

# Bima freeze Brothers' claim

Sports Reporter



Asaduzzaman Lablu became the second person in this year's Star First Division football league to win laurels at the cost of Brothers Union as the Federation Cup champions suffered a shock defeat -- the first for the Gopibagh side -- to lowly rated Sadharan Bima Krida Sangha at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday. Lablu netted the match-winner 36 minutes into the second half, capitalising upon a lapse by Brothers defender Pervaz.

It was one of those days for the men in orange when nothing went right and their football, which encouraged local soccer fans to bracket them along with Mohammedians and Abahani -- the two big names in our football -- simply fell apart and they had to drop their third point in this year's league.

But a big team is a big team, and despite their lacklustre show, Brothers had had their share of opportunities and if only blokes like Waseem and Rupu had kept their cool in front of the opposition goal

and the most sensational moment of the match six minutes later. Shakhawat sent in a long throw inside the Brothers penalty box; Pervaz miscued while trying to clear, and a lurking Lablu coolly slotted the ball home 1-0.

To add insult to Brothers' injury, their star midfielder Ahmed received the marching order from referee Abdul Aziz for a cynical charge on Bima goalie Tota in the 40th minute of play, thereby handicapping the Gopibagh boys by reducing them to ten men. This disadvantage, for which Ahmed alone is to blame, tended to tell upon the eventual outcome of the contest.

Manik of Brothers and Mansur of Bima received yellow cards.

In the first match of the day, Dhanmondi Club picked up two precious points by beating newly-promoted Eskaton Sabuj Sangha 2-1.

Zafar and Faisal scored for the winners while Lawrence netted one for the vanquished.

Brothers failed to set their house in order in the second half with most of their players looking bereft of imagination and purpose. Pervaz thwarted a powerful shot by Bima's Shakhawat in the 30th minute

and the most sensational moment of the match six minutes later. Shakhawat sent in a long throw inside the Brothers penalty box; Pervaz miscued while trying to clear, and a lurking Lablu coolly slotted the ball home 1-0.

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**TODAY'S MATCHES**  
Muktijoddha vs Police (3 pm)

[PWD vs Rahmatganj (5 pm)]



Shakil Kasem drives during yesterday's 555 Classic golf tournament, sponsored by the Bangladesh Tobacco Company Ltd., at the Kurmitola Club course. -- Star photo

# Kalabagan go down fighting



A rousing batting display by Kalabagan tailenders Gajanan Reddy and Pappu went in vain as their side conceded a narrow three-run defeat to Lalmitia Club in yesterday's relegation match of the Navana Premier Division cricket league at the Dhaka Stadium. Kalabagan, chasing a victory target of 228 in 45 overs, were all out for 224 in 44 overs.

Put into bat, Lalmitia piled up 227 for eight wickets from their quota of 45 overs.

Debu was the top scorer with 53 made off 62 balls with the help of three fours. Shahid

scored 39 and opener Anwar made 30. Three batsmen -- Sanjeeva, Rome and Katsar -- got into the twenties with the last named one remaining unbeaten on a quick 28 off 27 balls.

Veteran Dipu Roy Chowdhury was the best bowler with the ball among the eight bowlers employed by the Kalabagan skipper Tamim with figures of one for 39 from nine overs. Pappu, Rumi, Shaon and Indians Reddy and Sridhar Mandley took one wicket apiece.

Kalabagan made amends for the early loss of opener Ishraq with a fine second-wicket partnership of 71 runs between Sridhar and Omar Khaled Rumi. Sridhar left, caught and bowled by Katsar for 23 and Rumi for a well-made 38 with the help of six fours off 37 balls.

Shaon spoiled Kalabagan's broth by batting painfully slowly for his 26 before being bowled by Atiq. The left-arm spinner struck again clean bowling Pilot for 23.

Reddy, who scored 33 off 31 balls, teamed up with Pappu to take the score from 140 to 205 before being run out. Pappu, who made 32 off 35 balls, blew out Kalabagan's hopes when he too, was run out in a desperate attempt to steal a single, leaving Lalmitia victors by three runs.

Atiq bowled well for Lalmitia, taking two for 28. Sanjeeva Wessarsingh claimed two for 49. Subrata, Katsar and Debu took one wicket each.

**TODAY'S MATCH**  
PWD vs B Union  
(Super League; Dhaka Stadium)

# Imran shines in Uddy victory

Sports Reporter  
Intelligent bowling by skipper Imran and good fielding helped title-aspirants Uddy Club record their second victory in the Milnars First Division cricket super league when they beat Eskaton Sabuj Sangha by 28 runs at the Mirpur Pallabi ground yesterday.

Put into bat, Uddy Club made 166 for the loss of nine wickets from their quota of 45 overs.

Rokon top scored with 39, a knock that included three hits to the fence while Durjoy made 18 and Fahim 16.

Zahid, Farhad, Momen and Saiful bagged two wickets each for Eskaton.

In reply, confronted by the accurate Uddy attack, and Imran in particular, Eskaton could muster only 138 for eight wickets in their allotted 45 overs.

Momen, who took two Uddy wickets, made 35 while Mona and Cornell scored 21 and 17 respectively for Eskaton.

Uddy captain Imran claimed three wickets for 31 while Montir, Nazif and Sajid took a wicket apiece.

Uddy have now collected full four points from their two super league engagements while Eskaton are yet to open their account.

**TODAY'S MATCH**  
Relegation league:  
Bima vs Ajax SC (Mirpur Pallabi)

# 2 tons in Nirman cricket

Sports Reporter

A swashbuckling 179 by Aji helped earn Willes Little Flower School a massive 248-run victory over Arab Mission School in one of the two matches of the Nirman schools Dhaka Zone cricket championship at the Dhanmondi Club ground yesterday.

In the other match at the same venue, which produced another century, Bangladesh Rifles School beat Graduates High School of Tipu Sultan Road by three wickets.

Willes Little Flower, batting first, amassed a staggering 346 runs from their quota of 35 overs for the loss of seven wickets with one-drop Aji smashing the opposing bowlers all around the small ground for sixteen sixes and 17 fours. His 179 runs were made at a rate of more than two runs a ball, coming off only 88 deliveries.

Skipper Adil made 35 and Masud 28 while extras contributed a healthy 55 to the total.

Yet, despite the slaughter, Taj was the pick of the Arab

Mission bowlers claiming three wickets for 44 runs.

Faced with the daunting target, the Arab Mission batsmen soon lost heart and were booked for a paltry 88 in 24.1 overs. Sunny and Taj offered the only resistance by making 28 and 15 respectively.

Abir was Willes' best bowler picking up six wickets at a cost of only 17 runs. Haim took two wickets.

On the western side of the Dhanmondi Club ground, Bangladesh Rifles School beat Graduates High School by three wickets.

Electing to bat, Graduates School made 189 all out in 34.1 overs with Javed scoring a fine 122 off 106 deliveries with the help of seven sixes and eleven fours. But his gallant knock didn't prove enough for his side.

Selim of BDR School claimed five wickets for 34 while Prince got three wickets.

In reply, BDR School made 191 for seven wickets in 31.5 overs with Sattar getting 37 and Amin 25.

Iftikhar and Maruf took three and two wickets respectively for Graduates School.

# Police, Ansars judokas reign

Sports Reporter

The tenth Japan Cup judo championships, under the joint auspices of the Bangladesh Judo and Karate Federation and the Japanese Embassy in Dhaka, began yesterday at the National Coaching Centre gymnasium with judokas from Bangladesh Police and Bangladesh Ansars sweeping the board in the men's and women's events on the opening day.

Six events -- three each in the men's and women's sections -- were decided yesterday with Police claiming golds in all three male events and Ansars women shutting out their opponents.

In the under-44 kg weight division, Nurunnahar of Ansars clinched the gold beating off VDP's Prabha Sangma's challenge while Ritka Akhter of Chuadanga DSA took the bronze.

In the under-48kg class, Mithila Sangma of Ansars claimed the gold, Pushpa Rani of VDP the silver and Jharna Akhter of Chuadanga the bronze.

It was another Ansars-VDP-Chuadanga medal race in the over-52 class with Nur Jahan giving Ansars their third gold. Fahima Akhter settling for the silver and Kamala Akhter winning Chuadanga's third bronze of the meet.

The medal race in the men's events, though dominated by the policemen, was slightly more broad-based with five teams making it to the medals table.

Nagendranath Ray won the first gold for police in the under-55kg category while the silver went to Mostafizur Rahman of Ansars and the bronze to Md Sanwar Alam of Muktijoddha Sangshad.

The under-60 kg division saw Mohammad Ali win Police's second gold, followed by Mustafa Chowdhury of Ansars and Md Fakhru Alam of Mymensingh DSA take the bronze.

In the under-60 kg event, Md Matinullah of Police won the gold, Abdul Qudus of Bakerganj DSA the silver and Md Anwar Hossain of Ansars the bronze.

Ninety judokas, including 18 women, are competing in the two-day meet which concludes today.

State Minister for Forests and Environment Goyeshwar Ray inaugurated the meet while Japanese Ambassador in Bangladesh Toshio Sakai was present as a special invitee.

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury will give away the trophies as chief guest today.

# Lacklustre Brazilians beat US 3-0

PORTALEZA, Brazil, Feb 28: Brazil beat the United States 3-0 in a friendly international on Wednesday without ever looking like one of the world's top soccer nations, reports Reuter.

The home side were jeered by frustrated fans as they struggled to overcome the United States in a lacklustre match, played at a snail's pace for most of a tedious 90 minutes.

Brazil never had the creativity needed to break down the tightly packed US defence and all three of their goals came from dead ball situations, two of them in 16 minutes.

The Americans, well organised by coach Bora Milutinovic and playing with six members of their World Cup squad, de-

fended competently and fought valiantly throughout the match but were desperately short of skill and imagination in attack.

Goalkeeper Tony Meola was the best US player, making superb first half saves twice from Bebeto and once from Luiz Henrique.

Brazil broke through in the 27th minute when Antonio Carlos scored following Elvilton's corner. Carlos' initial header was miraculously saved by Meola but the Sao Paulo defender was on hand to snap up the rebound.

But kingpin Rai was surprisingly ineffective and winger Elvilton off-form, to the fury of the home crowd.

The United States grew in confidence and midfielder Chris Henderson missed a glorious chance to equalise in the 57th minute, heading Tab Ramos' cross wide from six

metres.

The home side made sure of victory only in the last 16 minutes when the US defence tired in the stifling heat. Rai added a second goal from a penalty in the 74 minute and the third from a free kick five minutes later, catching Meola out of position in his only mistake of the match.

Brazil -- Carlos Luiz, Carlos Winck (Cafu), Antonio Carlos, Ronaldo (Alexandre Torres), Roberto Carlos, Cesar Sampaio, Rai, Luiz Henrique, Bebeto (Valdeir), Muller (Evair), Elvilton.

United States -- Tony Meola, Fernando Clavijo (Zak Ibsen), Bruce Savage, Marcelo Balboa, Janusz Michalik, Bruce Murray, Brian Quinn, Chris Henderson (Jorge Acosta), Tab Ramos, Hugo Perez, Peter Vermes (Ernie Stewart).

# Majumder snooker qtr-finals today

Sports Reporter

The first F II Majumder memorial snooker championship, now being held at the Narayanjan Club, reached the quarter-final stage yesterday following the completion of the eight pre-quarter-final matches over Thursday and Friday.

Four players from Dhaka Club, three from the host Narayanjan Club and one from the Engineers' Club have reached the round of eight.

A B Chowdhury of Engineers' Club beat N C Ghosh of Narayanjan Club 4-0 in the best-of-seven frames contest Thursday. G C Saha of Narayanjan Club beat club mate R K Manju 4-1, national champion Rashedul Ameen Bappa of Dhaka Club beat Munir Hossain of Narayanjan Club 4-0, N A T Rouf of Dhaka

Club beat M A Awal of Gulshan Club 4-0, J F D Costa Dhaka Club beat Rafiqul Islam, the Narayanjan Club champion, 4-2 in a keen contest. Yakub Sattar of Narayanjan Club beat club mate Maniruzzaman Bacheu, the club runner-up, 4-1. Syed Mahboob of Dhaka Club, the national federation secretary, beat former national tennis champion Sarder Iftekhar of Engineers' Club 4-1 while Anwar Jossain of Narayanjan Club caused the biggest upset of the meet by beating Syed Masood of Gulshan Club 4-3 in the six-hour long match. The marathon contest, which needed all seven frames, was decided with the black ball.

The best-of-nine frames quarter-finals will be held today, with two matches starting at 11-00 am and the other two at 4-00 pm.

Twenty-eight players from seven clubs of the country are taking part in the meet, sponsored by the Majumder Group of Companies of which late Fazlul Haque Majumder, himself a keen billiards player, was the founder-chairman.

German soccer coach due Mar 1

Well-known German soccer coach Holger Obermann will arrive in Dhaka on Mar 1 as a guest of the Bangladesh Football Federation, says an embassy press release.

Obermann will train Bangladesh coaches during a three weeks stay.

Obermann was an active player in Germany (Hamburg) and the USA (New York). He was coach of the "Pele Football School" in New York and a First League coach in Germany for Kickers Offenbach. He is author of several football books as well as a TV Commentator.

Obermann's visit, arranged by the Federal Government, confirms the long-standing excellent relations between Bangladesh and the Federal Republic of Germany in the field of sports.

# Dutchman defeats Edberg

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands, Feb 28: Dutchman Jan Siermerink played a confident game to upset top-seeded Swede Stefan Edberg in straight sets in the second round of the ABN tennis tournament Thursday, reports AP.

Siermerink, ranked 42nd in the ATP Tour, lost his first service game against the world's second-ranked tennis player and holder of four Grand Slam titles.

But Siermerink came back quickly, playing the net sharply and aggressively to claim a first set tie-break and take the second set with remarkable ease to finish 7-6 (7-5), 6-2.

The 21-year-old Dutchman has won only one singles title in his tennis career, last year in Singapore.

Second-seeded Boris Becker of Germany, ranked fourth by the ATP, also won straight sets victory, beating Swede Anders Jarryd 6-2, 6-4.

In other seeded play, fifth-seeded Croatian Goran Prpic prevailed in a marathon tie-break to win 7-5, 7-6 (10-8) against Dutchman Tom Nijssen.

Aleksandr Volkov knocked out American Jim Grabb in yet another of the day's straight set decisions, scoring 6-3, 6-3.

Long Islander Patrick McEnroe won by default a match he was already winning 7-5, 2-0 when his Belgian opponent Bart Wuyts gave up because of stomach complaints.

And Austria's Alex Antonitsch proved it was a bad day for Sweden by claiming the day's third Swedish victim. Antonitsch beat Jan Apell 6-4, 6-2.

Becker is pitted against McEnroe and Siermerink against Volkov in Friday's quarterfinals here in Rotterdam's Ahoy Arena. John McEnroe, the No.6 seed, faces Antonitsch after resting Thursday.

# Ansars women retain title

Sports Reporter

Reigning champions Bangladesh Ansars retained the title of the eighth national women's handball championship which concluded at Munshiganj yesterday.

Ansars, who have held the title for the last six consecutive years, trounced BJMC by 18 goals to seven in the final of the three-day meet which was jointly organized by the Bangladesh Handball Federation and the Munshiganj District Women's Sports Association.

Deputy Leader of the Jatiya Sangshad A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury gave away prizes among the winners while State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Md Abdul Hye attended as a special guest.

# Andries dethroned

BEAUSSOLEIL, France, Feb 28: Akim Tafer handed out a painful lesson to veteran British fighter Dennis Andries here on Thursday, as the hard-hitting Frenchman snapped up the vacant European cruiserweight title, reports AFP.

Tafer got the judges' verdict on points after 12 closely-fought rounds.

Andries, officially 38 but reckoned to be older, couldn't find a way past the bigger, faster 24-year-old French champion, who kept well clear of Andries' punching power.

Tafer, sharper in the first three rounds, had to wait until the fourth for his first tangible reward -- a crunching uppercut which went straight through the Londoner's defence.

Tafer repeated the trick in the following round, and the Frenchman was already on his way on points.

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British fighter Dennis Andries (L) protects his face as hard-hitting French Akim Tafer hands out a painful lesson to snap up the European cruiserweight title in Beaussoleil, France on Feb 27.

# Amar Jyoti in super league

Sports Reporter

Former First Divisions Amar Jyoti Club qualified for the super league of the Rank-Xerox Second Division cricket league with a five-wicket victory over Spreadeagles in the play-off match played at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, yesterday.

Sent into bat, Spreadeagles were all out for 154 in 32.1 overs with Scraj making a stroke-filled 42. Montir and Rubayat got 21 each while Ripon made 20.

Tarek of Amar Jyoti took three wickets for 23 while Jabbar and Rashed took two apiece.

Ratan, the Amar Jyoti opener, played a stellar role in his side's victory with an unbeaten 53 containing only two hits to the fence. Palash made 21 and Tarek, who finished a good day's work with a unbeaten 15, that saw Amar Jyoti cruise past in 32.2 overs.

Saiful of Spreadeagles tried his best with the ball taking four for 25.

# Anand holds Kasparov

LINARES, Spain, Feb 28: World chess champion Gary Kasparov was held to a draw by India's Viswanathan Anand in the fourth round of the Linares tournament on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Kasparov, who lost to Anand in Reggio Calabria, Italy, earlier this month, was in a strong position but ran into time trouble allowing Anand to earn a draw after 34 moves.

Tournament leader Artur Yusupov of Russia, now playing under the German flag, was in a precarious position after 61 moves in an adjourned game against Spain's Miguel Illescas and experts predicted he would resign without resuming play on Friday.

Other fourth round results: Anatoly Karpov (Russia) drew with Jonathan Speelman (Britain)

Vasily Ivanchuk (Ukraine) drew with Boris Gelfand (Belarus)

Nigel Short (Britain) beat Ljubomir Ljubojevic (Yugoslavia) Valery Salov (Russia, playing under Spanish flag) drew with Alexander Belyavsky (Ukraine)

Jan Timman (Netherlands) beat Evgeny Barcev (Russia)

Standings after four rounds: Yusupov -- three points and one game adjourned

Kasparov -- 3

Belyavsky and Gelfand -- 2 1/2

Karpov and Ivanchuk -- 2

Illescas -- 1 1/2 and one adjourned

Timman, Short, Ljubojevic, Anand, Barcev and Salov -- 1 1/2

Speelman -- 1

# Magic contemplates NBA comeback

Sports Reporter

INGLEWOOD, California, Feb 28: Magic Johnson said here there is a chance he will play either in the National Basketball Association or in Europe after the Summer Olympics, reports AFP.

"I think as we get closer to the Olympics, I can know more then," he said. "Right now, it is just a 50-50 chance."

Johnson retired last November 7 after discovering he had the AIDS virus. He is still slated to play on the US Olympic basketball team in Barcelona.

On January 29 he said he was considering a public comeback, if his health permitted.

# Nissan tennis

Sports Reporter

Fatyaz and Rumi emerged champions in the boys' under-16 and under-12 singles respectively in the 5th Nissan Cup tennis championships yesterday at the Gulshan Club court.

In a keenly-contested match, Fatyaz beat Arjun in straight sets 7-6, 6-1.

Kham Goodyear and Shima moved into the final of the women's singles when they beat Saathi and national champion Rina respectively.

In the men's singles semifinals, Ram Kumar (India) and national junior champion Shibu Lal won their respective matches against Dilip Passia and Maroof Rahman.

The five-day meet concludes today with three finals -- the women's singles, the men's doubles and the men's singles -- scheduled for today.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas will attend the concluding ceremonies as a special guest.

# Japanese karatekas due today

Sports Reporter

A four-member karate delegation from Japan arrives in the city today on a four-day visit to Bangladesh.

During their stay in Dhaka, the karate experts will perform an exhibition match tomorrow and will conduct a coaching camp for the local karate coaches, referees and karatekas at the National Coaching Centre.

The trip has been arranged with the help of the Japanese embassy in Dhaka.

# ICTVTR meet

Sports Reporter

The fourth annual athletic competition of the Islamic Centre for Technical and Vocational Training and Research (ICTVTR), a subsidiary organ of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), was held yesterday at the playground of the Centre at Board Bazar, Gazipur.

Minister for Labour and Manpower Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan distributed the prizes as chief guest on the occasion.

Students of the Centre from many OIC countries participated in various field and track events and some new records for the Centre were created on the day.

Asad Ibrahim Jees, a student from Somalia, won the individual championship and Agha Azhar Ali Khan from Pakistan became the runner-up, said a press release.

# Seles, Frazier in quarters

INDIAN WELLS, California, Feb 28: Top-seeded Monica Seles lost her concentration briefly but emerged with a 6-2, 6-3, win over Tami Whitlinger, while Amy Frazier eliminated hot-tempered Pam Shriver on Thursday at the 350,000 dollar Evert Cup tennis tournament, reports Reuter.

Frazier, the eighth seed, used her consistent passing shots to defeat fellow-American Pam Shriver, seeded 10th, 6-2, 6-3 to take her place in the quarter-finals.

Third-seeded Conchita Martinez of Spain and fourth-seeded Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria both coasted into the quarters with straight-set

wins, while fifth seed Nathalie Tauziat overcame Alexia Dechaume 6-7, 6-3, 6-3 in an all-French match.

Shriver received a warning for throwing her racket at 1-4 in the second set and hit a ball at a bird on the court in the last game, causing Frazier to call her unprofessional.

"I'm an emotional person, and that's hard for Amy to understand," Shriver said.

Seles stormed to a 6-2, 5-1 lead over the unseeded Whitlinger by controlling points with her sharply hit two-handed groundstrokes as the American struggled to engage Seles in baseline rallies.

But Whitlinger, ranked 52 in the world, broke Seles for 2-5 when the Yugoslav made three errors and then held her

serve for 3-5. Seles then buckled down and served two aces to close out the match in the next game.

Seles, who has won 14 of the last 20 tournaments she has played, attributed her brief lapse to the fact that everyone gives a little extra effort against the number one player.

"When you have been number one for a long time, there is pressure with every match. Every player is tough, and if you don't watch your concentration, a few games can slip away. Overall, I still feel like I am playing very well."

Seles' road to a 22nd career title was made easier earlier this week when Martina Navratilova withdrew from the 50-player, hard court tournament with the flu.