

MSC, Abahani  
to leave for  
Calcutta tomorrow

## Sports Reporter

Mohammedan Sporting Club and Abahani Krira Chakra, the two giants of local football will leave for Calcutta on March 3 to participate in a fund rising football tournament organised by All India Sports Journalist Federation.

Eight teams, divided into two groups, will take part in the nine-day long charity meet aimed at providing some financial assistance to the distressed Indian journalists.

Besides the two teams from Bangladesh, three leading clubs of India — East Bengal, Mohanbagan and Calcutta Mohammedan Sporting Club are in the fray.

The three other teams from India are Mahindra and Mahindra, Titanuan Trivandrum and Peersons.

Sirajul Islam will perform the managerial duties of a 40-member Mohammedan team while Dewan Saiful Arefin Tutul has been put in charge of the Abahani outfit comprising 19 players.

Mohammedan and Abahani who have been placed in two different groups of the meet have confirmed the services of some players from other clubs to bolster strength for this particular meet.

Abahani will play their first match on March 5 while Mohammedan appear on the following day in a round robin league fixture which is yet to be known.

Meanwhile, two-member DMFA delegation headed by DMFA secretary Kazi Mishu will leave for Calcutta on March 6 to confirm the participation of three top teams of Calcutta — East Bengal, Mohanbagan and Calcutta Mohammedan in the forthcoming DMFA Cup football tournament in Dhaka scheduled to be held from April 25.

DMFA is awaiting confirmation of the Nepalese national team too. Should Nepal the gold winners of the Sixth SAF Games in Dhaka, take part, the number of foreign teams in the DMFA Cup, originally a domestic meet and normally regarded a prelude to the annual league championship of local clubs will go to four.

**India, World XI charity cricket**

NEW DELHI, Mar 1: A day before the Indian team leaves for New Zealand, it will have a tough encounter against a World XI at the Ferozeshah Kotla ground here, reports PTI.

Mohd Azharuddin and Allan Lamb will lead their respective teams on March 5 for this high profile charity fund raising event.

The 50 overs each side match is being played for the Tej Ram Memorial Cancer Society.

## The teams (from):

**INDIAN XI:** Mohd Azharuddin (capt), Navjot Sidhu, Manoj Prabhakar, Vinod Kambla, Kapil Dev, Sanjay Manjrekar, Nayan Mongia, KP Bhaskar, Anil Kumble, Jaygal Srinath and Venkatapathy Raju.

**WORLD XI:** Allan Lamb (capt), Roshan Mahanama, Aravinda de Silva, Arjuna Ranatunga, Neil Fairbrother, Dermott Reeve, Ole Rice, Gladstone Small, John Embrey, Pramodaya Wickremasinghe, Malcolm Marshall and Alvin Kallicharan.

**Litu sparks in BEXIMCO cricket**

**Sports Reporter**  
Litu captured seven wickets for 36 runs to help Rajshahi get off to a flying start along with Dhaka. Chittagong and BKSP in the final phase of the 14th BEXIMCO national youth cricket championship yesterday.

On the opening day of the final round Rajshahi beat BKSP by seven wickets at the Dhaka Stadium brief scores: 161 all out, Sharmi 51 not out, Litu seven for 36.

BKSP cantered past Sylhet by 171 runs at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium. Brief scores: 237 for seven in 45 overs. Ujjal 55, Munna 47.

Sylhet 66 all out in 27.2 overs. Ujjal and Munna 4 wickets apiece.

Chittagong beat Jessor by 45 runs at the Jagannath Hall ground.

Brief scores: Chittagong 183 for nine in the possible 42 overs. Tareq 59, Azim 41. Two wickets apiece for Shamil, Ahsiq and Babu of Jessor.

Jessor all out for 129 in 36.5 overs. Babu 48 and Ahsiq 33. Nuruddin and Masum bagged three wickets apiece.

Dhaka edged past Dinajpur by two wickets at the Pallabi ground.

Brief scores: Dinajpur 181 seven wickets in 45 overs. Asif 30 and Chhoton 28. Mintu of Dhaka took three wickets for 25.

Dhaka 183 for eight. Bappi 42. Nahid 27 and Mintu 19.

## Cronje's alarm for Aussies



BLOEMFONTEIN, South Africa, Mar 1. Skipper Hansie Cronje smashed a career best 251 but couldn't save Orange Free State from a 60-run defeat at the hands of Australia in a four-day tour game Tuesday, reports AP.

Cronje boldly went in search of an elusive victory single-handed after being set 457 runs to win in four sessions.

The 24-year old right hander in his last first-class

innings before the first Test at Wanderers Friday kept the Australian attack at bay holding up one end while other capitulated.

He finally fell holing out to long off trying to avoid the packed leg side field after six hours and 49 minutes of batting.

His chanceless innings

characterised his recent form against the tourists and in six successive innings on home soil so far has fetched him 599 runs at a startling average of 119.8 in 976 minutes of batting in 10 days.

On reaching his double

century he hit off spinner Tim

May for three sixes in successive

balls and raced to his last

50 in just 20 balls.

The middle order provided

stubborn support to Cronje,

but didn't last long to see a

great victory achieved.

Having taken tea on 308 for six and needing 149 runs to win in a minimum of 35 overs,

Shane Warne who bowled just

18 overs on the last day picked

up the tailenders to seal victory.

**SCOREBOARD**

**AUSTRALIA:** First innings

450 for eight decl (Michael

Slater 65, Mark Waugh 154,

Steve Waugh 102, Brad Player

four for 107) and 270 for 6 decl (Mark Taylor 54, Michael

Slater 105, Kosi Venter 5 for 101).

**ORANGE FREE STATE:**

First innings 264 (Mickey

Arthur 51, Louis Wilkinson 53,

Tim May five for 98).

**ORANGE FREE STATE:**

Second innings (102 for one

contd).

Arthur 1bw b Hughes 10

Liebenberg 1bw b Hughes 39

Cronje c Reiffel b May 251

Wilkinson b Reiffel 5

Steyn c Healy b S Waugh 22

Venter run out 16

Van Zyl c Healy b Hughes 2

Player c Healy b Hughes 17

Boje b Warne 6

Radley 1bw b Warne 4

Bakkies not out 12

Extras: (b-5, lb-2, nb-2, w-3)12

Total : 396

Fall: 1-19; 2-127; 3-150; 4-

225; 5-271; 6-286; 7-314; 8-

374; 9-384; 10-396.

**Bowling:** O M R W

Hughes 25 2 127 4

Reiffel 23 3 60 1

Warne 28 2 6 70

May 26 4 111 1

S. Waugh 6 0 21 1

**Australia won by 60 runs.**

**First Test at Wanderers on**

**March 4.**

**Cricket venues shifted**

**Sports Reporter**

The venue of the today's

12th Nirmal Schools cricket

championship engagement has

been shifted. The match will

be held on the eastern strip of

the Dhanmondi Cricket

Stadium instead of the Dhan-

mondi Club ground.

Stark, 29, is ranked

231st in the world, while Skoff

is ranked 82nd. Wilander re-

tired and didn't play competi-

tively from June 1991 to April

1993. His best Qa (159) since

his return was in the

Australian open in January,

when he reached the fourth

round.

Pioline, the ninth seed who

reached the US Open finals

last summer, lost to Jonathan

Stark 6-3, 6-4. Boetsch, secon-

d种子, was beaten by compatriot Fabrice Santoro 6-

3, 6-7 (3-3).

Pioline won only 12 points

while Stark was serving in the

85-minute match. Stark record-

ed seven service aces —

three in the last game of the

first set — and won 12 of the

final 13 points.

The two seeded players to

win Monday were No. 12

Alexander Volkov of Russia and

No. 16 Carlos Costa of Spain.

Volkov beat Nicklas Kulti of

Sweden 2-6, 6-1, 6-3, and

Costa edged Alberto Berasategui of Spain 7-6, (7-3),

7-6 (7-3).

## Defeat dogs Japan

**LUCKNOW, India, Mar 1:** Japan's men's hockey team, preparing for the Asian Games in Hiroshima later this year, suffered a second, successive defeat in the Indira Gandhi tournament here Tuesday, reports AFP.

Drubbed 5-0 by hosts India in their first match, the Japanese lost 2-0 to Kenya to slide to the bottom of the league table in the six nation tournament.

The Kenyans scored once in each half of a dull match through a penalty corner conversion by John Okoth and a field goal by Frederick Masibu.

Japan's attempts to score were foiled by the agile Kenyan goalkeeper Iwao Venitsu, who fended off hard shots with brave dives.

Kenya's victory in the lone match played Tuesday helped them overcome a 6-0 defeat against in-form South Africa in their opening encounter on Sunday.

The Kenyans take on India next in Wednesday's three-match programme that will also pit South Africa against Egypt and South Korea against Japan.

Liton reduced the margin scoring one goal for the losers.

Earlier, director-general of Bangladesh Krira Siksha Protishon, Ali Hasan opened the 12-team meet BSWA president Roqibul Hassan, BHF general secretary Samsul Bari, BKF general secretary Munir Hosseini were also present on the occasion.

**STANDINGS**

South Africa 2 2 0 0 12 0 4

India 2 2 0 0 10 0 4

Kenya 2 1 0 1 2 6 2

South Korea 2 0 1 1 2 8 1

Egypt 2 0 1 1 2 7 1

Japan 2 0 0 2 0 7 0

**Bengal in Ranji semis**

**SACUPTA, Mar 1:** Bengal

registered an emphatic nine-

wicket victory over Hyderabad to cruise into the semi finals of the Ranji Trophy championship on the penultimate day of their Ranji Trophy quarter final match at the Eden Gardens here today, reports PTI.

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