

Abahani, Wari post comfortable victories

# Pak players prevail



Navana Premier Division cricket league reverberated with Pakistani dominance yesterday as champions Abahani and Wari picked up easy wins.

At the Dhaka Stadium, Babes Eskaton Sabuj Sangha grovelled under the weight of Abahani, who following the completion of a hat-trick of Damal Summer titles recently, registered their second win in the league by the massive margin of ten wickets.

Pakistanis — leg spinner Iqbal Sikander and allrounder Naveed Anjum — were to the fore.

Opting to bat first after winning the toss Eskaton were bamboozled by Sikander who snared four batsmen for 23 runs.

Eskaton, pinned down by Abahani's new ball attack spearheaded by Naveed Anjum, did well to put 52 for the first wicket in 22 overs.

But once Iqbal Sikander came in to the attack with his wrist spin, Eskaton batting just caved in.

Opener Rowanukul Islam, who topscored with 27, and his partner Mofizul Islam, closely following with 21, fell to Sikander in the space of eleven balls.

Once these two were gone it was only a matter of who accounting whom.

Although Sikander was statistically more successful bagging four for 23 from nine overs, Anjum, a former Test cricketer, finished with one for ten from nine overs in an awesome though unchallenged exhibition of medium pace

Sports Reporter

bowling. Saiful Islam was equally tight giving only 14 runs for his one wicket.

Off-spinner Jewel Hossain collected two for 17. Naveed Anjum, promoted to the opener's slot, threw his bat around with not a care in the world.

When Abahani posted 110 in just 18 overs, overhauling Eskaton's meagre collection of 103 for nine, Anjum's blade had savaged an unbeaten 78 off 62 deliveries with the help of 11 boundaries and a sixer.

Harun Ur Rashid, who was mostly a spectator of this blitzkrieg from the other end, could get 31 against his name when the mockery of a match was over.

## SCOREBOARD

ESKATON 55:				
M. Islam	b Iqbal Sikander	21		
R. Islam	lbw b Iqbal Sikander	27		
G. Saha	b Jewel Hossain	11		
S. Parvez	c N Anjum b Minhazul Abedin	10		
Abdun		02		
Islam b Jewel Hossain		02		
D. Hossain	not out	17		
Kajal c Khaled Masud b N Anjum		06		
S. Islam	b Iqbal Sikander	01		
Rafiqul Islam b Saiful		01		
S. Alam	c S. b Iqbal Sikander	01		
Rhokan	not out	03		
Extras (lb-2, nb-2, W-5)		09		
Total (for nine in 45 overs)		109		
Fall of wickets: 1-52; 2-59; 3-70; 4-77; 5-86; 6-98; 7-101; 8-104; 9-105.				

BOWLING:				
Naveed Anjum	9	4	10	1
Zakir Hassan	5	0	24	0
Jewel Hossain	8	1	17	2
Saiful Islam	9	2	14	1
Iqbal Sikander	9	0	23	4
Minhazul Abedin	5	1	19	1

ABAHANI KC: Harunur Rashid not out 31

Naveed Anjum	not out	78		
Extras (Nb-1)		01		
Total (for one in 18 overs)		110		
BOWLING:				
Kajal	3	1	16	0
Khokon	2	0	15	0
Ehsan	6	0	19	0
Rafiqul Islam	4	0	27	0
R. Islam	1	0	10	0
S. Parvez	2	0	13	0

## WARI WIN

However the day's best bowling analysis belonged to Wari's Pakistani left-arm spinner Amir Wasim, who bagged four wickets for just seven runs from nine overs to pave the path for a seven-wicket victory of his side at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

The outcome of Wasim's finest finger spin was that Surja Tarun, despite the presence of Pakistani Test cricketer Rizwan Uz Zaman, could muster 103 for nine.

Asif Mohammad, another Pakistani, stood in the ruins with a fighting 45 off 120 balls before being bowled by compatriot Wasim.

In their quest for 104 runs for victory Wari stumbled to 35 for three before Azam Iqbal and skipper Halim Shah took them out of the woods with useful knocks.

Halim remained unbeaten on 38 while Iqbal kept him company with 28.

Brief scores: SURJA TARUN CLUB: 103-9 in 45 overs (Asif Mohammed 45; Amir Wasim 4/7, Salahuddin 2/16).

WARI CLUB: 105-3 in 35.3 overs. (Halim Shah 38 n.o., Azam Iqbal 28 n.o.)

## TODAY'S MATCH

Biman vs Victoria (Dhaka Stadium)

## Green Delta Div I hockey

Sports Reporter

Abahani romped lowly Bangladesh Railway 7-0 in one of the two Green Delta Insurance First Division hockey league fixtures at the Hockey Stadium yesterday.

The defending champions, who beat Farashganj 3-0 in their league opener, managed slender 1-0 lead in the first half through center forward Jamal Parvez Lulu.

But after the breather, the Dhanmondi outfit came out firing on all their cylinders pumping in six with Lulu adding two more to his name.

Lulu apart, Mizanur Rahman struck twice while Mahbub Harun and Abu Zafar Tapan scored one a piece.

In the other match of the day, Bangladesh police recorded a stunning lone goal victory over Sadharan Bina.

After a goalless first half, Swapan Kumar struck the match decider in the 69th minute.

## English win

Sports Reporter

Mir Ashfaquzzaman produced a pleasing parting shot as the outgoing student guided the Department of English to a two-wicket victory over Islamic Studies in the Dhaka University inter-department cricket championship match at the Jagannath Hall ground yesterday.

Ashfaq, who remained unbeaten on a responsible 36 studded with six fours, marked the victory with a thumping four as English, chasing 157 for a win, posted 159 for eight in 27.4 overs.

However, Monirul Hossain did the spade work earlier with a punishing 42.

Mushtaq with 12 and Reaz with 11 were the other run getters.

Earlier, sent in to bat, Islamic Studies batted through their quota of 30 overs to garner 157 for five wickets.

Mahbubul topscored with 59 followed by Morselin who made 19.

Mushtaq, Ashfaq and Javed collected one each for English.

## Football the killer

SAO PAULO, Dec 17: A Brazilian businessman was accidentally shot dead in his car here on Friday by a group of soccer fans who had been arguing with a rival group, police said, reports Reuters.

Paulo Sergio Costabile Elias, 31, is the fourth reported death in Brazil due to soccer-related violence since October. Brazilian tennis player Jaime Oncins and two other men were in the car with Elias but escaped unhurt, police said.

The incident happened at a junction in the west of Sao Paulo early on Friday following Thursday night's Brazilian soccer championship final first leg between local clubs Palmeiras and Corinthians.

Witnesses said another vehicle pulled up beside Elias' car carrying four men wearing shirts of the Palmeiras supporters group Mancha Verde (green stain).

Shortly afterwards, another vehicle appeared with Corinthians fans.

When the rival supporters began arguing, one of the Palmeiras fans pulled out a gun and fired several shots, one hitting Elias in the head. He died shortly after arriving at hospital.

# Pakistan paste S Africa



DURBAN, South Africa, Dec 17: Pakistan's batsmen today savaged South Africa's pace attack to crush the home side by eight wickets in their Mandela Trophy one-day international clash at Kingsmead here, reports AFP.

Needing 207 for victory, the Pakistanis comfortably reached the target with 15.1 overs to spare and, with eight points from five matches, have now secured a place in the final.

Aamir Sohail (44 off 52 balls) and Ijaz Ahmed (144 off 90 balls) set Pakistan off the victory path with a second-wicket partnership of 59 off 72 balls.

Ahmed and his brother-in-law, Pakistan captain Salim Malik, then put on 136 from 119 balls in only 82 minutes to take Pakistan to victory.

Ahmed has proved to be South Africa's nemesis, having scored 417 runs in four separate innings in the most recent clashes between the two teams in Pakistan last month and in South Africa this month.

Earlier, Pakistan's bowlers restricted South Africa to 206, with Jonty Rhodes top-scoring with a defiant 61 off 77 balls and putting on 88 for the sixth wicket with Dave Richardson (53).

Eric Simons (19) and Richard Snell (27) were the only other batsmen to reach double figures.

Waqar Younis was Pakistan's most successful bowler with 4-52 but was taken apart in his last spell when the slog was on.

Snell was particularly se-



IJAZ AHMED... 114 n.o

vere on Aaqib Javed, with Craig Matthews plundering 18 runs off last over of the innings to take South Africa past the 200 mark.

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Mandela Trophy 50-overs cricket match between South Africa and Pakistan at Kingsmead on Saturday.

**SOUTH AFRICA:** Hudson c Inzamamul Haq b Waqar Younis 1



Pakistani paceman Waqar Younis starts the walk back to the top of his bowling mark after South African wicketkeeper survived a close call in the Mandela Trophy one-day match at Kingsmead, Durban yesterday. Younis took four wickets and Pakistan won the tie by eight wickets. — AFP photo

Callaghan c Inzamamul Haq	9	b Snell	44
b Aaqib Javed		Ijaz Ahmed not out	114
Cronje c Basit Ali b		Salim Malik not out	36
Waqar Younis	2	Extras: (W-3, nb-1)	4
Cullinan c Rashid Latif b		Total: (for two wickets, 35 overs)	208
Aaqib Javed	5		
Rindel run out	10		
Rhodes lbw b Aamir Sohail	61		
Richardson c Ijaz Ahmed			
b Waqar Younis	53		
Simons b Waqar Younis	19		
Snell not out	27		
Matthews not out	3		
Extras: Lb-4, w-8, nb-4	16		
Total: (for eight wickets, 50 overs)	206		
Fall of wickets: 1-2; 2-10; 3-20; 4-27; 5-44; 6-132; 7-174; 8-178;			
Did not bat: Fanie de Villiers			

Result: Pakistan won by eight wickets.

## STANDINGS

Standings in the Mandela Trophy cricket tournament after today's match between South Africa and Pakistan (tabulated under played, won, lost, no result, points)				
Pakistan	5	4	1	0
South Africa	5	3	2	0
Sri Lanka	4	1	2	1
New Zealand	4	0	3	1

# Deaths, drugs, dillusions

LONDON, Dec 17: In a chillingly prophetic article published before the San Marino Grand Prix, Ayrton Senna admitted he feared for his safety on the treacherous Imola Circuit, reports Reuters.

On the evening of May 1, the intense Brazilian, who had once compared winning to an addictive drug, was pronounced clinically dead in an

Italian hospital after his Williams car flew out of control on the notorious Tamborello corner.

The crash came the day after Austrian Roland Ratzberger was killed in final qualifying the first death in Formula One for 12 years.

In a spontaneous outpouring of grief, Senna's native Sao Paulo came to a standstill on the following day and, astonishingly, not a single crime was recorded in one of the world's most violent cities.

The double tragedy overshadowed a troubled year, which opened with a criminal assault on an ice dancing rink and came to a close with disturbing evidence of widespread drug use in China, the emerging superpower in world sport.

In February, the US figure skating championships were disrupted when Nancy Kerrigan was attacked with an iron bar.

In a saga which developed with sinister inevitability, the former husband of Kerrigan's arch-rival Tonya Harding was eventually charged with complicity in the attack and jailed for two years for racketeering after a plea bargain.

Harding, who consistently denied any complicity in the attack but admitted assisting the cover-up, finished a tearful eighth in the Lillehammer Winter Olympics with Kerrigan second behind tiny Ukrainian Oksana Baiul.

Brian Lara, who has consistently threatened to do something truly spectacular in Test cricket, surpassed even his own expectations when he took a world record 375 from the toiling England bowlers on the tiny Caribbean island of Antigua.

Signed for England county Warwickshire amid unprecedented publicity, the stylish left-hander broke the world record for an individual first class innings with 501 before the grind of constant cricket

and increasing off-field demands dulled his form and dimmed his spirits.

Brazilian gloom over Senna's death lifted in July when their gifted footballers won the soccer World Cup for a record fourth time, beating Italy in a penalty shootout in the first goalless final in the 64-year history of the cup.

The final was a disappointment and the Brazilians, spearheaded by the mercurial Romario, were neither individually nor collectively as extravagantly talented as some of their predecessors.

But the cup, staged in the United States at the height of an extremely hot summer, was a success with a feast of attacking soccer, thanks in part to some enlightened rule changes.

Drugs, the scourge of modern sport, scarred yet another global competition when Argentina's flawed genius Diego Maradona tested positive for a cocktail of performance-enhancing drugs.

And Colombian defender Andres Escobar, who conceded an own goal against the United States, was shot and killed in Medellin following an argument with a group of men in a car park.

Despite Leroy Burrell's 100 metres world record 9.85 seconds at the Lausanne Grand Prix on July 6, Linford Christie at the age of 34 remained the world's premier sprinter, winning the biggest race of the year at a rain-drenched Zurich Grand Prix.

The US open was won after an 18-hole playoff by Ernie Els, a strapping South Africa with a deceptively languid swing. He was the first rookie to win the Open since Jerry Pate in 1976.

And Zimbabwe's Nick Pierce was rewarded for his exemplary consistency with the first PGA British Open double since Walter Hagen 70 years ago.

## SL keep alive hopes for final

BLOEMFONTEIN, South Africa, Dec 17: Sri Lanka beat South Africa by 35 runs on Thursday to keep alive their slim hopes of qualifying for the finals of the Mandela Trophy, reports Reuters.

Chasing Sri Lanka's 226 for eight, South Africa were bowled out for 191 in 48.5 overs to lose their 100 per cent record in the competition.

The hosts made a confident start, openers Andrew Hudson and Dave Callaghan putting on 48 against a limited seam attack.

But the introduction of spin in the 16th over changed the complexion of the match. After Chaminda Vaas had disposed of Callaghan for nine, Hudson struggled against the offspin of Muttiah Muralidharan and Ruwan Kalpage.

Attempting to boost the scoring rate, he ran himself out for 44.

Hansie Cronje (14) spooned a simple catch to square leg in the 23rd over and the innings then went into terminal decline as five wickets fell for 34.

Daryll Cullinan was bowled by Kalpage for 16. Dave Richardson lobbed a simple catch to square leg off Aravinda de Silva and there were two more panic-induced run outs.

Jonty Rhodes (27) and Eric Simons (21) staged a mini-recovery. But, needing 100 off the last 12 overs with only three wickets in hand, it was always a cause doomed to failure.

Muralidharan finished with two for 23 from 10 overs.

Earlier, Sri Lanka had appeared to lead at least 30 runs short of an imposing total.

Their main contributors were Arjuna Ranatunga (60) and De Silva (73) who put on 91 for the fourth wicket.

Sri Lanka must win their final two matches against New Zealand and South Africa to have a chance of reaching the three-match final series.

They also need either Pakistan or South Africa to lose both of their final two matches.

## Tasmania beat Zimbabwe

LAUNCESTON, Australia, Dec 17: Jamie Cox scored 57 from 101 balls Saturday, leading Tasmania to a crushing seven-wicket victory over Zimbabwe in a limited-overs cricket match at the NCTA Ground, reports AP.

The defeat was the heaviest on their Australian tour for the Zimbabweans, who defeated England in a World Series one-day game in Sydney on Thursday night.

## Dhaka Club V-Day sports

Sports Reporter

Shamsur Rahman Mashook won the double crown in the Dhaka Club Victory Day tennis championships.

He first clinched the men's singles title beating Bakhtiar Khaled in the final held at the club court on Friday.

He then paired with Nazim Kamran Chowdhury to collect the doubles title overcoming the joint challenge of Dr Rashiduddin Ahmed and Mannan.

Boys under-18 title went to Faisal who beat Abhi in the final on the same day.

Among other outdoor disciplines, Anisul Haque won the men's singles mantle in squash getting the better of Irshad Hussain.

Ashiq Selim won the boys crown suppressing Faisal Saifulah.

Ruhul Ameen became champion in the day-long golf competition.

Mir Shahidullah finished runner-up. Abu Mazza had the best gross while SG Murtaza had the distinction of recording the longest drive.

Reshadul Ameen was nearest to the pin.

Mahirul Ameen became champion in the competition for junior golfers.

In the indoor sports NAT Ruff became champion in the snooker competition followed by Kamrul Huda, who had to be content with runner-up slot.

In rubber bridge the MMA Baten and Motakbir Hossain pair became champions while MA Mohaimin and Ali Tarek finished runners-up.

Anju Hossain became champion in ladies' rummy.

## Brilliant

## Bhola Lal

Sports Reporter

The three-member tennis and squash team comprising of Bhola Lal Chowhan, Panna Lal and Abdul Wadud Khoka returned home victorious from the Pan Pacific Hotels and Resorts Games 94 held in Singapore this year, says a press release.

Bhola Lal, who is the national squash champion since 1986, has successfully retained his squash championship title for two consecutive years at the Pan Pacific Hotels and Resorts Games.

# Atlanta: A boost for MLS

LOS ANGELES, Dec 17: With the start of Major League Soccer (MLS) already twice delayed,

Alan Rothenberg says the proposed US league will get a boost from the Atlanta Olympics, reports AP.

While some have questioned whether the new pro outdoor soccer league will get off the ground, Rothenberg, the league chairman, insists it will fly. He says many of those same

## N'ganj soccer

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Dec 17: Godnail Krira Proshikshan Shibir blanked DSS Club 3-0 in the Hanjin Shipping First Division football league at the Osmari Stadium today.

In a one-sided affair, Ripon, Rahim and Shakhawat scored one goal each for the winners. Shuktara Junior KC will take on Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) at the same venue tomorrow (Sunday).

## Men's title of chess Olympiad

## Russia A's

MOSCOW, Dec 16: Russia retained the men's title at the 31st World Chess Olympiad, which ended in Moscow on Thursday, beating Bosnia into second place, itar Tass news agency said, reports Reuters.

The Russia A men's team, including rebel world champion Gari Kasparov, took 37.5 points out of a maximum 56 to take the gold while Bosnia took the silver with 35 points.

Russia B and England tied for third place on 34.5 points but the judges awarded the bronze to the Russian team.

Georgia won the women's gold with 32 points out of 42 and Hungary won the second with 31. Romania and China were equal third with 27 and the bronze was awarded to China.

"The competition was very difficult but at the last moment fortune smile on us," Kasparov told Russian television.

Tass said 124 men's teams and 81 women's teams took part in the Olympiad, which is held every two years.

The world of top-level chess was torn apart in March 1993, a few months before Kasparov was due to defend his World Chess Federation (FIDE) world championship crown against Britain's Nigel Short.

The two players walked out of FIDE when it pushed through a plan to hold the championship in the English city of Manchester. They founded the breakaway Professional Chess Association (PCA) and staged their match themselves in London.

Kasparov won.

FIDE retaliated by stripping Kasparov of his title and setting up a new championship.

Florentino Campomanes with whom Kasparov has frequently clashed, was re-elected FIDE president at its Congress, held in conjunction with the Olympiad, Tass reported separately.

skeptics didn't believe the United States could stage a successful World Cup.

As chairman of World Cup USA, Rothenberg spearheaded a World Cup that set an attendance record. Last summer's tournament drew 3,567