



A midfield action from yesterday's Beximco 13th Federation Cup football tournament engagement between Mohammedan Sporting Club and Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society at the Dhaka Stadium. Mohammedans sauntered into the semifinals with a comfortable 3-0 win. — Star photo

MSC sail into Fed Cup semis

Sports Reporter

Shahidul Islam Ranjan finally found his scoring prowess with two strikes as title aspirant Mohammedan Sporting Club rolled up a helpless Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society 3-0 for their second successive win in the Beximco Federation Cup football tournament at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Ranjan, the national winger with a lethal left foot, who failed to score a single goal this season, finally found the target last evening and gave Mohammedans an easy passage over the old-town outfit.

After Alfaz, the dark and dapper Mohammedan midfielder, who gave the black and whites a 18th minute lead Ranjan struck two goals, once a piece in each half, to seal the one-sided affair.

The victory for the DMFA up champions means that they moved into the semifinals along with Abahani from Group B, both having two wins from two matches.

The two giants in the local sports will face each other in their last group league engagement on June 14 to decide the champions from Group B.

However, in the day's first match, Mohammedans took control of the midfield from the word go but had to wait till 18th minute before Alfaz rather fortuitously found his powerful grounder ballooned into the air on its way to the far corner of the Rahmatganj net eluding a shaky custodian

Abdullah Lahu. Ranjan then celebrated his first goal in the 32nd minute cashing in on a poor goalkeeper from Lahu, who failed to hold on an innocuous grounder that slipped through his defence.

In the second half Mohammedans opted to play safe in a bid to preserve their energies for the next match against arch-rival Abahani as Ranjan gave them an unassailable 3-0 lead in the 54th minute. The speedy winger latching on to a defence splitting through from Jewel Rana send the ball into the far corner of the net past an on-rushing Rahmatganj substitute custodian Saifuddin.

After the goal Mohammedans withdrew their midfield playmaker Arman and a reliable custodian Ponir for Uttam and Kanon respectively. For Rahmatganj, who never appeared to pose any threat it was their second successive defeat and bow out from the meet.

TEAMS

MOHAMMEDAN SC: Ponir (Kanon), Alamgir, Kaiser Hamid, Ruhul Amin, Jewel Rana, Munna, Rupu, Manik, Arman (Uttam), Ranjan and Alfaz.

RAHMATGANJ MFS: Lahu (Saifuddin), Zagul, Iqbal, Biplob, Shibu, Nazimuddin, Badal (Shaheed), Azimuddin, Ripon (Zakir), Mamunul Karim and Hassan.

Referee: Monirul Islam. **BROTHERS WIN BIG** In the day's second match.

Brothers Union confirmed a berth in the semifinals from Group A with a crushing 4-0 win over lowly Chittagong Abahani Kira Chakra.

On a rain-soaked floodlit Dhaka Stadium pitch substitute Aamer Khan led the Gopbagh outfit for their second successive win with two brilliant goals.

But it was Chibujor, one of the four Nigerian recruits of Brothers Union, who opened up the floodgate of goals in the 30th minute, nodding home a back-header from Bakhtiar.

A shaven headed Aamer Khan then doubled the margin in the 59th minute with a fierce right-footer from a goalmouth melee and set Mintu for the third goal in the 71st minute with a neat cross from the right.

The opportunist striker struck his second goal nodding the ball home from close to seal victory six minutes from the long whistle.

Brothers Union will now take on defending champion Muktiyoddha Sangsad in their last group league match on June 13.

TEAMS

BROTHER UNION: Atiq, Ripon, Bishu, Mizan, Pijush, Bakhtiar, Christopher, Swapan (Aamer Khan), Barnard, Mintoo (Anwar), and Chibujor.

CHITTAGONG ABAHANI KC: Ziauddin (Ibrahim), Masum, Zamir, Munna, Hossain, Masrur, Alauddin (Arif), Prince, Abhijit, Tipu (Debashish) and Asgar Khan.

Gullit gropes for change

HONG KONG, June 11: Dutch soccer star Ruud Gullit admits he will be entering the unknown next month when he joins his new Chelsea teammates.

Talking in Hong Kong during the Asian tour which will end his career with Italy's Sampdoria, Gullit admitted he knew little about his new colleagues at the English Premiership side.

"I don't know too much about them but it's a challenge. At some time in your life every person needs something new," Gullit told AFP.

Gullit, 32, who signed for Chelsea on a free transfer, is looking forward to the challenge of a different country but also a different role.

Having played for eight years in Italy as a striker he will adopt back to his favourite role as a sweeper.

"I'm not a natural striker, but after so many years in that position you have to get used to a new role. As a sweeper you

need to organise a little bit." The move, expected to cost the Stamford Bridge club 1.5 million pounds (2.25 million US dollars) with Gullit earning around 15,000 pounds per week, is a plus for manager Gianni Hoddle after losing out to Glasgow Rangers in the bidding for Paul Gascoigne.

Gullit scored 16 goals as a striker for Holland and played largely in that position for and Sampdoria. On Saturday he played up-front for perhaps the last time, against Hong Kong side Sing Tao in a 6-3 victory in which he showed why he will be missed.

Playing only the first half — "I haven't slept for four days" — the Dutchman created half a dozen chances in the first half hour. One player sure to miss him is Sampdoria captain Roberto Mancini who benefited from some lovely work by Gullit on the right in the 22nd minute to volley home the first of his two goals of the night.

After the match Gullit ruled out the chance of a return to the international arena.

"My generation has quit. It's time to give a chance to a new generation," he said, while wishing Holland well in next year's European Nations Championships.

Gullit, Frank Rijkaard and Marco van Basten who formed the formidable Dutch trio that helped AC Milan dominate domestic and European football in the late 80's and early 90's.

Gullit's foray into the rough and tumble of the English game follows a very successful season there for German star Jürgen Klinsmann at London rivals Tottenham. Gullit said he had not spoken to Klinsmann about his experiences and that his decision to go was largely based on a wish to play under Hoddle, with his love of one-touch football, and the chance to reclaim his sweeper's role.

Gullit will close his Sampdoria playing career in China. The team will travel to Chengdu on Monday for the last leg of their three match tour.



The three Nigerians (from L to R) Baba Lha Ladi, Baba Lha Bode and Audu Kaviri Ikhanu, who arrived in the capital on Saturday to play for Mohammedans, witness the black and whites match against Rahmatganj at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. Among the Baba duo, the first one is reported to be a striker and the later one is an attacking midfielder while Ikhanu is the coach of a leading Nigerian club, Concord FC. — Star photo

Maradona belongs to Boca

BUENOS AIRES, June 11: Diego Maradona will play for his old club Boca Juniors when he completes a playing ban in September, a club official said on Friday, reports Reuter.

"Diego has just phoned me and he said he has accepted our offer. We are very happy," Boca's Carlos Heller told the Telam news agency.

The deal ends a month-long saga of stop-go talks which stumbled repeatedly on Maradona's dream of being Boca's coach as well as a player.

Boca were keen on having the 34-year-old former Argentine captain to orchestrate their midfield but were clearly not impressed with his record as a coach since he was banned worldwide from playing for failing a dope test at the 1994 World Cup finals. Maradona told a radio station earlier on Friday he was prepared to play for his old club even if it meant a climb-down over his insistence on being coach.

"With all big contracts at this level we have to make concessions and I'm prepared to make them. As long as they guarantee me that Boca are going to have a competitive team that is going to give happiness to the people," he said.

Maradona has often said his heart remains with Boca, a team from the poor end of Buenos Aires.

He was a Boca player when they won the national championship in 1981.

Talks to take Maradona to Brazil's Santos failed earlier this week despite determined wooing by Pele.

Boca fans, who chant Maradona's name on the terraces, will be delighted to see him back — but there could be problems ahead.

Prosecution lawyers are demanding he serve four years in prison for wounding several journalists with an air rifle last year.

Earlier this week a court rejected a plea by the defence for charges to be dropped in return for Maradona doing community service work.

AC Milan trounce S-Pulse

TOKYO, June 11: Italian soccer powerhouse AC Milan scored four second-half goals Sunday and trounced the Japanese professional team Shimizu-S-Pulse 5-1 in a goodwill match, reports AP.

Playing before more than 30,000 spectators at Tokyo Dome, Brazilian Toninho gave the S-Pulse a 1-0 lead in the second minute.

But AC Milan, 1994-95 runners up in the European championship league, tied the game nine minutes later on an overhead kick by G Lentini.

One minute into the second half, Stefano Eranio received a pass from Lentini and scored the tie-breaking goal.

AC Milan added goals by P. Futre in the 71st minute, D Dionigi in the 77th minute and Gianluca Sordo in the 85th minute.

AC Milan out-shot the S-Pulse 22-3. "It was good experience," said S-Pulse manager Masakatsu Miyamoto, whose team stands 10th in the 14-team Japanese Professional Soccer League after the 1995, first stage.

AC Milan arrived in Japan after winning two games in China. It is scheduled to play against the South China Football Club in Hong Kong Tuesday.

Bridge contest

Lutfar Rahman and Mahabur Rahman, a relatively unknown pair, took the lead with 1586 points (66.08 per cent) in the world-wide bridge contest, Bangladesh portion, Saturday, night, reports BSS.

The first three positions in the following zones are: North-south zone: 1. Humayun Kabir and Mohammad Musa — 1464 points (61 per cent) 2. M. A Qudus and Azizur Rahman — 1407 points (58.63 per cent) 3. M. A Mannan Mia and Nazmul Huda — 1368 points (57 per cent)

East-west zone: 1. Lutfar Rahman and Mahabur Rahman — 1586 points (66.08 per cent) 2. Faruq Sobhan and Feroze Ahmed — 1420 points (59.17 per cent) 3. D M Hanzala and Mesbaur Rahman — 1419 points (59.12 per cent)

Sponsored by the Daily Independent of the Beximco group, the tournament was held at Hotel Sheraton. In Bangladesh 48 pairs participated in the event along with thousands of others all over the world. The tournament has been organised annually by the World Bridge Federation.

Hooper hits hurricane fifty WI win Headingley Test



LEEDS, England, June 11: Carl Hooper unveiled a variety of imperious strokes today as West Indies completed a handsome nine-wicket victory over England with a day to spare in the first Test at Headingley, reports Reuter.

Hooper, out first ball in the first innings and something of an under-achiever in Test cricket, raced to 73 with nine fours and four sixes after West Indies had been set a paltry 126 to win.

He added an unbroken 118 for the second wicket with Brian Lara, who added 48 not out to his first innings 53.

Earlier Courtney Walsh, without a wicket in the first innings, removed England's last two specialist batsmen in Graham Thorpe (61) and Mark Ramprakash (18) as the home side slumped to 208 all out after starting the day at 109 for four.

Walsh took four for 60 from 22 overs while Curtly Ambrose confirmed he is fast approaching his best form with three for 44 from 20.2.

After play had started an hour late due to bad light, Thorpe and Ramprakash gave England some hope when they took their fifth wicket part-

play strokes all around the wicket as the tourists raced to victory.



CARL HOOPER

Lara, who threw his wicket away in the first innings after threatening to hit the fastest century of the season, was also in fine touch, after his erratic start to the tour.

Victory was an ideal tonic for West Indies, deposed by Australia as unofficial world champions this year.

Hooper, promoted to opener, more than atoned for his first innings failure while his partner Sherwin Campbell, although out for only two today, top-scored in the first innings with 69.

The overcast day had started more encouragingly for England as they polished off the touring team's last five first innings wickets for 46 after resuming at 236 for five.

England's encouraging early morning session was influenced by effective pace bowling from Phillip DeFreitas and Peter Martin, the former making the initial inroads with two wickets in 18 deliveries.

DeFreitas had Murray caught at short cover for 20 and then removed Keith Arthurton for 42 with a catch behind.

Bishop (5) was run out when non-striker Curtly Ambrose did not respond to his partner's call for what would have been a comfortable single.

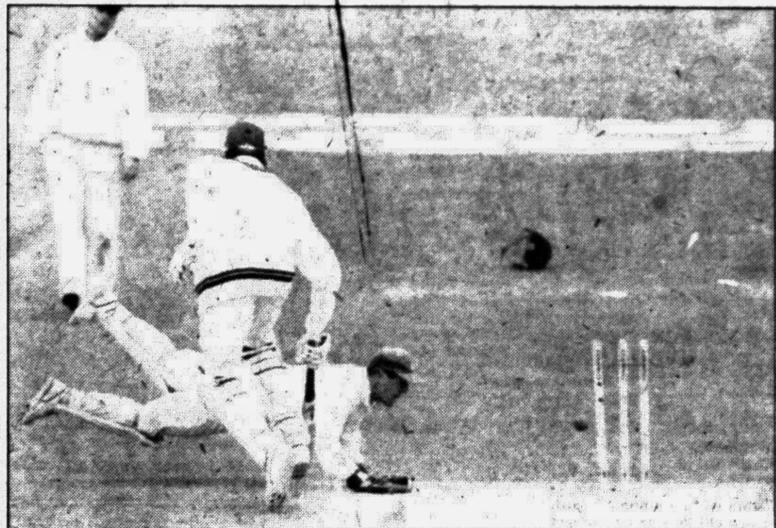
SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the first cricket Test between England and West Indies at Headingley on Saturday.

ENGLAND: First Innings 199 (M Atherton 81; I Bishop 5-32, K Benjamin 4-60).

WEST INDIES: First Innings (overnight 236-5)

C Hooper c Thorpe b Malcolm	0
S Campbell run out	69
B Lara c Hick b Illingworth	53
J Adams c Martin b Hick	58
K Arthurton c Stewart b DeFreitas	42
R Richardson lbw b Martin	0
J Murray c Illingworth b DeFreitas	20
I Bishop run out	5



England's wicketkeeper Alec Stewart makes a vain attempt to run out West Indian Courtney Walsh during the 3rd day of the first Test match at Headingley on Saturday. —AFP/UNB photo

nership to 48. But Ramprakash, still seeking a permanent Test place four years after making his debut against Viv Richard's West Indian tourists, again flattered only to deceive when he was bowled off-stump playing inside a full-length delivery from Walsh.

Phillip DeFreitas lasted only three deliveries before he was another Walsh victim for one and brief flurries from Darren Gough (29) and Peter Martin (19) only delayed the inevitable.

When West Indies batted again, Hooper quickly demonstrated some delightful touches against some admittedly erratic bowling. He played the pace bowlers fluently off his legs then struck left-arm spinner Richard Illingworth for consecutive sixes straight over the bowler's head.

When Illingworth dropped short, Hooper stepped back to carve his through the off-side for four and he continued to

Earlier on Saturday, Courtney Walsh, so often West Indies' fast bowling inspiration in recent series, boosted their victory hopes in the first Test by grabbing the key wicket of England captain Mike Atherton.

Walsh removed Atherton for 17 as England, 83 behind on first innings, stumbled to 109 for four at the close on the third day at Headingley where bad light cut short the final session by 95 minutes.

Opener Atherton's wicket is the one West Indies prize above all others, such is his growing stature at the top of the order, and Walsh accounted for the England skipper with a fine, lifting delivery he edged to wicketkeeper Junior Murray.

With Robin Smith (6) again failing in his experiment role as opener, Graeme Hick (27) immediately following Atherton back to the pavilion and Alec Stewart (4) going cheaply, West Indies tightened their grip.

C Ambrose c Gough b Malcolm	15
C Walsh c Stewart b Gough	4
K Benjamin not out	0
Extras: (b-4, lb-11, nb-1)	16
Total:	282

Fall of wickets: 1-0; 2-95; 3-141; 4-216; 5-219; 6-243; 7-254; 8-254; 9-275.

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Malcolm	7.3	0	48	2
Gough	5	1	24	1
DeFreitas	23	3	82	2
Martin	27	9	48	1
Illingworth	24	9	50	1
Hick	4	0	15	1

ENGLAND: Second Innings

R Smith c Arthurton b Ambrose	6
M Atherton c Murray b Walsh	17
G Hick c Walsh b Bishop	27
G Thorpe not out	37
A Stewart c Murray b Benjamin	4
M Ramprakash not out	12
Extras: (lb-2, nb-4)	6
Total: (for four wickets)	109

Fall of wickets: 1-6; 2-55; 3-55; 4-82

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Ambrose	11.1	4	24	1
Walsh	11	3	33	1
Bishop	6	1	31	1
Benjamin	6	1	19	1

(Incomplete)

Lynch hits twin tons

LONDON, June 11: Monte Lynch, enjoying a fresh lease of life in English county cricket since switching from Surrey to Gloucestershire, completed two centuries in a match for the first time on Saturday.

Lynch, 37, followed his first innings of 108 against Kent with 114 as Gloucestershire took command on the third day of the four-day championship match at Canterbury, reports Reuter.

Gloucestershire, who opted not to enforce the follow on even though Kent trailed by 184, made 266 for eight and declared on the strength of Lynch's second hundred.

Lynch, who moved to Gloucestershire this season, faced 145 balls and hit three sixes and 10 fours.

Kent, set 451 to win, lost in-form opener Trevor Ward for 17 and were 73 for one at the close.

Champions Warwickshire, spurred by an unbroken second-wicket stand of 154 between Nick Knight and Roger Touse, fought back against Sussex at Edgbaston.

Warwickshire were 113 behind on first innings but battled to 154 for one at the close with Touse, who reached his 50 off 99 balls, making 68 not out and Knight, who took 120 deliveries to complete his half-century, unbeaten on 74.

Darren Robinson anchored Essex with his maiden first-class century which helped the home county to build an overall lead of 309 over Essex at Chelmsford.

Essex ended the day on 224 for eight after Robinson, who has played for England at under-18 and under-19 level, made 110 in 253 minutes off 231 balls.

Mark Butcher scored his second championship century of the season — 102 off 124 balls with 17 fours — to lift Surrey to a lead of 380 over Somerset at the Oval.

Andy Smith struck a career-best 88 and David Ward hit 51 as the home side's second innings reached 419 for nine.

Worcester worried

WORCESTER, England, June 11: Worcestershire are to hold talks aimed at securing the long-term future of star Australian batsman Tom Moody, the county revealed on Saturday, reports AFP.

Moody's current contract ends in September and chairman Duncan Fearnley is keen to persuade him to stay at New Road.

But he admitted hopes of Moody signing a new deal will depend on him deciding to retire from first class cricket down under.

Moody is keen to ease an almost non-stop playing schedule with Western Australia and Worcestershire.

But he might be tempted by the possibility of a bumper benefit at New Road if he signs a long-term deal.

Moody would also be a strong candidate for the captaincy, along with Steve Rhodes and Richard Illingworth, if Tim Curtis eventually decides to stand down.

Fearnley said: "Tom might decide to carry on with us or to continue playing Sheffield Shield Cricket in Australia but I don't think he will be doing both in future."

"If he decides to retire at home and concentrates on his business interests, then I would be optimistic of him coming back to Worcestershire."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid and clues. Clues include: 1 Ostentation, 5 Chart type, 8 A little lower?, 12 Culture medium, 13 Sort, 14 Hodge-podge, 15 Love-story entanglement, 17 Note to the staff, 18 Skating star Sonja, 19 Become angry, 21 Made like the fishes, 24 Museum stuff, 25 Sampling of food, 28 Harbor structure, 30 Wall climber, 33 Eggs, 34 Largest state, pre-1959, 35 Born, 36 Sword vanquisher, 37 Praiseful, 38 A long, long time, 39 Comprehend, 41 Hand out hands, 43 Laid-back, 46 Hot lines?, 50 Charles Lamb's pseudonym, 51 Essential, 54 Church cry, 55 Old card game, 56 George-town athlete, 57 "Hawaii Five-O" star, 58 Desiccated, 59 Hamlet's apartment number?, 60 Dumbo's wings, 22 Copied, 23 Like bad metaphors, 25 Jazz style, 26 "— Got Sixpence", 27 More knotted, 29 Facility, 31 Neckline shape, 32 Unquestionably, 34 Oz visitor, 38 Dismount, 40 African antelope, 42 Reverential fear, 43 Ground grain, 44 Boy in Dagwood's neighborhood, 45 Frenzied, 47 Boast, 48 Deck, 49 Large, flat hunk, 52 Neither's mate, 53 Trifle (with)

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with numbers 1-59 indicating starting positions for letters.

CRYPTOQUIP

LB ETZG LWG VWCVZGM
V B B I E B K G F G V Q K G
C U U C M F L T U U T I G G I
W B U G

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE COOKING SCHOOL'S SLOGAN: IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED, FRY FRY AGAIN.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: I equals P

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.