

## Sport



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS: The victorious Pakistan hockey team celebrates their fourth World Cup after defeating defending champions, and tournament favourites, the Netherlands in Sydney yesterday. Pakistan won 4-3 on penalties after the final ended in a one-all draw.

— AFP photo

## First Damal semi today

Sports Reporter

Indian Test discard Chetan Sharma is likely to make his Dhaka cricket debut when Brothers Union take on Victoria Sporting in the first semifinal of the 15th Damal Summer cricket championship at the Dhaka Stadium today.

The right-arm medium paceman, who enjoys the unique status of being the only bowler to claim a hat-trick in the World Cup, will increase Victoria's collection of foreign cricketers to three. Pakistani Kaseef Ibrahim and Sri Lankan Tushara Kodikara have played every Victoria match in the tournament so far. However, if Sharma plays today, the Lankan may have to watch the match from the dressing room.

## ITF masters' leg from today

Sports Reporter

The masters' leg of the Gold Leaf ITF Thailand-Bangladesh Satellite Circuit tennis championships begins at the Ramna National Tennis Complex today.

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman will inaugurate the fourth and final phase of the four-leg championships in the morning while State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeque Hossain will also be there as a special guest.

The top 24 from the previous legs will compete in the masters' tournament with the leading eight receiving first round byes. Unfortunately for the local tennis buffs, there won't be any host presence during the week-long meet as this part of the circuit does not allow any wild-card entry.

## Qatar Open goes to Jansher

DOHA, Dec 4: World champion Jansher Khan won his 61st title on the world tour by beating Rodney Eyles 15-5, 15-7, 15-2 in the final of the Qatar International on Saturday. reports Reuter.

There were several eyeball-to-eyeball confrontations between the two, with Jansher insisting he should get penalty strokes for the Australian's blocking inside get court and Eyles insisting that the world Champion was picking up double bounces.

At one stage the top-seeded Pakistani was moved to give the fourth seeded Eyles a finger wagging lecture on respects.

## DU cricket, football results

Sports Reporter

The Department of Management recorded an emphatic seven-wicket win over Geology in the Dhaka University inter-department cricket championship at the Jagannath Hall ground yesterday.

Needling 142 runs for victory in the allotted 30 overs, Management raced to score 142 for the loss of three wickets with eight balls to spare.

Selim hit a sparkling 57 not out to guide Management to an easy victory while Shantanu, the other notable contributor, chipped in with 42.

Earlier, sent in to bat first, Geology scored a moderate 141 for nine with Abu Sayeed notching up the highest 43.

Pappu, the most successful Management bowler, finished with four for 24 in his six-over spell while Majibuzz with two for 20 gave him good support.

Meanwhile, in the inter-department football championship, Geography edged past Botany by the odd goal in three at the ground adjacent to the central university gymnasium.

## World Cup in Pak showcase



SYDNEY, Dec 4:

Goalkeeper Mansoor Ahmad provided the heroics as Pakistan upset defending champions the Netherlands, 4-3 in a penalty shootout to life the World Cup hockey title today, reports Reuter.

Mansoor produced a magnificent save to stop Jeroen Delmee's penalty stroke to give his country their fourth World Cup title and spark a pitch invasion by hundreds of jubilant supporters.

The match was decided by penalties after the two sides were locked 1-1 after normal time at Homebush Stadium.

Mansoor, who produced a similar save during Pakistan's penalty shootout victory in their semifinal against Olympic Games champions Germany on Friday, was swamped by his teammates.

His efforts gave Pakistan their first major trophy since the 1984 Olympic Games and avenged their 3-1 defeat by the Dutch in the last World Cup final four years ago in Lahore.

Pakistan, who converted their first four penalties, ap-

peared on their way to victory when goalscorer Floris Jan Bovelaander pulled Netherlands' second penalty wide of the goal.

But Pakistan then stuttered too as their fifth stroke-taker, Shafqat Malik, had his poor shot saved by Dutch goalkeeper Ronald Jansen.

That left Delmee with the chance to take the stroke competition into the sudden death stage but Mansoor Ahmad dived low to his right to pull off the save.

Pakistan should have won the game in normal time after creating a host of chances during the second half.

Bovelaander put Netherlands ahead in the 17th minute from their second penalty corner with a direct shot that may have taken a slight deflection.

Pakistan equalised with a fine open play goal four minutes later.

Shahbaz Ahmad, the Pakistani captain, nursing an injured hamstring, opened up the defence with a typical junking run which freed right-winger Asif Bajwa, whose centre was turned in by centre-forward Kamran Ashraf.

Shahbaz was presented with

the World Cup trophy, a fitting end to a brilliant career if he carries out his threat to retire from international hockey.

Shahbaz, who was named player-of-the-tournament, said afterwards: "This was an unforgettable success. It is the storybook tournament of my life."

In reply, Gandaria were bundled-out for 129 with one over to spare in the 40-overs-a-side engagement with Arif (48 not out) making it to the double figures for the losers.

Haifizur Rahman took three wickets for 29 runs for the winners while new ball bowler Shahidul finished two for 25.

At the Dhamondi Club ground, Khelaghari compiled a huge total of 208 before being all out in 38.3 overs with Rashid plundering 67 which included nine hits to the fence.

Aslam and Shamsul contributed 27 each but the latter was more aggressive, clubbing two fours and one six in his 26-ball innings.

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