

Sport

Kalabagan's luck runs dry

Brothers Union had a close shave in the Navana Premier Division cricket league match when they squeezed out a fortuitous victory against Kalabagan Krita Chakra at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Brothers won the tied tie for having lost one wicket less while chasing Kalabagan's modest total of 169.

Deciding to make the first use of a placid strip, Kalabagan scored 169 for eight wickets from their 45 overs.

All the upper-order Kalabagan batsmen were among the runs with the bearded, veteran Dipu Roy Chowdhury top scoring with 40.

Shaon followed him with 28 and Indian all-rounder Gajanan Reddy made 25.

Sujit with 22 and skipper Ishaique with 21 were the other notable Kalabagan scorers.

Kalabagan lost eight wickets to collect their 169 runs.

Brothers' West Bengal recruit, left-arm spinner Arup Bhattacharya claimed three wickets for 42 runs.

Fernando, Athar Ali, Shamsul and Salahuddin picked up a wicket apiece.

Tomal and Nobel gave defending champions Brothers a fine start by putting on 57 runs for the first wicket.

Now-veteran O M Hassan Tamim, known for his running between the wickets, gave Kalabagan the first break through trapping Tomal leg before for 39.

Left-arm spinner James

then dismissed hard-hitting Nuri Abedin Nobel, who made 37. The Tamim-James combination accounted for two quick wickets with Suman and Arup Bhattacharya departing cheaply.

Skipper Athar Ali teamed up with Halim Shah to gear up Brothers' victory chase but the unfortunate dismissal of the Brothers skipper upset the rhythm of the Oopbigh team.

Sri Lankan T L Fernando was run out for no score and with Halim Shah falling to Reddy for 28 Brothers could scramble to 169 off the last delivery, but for the loss of seven wickets.

Tamim was the most successful bowler for Kalabagan with figures of two for 28.

James supported him well with two for 44.

Reddy bowled economically to finish with figures of one for 15 from eight overs.

The excitement of the final stages of the match was considerably marred by the unruly behaviour of a rowdy section of the spectators.

They intimidated the umpires to force the decision in favour of a particular team with minatory words and gestures.

SCOREBOARD Kalabagan KC Ishaique c Shovan b Shamsul 21 Dipu Chowdhury b Salahuddin 40 Sujit c&b Arup 22 Shaon c Halim Shah b Arup 28 Pilot s Nobel b Arup 8

Tangail reach Suhrawardy Cup final

Tangail DSA moved into the final of the eighth national youth under-19 football championship for the Suhrawardy Cup.

They beat Khulna DSA by three goals to nil in the first semifinal yesterday at Naogaon Stadium.

Bazur Rahman put Tangail ahead in the 17th minute of the first half.

Harunur Rashid Chapal doubled the margin in the 38th minute of the first session.

Chapal scored his second goal and completed the tally in the 29th minute of the second half.

The yellow card was shown to Kakan and Shamim Al-Mamun of Tangail and Jahangir Hossain and Akhter of Khulna.

Finalists Tangail had outplayed Chittagong DSA by two goals to nil in their only other engagement of the final round.

Chapal had scored both those goals.

On the other hand, Khulna beat Nilphamari 2-0 on December 28, Asaduzzaman slamming home both the goals and the seventh Suhrawardy Cup winners Feri DSA by five goals to three in the tie-breaker after the match ended goalless on New Year's Day, on their way to the semifinals.

Hosts Naogaon DSA and Pabna DSA clash in the other semifinal this afternoon.

Pabna outplayed Jhenidah DSA by four goals to two in the tie-breaker after the match ended goalless to move into today's semifinals.

Naogaon beat Netrokona by five goals to four, also in the tie-breaker after a 1-1 deadlock, on Thursday last.

Touhidul Islam Sabu put Naogaon in the lead while Babul Das equalised for Netrokona to decide the match in the tie-breaker.

Ten teams - defending champions Feni, Chittagong, Khulna, Pabna, Comilla, Tangail, Jhenidah, Nilphamari, Netrokona and Naogaon DSAs - qualified for the final round.

The final of the tournament will be held on Monday, January 6 at Naogaon Stadium.

TODAY'S MATCH Naogaon vs Pabna

Shastri steadies India at MCG

SYDNEY, Jan 3: Ravi Shastri led India into a position of unaccustomed strength at the close of the second-day of the third cricket Test against Australia today, reports Reuters.

Replaying to an Australian, first innings total of 313, which was dominated by David Boon's unbeaten 129, vice-cap-

for nought by Craig McDermott. Australia's efforts were hindered by the loss of Bruce Reid, captor of a dozen wickets in last week's Melbourne Test, who bowled only four overs before tearing a stomach muscle and will not bowl again this innings.

In his absence Shane Warne was given an early opportunity on his debut. He failed to break

Walter Hammond and Greg Chappell as the only men to hit four Test hundreds at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

The applause for Boon's century interrupted a steady clatter of wickets at the other end as India made full use of the second new ball and Australian dreams of a 400-plus total faded.

Kapil Dev made the initial breakthrough, dismissing Allan Border for the third successive time and the ninth time in Tests with a beautiful delivery he could only edge to wicket-keeper Chandrakanth Pandit.

Manoj Prabhakar, with a spell of three for 10 in 16 balls, then reduced Australia to 269 for eight before Boon found a willing partner in Warne.

Warne, the 350th player to represent Australia, took 27 minutes to get off the mark and his innings was then interrupted by a 15-minute stoppage.

He batted with ability and assurance to make 20 before Kapil Dev produced a delivery that was too good and followed up with the wicket of Reid two balls later to finish with three for 60.

When India batted, Sidhu edged his second ball from McDermott in to and out of Border's hands at third slip, then pushed the seventh delivery to second where Mark Waugh took a marvellously agile diving catch.

McDermott, tail up, roared in but Shastri and Manjrekar stood firm, aided by Reid's absence.

They had added 79, India's highest partnership of the series, when Sanjay Manjrekar guided a Merv Hughes delivery into Waugh's hungry hands.

Furious with himself, Manjrekar took an angry swipe at the air as he departed for 34, his highest score of the series.

With the light fading again Vengarkar joined Shastri and the pair held on to complete India's most successful day of a series they trail two-nil.

AP adds: The last hour provided a fascinating battle between the Indian batsmen and the Australian spinners.

Australia looked set for a big score, but lost four wickets for 21 at one stage, with Allan Border out for 19, Ian Healy one, Merv Hughes two and Craig McDermott one.

Test debutant Shane Warne (came with Boon for a 44-run stand before Warne was dismissed by Indian paceman Kapil Dev for 20 after a stay of 71 minutes.

Two balls later, with the score unchanged on 313, Dev had last man Bruce Reid well

caught by Sachin Tendulkar at third slip.

Border batted for just over an hour before he got a slight touch to a ball skinned across him from Dev and was caught by wicketkeeper Chandrakanth Pandit.

Healy was caught at short leg by substitute Krish Srikkanth off the bowling of Major Prabhakar for one.

Prabhakar bowled 13 overs unchanged before lunch, taking three for 24 in the session.

Boon's innings lasted 444 minutes, 361 balls and included 13 fours.

Boon brought up his century with a fine glance to the leg side to bring up three figures in a patient innings on a low pitch.

Kapil Dev finished with figures of three for 60, Prabhakar three for 82 and Subroto Banerjee three for 47.

The Test is scheduled to continue through Monday.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard on the second day of the third Test between Australia and India today.

AUSTRALIA (overnight) 234 for four wickets)

Marsh b Banerjee 48 Taylor c Pandit b Banerjee 56 Boon not out 129 M Waugh c Prabhakar b Banerjee 5 Jones run out 35 Border c Pandit b Dev 19 Healy c sub (Srikkanth) b Prabhakar 1

Hughes c Pandit b Prabhakar 2 McDermott b Prabhakar 1 Warne c Pandit b Dev 20 Reid c Tendulkar b Dev 6 Extras (b-4 lb-14 nb-18 w-1) 37 Total (all out) 313

Fall of wickets: 1-22; 2-117; 3-127; 4-210; 5-248; 6-251; 7-269; 8-269; 9-313.

Bowling O M R W Dev 33 9 60 3 Prabhakar 39 12 82 3 Banerjee 18 4 47 3 Srinath 21 5 69 0 Shastri 13 1 37 0

INDIA first innings: Shastri not out 62 Sidhu c Waugh b McDermott 34 Manjrekar c Waugh b Hughes 0 Vengarkar not out 13 Extras (lb-1 nb-3) 4 Total (for two wickets) 103

To bat - S Tendulkar, M Azharuddin, K Dev, M Prabhakar, C Pandit, S Banerjee, J Srinath.

Fall of wickets: 1-7; 2-86

Bowling O M R W McDermott 17 7 27 1 Reid 4 0 10 0 Hughes 13 3 25 1 Waugh 2 0 3 0 Warne 19 5 37 0 Border 1 1 0 0



DAVID BOON...11th Test century, fourth at the MCG

tain Shastri scored an unbeaten 52 as India reached 103 for two wickets.

Dilip Vengarkar, the only other recognised Indian batsman to make a Test half-century on this tour, was 13 not out.

Shastri's opening partner Navjot Sidhu, drafted into the Test team just hours after flying from India, was dismissed

through in 19 overs of leg-spin but caused enough problems to suggest batting last will not be easy.

Warne had earlier showed promise with the bat, helping Boon in the later stages of his seven-hour-plus marathon.

The stocky number three, whose 11th Test century took 350 minutes and included 10 fours in 292 balls, joined

Drab day at Faisalabad

FAISALABAD, Jan 3: Pakistan had made 117 for two in response to Sri Lanka's first innings' total of 240 when bad

light stopped play on the second day of the third and final Test here Friday, reports AFP.

Most of the afternoon session was lost to poor visibility and play, which remained suspended for 45 minutes after the tea interval, was called off 15 minutes ahead of the scheduled close, threatening chances of a result in the weather-plagued series.

The first two Tests at Sialkot and Gujranwala, also shortened by bad weather, were both drawn.

Pakistan resumed their innings after the tea interval at 107 for one and had added only three runs when Shoaib Mohammed was trapped leg before by Pramodaya Wickremasinghe for 30.

Shortly afterwards, the remaining batsmen Zahid Fazal (six) and Javed Miandad, who had yet to score, took the um-

pires' offer to abandon the match due to bad light.

Earlier, Wickremasinghe had achieved the first break through after lunch, trapping Rameez Raja leg before for 63 and ending a first-wicket stand of 102.

The tourists were all out for 240 after adding only 35 runs in the morning session to their overnight 205 for nine.

Sanath Jayasuriya emerged as Sri Lanka's leading scorer with 81 runs off 89 balls, including 14 boundaries.

Waqaar Younis was the most successful bowler for Pakistan taking four wickets for 87.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard on the second day of the third and final cricket Test between Pakistan and Sri Lanka on Friday:

Sri Lanka: first innings (overnight 205 for nine) Mahanama c Moin Khan b Salim Jaffer 58 Hathurusinghe b Waqaar Younis 49

Gurusinha c Zahid Fazal b Wasim Akram 3 A De Silva c Moin Khan b Salim Jaffer 12

Bowling O M R W Wasim Akram 22 8 62 2 Salim Jaffer 17 4 36 3 Waqaar Younis 21 1 87 4 Aaqib Javed 12 1 46 0

Pakistan: (first innings-) Rameez Raja lbw Wickremasinghe 63 Shoaib Mohammad lbw Wickremasinghe 30 Zahid Fazal not out 6 Javed Miandad not out 0 Extras: (lb 2, nb 16) 18 Total (for two wickets) 117

Fall: 1-107; 2-110

Bowling O M R W Rameez Raja 13 2 40 0 Wjckremasinghe 16 8 21 0 Wickremasinghe 15 4 26 2 Anurasiri 10 2 28 0

Arthurton is Windies' hero

ARMIDALE, Australia, Jan 3: West Indies lefthander Keith Arthurton made an unbeaten 93 to set the tone for the tourists' 46-run victory over a New South Wales country side in a one-day tour match at the Armidale sports ground here on Friday, reports AFP.

Arthurton, who took his team to five for 266 after, 50 overs, hit three sixes and six fours in combining with Guyana's Carl Hooper in a crucial 112-run partnership.

The pair came together with the tourists making steady progress at four for 110 and set about demolishing the

country attack. Their 50 partnership came up in only 32 minutes and when Hooper was dismissed for a whirling 61 they had added more than 100 in only 67 minutes.

The run spree featured three Hooper sixes, including one off paceman Simon Doolan, matched in the same over by Arthurton.

Arthurton lofted the ball straight down the ground, clearing five rows of spectators and hitting a car parked just inside the fence.

A spirited 70 to batsman Paul Dyson failed to lift the NSW side after they were set a target of 267 runs - country managed eight for 220 from their 50 overs.

Dyson combined in a 53-run partnership with wicket-keeper Robert Merlo, who finished not out on 41.

But when Dyson fell, caught, and bowled to West Indies captain Richie Richardson with the score at 182, NSW country's chances died.

TEAMS ENGLAND: Graham Gooch, Alec Stewart (capt), Graeme Hick, Robin Smith, Allan Lamb, Mark Ramprakash, Chris Lewis, Jack Russell, Phillip DeFreitas, Phil Tufnell, David Lawrence, 12th man - Derek Pringle.

NZ Emerging: Ian Smith (capt), Blair Harland, Jason Wells, Chris Harris, Lorne Howell, Michael Pawson, Blair Pocock, Chris Pringle, Mark Richardson, Murphy Su'a, Justin Vaughan, 12th man - Garystead.

NEW DELHI, Jan 3: Former Indian captain Sunil Gavaskar accused Australian umpires today of partisan decisions in the Test series in Australia, reports Reuters.

"Hope readers back home are getting an idea what the India team is up against. Not eleven but thirteen players," Gavaskar wrote from Sydney in a syndicated column published in the Times of India.

"At most of these speaking engagements that one has seen over here, there is inevitably fun poked at Indian umpires, but then Australian umpires are even worse," he wrote.

"People here also joke that (Pakistan batsman) Javed Miandad is never given out lbw in Pakistan. It would be interesting to find out how often Australian batsmen, especially the leading players, are given

Lalmatia run Biman close

Bangladesh Biman pulled off an exciting six-run victory against Lalmatia Club in the Navana Premier Division cricket league encounter yesterday at the Dhaka Stadium. It was for the second time - after their one-run defeat to GMCC in this year's league - that Lalmatia Club failed to taste victory after running tantalisingly close to their opponents.

Opting to bat first, last year's runners-up Biman got off to an auspicious start with the opening pair of Ahmed Iqbal Bachchu and Tariqzaman Munir putting on 82 for the first wicket.

Tariqzaman Munir, the highest scorer, made 41 before being run out.

Ahmed Iqbal Bachchu batted enterprisingly for his 39 before holding out to Anis off Sanjeeva Ranatunga.

In-form Selim Shahed departed cheaply and skipper Shahwanaz Shanu making only 19 seemed to have spoiled the good work of the openers.

But Zakaria reoriented things with a sound innings of 36 before becoming the second of Ranatunga's four victims.

Biman finally managed 175 for nine wickets in the quota of overs.

Off-spinner Sanjeeva Ranatunga was once again the most successful Lalmatia bowler with figures of four for 20. This was Ranatunga's second consecutive four-wicket haul following Lalmatia's previous match against Mohammedans

last week. Chasing a target of 176 in 43 overs, Lalmatia began disastrously, losing two wickets for 24 runs only.

Then the two Sri Lankans - Sanjeeva Ranatunga and Sanjeeva Weerasinghe - staged a rally to revive Lalmatia hopes. But Bachchu dismissed Ranatunga for 26 and Weerasinghe, after compiling a fine half-century, fell to their opponents.

Enamul Haq Moni to herald the end of the quest.

The later batsmen lost their way in the face of some tight Biman bowling and fielding and Lalmatia were all out for 169 in the last over.

Veteran Bachchu bowled his off-spinners well to capture three for 32.

Off-spinner Anwarul Ameen Azhar turned the screw on the Lalmatia batsmen with figures of two for 39.

SCOREBOARD Bangladesh Biman: Munir run out 41 Bachchu c Anis b S Ranatunga 39 Selim Shahed run out 3 Shanu run out 19 Zakaria b S Ranatunga 36 Moni c Subrata b S Ranatunga 13 Pial c Subrata b S Ranatunga 2 Rafique lbw S Weerasingha 0 A A Babu run out 3 Jahangir not out 4 Azhar not out 0 Extras 15 Total (for 9 in 43 overs) 175

Bowling O M R W Subrata 7 0 48 1 Anis 9 1 31 1 Atique 9 1 28 1 Raja 1 0 9 1 S Ranatunga 8 0 20 4 S Weerasingha 9 0 33 1

Lalmatia Club: Babu sid Jahangir b Azhar 17 Anwar c Jahangir b Rafique 8 Kawar b A A Babu 0 S Ranatunga c A A Babu b Bachchu 26 Babu b Bachchu 26 S Weerasingha c Munir b Moni 50 Rome run out 16 Shahid run out 18 Anis c Selim Shahed b Azhar 6 Raja c Shanu b Bachchu 2 Subrata c Moni b Bachchu 0 Atique not out 0 Extras 26 Total (all out in 42.5 overs) 169

Bowling O M R W AA Babu 7 1 20 1 Rafique 7 0 24 1 Azhar 9 0 39 2 Bachchu 8.5 3 32 3 Moni 9 2 29 1 Selim Shahed 2 0 7 1

Napoli tests aspirations against AC Milan

MILAN, Italy, Jan 3: Napoli, surprisingly in third in its first full season since 1984 without Maradona, will test its Italian League title aspirations Sunday when it travels to play league leader AC Milan, reports AP.

Predicted in the pre-season to finish in the lower regions of the first division because of Maradona's suspension, Napoli tries to continue its climb as the Italian league resumes its schedule after a two-week Christmas holiday break.

Other games include as Roma at Ascoli, Verona at Atalanta of Bergamo, Cagliari at Bari, Internazionale of Milan at Cremonese, Sampdoria of Genoa at Fiorentina, Torino at Cremona, Parma at Juventus of Turin, and Foggia at Lazio of Rome.

Only four points behind Milan and two behind Juventus, a victory at Milan's Meazza Stadium for the Neapolitan team would give it a chance at the title and revive the enthusiasm of its fans, seemingly lost when Maradona was suspended for 15 months in April for testing positive for cocaine.

Maradona, who returned to Argentina where he is facing cocaine possession charges, recently reiterated his plans to retire and not rejoin Napoli. However, his multi-million dollar contract runs through to June 1993.

Regardless, Napoli has played to a 6-7-1 record attributed mostly to a new coach, the emergence of Mara-

dona's replacement, Gianfranco Zola, and the restored scoring skills of Brazilian striker Antonio Careca.

Zola, a diminutive Italian midfielder who says he learned much from training and occasionally playing at Maradona's side, has become Napoli's leading player, scoring seven goals, contributing decisive assists and working his way on to the Italian national team with new coach Arrigo Sacchi.

Careca, disappointing in the offensive department last season, has nine goals and is tied with Milan's Dutch striker Marco Van Basten for the league lead. Careca, supported by Zola and countryman Alemo, will face the league's stingiest defence - seven goals in 14 games. Torino also has allowed only seven goals.

Milan (9-5-0) will counter with Van Basten, fellow-Dutchmen Ruud Gullit and Frank Rijkaard and young Italian Demetrio Albertini.

Claudio Ranieri, the young coach who joined Napoli following two successful seasons with Cagliari, says prestige and Napoli's future are at stake Sunday before an expected sellout of 85,000.

He added however that a loss against Italy's reputed No 1 team would be no shame for his players.

AC Milan is certainly the No 1 for Italian astrologers, who have recently predicted its triumph in this year's league campaign.

Elsewhere Sunday, Juventus will have its usual starting front line back with Salvatore Schillaci, recovered from a

pulled muscle, rejoining Roberto Baggio and Pierluigi Casiraghi to face a tough Parma squad.

However, the Turin team will have to do without its German defender Stefan Reuter, sidelined for about one month with a leg injury.

German striker Karlheinz Riedle, who has eight goals and is considered one of the

best foreigners this season, leads Lazio's attack against the surprisingly promoted team from Foggia, which sports Italian striker Francesco Cicco Baiaro.

Brazilian defender Branco, nursing a pulled muscle, is uncertain for Genoa against Torino while Inter is expected to have an easy task with Cremonese.

Rajiv Gandhi soccer Jan 11-22

JAMSHEDPUR, Jan 3: Host India will take on Iran in the inaugural match of the first Rajiv Gandhi Golf Cup soccer (under-21) tournament to be played at the newly constructed J R D Tata Sports Complex from January 11 to 22, reports PTI.

Giving this information, Mr Priya Ranjan Dasgupta, the president of the All India Football Federation (AIFF), told newsmen here today that there would be only five teams in the fray and not six as originally announced.

Mr Dasgupta said that the decision to field two Indian teams in the tournament was dropped because "few good players" could not attend the coaching camp at Bangalore due to injuries. Hence, "it was decided to field a combined strong team instead of two teams."

A last-minute attempt by the AIFF to rope in Bangladesh also failed and finally it was decided to have a five-team tournament with the teams playing the round robin league

Abedi Pele voted Africa's best

PARIS, Jan 3: Marseille's Ghanaian forward Abedi Pele was chosen as African footballer of 1991 on Thursday in a poll organised by the Paris-based monthly Afrique Football, reports Reuters.

Pele received 206 votes in the poll, in which experts from 47 African nations took part, to beat last year's winner George Weah of Liberia, who also plays in French soccer for Monaco.

Weah polled 146 votes and Belgian club Anderlecht's teenage Ghanaian forward Nil Lamptey was third on 68.

It was second important annual poll award for Marseille after Jean-Pierre Papin became France football's European player of the year.

Pele and Papin form the French champions' "trio magique" in attack along with English winger Chris Waddle, who was also in the top 10 in the European award.

Gavaskar says Aussie umpires are biased

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"People here also joke that (Pakistan batsman) Javed Miandad is never given out lbw in Pakistan. It would be interesting to find out how often Australian batsmen, especially the leading players, are given

out lbw anywhere in Australia." Gavaskar's blast is the latest from the Indians, who are having a terrible tour. They lost both of the first two Tests in four days.

Test cricket's leading run-maker said he was convinced Australian batsman David Boon should have been out leg before wicket twice early in the first day's play of the third Test between the two countries on Thursday.

"Unless David Boon got an inside edge to those deliveries there was no way those deliveries would have missed the middle stump. But then, that is Australian umpiring for you," he said.

Gavaskar noted that the umpire who made the decisions, Steve Randall, was from Tasmania, as is Boon, who ended the first day's play on 89 not out and today went on to complete a century.

England bowl tidily

HAMILTON, New