

## Column One

## DID U KNOW?

(The Professor does)

HAT six persons died in Lahore last weekend during the annual kite-flying competition. Imagine the frenzy that the sport creates.

Kite flying has always been taken in earnest by Asians. It spread from Thailand and China to India. Kites are equipped with broken glass, razor blades and even knives.

In Bangladesh, considerable attention is given to making the thread sharp so as to make it strong enough to stand up to that of rival contestants.

In Japan kite-flying often bears religious significance, and it is not unknown for entire villages to launch kites of a thousand square feet, in celebration of some religious rite.

The largest recorded kite ever flown measured about 46 feet by 63 feet and was launched by 500 people in Nagata in 1980. It weighed 660 lbs and it flew for three minutes at an altitude of 400 feet.

Imagine your plot in Utara up in the air. Gosh!

## SPORTS TALK



Syed Monirul Huq (L) and S Kabir Shuvro after Wanderers' victory yesterday.

Star photo

## Wanderers worry Wari

Sports Reporter

## BRIEF SCORES

**WARI CLUB:** 199 all out in 50 overs (Biplob 46, Sohel 29, Mr. Sundries 45; Shuvro 3/31).

**DHAKA WANDERERS:** 200/7 in 49.1 overs (Monirul 106 n.o., Tutul 34, Shuvro 20 n.o.).



A brilliant unbeaten century by Monirul Huq inspired Dhaka Wanderers Club to record their first win in the Premier cricket league with a stinging three-wicket defeat on Wari Club at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Monirul, who came into bat at number four with Wanderers tottering at 14 for three in reply to a modest

Wari total of 199, hammered a swashbuckling 106 to guide the promoted to 200 for seven with five balls to spare in the 50 over-a-side match.

The middle-aged Pakistani right-handed bat, better known as Quareshi, shared 90 vital runs for the fourth wicket with skipper Tutul to settle his side into a groove.

And, after the fall of Tutul (34), Wanderers suffered a mini-collapse in the lower order when they were reduced to a precarious 134/7 in 40.2 overs before the robust Pakistani found an agile partner in new-ball bowler Shuvro to propel his side to an improbable victory.

Together they put on a priceless 64 runs for the undefeated eighth wicket as Wanderers, who earlier lost all their seven league engagements, emerged from yet another nightmare to celebrate a sensational win against Wari.

In his polished undefeated 120-ball knock, Monirul clubbed nine fours for the league's 12th ton. While an obstinate Shuvro clouted a massive sixer in his quickfire 23-ball 20.

Earlier, sent into bat on a moist morning, Wari, who were badly in need of a win to confirm a berth in the six-team Super League, failed to pile up a big score; their last man dismissed in the last delivery of the innings.

The Wari innings was built around a gritty 46 from middle-order bat Mofizul Islam Biplob followed by lower-order Saleh Ahmed and Mofizur Rahman Munna, who chipped in with 29 and 24

respectively. Besides, a staggering 45 extras including 31 wides by the Wanderers bowlers made a handsome contribution to the health of the Wari total.

Shuvro, who later did one better with the willow, was the most successful Wanderers bowler with figures of three for 31 in his nine overs.

However, with this defeat, Wari's hopes of a Super League berth were greatly reduced. They are now stuck to their previous collection of eight points from as many outings.

For Wanderers, the win will not change their fate of featuring in the relegation league along with five other teams of the 12-team Premier league.

## Ctg soccer

CHITTAGONG, Jan 21: Chittagong Mohammedan Sporting Club beat Friends Club by a solitary goal in the CJKP First Division football super league at the Chittagong Stadium here today. reports RSS.

Liton scored the all-important goal in the 55th minute.

Mohammedans collected 11 points from six matches while Friends got two points from as many outings.

Meanwhile, Oxygen Bazar Krira Chakra clinched the Isaphani Metropolitan Pioneer football competition title thrashing Patharghata Arsal Memorial Club 4-0 at the Dampara Police Line ground here today.

## Yamaha Div 1 cricket

Sports Reporter

Ajax Club romped past Sardar Bima Kira Sangha with a crushing 134-run victory in their Yamaha First Division cricket league encounter at the City Club ground in Mirpur yesterday.

Batting first, Ajax made a resounding 226 for eight in the stipulated 45 overs with one-down Moshed Alam hitting a 83 ball 58 including three boundaries.

Opener Rafiqul Islam and Rajanul Islam Dola chipped in with 37 and 30 respectively. Abdul Hadi Ratan and Jahanir Alam took three and two wickets respectively for the insurancemen.

In reply, the Bima batsmen were dispensed off by the Ajax bowlers for only 92 runs in 32.2 overs — three of them being run out.

Ahmed Kamal Cornel was the wrecker-in-chief taking four wickets for only 17 runs in his nine overs while Riton, Endu and Dola took a wicket apiece.

No 10 Nabi Haider was the only Bima batsman to reach double figures with 22 to his name.

## Junior chess championships

Sports Reporter

Twenty players were jointly atop the standings with full two points at the end of the second round's play of the national junior chess championships at the National Sports Council chess room yesterday.

The twenty are — recently crowned national sub-junior champion and top seed Enamul Hossain Rajib, second seed Abdullah Al Rakib, third seed Shawkat Hossain Pallab, defending champion and fourth seed Adnan Faisal, fifth seed Tamim Parveen, Syed Mahfuzur Rahman Imron, Firoz Ahmed, Ashrafur Rahman Murad, Aminur Rahman, Ruhul Islam Bobby, Sabir Ahmed Senu, Saiful Kabir, Koliol Bihari Mondal, Giasuddin Mithu, Arifuzzaman, Nasif Ahmed, Najmul Hassan, Zainul Abedin Sarkar, Mahtab Ahmed and Mahmud Hossan.

Eight players trail the leading bunch with 1.5 points. They are: Tipu Sultan, Saidul Huq Rubel, Syed Rownak Hossain Sajib, Walilullah Ataur Rahman, Khaled Hassan Chowdhury, Rashedul Hassan and Maha Alam. Of the leading players, Rajib defeated Romance, Rakib beat Naim, Pallab beat Ejaz, Adnan beat Shafique and Tamim overcome Sharif in their respective second round games.

## Kiwis stage fight-back



AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Jan 21: Veteran Zimbabwe batsman David Houghton scored his fourth Test century as Zimbabwe reached 231 for seven on the second day of the second cricket Test against New Zealand today, reports Reuter.

Batting first, Ajax made a resounding 226 for eight in the stipulated 45 overs with one-down Moshed Alam hitting a 83 ball 58 including three boundaries.

Houghton, who battled with a runner after being hit on the foot when he was on 55, patiently accumulated his runs over five hours, spending 19 minutes on 99 before reaching his century shortly before stumps.

He finished the day on 104 not out with Paul Strang on five.

Zimbabwe quickly claimed the last two New Zealand wickets for the addition of only five runs this morning, dismissing the hosts for 251.

Zimbabwe made a poor start when they lost three for 50 with Grant Flower (five), Stuart Carlisle (12) and Guy Whittall (27) all gone before lunch.

Captain Andy Flower and Houghton added 88 for the fourth wicket, with Flower reaching 1,000 runs in Test cricket before departing for 35 with the score at 138.

Alistair Campbell gave left arm seamer Geoff Allott his third leg before wicket dismissal of the innings when he went for 17 with the score at 196.

HOUGHTON ... 104 n.o.

two for 60. Larsen was tight in taking on for 22 off 17 overs while Robert Kennedy finished with one for 53.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the second cricket Test between New Zealand and Zimbabwe at Auckland Monday.

NEW ZEALAND: First innings overnight 246 for

Astle 3 1 3

Fall of wickets: 1-50; 2-

3-86; 4-117; 5-216; 6-

232; 7-244; 8-246; 9-246;

10-251.

Bowling: 0 M R W

Streak 22 9 50 3

Brandes 18 3 69 2

B Strang 31 3 8 64 3

P Strang 12 2 29 1

Whittall 12 4 36 1

ZIMBABWE: First innings

Flower lbw Allott

Carlisle c Astle b Kennedy

Whittall not out

A Flower lbw Allott

Campbell lbw Allott

Wishart b Larsen

H Streak b Cairns

Strang not out

Extras (b-1, lb-8, nb-6, w-2)

Total (for seven wickets)

Fall of wickets: 1-5 : 2-38;

3-50; 4-138; 5-196; 6-217;

7-222.

Bowling: 0 M R W

Cairns 22 8 60 2

Allott 18 5 45 3

Kennedy 16 3 53 1

Larsen 17 7 22 1

Patel 8 0 39 0

Astle 3 1 3



Second seed Abdullah Al Rakib (L, foreground) advances his pawn against a younger opponent in the 2nd round of the national junior championships at the NSC chess room yesterday.

Star photo

## Aussies above weather

Even on a normal tour to Pakistan, visiting players have rocks and firecrackers thrown at them," Warne said. "Once I'm out on the field I'm open to a crazy act and there's not much anyone can do. Believe me, it scares me."

Warne said he faces the most difficult decision of his career, but added: "If I decide to go I'll be 100 per cent committed."

Sri Lankan team members have said there is strong anti-Australian feeling at home regarding Muralitharan issue.

Fast bowler Craig McDermott

## Simpson back on TV

LOS ANGELES, Jan 21: O Simpson will appear on the black entertainment television cable network on Wednesday for his first formal TV interview since his acquittal, but questions will largely be limited to his life after the verdict, a network official said, reports Reuter.

The hour-long interview will take place two days after the start of Simpson's much-anticipated deposition in the wrongful-death civil lawsuit filed against him by the families of murder victims Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman.

"My worry is there will be a few hot-heads who might do something really nasty," Warne said in a column he writes for the Sydney Sun-Herald newspaper.

Warne was one of three Australian players to accuse former Pakistan captain Salim Malik of trying to bribe them during tour in October, 1994.

Malik was cleared by an internal judicial inquiry after Australian officials refused to allow the three players to fly to Pakistan to testify.

As a result, Simpson will be thrust into the public spotlight in a way not seen since Oct 3, 1995, when a mostly black jury cleared him of the murders of his ex-wife and her friend.

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"If there's majority of people who want to go we'll be going. It's like the Olympics: participation is what it's all about."

Australian Cricket Board chief executive Graham Hall and ABC chairman Denis Rogers arrived back from a fact-finding mission to India and Sri Lanka last week.

They have told the players they'll have 24-hour bodyguards and increased protection during the six-week tournament.

"At this stage there's no problem, but we'd just like to get everyone together to get everyone's views out and see, if there is a problem," Taylor said.

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