

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT raquetball is a game similar to handball but played with a racket. The game was developed in the USA in the 1950s and is now a popular game throughout America.

Handball was originally an Irish game, brought to the States by the large number of immigrants. Incidentally, the first international handball match was played in 1887 between the Irish champion John Lawlor meeting US champion Phil Casey.

You thought you spotted an error there: individuals playing handball matches? But Irish handball is like that. Casey was the first World champion, a title he held till his retirement in 1900.

SPORTS TALK



Conchita Martinez

(Spanish tennis player)
"Life is like tennis. Good times, bad times. When I play good I'm happiest."

SPORTS

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-54

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Competition closes : 8 pm
October 11, 1996

1 How many Tests has Wasim Akram played to capture 300 wickets?
80 70 60

2 The man-of-the-series in the Sahara Cup was
Kumble Mushtaq Srinath

3 The final round of the Meril U-16 national football championship will be held in
Natore Bogra Pabna

4 The new Indian cricket coach is
Madan Lal Arun Lal Gavaskar

5 The captain of Bangladesh hockey team is
Harun Sadeq Alamgir

Name: _____

Class: _____ Roll No. _____

School Address: _____

Phone: (If any): _____

Jansher reaches quarters

DOHA, Oct 8: Seven times world champion Jansher Khan endured a marathon struggle before reaching the quarterfinals of the Qatar International on Monday, and then launched an angry attack on opponent Ahmed Barada of Egypt, reports Reuter.

Jansher beat Barada 15-10, 15-13, 14-15, 8-15 and 15-9 in a one and a half hour match, but then criticised his rival's tactics.

"I've played him three times now and there's always a problem with him because he blocks me a lot," said the Pakistani who is bidding to win the title for a fifth consecutive year.

Earlier, Peter Nicol of Scotland, seeded fourth, was beaten by France's Julien Bonetot. World 17th ranked Bonetot won 15-12, 15-13, 15-8.

Gate receipts Tk 61 lakh

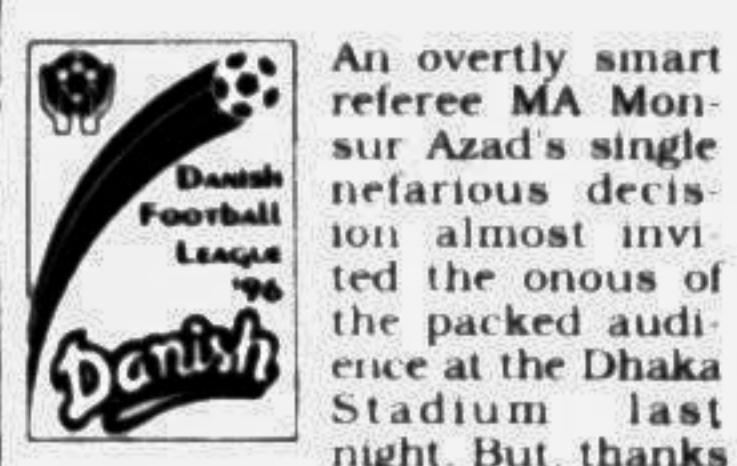
Sports Reporter

The Mahanagar Football League Committee sold tickets worth Taka seven lakh twenty thousand (72,000) in yesterday's Danish Premier Division football league match between Mohammedan Sporting Club and Abahani. According to a league committee official, 35,000 gallery tickets and 500 VIP tickets were sold on Tuesday.

With the amount, the league committee's total sale stands at Taka 61.26.310 (sixty-one lakh twenty-six thousand three hundred and ten) from the first leg of the two-phase league this year including six lakh from the sale of season tickets.

Biplob Abahani's saviour

Sports Reporter



An overtly smart referee MA Mansur Azad's single nefarious decision almost invited the onus of the packed audience at the Dhaka Stadium last night. But, thanks to a bizarre display by both Mohammedans and Abahani Krira Chakra, the 59th clash of the two heavyweights in the domestic football ended in a goalless draw, much to the relief of the organisers. A win by either may have sparked off trouble.

Monsur, who was there in the middle to conduct the last league match of phase one of the double-leg Danish Premier League between the two arch-rivals, flushed the dreaded red card to Abahani's Jahangir not only stole the limelight, but had effectively marked the gloss and mirth of a match that drew thousands to the stadium and millions to their TV sets across the country.

In an eye-sore of an encounter with both Mohammedans and Abahani adopting tough tackling from the word 'go', the Dhaka derby once again turned out to be a physical showdown, leaving Monsur to buckle under pressure four minutes from the short whistle when Mohammedan midfielder Arman and Jahangir got entangled in a tussle following a foul. But Monsur, who was standing nearby, instead of sending both the culprits out of the field, in a display of double standards, patted Arman with a yellow card against the harshness of Jahangir's marching order.

The decision prompted a sharp reaction in the Abahani tent when all the players and a couple of officials encircled the man with the whistle in protest against the decision. In tandem, the strong band of sky blue supporters vented their anger by pelting missiles, leaving the match suspended for seven minutes. And, when the match resumed Monsur blew the short whistle without allowing any injury time.

Incidentally, this was not the only incident Monsur failed to tackle. Earlier, in the 35th minute Mohammedans South Korean coach Man Young Kang called his players for an unschedule discussion for about two minutes without any intervention from Monsur, who at that moment appeared like a man-on-looker.

After the breather, Monsur's role was of shameless compensation in favour of a ten-man Abahani.

Apart from Monsur's playing a major part in the match, it was the worst engagement so far in this year's league.

Defending champions Abahani Krira Chakra, who were without their striker Mizan (Abahani), Muktijoddha, 5 goals - Alfaz (Mohammedan), Tutul (Agrani Bank), 4 goals - Rakib (Abahani), Roxy (Arambagh), 3 goals - Reaz (Muktijoddha), Towhid (Farashgan), Jamal (Brothers Union) and Sourav Majumdar (East End).

Ranjan floated a low cross from the left, but Alfaz's right footer narrowly missed the mark.

Eight minutes later, Iqbal blasted a sudden 30 yarder, prompting the young Abahani custodian Biplob to make a glorious save.

In the 22nd minute, Mohammedans got the easiest chance to break the evening's duck. But, midfielder Manik, who had Biplob at his mercy, drove the ball miles over the cross-piece much to the horror of his teammates and fans.

After surviving those early calls, Abahani created their first chance in the 25th minute. But Rakib's successive flag-kicks were thwarted by defender Jewel Rana and the custodian.

In the 33rd minute Arman, who will miss the next match for conceding his third yellow card in the league, tested the flamboyant Biplob with a gen of a long-range shot which the latter parried by diving to his left.

Biplob, a confident youngster under the bar, once again came to his side's rescue in the 72nd minute when he gripped a 40 yarder free kick from Ranjan in his second attempt.

Earlier, in the 69th minute Partho saved Abahani from imminent danger when the agile left back thwarted an Arman grounder from the goal-line for a corner.

With this draw Mohammedans raised their tally to 23 points on completion of the first leg engagements, two points clear from their arch-rivals Abahani, who are trailing them with 21 points from nine league matches.

Red card: Jahangir (Abahani) in Limited.

Yellow cards: Arman, Iqbal, Manik (Mohammedan) and Hassan Munna. Swapna (Abahani).

ABAHANI KC: Biplob, Hasan Mamun, Munna (Barun), Sohel Reza, Partha, Swapna, Aung (Ali Mansoor), Rakib, Mamun Joardar, Ruma (Aslam) and Jahangir.

MOHAMMEDAN SC: Ponir, Mansoor (Sabbir), Ruhul Amin, Jewel Rana, Manwar Munna, Rajani, Iqbal, Manik, Arman, Ranjan and Alfaz (Kaiser).

Referee: Mansur Azad.



JAHANGIR dismissed not won a league match against Abahani since 1988.

Specially, in the second half, the shaky Mohammedans played like an ordinary outfit despite the presence of Shabir, who came in the second half in a bid to bolster the black and white attacks.

Still, Mohammedans got a couple of chances in both the halves. In the seventh minute

PREMIER DIV STANDINGS

Teams	M	W	D	L	GF	GA	Points
Mohammedan SC	9	7	2	0	15	6	23
Abahani	9	6	3	0	18	4	21
Muktijoddha Sangsads	9	5	2	2	12	6	17
Farashganj SC	9	4	2	3	6	6	14
YMC Fakirpore	9	3	4	2	5	5	13
Brothers Union	9	3	2	4	7	5	11
Arambagh KS	9	2	1	6	7	11	7
Agrani Bank SC	9	1	3	5	9	15	6
East End Club	9	1	3	5	8	19	6
Bangladesh Boys Club	9	1	2	6	6	5	5

Hattrick: Mizan (Abahani) against Wari Club.
Leading goalscorers: 6 goals - Mizan (Abahani), Nakib (Muktijoddha), 5 goals - Alfaz (Mohammedan), Tutul (Agrani Bank), 4 goals - Rakib (Abahani), Roxy (Arambagh), 3 goals - Reaz (Muktijoddha), Towhid (Farashganj), Jamal (Brothers Union) and Sourav Majumdar (East End).

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Sports WHIZZ KID competition-54

Post-match reaction

Ref a thorn 'tween two roses

Sports Reporter

An angry coach Imtiaz Sulthan Johnny said he had never seen such poor refereeing in his life as in yesterday's Danish Premier Division football league match against Mohammedan Sporting Club when Referee Mansur Azad blew the whistle.

Talking to reporters after the crucial match, a frustrated Munna said, "The referee had violated all the norms of football by allowing Mohammedans to take time out during the match which is absolutely unbelievable. And, when I asked the referee why he had not taken any action against that, he stood in silence," Johnny added.

"If the authority does not arrange foreign referees in the return leg, we will think again before joining the league because we can not pull on with him," Johnny added.

When asked whether he supported the decision of the referee to send Jahangir out and show Arman the yellow card, the Mohammedan manager declined to comment.

Finally, Johnny said he was

not at all happy with his team's performance. "My team didn't play soccer in the second half. They failed to take the advantage of superiority in numbers."

Jewel Rana, the Mohammedan skipper had no complaints against the referee. While expressing his guarded comments about last night's affair, the national defender said, "The refereeing was all right except on a few occasions but that is part of the game and we can not pull on with him," Johnny added.

When asked why he left the ground for sometime in the first half, the tall MSC captain said, "We did that to protest the refereeing. He was not doing any justice to us and we wanted to tell him that. That's why we left the ground."

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