

Pak-Lanka final in Sharjah today

SHARJAH, Feb 3: Sri Lanka beat Zimbabwe by 30 runs in the Sharjah Trophy one-day cricket tournament today in a match reduced to 43 overs, reports Reuter.

Shri Lanka will meet Pakistan in Thursday's final.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the Sharjah Trophy one-day cricket match between Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe on Wednesday.



RAMANAYAKE ... 3 for 28

The match was reduced to 43 overs per side at the rain.

Table with columns for Sri Lanka players and their runs/wickets.

Table with columns for Zimbabwe players and their runs/wickets.

Table with columns for Sri Lanka bowlers and their figures.

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Result: Sri Lanka won by 30 runs.

Women's v'ball gets underway

The Rabnani Sports Women's volleyball tournament got underway at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex yesterday.

Rajbari DSA beat Narayanjanj DSA 15-7, 15-12 in the opening match of the meet.

State Minister for Establishment Nurul Huda inaugurated the four-day competition as chief guest.

Sydney's fear

SYDNEY, Feb 3: The official at the head of Sydney's bid for the 2000 Olympics fears that its chances would be harmed if a weekend strike grounding flights at the city's airport heralded the start of a damaging round of industrial disputes, reports Reuter.

Narayanjanj Div I cricket on

Narayanjanj Rifle Club (jr) made a good start in the Narayanjanj AKM Shamsuzzoha Memorial First Division cricket league when they trounced Ahmed Jute Mills Club by eight wickets at the Osmani Stadium yesterday, says a press release.

Batting first Ahmed Jute Mills made 103 losing eight wickets in 29 overs with Suman topscoring with 37.

Jahangir and Munna took two wickets apiece for Rifle Club.

Rifle Club cruised past the opponents' total making 106 for the loss of three wickets in 19 overs with Pappu top scoring 28 each.

Suman and Barun took a wicket apiece.

Tito touches up Surjo Tarun

A fine allround performance by Tito enabled Surjo Tarun to taste victory after a series of defeats when they beat Kalabagan Krira Chakra by four wickets at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Batting first Kalabagan limped off to an unconvincing total of 169 for nine from their quota of 45 overs with Tito gumming up the works with a fine spell of off-spin bowling.

After Shri Lankan Sujith Perera had left for a bright 55 made off 71 balls with the help of five fours and a sixer, Kalabagan just lost their way.

The left handed Shri Lankan who opened the Kalabagan innings, gave no hint of any devil in the wicket; a fact which was also borne out by Kalabagan's other foreign recruit, Joydeep Mukherjee.

The tall right hander also batted care freely for his 25 off just 35 balls.

The rest of the batting, barring a brief flutter by paceman Mohammad Ali, never prospered. Pilot, who announced his arrival earlier this season as the most exciting young batsman of the country, continued to show some susceptibility at number four labouring for a 37-ball innings of eight runs only.

As always, Ali quickly responded to the call for quick runs and proved instrumental in the victory.

Gaibandha Nirman cricket result

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Feb 3: Gaibandha Govt Boys High School became champions in the Gaibandha zonal championship for the eleventh Nirman schools cricket tournament by recording a four-wicket victory against Islamia High School at the local stadium yesterday.

Batting first Islamia School were all out for 175 while Gaibandha Govt School, in their turn, made 118 losing six wickets.

Abed Mostafa Ripon of the winners was adjudged the man-of-the-match.

Four schools participated in the meet organised for the first time in Gaibandha by the district sports association.

Deputy Commissioner of Gaibandha Abdur Razzagga gave away the trophies as chief guest.

Swimming career what I want to achieve out of it comes first, so far a gold medals, world records and Olympic achievements. And then my financial stability is my next biggest worry for me," he said.

Sponsorship offers poured in for Perkins after his stunning Barcelona victory last August and he reckons he has already earned in the region of a 200,000 (140,00 US dollar).

"But it's only going to last a

short time and that's a lot of the reason why eight years is my long-term career plan... Perform well for my country in swimming," he said.

The proposed contracts prohibit elite swimmers from entering into any commercial arrangement with a company whose products or services

compete with the ASI's existing sponsors.

They also prevent swimmers from discussing the performance of another swimmer or policy matters relating to the squad or the ASI without its permission.

The Australian Swimming and Supporters Association, a watchdog body formed last week by the swimmers to protect their rights, is to draft a new contract to present to the ASI later this month.

The association is really interested in representing the voice of swimmers, their parents and supporters for the long-term," its vice-president and lawyer Peter Baston said.

It's president is Greg Lewis, father of Olympic silver medalist Hayley, who said that the ASI was threatening the elite swimmers' financial independence.

Under the contract the ASI can also call on swimmers' services for publicity and appearances which Lewis' parents believe would disrupt her training schedules.

The ASI has insisted that the proposed contracts are reasonable.

The six Barcelona medalists had 'collectively received 55 fully-funded tours internationally by ASI' executive director Simon Allatson said.

"If we are to provide similar opportunities to the others we have to generate revenue," he added.

leather hunt by the latter batsmen.

Rokon then cracked a thunderous 66 off 58 balls which included seven hits across the fence to tote up to the miseries of the poor PWD bowlers.

Rahul smashed 56 with the help of three fours off 44 balls as Udity ran up to an unassailable total of 256 for four wickets.

Kamrul, Fazu, Towhid and Imdu took one wicket each.

PWD were all out for 132 with Kamrul topscoring with 34. Obaid scored 33 Kallol 18 and Imdu a stroke-filled 17.

Durjoy set doom for PWD with his leg-spin claiming three wickets for 15 runs only. Rokon chipped in with two for 16.

Udity now have six points from seven matches while PWD who succumbed to their ninth defeat are yet to open their account.

TODAY'S MATCH

Brothers vs OMCC (Dhaka Stadium)

Nirman cricket

Sports Reporter

Willes Little Flower School have qualified for the final round of the Dhaka zonal championship for the eleventh Nirman schools cricket tournament.

Yesterday they registered a massive 164-run victory over University Laboratory High School to clinch the Group F championship at the Brothers Union ground.

Batting first Little Flower School were all out for 210 in 33.3 overs with Manna topscoring with 56 and skipper Opee getting a quick 32 with the help of four sixes and a four.

Faisal also made 32 while Mashaq and Abir made 25 each.

Sunil and Omar shared six wickets between them while Wahid took two for University Laboratory School.

Little Flower School bowlers bundled out the University Laboratory School students for a paltry 46.

Asif with four wickets for 33 was most successful of the Little Flower School bowlers while Opee and Halim with two wickets each lent him able support.

Anwar, the Laboratory School wicketkeeper, top-scored with 19 for his side.

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Four local players to compete in Goodriche chess

Four Bangladeshi players including Grandmaster Niaz Murshed will participate in the Goodriche International Open chess tournament, which begins tomorrow in Calcutta.

The other three Bangladeshi players are former national women's chess champion and International Women Master Rani Hamid of Bangladesh Biman and Ziaul Kader Tuhin and Shaikh Anwar Hossain of Brothers Union.

United Insurance Co Ltd, sponsors of the first ever GM meet beginning in the city from February 19, will sponsor Niaz Murshed's Calcutta tour.

Meanwhile, national champion Rezaul Karim Sattar with full seven points from as many matches led the table of the 14th national junior chess championship at the National Sports Council chess room yesterday.

Rezaul beat Abdullah Al-Rakib in his yesterday's encounter.

Shafiqul Azam and Shafiq Ahmed with six points each followed the national champion.

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Young chess players in action in the 14th junior chess championship at the chess room of the NSC yesterday.

England settles for the next

1995 World Cup in subcontinent

LONDON, Feb 3: International Cricket Council delegates on Tuesday night accepted a combined offer from India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka to host the 1995 World Cup cricket tournament, reports AP.

The decision followed 13 hours of talks among the delegates from 28 cricketing nations at Lord's, London headquarters of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), Britain's leading professional cricket club.

The agreement was reached after England withdrew its own bid to host the 1995 event in order to prevent a deadlock under council voting rules.

The delegates in return agreed that the 1998 World Cup will be hosted by England, which staged the first three World Cup competitions in 1975, 1979 and 1983.

England had gained a 5-4 majority of the Test-playing nations in the voting for the 1995 tournament. The British national news agency Press Association said it is thought only newcomer Zimbabwe had sided with India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

But a two-thirds (6-3) majority was required to satisfy the rules and the meeting looked set to continue indefinitely until England freed the logjam by withdrawing its bid.

ICC secretary John Stephenson said England's move was "the most magnanimous, decent and wonderful gesture... for the good of international

cricket."

After 1998, a formal rotation system will be introduced, with South Africa lined up to host the 2001 tournament, the delegates decided.

England's other condition was to insist on the appointment of an ICC chief executive, to be in place by July this year.

Subject to terms and conditions being acceptable, that man will be David Richards from the Australian Cricket Board, the delegates decided.

The 1995 World Cup will be from 28 cricketing nations at Lord's.

In return England, hosts of the first three tournaments in 1975, 1979 and 1983, were promised the 1998 World Cup.

ACC chairman Malcolm Gray said the important issue was the event should move around the world. "We would want to ensure in the future that it doesn't always remain in one or two parts of the world," he said.

England hosted the first three tournaments but then bowed to pressure from the sub-continent for a change of venue. Last year the Cup was held in Australia and New Zealand for the first time.

The 1995 World Cup will consist of the nine Test playing countries plus three ICC trophy members (effectively second Division) to be determined.

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Calcutta showed the way: Scindia

CALCUTTA, Feb 3: "Calcutta showed us the way" was the instant reaction of an aghast Madhav Rao Scindia, the president of the Board of Control of Cricket in India, when contacted in London immediately after India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka won the right to host the 1995 World Cup, reports PTI.

Scindia speaking to PTI over telephone from London said, "Our efforts have been successful and Calcutta actually showed us the way," referring to India's win over England in the first cricket Tests at the remarkable victory Eden Gardens yesterday.

"It was a great effort by the three neighbours in the sub-continent. The 1995 World Cup will certainly improve mutual cooperation among the three countries further," Scindia said.

Scindia was leading a four-member BCCI delegation to

the crucial International Cricket Council meeting in London to decide the venue of the World Cup. It included Jagmohan Dalmiya, the con-

happenings at the 13-hour long meeting last night, Scindia said a near deadlock situation emerged at the meeting and finally England agreed to withdraw their bid with the condition that they will be offered to host the following World Cup in 1998.

According to another BCCI source in London, though none of the bidders could muster a two-third support of the nine full members of the ICC, which ultimately did the trick.

England, who had hosted the first three World Cups in 1975, 1979 and 1983, will, however, have to pay a 30 per cent raise on the guarantee money the Joint Bid Committee is paying to full and associate members for the 1995 World Cup.

The Joint Bid Committee has offered to pay 2.50 lakh pound to each of the nine full members, 1.25 lakh pound to the three playing associate members and one lakh pound to non-playing associate members.

Giving details about the

Asians ecstatic over WC return

LONDON, Feb 3: Cricket fans and officials across Asia were celebrating on Wednesday, after India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka were chosen to stage the 1995 World Cup, reports AFP.

The decision was taken here after a marathon meeting of the International Cricket Council on Tuesday night. After 13 hours of deadlocked talks, the breakthrough came when England withdrew its bid to stage the tournament.

In Delhi, C K Khanna, secretary of the Delhi District Cricket Association, described the ICC's decision as "a great moment for Indian cricket".

The president of the Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan, Justice Nasim Hasan Shah, said it was a "very happy thing which amounts to reposing a lot of confidence in our ability to organise such an important event".

"It will be a great boost for the game of cricket not only in the region but also the world over."

Pakistan's Haseeb Ahsan, a former national team manager and chairman of the 1987 World Cup Technical Committee said "It is a great honour and a boost to game of cricket."

"Both India and Pakistan have the experience of organising such events without any controversy and this time also they would have the opportunity to prove their organisational abilities," he said.

In Colombo, the Sri Lankan Board praised England's decision to withdraw its five million pound bid and pave the way for the Asia.

"It is really good news," said board spokesman Lal Wickrematunge. "It's a tremendous gesture on the part of England to make this move."

"The fact that England and Australia did not use the veto showed that they had the game at heart and have done their best for international cricket."

England had a 5-4 majority of the nine Test-playing nations, which was short of the

two-thirds (6-3) majority required under ICC regulations. Newcomers Zimbabwe were believed to have sided with India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

England's decision came with a guarantee that they would run the 1998 World Cup. England hosted the first three of the world limited-overs cricket competition in 1975, 1979 and 1983.

Cameron's lions to get \$ 60,000

YAOUNDE, Feb 3: Cameroon's hard-up national football side is to get a 15 million dollar boost from oil company total-Cameroon in the run-up to the 1994 World Cup, it was announced here on Tuesday, reports AFP.

The money will go towards making up players' unpaid bonuses and to buying equipment.