

Sport

Titans spikers make amends

Sports Reporter

Titans Club made amends for three failed previous attempts by dethroning four-time defending champions Bangladesh Rifles for the First Division volleyball league championship.

Titans Club, who had finished runner-up to the riflemen the past two years, finally managed to make the title their own by winning yesterday's keen final at the volleyball ground three sets to one.

BDR, reigning almost unchallenged for the past four years after first winning the league honours in the 1986-87 season gave no indication of releasing their grip on the title when they took the first set most comprehensively, 15-3.

The way their spikers went about smashing everything in sight made it appear as if Titans were destined to once again come up second best. Everything the riflemen did in that opening set bore the stamp of their superior skills and strength.

But just when BDR seemed to have given themselves to some complacency, Titans chose not to let their flame of hope die, and against all the apparent odds, mounted a determined counter-attack that saw them relying to take the next three sets, and the title with it.

They drew level by taking the second set 15-12 and went on, almost inexorably, to repeat that score in the subsequent two sets to make the last of the best-of-five sets unnecessary.

Pinpoint placings, scorching smashes and above all, a grip on their nerves, which seemed shaken by the occasion early on, gave Titans Club their first championship in their fifth year in the top bracket. In the four previous years, they made the final on no less than three occasions, always settling for the runners-up trophy, behind BDR.

On Saturday, Power Development Board finished third.

East End promoted to First Division

Sports Reporter
East End Boys earned promotion to the First Division when they emerged champions beating Jiban Bima in 3-1 sets in the final match of the Second Division volleyball league yesterday at the volleyball stadium.

Jiban Bima started in determined fashion when they took the first set 15-3.

East End Boys regrouped and came back strongly to take the second set 15-11. The third set also ended in favour of the East End Boys in an identical 15-11 score.

Jiban Bima had no answer to East End's superiority in the fourth set, being beaten 5-15.

The only consolation for Jiban Bima was that Shamsuddin, their ace player, was adjudged the best player of the league.

Nissan tennis
Sports Reporter
Abi and Umar reached the semifinals of the boys' under-12 division in the fourth Nissan Cup tennis championships at the National Tennis Complex, Ramna yesterday.

In the boys' under-16 section, Fahyaz and Arjun made it to the final four beating Junaid and Bjoy in the quarterfinals respectively.

Six of the eight quarter-finalists of the men's singles competition were also decided by yesterday at the Gulshan Club courts.

In yesterday's pre-quarterfinals, Byzid Rashid beat Peter O Zaman in straight sets 6-1, 6-3, national junior champion Shibulal beat Chun Lai easily enough 6-1, 6-1. Sami Razzak disposed of Najmul 6-3, 6-0 while national coach Sandru Salam proved too good for Abdullah, winning 6-0, 6-2.

They join top seed and national number one Shovon Jamaly and Maroof Rahman, who made the quarter-finals Saturday.

Fazilatunnesa Hall sports
SAVAR, Feb 3: The fifth annual sports competition of the Nawab Fazilatunnesa Hall of Jahangirnagar University was held at the Al-Beruni Hall ground Friday, reports BSS.

Vice-Chancellor of the University Prof. Kazi Salch Ahmed inaugurated the Shahnaz Begum Shilpi of the Physics Department became the champion by claiming the top spot in all the four events she competed. Shahnaz scored 20 points, while Morsheda Habib Mina of the Statistics Department was the runner-up with 13 points.



Titans Club show off their cup of joy after clinching the First Division volleyball league title beating BDR in yesterday's final. —Star photo

after beating Bangladesh Police in the play-off.

Humayan Kabir of Titans Club was adjudged the best player of the tournament.

Nefaur Rahman, Chairman of the Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) witnessed the final as chief guest and distributed the prizes.

THE TEAMS
TITANS CLUB: Mukta, Karimul, Murad, Momenul, Akter, Humayan, Nakib, Ujjal, Mitu, Jahangir Motalab and Ramzan.

BANGLADESH RIFLES: Zohair, Bazlur, Abu Taber, Shafiz kalam, Naim, Faruque, Alamgir, Liton, Salahuddin, Obaidul and Ashit.

Year	Champion	Runners-up
1972-73	Wari Club	Sonali Bank
73-74	WAPDA SC	Sonali Bank
74-75	Wari Club	WAPDA SC
75-76	WAPDA SC	Wari Club
76-77	WAPDA SC	Azad SC
77-78	WAPDA SC	Accounts (WAPDA)
78-79	WAPDA SC	Not held
79-80	WAPDA SC	Accounts (WAPDA)
80-81	Accounts (WAPDA)	Wari Club
81-82	Wari Club	BDR
82-83	Not held	
83-84	Wari Club	Bangladesh Rifles
84-85	Wari Club	
85-86	Not held	
86-87	Bangladesh Rifles	Titans Club
87-88	Bangladesh Rifles	WAPDA SC
88-89	Bangladesh Rifles	Titans Club
89-90	Bangladesh Rifles	Titans Club
90-91	Titans Club	Bangladesh Rifles

The Gorans send the Swedes packing



LONDON, Feb 3: Goran Ivanisevic and Goran Prpic completed the destruction of Sweden on Saturday, dealing them their second successive Davis Cup World Group first round tennis defeat, reports Reuter.

The towering Ivanisevic and the fast-rising Prpic, who both scored singles victories on Friday, combined to win the doubles on Saturday.

The two Gorans beat Stefan Edberg, the world number one until last Sunday, and Peter Lundgren 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 to open an unassailable 3-0 lead.

Edberg had nothing but praise for the Yugoslavs. "Ivanisevic is definitely world number one potential in the very near future. And Prpic... I can't remember when someone beat me so convincingly as he did yesterday," he said, referring to Prpic's 6-4, 6-3, 6-2 victory.

Yugoslavia will face Czechoslovakia in the next round. The Czechoslovaks ensured their advance by taking a 3-0 lead over Austria when Petr Korda and Milan Srejber beat Horst Skoff and Alex Antonitsch 6-4, 7-6, 6-6, 6-4.

For Australia, Darren Cahill and Todd Woodbridge swamped Argentine-born Eduardo Masso and Czechoslovak born Libor Pimek 6-3, 6-3, 6-3.

Javier Frana and Christian Miniussi took Argentina through by beating Kelly Evenden and David Lewis 6-4, 3-6, 7-6, 7-5.

Spain took a 2-0 lead over Canada when Emilio Sanchez completed a 6-3, 3-6, 6-1, 6-4 victory over Martin Wostenholme in a match carried over because of rain on Friday.

Sanchez completed a good day's work by combining with Sergio Casal to rout Grant Connell and Glenn Michibata 7-6, 6-2, 6-1 in the doubles.

The first round ties between France and Israel and Mexico and holders the United States have been postponed because of the Gulf war.

The Australians eliminated Belgium while Argentina completed a surprising triumph over New Zealand on grass courts in Christchurch.

Germany, spearheaded by Becker, won the Cup in 1988 and 1989.

Australia, last year's beaten finalists, and Argentina took winning leads in other World Group first round ties with doubles victories.

The Australians eliminated the Swedes in the opening round last year, threatened to do the same to Germany this time when they took a 2-1 lead in Dortmund with a victory in the doubles.

Ontar Camporese and Diego Nargiso beat Boris Becker, new holder of the world number one ranking, and Eric Jelen 4-6, 6-4, 7-6, 4-6, 6-3.

In today's reverse singles which will decide the outcome, Michael Stich will play Paolo Cane and Becker will face Camporese, who stretched him to 14-12 in the deciding set during the Australian Open last month.

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Captain Crowe to the rescue



WELLINGTON, Feb 3: New Zealand captain Martin Crowe hit an unbeaten century to lead a batting revival on the fourth day of the first Test against Sri Lanka today, reports Reuter.

The century Crowe's 13th in Tests and support from all the top order batsmen, helped New Zealand overhaul an embarrassing first innings deficit of 323.

The New Zealanders ended the day at 369 for two, for an overall 46 run lead, with Crowe not out on 126 and Andrew Jones unbeaten on 82. This makes a draw the most likely result with one day to play.

The three-pronged Sri Lankan pace attack gleaned little help from the easy-paced pitch. While it provided moderate turn for leg-spinner Asoka De Silva, it appears unlikely to break up on the last day.

New Zealand batted with far more authority than in their first innings, which was marked by a lack of concentration and indiscriminate stroke play.

Crowe and the other New Zealand batsmen made the most of the better second innings conditions.

Openers John Wright and Trevor Franklin took their partnership to 134 from 91 overnight, before Franklin fell leg before wicket for 39 to paceman Champaka Ramanayake.

Wright was dismissed 14 runs later for 88, given out caught behind after flicking at a legside ball from Ramanayake.

However, television replays showed Wright did not hit the ball.

Crowe and Andrew Jones then batted for nearly five hours for an unbeaten 221-run third wicket partnership that looks like saving the match for New Zealand.

Crowe, after offering a difficult catch in the deep when he was 30, played a determined innings. His century came in 229 minutes off 202 balls and included 11 fours.

Jones played an impressive supporting role. He gave the Sri Lankans some early hope when he unsuccessfully tried hooking at short balls from Graeme Labrooy and Ramanayake.

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MARTIN CROWE

Sri Lanka, after a record-breaking 497 for nine declared in their first innings, looked despondent by the day's end in the field. They had given themselves a fair chance of cementing the first innings advantage by bowling out New Zealand in the last two days.

Ramanayake, Labrooy and Ramesh Ratnayake all failed to trouble the batsmen on a pitch which seems to be playing easier as the game progresses.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the fourth day here today:

New Zealand: first innings: 174 (M Crowe 30, R Ratnayake four for 45, G Labrooy four for 68).

Sri Lanka: first innings: 497 for nine declared (Aravinda de Silva 267, A. Guruntha 70, A. Ratnayake 55, D. Morrison five for 153, W. Watson four for 121).

New Zealand: second innings (overnight 91 for no wicket): T. Franklin lbw b Ramanayake 39; Wright C Tilakaratne b Ramanayake 88; Jones not out 62; Crowe not out 126; Extras: (nb-27, lb-7) 34.

Total: (for two wickets off 135 overs) 369.

To bat: M. Greatbatch, K. Rutherford, G. Bradburn, I. Smith, C. Pringle, D. Morrison, W. Watson.

Fall of wickets: 1-134, 2-148.

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Ratnayake	18	1	58	0
Labrooy	26	1	88	0
Ramanayake	25	3	75	2
Ratnayake	8	4	14	0
Asoka De Silva	35	9	90	0
Warnawera	23	6	37	0

GMCC poised comfortably



Star-studded Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club (GMCC), will be looking to post their first victory in three outings when their Navana Premier Division cricket league match against Lalmitia Club resumes at the Dhaka Stadium this morning.

At draw of stumps yesterday — effected rather early by an unseasonal drizzle late in the afternoon — GMCC had made 30 for the loss of one wicket in 10 overs after restricting Lalmitia to a modest 183 all out in 63.3 of their stipulated 75 overs.

Luckless Lalmitia, who won promotion to the top division only this season, too have lost both their previous matches.

Winning the toss GMCC decided to insert Lalmitia on a pitch which favoured the Mohammedan spinners immensely in their match against Surjo Tarun the day before.

That calculation on the part of the GMCC captain seemed to have been well justified as his spinners, Sanwar and the veteran Ramchand Goala picked up three wickets apiece at reasonable cost while Sri Lankan all-rounder Duninda picked up two for 29 to vindicate his captain's faith in giving him a long 13-over bowl.

Jahangir and Raaj, opening the Lalmitia innings, put on 18 before Jahangir left, bowled by Shabbir for 12. Raaj, joined by Shipar, took the score along to 70 at which point double disaster struck Lalmitia — both Raaj and Shipar being dismissed on the same total.

Raaj, who was batting patiently, suddenly chose to run himself out after making 26.

Pioneer soccer
Sports Reporter
Lalbagh Tarun Sangha and Lalbagh K.C. booked their super league from the West Zone in the Pioneer football league yesterday after winning their respective matches.

Lalbagh Tarun Sangha became Group 'A' champions from the West Zone when they drew goalless against K.R. Boys Club at the Dhanmondi Club ground.

Lalbagh K.C., with goals from Sulatman and Shakil, beat Kalindi K.C. 2-0 to become champions in Group 'B' of the west zone, at the Khilgaon High School ground.

In the other match at Khilgaon High School, Agami K.C. beat Nabday 1-0.

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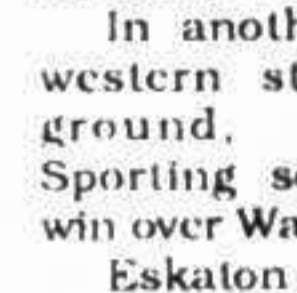
while Duminda picked up the first of his two wickets by having Shipar snapped up by Zahir after the batsman had made 15. With the fall of these two quick wickets the Lalmitia batting never quite picked up and their later batsmen found the going very difficult against the three-pronged GMCC spin attack. Ashish Malik took an inordinately excessive 82 balls to make his 26 runs, while Shanziva, who hit three boundaries — the most by any Lalmitia batsman — faced 61 deliveries for his 33 runs. He fell caught by Sanwar off Goala, trying to speed things up. Shaon was the only other

Lalmitia batsman to make some runs, before being dismissed caught and bowled by Duminda for 19 off 52 balls.

Goala bowled his full 15 overs to claim three GMCC wickets for 39 while Sanwar got his three scalps for 29 runs off 12.3 overs. There were 27 extras in the Lalmitia total.

Ashim had struck an early blow for Lalmitia when GMCC began their reply by sending back Liton, leg before wicket, for eight. Tutul was batting on six and Scim on five with another eleven runs coming by way of sundries.

Opee's ton guides Eskaton to victory



Opee's brilliant 101 not out enabled Eskaton Sabuj Sangha to register a 24-run victory over Bangladesh Boys in the Rank-Xerox Second Division cricket league match yesterday on the eastern strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

In another match, on the western strip of the same ground, Lalbagh Anwar Sporting scored and 18-run win over Wari K.C.

Eskaton Sabuj Sangha, put into bat, rattled up 198 for the loss of only three wickets in their stipulated 35 overs.

Adil and Opee opened the batting for Eskaton Sabuj. Their first wicket stand yielded only 16 runs when Adil was out for eight. Momin joined Opee and the pair put 81 runs off 108 deliveries.

Momin was run out for 35 and Sohel followed him soon after with 15, runs. But Opee and Shyamol remained unbeaten with 101 and 13 runs, respectively.

Opee's ton came off only 105 balls. His knock was studded with five glorious boundaries and an effortless six.

Sana and Farid took a wicket each for Bangladesh Boys.

In reply, Bangladesh Boys fought doggedly to finish on 174 for the loss of eight wickets in their 35 overs.

Sami topscored for Bangladesh Boys with a fighting 61 runs off 60 balls which included nine hits to the fence. Palash 23, Shamim 20 not out, Kamrul 18 and Sahmat with 13 were the

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other prominent Bangladesh Boys batsmen.

Babul was the most successful Eskaton Sabuj bowler with his half of two wickets for 30. Zahid, Farroq and Opee bagged a wicket each.

Lalbagh Anwar Sporting, batting first, were bowled out for 149 runs in 31.3 overs.

Shajal, 32, Shawpon, 21, Jaffar, 18, Mohdi, 17, Mamoan (Sr) 15 and Amir with 10 were the notable scorers.

Raja with three for 27 and Plabon with two for seven were the leading Wari K.C. bowlers.

Wari K.C. in reply, were all out for a paltry 131 runs in only 23.4 of their stipulated 35 overs.

Mohammed 40, Tushar, 23, Jani, 17, and Bikas with 12 runs were the Wari K.C. batsmen to reach double figures.

Hassan with four wickets for 25 runs and Mehdi with three wickets for 39 runs were the Eskaton bowlers who kept the Wari K.C. batsmen at bay.

Today's matches
Cantonian S.C. vs Y. Pegasus 'B' (DCS)
Spread Eagles vs Azad S.C. (DCS)

DU cricket
Sports Reporter
International Relations humbled Geography Department by eight wickets in the Dhaka University inter-department cricket match yesterday at the Jagannath Hall ground.

Geography, batting first, scored 100 with Faisal hitting the highest 42 runs for his team. Mowla and Rana claimed four and three wickets respectively for International Relations.

In reply, Ashif with 37 and Ashraf with 33 runs guided International Relations to victory.

Darnyi, Egerszgi named Hungary's best athletes

BUDAPEST, Feb 3: Swimmer Tamas Darnyi and his teammate Kristina Egerszgi were named Hungary's best male and female athlete of 1990 in a national pool by the country's sports journalists, reports Xinhua.

Tamas Darnyi, the world's most dominant specialist swimmer, broke two world records in the Perth World Swimming championships in retaining the 200 and 400 meters individual medley title he won in Madrid in 1986.

He is also the first man to break two minutes in 200 when he clinched the gold medal with a time of one minute 59.86 seconds in the World Swimming championships last month.

Egerszgi completed a backstroke double in the World Swimming championships when she won the women's 100 and 200 meters backstroke.

The women's chess team was voted the best squad as they won the team title in the Olympic International chess championship in Yugoslavia last December.

The best coach of 1990 was Tamas Szechy, the head coach of the Hungarian swimming team.

Olympic tickets sell from today

MADRID, Feb 3: Sports fans will be able to book tickets for the 1992 Barcelona Olympics from Monday, organisers said on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Oriol Serra of the Barcelona Olympic Organising Committee (COOB), told a news conference some 4.7 million tickets giving access to a total of 504 sports events will be sold in Spain.

Another 1.2 million tickets will be sold abroad through travel agencies designated by each country's national Olympic committee.

The tickets will only be delivered from April 1992, three months before the Olympics are due to start, in order to limit the risk of their being resold at higher prices, Oriol said.

"It's the only efficient way of avoiding tickets being resold," he said.

Prices range from 10 to 95 dollars, with the men's basketball final the most expensive event.

A draw will be held next summer to allot tickets for events attracting excessive demand.

Packed Soviet sports calendar

MOSCOW, Feb 3: In 1991 Soviet athletics will attend 1,452 international sporting events, Vladimir Derevyanko, the head of the planning department at the USSR State Sports Committee, told the Business World newspaper reports IAN.

These will include 220 official tournaments, such as world and European Championships, World Cups and Continents' Cups. The funding for Soviet athletes will stand at 6 million roubles (8.9 million dollars) in 1990.

The main event of this season will be the 10th Summer Games of the USSR peoples. The competitions are expected to attract 9,000 athletes. They include 39 events that will be held in stadiums and courts in twenty-one cities in the Russian Federation, Byelorussia and the Ukraine.



Second Division volleyball league champions East End Club. —Star photo