

# Kaiser bails out Mohammedans

Sports Reporter

Kaiser Hamid, the tall Mohammedan and national defender whose performance this year drew widespread criticism from football lovers and pundits alike, redeemed his position somewhat with an eighty-eighth minute goal to ensure two desperately needed points for his side against a tough, spirited Fakirerpool Youngmen's Club at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Mohammedans, whose collection rose to 27 points last night from 15 matches, were not given a moment's respite by their neighbours in sky-blue and just when the chips were looking to be irrevocably down, in came Kaiser with a rising shot from a goalmouth melee following a corner that eluded an otherwise alert Dhanu to bale the black-and-whites out.

Mohammedans fully aware of the advantage their arch-rivals Abahani gave them after dropping the first point of the season in the match against BRTC Sunday, pitched in front of an unusually large crowd that gathered at the stadium for obvious reasons.

Rumman Bin-Wali Shabbir, the kingpin of the Mohammedan attack, was first to come across a genuine chance minutes after the start. He turned around more on instinct than actual monitoring the movement of his teammates but his shot, with the goalkeeper at his mercy, sailed over the bar.

Mahbubur Rahman Roxy, one of the many rather over-rated booters of the Dhaka league, spotted a clear chance shortly after this when his ordinary shot from a vantage point, after Johnny had supplied him the ball from a flag kick, was gripped by the goalkeeper.

If the two raids by Mohammedans convinced anyone about a one-way traffic throughout then he was in for a big shock as Fakirerpool came back roaring and forced their fancied opponents to make hasty a retreat.

Masih, Babu in the up front and Swapan in defence turned in a fine performance to plant desperation and sporadic scare in the minds of the Mohammedan players. Babu almost gave Fakirerpool a shock lead in a match that was played at a violent pace, when he beat a sluggish Johnny on the right flank and bulldozed his way only to be

foiled by a diving Kanan. Fakirerpool, who had earlier held Brothers Union to give ample demonstration of their mettle, really made their presence felt in the first half.

Mohammedans stepped up pressure in the second half but Fakirerpool looked menacing whenever they were on counterattacks. Shamim, the Mohammedan right-back, had to work overtime to make up for the slowness of his fellow defenders; pressure told on them and once Masih broke through down the left flank but a desperate tackle from behind, that went unnoticed by the referee, saved the broth for the Mohammedans.

Nabikov took a superb first-time shot from a Kuznetsov pass but the lethal volley missed the mark narrowly, much to the relief of a spread-eagled Dhanu. Shabbir selfishly put one over the bar after Fakirerpool had freed him inside the box.

Mohammedans, who sorely missed the services of their star Russian forward Rahimov, out of action following two consecutive yellow cards, brought in Mizan in Nakib's place. The tall forward wasted an absolute sitter immediately after his arrival when he failed to score from a hand-shaking distance after a neat minus from the right caused a scramble in the Fakirerpool goal-mouth.

Mohammedans, however, got the match-winner only two minutes before the long whistle with the tense and restive supporters making life miserable with an unabated shower of missiles and crackers. Johnny floated a flag kick from the north-western corner; the ball came to an unguarded Kaiser from Titu and the defender found the net with a right-footer to deafening applause.

The regular brick-batting increased after the goal and the game was held up for a couple minutes following a minor injury to Mohammedan custodian Kanan, caused by a missile thrown from the south-western gallery.

Yellow card: Askar of Fakirerpool and Titu of Mohammedan.

**Referees' course concludes**  
Sports Reporter

The certificate distribution ceremony of the football referees' orientation course was held at the National Sports Council yesterday.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain Khoka gave away the certificates among the fifty participants of the five-day course conducted by a FIFA instruction under the joint auspices of the Asian Soccer Confederation and the Bangladesh Football Federation.

Speaking on the occasion, the State Minister hoped that the referees would implement their improved knowledge appropriately for the greater interest of football in the country.



Action from yesterday's First Division football league match between MSC and Fakirerpool Youngmen's Club at the Dhaka Stadium. —Star photo

**Zmeskal beats Boguinskaia**

PARIS, Apr 20: American Kim Zmeskal won her second title at the World Gymnastics Championships Sunday, upsetting defending champion Svetlana Boguinskaia of the Commonwealth of Independent States in the balance beam, reports AP.

The win confirmed Zmeskal's status as the world's top female gymnast.

In the men's events, Li Jing of China shared his second title when he tied former Soviet Alexei Voropaev for first in the parallel bars. You Ok Youl of South Korea won the men's vault for the second year in a row.

Grigori Misutin, the 1991 men's all-around champion, captured the horizontal bar event as the five-day competition, ended.

Lavinia Milosovic of Romania took the women's uneven parallel bars for the second straight year.

**6 Bulgarian lifters banned for doping**

SOFIA, Apr 20: Six members of Bulgaria's national weightlifting team were banned from competition for two years on Monday after a second, back-up dope test proved positive, reports Reuter.

The weightlifters, who include two former world champions, tested positive on Sunday following a routine dope test by their coaches at the National Sports Medicine Centre before the European Championships which begin in Hungary on Wednesday.

"The six lifters have been banned for two years," Emil Milosovoh, secretary of the Bulgarian Anti-Doping Commission, said on Monday.

Bulgarian head coach Nurair Nurkhanov said on Sunday that urine samples taken on Friday showed the lifters had used the weight-reducing diuretic Sahuretin.

But he said the seven were clean and suggested there had been some outside interference. He said the diuretic was without colour, taste and smell

**Maradona to dare FIFA again**

OSADAS, Argentina, Apr 20: Diego Maradona, the Argentinian Napoli striker suspended for drug-taking, plans to again defy FIFA, the International Football Federation, by playing in a benefit match next month, reports AFP.

On Wednesday, Maradona played in a charity match to raise funds for the family of late Argentinian player Juan Gilberto Funes in spite of a FIFA "recommendation" to the contrary.

Confirmation of the striker's next match came unofficially from Roberto Velazquez, Secretary of Tourism for the Northern Province of Misiones, who said on Sunday that the former national captain would play in this city located 850 kilometers north of Buenos Aires.

The match, to take place around May 10, will benefit charities in northern Argentina.

**Real romp 7-0**

MADRID, Apr 20: Real Madrid matched the seven goals Spanish title rivals Barcelona put past Albacete on Saturday with a 7-0 romp against Espanol on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Midfielder Fernando Hierro was responsible for most of the damage with a four-goal blast — the last three in the space of five minutes.

Emilio Butragueno fired Real 2-0 ahead in the first 12 minutes then Hierro took over, scoring in the 44th, 53rd, 55th and 58th — the last a penalty.

**Niro still leads**

Sports Reporter

Neyamul Huq Niro with six and a half points topped the table after the completion of the eighth round of the preliminary qualifying competition of the 18th national chess championship held at the National Sports Council chess room yesterday.

Niro, who had collected six points from seven matches, drew with Ziaur Rahman in their eighth round encounter. Zia has six points.

Others who have collected six points each are Anisur Rahman, Kayes Hassan, Jamilur Rahman, Rani Hamid, Ruhul Kabir Shipilu, Abdul Khaleq, Amir Hossain, Kalam, M R Hafiz, Iqbal Rakib, Nahid Mizaid and Omar Khaled.

Shipilu beat Rezaul Huq, Hafiz outwitted Shamsul Kabir and Amir outplayed Shahabuddin Ahmed in their respective eighth round matches.

Syed Tahmidur Rahman, Saifuddin Labu, Jahangir Ahmed, Khorsheed Alam, Faizur Rahman, Abid Hossain and Saiful Islam with five points each jointly held the third position.

**Chen shocks Appelgren in Euro TT**

STUTTGART, Germany, Apr 20: England's Chen Xinhua sent defending champion, Mikael Appelgren of Sweden, crashing to a shock defeat in the European table tennis championships here on Sunday, reports AFP.

Chen, a former Chinese international, beat Appelgren 23-21, 21-10, 21-16 in the last 16 to end an era for the three times singles' champion.

Appelgren, who had first won the title in 1982 at the age of 20, was the winner again in both 1988 and 1990. Though he has not been at his best this season, few expected him to lose to Chen, whom he had already beaten in the team event.

But the Swedish left-hander could not handle Chen's vicious backspin defence and repeatedly hit attacking forehands off the table.

Chen struggled a little before winning the first game but cruised through the second and led 17-8 in the third.

Appelgren caused a flutter of excitement by pulling up to 15-18 but Chen regained con-

# Rajshahi in final

Sports Reporter

Rajshahi DSA made the final of the Siraj memorial 12th national youth cricket championship recording an exciting one-wicket victory over Mymensingh DSA in the low-scoring first semi-final held at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Rajshahi will now take on the winners of today's semi-final between Jessore and Rangpur in the final on April 23 at the same venue.

Rajshahi skipper Santosh won the toss and invited his Mymensingh counterpart Shakhawat to bat.

Mymensingh, who lost two quick wickets, were restricted to a modest 119 in 42 overs, three short of their stipulated 45.

Marwar, the Mymensingh opener, was the first to go with the score on just two. He was caught by Rawnak off the bowling of Qari.

Raju, who joined the other opener Ashrat, started very cautiously. But the Qari-Rawnak combination sent him back to the pavilion, the scoreboard having progressed to only 10.

The third-wicket partnership between Ashrat and Sumit looked quite set and took the total to 38 in 14.2 overs.

But Syed got the desired breakthrough for Rajshahi when he bowled Ashrat for 15, the batsman having faced 40 balls and hit just one four.

Sumit was next to depart, top scoring with 24 off 52 deliveries with the help of three boundaries.

Despite a valiant effort by the tail-enders, especially Atiq and Tutul, Mymensingh could crawl to only 119 runs before folding up their innings.

Atiq and Tutul made 22 and 18 respectively.

Sujoy with three for 17 was the pick of the Rajshahi bowlers while Qari took two for 23 and Bhola, Syed and Torey claimed a wicket apiece.

Despite chasing a relatively easy target, Rajshahi lost their top three batsmen for just 9 runs in 3.2 overs and indeed appeared in dire straits. But the fourth-wicket stand between Sanchay and Sadat, grafting 53 invaluable runs, saved the day for Rajshahi. In the end they made 123 for nine wickets in 37.2 overs.

Sanchay top scored with 34 playing 52 balls, a knock that included as many as four hits to the fence.

Syed remained unbeaten on 14 while Himel and Sadat scored 12 and 11 respectively.

However, had Mymensingh been able to cut down on the number of extras, amounting to 39, the result of the match might have been different.

Plabon with three for 18 was the most successful bowler for Mymensingh while Kamrul and Mohammad bagged two each.

**TODAY'S MATCH**  
Jessore vs Rangpur (Dhaka Stadium)

**Qatari hockey meet uncertain**  
Sports Reporter

The fate of the Qatar invitation to the 1992 World Cup hockey tournament, to which Bangladesh was invited, is now uncertain, according to a telex received by the Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) yesterday.

A Qatari club which planned to organise the tourney informed the BHF that they had to suspend the programme for the time being because of the non-availability of teams from India and Sri Lanka.

Pakistan arid Baharain, the other two invited countries, however, had reportedly confirmed their participation in the meet.

The proposed tournament was intended to promote hockey in Qatar.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh, placed in the Asian Group A of the 1992 World Cup hockey qualifying tournament, will play her matches starting next September in the Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur, a BHF official said yesterday.

The other teams in the groups are Sri Lanka and hosts Malaysia.

Bangladesh finished fourth, just behind India, in the Asian qualifying round of the 1988 World Cup held in India.

Pakistan and South Korea qualified from Asia for the last World Cup held in Malaysia in 1988.

**Chinese booters beat Indonesians**

SINGAPORE, Apr 20: China defeated Indonesia 2-0 in the Asia Cup Group Four soccer qualifying round Monday night, reports AP.

China led 2-0 at halftime on goals by Wu Gunli in the 24th minute and by Mai Chao one minute later.

**Budd's Barcelona berth doubtful**

DAKAR, Apr 20: Zola Budd-Pieterse is running a grave risk of not reaching the Barcelona Olympics following another failure at South Africa's return to international athletics here Saturday, reports AFP.

Once held up as a symbol of apartheid by black African sports leaders, the barefoot runner's loss of form has become as much a concern to them as it is to her South African coaches.

Budd-Pieterse, 25, has yet to run an 8 min 56 sec 3,000 metre Olympic qualifying time this year. She has added a few pounds in weight in recent months and her 9:05.49 at the first leg of the Unity Games showed that the controversial runner faces an uphill struggle.

Dany Malan, a senior member of Athletics South Africa and one of its few representatives on the National Olympic Committee of South Africa selection team, admitted: "We are worried about Zola."

He confirmed she was not yet on the list so far qualified for the Olympics. The number of athletes likely to go to Barcelona is so small that

middle of Dakar's Stade de L'Amitie after her new disappointment. She finished 150 metres behind South Africa's new star runner Elana Meyer.

"I don't know what is going wrong and don't ask me about the Olympics," she said to reporters.

With the South African season now drawing to a close, the second leg of the Unity Games next weekend is her only realistic chance to cut her time.

Before the Dakar race she said that she cared more about running than going to the Olympics.

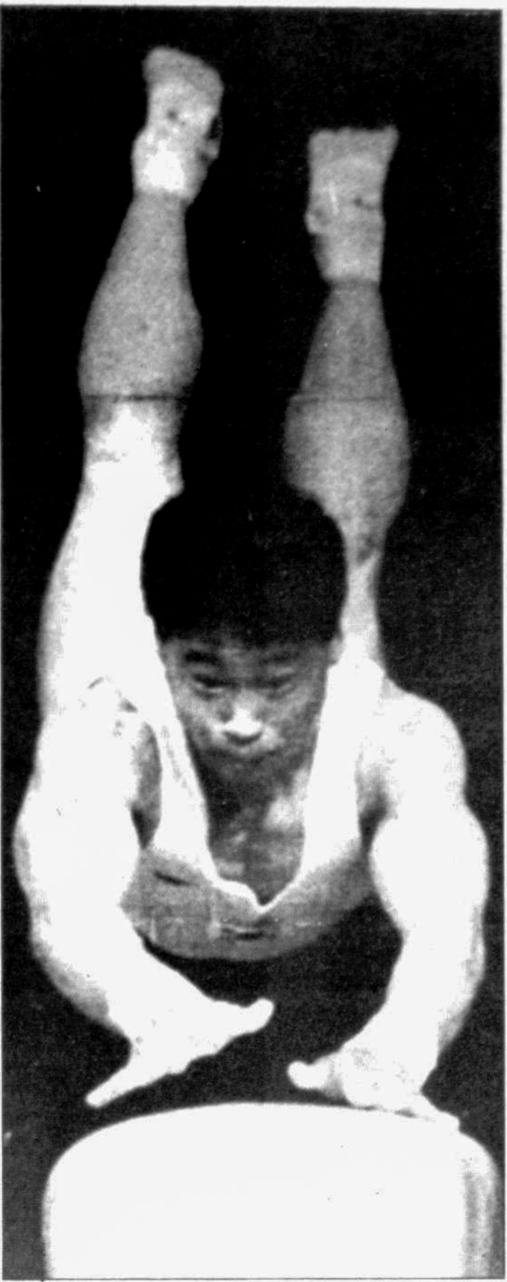
But it was still a serious ambition for her which had not been helped by South Africa's sporting isolation.

"Normally, for an Olympic Games you plan two years ahead," she said of her lack of international competition.

Budd-Pieterse still feels that being able to take part in the big European Grand Prix meeting will lift her performance.

"There is so much more incentive," she said.

Budd-Pieterse's absence from Barcelona would be another sad chapter in her sorry career.



South Korean gymnast Sud You Ok Yul in action during the men's vaulting final on the horse at the World Gymnastics Championships in Paris on April 19. Yul took first place and retained his crown with a 9.675-point win. — AFP photo



ZOLA BUDD

provisional membership of the International Amateur Athletics Federation.

Budd-Pieterse looked bemused walking around the

**US beat Honduras**

SAN PEDRO SULA, Honduras, Apr 20: The United States moved a step closer to the 1992 Olympic football tournament here Sunday with a 4-3 victory over Honduras at the Francisco Morazan Stadium, reports AFP.

Lisa Lomas of England and Galina Melnik of the Commonwealth of Independent States provided the most excitement in the women's singles before Lomas won 11-21, 21-16, 19-21, 27-25, 24-22 in a third round match that was halted for 20 minutes with the English girl leading 21-23 in the fourth game.

The umpire made a mistake, calling for expedite after the fourth game had lasted 15 minutes, forgetting that the rule does not come into force if the score has reached 19-19.

Melink hit a winner for 24-24 as the umpire was waving his arm in the air to stop the game but it took English coach Don Parker 20 minutes to persuade the officials to put the score back to 23-24 in his players' favour. On resuming Lomas still had to save a match point at 25-24 in the fourth game and two more in the fifth before winning after one hour and 50 minutes, the longest match in the championships since the war.

Marie Hrachova of Czechoslovakia also had a cliff-hanger when she beat Asa Senson of Sweden 21-10, 16-21, 21-17,

19-21, 22-20 but the big surprises were caused by unseeded Agnes Le Lannic of France and Gerdie Keen of Holland.

Le Lannic beat Christiane Praedel of Germany 21-15, 21-16, 21-18 and Keen defeated Otilia Badescu, the second seed from Romania, 21-19, 21-13, 21-16.

Now, in the quarter-finals, Csilla Batorfi, the Hungarian top seed, will play Bettine Vrieskoop of Holland and Hrachova will meet Jasna Fazlic of Yugoslavia in the top half.

Le Lannic will oppose Mirjam Hooman, the third Dutch girl to make the last eight, and Lomas will play Keen in the bottom half.

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