

Sport

Ghostly paradigm of mutuality

Sports Reporter

Giant-slayers Wari and Agrani bank set a ghostly paradigm of mutual understanding when the two teams shared points in a Star Premier Division football league encounter that ended in two-all draw with all four goals coming in the space of seven minutes at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

After a barren first half, which more often than not saw players of both sides involved in clumsy midfield maneuvering, the match suddenly burst into life in the 56th minute when Bank skipper opened the account for his side and Ripon, who came in to substitute Akhter, followed his captain's cue to take Agrani Bank two up three minutes later.

Having conceded two goals in four minutes, Wari staged the prelude to their designed fightback in the 15th minute, one minute after Bank's second goal; Kabir reduced the margin.

Two minutes later Wari got their second goal — the fourth of the match — through Yousof and rest of the match followed the pattern set in the first half.

Wari now have seven points while Agrani Bank have six playing seven matches each.

Earlier in the afternoon, Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha struggled past Eskaton Sabuj Sangha 2-1 in a Star First Division football league tie at the same venue.

Bliswaji gave the insurance the lead ten minutes into the game with a powerful drive from just outside the penalty box which left Minar, the Eskaton goalkeeper, stone-footed (1-1).

Eskaton restored parity ten minutes later through Shahjahan who capitalised on a goalmouth scramble (1-1).

The rest of the first half did not produce any more goals and neither did the first 31 minutes of the second half. In the 32nd minute Bima skipper Zulfikar Mahmood Mintu outleaped a couple of Eskaton defenders to head home neatly taken Jahangir corner (2-1).

The match was disrupted for 13 minutes in the first half when referee Liaqat Ali ruled out an Eskaton in the 25th minute of the match.

With the win, Bima upped their points tally to seven from as many matches while Eskaton remained at five also from seven encounters.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Admiral vs East End (4:30) Victoria vs PWD (6:30)

Gooch to lead England in Hong Kong sixes meet

HONG KONG, July 14: English Test captain Graham Gooch will lead his country's side in the second Hong Kong international cricket series tournament scheduled for October 1-2, organizers said Wednesday, reports AFP.

Australia and New Zealand will send officially sanctioned teams to the 400,000 Hong Kong dollars (\$1,600 US) round-robin contest at the Kowloon Cricket Club, they added.

South Africa will be represented for the first time by an unofficial but "extremely competitive" side, and Sri Lanka, Pakistan, the West Indies, India and Hong Kong will also compete, chief organizer Ken Catton said.

Turkey not satisfied

ISTANBUL, July 14: Turkey will investigate the source of a leaked technical report on the six cities bidding to stage the 2000 Olympic Games, a spokesman for the Istanbul 2000 Olympic Bidding Committee said on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

The report, which was leaked to the German DPA news agency last week in Berlin, was officially released on Monday. It favoured Sydney as the hosts.

This is the first time in the bidding process for the 2000 Summer Olympics that a shadow has fallen across the ethics of the competition, Atilla Aksoy, director of communications for the committee, said in a written statement.

While the damaging statements have been refuted by the official report, the Turkish committee would investigate the source of the conspiracy.

The report said the Istanbul bid had widespread support and its financial plans were solid and viable. It also praised the city's environmental improvement plans and hotel capacity.

But it expressed concern at traffic congestion and telecommunications shortages of the city and said only one sports venue met Olympic standards.

Istanbul, Sydney, Beijing, Manchester, Berlin and Brasilia are competing for the Games. The International Olympic Committee will decide on the venue at a meeting in Monaco on September 23.



Zahid Biswas of Mohammadan Sporting Club speeds past Usha's Mir Zahirul Islam Mitul during their Green Delta First Division hockey league match at the Hockey Stadium yesterday. Mohammedans lost their first point in the league when Usha held them to a one-all draw. — Star photo

Usha KC stymie MSC march

Sports Reporter

Reigning champions Mohammadan Sporting Club dropped their first point when they drew their vital Green Delta First Division hockey league encounter with Independence Day Cup champions Usha Krira Chakra one-all at the Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Both the goals were scored in the first half with Usha restoring parity three minutes after Mohammadans shot into the lead through their mercurial Pakistani forward Mumtaz Haider.

The big, former Pakistan international was undoubtedly the pick of the whole shoot last afternoon. Not only he scored a superb goal but also outshone everyone else with mesmerising stick work. Unfortunately he was the only player in the Mohammadan ranks willing to do anything. His peers in the upstart including the brilliant Sadek looked woefully short of speed and idea.

Mohammadans dominated almost the entire proceedings of the second half. Although the Usha defence looked almost impregnable, shots of real power did sneak in but custodian Tushar Kantil Halder gave another superlative display to stake his claim for a place in the Bangladesh national team and as well as to rob Mohammadans of a valuable point.

The match began on a fast note with the green robed Mohammadans launching a couple of futile offensives. Usha, who suffered their first defeat in the previous match against title-aspirants Abahani Krira Chakra, took sometime to

settle down but once their frontliners got into the groove Mohammadans defence looked very suspect.

The man who engineered almost every Usha move was the stocky, sturdy and quite unathletic Noman Zaidi. The scorer of Usha's lone goal in the 1-2 defeat to Abahani, yesterday prowled the field with inexhaustible energy and pace. He repeatedly ran down the right flank to nip in but like his compatriot Mumtaz he too suffered from want of support from his teammates.

Usha's other two Pakistani players played well but both of them were busy in marshalling the midfield and defence. Mohammadans shot into the lead in the 27th minute when Mumtaz Haider with his characteristic acceleration galloped past the vigilant Usha defenders to finish the ball into the goal with goalie Tushar rushing out but just too late (1-0).

Stung by this reversal, Usha came at their opponents strongly and three minutes later they were at par. Noman Zaidi broke the left side of Mohammadan defence with sheer speed and sent in a cross which Mohammadan custodian partially parried away with his pads but Raqibul Islam Kamal still had the time and space to sound the board from close in the 30th minute (1-1).

Usha were slack instays in the second half and Mohammadans, spearheaded by Mumtaz, kept on raiding at regular intervals, but the experienced Barkatullah Chapal, Zahed Biswas and Pakistani Zahid Moqbool were all at thumbs. Moqbool, one of Mohammadans' three Pakistani players was in the thick of ac-

tion; twice his shots were blocked by the intrepid Usha custodian.

Usha after a brief flutter at the onset of the second half were totally obliterated. Despite sincere efforts of his compatriots, Sarfraz Khan and Taslim Osmani, the other two Pakistani who served Usha's cause well yesterday, Zaidi hardly got any balls in the second half.

Mohammadans looked destined to miss the opportunity of avenging their semifinal loss in the Independence Cup when Pakistani Shahidul Islam sped down the left flank to send in a beautiful cross but the wiry and withered Chapal was not quick enough and the ball reached past the Usha goal without meaning any harm and with it went Mohammadans' chances of staying at par with their arch rivals Abahani Krira Chakra.

Although Mohammadan supporters were quite dissatisfied with the outcome there was no untoward incident after the match which itself passed without any skirmishes among the players.

Hockey Federation, wisened by its experience in the troublesome Usha-Abahani match, took adequate security measure leaving no room for any trouble whatsoever.

Mohammadans earned five penalty corners while Usha won three but neither side could drive home any advantage from them.

Shahid and Zahid of Mohammadans and Taslim of Usha — all Pakistani — received green cards.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Ansars vs PWD (2:30) Abahani vs Ajax (4:15)

One more trophy for Reefat

Sports Reporter

National champion Reefat bin Sattar added another feather to his cap when he emerged winner in the Ganges Active chess championship yesterday.

At the National Sports Council chess room, Reefat rounded off his eleven-round campaign with a win over Sayefuddin Lavlu to cement his position atop the points table. Reefat collected ten points.

Shawkat Hossain Pallab, the national sub-junior champion, however, stole the show finishing behind Reefat ahead of a cluster of national stars with nine points from his eleven matches. Pallab beat Amir in his last match.

Following Pallab with eight and a half points each were International Woman Master Rani Hamid of Bangladesh Biman and Ziaul Qader Tuhin of Brothers Union. Rani Hamid outmaneuvered teammate Syed Tahmidur Rahman while Tuhin took care of Jayanta in the respective matches.

Later Dr A R Khan, a vice-president of the Bangladesh Chess Federation, distributed cash awards to the winners at the NSC conference room.

Reefat received Taka 3,000 and Pallab pocketed 2,000 while Rani Hamid and Tuhin went home with Taka 1,250 each.

Mujibur Rahman, general secretary of the federation and Patrick F Gomes, managing director of Ganges Private Limited, were also present in the prize giving ceremony.

India's tour opener ends in a draw

KURUNEGALA, Sri Lanka, July 14: India drew their three-day cricket match with the Sri Lanka Board President's XI on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

Scores India 342 for 6 declared and 148 for 1, Sri Lanka Board President's XI 415.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the final day of the three-day match between a Sri Lanka Board President's XI and India on Wednesday: INDIA: First innings 342-6 declared (M Azharuddin 100, K More 60 not out, M Prabhakar 53)

SRI LANKA BOARD PRESIDENT'S XI: First innings (overnight 289-5): Hathurusinghe c More b Raju 36

Samarawera b Raju 18 Mendis c Kambli b Raju 13 Atapattu lbw b Kumble 2 Tilkeeratne c Srinath b Kambli 101

Jayasuriya c Kambli b Raju 151 Pushpakumara c More b Prabhakar 0 Kaluwirathana lbw b Prabhakar 2 Kulpage not out 69

Wecrakody c Sidhu b Tendulkar 12 Wijetunga c Azharuddin b Kumble 0 Extras: (lb-2, w-2, nb-7) 11 Total: 415

Fall of wickets: 1-53; 2-62; 3-69; 4-97; 5-289; 6-289; 7-298; 8-376; 9-413.

Bowling: O M R W Prabhakar 11 1 30 2 Srinath 18 1 61 0 Raju 38 9 101 4 Ankola 19 4 50 0 Kumble 37.3 5 142 2 Kambli 4 0 19 1 Tendulkar 2 0 10 1

INDIA: Second innings Sidhu not out 66 Kambli c Wijetunga b Pushpakumara 10 Amre not out 70 Extras: (lb-1, nb-1) 2 Total: (for one wicket) 148

Fall of wicket: 1-13

Bowling: O M R W Wecrakody 7 1 19 0 Pushpakumara 8 1 30 1 Wijetunga 15 3 50 0 Kulpage 13 3 42 0 Jayasuriya 2 0 6 0

Result: Match drawn

Another one for England XI

JESMOND, England, July 14: England XI suffered another defeat when the Rest-of-the-World won the first of two one-day games at the Jesmond Festival by 37 runs here on Tuesday, reports AFP.

Players on the fringe of the national team failed to impress England manager Keith Fletcher, leaving skipper Mike Gatting to achieve respectability with 90 off 109 balls.

But once Gatting had taken six overs to get off the mark, England never threatened to get close to the Rest-of-the-World's 55-over total of 309 for five, closing on 272 for nine.

Tom Graveny gave the man-of-the-match award to India's latest batting star, Ajay Jadeja, whose immaculate timing brought him 87 off 94 balls.

Jadeja, 22, who played in three Tests in South Africa in the winter, came in as a late replacement for the injured Salim Malik while Gordon Greenidge took over the captaincy when Viv Richards cried off with hay fever.

Greenidge made 59 but Phil Simmons, who has succeeded him as West Indies opener, was top scorer with 104 off 151 balls.

One of his three sixes, a straight drive off Glamorgan off-spinner Robert Croft, which cleared some three-storied houses adjoining the ground, was the biggest blow on the tiny

SCOREBOARD Newcastle ground for 44 years. Scores in Tuesday's one-day match between an England XI and a Rest-of-World XI here: Rest-of-World XI beat England XI by 37 runs.

ENGLAND XI: M Atherton b Harper 33 M A Roseberry lbw b Donald 20 M R Ramprakash c Simmons b Marshall 1 M W Gatting b Donald 90 N H Fairbrother b Harper 20 S J Rhodes c Morrison b Harper 35 R D B Croft c Marshall b Harper 0 P A J DeFreitas c Berry b Donald 19 T A Munton not out 16 M C Blott c Morrison b Aamir Sohail 4 P M Such not out 14 Extras: (lb-5, w-5, nb-10) 27 Total: (for 9 wks in 55 overs) 272



SIMMONS... 104 Rest-of-World XI won toss. REST-OF-WORLD XI: PV Simmons c DeFreitas 104 b Croft Aamir Sohail c Gatting b Blott 1 A Jadeja c Roseberry b DeFreitas 87 O G Greenidge b Blott 59

Aussie back-up backfires

DERBY, England, July 14: Injured paceman Merv Hughes' fight for fitness is sure to be anxiously monitored by Australia after their back-up seam attack was punished by Derbyshire on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

Emerging all-round talent Dominic Cork, with a high-class 56, and captain Kim Barnett, who scored an unbeaten 78, led the assault as Derbyshire made 244 for five on the rain-shortened first day of the three-day match.

Cork tore into pace bowlers Brendan Julian, Wayne Holdsworth and Paul Reiffel while making 56 off 77 balls, crashing nine fours before spooning a catch to mid-off.

Holdsworth took Cork's wicket but it was his only success and cost him 113 runs in 20 overs, while left-armers Julian took one for 48 in 13 overs.

Reiffel stemmed the flow of runs with three wickets in 23

deliveries, helped by some loose shots from Peter bowler, Chris Adams and Tim O'Gorman. But he spilled his work by giving away 16 runs in no-balls.

With premier strike bowler Craig McDermott out of the tour after surgery for a twisted colon, Australia are banking on Hughes being fit for the fourth Test starting at Headingley in nine days.

Hughes, who broke down with a groin strain during the drawn third Test, is responding to treatment but seems unlikely to play before Headingley.

Australia led 2-0 in the six-Test Ashes series. Julian and Holdsworth wasted the new ball on a green Derby pitch to such an extent that opens batsman Barnett and bowler put on 71 in only 15 overs.

Cork despite a scratchy start, helped Barnett and 98 for the fifth wicket before rain prevented play after tea.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the first day

Samaranch lauds Manchester bid

MANCHESTER, England, July 14: International Olympic Committee President Juan Antonio Samaranch said on Tuesday that a report by an IOC commission which favours Sydney for the 2000 Games was important but not decisive, reports Reuter.

Samaranch declined to express a preference for which city should host the Millennium Games but he said Manchester's bid was a vast improvement on their attempt to win the 1996 Olympics.

"If I compare it with my last visit four years ago there has

been a lot of improvement," Samaranch said after touring the northern English city. "I cannot imagine what will happen if Manchester gets the Games. You are changing the city."

British officials were extremely pleased by the IOC's technical report, released on Monday, which they said made Manchester Sydney's only serious rival for the Olympics.

Samaranch, however, was diplomatic. "When I find rain in a country I think it is a very lucky country," he said with a smile.

Lillehammer's change of heart

OSLO, July 14: Lillehammer's Olympic organisers have dropped plans to make two million disposable plates from potato starch and feed them to pigs, reports Reuter.

"We'll be using recyclable paper plates instead," said Kathrine Kjelland, spokeswoman for the 1994 Winter Games organising committee.

The plan to use environment-friendly potato plates which could be fed to pigs later became politically hot when Norwegian industrialists and trade unions said they opposed the scheme, fearing the loss of jobs.

Only neighbouring Sweden has the technology to make the plates.

Kjelland said waste from food alone during the Games would weigh 200 tonnes. Paper plates and cups will be recycled and used as plant fertilizer.

Platt takes cue from Gullit

ROME, July 14: England captain David Platt will leave Juventus to join Dutchman Ruud Gullit at Sampdoria for a fee of around 5.3 million, Italian newspapers said today, reports Reuter.

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Platt, 27, failed to perform well at Juventus after joining from Bari for 11 million US dollars last year but has made it clear to chasing English clubs such as Sheffield Wednesday and Manchester United that he wants to stay in Italy.

Sydney to leave no stone unturned

SYDNEY, July 13: Organisers of the Sydney 2000 Olympic bid moved here Tuesday to ease concerns over Australia's quarantine laws, seen by International Olympic Committee (IOC) observers as the only potential weakness in its bid, reports AFP.

An IOC enquiry commission was highly favourable in its assessment of the Sydney bid in a report released Monday, making this harbour city front-runner to win the vote of IOC members in Monte Carlo on September 23.

At a press conference Sydney 2000 bid general manager Bob Elphinstone announced plans to circumvent the country's quarantine regulations in order to get full international equestrian representation at a potential Olympic Games here in seven years' time.

Elphinstone said that based on the 215 horses that competed in last year's Barcelona Olympics only 10 horses from a couple of unspecified South American and North African countries would have difficulty meeting Australia's quarantine

conditions. "But let me quickly explain our answer to that which has been communicated to the International Equestrian Federation and to all the National Olympic Committees of the world," Elphinstone said.

"To overcome that problem it will require horses from one or two South American countries and one or two northern African countries to spend six weeks in an approved country and then proceed direct to Sydney as all the other horses will do."

Elphinstone said an approved country was one whose quarantine restriction requirements were satisfactory to Australia.

"We have made provision in our budget to assist those countries that do not have horses coming from an approved country to travel to an ap-

proved country, to go through the quarantine period, whilst they train and compete.

"We have no difficulties in that area. We were grilled very carefully by the chairman of the IOC enquiry commission during their visit.

"Next week we will have the vice-president of the International Equestrian Federation visiting Sydney for four days and we will be showing him everything in respect of our bid."

"We will be taking him through step by step on the quarantine issues. We will have representatives of the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service here and the city's equine drug-testing laboratory will be thrown open to him to inspect.

"Sydney has absolutely nothing to hide in respect of its bid."

Khulna soccer

COX'S BAZAR, July 14: Uttaran Club, aided by a superb hat-trick by Yunus, defeated Pratyasha Club 4-0 in Junior Gold Cup tournament at the local stadium this afternoon, reports BNA.

The first half ended goalless.

Riedle signed for Borussia Dortmund

ROME, July 14: Lazio's German international Karl Heinz Riedle has signed for Borussia Dortmund after a 10 billion Lire (about eight million dollar) agreement was reached on Monday, reports AFP.



National champion Reefat bin Sattar, playing with black pieces, about to move his bishop during his Ganges Active chess championship match against Sayefuddin Lavlu at the National Sports Council chess room yesterday. Reefat won the match and the tournament. — Star photo