

Div I cricket
Babu inspires
Indira Road

Sports Reporter

INDIRA ROAD KC: 158 for seven in 35 overs (Sanjay 53, Kabir 39, Shiplu 22, Lintu 21, Palash 1/20)
AMARJYOTI CLUB: 150 all out in 33.5 overs (Palash 52, Momin 26, Sumi 21, Rahul 3/30, Babu 3/34, Kabir 2/20)
Result: Indira Road KC won by eight runs.

Seamer Babu claimed three wickets for one run to inspire Indira KC to an exciting eight-run win over Amarjyoti Club in the Second Division Super league at the Dhanmondi Club ground yesterday.

Amarjyoti were required nine runs from the last ten deliveries to topple a fighting Indira total of 58 in the stipulated 35 overs then Babu stepped in to claim the last three wickets giving away only one run. The burst by Babu overshadowed a brilliant 52 from Amarjyoti's middle-order batsman Palash.

Together with Momin, Palash shared 76 runs for the fifth wicket to rescue Amarjyoti from a precarious 70 for four to 146 before Rahul ended his 56-ball vigil at the crease. The departure of Palash inflicted a stunning collapse with Amarjyoti losing their last five wickets for the addition of only four runs.

Earlier, the impressive Indira total was built around a breezy 53 from Sanjay and a polished 39 by one-down Kabir, who later did one better with the cherry claiming two wickets for 20 runs in his share of seven overs.

China retain
Dynasty Cup

TOKYO, Mar 7: Hosts Japan bowed to China 0-2 here today, dampening their World Cup warm-up, but managed to lift the Dynasty Cup for the third straight time by dint of a better goal difference, reports AFP.

Forward Li Bing scored twice while his teammates kept Japanese playmaker Hidetoshi Nakata close in check for their second victory against one loss in the four-team East Asian triennial football tournament.

South Korea, the other World Cup qualifier from Asia, barely saved face as Choi Young-Soo headed home in injury time for a 1-0 win over unfancied Hong Kong.

Japan, China and South Korea finished the round robin with two wins and one loss each. Hong Kong ended up at the bottom with three straight defeats.

But the hosts, who mauled Hong Kong 5-1 in an earlier match finished atop with a goal difference of three, against two for China and one for South Korea.

It was the first international loss for Japan since last October when Takeshi Okada took over from Shu Kamo as head coach to reverse their fortunes in their regional World Cup qualifying campaign.

Hasanuzzaman rescues airlines from certain crash
Biman top amid the bottoms

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Biman recorded a 28-run win over Surjo Tarun in a Janakantha Premier Super League encounter at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

In a 29-over-a-side affair, curtailed due to over-night rain, middle-order batsman Hasanuzzaman scored an unbeaten 47 to help Biman reach a fighting total of 136 for eight. In reply, Surjo Tarun could muster only 108 for nine before exhausting their quota of overs.

Put into bat first, the national airlines outfit were off to a disastrous start losing five wickets for only 14 runs with Tarun's new-ball bowlers Khairuzzaman and Anisur Rahman turning up the heat.

The left-right combination of the paceman-duo wrought havoc with the Biman top-order with opener Athar Ali (4) being trapped early in-front of the wicket by Khairuzzaman. The right-arm seamer then dismissed Habibul Bashar Sumon (1) and experienced Pakistani batsman Mansoor Akhtar (2) in his second and third over. In-between Anis, the discarded national left-arm medium pacer, captured the wickets of Faruque Ahmed (4) and Athar Rahman (0) to put Biman on a hot pan.

After that horrible, rather embarrassing, start Hasanuzzaman and skipper Ziaur Rashid repaired top some extent the early damage, producing what would become a match-winning 74-run partnership for the sixth wicket. The pair was broken on 88 in the 24th over when Rupom was bowled by Pakistani Nadim Younus, but not before he had contributed 35 valuable runs in-clusive of two boundaries.

Hasanuzzaman, who played sensibly, then ensured that Bi-

man reached a fighting total with am little help from Mofizur Rahman (8) and Mizanur Rahman (13). In his 63-ball undefeated vigil, Hasan hammered a sixer a four.

Khairuzzaman, who ripped through the Biman top order, finished with three for 12 while his new-ball partner Anis and



SUPER LEAGUE TABLE

Table with 5 columns: Teams, M, W, L, Points. Lists teams like Abahani KC, Mohammedan SC, Brothers Union, Kalabagan KC, Biman, Surjo Tarun Club.

Pakistani Nadim Younus evenly shared four wickets.

Surjo Tarun, in the chase, were off to a flying start with their hard-hitting Pakistani opener Nadim Younus and Zahid Razzak clobbering 47 runs in only 4.4 overs. But the departure of Nadim, who scored a blazing 37 off 17 balls with the aid of half a dozen fours and a sixer, changed the whole complexion of the game. And Surjo Tarun, who were at one stage cruising, caved in to lose their next eight wickets for the addition of only 45 runs.

It was Biman's eighth win in 14 matches. For Surjo Tarun, it was their third successive de-

SCORE BOARD

BANGLADESH BIMAN

Scoreboard table for Bangladesh Biman vs Surjo Tarun. Columns: Batsman, Runs, Balls, 4s, 6s. Includes names like Athar lbw b Khairuzzaman, Faruque c b Anis, Habibul c Shamsul b Khairuzzaman.

SURJO TARUN

Scoreboard table for Surjo Tarun. Columns: Batsman, Runs, Balls, 4s, 6s. Includes names like N Younus b Saleh, Zahid Razzak c sub b Athar, Javed c Habibul b Saleh.

Result: Bangladesh Biman won by 28 runs.

Soccer ends abruptly

Sports Reporter

A late afternoon shower brought a premature end to yesterday's Premier Division football super league clash between title aspirants Muktiyoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra and Abahani Krira Chakra at the Mirpur Stadium.

The match was called off after 38 minutes of play with both sides locked in a goalless draw. Indian referee Gopinath Pyne blew the final whistle after 40 minutes much to the frustration a few hundred soccer fans.

The match will now be played at the same venue today at 5 pm.

S Africa in new pledge to blacks

Star Sport Monitor

South Africa may bring as many as five non-white players on their tour of England this summer as a demonstration of the commitment to a non-racial side.

Ali Bacher, managing director of the United Cricket Board, gave this pledge in Port Elizabeth Friday prior to the start of the third and final Test against Pakistan after protesters had presented a petition bearing 1,000 names complaining about the lack of blacks playing at first-class level for either Test or provincial teams, reports The Electronic Telegraph.

Dr Bacher hinted that all future national sides would include at least one non-white. He said repeatedly: "In 1998 it cannot be right that South Africa field a team of whites only."

The campaigners, describing themselves as a local concerned citizens group, told board officials of their disquiet at the recall of two white South Africans - Andrew Hudson and Fanie de Villiers, both in their 30s - to the Test side rather than select the fast bowler Makhaya Ntini and batsman Herschelle Gibbs.

Matthew makes it in style

Star Sport Monitor

SYDNEY, Mar 7: Queensland batsman Matthew Hayden brought up his 10,000th run in Sheffield Shield cricket on his way to scoring a century for Queensland against South Australia today, reports Reuters.

The former Test batsman reached the milestone when he made it to 25 then went on to score 101 before he was finally dismissed.

Hayden's century also helped Queensland, the defending Shield champions, to reach a commanding position on the third day of their match at Adelaide Oval.

When play ended, Queensland were 270 for six and leading by 236 with a day to play in the penultimate round of matches.

Queensland need to win the match to have any hope of making this year's final although the joint competition leaders, Tasmania and Western Australia, were also in strong positions at Saturday's close.

Tasmania declared their first innings today at 468 for nine in reply New South Wales' 332 and had reduced the visitors to 96 for three when play ended.

Western Australia's hopes of making their third straight final also received a timely boost after they took a tight grip on their match against Victoria in Perth.

Western Australia declared their second innings closed at 388 for eight today, thanks to centuries from Ryan Campbell and Justin Langer.

That left Victoria chasing an unlikely victory target of 428, a mark that looked even more improbable after they slumped to 151 for four at the close.

Juergen says goodbye to Spurs

LONDON, Mar 7: Juergen Klinsmann announced on Friday he will leave Tottenham Spurs at the end of the season due to his row with coach Christian Gross, reports Xinhua.

Klinsmann had a tunnel bust-up with Gross after last week's 1-0 win over Bolton.

The veteran German captain, who has capped 100 times, announced earlier this year that he is to quit international soccer after the World Cup.

But the German promised to play his best in the remaining season when the Premiership club is struggling to avoid relegation.

Klinsmann, who has the reputation as speaking out his mind, ended his previous spell at Tottenham in May 1995 with a row with chairman Alan Sugar.

Kaiserslautern stay on course

BONN, Mar 7: German First Division leaders Kaiserslautern earned a precious point with a 1-1 draw at Werder Bremen in an emotional match for coach Otto Rehagel on Friday, reports Reuters.

Rehagel, a hero in Bremen since turning the club from a provincial side into European heavyweights during his 14-year spell there, was offered red roses when he entered the Weser Stadium.

But the Kaiserslautern team boss, returning as a coach to Bremen for the first time since leaving in 1995, soon realised there would be no more gifts from his former club.



Indian referee Gopinath Pyne (C) calls off the Abahani-Muktiyoddha Sangsad match after discussion with the team captains at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

De Villiers calls it a day

PORT ELIZABETH, Mar 7: South African swing bowler Fanie de Villiers announced he was retiring from first-class cricket today, reports Reuters.

The 33-year-old veteran, who made the announcement on the second day of South Africa's third Test against Pakistan, said the time was right to retire.

"I have been playing first-class cricket for 11 years and I've always believed the time to retire is when some people might still miss you. I hope that is the case now," De Villiers told a news conference after the day's play was washed out at St. George's Park.

De Villiers said he would finish the current match — his 18th Test — and would be available for his province, Northern Titans, for their final four-day match of the season next week. Then he would quit for good.

De Villiers is one of three squad members facing a disciplinary hearing after the current Test, following allegations that he, Pat Symcox and fitness trainer Paddy Upton racially abused Indian spectators supporting Pakistan at the second Test in Durban last week.

All three vigorously deny the charges and say they welcome the hearing. De Villiers denied his retirement had anything to do with the charge.

Having toured Sri Lanka in

the 1993-94 season ostensibly as a one-day bowler, De Villiers made a dramatic impact in Test cricket a few months later when South Africa toured Australia. He made his debut in the rain-ruined first Test at the MCG but will always be remembered for the lead role he played in his country's stunning five-run victory in the second Test in Sydney.

He took his second 10-wicket haul in the one-off Test against Pakistan in Johannesburg in 1995 and, before the current match in which he has still to bowl, had taken 77 wickets in 17 Tests at an average of 26.16.

His batting, too, was effective, unorthodox and always entertaining. He made two half centuries in a total of 358 runs at an average of 19.88, employing his trademark reverse sweep at every available opportunity.

"He is a very special South African," said United Cricket Board chief Ali Bacher. "He has raised thousands of rands for cancer research, amongst many other charities, and he will always be remembered for his determination and conviction."

"There are many people for me to thank, especially my family who I haven't spent much time with in the last four or five years. I'll be at home from now on... I have to spend time at home," De Villiers said.

Bacher said De Villiers would become the UCB's ambassador and motivator at a series of cricket schools planned for disadvantaged areas in South Africa.



DE VILLIERS

Rose in line for a recall

Star Sport Monitor

Jamaica fast bowler Franklyn Rose may be back in action when the West Indies take on England in the fifth Test starting at Kensington Oval next Thursday.

The 26-year-old Rose, who was named in the 13-man squad for the first three Test matches, never got into the final eleven and was left out of the squad for the fourth Test, appears set to be part of a four-pronged pace attack for the traditionally fast and bouncy Kensington pitch, according to a report of The Jamaica Gleaner newspaper from Bridgetown.

Right-arm leg-spinner Dinanath Ramnarine, who made his debut in the fourth Test and enjoyed a successful first innings, will almost certainly not be in the line-up, and so it appears, neither will pacer Ian Bishop who was selected for the Bourda Test ahead of fast bowler Nixon because of what expected to be a slow pitch, and according to the selectors, because of his experience.

Apart from the fact the Kensington Oval pitch will be kind to the faster bowlers, but for a few good deliveries in his first spell at Bourda, Bishop did not bowl well.

"Will Rose be in for the fifth Test?" "I cannot answer that," said Wes Hall, chairman of the selection committee, yesterday.

"There are five of us selecting the team. I don't know what the final XI will be, but I expect Rose to be in the squad. Jamaica is not in action in this round of the President's Cup, but I hope he is training."

The general feeling in Barbados is that unless something unexpected happens, unless someone does something really outstanding, the four bowlers for the fifth Test, at Kensington Oval should be Courtney Walsh, McLean and Rose.

Rose has taken 26 wickets in nine Test matches - including six against India in his first innings, and as it was in Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana, cricket fans in Barbados are asking these questions.

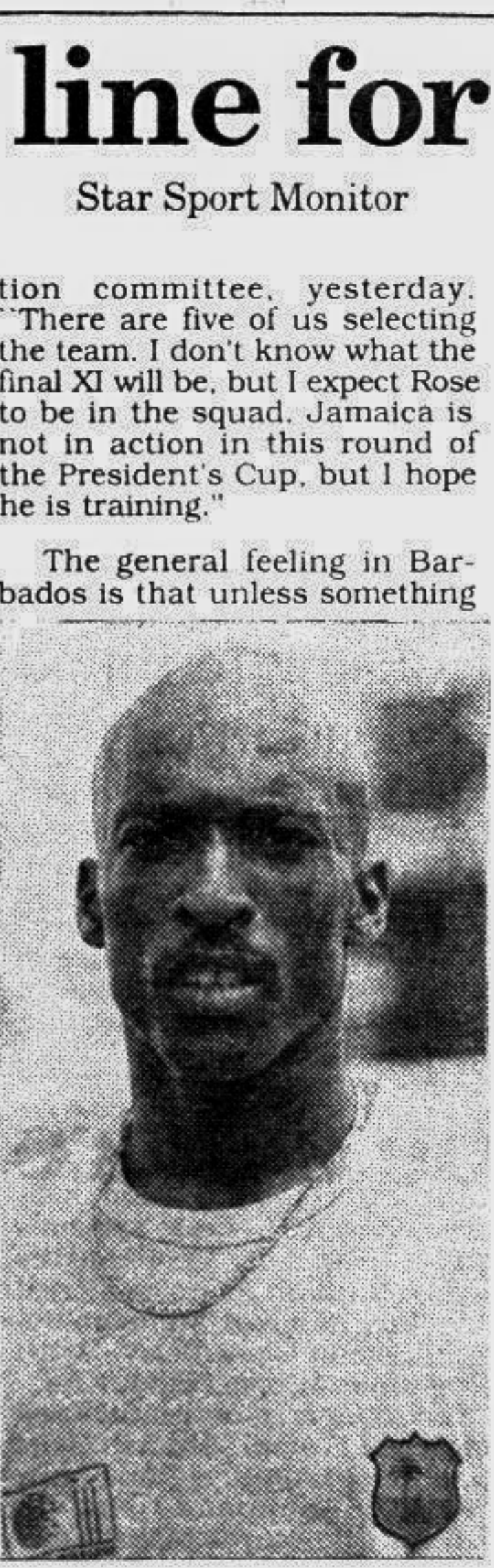
What has happened to Franklyn Rose, why is he not playing? Has he done somebody something?

The selectors have said nothing, but apart from his omission in Jamaica when Mervyn Dillon and McLean were selected ahead of him and when Bishop came in for an injured Dillon, it appears that it has been 'horses for courses'.

It is understood Kenneth Benjamin was called in for the two matches at Queen's Park Oval because of the grass on the pitch and his ability to get the ball to seam, and Ramnarine and Bishop were used in the Bourda match because of the slow pitch.

If it comes down to 'horses for courses', then it should be McLean and Walsh with their skill and experience, McLean and Rose with their pace for the Kensington pitch.

Source: The Jamaica Gleaner



FRANKLYN ROSE

EU hopes against hope

BRUSSELS, Mar 7: The European Union said Friday it will not seek a redistribution of World Cup tickets already allocated, making sure instead that the limited amount of seats still available will get a more equitable and international spread, reports AP.

Even though the executive commission of the 15-nation EU maintained that the largest share of World Cup tickets already has been sold through a system unfairly favouring the French, it said it would not spend energy on a lost cause.

"To recover (tickets), we would have to run after a million French," EU Commission spokesman Stefan Rating said.

France holds the championship from June 10 to July 12. Instead, the commission has been "discussing solutions to assure that all tickets still available to the 'grand public' will be distributed on equal conditions to all supporters."

The commission said it held "constructive talks" with the

World Cup organising committee, known by its French acronym CFCO, late Thursday and stressed it was "confident" the CFCO will come up with a fair system for the remaining tickets by the time both sides convene in Brussels next week.

Overall, 2.5 million tickets went on sale for the 64 matches. A minority of tickets remained on sale, although it remained unclear how large it was.

Even though the commission can impose heavy fines on any organisation contravening fair trade rules, Rating said slapping fines on the CFCO was not a key point for the EU.

Under the current conditions, 65 per cent of tickets are to be sold in France while at most 20 per cent are reserved for the qualifying nations.

England, Germany, the Netherlands, Austria and Belgium all have been very vocal in their demand for more tickets. Some of the federations have up to 10 times the requests for tickets than there are seats available.

But Rating said the national soccer federations should have

Leadership course ends

A five-day long Olympic solidarity sports leadership course under the auspices of Bangladesh Olympic Association was concluded yesterday, reports BSS.

Lt Gen (ret'd) M Mahabur Rahman, president, Bangladesh Olympic Association, was the chief guest and gave away certificates among the participants.

REGRETS

Due to space constraint our regular item CROSSWORD could not be accommodated. — Sports Editor

RHD Tender Invitation Notice

- Sealed tenders are invited through Bangladesh Form No 2911.
1. Tender Notice No : 03/Executive Engineer/R&H/Sherpur/1997-98.
2. Name of work : Different works at different kms of different roads under Sherpur Road Division during 1997-98 financial year.
3. Head of expenditure : As per group list.
4. Estimated cost : As per group list.
5. Earnest money : As per group list.
6. Prescribed time : As per group list.
7. Eligibility of contractor : RHD enlisted as per financial & zonal eligibility as per group list.
8. Name of offices where tender can be collected from : Executive Engineer (R&H), Road Division, Sherpur/Jamalpur/Mymensingh/Tangail/Kishoreganj/Netrakona and Sub-Divisional Engineer (R&H), Sherpur.
9. Name of offices where tender will be received at : Superintending Engineer (R&H), Mymensingh Road Circle, Mymensingh, Executive Engineer (R&H), Road Division, Sherpur/Jamalpur/Mymensingh/Tangail/Kishoreganj/Netrakona.
10. Last date & time of selling tender : 15-03-98 up to office hours.
11. Date & time of receiving tender : 16-03-98 up to 12-30 PM.
12. Date & time of opening tender : 22-03-98 at 11-00 AM.
13. Date & time of lottery (if applicable) : 24-03-98 at 11-00 AM.
14. Name of work and group list

Table with 7 columns: Group No, Name of work, Head of expenditure, Estimated cost, Earnest money, Price of tender document including Form No-2911, Prescribed time, Eligibility of contractor. Lists construction work for road embankment and tow-wall protection.

NB: A) Collecting tenders received at other tender receiving offices (if any) in sealed condition (unopened) all together will be opened at the office of the Executive Engineer (R&H), Road Division, Sherpur on the prescribed date & time of opening.
B) The tender is invited prior to approval of estimate of the tender. Contract of formal tender will be executed & work order issued on the basis of quantity of work & rate of estimate to be approved by the authority.
C) If under any circumstance, the above date of selling, receiving, opening tender is declared a Govt holidays, then it will be decided on the next office opening day. No further notice besides this will be issued.

Md Harunur Rashid
Executive Engineer (R&H)
Sherpur Road Division, Sherpur