

Div I hockey

Sports Reporter

Independence Day hockey champions Usha Krira Chakra stayed on the winning trail in this year's Green Delta First Division league when they recorded a 3-0 victory over Azad Sporting Club in yesterday's second match at the Hockey Stadium.

The winners led the first half through a goal from Mir Zahurul Islam who neatly converted a penalty stroke one minute away from the short whistle.

Rafiqul Islam widened the margin 19 minutes into the second half when the forward wearing number ten drove home after a well-synchronised Usha offensive left him unmarked inside the D.

Kismet made it 3-0 in the 69th minute through a field goal.

In the other match of the day, Faisal and Bayazid Haider struck in the space of two minutes to ensure a 2-0 win for Ajax over Police AC.

BCCB picks up 45

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) has picked up 45 cricketers for trials to make the final selection for the forthcoming ICC Associate Members' trophy to be held in Kenya next year.

The selected cricketers, who have been requested to report at the BCCB office on June 20 at 10 am, are:

Nurul Abedin, Saiful Islam, Aminul Islam, Jahangir Alam, Akram Khan, Shah Nawaz Shad, Minhawaz Abedin, Zahid Razzak, Enamul-Huq, Faruq Ahmed, Jahangir Alam Talukdar, Harun-ur-Rashid, Azhar Hossain Nasir Ahmed (wk), Athar Ali, Selim Shahed, Golam Nawsher, Salahuddin, Khaled Masud, Al Shahriar, Khalid Mahmud, Joydeeb Basak, Mizanur Rahman, Mahbubur Rahman, Zakaria, Ahmed Fayaz, Naimur Rahman, Sharfuddin ibne Shahid Saikat, Zakir Hassan, Javed Omar Belim, Asif Omar Belim, Anisur Rahman, Tanvir Ahmed, Ziauddin Ahmed Rubel, Azam, Habibul Bashar, Debashish Barooah, Sajjad Ahmed, Abu Hamid, Babu, Saiful Anam, Raimur Rashid, Zaki and Ziaur Rashid.

Div II cricket qualifiers

Sports Reporter

Saiful picked up five wickets for only seven runs to pave the path for a three-wicket Gopibagh Krira Chakra victory over Janapriya Sangha in the Second Division cricket qualifying tournament at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium (west) yesterday.

Gopibagh sent their opponents to bat after winning the toss.

In the face of Saiful's devastating spell Janapriya Sangha could manage 100 in the 26.5 overs. Feroz and Lipton assisted Saiful well sharing the remaining five wickets among them.

It was mainly due to Soheli's 31 and Babu's 26 that the losers' total reached respectability.

Gopibagh Krira Chakra raced to 103 in 24 overs losing seven wickets with Firoj remaining unbeaten on 19 to be the highest individual scorer.

Titu dismissed three Gopibagh batsmen for eight runs.

At the Jagannath Hall ground of the Dhaka University Chaitanya Progoti Sangha registered a 10-run win over Udayan Cricketers.

Batting first the victors amassed 110 for nine wickets from 27 overs.

Babul topscored with 23 while Rajab was at the crease till the end on 22.

Shipon rounded up three wickets for 30 while Saiful took two for 24.

Chasing 111 for victory, Udayan Cricketers fell 11 runs short of the winning target.

Babul was the most successful Progoti Sangha bowler claiming three wickets for 15. Md Ali and Javed pocketed two wickets each.

Maghbaz Kishore Sangha overpowered Mirpur Cricket Club by four wickets at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium (east).

Maghbaz Kishore Sangha reached 91 for six wickets in 23.1 overs in reply to Mirpur Cricket Club's 90 all out in 26.2 overs.

At the Mirpur Pallabi ground PSQ Club posted a convincing 60-run triumph over Tuhin Smriti Sangha.

Having won the toss PSQ batted first and accumulated 135 for the loss of seven wickets in the stipulated 25 overs.

Mr Sundries with 45 was the highest scorer. Abhijit and Muzahidul contributed 23 and 21 respectively.

Touhid and Junayed picked up two wickets each for 32 and 21 respectively.

In reply Tuhin Smriti Sangha were all out for 75 runs with 30 coming from extras.

Mitu destroyed the ill-equipped Tuhin Smriti Sangha batting line-up by sending back four batsmen for only 13 runs while Rubel and Touhid took two wickets each.

PWD let Abahani off the hook

Sports Reporter



A ramshackle Abahani Krira Chakra, the reigning league champions, were lucky to get away with a point in their league opener as an unfancied Public Works Department (PWD) held them to

ously placed near the vulnerable points of the galleries the organisers, who only a couple of days back dwelt so long on adequate security measure and the formation of a sub-committee, really proved themselves all thumbs in arranging such a big event.

Saif gain possession of the ball inside the box and the nippy outside left found the net with an angular drive (1-1).

Mushtaq missed two golden opportunities following the resumption after the disruption. First he dodged past Selim, the Abahani custodian, to have



TRANSFORMATION... Abahani Krira Chakra skipper Sumi Rizvi, who was in a devastating form in the recently concluded DMFA Cup, leaps in the air in a vain effort to head home during the inaugural match of the Star Premier Division football league match against PWD at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. Strangely Rumi was awfully off-coloured. —Star photo

a one-all draw when this year's twin Senior Division football league got underway in chaotic circumstances.

After a goalless first half Abahani took the lead through their temperamental striker Ahmed, who later earned the dubious distinction of being this year's first recipient of a red card. In an ugly demonstration of frustration the lanky striker kicked PWD's Reza off the ball to incur the wrath of the man in black.

Just when the saner section of the crowd was preparing to congratulate referee Nazir Hussain for a very apt momentary response, he showed a very familiar weakness of our referees—the inveterate instinct to appease the big clubs. Referee Nazir tried to balance the score by showing the red card to a PWD player on the funny assumption that he had cautioned him with the yellow card. Quick intervention by the PWD players set the records straight for the referee and Shamim, the PWD player at peril but the die was cast by then and the supporters of the south-western gallery, popularly known as the 'Abahani gallery' got the handle they were looking for long.

Anger and consternation caused by the poor performance of their team spilled into the field from the gallery and the match was held in abeyance for 32 minutes because of incessant brick-battering.

Mismanagement of the organisers, the Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA), reached its nadir when some hoods stormed the field with rods and chains to attack the PWD players and the referee.

With the ground so precari-

ously placed near the vulnerable points of the galleries the organisers, who only a couple of days back dwelt so long on adequate security measure and the formation of a sub-committee, really proved themselves all thumbs in arranging such a big event.

As if to match this DMFA mess, yesterday's football never rose above mediocrity with a below-strength Abahani lacking terribly in spirit and imagination. Three of Abahani's regular players — custodian Mohsin, defender Rehan and forward Mamun Joarder — were missing from the squad and the lone Russian recruit was not eligible for yesterday's match as his registration formalities were not complete.

Ahmed failed to give his side the desired lead in the first half when he blasted the ball over an empty net following a telling PWD attack that saw left winger Saif Khan head a cross just over the Abahani bar.

Abahani took the lead 14 minutes into the second half when Gaus, who had earlier created a fine opening, misused from the left and Ahmed managed to roll the ball into the net in his second attempt from a goalkick (1-0).

Mushtaq, PWD's seasoned striker who kept on probing Abahani's slow and fragile defence every now and then, sent in a cross from the right and a faulty clearance by Shakil saw

a very enfeebled push which Munna just retrieved in the nick of time and on the second occasion Selim thwarted him after a lovely cross by Reza poised him for a go at the goal.

Mushtaq apart, Reza, Arif Khan and goalkeeper Saidur did splendid job for the office team while all the Abahani players, perhaps infected by the dismal show of prolific scorer and skipper Rumi, appeared in complete disarray.

Earlier, State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain inaugurated this year's twin Star Senior Division league. In one tier, known as Star Premier Division, ten top teams will vie for the honours while in the other, touted as Star First Division, ten teams including two promotees will fight it out for two promotion berths.

BABES OPEN ACCOUNT

East End Club, who won promotion to nascent Star First Division along with Bangladesh Boys, opened their account on the inaugural day as a belated equaliser earned them a draw and a point against Fakirerpool Youngmen's Club in yesterday's second match.

Substitute Shafiqul Alam gave Fakirerpool the lead when he drove home a cross eleven minutes into the second half following a cross from the left (1-0).

Liton of East End restored parity at the fag end of the match with a powerful freekick that gave the Fakirerpool custodian no chance (1-1).

TODAY'S MATCHES

Farashganj vs Bangladesh Boys
Mohammedans vs Muktiyoddha

25 named for BKSP coaching course

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) selected twenty-five football trainers for a coaches training course which will begin from June 14 under the auspices of Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protisthan (BKSP). Those picked up are: Naser Talukdar (Netrakona), Asafuddin (Jessore Education Board), Madhav Dutta (Sarkhira), Sadhan Basak (Sherpur), Selim Chowdhury (Gaibandha), Z U Pradhan and M A Razzak (Naval Sports Council), Abul Kalam Bakul (Lalmoinihat), Shikdar Manzur Alam (Magura), Maqbul Hossain (Bangladesh Rifles), Humayun Kahir Luku (Joypurhat), Mofizuddin (Kurigram), Utpal Kanti Roy (Kurigram), Abdul Motaleb (Habiganj), Al Mamun (Jhalakathi), Shahidul Islam, Al Aagar (Khulna), Sohrab Hossain (Dinajpur), Gazi Khairul Huda Faruq (Manikganj), Saidul Alam Chowdhury and Supal Kanti Das (Chittagong), Ning Chai Chowdhury (Rangamati), Nurannabi (BDR) and Fazlul Huq Murad (Bogra).

The twenty-five coaches have been asked to report to BKSP office by June 13.

Bahrain roll over Hong Kong

SEOUL, June 11: Bahrain trounced Hong Kong 3-0 in a World Cup Asian Zone Group D preliminary match here Friday, after leading 1-0 at half-time, reports AFP.

Bahrain went ahead straight from the kick-off with Adel Rahman Marzouq scoring in the first minute.

A similar start to the second half saw Sameer Mohammed Mubarak make it 2-0 and Khamis Eid Thani added a third three minutes later.

Benfica blank Boavista 5-2

LISBON, June 11: Benfica trounced Boavista 5-2 in the Portuguese Cup final on Thursday, redeeming themselves for their failure to win the league championship this season, reports Reuter.

Paulo Futre scored twice for Benfica while Boavista had defender Jose Garrido sent off for his second bookable offence two minutes from time.

Benfica opened the scoring in the 32nd minute when midfielder Vitor Panetra scored from close range.

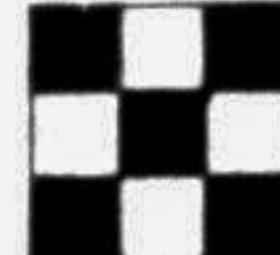
Joao Pinto headed a second goal three minutes later, although a mistake by Benfica defender, Brazilian Carlos Mozer allowed his compatriot Marlon Brandao to pull a goal back for Boavista just before half time.

Two minutes into the second half Futre scored the first of his two goals with a powerful shot from inside the penalty area after a counter-attack. But another mistake in defence allowed Jose Tavares to score Boavista's second goal on the hour.

Boavista's keeper Yugoslav Zoran Ljemic saved a penalty from defender William Andrade following a foul on Futre but the reprieve was only temporary.

Varugese exacts vengeance

Sports Reporter



Varugese Koshy, the Indian IM, exacted a sweet revenge when he beat GM Dibyendu Barooah to

open his account in the play-off meet for the qualifying round of the world chess championship



International Master Varugese Koshy (R) makes his first move against fellow-Indian Grandmaster Dibyendu Barooah in their return match of the meet for qualifying round of the world chess championship for Zone Eleven at the NSC conference room. Koshy opened his account yesterday. —Star photo

for Zone Eleven at the conference room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

The strongly-built International Master from India subdued his frail but more fancied compatriot in 45 moves to avenge the defeat he suffered on the inaugural day of this meet.

Playing with white, the bespectacled Calcuttan started by advancing his king's pawn. Koshy defending with black adopted Modern Defence by pushing forward a queen's

seconds for six moves while Dibyendu had two minutes.

Suddenly the proceedings came alive with both players making some quick moves but on the 40th move Dibyendu lost his knight because of lapse in concentration.

Dibyendu's faux pas let time pressure off the match but the whip hand changed hands and Koshy was firmly in control of the match. Dibyendu, the younger of the two contestants accepted defeat on the 45th

move. Koshy's win means all the three competitions—Niaz Murshed, the Bangladeshi GM, and the two Indians, GM Dibyendu Barooah and Varugese Koshy — all have one point each in the robin league tournament. However, both the

Klinsmann's pair saves Germany



WASHINGTON, June 11: Jurgen Klinsmann scored his second goal in injury time here Thursday as Ger-

many rebounded from a 3-0 deficit to draw Brazil 3-3 in the US Cup friendly football tournament, reports AFP.

Substitute Michael Schulz throw-in bounced once and Klinsmann headed it past Brazilian keeper Taffarel in the final minute, a goal that Klinsmann called a reward for German perseverance.

We were rewarded with a goal in the last minute, but the important thing was to show we could keep up in the second half, he said.

In the first, the Germans could not quite keep pace with the speedy, skilful Brazilians.

Brazil went ahead in the 13th when Elvileton, pursued by Stefan Effenberg in the left side of the penalty area, pushed the ball to Lusinho whose angled shot was deflected into the goal by Thomas Helmer.

Helmer then brought down Elvileton in the area in the

32nd and Careca deftly converted the penalty. Lusinho made it 3-0 in the 39th.

In the second half, Germany put in Karlheinz Riedle to partner Klinsmann up front and the



KLINSMANN... 2 goals

improvement was obvious.

German manager Berti Vogts said: "We moved (Stefan) Effenberg to midfield and Klinsmann with Riedle had to run less.

Klinsmann scored in the 66th from a pass from Christian Ziege. Andreas Moller added a second in the 79th.

Brazilian manager Carlos Alberto Parreira said loss of midfield dominance was key.

We lost control of midfield and could not control the game, he said.

He praised Germany's tenacity in the hot, humid conditions.

They played with great heart, he said. We played a beautiful game in the first half, in the second half we collapsed.

Vogts said: "We showed typical German qualities in the second half, to fight and to believe in our will to win".

But he added: "That is not the way we will play Brazil in the World Cup".

The four-nation US Cup continues on Sunday, when the United States meet Germany in Chicago and England face Brazil in Washington.

The event concludes with Germany-England in the Silverdome on June 19, the first major international to be played in an indoor stadium.

Video vigil

LONDON, June 11: Video surveillance of spectators is to be introduced at this year's Wimbledon tennis championships in the aftermath of the on-court stabbing of Monica Seles at Hamburg in April, reports AFP.

Officials met with police over two days this week to discuss new security measures in the aftermath of the stabbing which has forced Seles to miss the French Open and Wimbledon.

In addition to the cameras, security agents will patrol the grounds and a number of other measures, which have not been made public, put in place.

"For obvious reasons we do not want to talk too much about what we have done but regular visitors will soon see the difference with previous years."

AC Milan arrive in South Africa



JOHANNESBURG, June 11: Italian soccer champions AC Milan arrived here Friday to meet Nelson Mandela and take part in South Africa's return to international sport, reports AFP.

AC Milan were to meet the African National Congress (ANC) president on Friday without their black stars Ruud Gullit and Frank Rijkaard.

Gullit and Rijkaard were both left behind as they are leaving the club. AC Milan's third Dutch star, Marco van Basten, is injured.

Gullit sent a letter apologising for missing the encounter with Mandela and promising to visit South Africa later. As AC Milan were greeted by about 300 fans at Jan Smuts Airport, team spokesman Jean-Luc Tizi said Gullit was disappointed at missing the trip and the chance to meet Mandela.

AC Milan are to play South

African First Division side Orlando Pirates in a friendly on Saturday before flying on for three matches in Australia.

The match at Johannesburg's Ellis Park Rugby Stadium on Saturday is one of two involving famous European names in South Africa this weekend.

Sporting Lisbon of Portugal met Hellenic in Cape Town on Saturday and Moroka Swallows at Ellis Park on Sunday.

Pirates, based in the black-township of Soweto near Johannesburg, have a Portuguese coach and a multi-national squad. Walter da Silva took charge in April after English coach Geoff Hudson was fired.

Pirates are sixth in the national championship, five points behind Swallows, but they have played three fewer games.

Among their stars are Ivo Simunic, a goalkeeper who fled Bosnia last year, and ageing South African internationals

Bashin Mahlangu and Marks Mponyane.

Hellenic will be hoping to bounce back from their disappointment at being beaten in the CAF Cup continental club competition last weekend when they play Sporting, who finished third behind Porto and Benfica in the Portuguese league.

Hellenic will include guest players from local clubs and Kenya in an effort to match Sporting, and attract extra support.

Johannesburg club Swallows will be experiencing international competition for the first time since South Africa returned to world soccer last July.

Considered the poor relations of Chiefs and Pirates, Swallows have silenced critics by soaring to the top of the league with nine victories and four draws in 16 matches.

Goalkeeper Roger de Sa's late father Octavio played for Sporting in the same position four decades ago.

Gullit says sorry to Mandela

MILAN, Italy, June 11: AC Milan star Ruud Gullit has written to Nelson Mandela apologising for not taking part in the Italian champions tour of South Africa, reports AFP.

Gullit, who returned Wednesday he would be leaving Milan this summer, said he had to stay in Europe to sort out his future but promised the ANC leader he would be visiting the republic as soon as possible and hoped to meet Mandela.

When Gullit was named European footballer of the year in 1987 he dedicated his award to Mandela, then imprisoned for his opposition to apartheid.

The dreadlocked star, who will be 31 in December, has been dogged by knee injuries since 1989, was offered a one-year contract extension by the club but decided to leave rather than accept a reported 50 per cent payout.



A FAMILIAR SIGHT... Players and officials of Abahani waits for agitated fans to cool down yesterday during their league opener against PWD at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. The match was halted for 32 minutes. —Star photo

Hamza no more

M A Hamza, a former FIFA referee yesterday died of old age complications at his Uttara residence. He was 70, reports BSS.

Hamza left behind his wife, two sons, five daughters and a host of relations and admirers to mourn his death.

The deceased was the founder general secretary of the Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation. He was also a member of athletics and football federations.

Late Hamza will be buried at Uttara graveyard today.

SADEK CONDOLES

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain condoled the death of former FIFA referee and founding general secretary of the Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation M A Hamza.

He said Hamza contributed a lot to Bangladesh sports.

The minister prayed for the peace of the departed soul and expressed his sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

"We're professional footballers, and when the results aren't right, when the performance is not right, you just have to go ahead and work."

The press in England were less sanguine about the team's performance: "Yanks 2 Planks 0," is how the Sun summed up the capitulation against the United States.

"Graham Taylor's public humiliation and shame was completed here last night. His England side were outplayed, outlasted and well and truly beaten by a team of soccer surety to go," says the Sun.

The call for Taylor's head have grown even louder and bookmakers William Hill believe he will either quit or be sacked before the World Cup finals.

The odds on Taylor still being in charge by then are 4-7 and Hill believes British Prime Minister John Major has a better chance of keeping his job.

The Daily Mirror have printed a wild west poster on their back page — "Wanted dead or alive, Graham Taylor — the outlaw of England football."

The Boston Flops was the way the Daily Mail described England and there was no mercy either from the broadsheets.