

Sport

Brothers end first leg with a win

Sports Reporter

Brothers Union held on to their new found touch and confidence to record a comfortable two-nil victory against Mukti Joddha Sangsad...

Federation Cup champions Brothers, who shook off the gremlins with a highly creditable victory against reigning champions Abahani Krira Chakra in their previous match...

Brothers took the lead in the 20th minute when Rakib, the national youth team striker, headed the ball home from a cross by Mizan (1-0).

Although, the electrifying pace and power displayed in the last big match was missing from the Brothers midfield, yet Rupu, Uttam, Manik and Russian Vasiliev were good enough to control the most of the 90-minute encounter.

The Gopibagha club consolidated their position eight minutes into the second half when referee Alam awarded them a spotkick following an infringement inside the deadened zone.

Mukti goalkeeper Pannu brought Uttam down in a desperate bid to thwart a concerted Brothers move and Vasiliev effortlessly slotted the ball home (2-0).

Brothers played in the aggressive vein for the rest of the match without adding anything to the score.

With this win Brothers now have 13 points from nine matches. Mukti Joddha remained stuck to their previous collection of nine points from as many matches.

New comers Bangladesh Boys finished their first round schedule of the Star First Division football league with a one-all draw with Dhanmondi Club in the first match of the day played earlier at the same venue.

Liton put Bangladesh Boys ahead in the 33rd minute of the match.

Salahuddin restored parity for Dhanmondi early into the second half following a bad lapse in the boys defence.

The draw leaves Boys with eleven points from nine matches. Dhanmondi, who too are through with the first phase, have nine points from as many matches.

BAAF picks 52

The Bangladesh Amateur Athletics Federation (BAAF) yesterday named of 52 athletes to join the coaching camp for the 6th SAF Games to be held in the capital from December 20 to 27 this year, reports UNB.

The selected athletes—38 men and 14 women—have been asked to report to the federation office by August 6. The training camp begins from August 7.

The selected male athletes are: Hv Md Goolam Ambia, Nk Md Azhar Ali, L/Nk Farid Khan Chowdhury, L/Nk Md Giasuddin, Nk Mokheles Rahman, L/Nk Zakir Hosain, L/Nk Ansar Ali, Hv Md Layek Selkh, Hv Md Elias Khan, L/Nk Solaiman Majumder, L/Nk Mujibur Rahman, L/Nk Shamsul Huda, L/Nk Yunus Ali, Sepai Hemayet Ali, Nk Mohammed Ali, L/Nk Zahir Uddin, L/Nk Bari Amin, Hv Md Narzul Islam, Nk Md Saleh Ahmed, Hv Md Manimul Huq, Hv Mustaq Talukder and Hv Dual Sarker (Army); Md Habibur Alam, Md Abu Taleb and Abul Kashem (Ansars and VDP); Md Ashab Uddin and Emdadul Haq Ranju (Customs); Matul Alam (Rajshahi Div), M A Bari, M A Rahim Nayeem, S M Fatr and Rakibul Alam (Navy); Milzar Hosain (BJMC), Wazfir Rahman, Shamsul Alam Kishu and Emran Ali (BTMC); L A C Ferdous Hosain and L A C Hafizur Rahman (Ali Force).

The female athletes are: Lovely Begum, Nilfar Yasmin, Lubna Mahmood, Nasima Begum, Jesmin Khanam, Shirin Akhter, Nelly Jesmin and Jyotsna Afroze (BJMC); Rehana Perveen (Customs), Sumita Goswami, Firoza Khatun and Shaheen Azad (BTMC), Monira Akhter (Ansars and VDP), and Rehana Yasmin (Rajshahi University).

Eight coaches, including one Chinese, will groom the selected athletes for the Games. They are: A C Chakma (NSC), Shah Alam (BJMC), Capt Naem Ashram Chowdhury and Md Kitab Ali (Army), Sufia Khatun (BKSP), Lt Col Mustafizur Rahman (Navy), Mohammed Yahya (Islamic University) and Liang Xi-Kiang (China).

Ctg football

CHITTAGONG, Aug 3: Both the two matches of the Siraj Metropolitan juvenile football league ended goalless at the Dampara Police Lines ground this afternoon, reports BNA.

In the first encounter Suryamukhi Ashar took on Seltampur SA while in the second match Mukta Bhangra were up against Pahartali Ekadash.

Battle of the titans today

Sports Reporter



Title aspirants Mohammedan Sporting Club play title holders Abahani Krira Chakra in today's key match of the Star Premier Division football league at the Dhaka Stadium today.



RUMI

Divisior football league at the Dhaka Stadium today. The clash of the titans begin at 6 pm.

The match will be the 35th clash between the two most popular clubs. So far Mohammedans have won 14 encounters while Abahani have eight wins under their belt. Twelve ties between these heavyweights of domestic sports ended in draws.

Abahani, champions for the last two years and looking for a unique feat of second hattrick of league titles this year, have so far collected eleven points from eight encounters. They suffered a stunning 2-3 defeat at the hands of Brothers Union in their previous match.

However, their trail of misfortune actually began from the onset of the league. They drew their league opener with Public Works Department (PWD) and then went on the drop two more points with draws against Wari and Rahmatganj.

Mohammedans on the other hand have already established a three-point lead at the top of the table, having collected 14 points from eight matches. The black and whites have so far dropped two points having drawn with Mukti Joddha in their first match and with Brothers Union recently.

Both teams are likely to field their Russian players. Mohammedans recently brought two players — Oleg Jivotnikov and Mourat Taguiev — to further jeop their striking power. Jivotnikov was on target from Day One scoring a hattrick on his debut against PWD. Earlier Mohammedans' local striker Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib, currently the top scorer of the league, had scored league's first hattrick against Rahmatganj. Nakib has so far scored ten goals.

Abahani are expected to take the field with medio Alexander Dozomov and defender Gyorgy. Newly brought defender Vitaly Yanets has so far failed to live up to the high expectations. Alexander Sudarikov, the other Russian player, was reportedly nursing an injury following a bad fall. However, the return of stalwart Monem Munna in the deep defence is the silver lining in the cloud for Abahani.

Munna did not take part in Abahani's last match for having received yellow cards in three matches in a row.

Abahani badly need to win today's encounter to stay in the race for the title. A draw will



SHABBIR

hardly bring any change in the pattern to be pursued in the second leg of this year's ten-team Premier Division league.

While Mohammedans the only unbeaten team in this year's league should at least theoretically take the field without any undue pressure. A win or a draw will help them retain the grip they have already gained on this year's title, as part of their campaign to regain the most prestigious and adored championship in local football after two long years.

Bangladesh Television will telecast the match live from the Dhaka Stadium. Ticket counter will be open from 1-30 pm while the stadium gates will remain open from 2 pm to 5-30 pm.

Sonali Bank win well

Sports Reporter

Two second-half goals in the space of 13 minutes ensured Sonali Bank full points in their Green Delta First Division hockey league encounter against Bangladesh Sporting Club at the Hockey Stadium yesterday.

The first half ended goalless. The bankers shot into lead in the 45th minute of the match when Qamrul Ahsan touched up a well-synchronised move (1-0).

Jasimuddin Tito consolidated Sonali Bank lead in the 58th minute, finishing off another planned offensive (2-0).

With the win Sonali Bank upped their collection to 14 points from 13 matches while Bangladesh Boys remained at their poor tally of six, also from 13 outings.

In the other match of the day, Sadharan Bima and Wari Club split points in a one-all draw.

Malek Chunnun gave the insurance the lead one minute away from the short whistle through a field goal, but Shahid neutralised the slender lead in the 53rd minute.

Sadharan Bima now have 17 points and Wari 14, both playing 14 matches.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Police AC vs Bangladesh Railway (2-30) Abahani KC vs Mariner Youngs (4-15)

Top nations' one-dayers in India

NEW DELHI, Aug 3: A one-day international cricket tournament featuring some of the world's top nations will be held in India in November, organisers said on Monday, reports Reuter.

Of the Test-playing countries, only England, Australia and New Zealand will be absent from the tournament to celebrate the diamond jubilee of the Cricket Association of Bengal, chief organiser Jagmohan Dalmyia said.

India and Sri Lanka will play the opening match of the round-robin tournament on November 7. The final will be held in Calcutta's Eden Gardens on November 27.

The top four teams in round-robin play will contest the semifinals, also to be played in Calcutta, the top-placed side against the fourth and the second meeting the third.

Gooch still in prime form

LONDON, Aug 3: Graham Gooch, free from the cares of the England captaincy, showed his successor Mike Atherton he is in prime form with a match-winning 159 net out against Worcestershire at Chelmsford on Monday, reports Reuter.

Gooch, expected to return to his more regular opening slot in the England team for the fifth Test against Australia at Edgbaston starting on Thursday, guided country champions Essex to a four-wicket win their first championship victory since the end of June.

He reached his century off 186 balls with two sixes and 11 fours and added seven more boundaries as Essex reached their target of 286 with five overs to spare on the last day of the four-day match.

Gooch shared a second-wicket stand of 164 in 52 overs with Paul Prichard (64).

Earlier, Essex left-arm spinner John Childs took six for 37 to help dismiss Worcestershire for 208.

Former England batsman John Morris rounded off a fine match performance by hitting the winning runs as Derbyshire beat Gloucestershire by seven wickets at Chelmsford.

Morris finished unbeaten on 71 following a career-best 229 in the first innings.

Yorkshire paceman Darren Gough captured a career-best seven for 42 to play a key role in dismissing Somerset for 170 at Taunton and sealing a 48-run victory.

Bomb blast leaves Lankan police very uptight

COLOMBO, Aug 3: Security has been further tightened for the visiting Indian cricket team following a bomb blast that killed four people and wounded 25 in the Sri Lankan capital, defence officials said Tuesday, reports AFP.

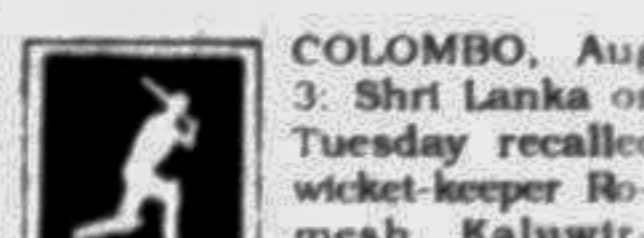
Extra police were deployed at the Deluxe Taj Samudra Hotel where the Indian team was staying and security measures intensified in and around Colombo's P Saravanamuttu Stadium where the third Test begins on Wednesday.

The Indian team has been assured by police that the bomb was not connected with their visit. They were also told it was not the work of the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam), a defence official said.



Action from yesterday's Green Delta First Division hockey league match between Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha and Wari Club at the Hockey Stadium. The match ended in a one-all draw. —Star photo

Romesh Kaluwirthana recalled



COLOMBO, Aug 3: Sri Lanka on Tuesday recalled wicket-keeper Romesh Kaluwirthana to a 15-man squad for the third and final Test against India who have retained the 13-man second Test squad for the match, reports AFP.

Kaluwirthana replaced wicket-keeper Ashley de Silva in a 15-man squad announced for the third Test which commences at the P Saravanamuttu Stadium here Wednesday.

The 24-year-old is certain to play in the third match because he is the only specialist wicket-keeper in the squad, Ashley de Silva was picked for the first two Tests against India.

Kaluwirthana stormed onto the cricket scene with a century on his debut in the first Test against Australia in August last year. But he was dropped after a poor performance behind the stumps in the second Test of that series.

Off-spinner Muttiah Muralidharan is also expected to come back into the side for either medium-paced off-cutter Jayananda Warnaweera or

paceman Dulip Liyanage. Warnaweera, Liyanage and wicket-keeper Ashley de Silva fared poorly in the second Test which was won by India by 235 runs.

Sri Lankan skipper Arjuna Ranatunga said the "battle was

not over" despite the second Test defeat and was confident his side would enter the third Test in a positive frame of mind.

India, meanwhile, retained their 13-man squad and was likely to play the same match-winning second Test side if

paceman Javagal Srinath is ruled fit to take the field on Wednesday.

If Srinath does not recover from a sprained ankle sustained during a practice session Tuesday, he will be replaced by left-arm spinner Venkatapathy Raju.

Indian Captain Mohammad Azharuddin said the team was feeling "quite confident" after the second Test victory which gave India a 1-0 lead in the three-Test series.

"We are feeling confident because we won a tough match. We will try to do better in the third Test," said Azharuddin.

INDIA: Azharuddin (Capt), M Prabhakar, N S Sidhu, V G Kamble, S R Tendulkar, P K Amre, K Dev, K More, A Kumble, R Raju, C Chauhan, J Srinath, S Ankola.

SRI LANKA: A Ranatunga (Capt), R S Mahanama, U C Hathurusinghe, A P Gurusinha, P A De Silva, H P Tillekeratne, S T Jayasuriya, P Wickramasinghe, R Kaluwirthana, M Murali Dharan, K P J Warnaweera, R S Kalpage, P Wijetunga, D Liyanage, C Ramanayake.

Captains asked to cool it

COLOMBO, Aug 3: Match referee Peter Burge warned India and Sri Lanka to improve their on-field behaviour or risk bringing cricket into disrepute after the second Test between the two sides ended in acrimony on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Indian captain Mohammed Azharuddin and Sri Lankan captain Arjuna Ranatunga attended a meeting called by Burge, appointed by the International Cricket Council (ICC) for the series, following allegations of Indian "sledding" and poor umpiring.

"Peter Burge held an informal discussion with both sides and advised them not to do anything that would bring the series into disrepute," Ajit Wadekar, manager of the Indian squad, said.

Wadekar said specific charges were not discussed during the meeting, which was called by Burge to defuse ten-

sion between the two sides during and after the match which India won by 235 runs.

The two sides had squabbled throughout the ill-tempered Test and Ranatunga told reporters after the match the main sledding culprit had been Indian wicket-keeper Kiran More.

Ranatunga claimed More's comments upset his concentration and said he would be taking up the matter with Burge, who is from Australia.

Azharuddin, whose side's victory was their first overseas since winning against England at Lord's in 1986, played down the complaint. He said the Indians were not sledding but just encouraging each other during the match.

"This is part of the game and I don't think we have done anything to pressurise the batsmen," he added.

But batsmen Aravinda de Silva and Ranatunga both complained about sledding two umpires S Ponnathurai and R

Anandappa whilst staging a brave rearguard action to stave off defeat. The umpires then spoke to Azharuddin.

The Indian side had in turn complained about several umpiring decision going against them.

Wadekar has written to the Sri Lanka board asking them not to appoint Ponnathurai and Anandappa for the rest of the series, including the third and final Test.

According to the ICC code of conduct, teams, their officials and players are not allowed to speak out against umpires while the series is in progress.

Retired Indian batting star, Sunil Gavaskar, wrote in the Times of India, there was tension in the field during the match but also blamed the umpires.

"The pity is that umpiring errors may lead to the erosion of friendship that exists between the players of both sides and one sincerely prays that does not happen," he added.

Rain gets in Australia's way

NEATH, Wales, Aug 3: Rain frustrated Australia's attempts to beat Glamorgan at Neath on Monday

— but the tourists had more pressing problems with the fifth Test just two days away, reports Reuter.

Two afternoon squalls helped Glamorgan stall Australia and reach 169 for six after being set 287 to score in 64 overs by the tourists' lunch-time declaration.

The Australians left for Birmingham afterwards with only four fit bowlers after off-spinner Tim May reported no improvement to a hamstring strain.

May, who played no part in the Glamorgan match after hurting himself in the field on Sunday morning, is almost certain to miss the Edgbaston Test.

Left-arm paceman Brendon Julian has already been ruled out of the Edgbaston Test with a groin injury, and fast bowler Craig McDermott has never been replaced in the squad after being forced to return home following an operation in June.

Australian captain Allan Border said no extra bowler would be called into the squad although two Australian pace bowlers, former Test player Mike Whitney and western Australian's Jo Angel, are both in England at present.

Erratic paceman Wayne Holdsworth could be in line for a Test debut, but if May is unfit, Australia could well play an extra batsman and go in with just three frontline bowlers in Merv Hughes, Paul Reffel and Shane Warne.

Hughes bludgeoned his way to 71 on Monday before

Australia declared at 235 for seven. The big paceman hit one of three sixes off Darren Thomas out of the ground.

Glamorgan briefly looked capable of winning the match, with Matthew Maynard, recalled by England for the fifth Test, and Adrian Dale adding 84 for the third wicket.

But Maynard was bowled for 36 having a wild swing at Holdsworth, and then leg-spinner Warner Warne had Dale caught at the wicket for 31.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third and final day of the cricket match between Glamorgan and Australia on Monday.

AUSTRALIA: First innings 414-4 declared (M Waugh 152 not out, D Boon 120, M Slater 72).

GLAMORGAN: First innings 363-8 (M Maynard 132, P Cottey 68, S Warne 4-67).

AUSTRALIA: Second innings (overnight 146-4) M Slater c and b Croft 43 D Martyn c Metson b Thomas 15 I Healy c Croft b Thomas 42 P Reffel c and b Thomas 54 S Warne run out 18 M Hughes b Dale 71 A Border b Dale 23 D Boon not out 2 M Waugh not out 2 Boon not out 2 Extras: (lb-5) 5 Total: (for seven wickets, declared) 235

Fall of wickets: 1-37; 2-45; 3-65; 4-100; 5-176; 6-213; 7-231;

Bowling O M R W Thomas 18 2 95 3 Bastien 10 0 31 0 Dale 9 0 41 2 Croft 12 2 46 1 Phelps 3 0 17 0

GLAMORGAN: Second innings

J Williams c Boon b Hughes 6

H Morris c Boon b Holdsworth 2

A Dale c Healy b Warne 31 M Maynard b Holdsworth 36 P Cottey c Martyn b Border 38 D Hemp b Warne 16 R Croft not out 11 C Metson not out 7 Extras: (b-1, lb-12, w-1, nb-8) 22 Total: (for six wickets) 109

Fall of wickets: 1-8; 2-8; 3-92; 4-96; 5-132; 6-158;

Bowling O M R W Hughes 7 1 23 1 Holdsworth 12 2 43 2 Reffel 10 1 34 0 Warne 17 3 44 2 Border 5 2 12 1

Commercial!

SAO PAULO, Aug 3: Teams hoping to take part in next year's volleyball World League will have to clinch television and sponsorship deals before being considered, it was revealed here on Monday, reports AFP.

The World League Council, which met here on Sunday, said 12 teams would take part in the tournament, running from May 6 to June 12, with the finals between July 26-30.

Brazil, this year's winners, Russia, Italy, Cuba and the United States head the list, backed up by Germany, Netherlands, Greece, Finland, China, Korea and Japan. All played in the 1993 tournament.

But if any of them fail to win sponsorship and television backing, they could be replaced by Spain or Australia.

If more than two teams fail to fulfil the tournament conditions, the league will be reduced to eight teams.



German footballer Uwe Rahn (R) shakes hands with the Urawa Red Diamonds manager, Takaji Mori, during their press conference in Tokyo yesterday. Rahn, who played for Frankfurt in this year's Bundesliga, has switched to J-League after 13 seasons. —AFP photo