

Rochi, Linu stay on top

Sports Reporter

Musaddequl Haque Rochi of Bangladesh Biman bagged double crowns on the concluding day of the New Paper sixteenth national table tennis championships yesterday at the National Coaching Centre.

Rochi retained his men's singles title beating his Biman teammate and old rival Saiful Haque Saadi in a gruelling final last evening.

Rochi won the first set in the keen contest 26-24. The second set score read 21-17 points.

Saadi fought back to take the third set 21-18 but soon afterwards he faded tamely in the fourth set, going down 9-21, allowing Rochi to earn his

Khulna, Rangpur girls in final

Sports Reporter

Khulna and Rangpur DSAs clash in the final of the Beximco women's volleyball championship at 4.30 pm at the wooden floor gymnasium today.

Khulna outplayed Dinajpur in the first semifinal yesterday 15-2, 15-9 and 15-4 sets while in the second semifinal Rangpur scored an easy 15-6, 15-5 and 15-3 victory over Tangail.

fourth national singles title. Earlier, in the afternoon, Rochi, pairing with Munna of Bangladesh Ansars clinched the men's doubles title defeating Saadi (Biman) and Happy (Ansars) 21-18, 21-15, 21-11.

Zubera Rahman Linu, the golden girl of Bangladesh table tennis, once again proved her worth when she earned her eleventh national title beating



M HAQUE ROCHI ...

Zulekha, Shamima and Bacchi by 3-0 sets in her final robin league matches. Zulekha finished runner-up.

Shamima Akhter of Ansars also earned double crowns like Rochi when she bagged the women's doubles and mixed doubles titles.

Shamima, pairing with

Zulekha, beat the Ritu and Bacchi pair of Ansars by 3-0 sets, while in the mixed doubles Shamima successfully partnered Saadi against Ritu (Biman) and Anghi (BTMC).

In the boys' singles, Manash of Pirojpur caused a major upset by defeating favourite hamlet of Ansars by 21-16, 12-21, 21-17 and 21-12 sets.

As many as, 260 players, including 32 women and 108 boys, from 31 teams took part in the six-day competition, organised by the Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation (BTTF).

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain witnessed the finals as chief guest and distributed the trophies.

BTTF president Syed Yousuf Hossain, vice president Jahangir Kabir and general secretary Qazi Moazzaman Pila were present.

Kabaddi results

Sports Reporter

Sonali Bank and Manda Sangshad won their respective matches of the Dhaka kabaddi league yesterday at the Outer Stadium court.

Sonali Bank overwhelmed Jatrabari Udayan Sangha 33-9 after leading 20-2 at the breather.

Manda Sangshad defeated Jatrabari Farooq Smriti Sangshad by 22-17.



Zubera Rahman Linu of Bangladesh Biman yesterday retained her women's singles crown ... her 11th national table tennis title. — Star photo

Masud's hattrick for BAF

Sports Reporter



Bangladesh Air Force, Bangladesh Railway and Narayanganj District Sports Association won their respective matches of the Basundhara fourteenth national hockey championship yesterday at the Hockey Stadium.

Bangladesh Air Force, inspired by a brilliant hat-trick by Masudur Rahman, blanked Mymensingh District Sports Association 6-0 in a one-sided encounter.

Abdul Jabbar opened the flood gate for the Air Force men when he pounced upon a defensive lapse to slam in a beautiful goal (1-0) in the 12th minute of the match. Asgar Ali scored the second goal for BAF in the 30th minute. One minute later Jabbar got his second and Air Force's third goal.

Masud started his hat-trick campaign five minutes into the

second half with a sudden and solo effort, dribbling past an onrushing Mymensingh goalkeeper (4-0).

A fine cross from Jabbar in the 45th minute saw Masudur Rahman race down the left flank to smartly tap the ball home (5-0).

Seven minutes from the final whistle Masud completed his hat-trick — the first of this championship — with a powerful flick from close range (6-0). Bangladesh Air Force will play against Sylhet DSA tomorrow at 2-30 pm in a bid to qualify for the quarter-finals.

Bangladesh Railway edged past Bangladesh Police 4-1 in the tie-breakers after both teams failed to break the stalemate in the regulation time.

Ashiq, Ayesh, Haroon and Ziauddin converted the penalty strokes for the Railwaymen while Mahmudul was the lone Policeman to convert.

Railway will face Faridpur DSA next on August 14.

In the day's most thrilling encounter, Narayanganj DSA scored an exciting 4-3 victory in the tie-breakers against Patuakhali DSA after both sides ended 1-1 in the stipulated 70 minutes time.

Patuakhali shot into the lead in the 27th minute of the proceedings when Sumon slotted home from close range.

Dolon equalised for Narayanganj in the 66th minute through a penalty stroke.

Narayanganj will meet Bangladesh Army tomorrow in the pre-quarter finals at 8 am.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Jessore DSA vs Bangladesh Ansars (8 am).

Chudanga DSA vs Engineering University (2.30 pm).

Bogra DSA vs Dhaka Edn Board (4 pm).

Wiranata wins World Cup



MACAU, Aug 11: Indonesia's Ardy Wiranata, fitter and hungrier than his opponent, beat Zhao Zhaohua of China for the badminton World Cup title on Sunday, reports Reuter.

World number one Wiranata beat world champion Zhao 12-15, 15-7, 15-10 in their battle for overall supremacy.

"We are about equal in standing now," said Wiranata, who had only beaten Zhao once before in six meetings.

"I sensed he was tired after he won the first game and I kept the pressure on him — I was very determined. My main goal now is to win the gold at

next year's Olympics."

The normally reserved Huang Hua of China did a little jig of delight after beating holder Sarwendah Kusumawardhani of Indonesia 12-11, 11-5 to take the women's singles crown.

"I was really happy at the end as this is the first time I have ever won a real world class championship," said Huang, long overshadowed by compatriot and world champion Tang Jiahong.

The sometimes temperamental Zhao was a model of consistency in the first game, peppering the lines with steep smashes and outfoxing Wiranata with heavily disguised drop shots.

But the 26-year-old tired

dramatically at the start of the second game and became increasingly frustrated as Wiranata used his trademark diving retrievals to return Zhao's smashes.

Zhao, who won the all England title as a teenager in 1985, took a 9-6 lead in the final game but could not hold off current All-England champion Wiranata.

Apart from the 9,000 US dollars first prize Wiranata will receive a 10,000-dollar bonus from the Indonesian Badminton Association.

The win was Wiranata's fifth title success this year following victories in the Japan Open, Indonesian Open, Swedish Open and All-England.

After Tufnell sends Windies on a spin

Richardson fights back with ton

LONDON, Aug 11: Richie Richardson had an unbeaten 100 at tea Sunday as the West Indies fought back against England on the fourth day of their final cricket Test match of the summer, reports AP.

The West Indies, forced to follow on after scoring just 176 in the first innings, was 152 for three at the start of Sunday's play and still trailed by 91 runs. England had tallied 419 in its first innings.

But the visitors battled back to 332 for six at tea, taking a lead of 89 against England. Richardson was leading the attack, and captain Viv Richards had 60 before being removed. Richards is playing in his final Test match.

Carl Hooper earlier had contributed 54, including three sixes, before being caught by Graham Gooch on a delivery from spinner Phil Tufnell.

An earlier Reuter report said: Recalled England spinner Philip Tufnell had West Indies starting at defeat on the third day of the fifth and final Test at the Oval on

In 33 deliveries Tufnell took six wickets at a cost of only four runs.

He included that of the West Indian captain among them, claiming three in the space of five balls in one over.

West Indies, 2-1 ahead in the series and replying to England's first innings 419, slumped from their overnight 90 for one to 176 all out.

Although they showed more resolution in their second innings to reach 152 for three on another hot day in front of a packed crowd they still trailed by 91 runs with two days to go.

West Indies' cause was not helped when Richards was unable to bat at usual at number five because of a headache from a sinus complaint.

The captain finally appeared at number eight but failed to stem the collapse and was as guilty as any of throwing his wicket away.

Tufnell took six of the last seven wickets which tumbled for 18 runs in the space of just 65 balls.

His last four came in nine deliveries just after lunch at no cost and began with the wicket of Richards for two. The captain had arrived to a standing ovation on his final Test appearance.

Only opener Desmond Haynes stoop supreme amid the carnage. Batting at the other end seemed as suicidal as the charge of the light brigade.

In the space of five well-flighted deliveries Richards, Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh fell to catches as they swung blindly.

Haynes was left unbeaten on 75, the second opener in the series to carry his bat following Graham Gooch's 154 not out which inspired England's victory in the opening Test.

There of Tufnell's victims fell to slip catches by Ian Botham who had begun West Indies' day of misery by dismissing Richie Richardson for 20 in the third over of the day.

In the next over fellow-seamer Phillip DeFreitas had Carl Hooper out in similar fashion, caught behind by wicketkeeper Alec Stewart.

Test debutante Clayton Lambert held up England with flamboyant 39 from 49 balls but was caught off a wild slash at Tufnell's first ball of the day.

On Friday Tufnell bowled nine overs at a cost of 21 runs without success. He finished the innings with figures of 14.3-3-25-6.

His efforts in the second innings were unrewarded but Botham maintained the pressure, claiming the wickets of opener Phil Simmons and Lambert just when West Indies appeared to be staging a recovery.

The frequently wild and expensive England fast bowler David Lawrence, whose two wickets in the first innings had cost 67 runs from 16 overs, then had Haynes beg before for 43 while conceding 31 runs from nine overs in the second.

England could afford the cost.

In the two innings, Haynes had scored a total of 118 in a marathon stay of 448 minutes at the crease.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the fifth and final cricket Test between England and West Indies at the Oval on Saturday.

England: First innings 419 (R Smith 109, G Gooch 60)

West Indies: First innings (overnight 90 for one)

Simmons lbw b Lawrence	15
Haynes not out	75
Richardson c Stewart b Botham	20
Hooper c Stewart b DeFreitas	3
Lambert c	0
Ramprakash b Tufnell	39
Dujon lbw b Lawrence	0
Marshall c Botham b Tufnell	0
Richards c Stewart b Tufnell	2
Ambrose c Botham b Duffell	0
Walsh c Gooch b Tufnell	0
Patterson c Botham b Tufnell	2
Extras (lb-9 nb-11)	20
Total	176

Fall of wickets: 1-52; 2-95; 3-98; 4-158; 5-160; 6-161; 7-172; 8-172; 9-172.

Bowling: O M R W	
DeFreitas	13 6 38 1
Lawrence	16 1 67 2
Tufnell	14.3 3 25 6
Botham	11 4 27 1
Lewis	3 1 10 0

West Indies: Second innings Simmons c Lewis b Botham 36

Haynes lbw b Lawrence	43
Lambert lbw b Botham	14
Richardson not out	39
Hooper not out	11
Extras (b-4 lb-2 w-1 nb-2)	9
Total (for three wickets)	152
Fall of wickets: 1-53; 2-71; 3-125	

BOWLING (to date): O M R W

DeFreitas	6 4 4 0
Lawrence	9 2 31 1
Lewis	8 3 17 0
Tufnell	21 3 65 0
Botham	12 3 29 2

Badminton trials

Sports Reporter

Twelve players will be taking part in today's badminton trial matches to select Bangladesh national team who are scheduled to take part in the first Asian Youth Badminton Championships beginning from September 15 in Tehran, Iran.

The names of the players are as follows:

Sumon, Khurshid, Morshed, Sattajit, Afsar, Subir, Jewel, Chinmoy, Rathindranath, Wahid, Hannan and Khorshed.

The trial matches will be held at the National Coaching Centre.

Amir Sohail's ton for Pakistan 'A'

COLOMBO, Aug 11: Heavy rains continued to plague Pakistan 'A's month-long cricket tour of Sri Lanka with only 111 minutes of play possible on the third day of their final four-day international here Sunday, reports AFP.

But overnight batsman Amir Sohail beat the rains by scoring a century to help Pakistan 'A' reach 209 for 4 when bad light stopped play an hour before the close. Sri Lanka 'A' made 291 in their first innings.

The two previous four-day matches were drawn with rain washing off two days of play in the second international.

Opening batsman Sohail hit exactly 100 with 13 fours after sharing a 65-run partnership for the fourth wicket with his overnight partner and Test batsman Saeed Anwar who was unbeaten on 29.

Tufnell knew he'd be back

LONDON, Aug 11: Phil Tufnell spun West Indies towards defeat at the Oval on Saturday and then said: "I always knew I would get back in the England team," reports Reuter.

Tufnell, labelled a bad boy after his eccentric behaviour in Australia at the turn of the year, took a remarkable six for 25 as West Indies followed on in the final Test.

Tufnell, the 25-year-old Middlesex slow left armer, said: "I've always been confident of getting back because you must trust in your own ability. John Embury, Mike Gatting and everyone at Middlesex have helped me this season."

England manager Micky Stewart said: "He has got back to the Test team simply because of his consistency of performance with Middlesex and the way he has operated as a professional cricketer."

He added: "Since Australia he has picked up more experience and has become more aware of what is required to be a first-class cricketer."

Tufnell said: "I wasn't surprised by the way West Indians tried to dominate me because that's the way they have played against spinners this summer. I just concentrated on keeping cool and not getting worried if I was hit."

"That's definitely the best bowling display of my career and it was the first time I have got Viv Richards, too."

CRICKET CLIPPINGS

Kent sack Chris Cowdrey



Chris Cowdrey

CANTERBURY, England, Aug 11: Former England captain Chris Cowdrey has been sacked by Kent after 15 years with the county, reports AFP.

The 33-year-old all-rounder, who played six Tests for England between 1984 and 1988, will not be offered a new contract next season.

Cowdrey, now recovered from a knee injury and from burns sustained in a bonfire accident, has not been included in the side since returning to full fitness a fortnight ago.

Kent chairman Peter Edgley said: "It's a very sad day when the club has to make a decision like this, but we have to think of the future."

"On behalf of the club I want to thank Chris for his wonderfully loyal service during his 15 years on the staff and of course for his six years as captain of the club."

Cowdrey, whose father Colin played for Kent from 1950 to 1976 and whose brother Graham is still on the staff, scored 12,202 first-class runs for Kent at an average of 32.19, claimed 200 wickets with his medium-pace at 39.81 and took 290 catches.

Cook spoils Sri Lanka's broth



Jimmy Cook

T AUNTON, England, Aug 11: South African Jimmy Cook marked his debut as African captain with a magnificent double century on Saturday as touring Sri Lanka struggled yet again, reports Reuter.

Cook, standing in for Chris Tavare, who was rested, hammered 209 not out as Somerset raced to 377 for two declared off only 83.5 overs on the first day of their three-day match.

He hit 30 fours in his 243-ball knock and put on 208 in just 40 overs for the third wicket with Richard Harden, who completed his century.

Cook declared when he was just 20 short of being the first batsman to reach 2,000 runs for the season.

It was Cook's eighth century of the term, while Harden passed the 1,000 run mark during his 100 not out.

Sri Lanka also scored quickly when the batted but lost Chandika Hathurusinghe for 19 in the penultimate over of the day. They ended on 59 for one.

Atherton to undergo surgery



Michael Atherton

LONDON, Aug 11: England vice-captain Mike Atherton, faces operation which could prevent him from playing for the rest of the season, reports Reuter.

Atherton, 23, has a stress fracture of the back and needs to undergo surgery of the spine at the end of the month.

He will miss England's Test against Sri Lanka next week and be in hospital for 10 days.

Atherton has been using pain-killers since England's tour to Australia which ended early this year and needs the operation to get himself fit in time for England's trip to New Zealand in December and the World Cup early next year.

The Lancashire batsman has struggled in the current series against the West Indies and was out without scoring on Thursday.



Winners and other participants seen with the guests at the concluding ceremony of the 16th national table tennis championships at the National Coaching Centre yesterday.— Star photo

Jahangir slates women refs after loss to Dittmar



MELBOURNE, Australia, Aug 11: Former world squash champion Jahangir Khan said women

should not be allowed to referee men's squash after he lost the Australian Open here Sunday, his second major tournament loss in a week, reports AFP.

Jahangir, who lost the final of the World Open to Australian Rodney Martin in Adelaide a week ago, went down to second-seeded Chris Dittmar 15-10, 14-17, 15-10, 15-8.

Earlier Sunday, Martin's sister Michelle took the women's title, beating her compatriot and practice partner Liz Irving 16-17, 15-12, 15-11, 15-12 in 53 minutes.

Jahangir praised his opponent, saying he deserved to win, but then launched a blistering attack on women referees including Chris Sinclair, who officiated at the Open final.

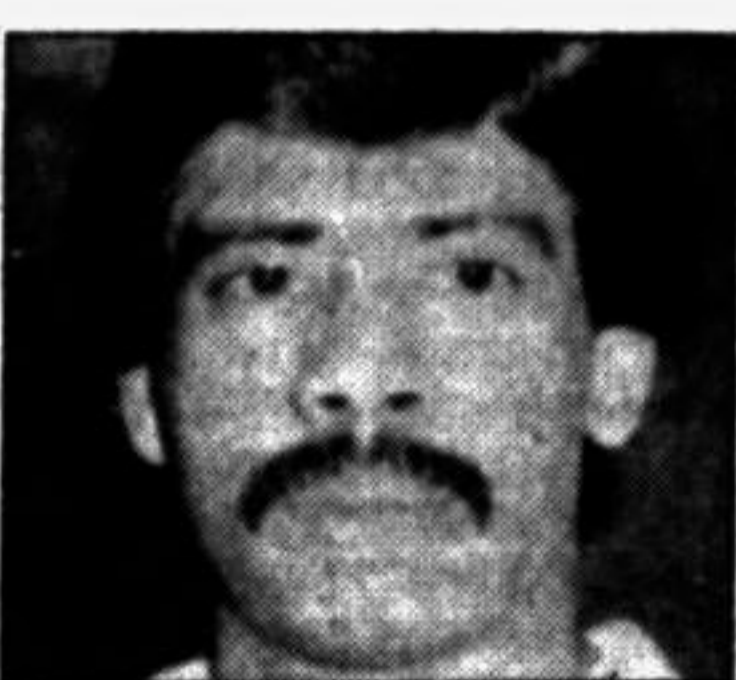
"Women referees should stick to women's tournaments," the Pakistani star said. "They have never played at the high level of men's events."

"I will make a recommendation to the International Squash Players Association (ISPA) that women don't referee men's matches," Jahangir added.

Dittmar's win over the top seed gave him his third Australian title and compensation for losing to Jahangir in the final of the Scottish Open earlier this year.

Asked whether he would play in Australia again, Jahangir said: "You have to decide on referees first. The referees are harming the game and the players."

Michelle Martin, 24, runner-up last year and in 1988, said that winning her first Australian title was "An all-time achievement for me and one step toward the World Open next year."



JAHANGIR KHAN

Their record in previous clashes gave Irving the edge, but Martin displayed the form

which enabled her to crush the title-holder and reigning world champion, Susan Devoy, in the semis.

"She was more patient," Martin's coach, Heather McKay, said of her player.

"She waited for her opportunities and took them when they came."

Irving saved three match points in the final game but made too many unforced errors. "I haven't felt good on court any day this week," she said.

Martin said she too felt "stuffed" after the match.

Omanis stun Lebanon



HYDERABAD, India, Aug 11: Matar Khalif's stunning goal paced Oman to a surprising 1-0 win over Lebanon Saturday in an Asian Group B pre-Olympic football match here, reports AFP.

The speedy linkman beat the Lebanese defence with a dazzling solo run down the left flank and beat advancing goalkeeper Ali Fakih with a left-foot grounder to the right corner of the net.

Khalif's brilliant effort in the 55th minute caused many

to expect a surprise victory against bottom English cricket county Leicestershire, reports Reuter.

Facing Leicester's first innings 282 all out, Kent were in big trouble against ex-Australian Test bowler John Maguire.

He ended with a total of seven for 57, but Kent, thanks to tallenders Amin Patel (43) and Martin McCague (29) reached 130.

Following on, Kent were 211 for one, 59 ahead, after Neil Taylor (112 not out) hit his third century of the summer.

Leaders Warwickshire made sure of full bonus points after working their way through Northamptonshire's batting line-up.

Replying to the visitors 460 for eight declared, Northants were 293 for nine, still 18 runs short of avoiding the follow-on, when bad light stopped play four overs early.

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at Lal Bahadur Shastri Stadium to wonder why he had been left out of Oman's two previous matches — neither of which the team won.

Oman, who drew with hosts India and lost to Kuwait,