

Big wins for DU, Mymensingh

Sports Reporter

Dhaka University, Sylhet, Chittagong and Mymensingh all moved into the zonal finals while Tangail, Gaibandha and Bagerhat qualified for their respective semifinals of the Gold Leaf national cricket championship beating their respective opponents at different venues across the country yesterday.

Dhaka University recorded a massive 114-run victory over Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) at the Dhaka Stadium. Electing to bat, Dhaka University made 213 runs for the loss of seven wickets from their quota of 45 overs with Rupam getting 47, skipper Faruk Ahmed 30 and Suman 36.

The third-wicket partnership between Faruk and Suman added in valuable 49 runs to the total. Kaiser of BUET took three wickets for 43 runs while Towrid, Rupak and Rais got one apiece. In reply, BUET were skittled for a poor 99 in 41.2 overs. Charan top scored with 28 while Towrid got 15. Rupam claimed three wickets while Joydev, Shabbir and Tutul got two wickets each for Dhaka University. Dhaka University will now take on the winners of the match between Bangladesh Biman and BKSP in the zonal final scheduled to be held on April 1.

At Chandpur, Sylhet also posted a handsome 179-run victory over Hibganj. Sylhet will now face Madaripur in the zonal final scheduled for tomorrow. Batting first, Sylhet piled up a huge 333 for nine wickets in 44 overs, thanks to Jamal, Shantoo, Sohel Hamid and Suru for their sensible batting. Jamal, Shantoo, Sohel and Suru scored 88, 67, 56 and 56 respectively. Mofazzal, Shamir and Sankha took two wickets apiece for Hibganj. In their turn, Hibganj could muster only 154 for eight wickets in 44 overs. Shamir topscored with 42

while Sankha got an unbeaten 28 for Hibganj. Suman of Sylhet took four wickets for 21. At Sylhet, Chittagong crushed Chandpur by seven wickets in the zonal semifinals. Chittagong will now clash with Comilla to decide the zonal finalists tomorrow. Put into bat, Chandpur were all out for a paltry 86 in 35.5 overs. Shaki and Badrul scored 23 and 12 respectively for Chandpur. Chapal took three wickets for Chittagong conceding 11 runs. In reply, Chittagong made 87 for three wickets in 23.4 overs with Chapal making 30 and Didar 19. Mostafa claimed two wickets for Chandpur. At Faridpur, Mymensingh registered an impressive 175-run victory over Sherpur. Mymensingh will face the winners of the match between Narayanganj and Tangail in the zonal final to be held on April 1.

Mymensingh batted first and made 282 for eight wickets in 42 overs with Sanwar getting 73, Liton 61 and Ratan 54. Sajjad and Mamun took three and two wickets respectively for Sherpur. In their turn, Sherpur were dismissed for a measly 107 in 36.3 overs, thanks to Zakir, Sanwar and Billu, the Mymensingh bowlers who claimed two wickets apiece. Mamun made 37 for Sherpur. At Jessore, Kushtia beat Meherpur by 88 runs in the zonal semifinals. Kushtia will not take on Satkhira in the zonal final scheduled for April 1. Kushtia made the first use of the strip and were all out for 170 in 43 overs with Apan, Shaftiq and Asim scoring 28, 25 and 24 respectively. Salam bagged four wickets while Khasru pocketed two for Meherpur. In reply, Meherpur were dismissed for a poor 82 in 22.3 overs. Ripon took four wickets while Tapan and Sadi got three

and two respectively for Kushtia. At Barisal, Bagerhat reached the zonal semifinals beating Ptrojpur by 64 runs. Electing to bat, Bagerhat made 243 all out in 42 overs thanks to Tutul who went great guns hitting a fine 109. It was the first century of the current championship. Swapan and Mahub scored 46 and 30 respectively for Bagerhat. In reply, Ptrojpur were booked for 179 with Nakib making 46. Mahmud and Akhi took three wickets each for Ptrojpur. Bagerhat will now clash with Khulna in the zonal semifinals next Wednesday. At Pabna, Gaibandha beat Thakurgaon by seven wickets. Gaibandha will clash with Rajshahi in the zonal semifinals also on Wednesday. Batting first, Thakurgaon were all out for a mere 111 in 34 overs with Dipu and Sagar scoring 24 and 15 respectively. Rousseak took three wickets for Gaibandha. Gaibandha made 112 for three wickets in 24.3 overs with Lipon remaining unbeaten on 61. At Tangail, Faridpur also recorded a seven-wicket victory over Rajbari in the zonal quarterfinals. Sent into bat, Rajbari were all out for 101 in 38.2 overs. Kalidas and Tito scored 30 and 20 for Rajbari. Shamim and Bablu took three wickets each while Effe got two for Faridpur. In their turn, Faridpur made 104 for three wickets in 22.3 overs with Babu and Bablu making 40 and 22 respectively. Mannan and Kalidas bagged a wicket apiece for Rajbari. Meanwhile, the result of the tie between Lalmonirhat and Naogaon at Thakurgaon was not available till the filing of this report.

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Pakistan's Raja Muhammad Asaf gave Bangladesh her only consolation in the Davis Cup play-off by losing his return singles match to Hira Lal yesterday at the Ramna Tennis Complex. Pakistan won the tie 4-1. —Star photo

Hira Lal's win is hardly any solace

Sports Reporter

Pakistan complicated the formalities to qualify for the first round of next year's Davis Cup. They will play Hong Kong, who beat Sri Lanka at home yesterday, to advance into the first round. In the reverse singles yesterday Bangladesh number one Hira Lal defeated Raja Muhammad Asaf to salvage some prestige for the home side while his younger brother and local number two seed Shibu Lal tamely went down to Muhammad Khalid.

In the first match of the morning, Hira Lal beat Raja 6-3, 5-7 and 6-2 to notch a victory by two sets to one. In a match that had no practical purpose other than mere academic interest, Hira Lal pounced upon the opportunity of not having to face the Pakistan number one Rashid Malik who had to skip the schedule because of a shoulder injury and the relatively inexperienced Raja had to take his place. Hira Lal began in style by almost running away with the first set but faltered in the second when the tall and athletic Raja broke his service to make the score five-all. The Pakistan's aggressive attitude paid dividends as he won it at 7-5 to inject some life in an otherwise inconsequential contest.

Hira Lal shrugged off his sluggishness from the onset of the third set and made up for the poor service and return — a common problem with the local players — with some intelligent passing shots. The second match between Pakistan number four (seeded second in this play-off engagement because of the non-availability of the number two seed of that country) Muhammad Khalid and Shibu Lal was a denouement as the local player was painfully toyed with a tossed about by the more experienced and distinctly skilled Pakistani. Khalid thrashed Shibu 6-0, 6-2. With the result already having been decided beyond doubt in the doubles contest which the Pakistani pair won Saturday following the victories in the first singles Friday, the third set was not required, thus sparing some sweat of the contestants in the oppressing heat of late March. Shibu had no answer to the vastly superior service of the Pakistani but he chipped in with some fine forehand returns. Khalid, more mobile and drilled than his opponent, caught his Bangladeshi counterpart often on the wrong foot. The play-off competition sponsored by NEC failed generate interest among the enthusiasts because of the Bangladesh Tennis Federation's policy to throw in relatively younger players into action. However, the Federation's itself was handicapped with the non-availability of players like Shovon Jamaly and Riad Rahman now studying abroad.

Navratilova in final

SAN ANTONIO, Mar 29: Martina Navratilova and Nathalie Tauziat will square off Sunday for the final of the US Women's Hardcourts Championships after both advanced through the quarterfinals and semifinals Saturday, reports AP. While top-seeded Navratilova won both matches easily



Navratilova then reached the final by eliminating her close friend and longtime doubles partner Shriver 6-4, 6-3. "It's always hard to play against a good friend," Navratilova said. "You want to win, but then you feel bad for your friend." The two now have met in singles 42 times, with Navratilova winning 39. Shriver said her shoulder had become sore during the McNeil match. "It's hard to come back out and serve hard again," she said. But Shriver said she was happy to have reached the semifinals of a tournament for the first time in nearly three years. "But I didn't have much time to enjoy it," she added. France's Tauziat reached the final by knocking out Eugenia Maniokova of Russia 7-6 (7-2), 6-4 in the quarterfinals. In the semifinals Tauziat dropped the first set to Frazier 4-6 before winning the second set. She lost four set points before staving off a match point for Frazier, finally winning the tie breaker. Tauziat said she looked forward to playing Navratilova on Sunday, citing her victory over Navratilova last April in Barcelona, on clay. "In my head, every time I play her I'm better than before," Tauziat said. "I'll have to come to the net and pass well." Navratilova and Shriver, the tournament's top-seeded doubles team, will play semifinal doubles match following the single's final Sunday afternoon. The doubles final will follow that match.

Swedes first into semifinals

LONDON, Mar 29: Reigning Davis Cup champions France won a temporary reprieve on Saturday when Guy Forget and Henry Leconte came back from two sets down to win the doubles in their quarter-final tie against Switzerland, reports Reuter. The hard-fought victory took the Nimes tie to 2-1, after the Swiss had won both Friday's singles, and kept France in the competition for at least one more day. Sweden had a much easier time in their tie against Australia in Lund, becoming the first side into September's semifinals by taking an unbeatable 3-0 lead on the second day. World number one Stefan Edberg and Anders Jarryd, reviving their doubles partnership of old, sealed Sweden's triumph with a 6-3, 6-3, 6-6, 6-1 victory over John Fitzgerald and Todd Woodbridge. Sweden, champions four times, will now play either the United States or Czechoslovakia whose quarter-final in Fort Myers, Florida, will be settled today. The Americans, runner-up last year, had been expected to wrap things up on Saturday, after Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras enjoyed straight-set singles wins on Friday. But Czechoslovakia took the score to 2-1 with an unexpectedly easy doubles win. Peter Korda and Cyril Suk beat

both champion and Boetsch were beaten and Forget and Leconte looked close to losing the hero status they earned in last year's final when they came within two points of defeat in Saturday's fourth set. But, urged on by the 8,000 fans in the Roman amphitheater at Nimes, Forget and Leconte turned the tables on opponents Jakob Hiseck and March Rosset. The French pair, who had never been beaten in nine previous Cup doubles matches, won a fourth-set tie-break 7-5 and, after more than four hours on court, took the match 4-6, 4-6, 6-2, 7-6, 6-4. But the French team still faced an uphill struggle with victory needed in both today's reverse singles. "We've won a battle but not the war," said Forget. France can only hope that Hiseck, who opens against Champion today, and Rosset, who plays Boetsch, will be tired after spending more than seven hours on court so far. Sweden's victory signalled an upturn in the nation's fortunes after embarrassing first-round defeats last year and the year before, following seven consecutive appearances in the Cup final. "When they are inspired and have on the court they can beat anybody," Swedish captain Jonte Sjogren said of Jarryd, who was playing despite an infected toe, and Edberg. Australia, who beat a depleted Yugoslavia 5-0 in the first round, have won the Davis Cup 20 times since 1939. But they took only one set in two days against Sweden.

Dexter plays down apprehensions

GATWICK, England, Mar 29: England Chairman of selectors Ted Dexter played down suggestions on his side's return home today that the forthcoming series with Pakistan will be another ill-tempered affair, reports AFP.

Ian Botham had urged Imran Khan to discipline his side after the England all-rounder and some of his teammates were the target of verbal abuse from the Pakistanis during last week's World Cup final in Melbourne. In recent years, series between the two countries have been marred by controversy, culminating in the incident in Pakistan four years ago, when former skipper Mike Gatting clashed with umpire Shakoor

Rana on the field. But Dexter, who greeted the England side with a champagne reception,

Greg Matthews' milestone

PERTH, Mar 29: Greg Matthews, the veteran all-rounder consistently overlooked by the Australian selectors, became Sunday the first Australian-born player this century to compile 500 runs and capture 50 wickets in a first-class season, reports AFP. The New South Wales player reached the milestone when he bowled Brendan Julian on the second day of the Sheffield Shield final against western Australia at the WACA Ground here. Matthews took 3-49 in the Western Australian first innings and now has 52 wickets at an average of 20.17 and 548 runs at an average of 42.31. The only other Australian to accomplish the feat was South Australian George Giffen, who succeeded in the 1891-92 and 1894-95 seasons. Five non-Australian players have achieved the rare double. They are Len Braund and Jack Crawford, Members of the MCC touring side in the 1907-08 season, Frank Foster, also an MCC tourist, in 1911-12, Vinoo Mankad, an Indian tourist in 1947-48, and SIR Garfield Sobers, who was playing with South Australia when he reached the landmark in the 1962-63 and 1963-64 season.

Golf results

CALCUTTA, Mar 29: Australian Stewart Ginn played some scorching golf here Saturday and stayed clear at the top after the third round of the Indian Open, reports AFP. Ginn fired three birdies on his way to a three-under-par 70, and led the 85 contestants with a cumulative three-round score of eight under par 211. Lu Wen-Ter of Taiwan however, returned the day's best card, hitting an eagle on the 11th hole and three birdies for a four under par 69. American Scott Taylor, who had tied with Ginn after the first two rounds, dropped to second place with a card of one under par 72 and was followed by compatriots Perry Parker and Aaron Meeks.



An Abahani defender tries in vain to come to the aid of goalie Asir as Mohammedan forward Muntaz Haider (L) scores for his side in yesterday's crucial match at the Dhaka Stadium. —Star photo

Women's basketball results

SEOUL, Mar 29: Defending champions China came from behind to beat South Korea 81-78, while Japan defeated Taiwan 104-83 on the sixth day of the Asian women's basketball championship, reports AFP. India thrashed Sri Lanka 80-58.

HK drub Lanka

COLOMBO, Mar 29: Hong Kong beat Sri Lanka 5-0 in a Asia Oceania zone Group Two Davis Cup semifinal when they won both reverse singles today, reports Reuter. Results: Michael Walker beat Jayendra Wijesekera 5-7, 7-5, 6-3. Colin Grant beat Dishan Herath 6-0, 6-0.

China lead Japan

TOKYO, Mar 29: China won the doubles match over Japan in straight sets here Saturday to take the lead in the Davis Cup Asia Oceania zone Group One playoff series, reports AFP. The Chinese duo of Pan Bing and Xia Jiaping beat Japan's Shuzo Mat-suoka and Tetsuya Sato 6-2, 7-6 (9/7), 6-4 on the Ariake Colosseum Hard Court. China and Japan tied in the opener Friday with Matsuoaka defeating Pan and Xia outplaying Japan's Yasufumi Yamamoto in the opening singles matches. Two reverse singles matches are scheduled for Sunday, the final day of the playoff series. The winner of the best of five match series will remain in Group One, while the loser will play in Group Two.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
 1 Trifling amount
 4 Swindle
 8 Jig and rip
 12 Vexation
 13 Ernie's Mrs.
 14 Saber's cousin
 15 Nayarit natives
 17 Billy Budd's captain
 18 Addition-ally
 19 Sent by wire
 21 33s, usually
 24 Longing
 25 Halloween comment
 26 Wapiti
 28 Lucy's chum
 32 Libretto
 34 Archery-bow wood
 36 Long lunch?
 37 Sent out invitations
 39 Undoubtedly
 41 Louis —
 42 Penta-teuch bk.

44 Mar slave
 46 Old man
 50 Yank
 51 Hold sway
 52 Form of sugar
 56 Help hoods
 57 "— sow,..."
 58 Postal Creed word
 59 Network
 60 Johnny of baseball
 61 "Yes, Virginia,..."
 62 Newspaper

2 Raw rock
 3 Classic
 4 Change into
 5 Rhoda's mom
 6 Serge decoration?
 7 "... Cuckoo's Nest" author
 8 "The — Seal" (movie)
 9 Summit
 10 "The Way We —"
 11 Sesame or poppy
 16 Debtor's letters
 20 Appo-

mattox also-ran
 21 Swedish pop group
 22 "Gentleman Prefer Blondes" author
 23 Crafty
 27 Important
 29 Six-siders
 30 Leif's dad
 31 O, to Seles
 33 Writer
 35 Say "I do"
 38 Flop
 40 Small sofa
 43 "—, I'm Adam"
 45 Bear hair
 46 1/28 ounce
 47 Cartoonist
 48 Brewery output
 49 Lucie's pop
 53 Talleyrand's agents
 54 Old French coin
 55 Sea flyer

Solution time: 23 mins.

A	C	T	I	D	E	S	R	I	O
H	E	W	N	O	V	A	R	I	O
A	R	I	G	R	E	A	T	B	E
B	O	N	E	R	R	A	B		
		T	A	S	S	D	I	A	L
G	R	E	A	T	A	P	E	A	G
R	O	D	E	R	O	D	E	A	R
I	B	I	S	G	R	E	A	T	A
P	E	T	E	R	E	R	S		
		D	O	E	N	E	G	U	S
G	R	E	A	T	D	A	N	E	
E	A	S	T	A	M	O	S	A	
T	Y	P	E	M	A	R	T	L	E

Yesterday's answer 9-26

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15			16					17		
			18			19		20		
21	22			23		24				
25			26		27		28		29	30
31			32		33		34		35	36
37				38		39		40		41
			42		43		44		45	
46	47	48			49		50			
51				52		53			54	55
56					57				58	
59					60					61

9-26 CRYPTOQUIP

A Q V G D B E D V R P K B E T D T Q E

G P A P G G I D K Y Q I I T H C

Q B F V W , K B T Q Y Y W R D D I H B F C .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DO YOU DARE TO CALL THE HUGE DAIRY BOSS "THE BIG CHEESE"?

Today's Cryptoquip clue: T equals H

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.