

MSC rally well

Sports Reporter

Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club came back from behind to overcome their spirited traditional rivals Dhaka Wanderers Club in the Star First Division football league encounter yesterday at the Mirpur Stadium.

Mohammedans in this first encounter against newcomers Eskaton, were shell-shocked by a 4th minute goal from Wanderers striker Mosharraf.

Mohammedans, playing in green as Wanderers stole their thunder donning the familiar black-and-white jerseys, scored two quick goals at the stroke of the interval and pumped in a third to post a rather comfortable looking victory.

Mohammedans began in a rather disoriented fashion and Kaiser Hamid and Jewel Rana, the two stoppers, made a mess of an innocuous looking ball. Mosharraf, unsighted by the screen of Mohammedan stoppers, flicked the ball into the goal and the spheroid entered the net off the side post, leaving Tuhin absolutely dazed under the bar.

However, the goal did not quite cause the adrenalin flow immediately in the Mohammedan players, cheered by their supporters.

Barun, Johnny and Kaiser were painfully slow and miss-pases were galore.

Wanderers, spurred by their early success, had another shy at the Mohammedans goal when in the 6th minute Mustakim's intelligent shot from about 35 metres was tipped over the bar for a corner.

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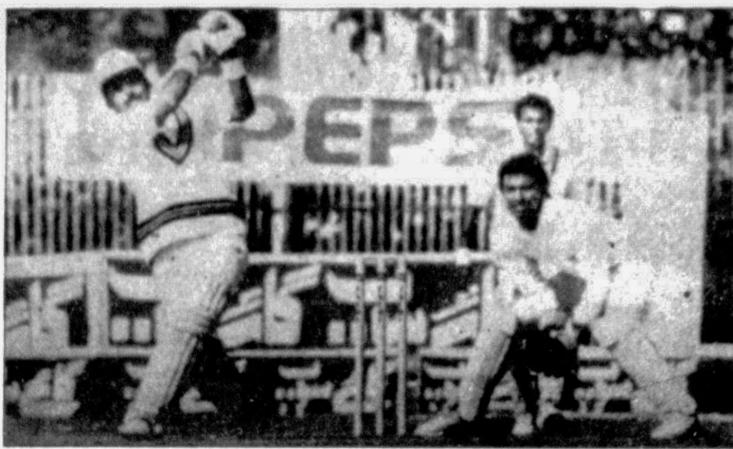
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Javed Miandad hits Sri Lankan bowler Graeme Labrooy for a towering six in the third one-day international at Niaz Stadium in Hyderabad on Jan 15. Miandad was unbeaten on 115. Pakistan beat Sri Lanka and clinched the series of five one-dayers 3-0. — AFP photo

GMCC scare Mohammedans

Sports Reporter

Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club yet to get over the euphoria of beating Abahani Krira Chakra three days back came back from the throes of certain defeat yesterday when they got the better of Greater Mymensingh Club by 26 runs in a keenly contested match of the Navana Premier Division cricket league at the Dhaka Stadium.

GMCC skipper Gazi Ashraf Hossain Lipu won the toss and invited Mohammedans to bat first.

Jahangir and Guragee batted comfortably to put 68 runs for the first wicket before the latter was run out for a well made 28 containing three boundaries.

Rafiqul Alam scored a polished 44 with one six and two fours off 55 balls.

Opener Jahangir Alam departed with the score at 162 after top scoring with 55.

He sent the ball to the rope thrice in his 84 ball knock.

Gamagee, Mohammad Ali and Suru paced the Mohammedan innings in the slog overs with some useful quick

fire batting and the Mohammedan total soared to an almost assailable look of 235 for six in 44 overs.

Saiful the young GMCC opening bowler bowled admirably on bowler's graveyard to finish with two for 36.

Harunur Rashid Liton who has been almost singlehandedly leading the GMCC challenge in the earlier matches was the last person to be cowed down by the awe-inspiring target.

Throwing caution to the wind he batted in a cavalier fashion after losing his partner at 49.

He clobbered 15 runs in one over from Dulu with a six over long on and together with Sri Lankan Sharat set up a possible GMCC victory.

The two took the score to 144 before Sharat mishit Waheed to cover after notching a well made 44.

Duminda deemed as the trump card in the GMCC middle order played a reckless perhaps misjudging the catching abilities of the fielders or missing a stationed at the deep square leg boundary, when he pulled a long hop from Waheed and Mithu reminding nostalgic spectators

Spread eagles, Azad Boys win big

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Spread eagles outplayed Lalbagh Anwar Sporting Club by five wickets in the Group - C affair of the Rank-Xerox Second Division cricket league yesterday at the Dhanmondi Club ground.

Put into bat, Lalbagh scored 167 for eight wickets in their stipulated 35 overs.

Spread eagles reached home safely, scoring 170 for five in only 29.5 overs.

In the other match of the day, Azad Boys Club, a formidable senior side, a few

years ago, gave themselves a good start by beating Cantonian Sporting Club by a huge 117-

run margin in a Group-B match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium (West).

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Indians shut out Windies

MELBOURNE, Jan 16: Fired-up India trounced the West Indies by five wickets today to advance to the World Series cricket finals against Australia, reports AFP.



SACHIN TENDULKAR reached his 27th one-day fifty by slamming off spinner Hooper over Patterson's head at long on for six.

Trailing the West Indies by a point before the start of the last league match in the triangular competition, the Indians stopped their opponents at a meagre 175 for eight in 50 overs after Richie Richardson had won the toss and elected to bat in the night game at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

A typically audacious 60 by Krish Srikanth and a stand of 62 in 57 balls between him and man-of-the-match Sachin Tendulkar saw India coast home in the 47th over.

The pair steered the game India's way after the West Indies had made early inroads with two wickets for 38 runs by the 19th over.

Tendulkar, the teenage prodigy, remained unbeaten on a disciplined 57 off 88 balls with two boundaries.

India ended the league with seven points to West Indies six, and take on Australia in the first game of the best-of-three finals here on Saturday.

The second and third match, if needed, will be played in Sydney on Monday and Wednesday respectively.

India threw themselves in the field to restrict the West Indies to under four runs per over.

The West Indies helped the determined Indians along by a reckless display which saw three batsmen being run out and only three crossing 20.

Carl Hooper stood defiant amid the rains, stroking 45 off as many deliveries which included three boundaries and a six.

An unbroken ninth wicket stand of 28 between Curtly Ambrose and Anderson Cummins helped salvage some respectability for the West Indies who at one point were tottering at 147 for eight in the 46th over.

Leg spinner Narendra Hirwani, who replaced Venkatapathy Raju for this match, justified his selection with the wickets of West Indian batting stars Brian Lara and skipper Richie Richardson.

Ambrose set the Indians back with a superb opening spell in which he conceded just three runs and took the important wicket of Ravi Shastri.

Shastri scored 11 of the first 20 runs before edging Ambrose's outswinger to Hooper at first slip in the 10th over.

Srikanth and Tendulkar took the attack to the West Indies with a flurry of stroke-play around the wicket which increased the Indian run-rate.

The belligerent Srikanth

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before Hirwani claimed his second wicket by having the West Indian captain leg before for 20.

When the leg spinner ended his 10-over spell with figures of two for 34, the West Indians had posted just 108 for on the board after 38 overs.

Hooper, who had made 39 of those runs added six more before lofting Manoj Prabhakar to mid-wicket where Sarjaj Manjrekar held a good running catch.

In the next over, Malcolm Marshall was run out without facing a ball after a terrible misunderstanding with Carlisle Best who hesitated in taking a single.

Best further complicated matters for his team when he attempted a wild swipe against Srinath and was clean bowled.

David Williams was the third batsman to be run out, leaving Ambrose and Cummins to partly retrieve the situation.

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