

Div II qualifying cricket results

Sports Reporter
Bashaboo Tarun Sangha and Oaisis Club won their respective Lotus-Kamal Second Division cricket qualifying matches at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

On the eastern strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Bashaboo Tarun Sangha earned a facile seven-wicket win over Matuail Sabuj Sangha in a low scoring match.

Santo, Saiful and Romel with 12, 14 and 17 respectively were the only double digit scorers for Matuail while extras contributed 23.

Dipu, who later dazzled with the willow, claimed four wickets for 17 runs followed by Sohel, who took two for 16.

Needing 96 for victory, Bashaboo reached the target in 25.1 overs losing three wickets.

Dipu with 25 was the top scorer for the winners while Monir and Sayem contributed each.

In the other match of the day on the western strip of Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium Oaisis Club beat Pallabi Club by three wickets.

Batting first Pallabi scored a comfortable 133 before being all out in 34 overs in the 35-over-a-side engagement.

Saki made a patient 29 while extras top scored with 30.

Spinner Saju, who did most of the damage for Oaisis, finished with an excellent analysis of 7-3-9-4. He was well assisted by Pavel who claimed three wickets for 30 runs.

In reply, Oaisis reached 135 for seven wickets in 33.5 overs with Newton hitting 28.

Azim (17), Bappi (15) and Pavel (14) were the other notable contributors while Rashed, who remained not out on 22, took his side to a comfortable victory with seven balls to spare.

Lenin took four wickets for 30 runs for the losers.

Iqbal Mahmood wins Dhaka Club golf title

Iqbal Mahmood clinched the Dhaka Club Summer Classic golf trophy in a largely participated competition held on 21 May at the Dhaka Club course, said a belated Club press release yesterday.

Riazur Rahman emerged strongly from a three-way tie to finish runner-up. For the country's best golfer Shawkat Uz-Zaman, the difficult Dhaka Club course held no terrors, as he blazed through the last nine holes with a three over par 39 to win not only the best gross trophy, but proving once again, that class always tells.

Aftab Hussain maintained his consistent form by pocketing the best front nine trophy, while Shakil Kasem comfortably bagged the best back nine.

Abu Alam (Mazzad) had no problems winning the longest drive and S G Murtaza completed the picture, taking home the trophy for the nearest to pin.

Ex-cricketer Manowar Chowdhury Manu's determined efforts in the back stretch won him the most improved player award.

Crawley cracks double ton



LONDON, May 28: Lancashire batsman John Crawley plundered 281 to press his England Test claims on Friday while Brian Lara failed in his quest for another world record, reports Reuter.

West Indies left-hander Lara needed to score a century for his adopted county Warwickshire in their first innings against Middlesex at Lord's to equal the record of six consecutive first-class hundreds.

The Trinidadian's prolific spell was ended by 19-year-old pacesetter Richard Johnson, playing only his fourth championship match, who had Lara caught behind for 26.

Lara, who started his sequence of five successive centuries with his world Test record 375 against England in Antigua last month and continued by making 147, 106, 120 not out and 136 for Warwickshire, was seeking to equal a record jointly held by Sir Donald Bradman, C B Fry and Mike Procter.

Disappointed but characteristically gracious, Lara said: "It's been a good run for me and, who knows, I might get near the record again some time. The pressure is not really off because I always want to get as many runs as I can."

Mandela Trophy one-day series in Dec

JOHANNESBURG, May 28: Pakistan and Sri Lanka are to join New Zealand in South Africa in December for a quadrangular one-day cricket tournament to be called the Mandela Trophy, it was announced on Saturday, reports Reuter.

The United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA) associated fully with the new South Africa and we believe we should be doing something special this summer to celebrate its birth, chief executive of UCBSA Ali Bacher told reporters.

"We have called it the Mandela Trophy in recognition of the President's massive contribution in creating the new South Africa."

The tournament sees the four teams playing each other twice in a league with the top two playing a best-of-three final.

Bacher pointed out that while the presence of both Pakistan and Sri Lanka was in part a "thank you" for helping get South Africa back to take part because they would be in West Indies at the time.

Ranatunga exonerated

COLOMBO, May 28: Sri Lanka on Friday cleared former test captain Arjuna Ranatunga of misconduct charges and said he could be included in a 31-member squad preparing for Pakistan's forthcoming tour of the island, reports Reuter.

The Sri Lankan Cricket Board's executive committee had inquired into Ranatunga's withdrawal from an April tournament in Sharjah in protest over a fitness test which led to vice-captain Aravinda de Silva being dropped.

A committee statement said: "No further action is necessary against Ranatunga as his conduct was apparently motivated by selfless reasons."

The committee noted "his outstanding contribution to Sri Lanka cricket and his expression of regret at the inconvenience caused."

Rubin comes to Capriati's rescue

MIAMI, May 28: Ellis Rubin, an American attorney who often takes on notorious cases, said Friday he has been retained by a teenager who has new details about Jennifer Capriati's recent lifestyle, reports AP.

At a news conference Saturday in Rubin's office, 18-year-old Nathan Wilson is due to tell his story.

He said the "lost weekend" was about a month ago. That's how long Wilson and Capriati have known each other, he said.

Capriati was arrested May 16 for marijuana possession after a party that Wilson also attended at a motel in Coral Gables. Wilson earlier claimed he saw Capriati smoke crack and use heroin prior to her arrest.

Capriati is now enrolled in an addiction treatment program at a clinic on Miami Beach.

Rubin, a Democratic candidate for the US Senate, has a penchant for high-profile cases. He offered a nymphomaniac defense for a sheriff deputy's wife who worked as a prostitute out of her home, and lost a murder case using television intoxication as a defence.



Spaniard Arantxa Sanchez Vicario is fired up after beating Germany's Barbara Rittner in the third round of the French Open in Paris yesterday. Arantxa won 6-4, 6-2. — AFP photo

Arantxa stays on course

PARIS, May 28: Second-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario rolled into the fourth round of the French Open with a straight-set victory Saturday, but No 9 Lindsay Davenport was ousted by Julie Halard of France, reports AP.

Sanchez Vicario, one of the few potential threats to overwhelming favourite Steffi Graf, downed Germany's Barbara Rittner 6-4, 6-2. The 1989 champion has yet to lose a set in her three matches.

Halard, who has risen to 24th in the world rankings after several strong performances this season, also triumphed 6-4, 6-2 over the 17-year-old Davenport, a rising star from California.

Davenport was the ninth of the 16 women's seeds to lose. Nine men's seeds also have been ousted before the start of the fourth round.

In a showdown of two of the brightest new stars on the men's tour, Alberto Berasategui of Spain overpowered Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 in just 92 minutes.

Berasategui, a 20-year-old ranked 23rd, had ousted 14th seeded Cedric Pioline of France in the second round and was in total command against Kafelnikov, also 20, who has soared to 20th in the rankings after winning two tournaments this year.

Sampras' nobel gesture

PARIS, May 28: World tennis number one Pete Sampras announced on Saturday he was donating a trophy worth almost one million dollars to the Arthur Ashe Foundation to help AIDS sufferers, reports Reuter.

The American is a three-time winner of the Lyon Open tournament, which qualified him to become a permanent recipient of the gold, bronze and diamond-encrusted trophy.

Instead, Sampras has instructed the jeweller to donate the trophy direct to the Arthur Ashe Foundation, established by the late former Wimbledon champion in 1992 to educate the public about AIDS and raise funds.

Samaranch pleased

SYDNEY, May 28: International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch is pleased with preparations for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, New South Wales state Premier John Fahey said Thursday, reports AP.

After talks with Samaranch, who arrived in Sydney on Wednesday, Fahey said, "We talked broadly both at the meeting and subsequently over a lunch."

"He is very pleased with what he sees happening and the manner in which the organization has been put in place."

Samaranch did not immediately issue a press statement. The meeting, also attended by IOC vice president Kevan Gosper, IOC member Phil Coles and Australian Olympic Committee president John Coates, was held to brief Samaranch on Sydney's progress since being awarded the Games last September.

The fact that the Sydney Organising Committee for the Olympic Games has not yet appointed a chief executive was not raised, Fahey said.

SOCOG chairman Gary Pemberton had indicated he was very close to a decision, with an announcement to be made soon, Fahey said.



The president of the International Olympic Committee, Juan Antonio Samaranch (L), addresses journalists after inspecting the Sydney International Athletics Centre yesterday. The centre will serve as the warm-up stadium for the 2000 Olympics. — AFP photo

Busy WI schedule ahead



BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, May 28: The West Indies cricket team will play in four series against four opponents between this October and September 1995, the West Indies Cricket Board of Control says, reports AP.

The board gave definite dates only for the last tour, to England next May-August for an unprecedented six Tests and three one-day internationals.

Board president Peter Short said Thursday dates have yet to be set for the other tours — to India from mid-October to mid-December, to New Zealand from early January to early February, in the West Indies against Australia between February and May.

In India, there likely will be three Tests and five one-day internationals, Short said. Two Tests and three one-day internationals are expected in New Zealand.

The number of Tests on the Australian team's tour depends on when they arrive in the West Indies, Short said. The team will participate in a one-day tournament celebrating the 100th anniversary of New Zealand cricket in February, and then the team leaves for England tour in early May.

ENGLAND TOUR ITINERARY

- Dates of the one-day internationals and Tests in England:
May 24 — One-day international at Nottingham.
May 26 — One-day international at Fosters Oval, London.
May 28 — One-day international at Lord's, London.
June 8-12 — First Test, Headingley, Leeds.
June 22-26 — Second Test, Lord's, London.
July 6-11 (rest day, July 9) — Third Test, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
July 27-31 — Fourth Test, Old Trafford, Manchester.
August 10-14 — Fifth Test, Trent Bridge, Nottingham.
August 24-28 — Sixth Test, Fosters Oval, London.



Winners of the Dhaka Club Summer Classic '94 golf competition seen pictured with their trophies. Standing (from left): Riazur Rahman, Iqbal Mahmood, Lutfé Najib Khan (member-in-charge, outdoor sports), Shakil Kasem, Manowar Chowdhury, Aftab Hossain. Crouching (from left): Shawkat-Uz-Zaman, Abu Alam (Mazzad). — Star photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a solution for yesterday's puzzle and a Cryptoquip section.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with a key: A B X Q R R H R X Q B A G T R T B O L N X D K O Q K X O D C V R O B G I R V D W R D H C K N T G G B X R W R W I R X

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: PRESIDENT OF THE PLANTS' UNION FEELS THAT "AIRHEAD" IS A SLUR. Today's Cryptoquip clue: W equals M. The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.