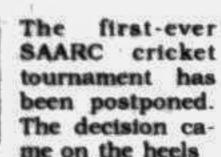
Pak pyrotechnics prove pointless

Sports Reporter



tournament has been postponed The decision came on the heels

of a huge nine-wicket victory by Pakistan against hapless Shri Lanka at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The decision was only a logical and speculated conclusion of a Hamletian dilemma, for the authorities, whether to carry on or not to carry on with the four-nation tournament in the backdrop of the tense and volatile situation that has been prevailing in the country since the demolition of a mosque in India. In the end, the Bangladesh government preferred not to take any chances and the organisers, Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB), were advised to suspend the meet which began on December 3.

Although it was a sad day for cricket lovers in general, Pakisian fortified their position as far as a place in the now immaterial final is concerned outclassing Shri Lanka by nine wickets. With both teams needing victories by yawning margins -- Pakistan to eliminate Bangladesh from the race for a place in the final and Shri Lanka to remain alive -Pakistan bade Shri Lanka bye empty-handed from the nineday long tourney.

Neither Tanveer Mehdi nor Kabir Khan or for that matter none of the regular bowlers at Pakistan captain Moin Khan's disposal put the spoke in the Shri Lankan wheel. It was Aamir Hanif who, with his military medium-pace, did the utmost damage claiming four Shri Lankan wickets as Test experienced Moin Khan invited his counterpart Uvaisul Karnain to make use of the central pitch of the Dhaka Stadium in the morning, after having won the toss.

The rot started from the beginning with left-arm medium-fast bowler Kabir Khan uprooting the stumps of Chaminda Mendis, a young

Pakistanis laid

low by virus

HOBART, Australia, Dec 9:

Three key members of

Pakistan's cricket team are

fighting viruses 24 hours be-

fore the start of Thursday's

World Series match against

Australia at Bellerive Oval.

and Aamir Sohail all are suffer-

ing from sore throats, but are

likely to miss the match, how-

ever, as he is still suffering

from pain from a stress frac-

that the three players affected

by the influenza virus all were

and determined, so the in-

juries and viruses don't matter

has a 1-0 record in the trian-

gular tournament, while

Australia is 1-1 and the West

Stand-in captain Mark

Taylor, who led Australia to a

14-run victory over the West

Indies in a rain-shortened

match in Sydney on Tuesday

night, said Wednesday that the

Hobart wicket looked in good

which should be good for shot-

wicket out there, so hopefully

a few of us will get starts and

someone will make a big score.

players desperately needed to

spend time at the crease after

scoring only 261 runs in their

making," Taylor said.

last two matches."

"It looks like it has got pace

"It's good to see a nice flat

"Taylor said the Australian

"We really haven't had much

time in the middle but overall

I'm happy with our form," he

Miandad said Wednesday

"We are all very confident

World Cup-holder Pakistan

Javed himself, Salim Malik

said, reports AP.

expected to play.

ture in his lower back.

under medication.

that much," he said.

Indies is 1-2.

right-hander tipped as a future candidate for the opener's slot of the Shri Lankan Test team.

Mendis, no relation of the former Shri Lankan captain and explosive batsman Duleep Mandis, had a miserable time in this tournament, unable to total a double-figure mark in the three matches Shri Lanka

With none of the other Shri Lankan batsman showing any temperament or class to stand up to pressure, a lot depended on left-handed Sajith



Fernando but his rescue act was cut short by a spot-on delivery from Aamir Hantf who went on to capture three more wickets. Fernando made 27 with the help of two fours before being bowled by Hanif.

The bowler then dealt a double blow by removing lefthanded Duminda Perera, next ball with Zahid Fazal taking the catch to reduce Shri Lanka to 45 for three in 16.3 overs.

Nishant Ranatunga was yorked with the unenviable task of maintaining a delicate balance between defence and offence and he did that pretty well within his limitations. Coming at number five, the younger brother of Shri Lankan Test captain Arjuna Ranatunga, Nishant was the eighth out, topscoring with 39 off 61 balls and three well-struck boundaries.

Russel Arnold making his debut in the meet with 19 and pace bowler Manjoola Moonasinghe with ten were the other Shri Lankan willow twielders to reach double figures, as Shri Lanka folded up at 125 in 40.4 overs.

Aamir Hanif was the best bowler of the Pakistan team comprising up-and-coming

players. He made the most of the freshness of the wicket with figures of four for 36 from his full quota of nine

Kabir Khan picked up the first and the last Shri Lankan wickets to finish with figures of two for 18. His partner with the new ball, Tanveer Mehdi, took one for 21.

Both the slow left-armers -Moin's elder brother Nadeem Khan and Mohammed Zahid -claimed one wicket each for an interesting, identical analysis of nine overs, two maidens, one wicket for eighteen

Keeping well in mind that they had to go for a leather hunt to improve their net run rate of plus .51, the Pakistani openers Basit Ali and Shahid Anwar tore apart the Shri Lankan bowling. Basit, who was seen swinging his bat with gay abandon against the likes of Waseem Akram and Wagar Younis in domestic competition, mercilessly hit Wendall Labrooy and company.

The stockier of the two openers, Bastt smashed an unbeaten 69 off just 57 balls with the help of eight fours as Pakistan stormed to their target of 126 in just 17.2 overs. He had Test batsman Zahid Fazal with him at the kill. Fazal hammered an unbeaten 31 with the help two huge sixes and one four.

Shahid Anwar, who was the lone Pakistan casualty of the afternoon, had his share in the flare-up with an innings of 20 off 17 balls.

Shri Lankan opening bowler Wendall Labrooy whose bowling has so far been the only silver lining of an otherwise cloudy performance by the islanders came under heavy punishment, giving away 26 runs off two overs.

None of his colleagues were spared although Nishant Ranatunga succeeded in getting the wicket of Shahid Anwar.

Basit Ali, who helped Pakistan establish the highest run-rate of the ill-fated meet with electrifying batting, was named the man-of-the-match.

Commenting on the postponement, Pakistani manager Waseem Bhatti said "It is unfortunate that a tournament had to be frozen in the mid-

"It is detrimental for the interests of the hosts because they were to play India which would have been a tremendous help from the viewpoint of exposure", he felt.

Poddin		
3	SCOREBOARD	100
SHR	I LANKA:	
	nda Mendis b	
Kabir K		2
	ando b Aamer Hanif	
	ld c M Zahid b	
Aamer	Hantf	19
D Perer	a c Zahid Fazal b Aa	amer
Hantf		0
N Rana	tunga st Moin	
	Nadeem Khan	39
N Ferna	ando run out	0
P Dessa	nayake lbw	
	r Hanif	5
S Silva	lbw b M Zahid	1
SHUE	Karnain c	
	han b Tanvir Mehdi	2
M Moo	nasinghe bowled K	abir
Khan		10
W Labr	ooy not out	0
	(b1, lb 13, wb5, nb	1) 20
	40.4 overs)	125
20,20		5-5075550

8-113; 9-117; 10-125. Bowling: Kabir Khan Tanvir Mehdi Mohammad Zahid9 2 Aamer Hanif Nadeem Khan 9 2 18

Fall of wickets: 1/7; 2-45;

3-45; 4-79; 5-82; 6-93; 7-103;

PAKISTAN:	
Basit Ali not out	69
Shahid Anwar c Labrooy	b N
Ranatunga	20
Zahid Fazal not out	31
Extras: (lb1, wb3, nb2)	6
Total: (17.2 overs, one	
wicket)	126
Fall of wickets 1/53	
Bowling O M E	w

Bowling:	0	M	R	W
W Labrooy	2	0	26	0
S Silva	2	0	20	0
M Moonasing	he 4	0	24	0
N Ranatunga	3	0	15	1
S Fernando	2	0	21	0
D Perera	2	0	11	0
N Fernando	1.2	0	6	0
R Arnold	1	0	2	0.
1	2020	250	2 2	4

Shri Lankan opener Sajith Fernando's bails go flying as Pakistani medium-pacer Aamir Hanif claims the first of his four wickets in yesterday's match of the SAARC cricket tournament at the Dhaka Stadium. Pakistan won the match by nine wickets. - Star photo

Coaching camp for Reds, Greens on

Sports Reporter

The three-week long coaching programme for the two Bangladeshi selections- Reds and Greens - for the seventh President Gold Cup football tournament scheduled for January 6 to 18 in the city, began yesterday at two different

While the Bangladesh Reds have been put up at the Bangladesh Krira Shikha Protisthan (BKSP) in Savar the Greens will practise at the Mirpur Stadium.

Md Katkobad and Abdul Gaffer have been appointed coaches for the Reds and Greens respectively.

Secretary, selection committee of the Bangladesh Football Federation Nabi Chow dhury formally inaugurated the Greens' coaching programme at the Mirpur Stadium yes terday.

Nat'l hockey from today

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Raflway take on Bangladesh Air Force in the inaugural match of the 15th national hockey champtonship today at 3 pm at the Dhaka Hockey Stadium.

Twenty teams split into four groups will participate in the preliminary round of the national championship, the final round of which will be held from December 18 to 24 durthe fifth Bangladesh Games.

The top two teams from each group will participate in the final round. Teams participating in the

preliminary round are defending champions Dhaka DSA, Perojpur, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Patuakhali and Sylhet in Group A; Bangladesh Army, Chittagong, Noakhali, Mymensingh and Dhaka Education Board in Group B: Faridpur, Bangladesh Air Force, Bangladesh Railway, Rajshahi and Bangladesh Navy in Group C and Dhaka University, Gazipur, Bangladesh Police, Jessore and Munshigani in Group D. Reigning champions Dhaka

will play their first match against the victors of the tie between BUET and Perojpur on December 14. The preliminary round is

scheduled to conclude on December 16, the Victory Day

BCCB not over the hump yet



The Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) has decided to suspend the on going SAARC cric-

ket tournament in view of the postponement of the seventh team captain Javed Miandad SAARC summit earlier scheduled to begin in Dhaka on 12, a day after the final of the nine-day long four-national instant cricket competition. Pace bowler Aagib Javed is

The reality behind the facade of appearance is far from being that simple. The BCCB was actually under the threat of a political organisation who sounded off warnings regarding the safety of the Indian Sports Reporter

players if the tournament went unabated ignoring the inflammable situation arising from the destruction of a mosque in India.

Yesterday, at around 4 pm, callers identifying themselves as workers of a political organisation tinkled at the BCCB office telling them to either stop the tournament or face unsavoury consequences.

Although suspension of the meet helped the BCCB sparean immediate headache, the despatching of the players re-

mains a ponderous issue. According to a Board official the Pakistan team will be put on board a PIA aircraft this afternoon on their way back

Indian batting with figures of

An AP message from Port

Police patrolled inside and

Elizabeth adds: Police arrested

21 demonstrators from outside

outside St. George's Park Be-

cause of threats of disrup-

tions by the black militant

Azanian People's organization.

Black militants have claimed

responsibility for two recent

attacks on whites that killed

five people and wounded

the Indian tour gathered out-

side the stadium but police

told them to disperse. When

the protesters moved to an-

other spot, 21 were arrested

for holding an illegal demon-

Two official Tests, the first

South Africa returned to in-

ever between the countries

ended in draws due to rain last

ternational cricket last year af-

ter being banned for two

decades because of apartheid.

Demonstrators opposed to

four for 32 from 9.2 overs.

the stadium.

dozens.

stration.

month.

Indians falter again

Sports Reporter

South Africa were

poised to win the

second of their

seven one-day in-

ternational series

when they bow-

led out India for only 147 in

49.4 overs at the Saint

George's Park ground in Port

Elizabeth, according to the

star TV coverage monitored in

man Woorkeri Raman was the

topscorer of the innings with

33. On a slow wicket where

even deliveries from Allan

Donald, reputed to be the

fastest bowler of the two teams

barely carried to the wicket-

keeper, most of the Indian

batsmen struggled to find

gaps just as they did in the

first match which India lost by

six wickets, in Capetown Dec

wicketkeeper Kiran More

were the other notable scorers

arm fast medium bowler was

once again the scourge of the

Brian McMillan, the right-

with 30 and 32 respectively.

Batsman Parveen Amre and

Left-handed opening bats-

Dhaka last night

home. No such instant measure could be thought of for the departure of the Indian team because of a strike called in India to protest the ruination of the Babri mosque.

Bangladeshi players were released from their camp in Hotel Purbani last evening.

The BCCB is now engaged in an engrossing mathematical conundrum regarding the fate of the Shri Lankan team. The Shri Lankans cannot fly home by the normal route of Dhaka Colcutta-Madras-Colombo because of the turbulent situation in India since the mosque incident. While it costs the board almost Taka two lakhs per day to keep a team in the hotel, a Dhaka- Bangkok-Colombo air passage as an optional means would amount to an additional expense of Taka 40000 to 45000 per head.

Injured Crowe opts out of tour

COLOMBO, Dec 9: A persistent hamstring injury has forced New Zealand skipper Martin Crowe, who hit a brilliant century for his side against Shri Lanka in the second Test, to withdraw from the rest of the match and the tour, reports Reuter.

"I don't think I should risk aggravating my injury any further," Crowe said at the end of the third day's play on Tuesday as his side sought to avoid an innings defeat.

He said he would not take the field if Shri Lanka was to bat in the second innings and Andrew Jones would take over the reins for the match and the last two games, both oneday matches.

New Zealand began the fourth day of the Test on Wednesday at 277 for six, still 15 runs short of avoiding an innings defeat. Crowe, out for a duck in the

first innings, hit a superb 107 in the second. "It was my best I have ever played," he said. The New Zealand captain,

whose hamstring problem occurred during a one-day game in Zimbabwe before coming to Shri Lanka, said he had the injury for over a month and it was getting worse. "So now I am the coach and

Andrew Jones is the captain. I have to be fit in time for the boxing day match against Pakistan because that is at the head of my priorities," he said. The team has been handi-

capped by the absence of a coach after Warren Lees and five other players opted to return home when a Tamil rebel bomb blast rocked their Colombo hotel a few days after the team had arrived.

Pakistan are playing one Test and three one-day games in their tour of New Zealand.

SL's maiden Test win over NZ third in 42 Tests. They had COLOMBO, Dec 9: Shri Lanka raced to a historic series win over New Zealand by

nine wickets bethe current Test series 1-0 forc tea on the fourth day of their second and final Test at the Singhalese Sports Club grounds here Wednesday, re-Shri Lanka knocked off the

target of 70 runs in the 15th over with 52 of the runs coming off 13 boundaries. Opener Roshan Mahanama scored six of the boundaries in his breezy innings of 29.

ports AFP.

Despite Mahanama's loss with the score on 36, co-opener Chandika Hathurusinghe (23) and Asanka Gurusinha (14) saw the side through to their first win in six years with an unbroken 34 runs for the second-wicket.

A few hundred spectators surged on to the field as Hathurusinghe hit the winning run off part-time bowler Andrew Jones, who led New Zealand in the absence of skipper Martin Crowe who was side-lined by a hamstring

This is Shri Lanka's first win over New Zealand in 11 Test matches and only their earlier beaten India in 1985 and Pakistan in 1986 with both matches being won in Colombo. Shri Lanka also clinched

after the first Test ended in a draw. Skipper Arjuna Rana tunga said he was feeling on "top of the world" after leading his side to victory in his 11th Test as captain. The 29-year-old Ranatunga

was a member of the Shri Lankan team that beat India and Pakistan under Duleep Mendis, the present cricket manager of the side. "I am disappointed. Shri

Lanka played better than we did," said a dejected New skipper Martin Zealand Hashan Tillekeratne brou ght extra honour for Shri

Lanka when he carried away the man-of-the-match award for equalling a world record by taking seven catches in the match and scoring 93 in the first innings. Tillekeratne equalled the

record held by Australian Greg Chappel and Indian Yajuvindra Singh, both of them achieving the feat in Test matches against England.

Earlier, wicket-keeper Adam Parore and the New Zealand tail wagged strongly to delay Shri Lanka's victory march adding 84 runs to their overnight score of 277 before their 2nd innings ended in the 6th over after lunch at 361.

Parore hit a defiant 60 that included four boundaries and figured in two useful stands of 31-runs and 44-runs with seam bowlers Chris Pringle (23) and Michael Owens (eight) for the 9th and last wickets respectively.

SCOREBOARD SHRI LANKA: 1st innings 394

NEW ZEALAND: 1st innings

NEW ZEALAND: 2nd innings (277 for 6 overnight) B R Hartland c Muralidharan b Gurusinha J G Wright c Mahanama b Muralidharan A H Jones c Tillekeratne b Warnaweera

M D Crowe c Tillekerathe b Muralidharan K R Rutherford c (sub)

masinghe b Anurasiri

the country.

Games.

tary, Farid said.

107 Jayasuriya b Warnaweera C Z Harris lbw Anurasiri A C Parore c Tillekeratne b Muralidharan G E Bradburn c. Wickra-

When he was asked to

comment on the prevailing

impasse in the First Division

badminton league following the

resignation of some members

from the league committee last

month, the BBF president said

that efforts have been made to

resolve the issue and the

league programme would begin

next month after the forth-

coming fifth Bangladesh

Delwar Hossain Dilu, a BBF

In answer to another query

Shah Md Farid said that the

federation would like to make

the junior badminton tourna-

Managing Director of Agrani

Bank Mostafa Aminur Rashid

said that the state-run bank

might sponsor the tournament

Aminur Rashid will inaugu-

rate the meet as the chief

Addressing the journalists,

ment a permanent feature.

joint 'secretary, has been made

the First Division league secre-

M L Su'a b Muralidharan C Pringle c Tillekeratne b Liyanage M B Owens not out Extras: (b2, lb8, nb13) Fall of wickets: 1-23; 2-30; 3-189: 4-196; 5-240; 6-261;

7-285; 8-286; 9-317. OM R Bowling 12 3 35 Liyanage Gurusinha 34 4 107 Warnaweera Muralidharan 40 5 1 3 4 22 4 54 Anurasiri 3 Hathurusinghe

SHRI LANKA: 2nd innings R S Mahanama c Parore b Owens U C Hathurusinghe not A P Gurusinha not out Extras: (lb2, nb2) Total: (one wkt) Fall of wicket: 1-36 Bowling

Owens Pringle Su'a Bradburn Result: Shri Lanka won by nine wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Hashan Tillekeratne (Shri Lanka) Umpires: T M Samarasinghe and I Anandappa.

V-Day meet from today



Agrani Bank Victory Day badminton tournament for boys and girls under 16 years of age begins today at the Outer Stadium wooden-floor

gymnasium. About 111 youngsters including six girls will participate in the meet organised by the Bangladesh Badminton Federation (BBF).

While the boys will participate on a knock-out basis, the girls will take part in a league. Talking to newsmen at the National Sports Council conference room yesterday, chairman of the tournament committee Kazi Wahidul Alam said that four events - the boys' singles and doubles and

girls' singles and doubles' -

will be staged during the

week-long meet. Among the participants, 21 are from outside Dhaka. The outstation players are from Noakhali, Chittagong, Mymensingh, Gazipur, Comilla, Feni, Tangail, Jamalpur and Naray-

Giving details, the tournament secretary Mariam Tarek said that out of an estimated budget of ninety thousand taka

Agrani Bank, the sponsors, have provided 75 thousand

BBF president Dr Shah

Mohammad Farid informed the

newsmen that the federation would arrange a coaching programme for two boys and two girls in the Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur sometime next BGIC volleyball

Sports Reporter The 16th national men's

and 10th national women's volleyball championships begin simultaneously today at the Outer Stadium volleyball court. Twelve teams will compete

in the men's event while the women's event will feature 10. The meet is sponsored by the Bangladesh General Insurance Company (BGIC). Agriculture Minister Maj

Gen (retd) Majidul Haq will inaugurate the meets as chief

The national championships will also be considered as the qualifying meet for the volleyball competition included in 'the forthcoming Bangladesh Games/scheduled for later this

the Bangladesh Games.

guest at four this afternoon. State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain Khoka is The top eight male and six expected to give away the female teams will compete in prizes on December 15.

in coming years also.

begins today year to popularise the game in

Sports Reporter

V-Day b'ball

Dhaka Winners Club take on Hornets Sporting Club in the inaugural match of the 1992 Victory Day basketball tournament today at 6 pm at the Outer Stadium wooden-floor gymnasium.

Twelve teams in four groups will participate in the knockout tournament organised by the Bangladesh Amateur Basketball Federation. The teams are Josephites Club, Azad Boys Club and Bangladesh Navy (B) in Group A; Bangladesh Army (Green), Bangladesh Police and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) in Group B; Bangladesh Air Force, Bangladesh Rifles and Bangladesh Army (Red) in Group C and Bangladesh Navy (A). Dhaka Winners' Club and Hornets Sporting Club in Group D.

The four group champions will play in the semifinals on December 15 while the final and third-place deciding match will be held on (December 17, a day after Victory Day.

President of the BABF is expected to inaugurate the tournament as chief guest.

