

Abahani find their rhythm

Sports Reporter

Abahani Krita Chakra swam-ped newcomers Eskaton Sabuj Sangha 4-1 in the floodlit match of the Star First Division football league at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

The defending champions led the first session 3-1. Although Abahani supporters, who thronged at the far-away Mirpur Stadium to see their side reign supreme were not let down by their favourite payers yet the absence of the two foreign footballers Arfiev and Zhukov, expected to be in action yesterday, left a taste of dissatisfaction, akin to that of a smoker's not getting a cigarette after a sumptuous dish.

The two footballers from ex-Soviet Union it was learnt, could not fielded due to registration problems. From the start of the match Abahani appeared a confident and determined side. Perhaps the near-nightmare of their league opener, against Police Athletic Club on January 10, in which they somehow managed to win by a solitary goal, was still fresh in their mind. They let it be known quite early that nothing of that sort would be allowed to happen yesterday evening.

On the other hand, the Eskaton side appeared somewhat lacking in determination. The spirit in which they had played against Mohammedan Sporting Club in their First Division debut was sadly absent and an experienced side like Abahani would be loath not to exploit the slightest deficiency in their opponents. Unfortunately for Eskaton, they had too many weaknesses on the day.

The curtain of this 90 minute drama rose on Sheikh Mohammad Aslam, the gifted Abahani striker. Getting possession from the very kick-off, Aslam back-passed, and a long through from mid-fielder Zakir journeyed into the Eskaton box but the Eskaton defence cleared the danger for a throw-in.

Abahani's throw-in specialist Alamgir put a long throw inside Eskaton box which missed Gaus failed to nod it and the ball travelled to an

unmarked Shakil who brilliantly placed the ball past Najmul Majumder Nizam, Eskaton's custodian (1-0). But the jubilation in Abahani's tent disappeared very soon. In the fourth minute Shahjahan, Eskaton's striker got a ball inside Abahani's territory. He dodged past Abahani defender Rehan and let fly a rasping drive which hit custodian Selim, and slowly entered the net to level the margin much to the dismay of Abahani

ked Zakir coolly controlled the ball to place it past Nizam (2-1). In the 32nd minute, Aslam's shot from inside the Eskaton box hit Nizam. Swapan harking near made no mistake 3-1. A corner from Masud Rana in the very first minute of the second session hung near the Eskaton goal but Gaus failed to capitalise the chance. However, the brightest chance to increase the margin came in the 19th minute.

In the 32nd minute, Gaus got a fine pass from Swapan. he dodged past two Sangha's defenders but hung on to the ball too long end instead of passing it to a free Aslam made a selfish, solo effort and spoiled the chance. Aslam received a ball inside Eskaton's box in the 34th minute beating an offside trap and intelligently put the ball into the net 4-1. Abahani dominated the rest of the proceedings but failed to



Eskaton Sabuj Sangha goalkeeper Nizam does his best to stop Abahani dangerman Aslam during yesterday's Star First Division league match at the Mirpur Stadium. Abahani won 4-1.

fans 1-1. The goal shook Abahani out of complacency and they conjured up all the magic in store the sky blues donning all yellow in this match got a free-kick in the eighth minute but Aslam's shot from the top of Eskaton's box did not go through Eskaton's defence wall. Gaus and Zakir failed to connect the rebound. Abahani's moment of relief came in the 21st minute when Masud Rana, the promising left back, lobbed across the Eskaton goal mouth. Unmar-

A Gaus header ricocheted off an Eskaton defender. Md Monem Munna, Abahani's captain, unbelievably shot the ball over the bar, with the goalkeeper at his mercy. Immediately after this Eskaton carried out a well-planned attack. But Abahani's defence cleared the danger before Liaqat Ali, the tall Eskaton striker, could reach it. Soon after it, the recharged Eskaton forwards made another sharp raid. But Rinku's shot went wide of the Abahani post.

Increase the margin any further. Yellow cards: Arman and Rinku of Eskaton and Rehan of Abahani. **TEAMS** Abahani KC: Selim, Nira, Munna, Masud Rana, Rehan, Zakir, Alamgir, Swapan, Gaus, Aslam and Shakil (Mamun). Eskaton SS: Nizam (Raju), Daboo (Rafiq), Shyamol, Rajab, Ruhul, Subal, Arman, Rinku, Liaqat, Shahjahan and Sharif (Masud). Referee: Montzul Islam.

Rahmatganj beat Police 1-0

Sports Reporter
Rahmatganj MFS registered their second consecutive win in the Star First Division football league beating another newcomer Police AC by a solitary goal at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday afternoon.

The winners led one-nil in the keenly contested first half. Sohail scored the winner for Rahmatganj two minutes before breather with a rasping right footer from outside the box.

Down by a goal, Police mounted pressure on Rahmatganj in the second half but failed to get the equaliser due to poor marksmanship of their forwards.

Rezaul, Ashutosh and Selim of Police, and Badal of Rahmatganj received the yellow card.

TODAY'S MATCHES
Victoria SC vs Sadharan Bima (3 pm)
Mohammedan SC vs Dhaka Wanderers Club (5 pm)

Pioneer soccer

Sports Reporter
Sunrise Sporting Club beat Kamalapur Sama Kallyan-o-Krita Sangha in the Janata Bank Pioneer football league yesterday at the Bashabo ground.

Touhidul, Shahnewaz and Moti netted one goal apiece for Sunrise while Shawkat reduced the margin for Kamalapur.

Following are the results of the other Pioneer league matches, held at different venues around the city yesterday.

Jagannath College ground: Pardogair Sangha—three (Shoaeb, Shaheen, Rana) Red Sun KC—two (Sajal, Hanif).
Dhoopkhola ground: Mugdapa Sangha—nil, Aganagar PMS—nil.

Outer Stadium: Motijheel T & T—two (Probir, Kabir), Mukta Bihanga—one (Javed).
Dhanmondi ground: Nawab Katra Juba Sangha—one (Siddique), Kalindi KC—one (Shaheen).

Lalbagh KC—nil, Golam Mostafa Lane—nil.
Banani ground: Unique SC—one (Asad), Islampur Uttaran Sangha—nil.
Mohakhali T & T ground: Banani Nabarun—one (Faruk), Beraid XI—one (Nadim).

Mirpur Outer Stadium: WISC—two, Maneshwar Juba Sangha—nil.

Khilgaon School ground: Khilgaon Juba Sangha—nil, Harijon Sebok Samity—nil, and Rainbow Athletic Club—three (Tito-2, Rubel).
Khilgaon Smrityon Sangha—nil.

Babes make MSC struggle

Sports Reporter

Babes Bangladesh Sporting upheld this year's trend of big clubs being jolted when they conceded a 1-2

defeat to last year's runners-up Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club after going neck and neck with the traditional club for 67 minutes, in the Green Delta Insurance hockey league yesterday at the Hockey Stadium.

Mohammedans shot into the lead when Zahid scored a field goal in the 21st minute, 1-0.

Bangladesh Boy's full back

Mitu scored in the 36th minute from a melee following a penalty corner after a shot had ricocheted off Mohammedan custodian Montu's pads 1-1.

Barkatullah Chapal saved from embarrassment when the scored a fine field goal two minutes from time 2-1.

Mitul of Mohammedans was shown the yellow card.

Mohammedans got seven penalty corners as against the four forced by Bangladesh Sporting.

In the earlier match of the

day Dhaka Wanderers Club walked away with two nil victory against Victoria Sporting Club.

Forwards Rubel and Rashid scored for the field goals winners in the 11th and 65th minute.

Wanderers forced two penalty corners while the losers managed one.

Mukhtar of Victoria was shown the green card.

TODAY'S MATCHES
Bachelors SC vs Wari Club (1:45 pm)
Ajax SC vs Police AC (3:15 pm)

Questions for Tyson's jurors

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan 15: The first wave of potential jurors called for boxer Mike Tyson's rape trial

was handed lists of 78 questions which included: "Have you ever been a member of the National Organization for Women or other groups interested in women's issues, reports AP."

The initial pool of 100 prospective jurors was summoned Tuesday. Court observers said the questionnaire was much more extensive than those normally sent to potential jurors for criminal cases.

Marion Superior Court Judge Patricia Gifford, who will preside over Tyson's trial starting Jan 27, approved the final form of the questionnaire. Tyson's attorneys and the prosecutors submitted ques-

tions to Gifford. The completed questionnaire will be used by both sides when final jury selection begins.

Some potential jurors had a definite conflict with being sequestered for two to four weeks, but many answered that would not be a problem, said Marlene Wilson, jury pool supervisor. Prepaid overseas airline tickets and caring for elderly parents were cited as conflicts, she said.

The questions included, "Have you ever had any involvement with boxing?" and "Do you consider yourself to be more of a thinking person or a feeling person?"

Potential jurors also were asked what they have read or heard about in the William Kennedy Smith rape trial and about the rape allegations against Tyson.

Smith, nephew of US Sen Edward Kennedy from Massachusetts, recently was acquitted of all charges in a much-publicized trial in Palm Beach, Fla.

Tyson, a former heavyweight boxing champion, was charged with rape and three other sexual-related crimes stemming from an alleged assault on a 18-year-old Miss Black America contestant last July 19 in Indianapolis.

Another question asked whether the potential jurors, family members or friends have been victims of domestic violence, involved in a lawsuit, arrested or convicted of a criminal offense, involved with law enforcement in any way or if they have studied psychiatry, sociology or related subjects.

Still another question asked: "What three people, living or dead, do you admire most?"



The Bangladesh Sporting goalkeeper denies a Mohammedan forward in yesterday's Green Delta league at the Hockey Stadium.

SA returns to Test cricket

Nov 26

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 15: South Africa's re-entry into full Test cricket is set to happen on November 26, when the first Test against India is scheduled to be played, according to a provisional tour itinerary, reports AFP.

A Cape Town newspaper published details of the Indian tour and Ali Bacher, managing director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA), confirmed that a provisional itinerary has been drawn up. The Indian team is scheduled to arrive in South Africa from Harare on October 26 for a tour that will include four five-day Tests, five day-time limited-overs internationals and four day-night clashes, Bacher said.

The first Test is pencilled in for the east coast city of Durban on November 26, but Bacher stressed the itinerary was still provisional and "There could possibly be some changes".

The release of the schedule confirms that South Africa intends making a return to the Test arena against India, fulfilling promises made by the UCBSA in return for Indian support for South Africa's re-admission to international competition.

Do-or-die tie for India

MELBOURNE, Jan 15: Facing a do-or-die situation India go into the last World Series cricket match (first phase) against West Indies here tomorrow with the problem of injuries afflicting key players far from resolved, reports PTI.

Wicket-keeper Kiran More and left arm spinner Venkatapathy Raju, both yet to recover from injuries sustained in earlier matches, are ruled out while the Indians prepare for the crucial at the MCG on the morrow.

It is the last of the eight qualifying matches and India, who have gone three matches without a victory, have to win it to qualify for the best of three finals series against Australia, the first leg of which is to be played on Saturday.

More has not recovered from his hamstring injury, which he first incurred in a one-day match at Adelaide a month ago, causing him to miss the third Test at Sydney, and which recurred last week in Brisbane.

Raju, who had the very respectable figures of 10-0-33-1 in the only match he played against the Windies, was hit over the elbow by a ball from Graig McDermott while batting against Australia in Sydney yesterday.

Although the injury is on Raju's non bowling arm, the numbness and pain affect the rhythm of his delivery. He came on the field in Sydney after treatment and bowled seven overs at high cost.

WCC, Evergreen start well

Sports Reporter
Western Cricket Club and Evergreen Club yesterday began their campaigns auspiciously in the 1992 Rank Xerox Second Division cricket league.

Western CC beat Young Pegasus 'B' by 95 runs at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium (west).

Western CC batted first and piled up a massive 219 for eight from their stipulated 35 overs.

Sanchay top scored with 51, that included seven hits to the fence.

Zubair was the most successful Pegasus bowlers taking three for 35. Asif with three for 45 and Masud with two for 35 were the other spoil sharers.

Pegasus were all out for 124 with Paltu top scoring with 34. Zubair did well with the bat also, making 32 with four fours.

Nayan of Orient did the damage with the ball taking three for 26.

In the other opening day fixture, Evergreen outplayed DOHS by six wickets at the Dhanmondi Club ground yesterday.

DOHS batted first after winning the toss and posted a decent total of 193 for eight from 35 overs.

Shahadat, Moni and Pappu were the notable scorers with 45, 43 and 34 respectively.

Asif, Mahtab and Milon got two wickets apiece.

Evergreen overhauled the target in 33.4 overs with Alamgir leading the victory chase with a stroke filled 82.

Azim supported with a fine half-century.

Moni claimed two wickets for the vanquished giving away 33 runs.

TODAY'S MATCHES
Azad Boys vs Cantonians (DCS-West)
Lalbagh Anwar SC vs Spreadeagles (Dhanmondi Club ground).

Miandad's majestic revival



HYDERABAD, Pakistan, Jan 15: Javed Miandad cast off his ailing fortunes by blasting an unbeaten 115 off 103 balls to spur Pakistan to a winning 3-0 lead in their one day cricket series against Sri Lanka today, reports Reuter.

Miandad's century in the third of five internationals lifted Pakistan to 241 for three from their 40 overs and they secured a victory by 59 runs after restricting the touring team to 182 for nine.

for the second wicket with Inzamamul Haq (60) and 86 for the third wicket with Salm Malik (40).

Sri Lanka made a flying start with 70 in the first 10 overs before paceman Aaqib Javed grabbed two wickets in four balls.

His first victim was opener Athula Samarasekera, caught behind by Moin Khan for 43 in 36 deliveries. The Aaqib-Moin combination then removed captain Aravinda De Silva for two.

Pakistan skipper Imran Khan plunged Sri Lanka into

swapped. The next match will now be played in Multan on Friday and the final game in Rawalpindi on Sunday.

SCOREBOARD

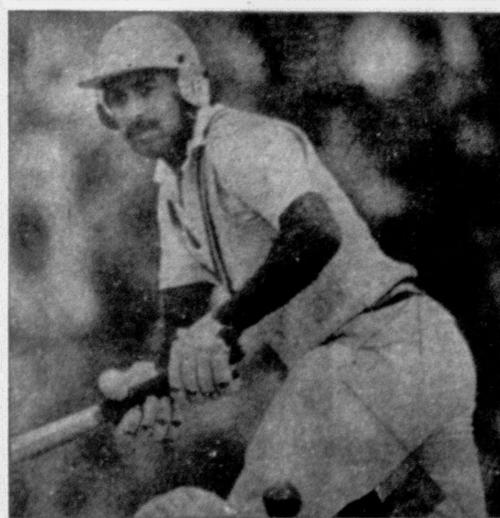
Scoreboard in the third one-day international between Sri Lanka and Pakistan in Hyderabad today:

PAKISTAN

Rameez Raja c Labrooy b Ramaranyake	12
Inzamamul Haq c Atapattu b Labrooy	60
Javed Miandad not out	115
Salm Malik c De Silva b Wijegunawardena	40
Wasim Akram not out	7
Extras (lb-2 w-2 nb-3)	7
Total (for three wickets, 40 overs)	241
Fall of wickets: 1-25, 2-134, 3-220	
Did not bat: Imran Khan (Captain), Moin Khan, Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed, Ijaz Ahmed and Aaqib Javed.	
Bowling:	O M R W
Ramaranyake	8 2 26 1
Wijegunawardena	8 0 49 1
Labrooy	6 0 51 1
Madurusinghe	8 2 34 0
Gurusinha	2 0 13 0
Jayasuriya	8 0 66 0

SRI LANKA

Hathurusinghe c Ijaz Ahmed b Imran Khan	19
Samarasekera c Moin Khan b Aaqib Javed	43
De Silva c Moin Khan b Aaqib Javed	2
Tillekeratne b Wasim Akram	44
Jayasuriya lbw b Imran Khan	0
Gurusinha c Salm Malik b Mushtaq Ahmed	15
Labrooy lbw b Imran Khan	7
Atapattu not out	19
Ramaranyake b Wasim Akram	1
Wijegunawardena c Imran Khan b Aaqib Javed	1
Madurusinghe not out	3
Extras (lb-14 w-8 nb-6)	28
Total (for nine wickets, 40 overs)	182
Fall of wickets: 1-70, 2-72, 3-80, 4-80, 5-119, 6-127, 7-167, 8-174, 9-177.	
Bowling:	O M R W
Wasim Akram	8 0 34 2
Waqar Younis	8 0 42 0
Aaqib Javed	8 0 30 3
Imran Khan	8 3 15 3
Mushtaq Ahmed	8 0 47 1
Result: Pakistan won by 59 runs.	
Fourth match at Multan on January 17.	



JAVED MIANDAD...a century after a long, long wait

Shrugging aside his recurring back injury and a sequence of wretched form, Miandad struck 12 fours and two sixes in a sparkling innings that took him to within one run of 6,000 runs in 183 one days.

Miandad, who totalled only 37 runs in four innings in the recent three Test series against Sri Lanka, was named man of the match for his confidence boosting performance ahead of the World Cup starting in Australia and New Zealand next month.

After Pakistan were put in to bat, Miandad showed dominant form as he put on 109

deeper trouble with two wickets in consecutive balls, reducing the touring side to 80 for four.

Opener Chandika Hathurusinghe misread and was caught by Ijaz Ahmed to deep square leg for 19, while Imran next trapped Sanath Jayasuriya leg before.

Imran finished with three for 15 in his eight overs and Aaqib took three for 30, while fellow pace bowler Wasim Akram removed the only other stumbling block by bowling top scorer Hashan Tillekeratne for 44.

The fourth and fifth matches of the series have been

Brothers get around Tarun

Sports Reporter

Reigning champions Brothers Union got around Surja Tarun Club by four wickets in the Navana Premier Division cricket league at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Athar Ali Khan, the Brothers skipper, won the toss and invited Surja Tarun to make the first use of the strip.

Tarun, aided by a knock of 41 from Shoeb and 26 from wicket keeper batsman Nurul Hadi made an insecure 167 for eight crickets in 44 overs sent down by their opponents.

Shoeb played 81 balls and hit four boundaries in his 44 while Hadi sent the ball to the fence three times.

Off-spinner Salahuddin bowled well for Brothers to capture three for 37.

Paceman TL Fernando picked up two for 22 from nine overs.

Brothers made an uncertain start losing Nurul Abedin Nobel for two with the total on 12.

Left-handed Shamsul batted solidly to ease the tension in the Gopibagh camp before being run out for 41 made off 80 balls without a single hit to the

fence. Sumon and Athar departed cheaply to put the Tarun tail right up but Fernando and Halim Shah worked in tandem to ensure a Brothers victory.

Fernando in his unbeaten 29 charged down the wicket to hoist Babu for a huge six over long on. He was struck at long off while trying another one but got a lucky four as the ball popped out of the unfortunate fielder.

Halim Shah remained unbeaten with 23, replete with some fine shots off his knees, that fetched him three boundaries.

Left-arm paceman Suppi was instrumental for bringing Tarun in the game taking three wickets and ultimately returning excellent figures of nine overs, four maidens, fourteen runs and three wickets.

Majbee, Babu took one wicket apiece.

SCOREBOARD

SURJA TARUN

Hadi run out	26
Golla lbw Fernando	4
Shoeb b Salahuddin	41
Aruna c Sumon b Athar	6
Rodrigo b Salahuddin	9
Babu b Fernando	14

Left-handed Shamsul batted solidly to ease the tension in the Gopibagh camp before being run out for 41 made off 80 balls without a single hit to the

Gulshan outplay Wari Club

Sports Reporter

Gulshan Youth romped home by 38 runs against unfancied Wari in their Navana Premier Division cricket league encounter at the Dhanmondi Cricket ground yesterday.

Sent in to bat, Gulshan notched up 192 for the loss of eight wickets from 42 overs.

Mamun top scored with 53 off 72 balls, including two hits to the fence.

Ashique with 39 notout, Indian ex-Test batsman Ashok Malhotra with 29 and Sri Lankan Raj Kumanra with 24 were the other notable Gulshan scorers.

Rafiq bagged four wickets for Wari when the necessity of increasing the run rate induced indiscreet strokes from the later Gulshan batsmen.

Kajal bowled well to finish with figures of two for 26 from nine overs.

Wari Club, with their limited batting strength, managed 154 for nine wickets when their overs ended.

Opener Sumon with two boundaries made 37 before falling to Malhotra's spin. Zia with 24 and Rafiq with 22 were other notable contributors.

Shamin took two wickets for Gulshan at the cost of 29

runs. Veteran Manju backed him up with two for 30.

SCOREBOARD

Gulshan Youth:

Iftikhar lbw Kajal	5
Mamun b Lahu	53
Rajkumara c (sub) b Zia	24
Malhotra lbw Rafiqul	29
Rupom c Rajal b Rafiqul	5
Ishitq c Kajal b Rafiqul	0
Shamin c Raju b Rafiqul	13
Ashique not out	39
Babul lbw Kajal	1
Manju not out	1
Extras	22
Total (for 8 wks in 42 overs)	192

Bowling:

Kajal	9 1 26 2
Kamrul	6 0 23 0
Rafique	2 0 17 0
Lahu	9 0 35 1
Zia	7 0 42 1
Rafiqul	9 0 43 4

Wari Club:

Sumon lbw Malhotra	37
Raju lbw Shamin	6
Biddut run out	18
Rafiq c Arif b Manju	22
Bhutto run out	5
Kajal c Babul b Manju	8
Zia run out	24
Lahu c Mamun b Rupom	13
Rafiqul b Shamin	0
Iftikhar not out	3
Extras	18
Total (for 9 wks in 42 overs)	154

Bowling:

O M R W	
Shamin	8 0 29 2

Bab