

Div I soccer

Sports Reporter
Badda Jagarani Sangsad registered their fifth win in the First Division football league...

Resounding win for MSC

BRIEF SCORES

MOHAMMEDAN SC: 212 all out in 49.4 overs (Selim Sahed 63, Nasir Ahmed 33, S Mahmood 27, Rafique 16; Bobby 3/30, Tillekarante 2/22)
LALMATIA CLUB: 108 all out in 43.4 overs (Pial 35, Bipalab 31, A Hanif 10, Sumon 4/23, Dulu 2/13, S Mahmood 2/19)
Result: Mohammedan SC won by 104 runs.

Batting first the Mohammedans were all out for 212 in 49.4 overs. Thanks largely to a fine 63 by Selim Shahed who played 91 balls and hit five fours. Wicketkeeper Nasir Ahmed Nasu contributed 33 runs while Sajid Hasan scored 27.



Boby of Lalmatia took three for 30 runs, H Tillekarante and Torik took two wickets each giving away 22 and 42 runs respectively. In reply, Lalmatia Club were bundled out for 108 in 43.4 overs with number seven batsman Pial scoring the highest 35 not out.

Lalmatia lost six wickets with the score on 37. Morshad Ali Sumon of MSC was the wrecker in chief with four for 23 while, Dulu bagged two for 13 and Shahed Mahmud two for 19. In the other match, Victoria Sporting Club beat Surjo Tarun by 10 runs at the Dhanmondi Cricket Club ground despite a hurricane century by Shahid Sayeed. The Pakistani all-rounder scored a 82-ball 111 that included 15 boundaries.

Batting first Victoria were all out for 221 in 47.4 overs. Opening batsman Moniruzzaman Moni was the top scorer with 86 in 120 balls, including six fours. Moni's partner Nasir Khan made 47 while Asgar Khan chipped in with 35. Anisur Rahman bagged three for 34 while Shamsul Huda, Shahid Sayeed and Nadeem Yunus took one wicket each. In reply, Surjo Tarun Club were all out for 212 in 46.2 overs. Apart from Sayeed, Biplob scored 45. Al Amin (Jr) took two wickets for 31 runs while Al Amin (Sr), Nasir Khan and Lal took one each.

Organisers in sponsor crisis

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 5: With gloomy economic prospects, organisers for the 16th Commonwealth Games said Friday they were having problems getting local sponsors for the event's debut in Asia. With our current economic situation, it might be difficult for us to get local sponsors, said Hashim Mohd Ali, executive chairman of Sukom Ninety Eight, the company contracted by the Malaysian government to organise the Commonwealth Games. Only 18 local companies have so far agreed to put in sponsorship money, Hashim said. The rise in cost of imports because of the depreciated ringgit is expected to lead to lower profits for most Malaysian companies next year. On Friday, the government announced it was revising its 1996 growth projection by half to about four per cent. "But we are still trying to find more local companies," he said. Several foreign companies, such as German manufacturing giant Siemens and Swiss watchmaker Swatch, have confirmed sponsorship, he said, helping the organisers raise 87 per cent of the required budget. Hashim said Sukom had divided up broadcasting rights to foreign media organisations, such as the British Broadcasting Corporation, the Australian Broadcasting Radio and Hong Kong's Star TV. These companies have agreed to pay in foreign currencies, many of which have appreciated nearly 40 per cent against the Malaysian ringgit in the past few months. To raise additional funds, the organisers are selling a Commonwealth Games CD-ROM and auctioning Sukom license plates for cars, selling stamps, bamboo carvings, aboriginal pottery and bead necklaces.



Surjo Tarun's Pakistani middle-order Shahid Sayeed cuts the ball during yesterday's Janakantha Premier Division league encounter against Victoria at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium. —Star photo

Bangladesh in World Youth Cup finals

BRIEF SCORES

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: 243 for eight in 50 overs (Rarua Dikna 51, Chris Ali 45, Richard 31, Extras 35, Tanveer 3/29, Sabbar 2/27)
BANGLADESH: 274 not out in 43.5 overs ( Rashidul 46, Mushfiq 44, Hanifan 43, Towhid 16, Ahsanullah 14, Gim Pali 3/46)
Result: Papua New Guinea won by 21 runs.

in 50 overs, failed to rise to the occasion as they were all out for 214 in 43.5 overs. Middle-order Rashidul Haque, Mushfiq and opener Hannan Sarkar produced some gutsy batting. Rashidul scored highest 46 off 63 balls inclusive of seven boundaries followed by Mushfiq who chipped in with 44 off only 40 balls which also included seven fours. Besides, Hannan, who lost his inform partner Sejan (8) on 31, contributed 43. In his 41-ball stay at the crease, hit one six and six fours. Earlier, sent into bat, PNG amassed the total losing eight wickets in 50 overs with one down Rarua Dikna hammering the highest 51 from 69 deliveries. Poor fielding by the Bangladeshis boys also gave PNG a valuable 37 as extras. Besides, middle-order Chris Ali (45) and Richard (31) were the other notable run-getters. Leg spinner Tanveer, who finished with three for 29, was the most successful Bangladeshi bowler while skipper Sabbar Khan captured two for 27. Both teams meet once again in tomorrow's final.

Bangladesh youth cricket team has qualified for the World Youth Cup although they lost their last second round match of the Asian qualifiers against Papua New Guinea by 21 runs in Hong Kong yesterday. The loss left the under-20 cricketers in second place, which was enough for a berth in the final round to be held in South Africa early next year, ahead of Hong Kong on a superior run-rate while the result enabled PNG to finish the round on top of the table. In a hard fought match, the Bangladeshis, chasing a commanding PNG total of 243

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JU cricket

Sports Reporter
Department of History moved into the semifinals of the Jahangirnagar University inter-department cricket championship with a 28-run victory over Department of Botany played at the varsity central playground yesterday. Batting first in a 35-over-a-side affair History scored 134 before they were all out in 32.5 overs. Chayan topcored with 70 while Chandan and Mukul added 13 and 12 runs respectively. In reply, Botany were restricted to 106 for eight in their stipulated 35 overs with Chanchal contributing highest 36. Prober of History was the most successful bowler taking three wickets for 15 runs.

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Nat'l b'ball

KHULNA, Dec 5: Bangladesh Air Force defeated Rajshahi District by 119-46 points in the Europa Cup 20th national basketball championship at the local stadium here today, reports BSS. Sharif of the airmen scored the highest 52 points followed by Hafiz with 26 points. In another match, Bangladesh Army beat Chandpur District 148-64. Mostafa scored 34 points followed by Rahim with 31 points for the armymen.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Janakantha Premier Division cricket league: Abahani KC vs Wari Club (Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium)
First Division cricket league: Bangladesh Railway vs Orient SC (City Club ground)
Premier Division football league: Muktiyoddha Sangsad KC vs Agrani Bank (Mirpur Stadium, 2 pm)
Abahani KC vs Arambagh KS (Mirpur Stadium, 4 pm)
First Division football league: Mirpur Chalantrika vs Dhanmondi Club (Army Stadium, 2:30 pm)

Andre invited

ADELAIDE, Dec 5: Former No. 1-ranked Andre Agassi will play in the Australian men's hardcourt tennis championships after receiving a wildcard entry Friday, reports AP.

Akram aims at Imran's feat

KARACHI, Dec 5: Pakistan captain Wasim Akram wants to make cricket history by completing a 3-0 clean sweep of the series against the West Indies in the third Test which begins here Saturday, reports AFP. Akram wants to match the legendary Imran Khan as Pakistan's only captain to win all the Tests in a series and end Pakistan's golden jubilee

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A goalmouth action from yesterday's Premier Division league encounter between defending champions Mohammedans and Victoria at the Mirpur Stadium. —Star photo

SA-NZ tie today

Sports Reporter
Stephen Flemming's beleaguered New Zealand will be looking forward to salvage some pride when they take on a high flying South Africa in their opening match of the Carlton and United World Series Cup at the Adelaide Oval today.

South Africa with Thursday's emphatic win over Australia will start favourites but the Kiwis with a proven limited-overs track record can spring in a surprise on any given day. The announcement came after the 24-year-old broke free from the pressures of captaincy by smashing a glorious 148 on the second day of the third Test against Sri Lanka here. Tendulkar's 14th Test century before his home crowd at the Wankhede Stadium silenced a growing army of critics — including some selectors — who believed his batting had fallen apart in recent months. The selectors, however, failed to decide whether Tendulkar should continue to open in one-day matches, or bat lower down the order. Indian cricket board secretary Jayant Lale said Tendulkar's batting place would be decided when the selectors picked the 14-man squad today. Tendulkar's 12 one-day centuries have come as an opener, but his recent record of 882 runs from 31 innings convinced the selectors he was better off going in at number four. Tendulkar himself was unconcerned. "The main thing is to bat well and see India win. It does not matter whether you open or not. I am very comfortable opening the innings in one-day matches, but an also prepared to adjust if the team needs it." India will take on arch-rivals Pakistan, the West Indies and England in the Sharjah tournament from December 11 to 19. The one-dayers against Sri Lanka will be played in India from December 22 to 28.

Tendulkar retained

BOMBAY, Dec 5: India's cricket selectors on Thursday ended speculation over Sachin Tendulkar's future as captain by retaining him for the upcoming four-nations Champions Trophy in Sharjah and three subsequent one-dayers against Sri Lanka, reports AFP. The announcement came after the 24-year-old broke free from the pressures of captaincy by smashing a glorious 148 on the second day of the third Test against Sri Lanka here. Tendulkar's 14th Test century before his home crowd at the Wankhede Stadium silenced a growing army of critics — including some selectors — who believed his batting had fallen apart in recent months. The selectors, however, failed to decide whether Tendulkar should continue to open in one-day matches, or bat lower down the order. Indian cricket board secretary Jayant Lale said Tendulkar's batting place would be decided when the selectors picked the 14-man squad today. Tendulkar's 12 one-day centuries have come as an opener, but his recent record of 882 runs from 31 innings convinced the selectors he was better off going in at number four. Tendulkar himself was unconcerned. "The main thing is to bat well and see India win. It does not matter whether you open or not. I am very comfortable opening the innings in one-day matches, but an also prepared to adjust if the team needs it." India will take on arch-rivals Pakistan, the West Indies and England in the Sharjah tournament from December 11 to 19. The one-dayers against Sri Lanka will be played in India from December 22 to 28.

Marvan misses the mark

BOMBAY, Dec 5: Marvan Atapattu hit a defiant 98 today to steer Sri Lanka towards safety in the third and final cricket Test against India, reports AFP. The Sri Lankans, replying to India's mammoth first innings score of 512, ended the third day on 286 for five, needing only 27 runs more to avoid the embarrassment of the follow-on. Atapattu, who hit a century in the first Test, missed a second ton by two runs when he played a defensive shot off-spinning Rajesh Chauhan into the hands of Ajay Jadeja at silly point. Atapattu and nightwatchman Kumara Dharmasena, who resumed at the overnight score of 66 for one, thwarted India's bid to snatch the initiative with a 115-run stand for the second wicket. The pair batted through the morning session, before Dharmasena was dismissed after lunch for 40, caught by Anil Kumble at mid-on off Chauhan. Sri Lanka were 219 for two before India struck three times late in the day to open up possibilities of a close finish on a Wankhede Stadium wicket which finally showed signs of breaking up. Roshan Mahanama was caught at gully off seamer Venkatesh Prasad for 20, before Chauhan removed Atapattu and captain Arjuna Ranatunga in quick succession. Aravinda De Silva, 48 not out, the scourge of Indian bowlers over the last year, however saw off the day in the company of Hasan Tillekarante, who was unbeaten on four.

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SCOREBOARD

Table with columns for CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer and CRYPTOQUIP. Includes crossword clues and a grid.

Mohammedans keep it up

Sports Reporter
Holders Mohammedan Sporting Club recorded their second successive win in the return leg of the Premier Division league with a 2-0 victory over promoted Victoria Sporting Club at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday. In a one-sided affair, forward Alfaz and midfielder Askar Babu struck one goal each. The first half ended 1-0. Mohammedans, buoyed by their hard-fought 3-2 victory against Rahmatganj on December 1, dominated their opponents who on Tuesday upset Abahani Krira Chakra 2-0. Forward Alfaz put the black and whites ahead in the 27th minute. The margin could have been doubled after 12 minutes had Don's left footer from an Alfaz pass not missed near post. Victoria's only chance in the

first half to equalise came in the 34th minute when Faye Babu blasted a powerful volley from a Rinku cross. But it was brilliantly headed off the line by Faisal. After the breather, Mohammedans stepped up a gear and it resulted in Askar heading home a Ladi Baba corner from the left side in the 72nd minute. Alfaz and Askar have scored five goals each in the league so far. Overall, it was the seventh win for Mohammedans in 11 matches which gave them a temporary one-point lead over Muktiyoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra having raised their tally to 24 points. Victoria suffered their fifth defeat and have ten points. Yellow cards: Manik and Sujon (Victoria SC)
TEAMS
MOHAMMEDAN SC: Ponir, Faisal, Nazrul Munna Senior, Askar Babu, Ladi Baba, Munna Junior, Arman (Azim), Don, Bode Baba (Ranjan) and Alfaz.
VICTORIA SC: Shimul, Jahangir, Farhad, Tuhin (Taju/Pavel), Faye Babu, Sujon, Sumon, Rinku (Jilani), Fayaz and Towhid.
Referee: Ramkrishna Ghosh.

Khulna soccer

KHULNA, Dec 5: Ulka Club defeated Cosmos Eleven 4-1 in the Senior Division football league at the local stadium here today, reports BSS. After a goalless first half, Ulka dominated the remaining time scoring four goals at regular intervals with Mahub scoring in the 50th and 55th minutes while Alamgir and Ranju struck the other two. Cosmos had a consolation through left winger Rabiul.

Navyman lifts swimming title

Sports Reporter
Sheikh Selim Ahmed of Bangladesh Navy clinched the Shaqlia Rang Bipati Bitan third national long-distance swimming championship yesterday. In the 12-mile long freestyle event which began from Mary Anderson Restaurant, Pagla and ended at the Mukhtarpur Ferry Ghat. Selim finished ahead of teammates Ilyas Hossain and Kowsar Ahmed who earned the second and third spot respectively. Besides, Masudur Rahman of Bangladesh Army finished fourth. State Minister for Youth and Sports inaugurated the championship and gave away the prizes among the winners.

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SCOREBOARD

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