



Abahani's Rakib Hossain Bappi attempts a cross-batted drive off Brothers Union paceman Sajal Chowdhury during their Navana Premier Division super league match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. Abahani won the match by three wickets.

Abahani, Kalabagan march on

Sports Reporter

Abahani Krira Chakra made heavy weather of a rather easy task, scraping home with a three-wicket victory over Brothers Union in one of the two Navana Premier Division cricket super league matches held in the city yesterday.

On the other hand, Kalabagan Krira Chakra, who finished top of the table along with Abahani in the 12-team phase

mate over settled the issue for last year's joint champions.

Earlier, the Abahani total was built around by two brilliant half-centuries from opener Harunur Rashid Liton and the burly Akram Khan.

Liton, who scored a polished 62 off 79-balls, shared a vital 75 runs for the third wicket with Akram Khan after Abahani lost their first two wickets — those of skipper Gazi Ashraf Hossain Lipu (1) and one-drop Pakistani World Cupper Iqbal Sikander (15) — with the scoreboard reading 43 in 9.4 overs.

Liton clubbed four fours in his swashbuckling knock before being trapped leg before by off-spinner Shoab Hassan.

Following Liton's departure, top draw Wasim Akram, the former Pakistan skipper, was brilliantly caught at long-on by Sajal Chowdhury after scoring a run-a-ball 14 as he tried to clear the ropes.

Akram Khan then shared a 37-run stand for the fifth wicket with Nannu.

Akram scored an uncharacteristically sedate 83-ball 53 which featured only two hits to the fence while Nannu could score just 11 runs before both departed in a span of four deliveries.

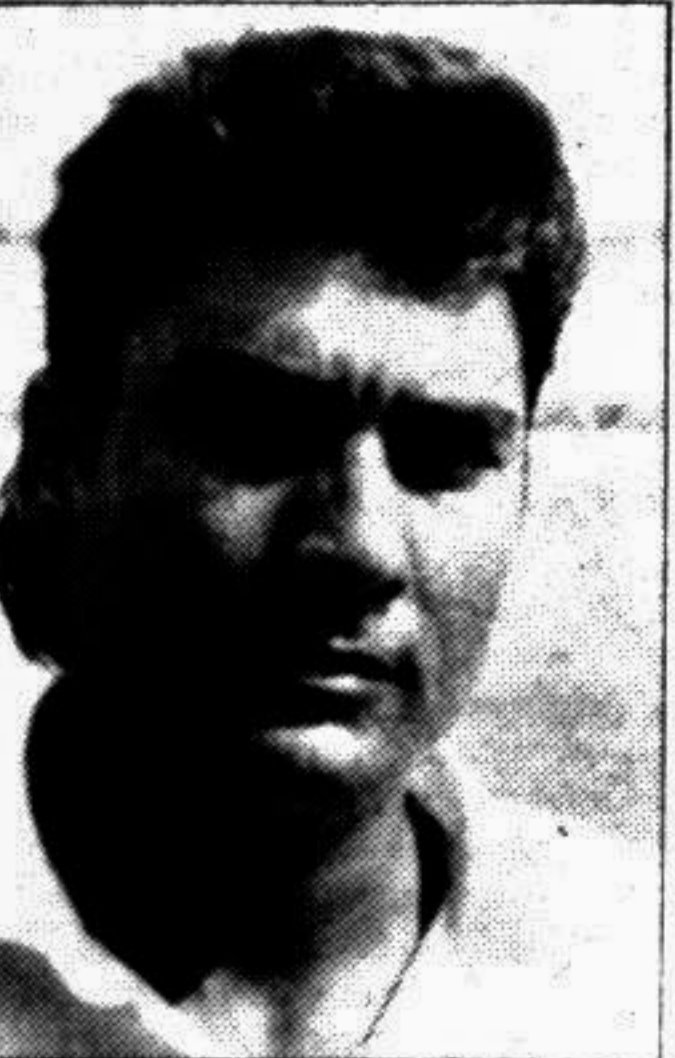
The two Brothers spinners Sohail Islam and Shoab Hassan were the most successful men with the leather with two wickets each.

Earlier, sent into bat, openers Abid Hanif and Sajid Akram put on a century partnership for the first wicket as Brothers reached a fighting 197 for four in their share of 45 overs.

The two put on 112 runs, a record partnership against Abahani in this year's league, with the Pakistani Abid scoring a brilliant 80 off 128 balls inclusive of five fours.

Abid, the younger of Amir Hanif, became one of Wasim Akram's two victims in a match while Sajid Hassan was run out after scoring a patient 48 off 86-balls.

Wasim Akram, who went wicketless in the previous game against Bangladesh Biman, however, was the most successful Abahani bowler with two for 38 in his nine overs.



A HANIF...brilliant 80

of the top league, recorded a facile 56-run win over Victoria Sporting Club in the other match of the six-team super league at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

At the Dhaka Stadium Abahani, chasing Brothers Union's modest total of 197 for four in the stipulated 45 overs, were cruising comfortably at 178 for four before losing three quick wickets for the addition of only 10 runs.

Fear gripped in the Abahani tent when two well-set batsmen — Akram Khan and the reliable Minhazul Abedin Nannu — returned to the pavilion in quick succession, reducing Abahani to 180 for six. And nine runs later when Naimur Rahman Durjoy departed the rejuvenated Brothers bowlers had their tails high, barely allowing any runs to be scored against them.

But a bold boundary by Rakib Hassan through mid-off off the last ball of the penulti-

BEXIMCO nat'l youth tourney

Rajshahi, Manikganj in finals

Rajshahi and Manikganj reached the zonal finals of the 15th BEXIMCO national youth cricket championship eliminating Thakurgaon and Mymensingh respectively at different venues yesterday, reports UNB.

In a Zone B match at Rangpur, Rajshahi DSA recorded a massive 176-run victory over Thakurgaon DSA to either meet Bogra or Dinajpur in the zonal final on Tuesday.

Batting first after winning the toss, Rajshahi piled up 284 for five in the stipulated 45 overs and later dismissed Thakurgaon for 108 runs in 36 overs.

Anisur Rahman Sanjoy of Rajshahi made 117 off 111 balls.

Manikganj DSA registered an exciting three-run victory over Mymensingh DSA in a Zone F match at BKSP, Savar.

They will take on either Narayanganj and Sylhet in the zonal final, also on Tuesday.

Electing to bat, Manikganj were all out for 156 in 44.4 overs and later booked Mymensingh for 153 for nine in 45 overs.

Meanwhile, Sunamganj, Faridpur and Rajshahi Education Board moved into the Zonal semifinals after winning their respective matches at different venues across the country.

In Zone A engagement at Noakhali, Sunamganj DSA outplayed Bandarban DSA by a convincing 99-run margin.

Sunamganj opted to make

first use of the wicket and made 193 for eight in 45 overs. Later, they bundled out Bandarban for only 94 in 35.2 overs.

In a Zone E encounter at Jessore, Faridpur DSA eliminated Chuadanga DSA by 26 runs.

Faridpur batted first and were all out for 143 in 44.5 overs and later forced Chuadanga to fold their innings at

117 in 41 overs. In a Zone D fixture at BKSP, Rajshahi Education Board beat Lalmonirhat DSA by six wickets.

After winning the toss Lalmonirhat were dismissed for 125 in 42.2 overs.

In reply, Rajshahi Education Board reached their target hitting 128 runs for the loss of four wickets in 29.1 overs.



Maj Gen Mahbubur Rahman, vice president of the Kurmitola Golf Club giving away trophies to the winners of the BTC Golf Classic held on Friday at the club course. Major General Abdul Rab, Chief of Gen Staff of BA and chairman of the tournament committee and Raymond Accorda, managing director of the Bangladesh Tobacco Company Ltd, were also present.

BTC Golf Classic held

Sports Reporter

The BTC Golf Classic championship-95 was held at the lush green course of the Kurmitola Golf Club (KGC) on Friday.

Zia Siddique became the men's winner followed by B T Cho, who finished runner-up while the best gross was scored by K Miyoshi.

On the distaff side, Ameneh Ispahani finished top followed by M S Kwon, while Rabin Bashar was the junior champion and Shahan Rahman finished just behind him.

Organised by the Bangladesh Tobacco Company Limited, the day-long meet featured more than 170 golfers including many women.

Prizes were distributed at a colourful function in the evening by the chief guest Major General Mahabubur Rahman, the vice president of the KGC.

Chief of General Staff, Bangladesh Army Major General Abdul Rab, the chairman of the tournament committee, and Raymond Accorda, Managing Director of the BTC, were also present on the occasion.

EASY FOR KALABAGAN

Pakistani Zahid Ahmed dazzled with the willow while new-ball bowler Raisul Amin Bobby was devastating with the ball as Kalabagan made light work of Victoria Sporting Club in the other match of the super league programme which commenced yesterday.

Sent into bat, Kalabagan reached a modest 179 for eight in their allotted 45 overs with Zahid Ahmed hammering

the quickfire unbeaten 52. Zahid's unbeaten half-century included four hits to the ropes while Zahid Razzak Masum with 28 and Sajjad Akbar with 24 were the other notable run-getters for the winners.

Victoria skipper Azhar Hossain Shantoo, who was responsible for the top order collapse in the Kalabagan batting, finished with the five figures of four for 31 in his nine overs.

In reply, Victoria were bundled out for a paltry 114 in 36.2 overs, thanks to devastating bowling by Bobby, who finished with the enviable analysis of five for 26.

Only opener Adil Hossain, who made 41, could offer any sort of resistance while the other Victoria batsmen including Indian Test discard Chetan Sharma and Rajinder Singh failed miserably.

TODAY'S MATCH
Mohammedans vs Kalabagan (D Stadium)



LITON...sparkling 62

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Sher-e-Bangla Cup soccer

Sports Reporter

Bhola moved into the next round of the 19th Sher-e-Bangla Cup national football championship when they edged past former champions Bangladesh Army by a lone goal at the Naogaon Stadium yesterday.

Striker Tutul, who plays for Abahani Krira Chakra in the Dhaka football league, made the most of a defensive lapse to score the all-important goal after only the sixth minute.

Tutul, however, missed one of the two penalties in the match when he failed to convert a ten-yarder a minute away from the short whistle.

On the other hand, Army missed an opportunity to restore parity when defender Ershad failed to score from the second spot-kick awarded in the 89th minute.

Narayanganj will take on Cox's Bazar today.

More from Tapie's tales

PARIS, Mar 18: French police on Saturday arrested and questioned a member of Parliament about his shaky alibi for embattled leftist politician Bernard Tapie in a soccer bribery scandal, reports PTL.

Jacques Mellick, who is also Socialist mayor of the northern city of Bethune, has claimed he was in Paris on June 17, 1993 for a meeting with Tapie at the same time Tapie is accused of offering a bribe to a soccer coach to fix a game.

Mellick said Friday night that he did not understand "the suspect change of attitude" of his former aide. "One can't avoid asking who is profiting from this new version."

Tapie, 51, a rags to riches politician who has eyed the presidency and appealed to younger voters, has long accused his political rivals of trying to destroy him.

The scandal broke when a Valenciennes player blew the whistle on a match-fixing plot by Tapie's team, Olympique Marseille, in May 1993. Three Valenciennes players acknowledged they received around 250,000 francs (dfrs 50,000) each to throw a French League match against Marseille.

OM, the strongest team in France at the time, reportedly wanted Valenciennes to go easy. This won European Champions Cup match against AC Milan the following week.

Army b'ball on

COMILLA, Mar 18: The annual basketball championship of the Bangladesh Army began at the Comilla Cantonment today, reports BSS.

Paceman Vaas' maiden half-century Lankan tail stifles Kiwis



DUNEDIN, New Zealand, Mar 18: New Zealand, bidding to square their series against Sri Lanka after a humiliating first Test loss, bowled out the visitors for 233 on the first day of the second Test today, reports Reuter.

New Zealand captain Ken Rutherford won the toss and asked Sri Lanka to bat on a bare pitch that produced a day of fluctuating fortunes.

Sri Lanka made a solid start, losing openers Asanka Gurusinha for 28 and Dulip Samaraweera for 33 as they advanced to 91 for two at lunch.

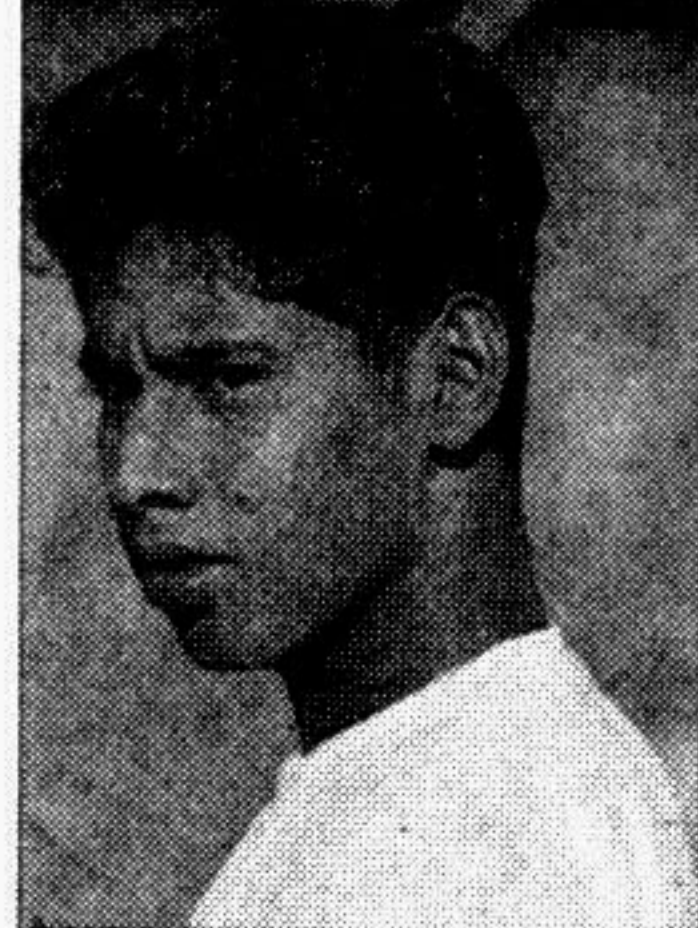
But New Zealand struck back in the second session, capturing four wickets including Aravinda de Silva, dismissed for 18 after being dropped at short mid-on when on 12.

Captain Arjuna Ranatunga went for a duck, and wicket-keeper Chamara Dunusinghe departed in bizarre fashion. He completely misjudged a low full toss from Chris Pringle, ducking to avoid it only to be hit on the ear, right in front of the stumps.

Umpire V K Ramaswamy of India had no hesitation in giving him out lbw.

Sri Lanka went to tea at 138-6 but once again were given solid support by their lower-order which put on a further 95 for the last four wickets. Budding all-rounder Chaminda Vaas, who took 10

wickets in the first Test, played a key hand in the last session to score his maiden Test half-century.



CHAMINDA VAAS... 51

His innings of 51 took two hours and two minutes, requiring 106 balls and included five boundaries.

New Zealand suffered a blow when Rutherford split the skin between the fourth and fifth fingers of his hand and went off the field to have three stitches, placing him in doubt to bat when the first innings resumes tomorrow.

New Zealand's second string bowling attack, featuring Murphy Su'a and Chris Pringle in place of the injured Danny Morrison and Dion Nash, was let down by sloppy fielding and poor catching. Pringle and spinner Dipak Patel ended with three wickets each.

New Zealand opens Bryan Young and Darrin Murray negotiated the last four overs and will resume at seven for no wicket on Sunday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the second Test between New Zealand and Sri Lanka today.

SRI LANKA: First innings
A Gurusinha c Patel b Pringle 28
D Samaraweera b Su'a 33
S Ranatunga c Young b Pringle 22

A De Silva c Patel b Walmsley 18
A Ranatunga c Young b Larsen 0
H Tilkeratne c Young b Patel 36
C Dunusinghe lbw b Pringle 0
C Vaas c Fleming b Su'a 51
P Wickremasinghe c Fleming b Patel 10
M Muralidharan c Larsen b Patel 8
R Pushpakumara not out 17
Extras: (lb-6, nb-4) 10
Total: 233

Fall of wickets: 1-42; 2-67; 3-94; 4-97; 5-122; 6-122; 7-157; 8-178; 9-194.

Bowling: O M R W
Su'a 20.5 5 43 2
Walmsley 18 4 41 1
Pringle 15 1 51 3
Patel 21 3 62 3
Larsen 13 2 30 1

NEW ZEALAND: First innings
B Young not out 6
D Murray not out 0
Extras: (nb-1) 1
Total: (for no wicket) 7
Bowling: O M R W
Wickremasinghe 2 0 2 0
Vaas 1 0 4 0
Muralidharan 1 0 1 0

Kapil refuses to comment on ball-tampering

BHUBANESWAR, Mar 18: Legendary Indian medium pacer, Kapil Dev has refused to comment on recent reports of ball-tampering in the Punjab versus Delhi Ranji Trophy semifinal match at Delhi yesterday. He did not have the full details, reports PTL.

"Whatever has appeared in the press is not enough, I will like to have the BCCI's reaction," he told newsmen at a press conference here yesterday.

According to reports, umpires in the match had cautioned Delhi all rounder Manoj Prabhakar and Punjab medium pacer Obaid Kamal for alleged ball tampering during the course of the tie in which Punjab's Bhupinder Singh (17) and Pankaj Dhariani established a new world record by adding 460 runs for the seventh wicket.

Kapil said, "I believe the brighter aspect of the match was the world record partnership between the two batsmen who refused to give up."

"We should be proud of it," Kapil said adding Bhupinder and Pankaj proved that no one should give up even after six wickets had gone down.

H'ball league from Mar 27

The CUTE premier handball league, organised by Bangladesh Handball Federation, will begin here on March 27, reports UNB.

The participating teams have been requested to collect the fixture and bye-laws from the federation office.

Iraq win Nehru Gold Cup



CALCUTTA, Mar 18: Iraq rode on a last minute goal by striker Najj Husam to scrape past Russia by a solitary goal and lift the 11th Nehru Gold Cup at the Salt Lake Stadium here today, reports PTL.

After a barren first half, Husam stole the limelight with a brilliant goal just at the stroke of the long whistle to shatter the hopes of the Russians to win the title in a match which seldom rose to great heights.

The match-winner was the result of a fast counter attack, which saw media Shnayn Ali dart down the left flank outwitting a host of defenders before crossing to Najj Husam 'inside the box. The Russian custodian Prikhodko dived full length without judging the angle of the ball well enough, allowing Husam to place the ball in from close.

The Russians had only themselves to blame for the last minute debacle as they missed at least two sitters in the fast-paced second half and failed to take full advantage despite breaking through rival defence time and again.

The Iraqis, playing in the Nehru Cup for the first time, were a trifle subdued in the opening session, but went into top gear after the breather keeping the Russian defenders on tenterhooks with swift and well-orchestrated counter attacks.

The Iraqi strategy to launch an offensive towards the dying stages of the proceedings paid dividends as the Russian defence was beginning to wilt in the scorching afternoon heat. The only goal in the match was largely the result of defensive lapse.

Both the teams stepped up the pace of the game after the interval in an effort to break the stalemate but poor finishing and callous passing prevented them from scoring.

The Russians got the easiest chance just four minutes before the close. But striker Koulik, who has done the bulk of scoring for his team in the tournament, failed to control

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his grounder with only the Iraqi custodian at his mercy.

Both the teams were a little hesitant in the initial stage of the game, not going all out in their attacks, concentrating more on keeping their defences intact.

The Russians, playing in the 3-5-2 formation, got their first close look at the rival goal in the 10th minute of the opening session. But forward Khomoukha's free kick just outside the box was brilliantly saved by the Iraqi custodian Sard Ibrahim.

The honours were more or less shared in the first session as both teams managed to initiate quite a few well-planned raids into the rival defence box but invariably failed to get their act together.

With the Russian strikers Loulik and Zoubko being given very few liberties inside the box by Iraqi defenders, the Russian attacks never really looked dangerous, although the midfield did reasonably well to keep ball in possession.

The Russian goal had a close shave midway through the second session when striker Najj Husam broke through the defence with a sudden burst of speed. But his drive went straight to the goalkeeper.

Ten minutes later, another Iraqi chance went begging when a blistering volley by Husam from the edge of the box went over the cross bar by a whisker.

The Iraqis looked more dangerous in the last 15 minutes or so as Najj Husam, Shnayn Ali and Hodan Abbas, sliced through the defence in tandem.

The Russians were handicapped to some extent by the absence of their main goalkeeper who was given his

marking orders in their last league match against India. Prikhodko was a trifle shaky under the bar and often failed to collect the ball cleanly.

Nigeria may challenge FIFA's move

ABUJA, Mar 18: Nigeria's military government said on Friday it was considering legal moves against a decision by soccer's world governing body FIFA to cancel the World Youth Championship due to be staged in Nigeria, reports Reuter.

"The attorney-general of the federation has been directed to study the appropriate FIFA documents with a view to determining the legal implications of FIFA's decision," an official statement said.

Nigerian sports official vowed on Thursday, after FIFA finally cancelled the championship, "to fight this to the end."

FIFA originally cancelled the championship last month because of health concerns but suspended its decision while a FIFA inspection group visited Nigeria again.

The Nigerian statement, signed by the government's number two Lieutenant-General Oladipo Diya, was issued after a meeting of top sport officials with military ruler General Sani Abacha.

"The federal government views FIFA's decision as a brazen affront not only to Nigeria but also to the entire continent of Africa and the black race," it said.

It said Nigerian sports authorities had been directed to lodge a strong protest immediately with the Confederation of African Football (CAF), a FIFA affiliate.

The closing & opening date of Tender Enquiry No. Pur-440/94 dated 11-10-94 for Spare Parts for 33/11 KV Sub-Station, PDB, is hereby extended up to 30-04-95 instead of 15-03-95 due to some unavoidable circumstances.

As such the tender will be received up to 11-00 AM on 30-04-95 and will be opened on the same day at 11-30 AM in presence of tenderers or their representatives, if any. All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged.

Director of Purchase
PDB, Dhaka
Biddu/Jan-1120(4)94-95
DFP-6102/15/3
G-410

Notice For Inviting PWD Tenders

Tender Notice No. 43/1994-95

Sealed tender in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are hereby invited for the undermentioned works from Class-I (One) & Class-II (Two) enlisted & approved valid Electrical Contractors/Firms who have get supervising licence from licensing board, Dhaka according to financial limit. The tender will be received by the undersigned as well as by the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Rangpur/Kurigram/Gaibandha/Lalmonirhat/Nilphamari/Panchagarh & Thakurgaon up to 12-00 Noon on 06-4-95 and will be opened on the same day at 12-15 PM in their office in present of the intending tenderers (who may like to remain present).

Sl No	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time for completion	Contractor eligibility
1.	Providing EI & fans including service connection to the 1500 sft. Class-I (One) Officers' Quarter (Ground floor) 2-Units the Campus of Medical College at Ananda Sagar, Dinajpur under PWD Division, Dinajpur during the year 1994-95	Tk 3,06,331/-	Tk 6,127/-	6 (Six) Months	Class-I (One) & Class-II (Two) enlisted and approved PWD Electrical Contractors/ Firms & who have approved valid Electrical licence ABC Class & BC Class supervising licence from licensing board, Dhaka.

Tender forms, schedule of items of works and additional terms and conditions has been seen and obtain from the office of the undersigned as well as by the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Rangpur/Kurigram/Gaibandha/Lalmonirhat/Nilphamari/Panchagarh & Thakurgaon and the Sub-Divisional Engineer, PWD Sub-Division-I/II/Phulbari & E/M Dinajpur during office hours up to 5-00 PM on 05-4-95 on payment of usual cost (Non-refundable).

DFP-5920-13/3
G-407
Shamsul Kabir
Executive Engineer
PWD Division, Dinajpur