

Sport

Brothers same old Brothers

Brother Union dropped further down in the title race when they lost their third consecutive point with a goalless draw against Public

Sports Reporter their claim as one of the three top soccer clubs of the country. Their forwards, with Mizan in particular, were erratic and spoiled two excellent scoring chances. Mushtaq, PWD's opportunity-

mim Jr (Haron) (Prince), Mansoor, Biplob, Shaheen (Tipu), Joy, Mushtaq. Referee: R Alam. **VICTORS VICTORIA** In another Star Premier en-



Action from yesterday's Star Premier Division football league match between Brothers Union and Public Works Department (PWD) at the Dhaka Stadium. The match ended goalless.

Works Department (PWD) in the second phase of the Star Premier Division football league at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The draw leaves the Gopibagh side with 22 points from 15 outings, two points behind league leaders Mohammedan Sporting Club who have played a match less. Reigning champions Abahani Krira Chakra have so far garnered 21 points from 14 matches.

PWD, who had held Brothers to a one-all draw in the first-round match, turned in another magnanimous display interspersed with rare but lethal, incisive breaks. Their goalkeeper Saidur, a veteran in the Senior Division league, was superb under the bar leaving out his charge time and again to foil the Brothers forwards.

Inept shooting and an appalling want of imagination on the part of the Brothers players made things easier for the agile Saidur. In fact, barring the last ten minutes of the match, Brothers did nothing to justify

tic goal-getter and captain, had Brothers almost sunken when he let fly a powerful shot early in the first half from quite a distance but goalie Ponir judged the flight well to save the men in orange from embarrassment.

Some Brothers supporters tried to take out their frustration on referee R Alam but the police personnel had the man in black well covered.

Foiled in the field, these hoods later indulged in vandalism leaving the adjacent Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA) office in a virtual mess.

Returning to the mutton, PWD Club with yesterday's draw raised their tally to 13 points from 15 matches. Shamim Sr and Shaheen of PWD SC were warned with the yellow card.

TEAMS

BROTHERS UNION: Ponir, Pijush, Moon, Ata, Parvez (Swapan), Manik Rupu, Vassilin, Uttam (Ripon), Mizan and Rakib (Jilani). **PWD SC:** Saidur, Shamim Sr, Kakon, Montu, Babu, Sha-

counter, played at the Hockey Stadium, a struggling Victoria Sporting Club recorded a narrow but vital win against Wari Club.

Their That striker Kust To-Aidher made an impressive debut by scoring the all-important goal in the 21st minute.

Victoria have ten points now from 15 matches while Wari, who carved a niche in the hearts of football fans with some enthralling performances, particularly against big teams, languish at their previous collection of 12 from 15 matches.

TWO-ALL DRAW In the lone match of the Star First Division played earlier at the same venue, Sadharan Bina and promotes Bangladesh Boys split points.

Both teams scored twice each. Mintu and Basu found the target for the insurance while Badal Das and Shahjahan reciprocated the act for the Boys. Bina have 13 points while Boys have 14, having played 13 matches each.

BCCB XI out of Moinuddowlah Gold Cup

Sports Reporter Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) XI made an unceremonious exit from Moinuddowlah Gold Cup invitational limited over cricket tournament when they lost to Chemplast Club by 43 runs at the Lal Bahadur Shastri Stadium yesterday, according to a faxed message received at the BCCB office last night.

BCCB, who had earlier got off to a roaring start with a 52-run win against Hyderabad Cricket Association, were let down yesterday by some dismal batting in a rather low scoring match.

After having bowled out Chemplast for 141 in 48.5 overs, seven balls short of the stipulated quota of 50 overs, BCCB crumbled against the accurate off-spin bowling of Ashis Kapur.

Ashis, who had toured Bangladesh few years back with the junior India team, captured four wickets for 23 runs as the Bangladesh outfit were skittled out for 98 in just 40.5 overs.

On a dicey wicket, Bangladeshi pacemen, led by left armed Golam Nawsher Prince, once again bowled well.

The tall fast-medium bowler captured three for 31. Slow left-arm Enamul Huq Mont, who is the deputy of skipper Minhazul Abedin Nannu on this tour, grabbed another three for 25. Young paceman Saiful took two for 26 and Athar, who too gave away same number of runs, managed just one wicket.

Sarath was the highest scorer for Chemplast with 31 runs. He was followed by former Indian Test player Bharat Arun. The burly medium pacer scored a breezy 27 which later turned out to be the decisive factor in the outcome. Robin Singh, who played a couple of one day international matches for India, was the other notable scorer with 20.

BCCB never got going against a varied and experienced Chemplast attack. Only opener Jahangir Alam offered any resistance with a dogged 32. Skipper Nannu was out for a duck, adjudged leg before against left-arm seamer Vasu. Wicket-keeper Nasir Ahmed Nasu with 15 not out and paceman Jahangir Talukdar Dulu with 12 were the other batsmen to make it to the double figures.

Ashis apart Bharat Arun and Vasu were the more successful among the Chemplast bowlers. Both of them took two wickets each.

BCCB XI are now likely to play a couple of exhibition matches in Hyderabad before heading for Bombay where they play some practice matches before trooping back home. The previously mooted plan of taking part in Ascot trophy, a prestigious over limit competition in Delhi, has reportedly been shelved.

French people decry UEFA ban on Marseille

PARIS, Sept 8: Two thirds of French people think the European Football Union (UEFA) was wrong to ban Marseille from this season's European Cup before a court ruling on bribery allegations against the club, a poll showed on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

The CSA institute poll, to be published in Wednesday's Le Parisien newspaper, said 61 per cent thought Monday's UEFA decision was wrong while only 22 per cent agreed with it.

Asked whether Marseille president Bernard Tapie should carry out his threat to resign because of his club's exclusion from European competition, 47 per cent said he should stay and 34 per cent said he would be right to go.

Romario recalled

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept 8: Striker Romario is to be recalled by Brazil for their World Cup qualifier at home against Uruguay on September 19, press reports said on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

The reports said Romario's inclusion in the squad would be officially announced on Wednesday.

Romario has been excluded by Brazil since an incident before a friendly at home with Germany in December in which coach Carlos Alberto Parreira said Romario demanded to be included in the starting line-up.

The diminutive forward made a splendid start to the season with his new club Barcelona, scoring a hat-trick in Sunday's 3-0 win over Real Sociedad in his first Spanish league game.

Brazil team doctor Lidio Toledo said that striker Muller, who suffered a muscle injury in a training session last week, would miss the Uruguay game.

But he was optimistic that forward Bebeto, injured against Bolivia nine days ago, would recover in time.



Shri Lankan wicketkeeper Pubudu Dassanayake whips the bails off after South African Richard Snell is completely fooled by a Aravinda de Silva spinner on the third day of the second Test at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground yesterday. South Africa were in total control of the match after having reduced the Lankans to 49 for four after compiling 495 in the first innings — a lead of 327.

Lankans schuss towards defeat

COLOMBO, Sept 8: South Africa were in an excellent position to beat Sri Lanka in the second Test after the home side finished the third day 278 behind with six second innings wickets left today, reports Reuter.

Having bowled the Sri Lankans out for 168 in the first innings, South Africa piled up 495, their highest total in Tests since their return to the international fray from isolation.

Allan Donald and Brett Schultz then struck a double blow by dismissing openers Roshan Mahanama and Chandika Hathurusinghe before they had scored.

Brian McMillan and Richard Snell also captured a wicket apiece in the final session as the Sri Lankans limped to 49 for four at the close.

The South African batsmen, spearheaded by vice-captain Hansie Cronje who hit a marathon second Test century in 412 minutes, occupied the crease for 181 overs before the tolling Sri Lankan bowlers finally dismissed them 45 minutes after tea.

Cronje showed great discipline and concentration in shaping South Africa's lead, especially when four quick wickets fell in the morning session.

He held the batting together, facing 297 balls and hitting 11 fours in his innings of 122 before being bowled by part-time off-spinner Aravinda de Silva

attempting to work the ball through vacant third man. Cronje put on 105 with Darryl Cullinan (52) for the third



H CRONJE ... 122

wicket before Cullinan became the first off-spinner Muthiah Muralidharan's three wickets before lunch in an unchanged spell.

The tiny off-spinner flung himself to his right to hold onto a remarkable return catch.

Jonty Rhodes, attempting a sharp single, was run out for 10, and in the same over Muralidharan turned the ball prodigiously to bowl McMillan, who did not offer a stroke.

David Richardson was held pad and bat by Jayasuriya off Muralidharan, but when Sri Lanka looked like running through the tall, there was more resistance from Pat Symcox.

The spinner not only hit his maiden Test 50 with one six and five fours but shared in lucrative stands of 68 with Cronje and 79 with Richard Snell to push the Test beyond Sri Lanka's reach.

De Silva dismissed both Symcox and Snell to finish with figures of three for 39, his best in Test cricket, while Muralidharan also improved on his best Test figures by taking five for 101.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard on the third day of the second cricket Test between Sri Lanka and South Africa today:

SRI LANKA: First innings 168 (B Schultz 5-48) **SOUTH AFRICA:** First innings (overnight 280-2) K Wessels c Dassanayake b Muralidharan 92 A Hudson lbw b Wickremasinghe 58 H Cronje b De Silva 122 D Cullinan c and b Muralidharan 52 J Rhodes run out 10

B McMillan b Muralidharan 0 D Richardson c Jayasuriya b Muralidharan 11 P Symcox st Dassanayake b De Silva 50 R Snell st Dassanayake b De Silva 48 A Donald not out 4 B Schultz st Dassanayake b Muralidharan 6 Extras: (b-5, lb-20, nb-16, w-1) 42 Total: 495 Fall of wickets: 1-137; 2-179; 3-284; 4-301; 5-307; 6-333; 7-401; 8-480; 9-487.

Bowling: O M R W Ramanayake 20 5 63 0 Wickremasinghe 31 6 111 1 Hathurusinghe 7 4 12 0 Dharmasena 45 12 91 0 Muralidharan 54 17 101 5 Jayasuriya 9 1 47 0 De Silva 13 1 39 3 Ranatunga 2 0 6 0

SRI LANKA: Second innings R Mahanama b Schultz 0 C Hathurusinghe c Cronje b Donald 0 H Tillekeratne c Richardson b Snell 9 A De Silva not out 22 C Ramanayake lbw b McMillan 0 A Ranatunga not out 14 (lb-4) 4 Total: (for 4 wickets) 49 Fall of wickets: 1-1; 2-1; 3-30; 4-31.

Bowling: O M R W Donald 5 3 5 1 Schultz 5 1 12 1 Snell 5 1 9 1 McMillan 4 0 11 1 Symcox 1 0 8 0

Tapie's suit for reinstatement rejected

Monaco replace Marseille

PARIS, Sept 8: French soccer officials Wednesday named Monaco to replace scandal-ridden Olympique Marseille in this season's tournament to choose Europe's top soccer club, reports AP.

Marseille was banned Monday from defending their European club championship title this season amid a match-fixing scandal that has riveted France for three months.

Monaco, which finished in third place in last season's French league play, will meet Greek champion AEK Athens in the European Cup opener Sept. 15, according to a decision by the French National League.

Earlier Wednesday a French judge rejected a suit filed by millionaire Marseille owner Bernard Tapie over the banning of his club by UEFA, European soccer's governing body.

Judge Jacqueline Cochard threw out Tapie's suit to be reinstated in the European Cup tournament, saying the court was not competent to make a ruling in the case, which was filed against the French league and the French Football Federation.

Tapie is expected to file a similar suit with a court in Switzerland, where UEFA is based, in an attempt to force

the soccer body to reverse its decision.

The decision to ban Marseille came amid an investigation in which Marseille stand accused of bribing a handful of players from the rival Valenciennes soccer club to throw a match May 20 so Marseille could save their energy for the European title match against AC Milan.

No accusations have been proven, but after extensive investigations two Valenciennes players, one of their wives, a Marseille player and Marseille's ex-general manager Jean-Pierre Bernes — fingered as the money link in the affair — have been charged with bribery.

Another Valenciennes player said he was offered money. Bernes has resigned from Marseille.

Valenciennes, who finished last season in next-to-last place, has been demoted to the Second Division, while Marseille, who won five consecutive French titles, continue to take part in this season's regular play.

The case hits home hard in this country, as Marseille beat Milan to become the first French team to win the European Cup title. Soccer is also a particular passion in Marseille, an economically strapped southern port city.

Several top French teams had declined to stand in for Marseille, saying they have already scheduled matches for next Wednesday.

Officials from the French league met Tuesday night to discuss replacing Marseille. Theoretically Paris St.—Germain, last year's French league runner-up, but league President Noel Le Graet said on French television Tuesday night that Paris would not be a likely choice because of their fans' reputation for violence and the acrimonious rivalry between Paris-St. Germain and Marseille fans.

Monaco have competed in the Champions Cup five times, most recently in 1988—the last French league team to do so before Marseille's run of four straight appearances.

FIFA, world soccer's governing authority, has threatened to ban French teams worldwide unless national soccer authorities act on the bribery allegations by Sept 23.

French Football Federation President Jean Fournet-Favard, Le Graet and Jacques Glassmann, the Valenciennes player who reported the match-fixing attempt, were placed under police protection Tuesday following reported threats after Monday's decision on Marseille.

Resurrection of Maradona?

BUENOS AIRES, Sept 8: Argentina appear ready to resurrect fallen idol Diego Maradona after their shock home defeat by Colombia in a World Cup qualifier, reports Reuter.

Even before the whistle blew to end Sunday's 5-0 trouncing, the 60,000 spectators at the River Plate Stadium started chanting "Maradona, Maradona."

The chubby 33-year-old, who was watching in the stand, has yet to say whether he will consider returning to the national side he led to victory in the 1986 World Cup.

He must also find a club to employ him as he has been out of the game since he walked out of Spanish team Sevilla in June. Argentine President Carlos Menem, a well-known soccer enthusiast, has made clear he would like to see Maradona state a comeback, local newspapers reported on Tuesday.

The newspapers said Menem met Argentine Football Association president Julio Grondona to prod him into backing a Maradona comeback.

Maradona said a week ago that he was considering several offers from local clubs, including Argentinos Juniors where he started his professional career 17 seasons ago.

The mercurial player fell from grace after a cocaine bust in March 1991. He was banned from soccer for 15 months.

After that his commitment to the game suffered, leading to successive breaks with Italian club Napoli and Sevilla.

If he returned, Maradona would have to mend fences with Argentine coach Alfio Basile.

Basile chalked up a streak of 33 undefeated matches but his record was marred by Argentina's poor performance in the World Cup qualifiers.

The national team lost to Colombia at home and away and played listlessly in other matches.

Argentina have a last chance in home and away matches against Australia to reach the 1994 World Cup finals in the United States.

Maradona's personal agent, Marcos Franchi, has said the player is eager to bury the hatchet with Basile and help pull the national team out of the doldrums.

"Problems with Basile aren't unsurmountable," Franchi told a local radio station after Sunday's match.

"Diego felt very bad at the stadium and he thinks the matches against Australia won't be easy. He's very motivated to play."

Tennis today—style, technique

NEW YORK, Sept 8: Need a new tennis racket? How about the Hammer, Sabre or Thunderstick. Or perhaps the Blast, Storm or Explosion. For something more ethereal, try the Galaxy, Genesis or Revelation.

The dizzying names of today's tennis rackets match the glitzy image of the sport. On the surface, tennis seems to be as much about clothing and racket design as lobs and crosscourt forehands, reports AP.

"People like gimmicks," said Brad Gilbert, who lost in the fourth round of the US Open to No. 12 seed Thomas Muster of Austria. "All these different names—the Viper and the Venom—these things breed competition. People want to have better for cheaper, it's always the 'new, improved'."

The old-fashioned tennis whites are largely a thing of the past, especially in the colourful clothing booths at the National Tennis Center in New York's borough of Queens.

On court, it's much the same. Between the big serves of Richard Krajicek and lunging returns of Todd Martin in their third round match Sunday, it was hard to ignore their outfits.

Krajicek, who won the match, wore a shirt with disjointed blue and purple stripes on the back and half the front. Even the brim of his white baseball cap had a sort of mottled purple pattern.

Martin's shirt of black and green smudges looked like it would have been better off in a modern art museum.

Some tennis old-timers defend the new rackets, if not the clothes, as offering more than image—they reduce shock and vibration, which cause tennis elbow and other ailments.

John Powless, a 61-year-old former coach for the US Davis Cup team, said he recently sampled his collection of 300 old rackets.

"I strung one of these wooden things up and played with it for five minutes, and my arm hurt so bad," said Powless, who coached Arthur Ashe and Stan Smith.

Tennis racket makers advertise their inventions with a confusing whirlwind of technologies—widebody, asymmetric or

aerospace; systems—shock absorbing, air bridge; and concepts—symmetrical bridge.

The International Tennis Federation, based in London, rules whether a racket is legal or not. For example, the racket cannot be more than 32 inches (81 cms) in length, though it can be any shape.

Then there are the spectators, some of whom have shown up at the US Open dressed in tennis gear. Why? American football fans don't wear helmets at games. Soccer fans don't put on studs.

"It's my custom at a tournament," said Hugo Archondo, a 49-year-old New Yorker who was born in Bolivia. "I feel more comfortable, I wouldn't wear a tie. Everybody prefers to dress in white clothes."

Three Roman Catholic nuns from France in dark habits were among the few fans Tuesday who seemed immune to the commercial frenzy of racket and sweatshirt-buying around them.

Any talk of tennis fashion must include Andre Agassi, who lost in the first round this year. "Andre Agassi is like a rock star. Neon clothes, neon hair. He's got so much energy he could make a hummingbird nervous," writes Gilbert in his book "Winning Ugly," about mental warfare in tennis.

As for 32-year-old Gilbert, ranked No. 33 in the world, he's from the old school. "I've played with two rackets my whole life," he said. "I'm not a creature for change."

Only a few seeds left

NEW YORK, Sept 8: The losses by top-ranked Jim Courier and fourth-seeded Boris Becker further decimated the men's singles field in the US Open, but the men's doubles have been hard hit as well, reports AP.

Just two of the quarterfinalists were seeded teams — No. 12 Ken Flach and Rick Leach, and No. 15 David Adams and Andrei Olhovskiy. Both advanced to the semifinals.

Adams and Olhovskiy ousted top-seeded Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde 6-2, 7-6 (7-3) in the third round, and advanced to the semis with a 7-6, 6-2 victory over unseeded Brad Pearce and Dave Randall.

Flach and Leach beat unseeded Jonas Bjorkman and Patrick Rafter 7-6, 6-2 in a match that ended around midnight Monday.

TROUBLE FOR NO. 1: Courier's loss to Cedric Pioline in the fourth round meant that, for a record sixth consecutive year, the No. 1 men's seeded player will not win the title.

The last top-seeded winner was Ivan Lendl in 1987, when he beat Mats Wilander 6-7, 6-0, 7-6, 6-4 for the last of his three consecutive championships.

On three occasions (1956-59, 1970-74, 1977-80) the top seed failed four years in a row to win the title.

BROKEN FINGER WON'T SLOW MANUELA'S DREAM: What's a broken finger when you have a dream to finish? It's like that these victory-filled days for Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere.

Playing in what she says will be her final US Open, Maleeva-Fragniere reached the semifinals Tuesday for the second straight year with a 7-5, 7-5 victory over Kimiko Date despite the pain of a broken left pinky.

The chipped bone ended her doubles tournament and threatened to knock her out of singles in the third round, but she played through the pain and won.

"Every match I have won here has been a dream, from the last three matches, since I broke my finger. I still cannot realize it," she said. "It seems so incredible that I am in the semifinals. I would have never thought that this was possible."

Maleeva-Fragniere, seeded 11th, came back from a 3-1 deficit to win the first set, then took almost an hour to finish the match.

A sprained ankle almost knocked her out of last year's US Open, and a toe injury forced her to default in the quarterfinals of the 1992 Australian Open.

"I am just so happy to be on the court and being able to play," she said. "When I broke my finger I thought, 'Why is it me again at the moment when I am playing so well, why does something like this have to happen again?'"

"I thought, if there is a God up there, why is he doing this to me? And now I see why he did it. Maybe this is the way he made me play better."

Junxia sets a new 10,000m record

BEIJING, Sept 8: China's Wang Junxia broke the women's 10,000 metres world record today when she clocked 29 minutes 31.80 seconds at China's seventh national games, reports Reuter.

The previous mark of 30:13.74 was set by Norway's Ingrid Kristiansen on July 5, 1986.