

## Women's team title is Ansars'

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Ansars retained the women's team title in the Econo eighteenth national table tennis championships beating hosts Jessoro DSA in the final at the Jessoro gymnasium yesterday.

Ansars, who beat Bangladesh Biman in last year's final, were given a jolt as Shamima upset national women's champion Zulekha Akhter in the opening match of the best-of-five final. Shamima, cheered on by the home crowd, took the first set 25-23 in a nail-biter. Zulekha immediately bounced back into the game snatching the next set 21-16 to draw level. But Shamima did not lose her cool and wrapped up the best-of-three encounter with a surprising easy 21-8 win.

Zohera Rahmat Linu, however, eased off the pressure with a facile 21-15, 21-15 victory over Linu and then teaming up with Zulekha, her conqueror in last year's women's singles final, beat Linu and Bachchi 21-13, 21-15 to give Ansars a 2-1 lead.

But Shamima, spurred by her unexpected win over Zulekha, almost levelled the score in the reverse singles against Linu. She pushed her former Biman teammate to her limits before bowing down 19-21, 20-22.

In the boys' team event Bangladesh Ansars made it to the Group A final outlasting Habiganj DSA 3-1 in the semi-final. Ansars will meet Tangail, straight-set winners against Lalmonirhat.

Dhaka and hosts Jessoro advanced to the Group B final beating Narail and Rajshahi in their respective semifinal engagements in straight sets.

Forty matches of the boys' singles were also settled yes-

terday.

Rain reigns at Dhaka Stadium

Sports Reporter

The Sponsors' cricket tournament match between Beximco XI and Gold Leaf XI again fell through owing to heavy downpour for the third consecutive day. But this time rain started its act 42.2 overs into the match.

The match originally scheduled for last Saturday began at 2:30 pm under overcast conditions with Gold Leaf sending Beximco in to bat after having won the toss.

Jahangir Alam and Azhar Hossain Shantu gave the Beximco outfit a solid start, sharing a 43-run first-wicket partnership. Shantu, the bespectacled Mohammanan opener, was the first to go when he offered Akram Khan a catch off Jakee for seven. Jahangir followed him 21 runs later when he was clean bowled by Rahul for 33.

Skipper Faruq Ahmed, who plays for Abahani Kira Chakra, and Shahinawaz Shehad Shantu then added 48 runs for the third wicket before Shantu scooped one from Gold Leaf skipper Enamul Huq Moni to Aminul Islam Bulbul after scoring 14.

Faruq was batting on 56 and Selim on 20 when rain started.

The match will resume today with the Gold Leaf starting their chase for the Beximco total of 161 for three in 42.2 overs — of course if the weather permits.

## Nat'l snooker

CHITTAGONG, May 3: Seven games of the national snooker championship including four walkovers were decided at the billiard room of Chittagong Club today, reports BSS.

Shaheen Aftabur Reza Chowdhury of Chittagong Club defeated Jahangir Alam of Comilla Club by 4-1 frame. Andrian Gonvalves of Catholic Club outplayed Alfa Hussain Iqbal of Chittagong Club 4-0 and Sayed Ali Mansur of Chittagong Club beat Ali Ahsan of the same club 4-1.

Adnanul Islam Chowdhury of Chittagong Club, Jamaluddin Ahmed of Comilla Club, Noel Rebeiro and WF Doherty of Catholic Club got walkovers from their opponents.

## Army football

BOGRA, May 3: Four more matches of the Army football championship were held at the Bogra Cantonment, an ISPR press release said here yesterday, reports BSS.

Mymensingh Area beat Dhaka Signals 2-1 in a Group A match yesterday afternoon. In another match of the Group, Savar Area drew goalless with Chittagong Area today.

In Group B, Dhaka Infantry drew 1-1 with the Dhaka Engineers today. Jessoro Area also drew 1-1 with Log Area in another match of the Group yesterday.



Former Indian Test cricketer Mohinder Amarnath, whose services have been hired by the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) to help pick and coach the national squad for the ICC Trophy competition in Kenya next February, seen signing his contract with the BCCB in the presence of Board secretary Aminul Huq Moni and vice president Raisuddin Ahmed (R) yesterday at the BCCB office.

— Star photo

## Pakistan in dire straits

**ST JOHN'S, Antigua.** May 3: West Indies established a strong position in the second day of the third Test, which was cut short by 20 overs due to rain here on Sunday, reports AFP.

Already leading 2-0 in the three-Test series, West Indies are in a commanding position to complete a 3-0 whitewash.

When a downpour, the fourth of the day, called play to a halt, Pakistan, replying to a daunting West Indies total of 438, were 85 for three.

The last of these wickets, that of Javed Miandad, went down in what proved to be the last over, from Winston Benjamin.

But left-handed Asif Mujtaba, who had batted solidly for 128 minutes to reach his 50, off 88 balls, with six fours, remained not out. He and Miandad had come together at four for two and put on 81.

The final chunk of play lasted just 20 minutes as the innings had already been interrupted since tea for an hour by rain.

Lying under covers, the pitch freshened up and Benjamin caught Miandad lbw with a ball which came at him sharply.

Basit Ali, who came in to replace Miandad, who made 31, faced only two balls and survived a frantic appeal for lbw off the second, when he had offered no stroke.

The first two Pakistan wickets, those of their openers, had gone down for only four runs. The scoreboard was still blank when Courtney Walsh got one to lift and move away against Rameez Raja, who was caught behind.

In the next over, after Mujtaba had clobbered a square-cut four, Curly Ambrose brought one in from a good length to win an lbw appeal against Shakeel Ahmed.

Walsh, who contributed 30 to it, was caught off a bouncer from Akram on the second ball after lunch.

Hooper, who had made only 24 runs in his three previous

innings in the current series, remained not out on 178, from 248 balls, with 19 fours and four sixes. It was his fourth Test century and his previous best score was 134.

### SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard after the second day of the third Test between Pakistan and West Indies here on Sunday:

WEST INDIES:	First Innings (overnight 344-9)
Haynes c Latif b Nadim Khan	23
Simmons c Akram b Ataur Rehman	28
Richardson c Akram b Younis	52
Lara st Latif b Nadim Khan	44
Arthurton lbw b Younis	30
Hooper not out	178
Murray lbw b Younis	4
Ambrose lbw b Akram	1
Cummins lbw b Younis	14
Benjamin c Akram b Younis	12
Walsh c Mujtaba b Akram	30
Extras: (lb 5, nb 17)	22
Total:	438
Fall of wickets: 1-35; 2-77; 3-153; 4-159; 5-218; 6-241; 7-252; 8-312; 9-332.	

**Bowling:** O M R W  
Akram 26.2 5 108 1  
Younis 28 4 105 5  
Ataur Rehman 17 1 66 1  
Nadim Khan 38 5 147 2  
Miandad 1 0 7 0

**PAKISTAN:** First Innings  
Shakeel Ahmed lbw b  
Ambrose 0 0  
Rameez Raja c Murray b  
Walsh 0  
Asif Mujtaba not out 50  
Javed Miandad lbw b  
Benjamin 31  
Basit Ali not out 0  
Extras: (lb 2, nb 2) 4  
Total: (for three wkt) 85

Fall of wickets: 1-0; 2-4; 3-85

To bat: Inzamul Haq, Wasim Akram (capt), Rashid Latif (WK), Waqar Younis, Nadim Khan, Ataur Rehman.

**Bowling:** O M R W  
Ambrose 9 6 5 1  
Walsh 4 1 19 1  
Benjamin 7.5 0 8 1  
Cummins 5 2 8 0  
Hooper 6 0 3 3

WAQAR YOUNIS ... 5 for 105

second Test last week. He looted him for a four and six in one over.

West Indies' last-wicket partnership between Hooper and Walsh, unfinished from Saturday, blossomed into a record stand of 106.

Walsh, who contributed 30 to it, was caught off a bouncer from Akram on the second ball after lunch.

Hooper, who had made only 24 runs in his three previous

## M Waugh bowls Aussies to victory

the Australian captain for 18.

### SCOREBOARD

**AUSTRALIA:**

M J Slater b Gravney 13  
S R Boon c Parks b Headley 14  
M E Waugh b Headley 6  
D R Martyn c Garner b  
Botham 5

Dutchess of Norfolk's XI here on Sunday, reports AFP.

The New South Wales seamer grabbed five for 32 to help skittle the scratch English side for 196 after the tourists had struggled to 203 for nine in their 50 overs, with Kent paceman Dean Headley returning five for 51.

Mark's twin, Steve, top-scored for the Aussies with 59 to lift them from an embarrassing 68 for five. He was only assisted by wicket-keeper Ian Healy, who contributed an unbeaten 47.

But the day's most impressive batting performance came from ex-England batsman Paul Parker, who was last out for 77.

Ian Botham, bidding for a England recall against the Aussies, managed just 13 with the bat, including one six off Mark Waugh, but produced a fine spell of two for 29 in his 10 overs of seam bowling.

The 37-year-old all-rounder included old foe Allan Border among his victims, bowling

### Div II cricket qualifiers from May 9

Sports Reporter

The qualifying tournament for next year's Second Division cricket league will begin from May 9, according to Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) joint secretary Golam Faruq Apu.

Seventy-four teams — split into eight groups — will take part in the knock-out tournament. After the first phase of the meet, the eight group leaders will compete in yet another knock-out round to select the top two teams, who will earn promotion for next year's league.

The 35-overs-a-side matches of the league will be played in different venues in the capital and Narayanganj. The grounds are: Brothers Union Club ground, Dhanmondi Club ground, Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Pallabi ground and Sitalakshya ground.

### DUTCHES OF NORFOLK'S XI

T R Ward run out 33

G Fowler c Healy b Julian 11

P W G Parker lbw b Holdsworth 77

**MARK WAUGH ... 5 for 32**

A R Bordes b Botham 18

S R Waugh b Garner 59

I A Healy not out 47

B P Julian c Cowdrey b Headley 20

P R Reiffel b Headley 9

S K Warne b Headley 0

Extras: (lb 5, w 7) 12

Total: (9 wkt, 50 overs) 203

Fall of wickets: 1-20; 2-27;

3-40; 4-42; 5-68; 6-150; 7-

188; 8-203; 9-203.

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Garner 10 2 32 1

Headley 10 1 51 5

Gravney 10 2 32 1

Botham 10 1 29 2

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