

## MSC's sweaty return to win

Sports Reporter

Reigning champions Mohomedan Sporting Club returned to winning ways when they beat giant-slayers Wari Club 1-0 in their third engagement of the Star Premier Division football league yesterday.

Shafiqul Qader scored the all important goal in the 66th minute of the match.

On a ugly, muddy strip, a familiar outcome of the notorious combination of rain and pounding boots, both teams wallowed and struggled for control and the ninety minute assay was an annoying resume of lusty clearances and missed chances.

Mohammedans, who were brought down to earth in their second match by Fakirpool Youngmen's Club who held them to a one all draw after the black and whites, made a roaring start in this year's league blanking babes Bangladesh Boys 7-0 did look anything but recovered from the recent set back.

With their main schemer Rumman Bin Wali Shabbir nowhere near his peak form,

Wari, who relived sensations in their previous match by holding giants Abahani to a one all draw, created some openings with Maqbul, the crafty forward inevitably in the thick of action but being the less fancied of the two teams it was only natural that they would have their share of misses and the poor scoreboard had no one around to put an end to its overgrown virginity.

Vitaly, one of Mohammedans' two Russian players on the field for Mohammedans had a long shot at the goal but the ball bounced out off the body of a Wari defender.

Mohammedans finally got their desired lead in the 66th minute when Shafiqul Qader alias Munna found the net from a goalmouth melee caused by free kick taken by medio Nurul Huq.

The drab proceedings picked up some pace as both teams opened out after the goal. Mohammedans for more goals and Wari for the equaliser to start with their attempt to live up to reputation.

Both teams resorted to some adventurous long distance shooting and Wari's

to a rather worried existence when Shafiq, the scorer, failed to control an intelligent early cross by Shabbir.

Mohammedans now have five points from three matches and lead the table ahead of the nearest rivals Mukti Joddha who have four points from two matches though.

Wari on the other hand remain stuck to one point from three encounters having lost their opener to Brothers Union.

Victoria Sporting Club another old club now languishing in the lower tier of the Star First Division league collected their second successive win when they beat Dhamondi Club by the odd goal in three in the match played earlier at the same venue.

Angur and Amin, who had got a goal each in Victoria's previous win, were in action yesterday scoring one each to design Dhamondi's first defeat in this year's league.

Javed pulled back one for the losers who have two points from three matches.

The win raised Victoria's collection to four from three matches.

Action from yesterday's Star Premier Division football league match between defending champs Mohomedan Sporting Club and Wari Club at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. The black and whites' won 1-0. — Star photo

Mohammedans looked void of imagination and the only chance that came their way in the first 45 minutes was spoiled by the little withdrawn winger himself when he hit out a Zaidi cross much to the anguish of their worried supporters.

Shanta almost brought up the equaliser for his team when his 25 year old sudden drive was tipped over by the alert Mohammedan custodian Abdulla Lahl for a corner.

Shortly before this reprieve Mohammedans got an excellent opportunity to put an end

to yesterday's Star Premier Division football league match between defending champs Mohomedan Sporting Club and Wari Club at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. The black and whites' won 1-0. — Star photo

**TODAY'S MATCHES**

East End Club vs Dhaka Wanderers Club 6:00 pm (Mirpur Stadium)

Fakirpool YMC vs Bangladesh Boys 4:30 pm (Dhaka Stadium)

Abahani KC vs Arambagh KS 6:30 pm (Dhaka Stadium)

their second one-day match, batted with calm assurance for 70 off 116 balls with four fours, an effort which won him the man-of-the-match award.

Sri Lanka lost both Sanjeva and Aravinda de Silva at 153, but, with almost nine overs in hand, victory always seemed certain.

Bast made 40 off 69 balls before becoming the first of Kalpage's four victims.

Malik, judging the pace of the sluggish pitch well, went on to complete his fourth successive tour half-century before being dismissed for 61 off 111 balls with three fours.

Apart from a late flourish by wicketkeeper Rashid Latif, who hit 27 off 31 deliveries, the rest of the free-scoring Pakistani batsmen were shackled by tight Sri Lankan out-

cricket.

Kalpage finished his quoted of 10 overs in style, dismissing Latif and Waqar Younis with his final two deliveries to beat his previous one-day best of four for 45 against West Indies on the same ground last December.

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