

Abahani ride on Aslam

Sports Reporter

Veteran striker Sheikh Mohamad Aslam maintained his a-goal-a-game record in the return leg as title contenders Abahani Krira Chakra continued their solitary reign at the top of the table in the Star Premier Division football league with a lone goal victory over Arambagh Krira Sangstha at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

After an entertaining first half, the ace Abahani striker, a playing as a substitute for Nikolai, scored the all-important goal with a spectacular header in the 48th minute.

It was Aslam's fourth goal in the league and third in a row in the return leg.

The DMFA Cup champions now lead the points table with

20 points from 12 matches.

However, in the day's second match under flood-lights, it was not an easy passage for the sky-blues who came across a tough resistance from the Motijheel outfit.

The first half was full of excitement with forays and counter forays with Arambagh creating a better openings than Abahani.

Striker Anwar spoiled the first chance in the eighth minute, shooting wide off the

won by a flattering goal margin.

But Gaus, who scored once each in Abahani's previous victories, found the post getting in his way on two successive attempts in the within the space of one minute.

Substitute Minhal Babu of Arambagh scared the Abahani tent with a curling shot from the top of the box but the ever reliable Dhanu fisted it away for a corner. In the 62nd minute,

The highlight of the

match was a crack at goal during their Star Premier Division football league encounter at the Dhaka Stadium last night. Abahani won the match 1-0.

— Star photo

while.

The win, 'Boys' second in the league so far, upped their tally to seven from 12 matches same as the other newcomers in the fray.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Rahmatganj MFS vs Dhaka Wanderers 6 pm (Mirpur Stadium)

Muktijoddha vs Agrani Bank 4:30 pm (Dhaka Stadium)

Brothers Union vs PWD 6:30 pm (Dhaka Stadium)

Highly unfair on teams such as Palmeiras, who finished the first stage with 19 out of 20 points yet began the second stage with only a one-point advantage over teams who finished the first stage with 10 points.

Vasco da Gama became the first team to temporarily abandon the tournament 10 days ago, when they went on a 10-day excursion to South Korea.

The club fielded their reserve team for Sunday's fixture at home to Bahia, watched by a crowd of little more than 300.

Botafogo, another Rio de Janeiro club, followed suit, leaving on Wednesday for a trip to Japan. To fit in the tour, they moved their home fixture with Bahia forward to Tuesday. Playing it just four hours after the fixture list for the second stage of the competition had been announced.

When they return, they face fixtures with arch-rivals Flamengo and world club champions Sao Paulo within 48 hours of getting off the plane after a 24-hour flight.

"What do you say about a championship in which all the teams qualify for the second stage, with a reward of just one bonus point for the teams who won each of the four first round groups?"

The system is regarded as

AB Bank TT

Sports Reporter

Defending champions Bangladesh Biman, Armanitola Jibon Sangha, Inter Sports and Wari Club registered their seventh successive victories in the AB Bank Bank metropolis table tennis league yesterday at the Dhanmondi gymnasium.

Third seed Anke Huber gave her home crowd some compensation for the absence of four-times winner Steffi Graf with a back injury, producing some of her best tennis in months to beat Dutch woman Stephanie Rottner 6-3, 7-6 in a second round match.

"The main thing is that I'm enjoying it again," said Huber, who has taken on Swedish coach Jorgen Windahl on a three-tournament trial basis to help her out of a recent slump.

Huber earned herself a quarter-final clash with unseeded fellow German Barbara Rittner, who beat Natalia Medvedeva of Ukraine 6-1, 6-3, 7-6.

Natore soccer

From Our Correspondent

NATORE, Sept 30: Friends Club defeated Shapla Sporting Club by a solitary goal on the second day of the Natore football league '94, organised by the Natore DSA at the Kanaikhal Stadium today.

Milan scored in the 20th minute of the second half.

New Mitali Sangha will take on Durbar Ekadash tomorrow at the same venue.

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Sujit grabbed the all-important goal.

Cricketers' transfers end

Sports Reporter

Abahani-dominated second half, however, involved Nazar Ali and Arambagh goal-tender Milan. In the 73rd minute Nazar unleashed a scorching side-volley off a Mintu floater but Milan, showing superb sense of positioning, fisted the ball away for a corner.

Arambagh saw their last ditch effort foiled by a diving Dhanu when the Abahani goalkeeper stretched in full to perry off a spectacular Anwar back-volley 13 minutes away from time.

Arambagh, fifth finishers last year, so far have eight points from 12 matches.

In the first match of the day at the same venue, Bangladesh Boys registered a crucial one-nil victory over Fakirpool Youngmen's Club in a match-up of the promoted to steer clear from relegation, fear for a

bar for a corner.

After a grueling first half, Abahani came out fired up for a winner in the second half with substitute Aslam running the show.

Abahani, who dominated most the second half proceedings with the inclusion of Aslam and Mintu, could have



German World Cup star Juergen Klinsmann, poses with a pile of boots at Tottenham's White Hart Lane ground on Sept 28 after signing lucrative three-year deal with US sports gears manufacturer Reebok. — AFP photo

Ws contain Aussie march



KARACHI, Pakistan, Sept 30: Pakistani pace duo Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis snatched up three

late wickets and Australia slumped to 181 for five in the second innings at the close of the third day of the first Test on Friday, report agencies.

Australia, who earlier bowled out the home side for a modest 256, were 262 ahead with two days left.

The visitors had looked in a commanding position at 171 for two half an hour before the close. But Wasim and Waqar struck hard in a seven-ball spell to cause a slump.

David Boon (85 not out) and Mark Waugh (61) had produced a dazzling third-wicket stand of 122 after Mark Taylor went for a duck for the second time in the match.

It was an unhappy start for Taylor in his first match as captain.

But the third-wicket pair saw Australia through the post lunch session without losing a single wicket ground out the Pakistani bowlers.

Boon was unbeaten at the close at 85, after having batted for 250 minutes, hitting seven fours off 177 balls.

Waugh played an equally good innings with 61 runs before Younis began the slide, bowling him for pace, with a delivery that nipped back.

Akram bowled first innings top scorer, Michael Bevan, on the first ball and then trapped Steve Waugh lbw off successive deliveries.

On a hat-trick on the first ball of a new over Akram was thwarted by Boon, who let go the delivery outside off stump.

Mark Waugh hit a six and three boundaries off 132 balls having batted for 174 minutes.

Australian captain Taylor

DAVID BOON ... 85 n.o.

pacemen. "They are a handy pair and bowled well."

Asked why he did not send a nightwatchman, Taylor said: "I asked both the batsmen and they didn't want a nightwatchman. Since they had got good scores in the first innings they were confident of coping with the bowling."

On his own ignominious "pair" in his first Test match as Australia's captain, he said: "It's never fun to score a pair."

But he added: "I scored two centuries in a match once."

Taylor denied the pressure of captaincy had affected his

battling.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the first cricket Test between Australia and Pakistan today.

AUSTRALIA: First innings 337 (Michael Bevan 82, Steve Waugh 73, Ian Healy 57, Wasim Akram 3-75, Waqar Younis 3-75, Mushtaq Ahmed 3-97).

PAKISTAN: First innings (overnight 209-7) Saeed Anwar & Mark Waugh b May 85

Aamer Sohail c Bevan b Warne 36

Zahid Faizal c Boof b May 27

Salim Malik lbw b Angel 26

Basti Ali c Bevan b McGrath 0

Imranullah Haq c Taylor b Warne 9

Rashid Latif c Taylor b Warne 2

Wasim Akram c Healy b Angel 39

Akram Raza c McGrath 13

Waqar Younis c Healy b Angel 6

Mushtaq Ahmed not out 2

Extras: (lb-7, nb-4) 11

Total: (all out, 87.1 overs) 256

Fall of wickets: 1-90; 2-153;

3-154; 4-157; 5-175; 6-181;

7-200; 8-234; 9-253.

Bowling O M R W

McGrath 25 6 70 2

Angel 13.1 0 54 3

May 20 5 55 2

Warne 27 10 61 3

Steve Waugh 2 0 9 0

AUSTRALIA: Second innings

Taylor c Rashid Latif 0

b Waqar Younis 0

Slater lbw b Mushtaq Ahmed 23

Boon not out 85

M Waugh b Waqar Younis 61

Bevan b Wasim Akram 0

S Waugh lbw b Wasim Akram 0

Healy not out 3

Extras: (b-1; lb-3; nb-5) 9

Total: (for five wickets) 181

Fall of wickets: 1-1; 2-49;

3-171; 4-174; 5-174

Bowling O M R W

Wasim Akram 14 2 47 2

Waqar Younis 10 1 41 2

Mushtaq Ahmed 21 3 51 1

Akram Raza 10 1 19 0

Aamer Sohail 7 0 19 0

stretcher after a late tackle by substitute Nadimut.

Arsenal's win completed a victorious double for London sides as Chelsea, winners of

Cup star Stefan Schwarz scored his first as the European Cup Winners' Cup holders beat Cypriot part-timer Omonia Nicosia 3-0 on Thursday, reports Reuters.

The Gunners cruised into the second round 6-1 on aggregate in what virtually became a training match after Wright put them ahead after only 10 minutes.

Schwarz volleyed home a spectacular goal after 31 minutes and Wright completed the scoring with a superbly-taken diving header for his 99th goal for the club 20 minutes from time.

Like Omonia, Wright ended the night flat on his back after being carried away on a

IAN WRIGHT

this tournament in 1971, advanced with a 4-2 aggregate win over Czech side Vitoria Zizkov after a 0-0 draw in the second leg in Jablonec.

The biggest winners of the night were Panathinaikos of Greece who thrashed Piraeus of Bulgaria 6-1 for an 8-1 aggregate victory.

The Greeks' hero was Polish international striker Krzysztof Warzycha who scored a hat-trick with two in the last three minutes.

Sampdoria of Italy also made it through to the next round but were made to work very hard for their 4-3 aggregate win against Norwegian part-timer Bodo Glimt.

Bodo twice led by two goals in the first leg before Sampdoria brought the first leg deficit back to 3-2.

But the Italians were not so generous on Thursday, with first half goals from England captain David Platt and Attilio Lombardo putting the Italians 4-3 up which is how it stayed for the end of the match.

Platt twisted his ankle as he scored and could be out of action for several weeks.

INTER MILAN BEATEN

Sampdoria's win followed successes by Serie A rivals Napoli, Parma, Juventus and Lazio in the UEFA Cup and Milan in the Champions' League, but UEFA cup holders Internazionale failed to make it seven wins out of seven for the Italian league.

They lost 4-3 on penalties to Aston Villa in England after the sides finished 1-1 on aggregate at the end of extra time.

Werder Bremen also completed a successful week for German clubs following the successes of Borussia Dortmund, Eintracht Frankfurt, Kaiserslautern and Bayer 04 Leverkusen.

Salov, 30, who on Wednesday had won the first game of the final, was forced to defend for five and a half hours and 51 moves before Bareev, in the semi-final.

"Salov deserved to win the tournament," said world champion Anatoly Karpov, who was beaten by Bareev in the semi-final.

"Salov missed his best chance in the middlegame and got into difficulties, but then he defended well."

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