

Sport

Another tardy triumph

Sports Reporter



Bangladesh made short work of heavy elemental odds and the feeble challenge of East and Central Africa to record their second successive win in the ICC Trophy by the familiar margin of seven wickets at the Impala Sports Club ground of Nairobi Kenya yesterday. said a faxed message received by the Bangladesh Cricket Control (BCCB) office last night.

Required to score 99 for an outright win from 50 overs — a simple task when viewed from the viewpoint of the depth of Bangladesh's batting — the eventual winners who are seeded second in this 20-team meet of all the ICC associate members, had to pass a sleepless night before heaving a sigh of relief.

Bangladesh had bowled East and Central Africa out for 98 in 36.2 overs on Tuesday, the scheduled day of the match but failed to chalk up the win that was there to be picked because of unceasing rain. When rain stopped play Bangladesh were stuck up with a total of 30 for one wicket from eight overs. Athar, who made 15 was the only casualty suffered by Bangladesh before the abrupt closure.

The postponed match got off to a delayed start yesterday, as rain clouds loomed large but Bangladeshi batsmen apprehensive of the not too improbable prospect of sharing points in the event of no play insisted the umpires to continue play on a pitch rendered quite unplayable at one end by heavy overnight rain.

Jahangir the overnight unbeaten batsman was bowled by Yadav for 15 and Aminul Islam Bulbul departed for 21 as Bangladesh stepped up on the gas to outpace the impending rain but skipper Faruque Ahmed with an unbeaten 27 and Minhzul Abedin Nannu on 12 not helped post the required 99 runs for three wickets in 22.4 overs.

Golam Nowher Prince, the veteran left-arm paceman, was adjudged the man-of-the-match for excellent bowling analysis of four for 36. It was by far the best bowling figures of the Bangladeshi new ball bowler in the ICC Trophy. He had also taken three wickets



In the opener against Argentina which Bangladesh won albeit tardily by seven wickets.

He enjoyed more than adequate support from wobbly Minhzul Abedin Nannu who



PRINCE ... man-of-match

finished with figures of three for 20 in East Africa's short-lived innings on Tuesday.

While off spinner Shariful Huq Plabon took a wicket on his debut, Enamul Huq Moni, the consistent successful left-arm spinner returned magnificently tidy analysis of one wicket for three runs from 6.2 overs. Moni was not too far from emulating the still unclipped feat of frugal bowl-

ing achieved by Indian Bishan Bedi who gave away just six runs from 12 overs for one wicket against the same East Africa in a group match in the inaugural Prudential World Cup in 1975. Curious it is to note that East Africa are now struggling in a competition of the associate members of the ICC while Bangladesh, along with others vie for a place among the top three finishers of the meet which will provisionally give them a right to rub shoulders with the Test playing nations in 1996 World Cup.

Bangladesh play their next match against the USA on Feb 19.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the ICC Trophy championship Group B match between Bangladesh and East & Central Africa concluded yesterday at the Impala Sports Club ground in Nairobi, Kenya:

EAST & CENTRAL AFRICA			
Merchant b Prince	7		
Sarigat c Jahangir b Prince	5		
Kapera c Nasu b Nannu	1		
Brolu b Prince	0		
Sabjali c Akram b Nannu	4		
Dhurani c Athar b Nannu	2		
Tarmohamed c Nannu b Moni	12		
Bagas b Prince	11		
Pateh c Shahed b Plabon	29		
Nasser run out	8		
Shikru not out	0		
Extras:	19		
Total: (for 10 wickets)	98		
Fall of wickets: 1/10; 2/17; 3/20; 4/24; 5/24; 6/36; 7/75; 8/87; 9/98; 10/98			
Bowling	O	M	R
Prince	10	1	36
Nannu	10	3	20
Plabon	6	1	22
Moni	6.2	4	3
Athar	4	2	10

BANGLADESH			
Athar c Merchant b Kapera	15		
Jahangir b Patel	15		
Faruque not out	27		
Bulbul st Merchant b Bagas	21		
Nannu not out	12		
Extras:	9		
Total: (for three wickets)	99		
Fall of wickets: 1/28; 2/40; 3/82			
Bowling	O	M	R
Kapera	4	0	13
Patel	7	1	32
Dhurani	5	0	30
James	4	0	11
Bagas	2.4	0	13

Result: Bangladesh won by seven wickets.

fewer wickets.

Elsewhere, Denmark easily beat Fiji (5-56), Canada (90 for 2) walloped Israel (89 all out), the United Arab Emirates beat the United States (206 all out) by four wickets, and Bangladesh (99 for 3) had an easy win over East and Central Africa (98 all out).

By the afternoon, Singapore had scored 96 for eight off 33 overs against Namibia. Papua New Guinea were 105 for 4 off 28 over against Malaysia, and Ireland had got a start against Gibraltar.

A pattern is emerging. The strong sides appear to be Holland, Canada, Bermuda, Denmark, the United Arab Emirates, Hong Kong and host Kenya.

The three top teams will qualify for the 1996 World Cup to be held in Pakistan, India

in 23 overs; rain stopped play.

United States 206 in 47.5 overs (Richard Denny 61, Azhar Saeed 4-24, Johan Samarasekera 3-32). UAE 74-2 in 17 overs, rain stopped play.

Denmark 219 in 49.3 overs (A Gergersen 50, Allan From 50, L Sorowatini 3-37, T Batina 3-55). Fiji 58-8 in 15 overs, rain stopped play.

Hong Kong 154 in 47.2 overs (Pat Fordham 79, Anthony Edwards 5-27). Bermuda 66-4 in 23 overs; rain stopped play.

Second Pak-NZ Test begins today

Kiwis up against it again



WELLINGTON, Kenya, Feb 16: Thrills and spills appear to be the order of the day whenever Hong Kong is playing cricket, reports AP.

It was the same Wednesday when Hong Kong met Bermuda in the first round of the International Cricket Council tournament for emerging cricketers.

Bermuda needed eight to win off the last over and their wicketkeeper Minors grabbed them off the very last ball. David Minors, who had been 11 overnight and called a doctor at 3 am, being not out for a hero's 46.

Earlier, stylish batting by Pat Fordham (79) helped Hong Kong post 154. Bermuda finished on 154, but were the winners because they lost

Series programme in Australia. "It's a mental thing. Batting is an instinctive art.

"If you've been in the one-day mode, when the ball is there or thereabouts you give it a crack.

"You can't suddenly say I won't do that today. You can't turn it on and off at will," he said.

New Zealand are a professional team and they'll be trying very hard."

Intikhab is sure New Zealand have been devising tactics for the second Test, just as his team have done.

"We have worked your players out," he said.

"At the same time they must have worked out their strategy, so for example when our number three, number four or number five batsman comes in, the bowlers know exactly what to do."

New Zealand wicketkeeper Tony Blain is anxious local supporters do not count his team out yet.

"I wouldn't write us off yet. If things had gone a bit differently in Auckland — if we at 170 for three on the first after noon hadn't blown it like we did — the match would have been completely different," he said.

Blain believes the problem of getting out of one-day mode into Test thinking is a real one, not a way of making excuses.

Most of the New Zealand team had only one first-class match this year to prepare for the Test. Otherwise they had a surfeit of one-day cricket, both domestically and the World

Nat'l soccer

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Feb 16: Narayanganj reached the quarter-finals of the 18th Sher-e-Bangla national soccer championship trouncing Bogra 4-1 at the local stadium here today.

In a rather one-sided match Narayanganj opened the flood gates in only the 8th minute thanks to a Zakir strike (1-0). He was again on target fourteen minutes later (2-0).

Samrat brought Bogra back into the match with a penalty in the 13th minute of the second half (2-1). Bogra tried to find the equaliser but missed all the chances that went their way.

In looking for that goal, Riaz and Rinku caught Bogra on the break twice with goals in 28 and 36 minute to complete the rout.

Narayanganj's Mantu and Jubel and Mithu of Bogra were all cautioned.

Today Sylhet take on Netrakona.

Div II cricket

Sports Reporter

Mirpur Nabir Krira Chakra made the most of a half century by Tarun when they beat Gandaria Cricketers by 42 runs on the eastern strip of the DCS in yesterday's one of the three Second Division super league ties.

Sent in to bat first Mirpur batted through their quota of 40 overs to raise a healthy total of 195 for eight wickets. Barring Tarun the other significant contributions to the near two hundred total came from extras, yielding 27 runs and two individuals — Pavel and Ujjal with the former making 25 and Ujjal staying unbeaten on 17.

Mukul and Rashed of Gandaria captured three wickets apiece giving away 34 and 41 runs respectively.

Gandaria fell a long behind in their chase of victory target of 199 in 40 overs making only 153 at the end of the day with two wickets standing.

Bulbul was unbeaten on 31 with Rashed and Nasir following to complete the line of notable run-getters in the innings. Rashed made 21 and Nasir 19.

Runa was Mirpur's most successful bowler bagging two for 31.

His peers Payel, Moni and Ujjal took one wicket apiece to chalk up a 42-run win for Mirpur.

Although Mirpur got a fairly easy win against Kathalbagan faced stiffer resistance from Gopibagh Friends Club before recording an 18-run victory at the Dhaka Stadium.

Georgie's middling all-round show came handy for Kathalbagan who scored 182 for eight wickets after making the first use of the wicket.

Ibrahim made 58 followed by Georgie who toted up another 20.

Liton and Sayeed bagged a couple of wickets each among the Gopibagh bowlers.

Liton waged a spirited battle against heavy odds with some assistance coming from Shakil and Phillip who contributed 29 and 22 respectively but Gopibagh were all out for 164 in 37.4 overs.

Kathalbagan now have garnered six points to reign atop in E Group.

Day's other match between Pegasus F and Dhanmondi Progoti Sangha was not held due to the unplayable condition of the pitch.

India offer to train local booters

Sports Reporter

Indian government will receive two Bangladeshi boys under the Indo-Bangladesh cultural agreement for a ten-month football training programme, according to a Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) press release issued yesterday.

Interested booters are asked to apply to the BFF general secretary with all necessary documents by the 20th of this month.

Five years ago, Shoaib Mohammed and Javed Miandad made centuries for Pakistan, and Martin Crowe hit 174 for New Zealand, as they amassed 447 in 732 minutes. That was New Zealand's ninth slowest innings in Test history.

TEAMS
NEW ZEALAND: Ken Rutherford (captain), Blair Cockroft, Bryan Young, Andrew Jones, Mark Greatbatch, Shane Thomson, Chris Cairns, Tony Blain, Matthew Hart, Simon Doull, Danny Morrison, Richard de Groot, Michael Owens (two to be omitted).

PAKISTAN: Salim Malik (captain), Saeed Anwar, Aamir Sohail, Asif Muttaba, Basit Ali, Inzamamul Haq, Shoaib Mohammed, Rashid Latif, Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Ataur Rehman, Amir Nazir, Akram Raza (two to be omitted).

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Sulaiman Mojumder leaps his way to take the gold in men's 400 metre hurdles in the 22nd national athletics championships at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

— Star photo

National athletics championships on

Day One belongs to BJMC

Sports Reporter

BJMC dominated the inaugural day's proceedings of the 22nd national athletics championships which got underway at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

BJMC bagged 12 medals including five golds. Bangladesh Army also got five golds to raise their total collection to 10 medals, two short from BJMC.

In men's 400m final, Milzad Hossain of BJMC won with a timing of 53.7 seconds to earn the gold. Mosharraf Hossain of BJMC and Kamrul Hassan of Air Force finished second and third respectively.