

Gibson's glorious double

WI wallop Somerset



TAUNTON, England, Aug 4: West Indies beat Somerset by 155 runs on the final day of their three-day match today, reports Reuter.

Scores: West Indies 230 and 386 (S. Williams 119, O. Gibson 101 not out, R. Richardson 88, A van Troost 5-120); Somerset 374 and 87 (O. Gibson 4-32).

Earlier on Thursday, West Indies Test batsman Jimmy Adams suffered a cracked cheekbone when he was struck by a short-pitched ball by Somerset pace bowler Andre van Troost.

He was taken to a Taunton hospital by ambulance after ducking into his first delivery from Troost.

A hospital spokesman said later that Adams would be kept in overnight for observation.

He has a cracked cheekbone... when the swelling has gone down he may require an operation.

Adams had been wearing a helmet with panels protecting his temples, but with no visor or grille.

The ball is believed to have struck him in a slightly higher position than the blow which fractured the cheek-

bone of England batsman Robin Smith in the fourth Test against West Indies at Old Trafford on Sunday. That sort of thing has happened to me about five times before but the batsmen



OTTIS GIBSON

have always been wearing grilles," said Dutchman Van Troost.

"It was a frightening incident... I was upset for a while but it was a pure accident."

Adams' injury was the worst of a series of mishaps for the touring team on the second day of the three-day match.

After allowing Somerset to recover from 162 for six to 374 all out for a first innings lead of 144, West Indies stumbled from 218 for one to 276 for six at the close.

The fiery Van Troost wrecked most of the second innings damage, taking four for 12 in the space of 31 balls.

West Indies had wiped out Somerset's first innings lead for the loss of only Junior Murray. Stuart Williams hammering a brilliant 119 off 131 balls with 19 fours and three sixes.

Richardson hit an impressive 88 before playing on to Van Troost shortly after receiving a painful blow on the toe from the 2.03-metre tall paceman.

Van Troost was no-balled and warned by umpire Alan Whitehead after delivering two successive waist-high full tosses at Courtney Browne.

Earlier, Somerset had built superbly on their overnight score. Jason Kerr hit a career-best 80, sharing a stand of 136 for the seventh wicket with Rob Turner who made 72.



An airborne Muktiyoddha Sangsad striker Naqib (R) makes a vain attempt to score as Abahani skipper Munna closes in on him during yesterday's crucial Lifebuoy Premier Division football league tie at the Dhaka Stadium. Abahani prevailed 1-0. — Star photo

Miserable day for Young Aussies

LEICESTER, England, Aug 4: Young Australia suffered the worst day of their tour so far as Leicestershire moved into a powerful position at the Grace Road ground here on Thursday, reports AFP.

The tourists were bowled out for 220 in 52 overs - their lowest total of the tour - before Leicestershire reached 196 for three in reply by the close.

The home side's acting captain James Whitaker, playing first-class cricket for the first time for more than a month after an ankle injury, led the way with a brilliant century - his third of the summer.

He scored a sparkling 103, reaching three figures in 140 minutes off 105 balls, hitting 17 fours and a six.

Whitaker and South Africa captain Hansie Cronje provided the best entertainment of the day with a superb second wicket partnership of 133 in 21 overs before Cronje was bowled by Joe Angel for 53.

Angel also dismissed Whitaker but that was one of the few moments of success for the tourists.

Their disappointment was compounded by the fact that Whitaker was dropped by wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist when he had made only four.

Young Australia's top scorer was middle order batsman Shaun Young who hit 62, while opener Matthew Hayden hit a quickfire 49.

All the Young Australian batsmen went for their shots despite the fall of wickets and, at one stage, they were racing along better than five an over.

But left-arm seamer Alamgir Sheryar took four for 55 and left-arm spinner Matthew Brimston two for 14 on a day dominated by the home side.

AFC's awards

HONG KONG, Aug 4: The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) has voted Japanese international defender Masami Ihara player-of-the-month for July with coach of the month going to Adnan Mekdache of Beirut club Al Ansar, a statement said Friday, reports AFP.

Announcing the awards, the Kuala Lumpur-based AFC said "Masami Ihara has established himself as one of Asia's finest central defenders and also has strong leadership qualities."

"It was these qualities which helped his club, Yokohama Marinos, win the sunny series of the third J League season."

In a seven-year spell under his 54-year-old Lebanese coach Al Anser have won seven successive league championships and six Lebanon cup titles.

"Thirteen major titles in seven years is an extraordinary record and the players, club and coach are to be congratulated," the AFC said.

US beat Australia in women's soccer

PISCATAWAY, New Jersey, Aug 4: Mia Hamm scored two goals and set up two others Thursday night, leading the United States to a 4-2 victory over Australia and setting up a Sunday showdown with world champions Norway for the US Women's Cup, reports AP.

Sunday's match at RFK Stadium in Washington, one of the World Cup nine venues, will be a rematch of the World Championship semifinals in which Norway won 1-0 and went on to the title over Germany in the final.

Both teams are 2-0-0 in the four-nation event. Despite Norway's superior goal differential, thanks to a 12-1 victory over Taiwan on Wednesday, they will still need to win Sunday's game to claim the tournament title.

Action from yesterday's Lifebuoy First Division football league encounter between Shadharan Bima KS and Eskaton Shabuj Sangha at the Dhaka Stadium. The match ended 1-1. — Star photo

Aslam Abahani's ace

Sports Reporter



Jubilant and noisy supporters of champions, Abahani Krira Chakra lit flares and fired crackers to rejoice their position at the zenith of the Lifebuoy Premier football league when old spark Sheikh Mohammad Aslam ensured them of a lone-goal victory against last year's No. 2 Muktiyoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra at the jam-packed flood lit Dhaka stadium on a sultry Friday evening.

Being already three points ahead of their nearest challengers Muktiyoddha before yesterday's kick-off and this being the last match of the first leg, Abahani began on a defensive note but in a 4-2-2 formation Aslam and the fresh recruit from Romania, Dranina Eugene Lorenzo, threatened the Mukti citadel at regular intervals.

Muktiyoddha supporters obviously had high hopes on the day as a couple of their flags fluttered in the traditional Mohammedan gallery in the early minutes. Abahani fans, who are enjoying unrivalled supremacy in the league in terms of points, symbolised their anticipations with a giant 40-foot blue banner that journeyed up and down their empire.

Muktiyoddha found more openings in the first-half as their five corners against Abahani's one late in the half amply portrays. However, except for Rakib's early feebler and late cracker, none were potentially dangerous. Dulal Hossain Dhanu under the Abahani cross-piece rose to the occasion to thwart the 44th minute powerful drive. Among the five corners that came Mukti's way, only one looked menacing when Masud's flag-kick freed Barun who hardly did justice to the lavish space around him with a wild shot.

Aslam began his campaign with a tenuous attempt with Mukti custodian Arun at his mercy after a Moon peccadillo in the first quarter. Aslam was late by a fraction later when he was yellow carded for crashing into Arun who failed to collect the ball in his first attempt. Aslam finally found his 'manzil' in the 41st minute. The move hatched in the mid-right re-

gion when Mozammel Haque Chaudhury Biplob freed fleet-footed Lorenzo down the line. The Romanian, thoroughly enjoying his first appearance in the Dhaka league, sent a deft cross that caught all the Mukti defenders on the wrong foot allowing Aslam to meet the ball on way to a goal that triggered a resounding cheer from merry-making Abahani followers.

The goal bore all round significance as it demoted Muktiyoddha (17 points) to fourth position and propelled juvenile delight Youngmen's Club Fakirerpool (18 points) to second place at the end of the first round matches. Mohammedan Sporting Club (18 points) are languishing in between the two with a difference of five points from leaders Abahani who have 23



points to their credit.

The late pre-lemon goal pepped up Abahani and they came fresh as a daisy in the second half to dictate all the term. Sticking to their previous combination, Sergei and Vladimir gave a wonderful display of midfield possession to create for the Champions a number of opportunities.

Shawpon was first to be gifted with a chance early in the half when he failed to cash in after Munna's 35-year free-kick ricocheted off the wall. Several close calls on the Mukti goal mouth followed but none would transpire into the second goal for the winners. With quarter of an hour remaining, Shawpon did not allow injury to come in his way as he sent a superb cross but, despite his agility, Lorenzo failed to head home. The Romanian should have got a goal in the 80th minute when he made a solo run from the right into the box but with Arun trembling shot the opening wide.

Muktiyoddha's notable move in the half emerged in the 69th minute when Rakib's header off a right flank Mizan cross hovered long enough at the Abahani goal mouth to send shivers up their spine before Sohel Reza made a commendable clearance. Muktiyoddha brought out their cards perhaps a bit too late when they made two simultaneous substitutions by introducing Rumi in place of Naqib and Babu instead of Mizan with five minutes remaining. The fresh blood paid dividends in the form of some positive play from the Mukti but the only chance in the dying minutes was a Rakib drive that lunging Dhanu had to save with comfort at the Abahani first post.

The only sour items for Abahani in an otherwise savoury table was yellow cards for their saviour Monem Munna and Russian star Sergei, bookings for whom mean that both will miss the first match of the second leg beginning August 11.

Yellow cards: Munna, Sergei, Mansur, Aslam and Lorenzo (Abahani); Masud Rana and Mizan (Muktiyoddha).

TEAMS

ABAHANI K C: Dhanu, Hassan Al-Mamun, Sohel Reza, Munna, Mansur, Vladimir, Sergei, Shawpon, (Jamal), Biplob, Aslam, (Chanchal), and Lorenzo, (Iqbal).

MUKTIYODDHA SANGSAD KC: Arun, Moon, Emadul, Kingshuk, Masud Rana, Mamun, (Gaus), Barun, Zakir, Rakib, Naqib, (Rumi), and Mizan, (Babu).

Referee: Ehsanul Haq.

BIMA, ESKATON SPLIT POINTS

Earlier Sadharan Bima KS and Eskaton Shabuj Sangha split points in their Lifebuoy First Division football league fixture at same venue.

Sadharan Bima took the lead in the 42nd minute through Rabiul Mahmood who guided an Anwar cross into the Eskaton net. But Eskaton equalised when skipper Tipu scored from a corner in the 61st minute.

STANDINGS

Table with 7 columns: Teams, M, W, D, L, GF, GA, Pts. Lists teams like Abahani KC, Youngmen's Club, Mohammedan SC, Muktiyoddha Sangsad, Brothers Union, Agrani Bank, Arambagh KS, Farashganj SC, Rahmatganj MFS, Wari Club.

Hattrick: Tutul (Agrani Bank) against Wari Club.

Leading scorers: Six goals - Mizan (Muktiyoddha) and Tutul (Agrani Bank); Five goals - Asif Yousuf (Youngmen's Club); Four goals - Naqib (Muktiyoddha), Don (Brothers Union) and Askar Babu (Youngmen's Club); Three goals - Munna (Abahani KC), Kazakov (Mohammedan SC), Mamun Joarder (Muktiyoddha), Jalaluddin (Youngmen's), Alexander Ninaskin (Rahmatganj) and Aslam (Abahani KC).

Seeing is believing!

Sports Reporter

Black-marketeers continued to get their five-a-time tickets yesterday even after the Dhaka Stadium galleries were bursting at the seams and thousands were loitering with the pink entry tokens in their sweaty hands. In one instance, a couple of youths produced a youthful blacker in front of a grinning policeman complaining that the illegal ticket-trader was asking too much for the Tk 20 item. The policeman did not take the law in his hand and sorted out the matter to the satisfaction of both parties. The time was 6:05 and the youths wondered aloud whether they would be able to enter the stands.

Football addicts thronged on roof tops and window bays of adjoining buildings to watch Abahani take on Muktiyoddha in the last match of the first leg of the Lifebuoy Premier Football League. Outside the stadium were thousands who inched their way towards the gates, inside genuine ticket holders scaled walls and barbed wire fencing to find a more suitable place. In most cases it was akin to grass being greener on the other side. Many made the roof of the VIP stand an extension of the gallery.

DMFA has no business selling tickets from their counters even after every conceivable space in the galleries were packed. DMFA is manned by very many experienced officials with umpteen years of service to football. It is not a complicated mathematical problem for them to decide on the optimum number of tickets that should be sold. This singular but rather important exercise DMFA should carry out if only to ensure each and every member of the paying public the right to a seat in the gallery.

The unprecedented crowd pressure when they are off air should convince BTB that, if only for social justice and as a duty to the nation, they should telecast live the big matches of the national sport. Radio Bangladesh broadcast ball-to-ball commentary but then for the addicts, seeing is believing.

Muster moves into qtrs

KITZBUEHEL, Austria, Aug 4: Clay-court maestro Thomas Muster recovered from a faltering start to beat Denmark's Frederik Fetterlein 6-4, 6-3 on Thursday and reached the Austrian Open quarterfinals, reports Reuter.

French Open champion Muster, the first Austrian to capture a Grand Slam title, is a hot favourite to win his home tournament.

But Fetterlein, seeded 15th here, broke Muster's second service game with some solid back-court play and, with his confidence soaring, the Dane took the fourth game to love to lead 3-1.

Muster's compatriot Gilbert Schaller outlasted Jordi Arrese of Spain in a match packed with hard-fought rallies and a superb array of passing shots, drop volleys and smashes.

Schaller took two hours 42 minutes to beat Arrese 6-4, 3-6, 6-4. He now plays another Spaniard, Alberto Berasategui, in his quarterfinal match.

Werdel stuns Sanchez



CARLSBAD, California, Aug 4: Marianne Werdel Witmeyer, capitalising on Arantxa Sanchez Vicario's strained hamstring, beat the world's No. 2 player 6-3, 2-6, 6-2 Thursday in the third round of the Toshiba tennis classic, reports AP.

Werdel Witmeyer, an American ranked 25th in the world, used powerful ground strokes to defeat the top-seeded Spaniard for the second time this season.

Sanchez Vicario aggravated her ailing hamstring in the first game of the second set. The initial injury happened Tuesday night against Canada's Patricia Hy-Boulais.

Sanchez Vicario became the eighth seed to be knocked out of the tournament. Sanchez Vicario reached the finals of this

event the past two years, losing both times to Steffi Graf.

Werdel Witmeyer advanced to Friday's quarterfinals against the winner of Thursday night's match between Rita Grande and Sandrine Testud.

In other matches involving ranked players, No 9 Lisa Raymond beat qualifier Lindsay Lee 6-4, 6-2 in a US clash, and will face No. 16 Gigi Fernandez in the quarterfinals. Fernandez scored a 7-6 (7-6), 6-4 win over No. 18 Christina Singer of Germany.

Sweden's Asa Carlsson defeated Kristie Boogert of the Netherlands 6-2, 6-4, and will play No. 2 Conchita Martinez in the quarters. Martinez advanced with a three-set win Wednesday night over Japan's Ai Sugiyama.

The last quarterfinal pits Australia's Rachel McQuillan, 6-4, 7-6 (7-5) winner over Sandra Cacic, playing the winner of Thursday night's match between No. 3 Mary Pierce and Jannette Kruger.

Werdel Witmeyer also beat Sanchez Vicario in March at The Lipton Championships 6-2, 7-5. Last year in this tournament, Werdel Witmeyer took the first set from Sanchez Vicario 6-0 before losing 0-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Werdel Witmeyer came out hammering the ball, moving Sanchez Vicario around the court. She won the first four games and captured the first set.

After falling behind, Sanchez Vicario became the aggressor despite her injury. When a couple of line calls went against Werdel Witmeyer she appeared to be taken out of her game.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 37 "Wham!" worship? 23 "Holy mackerell!" 1 Pub brew 38 "Wiegenlied" 2 Flooring, for short 24 Honest planetarians melody 3 Author Ambler 25 Greek consonants 8 Took a powder 45 Carriage to the prom 4 Lessened 26 Lad 12 Evergreen 46 Crosby's pal 5 Like auto sales-people 27 Profession, for short 13 Loni's ex 47 Bandy of C&W 6 One of the Greats 28 Banjo's cousin 14 Curved molding 48 Computer symbol 7 Like boxes in a warehouse 29 Undeniably 16 One side of the Urals 49 Hertz competitor 8 Boston airport 31 "The Firm" 17 Chutzpah 50 One million 10 Responded 34 Selleck or Skerritt 18 Rule the world? 51 Just stand there 11 Distant prefix 35 Harass 22 Under-standing 53 "Le Coq" 19 Footballer's trouble spot 37 He's class-conscious 23 Grew 54 Foundation 20 Scarlet 38 Radar-screen image 26 Foundation 1 Place of 39 Puerto 27 Believe, in slang 30 Stage statuette 40 Novelist Oz 31 George Burns role 41 It's nothing to Steffi 32 Tour de France entry 42 In the thick of 33 Unseal of basketball 43 Singer Sonny 34 Have a go at it 44 Calendar quota 35 Challenges for lab mice 36 Luau gunk

Cryptogram puzzle with grid and solution: HB E YCJVLWHE, NLC IKEJYC WJHTHVJGN, JG GLHEC HS LJIGCTS. Yesterday's Cryptogram: WHEN ONE WOMAN TENNIS CHAMPION SUED ANOTHER, THEY ENDED UP IN COURT. Today's Cryptogram clue: W equals B. The Cryptogram 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.

Crossword grid with numbers 1-31 indicating starting positions for across and down words.