

Jahangir's dazzling 159

Sports Reporter

A scintillating century by Mohammedan opener Jahangir Alam helped Narayan-ganj DSA to enter the zonal final of the Gold Leaf national cricket. Yesterday Narayan-ganj humbled Tangail by 141 runs at Faridpur stadium.

Narayan-ganj won the toss and rattled up a huge 310 for four from a mere 43 overs with Jahangir cracking an unbeaten 154 off only 92 balls.

Zia with 45 and Arif with 39 took part in the run rush as the hapless Tangail bowlers totted with scant success.

Amal was their best bowler with figures of two for 63 while Shamim took one for 62.

Tangail were booked for 169 despite a defiant 63 from Arif. Asim, two wickets for 12 runs and Zia, two for 25, were the more successful bowlers for Narayan-ganj.

The winners will play Mymensingh in the final tomorrow at the same venue.

Bangladesh Biman, the champions of the recently concluded Independence Day tournament, scraped through to the final round, scheduled to begin from April 10 in Dhaka.

The airlines team were declared the winners for having lost fewer wickets as the score of the two teams — Biman and Bangladesh Krira Shikkhya Protisthan (BKSP) — stood level.

Opting to bat, the youthful BKSP Eleven totalled 184 for nine wickets in 44 overs, opener Shipon topscoring with 47. Durjoy chipped in with a handy 32 while skipper Imran made 21 and Sohail an unbeaten 21.

All-rounder Enamul Huq Moni was Biman's most successful bowler again. The left-arm spinner bowled nine overs to capture two wickets for just 24 runs. Piyal took two for 23 and veteran Ahmed Iqbal Bachchu picked up two for 38.

Biman recovered from a shaky start with a series of useful knocks from Bachchu, Zakaria and skipper Shanu.

Zakaria top scored with 58, Shanu made 44 and Bachchu 41.

Biman fell in an air pocket of sorts to lose a few quick wickets and the side lost its way after a very fine repair worked by the upper order batsmen. Biman finally reached 184 for the loss of eight wickets, in the stipulated 44 overs.

Biman will take on Dhaka University in the final, an encounter of academic interest, since both Biman and DU have qualified for the final round featuring ten teams.

Chittagong DSA was the other team to win passage to the final round as it cruised past Comilla DSA by six wickets at Sylhet.

Sent in to bat, Comilla could muster only 116 in 40.2 overs as their batsmen failed to stand up to incisive attack for the full quota of 45 overs.

The star-studded Chittagong team overtook the Comilla score in 28.5 overs, the opening eight overs as they caved in to the fiery New South Wales pace attack.

Veteran skipper Geoff Lawson, appearing in his last game, trapped Western Australian captain Geoff Marsh before he had scored, and then left-arm operator Mike Whitney ousted Mike Veletta for his second duck of the game.

Lawson followed up with the scalp of Tom Moody, who scored only 1.

Fourth-wicket pair Langer and Damien Martyn fashioned a brave stand of 91 in 72 minutes to give their team some hope.

However, the highly talented Martyn fell to a superb catch in the covers by Michael Bevan just 11 minutes before the close from the bowling of speedster Wayne Holdsworth.

themselves been skittled out for 116.

While runs came in a trickle at Jessore, it came in a torrent in another southern venue, Barisal, where Jessore DSA amassed 280 for five in 39 overs to inflict a humiliating 203-run defeat upon unflinching Patuakhali.

Rangpur made 66 for the loss of one wicket to win the right to play the winners of the Rajshahi-Gaibandha tie in the final round.

Extras ruled the roost in the match played between Chapainawabganj and Dinajpur at Thakurgaon batting first. Chapainawabganj collected 206 for nine in 45 overs, sundries amounting to a shocking 59 with 37 wides! Waseem Akram would have shaken his head in disbelief to hear that. Anyway, Johnny made 34 and Baki 32. Dinajpur, in their turn, were all out for 190 in 43.3 overs. Raja topscored with 44 while Russel made 40. Suman claimed two for 22 and Romel two for 37.

Chapainawabganj go through to the final round.

Faridpur crushed Manikganj by 111 runs at Tangail. Making the first use of the strip, Faridpur hit 224 for eight in 45 overs with Pavel hitting 56. Chitta bowled lionheartedly for Manikganj to claim five for 52.

Manikganj were all out for 113 in 34.5 overs with Babu making 27. Dipu Nazim and Shamim of Faridpur bagged two wickets each. Faridpur, with this victory advance to the final round.

JAHANGIR ... 159

Barisal won against Satkhira by 22 runs to enter the final where they will play Kushtia DSA.

Yesterday, at Jessore, the Barisal bowlers balled their team out by dismissing Satkhira for 94 after they had

Pak cricketers in Jiddah

JIDDAH, Saudi Arabia, Mar 30: A weary Pakistan cricket team arrived for an out-of-season pilgrimage to Islam's holiest shrines to give thanks to God after clinching the World Cup, reports AP.

After a brief stopover in Karachi, skipper Imran Khan and the team members arrived in Saudi Arabia late Sunday. "I am happy to be here," Imran Khan said as he and his battling teams were specially transported to Jiddah at the behest of Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, who is also in the city.

Mecca is within a two-hour, driving distance of Jiddah. The team will later travel to Medina, Islam's second-holiest city.

Pakistan beat England last week in Melbourne in the World Cup cricket final to win the prestigious Cup for the first time. Imran Khan and his team then expressed the wish to offer their thanks to God by visiting the holy city of Mecca.

Imran Khan was circumspect about his future plans, but said he had one major goal remaining to be fulfilled. "My dream of constructing a modern cancer hospital in Pakistan still remains. And this will make me carry on," he said. "I am still undecided," he

Imran on India's woes

SINGAPORE, Mar 30: India suffered in the World Cup matches because it did not have a "stable" captain, Imran Khan, skipper of Pakistan team, has said, reports PTI.

Commenting on reports that some Indian players had suggested India would have triumphed in the World Cup if it had a captain like him, Imran said in an interview here "There is no doubt that India has suffered because it did not have a stable captain."

"Of course I would be happy to be in charge of a side like India which has great talent although I don't know if I could lead the team to success," he said.

"You have to have the courage to back the right players. That is an important job for a captain. For myself, I always insist I have a big say in selection matters because I want the team which can carry out plans I have. As a captain I will always insist I decide who should or should not play," Imran said.

He said Sunil Gavaskar was the last captain who commanded the respect of the players.

"He was an intelligent captain. But India did not have that good a team then. The team has got a lot better now and if India had a person like Gavaskar (as captain) now, it would be very successful."

"But I don't blame the current skipper Mohammed Azharuddin. He has not been given enough time. I feel sorry for him. He is a good player."

Stars expected for Valson's benefit

CALCUTTA, Mar 30: Former Indian greats like Sunil Gavaskar and Mohinder Amarnath and many other Indian and Pakistani cricketers will be seen in action in the Sunil Valson benefit cricket match to be held at Silchar on April 8, reports PTI.

According to Mr Moni Karmakar, the general secretary of the Silchar District Sports Association, almost the entire Indian team which participated in the recently held World Cup is expected to play in the benefit match for the former medium pace bowler.

He further said that some international cricketers from Pakistan and Australia are also expected to play in the match. Other notable players to be seen in action include Maninder Singh, Roger Binny and Arun Lal.

Abbas manager for youth team

Abbas Uddin Khan has been made manager of the Bangladesh youth team which will participate in the Asian youth under-19 football tournament in India, a BFF source said yesterday, reports UNB.

The Group Three matches of the 28th Asian youth (under-19) meet will be held in the Indian city of Trivandrum in Kerala from April 20 to 30.

Bangladesh has been placed in Group Three along with Pakistan, Nepal, the Maldives and hosts India.

Nazrul Islam of Dhaka Division is the assistant manager.

Abdus Sadek, a National Sports Council coach, has been nominated coach while former national footballer Mohammed Mohsin will be the assistant coach of the squad.

Final selection of 18 players from among the 33 booters now undergoing training in a national camp at Mirpur will be made soon after the Eid festival.

Army spikers lift title

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Army emerged unbeaten champions while Bangladesh Rifles finished as runners-up in the MV Eagle Independence day volleyball competition which concluded yesterday.

Army beat Rifles 17-16, 15-11 and 17-16 in their last match at the Outer Stadium volleyball court.

In the other encounter of the day, Titas Club registered their maiden win in the five-team meet beating Bangladesh Air Force 15-8, 15-8, 5-15 and 15-5.

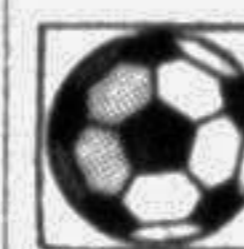
Tariqul Islam, Minister for Social Welfare and Women's Affairs, witnessed the final day's proceedings as chief guest and gave away prizes among the winners.

Following is the points-table:

Team	M	W	L	Pts
Army	4	4	0	8
Rifles	4	3	1	6
Navy	4	2	2	4
Titas	4	1	3	2
Air Force	4	0	4	0

Dhanmondi defeat themselves

Sports Reporter



Two goals before half-time gave Arambagh Krira Chakra a fairly facile win over Dhanmondi Club

in yesterday's First Division football league match at the Dhaka Stadium.

The win left Arambagh rather happily poised with 13 points from their dozen league outings to date while Dhanmondi still can't consider themselves safe and secure in the top bracket competition. The loss left them with nine points from twelve games.

Dhanmondi have only themselves to blame for yesterday's defeat. In fact, they can consider themselves a trifle lucky that Arambagh failed to increase the winning margin by passing up the second of the two penalties that came their way yesterday evening.

Dhanmondi defenders, run ragged by the charging

Arambagh forwards, conceded the first penalty of the match in the 20th minute when defender Ponce tried to use his hands instead of his feet to intercept a ball deep inside the box, an act which left referee R. Alam with little option but to point at the dreaded spot. Sunny obliged for Arambagh, gleefully converting the spot kick with goalie Tayub given hardly a chance (1-0).

Sixteen minutes later Arambagh doubled the margin when Kamal capped a fine combined move with a powerful drive from outside the Dhanmondi box (2-0).

Immediately after the breather Arambagh should have been 3-0 up but for an incredible miss by Sohel from the penalty spot. Dhanmondi defender Saiful's cynical charge on Jahangir again convinced the referee of a serious transgression and he had no hesitation in making Dhan-

mondi pay for it. But Sohel's nervous kick returned to play off the sidepost.

Dhanmondi, for their part, had their best effort wasted when a pildriver from Javed's right foot was only partially cleared by Arambagh custodian Bijoy but Mostafiz Babu, lurking nearby, failed to capitalise on the rebound.

Only one yellow card was flashed on the day by the referee and it was directed at Arambagh's Ekram.

TEAMS

ARAMBAGH: Bijoy, Anwar, Azmat, Harun(Shafi), Ekram, Kamal, Shamim, Sunny, Jahangir Sohel(Sagar) and Harun.

DHANMONDI: Tayub, Ali, Saifu, Pons, Atiq(Halim), Moazzem, Biplob, Pallab, Mostafiz Babu, Javed, Faisal and Zafar.

Ref: A Alam

TODAY'S MATCH

Fakirpool vs Police (6:45 pm)

Tahmid leads in active chess

Sports Reporter

Syed Tahmidur Rahman stayed at the top of the points table at the end of sixth round of the Neptune active chess competition at the chess room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

Tahmid beat M R Reza and national champion Rifat Bin-Sattar in the fifth and the sixth round respectively to finish with five and a half points.

Zillur Rahman Champak, Ziaur Rahman, Rifat Bin-Sattar and Amir Hossain jointly held the second position with five points each.

Kazi Mahmudunnabi Lenin, with four and half points, Lavlu, Rezaul Huq, S R Kabir Shiplu, Mansur Rahman, Idris Ali, Arifur Shikdar, Khalid Shawkat, Ali Amjad, Kalam, S H Pallab, Mubin, Mizanur Rahman and Kazi Md Afzal have four points each.

Cute handball

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Rifles, undisputed kings of Bangladesh handball, swamped South Maishundi Krira Chakra by 31 goals to 2 in the Cute First Division handball league at the Outer Stadium handball court yesterday.

Rifles, who suffered a shock defeat against Bangladesh Ansars, still top the points table with 16 from nine outings. Bangladesh Police and Ansars with 15 points from nine engagements each lie jointly in second position. Last year's runners-up Brothers Union have 12 points from eight matches.

Rifles led 15-2 at the breather. Shah Alam and Jaghu netted 12 and eight goals respectively for Rifles while Khokon and Jamal got one each for South Maishundi.

Dhaka Wanderers Club beat Tarun Sangsad by 22 goals to 12 in the other match of the day.

Wanderers led the first session 15-6. Abu scored seven goals and Khokon got four for Wanderers while Akul netted six goals for Tarun.

The victory took Wanderers' points tally to ten while Tarun have only four points from ten outings each.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Ansars vs Brothers (2 pm)
S Maishundi vs Baniannagar (3:15 pm)

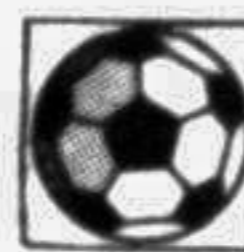
Chinese cagers Asian champs

SEOUL, Mar 30: China won the 14th women's Asian Basketball Confederation championship final in Seoul on Monday, beating South Korea 89-76, reports Reuter.

Despite the defeat, South Korea qualified to advance to the pre-Olympic Games, in which 16 nations will compete for four berths in the forthcoming Barcelona Olympics.

Japan took the last of three pre-Olympic tickets for the Asian zone by defeating Taiwan 79-75.

Nervous time for leaders



PARIS, Mar 30: Nerves are beginning to show as Europe's thoroughbred football teams enter the

home straight in the race for the top league titles, reports AFP.

None of the top nine teams in Italy managed a win, Germany's top two — Borussia Dortmund and Eintracht Frankfurt — fought out a draw allowing VfB Stuttgart to creep up, and Barcelona's challenge in Spain also received a setback.

Without their injured Dutch star Ruud Gullit, Italian leaders AC Milan were held to a 1-1 draw at AS Roma. But their rivals' nerve proved just as uncertain.

Marco Simone put Milan ahead in the fourth minute, but Roma, knocked out of the European Cup Winners Cup by Monaco, pulled back with a 68th minute goal by Ruggio Rizzitelli.

Milan stay four points ahead of second placed Juventus who relied on a last-minute goal by Salvatore Schillaci for their 1-1 at home to another Rome side, Lazio. German striker Karl-Heinz Riedle had turned in from a free kick 10 minutes from time to put Lazio ahead.

Third placed Napoli were held 1-1 at fifth placed Sampdoria. Torino, fourth, drew 0-0 with sixth place Inter Milan.

BUNDESLIGA

In Germany, VfB Stuttgart are now only a point behind leaders Borussia Dortmund and trail second placed Eintracht Frankfurt on goal difference.

The top two fought out a thrilling 2-2 draw in front of 52,600 people at Dortmund while Stuttgart were dealing with SV Hamburg 3-1.

Ghana import Anthony Yeboah put Frankfurt ahead in the third minute, but his side then had to fight back from 2-1 down.

Michael Zorc had Dortmund

level in 10 minutes and Gerhard Poschner added a second. In the 55th minute, Ralf Falkenmeyer grabbed a point for Eintracht.

Fritz Walter scored twice for VfB Stuttgart while Armin Eck got a brace for Hamburg.

Bayern Munich slipped to unlucky 13th place after going down 3-1 to Bavarian neighbours Nuremberg. Argentinian striker Sergio Zarate scored the second of his two goals in the dying seconds, but Bayern were already beaten.

With 10 matches to go, Spanish leaders Real Madrid put behind them their recent worries with a 3-1 win over Albacete — goals from Fernando Hierro, Romanian International Gheorghe Hagi and Francisco Lorente.

But Barcelona dropped a point behind after wasting chances in front of goal and being held 0-0 at Osasuna Pamplona. It was the first time this season the Barcelona have not scored in a league match.

Atletico Madrid beat Valencia 1-0 to stay in third place but are five points behind Real.

CONFIDENT MARSEILLE

Olympique Marseille seem to be the most confident league leaders in Europe.

But the French champions still rely on the Chris Waddle-Jean Pierre Papin partnership that will be split up at the end of the season.

Marseille beat Le Havre 2-0 with Waddle and Papin setting up spectacular goals for each other.

The victory keeps Marseille two points clear of Monaco who beat Lens through a Yuri Djorkaeff goal. Paris St Germain, in third place, reinforced their UEFA Cup place claims with a 1-0 win at Nimes thanks to Daniel Bravo.

Luc Nilis scored four times and Dutchman John Bosman got a hat-trick in Anderlecht's 7-3 win over Waregem. But they still lead the Belgian

championship by only two points from FC Bruges who beat Lokeren 3-1.

DUTCH SCENE

Dutch leaders PSV Eindhoven came back from a goal down to beat third placed Feyenoord 2-1. Henk Fraser headed Feyenoord's goal against the Dutch league's most expensive team in the 21st minute. But Bobby Robson's Eindhoven staged a second-half comeback.

Romanian defender Gheorghe Popescu equalised with a scorching left-foot shot and Brazilian striker Romario stole the winner seven minutes later.

PSV team chief Bobby Robson, the former England manager, watched from the directors' box as first Popescu and then Romario scored stylishly in the 54th and 61st minutes.

Robson is still recovering from a stomach operation and training remains in the hands of his deputies.

Ironically, the team's strong end-of-season form is mainly due to the return to fitness of players like Romario, Popescu and Gerard Vanenburg whose prolonged absences caused Robson much stress.

Edwin Vurens gave Sparta Rotterdam a 22nd-minute lead over Ajax with a goal from the penalty spot.

Ajax, without top league marksman Dennis Bergkamp, hit back after the interval with three goals in 12 minutes from Wim Jonk, Frank de Boer and Aron Winter.

PSV lead with 49 points from 29 matches, with Ajax on 45 points with a slightly superior goal difference.

FC Groningen were beaten at home 2-1 by Vitesse Arnhem, leaving the two clubs bracketed together on 34 points — seven behind Feyenoord in fourth and fifth places in the challenge for a place in European competition next season.

Tyson — the golden goose of boxing



INDIANAPOLIS, Mar 30: Mike Tyson needs boxing. Boxing needs Mike Tyson.

Boxing, however, has lost the golden goose before and survived.

But it's not clear if Mike Tyson will survive the loss of boxing.

"Boxing will always survive," said 80-year-old trainer Eddie Futch, who has spent much of his life in the game, reports AP.

"Boxing made Mike Tyson. Boxing isn't responsible for Mike Tyson."

Yet, boxing is the kind of world which allowed Tyson to exist on his terms and which oozed in on him at the same time.

On the other hand, boxing was not only Mike Tyson's world, but it seemed it also was his reason for existing.

Can Tyson survive without boxing? What will a prison term do to Iron Mike? Tyson was sentenced to

prison Thursday on a conviction of rape, which he is appealing. He apparently will serve from three to six years.

"After he goes to jail and does time, there's one thing I've wondered about — bitterness," said George Benton, who trains heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield.

"He can come out and be a different guy, with a chip on his shoulder, and he won't do nothing but brood."

That chip on the shoulder already was evident Thursday when Tyson said that his trial for rape had humiliated him all over the world.

"Even women are coming up to me and saying humiliating things," he said. "I didn't rape anyone."

Even if he hadn't been convicted, three years might have been the last productive years for Tyson, who will be 26 June 30.

"If he loses that speed, that will take all the fight out of him," Benton said.

While power and intima-

tion were Tyson's trademarks, the keys to the former heavyweight champion's success — a title at age 20, a record of 41-1, with 36 knockouts — were blazing hand speed and quick feet.

Without these qualities, which only the very best fighters possess, Tyson is just a small heavyweight. His height was listed at 5-foot-11 (1.81 metres). He appears closer to 5-9 (1.76 metres).

Without them, "he'll be easy to beat," Benton said. "He's never had stamina."

"He had begun a type of decline before this," said Futch, who trained former heavyweight champion Joe Frazier and who now trains a leading contender in Biddick Bowe.

"He was throwing one punch at time. He was standing up and walking straight in."

He was winning, however, and in a division without much depth, he could keep on winning.

Also, he was, without doubt, the biggest draw in the sport.

Aficionados might criticise him, but they would not fail to watch him.

Non-boxing fans were attracted to his fights through his out-of-the-ring escapades.

The sense of menace he brought to a fight always has been a magnet. Will the bully dominate or will he get his comeuppance like he did against Buster Douglas at Tokyo in 1990?

Mike Tyson has been one of the most exciting fighters in the heavyweight division since the brawling Jack Dempsey in the 1920s.

Joe Louis was brilliant, but machine-like. Rocky Marciano was money-in-the-bank and machine-like. Muhammad Ali was a personality, who not only fought well, often brilliantly, but talked a good game as well.

Tyson was simply mayhem — the essence of professional boxing to the general public.

One thing is for sure, no matter what kind of man or fighter Tyson is when he walks out of prison, whoever is heavyweight champion at the time will make a great deal of money fighting Iron Mike.

Jansher is fit to play

PESHAWAR, Mar 30: Top seed Jansher Khan said on Sunday he was fit and confident of winning the British Open squash title for the first time next month if the stars are on his side, reports Reuter.

After consecutive victories in the Spanish and German Opens and the Welsh Classic, Jansher told a news conference he was fully satisfied with his preparation for the championship in which he makes his first round appearance on April 8.

NSW has WA on the run