

Easy wins for Tarun, Victoria

Sports Reporter

Surja Tarun and Victoria powered their way to easy wins in their respective openers in the 15th Damal Summer tournament at different city venues yesterday.

Batting first, at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium Tarun batted through their share of the stipulated 45 overs to raise 171 for eight wickets.

Opener Suman Biswas was their topscorer with 38.

Tall-ender Talha was the other major run-getter for the Dhanmondi team with an unbeaten 29.

Subir and Emdadul contributed 25 and 19 respectively.

Thirty three runs came by way of boundaries.

For Ajax Imrul Haider took two for 24.

Aminul Islam took another two for 33 while Ahmad Kamal, who opened the attack, finished with a haul of two for 34.

Ajax were never quite in the chase and were eventually bowled out for 111 in 42.3 overs, conceding a 66-run defeat.

The Nelson owed its genesis mainly to three individual contributions Abdul Karim made 27 while Sajidul and Sadeq chipped in with 15 each.

Left-arm spinner Asif Omar Belun was the chief destroyer with three for 24.

Mahmud and Towhid had two scalps each.

Victoria, who roped in a few useful cricketers including a couple of Indians earlier this year, ran away with a massive 103 run win against minnows Gopibagh Friends Association at the Mirpur Pallabi ground.

Victoria batted first to complete 174 for nine wickets.

Skipper Ziauddin Ahmad was the top accumulator with 38.

Abu Hamid made 34, while Biplob Sarkar better known for his left-arm spin threw the bat around for a rapidfire 23.

There were two wickets each for Golam Sarwar Rahman and Shakil of Gopibagh.

Gopibagh in their turn were bowled out for 71 in just 28.2 overs.

Rabbani offered some resistance with 20.

Labu Khan was the other batsman to enter the double figures with 12.

Indian Rajinder Singh's off-spin was too much for the Gopibagh batsmen as the Sardar took three for 12.

Abu Hamid's medium pace earned him three for 19.

There will be no matches today and tomorrow.

N'ganj football

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Nov 11: Godhnaik Krira Proshikshan, Shibir beat Shuktara Judo Sangha by a solitary goal in the Hanjin Shipping First Division football league at the Osmanie Stadium today.

After a barren first half, Kajol broke the deadlock seven minutes into the second session.

Jalpari Paribahan Corporation face Sonakanda Gold Club in tomorrow's match.

Barisal soccer

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Nov 11: Manu Smriti Sangha and Brown Club split points in a goalless draw in the lone match of the Emma Overseas Senior Division football league at the local stadium today.

Shahid Ashish Smriti Club takes on Roopali Sabuj Sangha Club tomorrow.

Palacio indicted

MIAMI, Nov 11: A federal grand jury returned a drug indictment against featherweight boxer Ruben Palacio of Colombia, who last year became the first boxing champion to test positive for the AIDS virus, reports AP.

Palacio was arrested Sunday at Miami International Airport with 5.33 pounds (2.41 kilograms) of heroin concealed in the lining of his coat and his undershorts, authorities said.

The two-count indictment announced Thursday charges Palacio with importation of heroin and possession with intent to distribute heroin.

If convicted, the 32-year-old Palacio faces a minimum mandatory sentence of 10 years in prison.

Palacio was barred from boxing and stripped of his World Boxing Organisation title in April 1993 after a routine pre-fight medical examination found the presence of HIV. He was about to defend his title for the first time when the virus was discovered.

Palacio was arrested after arriving in Miami from Medellin, Colombia. In an interview published Monday by the Bogota newspaper El Tiempo, Palacio said he travels to the United States to receive treatment similar to Magic Johnson's.

"I party two straight days, and then I undergo tests, and everything is OK," he said.

Lara's courtship with captaincy ends in disaster

India drink Pepsi to lees



JAIRUR, India Nov 11: Brian Lara's first stint as West Indian captain ended in failure Friday as India pulled off an exciting five-run win in the fifth and final one-day international here, reports AFP.

The 25-year-old record-breaker, who took over after Courtney Walsh opted to rest, lost the toss, dropped a catch in the first over and threw away his wicket after making 47.

Rubbing salt to Lara's wounds was Sachin Tendulkar, his nearest rival for the tag of the world's best batsman, who cracked a brilliant 105 as the

while attempting a wild swing — and Hooper, who hit six boundaries and two sixes in his 97-ball innings.

Kumble claimed the important wickets of Adams and Keith Arthurton (14) and skipper Mohammad Azharuddin chipped in with two shoe-string catches.

The exciting win enabled

India to wrap up the series 4-1 to give themselves an ideal morale-booster before the three-Test rubber, starting in Bombay next Friday.

The Indians, who defeated the West Indies in the final of the triangular tournament last week, set up a target of over five runs an over in a match that held only academic interest.

Tendulkar and his opening partner Ajay Jadeja (31) fell five runs short of a fourth century stand in five matches, but their 95-run partnership gave their team an ideal start.

Jadeja, dropped by Lara in the first over, gave Carl Hooper a return catch in the 22nd, but Tendulkar and Vinod Kambli added 117 for the second wicket to push India to 212 for one.

Tendulkar, who made 66, 53 and 88 in his last three innings against the West Indies, was bowled by fast bowler Barrington Browne while stepping back to cut. His 146-ball knock was studded with 10 hits to the fence.

Left-handed Kambli slammed five fours and a six in a swashbuckling 66 off 69 balls before he was caught in the deep off Anderson Cummins.

The West Indian bowlers halted the Indian run spree by removing Kambli, Azharuddin and Chetan Sharma in the last five overs, which produced only 44 off the final seven overs.

But the Indians, whose 3-1 lead had already assured them of their first ever triumph over the West Indies in a one-day series, grabbed the remaining seven wickets for 38 runs in six overs.

West Indies were bowled out for 254 with one over to spare as left-arm spinner Venkatapathy Raju and leg spinner Anil Kumble ran through the lower half in a heart-stopping finish.

Raju finished with four wickets, including those of Lara — trapped leg before

overs: 49

RESULT: India won by five runs

Man-of-the-match: Carl Hooper

Man-of-the-series: Sachin Tendulkar

TENDULKAR...man of series in-form Indians piled up 259 for five after electing to bat.

West Indies were close to victory as Carl Hooper (84) and Jimmy Adams (51) hit 126 off 125 balls for the fourth wicket to leave the tourists needing only 44 off the final seven overs.

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A chance for Aussie quintet

NEWCASTLE, Australia, Nov 11: Five members of the current Australian squad will get their first opportunity to gauge the strength of the touring English team when New South Wales hosts the tourists in a four-day cricket match beginning Saturday, reports AP.

Australian captain Mark Taylor, batsmen Michael Slater, Michael Bevan and Mark Waugh and spinner Gavin Robertson all were members of the Australian team that returned this week from a tour of Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

The quintet will reinforce a New South Wales team that is likely to provide the stiffest opposition the Englishmen have yet encountered Down Under.

Taylor said Friday that he

expects Bevan to play a key role in the five-Test Ashes series. The first Test of that series will begin Nov 25 in Brisbane.

"On occasions you fight against yourself, but you have to sum up the situation and decide what you want to do. I feel comfortable playing for Australia now, and I guess that's the way it should be."

England has delayed naming its team to face New South Wales and is waiting to see if left-hander Graham Thorpe recovers from a hamstring injury. He will undergo a fitness test on Saturday morning.

"I expect Graham to be OK," said manager Keith Fletcher. "We certainly want him to play because, although he scored 80 against South Australia last weekend, he wasn't quite at his best."

England definitely will play spinners Phil Tufnell and Shaun Udal.

TEAMS

NEW SOUTH WALES: Mark Taylor (captain), Michael Slater, Mark Waugh, Michael Bevan, Shane Lee, Brad McNamara, Neil Maxwell, Gavin Robertson, Craig Glasscock, Anthony Kershers, Wayne Holdsworth, Richard Chee Quee (12th man).

ENGLAND (likely): Mike Atherton (captain), John Crawley, Graeme Hick, Graham Thorpe, Mike Gatting, Craig White, Steve Rhodes, Phillip DeFreitas, Shaun Udal, Devon Malcolm, Phil Tufnell.

MARK TAYLOR

The 24-year-old left-hander was in outstanding form in Pakistan, where he scored 82, 0, 70 and 91 in Tests.

Bevan had a tough task in Pakistan, replacing former Australian captain Allan Border in the batting lineup, but said he believes he is now more mature.

"Before, I'd perhaps go out there and blast it or play a few shots that now I wouldn't

do. I feel more comfortable in the crease now."

As the World Wrestling Foundation fighters, Ultimate Warrior and Mr Demolition Ax, were going about their script to a packed stadium in Ludhiana city Wednesday night, they hurled two chairs at the audience, injuring two men and three children.

When the fighters shouted insults at the audience, two local wrestlers, Kehar Singh and Sumer Singh, who were part of the group, jumped on the stage and punched the Americans, as part of the routine.

But some youth, who were angry that the Americans had hurled furniture at some distinguished citizens of Ludhiana, wrongly assumed that the two Indian wrestlers were from the audience.

The teenagers also jumped into the ring and beat up the visitors with hockey sticks. Police broke up the fight and closed down the show.

Singh is a common name among the Sikhs and means Lion or Brave One in Punjabi language. The names of the Americans were not immediately known.

The Americans were hospitalised with injuries along with one member of the audience, said city police chief Hardip Singh Dhillon. The fighter, Ultimate Warrior, also suffered an eye injury, he said. Four others were given first aid.

Oman player Matar Al Mokhain (R) attempts an overhead volley to clear the ball away from Qatari Adel Khamiss during a 12th Gulf Cup encounter at the Sheikh Sayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi on Nov 9.

— AFP photo

— AFP photo

Sport

Div I chess

Sports Reporter

Star Studders Brothers Union maintained their lead in the points table of the First Division chess league at the chess room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

They beat Sonali Bank with Grand Master Niaz Mursheed, Pakistani IM Mahmood Ahmad Khan Lodhi, Indian Sharavanan and Rakib winning their respective matches.

Brothers now have a haul of eighteen points.

Bangladesh Birman were at the second place with fourteen points. Yesterday the chess players of the national airline registered a 2.5-1.5 victory against Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation.

Narayanganj Mashugul, who beat Dhaka University 3-1, stayed at the third place with twelve points.

Div I b'ball

Sports Reporter

Raj displayed superb scoring prowess but still found his effort inadequate as Physical Training Centre went down fighting to Surid Sangha 78-85 in one of the two Mohsin Cup Second Division basketball league matches at the wooden-floor gymnasium adjacent to the Outer Stadium yesterday.

Raj notched up the highest individual score of the league so far with 51 points while James and Mangal caged 30 and 19 points respectively for the victors.

The other match of the day followed a similar pattern with Shishir topping the scorers' tally but winding up at the wrong end as Hawks took care of Kurmitola Youngsters 82-73.

Saudis blank Bahrain

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ABU DHABI, Nov 11: Saudi Arabia scored three times in 11 minutes in the second half Thursday, beating Bahrain 3-1 on Thursday to keep pace with the United Arab Emirates atop the standings at the 12th Gulf Cup soccer championship, reports AP.

Saeed al-Owairan, whose celebration of goal at the World Cup upset Belgium in the first round, scored one while Fahd Muhalil and Khalid Muwaled accounted for the others.

The victory improved Saudi Arabia to 2-0-1 and five points, same as the Emirates with two games remaining in the six-team biennial event. The Emirates hold a slight advantage on goal differential. The two played to a 1-1 draw in their head-to-head meeting on Sunday.

The loss dropped Bahrain to 1-1-1 and third place, possibly costing themselves title.

Saudi Arabia took the lead in the 53rd minute when Muhalil was credited with a goal which deflected off a defender's leg and past keeper Hamad Sultan.

Despite Sultan's extraordinary performance which kept the score as close as it was, Owairan added a second three minutes later off a pass by Yasser Abdulla.

The Saudis added a third in the 63rd when Muwaled converted a penalty awarded after Saeed al-Jaber was brought down hard in the Bahrain area.

Bahrain, who tested Saudi goalkeeper Abdul-Aziz al-Dhaya on several occasions, finally scored a consolation goal in the 77th minute from Mubarak Khanshi, who replaced Sameer Salim at the start of the second half.

Owairan, who pushed forward from the opening kickoff, narrowly missed a second chance, missing wide on a cross from Jaber in the 88th.

Friday is a rest day before the tournament resumes Saturday with Qatar taking on Saudi Arabia and the Emirates playing Bahrain. Kuwait and Oman play each other on Sunday, reports AP.

The 31-year-old forward, in his 12th season with Real Madrid, has been relegated largely to the bench by new coach Jorge Valdano. In a match last weekend against Atletico de Madrid, he wasn't even among the substitutes and watched from the press box as 17-year-old Raul Gonzalez took his spot and wore Butragueno's traditional No. 7.

Butragueno got his name in the record books when he tied a World Cup mark with four goals in a 5-1 win over Denmark in the 1986 World Cup. The record was erased this summer in the United States, when Russian Oleg Salenko — who plays professionally in Spain's First Division with Valencia — scored five goals in a 6-1 win over Cameroon.