault on the first match point.

It was the first time that the current and future champions met each other in a major tournament.

"We have different styles. I think she played better than I expected," said Graf, who has more varied shots than her young opponent, compiling her top spin with effective

slices.

"I tried a lot to play back-handed top spin shots, which I definitely overdid. Even if I hit sometimes long shots, that is what I wanted in the first match and I did," she added.

In the first-round action, fifth-seeded Gabriela Sabatini narrowly escaped an upset and fought off a tough battle against Rachel McQuillan of Australia for a 6-7 (5/7), 7-6 (7/3), 6-3 victory to stay on course for a possible quarter-final meeting with her arch-rival Graf.

"She didn't make too many mistakes like she did in the other match and she served very well," said Sabatini, who trounced the same opponent in their only meeting at the Australian Open last week.

"The surface is very fast and you have to play more aggressive. But anyway, I think I

needed to win a good match to get confidence," she added.

Before facing Graf, the 20-year-old South American will take on Peanut Louie-Harper of the United States.

American Kathy Rinaldi came back from behind to beat Japan's Maya Kidowaki 3-6, 7-5, 6-2, while Jo Durie outlasted Monique Javer 6-3, 6-4 in an all-British affair.

In the second round Thursday, Rinaldi will play Laura Gildemeister of Peru Navratilova of the United States.

Robin White of the United States outplayed Tamaka Takagawa of Japan 2-6, 7-6 (10/8), 6-4. Her next opponent is American Pam Shriver who pulled an upset by eliminating sixth-seeded Natalia Zvereva of the Soviet Union Tuesday.

PWD beat Udiy

Sports Reporter

PWD scored an impressive four-wicket win over Udiy Club in the Milnars First Division cricket league match yesterday at the Mirpur Pallabi ground.

Udiy, batting first, were bundled out for a paltry 118 runs in 41 overs.

Rokon, 17, Darjoy, 15, Babar, 14 and Sajid with 12 runs were the Udiy batsmen to reach double figures.

Anwar and Fazlu with three wickets for 18 and 22 runs respectively were the leading PWD bowlers. Khokon with two wickets for 24 runs assisted them ably.

In reply PWD, despite losing six wickets, scored 120 runs in 41 overs.

Khokon, 27, Obaid, 26, Happy and Shamim with an unbeaten 18 and 11 were the prominent PWD batsmen.

Darjoy was the most successful Udiy bowler with two wicket for 24 runs.

Both PWD and Udiy have now accumulated 10 points from nine matches.

There will be no Milnars match today since the Bangladesh Umpires' Association will be taking their time-off their annual picnic.

SMMC sports

The annual sports of Sir Salimullah Medical College organised by the students union of the college concluded at the Armanitola ground here this afternoon, reports BSS.

A total of 200 competitors took part in the annual meet. Additional Secretary in charge of the Ministry of Youth and Sports Moshfiqur Rahman gave away the prizes.



Shibulal became the national junior boys' tennis champion beating Dilip in the final yesterday at the National Tennis Complex. —Star photo.



National girls' champion Mithun receives her trophy from BTF president Khandaker Asaduzzaman. —Star Photo.