

Sport

Jahangir ploughs in sands

Sports Reporter

Jahangir Alam's maiden ICC ton went a beggar as Bangladesh were bludgeoned to a six-wicket defeat in their last group engagement in the fifth version of the meet now being played in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi.

On Monday, at the Ngara Sports Club ground, the United Arab Emirates who ensured passage to the quarterfinals as the Group B champions along with runners-up Bangladesh rattled up 236 for four wickets in 46.3 overs to chalk up an easy, inconsequential but strategically important win.

While the UAE from now will look to the semifinals wistfully from a theoretically easy draw of Group F, Bangladesh added to the loss of the unbeaten status have their work cut out in Group E comprising top-seeds Holland and hosts Kenya.

Bangladesh, however, looked poised for a win when they piled 233 for seven wickets on a perfect batting wicket after the UAE captain won the toss and asked his counterpart to make the first use of the wicket.

The belated discovery of pitch's benign nature was almost lost into deceptive ignorance in the morning as the top half of the Bangladeshi batting again caved in for reasons best known to the batsmen.

The only exception was the gutsy right-handed opener Jahangir Alam. Undaunted by the longish funeral procession which included even the redoubtable Akram Khan, the man who gave Bangladesh a new lease of life with an unbeaten half-century against the USA, Jahangir blossomed to play perhaps the best innings of his life and with it carved a niche in the annals as the only third Bangladeshi batsman to notch a hundred in the ICC competition. Yusuf Rahmati hit the first ton in the second ICC meet in England in 1982. He made 115 against Papua New Guinea. Nurul Abedin Nobel scored 105 against Canada in the fourth meet in Holland in 1990.

Fighting against odds symbolised in the sickening statistics of 89 for five as Bangladesh batted first for the first time, in other being forced to mark the first use of the wicket, Jahangir thrived on some patient, sensible batting by Selim Shahed, another young man who too like the centurion made his ICC debut this year. The pugnacious Jahangir remained unbeaten on 117 as Bangladesh finally made 233 for seven from the stipulated quota of 50 overs.

Shahed, celebrated his first half century of the meet before becoming one of the three leg

Khulna make it to semis

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Feb 22: Khulna moved into the semifinals of the 22nd Sher-e-Bangla Cup national football championships beating Sylhet 20-0 in quarter-finals at the local stadium here today.

The winners scored once each half.

Sylhet put the hosts under pressure in the opening ten minutes.

Khulna however, got their first opportunity to score in the 15th minute. National player Rumi missed that chance. From then on Khulna picked up their game and they started to constantly raid the Sylhet half.

Veteran national striker Aslam came close for Khulna in the 21st minute.

In the 26th minute Sylhet's custodian Naosed was forced

Partex b'ball

Sports Reporter

Fleet Club struggled to record their third win against Dhaka Wanders 84-80 in the Partex First Division basketball league at the Outer Stadium wooden floor gymnasium yesterday.

The first half was locked at 43-43.

Rustom and Abdul with 26, 20 respectively were the main scorers for the winners.

Fazle and Atiq caged 22, 16 respectively for the losers.

Wanderers were rooted at the basement with 10 points from nine games while Fleet were just above them with 11 playing one less game.

Office cricket deferred

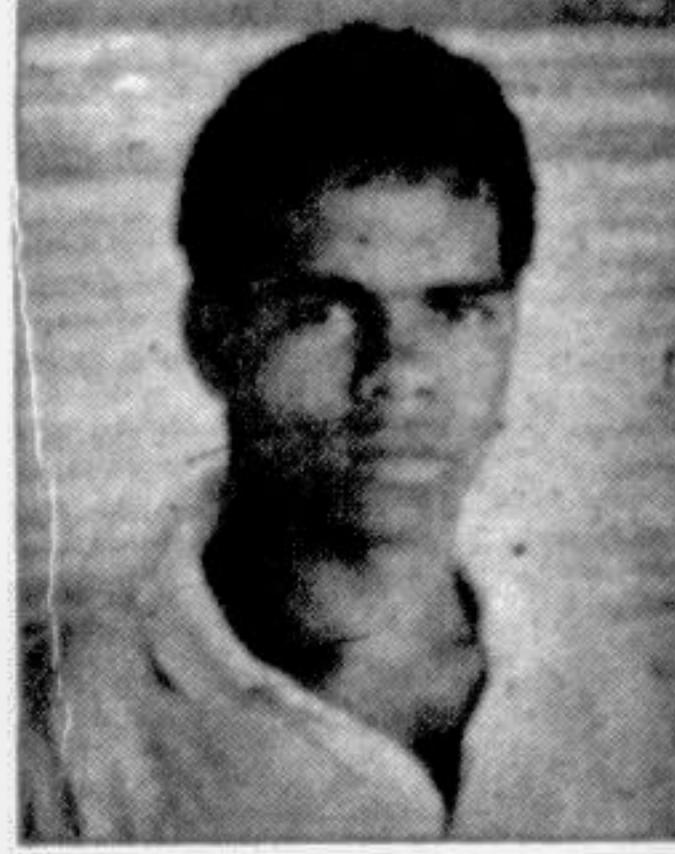
Sports Reporter

The matches of the Office cricket league scheduled to be held on February 25, were postponed due to unavoidable reasons, said a Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) press release issued yesterday.

Sports Reporter

before dismissals for a well made 56.

S Butt, one of the many Pakistanis playing for the multi-national UAE team was the pick of the bowlers with



JAHANGIR ... 117 not out figures of two for 19 from eight overs.

Medium-pacer Athar Laq, tipped as a Pakistan prospect not too, long ago and one of the members of the Pakistan team which toured Dhaka in 1988 to take part in the Asian youth cricket championship bagged two for 57.

Shri Lankan Samarasekera,



not the Test player Athula Samarasekera also captured two wickets for 46 runs.

Bangladesh were cock-a-hoop when Athar, opening the attack with Golam Nawsher Prince had UAE opener Saeed caught behind for three with the addition of six more runs the total on 13. Nawsher called for more celebrations as Hussein fell leg before to the experienced left-arm seamer but the sky for Bangladesh changed after that.

Riaz Ponawalla, the UAE vice captain who only a couple of years ago was very much in the reckoning for a place at least in the one day combination of the Indian team paired with Mehra, another Indian connection, to steady the rocking UAE boat. Both completed half centuries with Ponawalla falling to Minhazul Abedin Nanne for 54.

Mehra was stumped by Nasir Ahmed Nasu for 50 off Enamul Huq Moni who in line

with the cliche of cricket's glorious uncertainty, discovered himself as the source of his team's later sufferings as he along with his peers came under heavy punishment from the tharawati UAE batsmen.

Ishaq and Reza, plundered the Bangladeshi bowling to take 92 runs from 14 overs as UAE raced to 236 in 46.3 overs after being quite deliberately placed at 143 for four wickets in 36 overs. Originally from Pakistan these two batsmen indulged in some do-or-die slogging at the utter bewilderment of the Bangladesh captain who used as many as eight bowlers to sever the partnership. Ishaq remained unbeaten on 49 while Reza, the man-of-the-match, returned unconquered on 61.

The second round or quarterfinals begin today with Bangladesh taking on Holland.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the 5th ICC cricket championship Group B match between Bangladesh and United Arab Emirates (UAE) held Monday at Ngara Sports Club ground in Nairobi, Kenya.

BANGLADESH

Athar Ali c Abbasi b Butt	2
Jahangir Alam not out	117
Faruk Ahmed lbw Samarasekera	2
A Ibulb Alcabbas b Samarasekera	0
M A Nannu c Abbasi b A Laq	11
Akram Khan lbw Zarawani	56
Selim Shahed lbw A Laq	56
E H Monti c Abbasi b Butt	7
G M Nawsher Prince not out	3
Extras:	25
Total: (for seven wickets in 50 overs)	233
Fall of wickets: 1-6; 2-13; 3-14; 4-70; 5-89; 6-207; 7-220.	
Did not bat: Nasir Ahmed.	
Shariful Huq Plabon	
Bowling: O M R W	
Samarasekera 10 0 46 2	
S Butt 8 2 19 2	
A Laq 10 0 57 2	
S Zarawani 10 1 47 1	
A Saeed 8 1 37 2	
S Reza 4 0 24 0	

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE)

R Poonwala c S Shahed b M A Nannu	54
A Saeed c N A Nasu b Athar Ali	3
M Hussein lbw Prince	5
V Mehra st N A Nasu b E H Moni	50
M Ishaq not out	49
S Reza not out	61
Extras:	14
Total: (for four wickets in 46.3 overs)	236
Fall of wickets: 1-18; 2-38; 3-115; 4-142.	
Bowling: O M R W	
G M Nawsher Prince 8 0 35 1	
Athar Ali 10 3 35 1	
M A Nannu 10 1 35 1	
E H Moni 9 0 56 1	
S H Plabon 5 0 27 0	
Akram Khan 1.3 0 15 0	
Selim Shahed 2 0 22 2	
A Ibulb 1 0 7 0	

RESULT: UAE won by six wickets

Man-of-the-match: S Reza (UAE)

Other ICC results

NAIROBI, Feb 22: Results of final preliminary round 50-over ICC (International Cricket Council) Trophy cricket matches on Monday, reports Reuters.

United States beat Argentina by 111 runs. United States 337-6 Innings closed (Sam Skeete 67, Gagendranath Lachman 75), Argentina 226-6 Innings closed (G. Kirchbaum 57).

Fiji beat West Africa by 152 runs. Fiji 232-9 Innings closed (F Lestivou 84, C Taitone 46, T Ayama, 3-17), West Africa 80 in 40 overs (L Steve 4-17).

Bermuda beat Denmark by 5 wickets. Denmark 183-7 Innings closed (Atif Butt 70, J Gregersen 53), Bermuda 185-5 in 44.5 overs (C Smith 51, C Marshall 48 not out, M Seider 3-42).

STANDINGS

Final standings issued on Monday after the preliminary round of the ICC (International Cricket Council) Trophy (tabulated — played, won, lost, points):

Group A

Netherlands	4	4	0	16
Ireland	4	3	1	12
Papua New Guinea	4	2	2	8
Malaysia	4	1	3	4
Gibraltar	4	0	4	0

Group B

United Arab Emirates	4	4	0	16
Bangladesh	4	3	1	12
United States	4	2	2	8
Argentina	4	1	3	4
East and Central Africa	4	0	4	0

Group C

Kenya	4	4	0	16
Canada	4	2	1	10
Namibia	4	2	2	8
Israel	4	1	3	4
Singapore	4	0	3	2

Note : Canada and Singapore totals include two points for a no result.

Group D

Bermuda 4 4 0 16

Hong Kong 4 3 1 12

Denmark 4 2 2 8

Fiji 4 1 3 4

West Africa 4 0 4 0

Quarter-final groupings:

Group E — Netherlands, Bangladesh, Kenya, Hong Kong.

Group F — Ireland, United Arab Emirates, Canada, Bermuda.

IM chess results

Sports Reporter

Shawkat Hossain Pallab of Sonali Bank earned five full points to stay at the top of the points table after the fifth round matches of the United Insurance International Masters' (IM) chess tournament at the chess room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

Pallab beat Aminul Islam.

Tanima Parveen and Manzur Alam jointly remained in the second position securing four and a half points so far.

The players who got three points were: Khurshed Alam, Arifuzzaman Sikder, Badrul Alam, Sheikh Nasir Ahmed, Hasibul Hassan Hanif, Kazal Mahmud, Khalid Shawkat Prince, Enayet Hossain, Aminul Islam, Muniruzzaman Moni, Din Mohammad and Aminul Islam Palash.

The opener had looked in no trouble until he drew Walsh towards the long-off boundary. He ran two but then failed to beat Kenneth Benjamin's athletic 70-metre throw which fact took the last four West Indian wickets for just 18 runs in a belated attempt to fight their way back into the match.

England manager Keith Fletcher admitted the incident

Div II cricket postponed

Sports Reporter

All the matches of the Second Division cricket league which were to be held yesterday and today were postponed due to the inclement weather, said a Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) press release yesterday.

Ekram Rana of Sylhet and Partho Pratim Kundu of Khulna were cautioned.

Sylhet missed some easy sitters in a half which was almost dominated by them.