

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT the oldest player to play Test cricket was Wilfred Rhodes. He was 52 years 165 days old when he played for England against the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica, on April 12, 1930. And he was no ordinary player.

These days you could not become a cricket commentator at that age. Well, I don't know about Sunny!

Of course, we could stretch the age factor just a wee bit when it comes to first-class cricket. And the oldest player to don a first-class cap was the Governor of Bombay, Raja Maharaj Singh, who was 72 years 192 days old when he went out to bat for his eleven against Commonwealth XI at Bombay, India, on November 25, 1950. I never found out whether he selected himself into the team or not.

These days you do not listen to commentary at that age. Or do you?

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-110

Tick the Correct Answers Post to Utr Daily Star Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm Jan 29 '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1. The margin of Australia's recent Ashes series win was *

3-1 4-1 4-0

2. Who is the number one player in women's tennis at the moment?

Hingis Lindsay Venus

3. The final of the 1st Asian Test Championship will be held in

Dhaka Calcutta Colombo

4. The eighth SAF Games will be held in

India Sri Lanka Nepal

5. How many teams are taking part in the Janakantha Premier cricket league?

10 12 14

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH EN-VITS ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK

Steffi Graf

(German tennis star)

"He's not involved in my tennis or my business affairs, he is just my father now."

PWCCA decides not to tour India

LUCKNOW, Jan 26: Pakistan's Women's Cricket Control Association (PWCCA) has cancelled a scheduled tour of India because of security fears, officials said on Monday, reports Reuters.

They were scheduled to play in a seven-match triangular series that also involves Sri Lanka.

The series had been organised by the Uttar Pradesh Women's Cricket Association (UPWCA) to mark 25 years of women's cricket in the state and was to begin on Wednesday.

UPWCA secretary Mohammad Nawab said she had received a letter from her counterpart in Pakistan calling off the tour on the grounds of fears for the safety of the players.

The tournament will go ahead with just India and Sri Lanka taking part.

The Pakistan men's team last week began a tour of India under heavy security after demands by the right-wing Hindu Shiv Sena party that it should not take place.



Mohammedan's Kenyan recruit Maurice Odumbe square-cuts. — Star photo

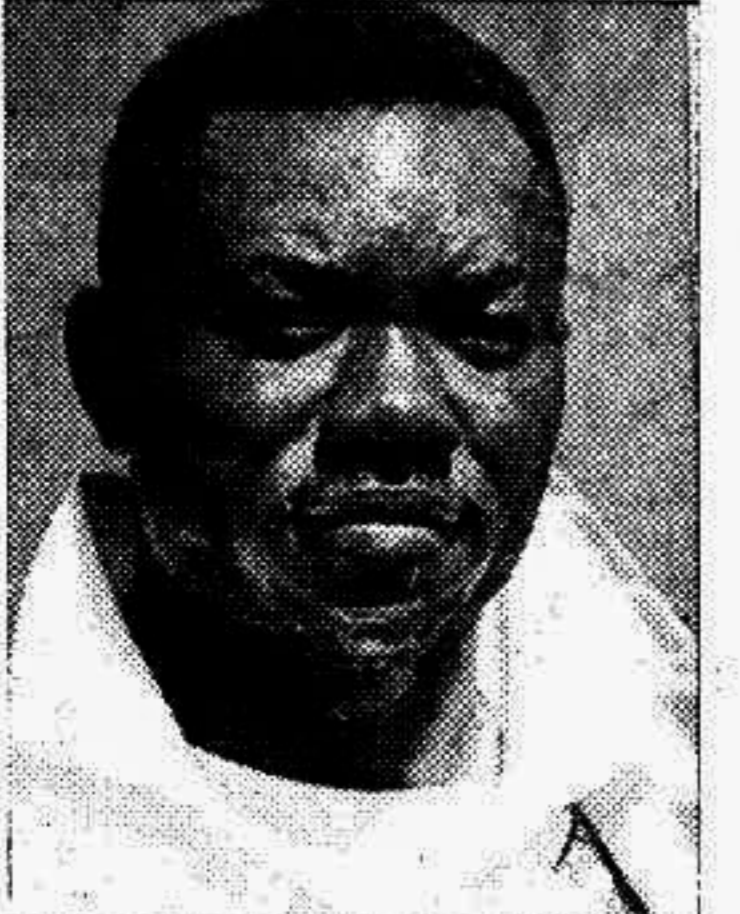
Kalabagan, Surjo Tarun mince opponents BU vie to scale Kenyan peak

Sports Reporter

Mohammedan Sporting waded long their tail to put up a fighting total against Brothers Union in a crucial Janakantha Premier Division Cricket League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The otherwise fragile Mohammedan tail produced an invaluable 44 runs as the popular Motijheel outfit recuperated from a vulnerable position to a respectable 294 before being all out with two balls to spare in their stipulated 80 overs.

While Mohammedan set Brothers a tough task for today, Surjo Tarun and Kalabagan Kirja Chakra ensured an unscheduled rest-day as they made light work of Victoria and Orient respectively in the other two games that began on the day.



TIKOLO ... 63

At the BKSP in Savar, Surjo Tarun made a mockery of a contest when the star-studded Dhanmondi outfit shot Victoria out for 68 in 24.4 overs, the lowest total in the league this season. Thanks to a five-wicket haul from right-arm seamer Sajal Chowdhury.

In reply, Surjo Tarun reached 72 in 16.2 overs with eight wickets in hand.

On the other hand, Kalabagan, aided by a five-wicket burst from their Pakistani recruit, Shahid Saeed, also recorded an identical eight-wicket win over promotes Orient Sporting at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

But the excitement on the re-opening day after the nine-day Eid break was provided at the big bowl of the two Kenyan recruits of Mohammedan, Steve Tikolo and Maurice Odumbe, scored half-centuries, much to the delight of a few hundred (unofficial) holiday makers.

The eventful day, which saw Brothers conceding a staggering 56 runs as extras, was also marked by an early lunch break after the northern breeze carried the agonising stench of tear gas from the Purana Paltan area at around 11:30 am. Apart from that stray incident, the match progressed smoothly during the hazy day.

Mohammedan won the toss in the morning and opted to bat first. But table-leaders Brothers wrested an early initiative when they removed openers Rashedul Haq and Imran Hamid in 40 minutes with the board reading only 22.

One-down Selim Shahed and Kenyan Steve Tikolo repaired the damage, putting on 42 runs for the third wicket. The partnership was broken at 64 when Selim Shahed edged a delivery from Khaled Mahmud to wicketkeeper Jahangir Alam after scoring 13.

Then came the biggest partnership of the Mohammedan innings between Tikolo and young Nasirul Alam, which added 62 runs for the fourth wicket to see Mohammedan cross the hundred mark in the 24th over.

Tikolo hammered a stroke-filled 63 off 69 balls. The prolific Kenyan right-hander took only 49 balls to complete his sixth. He smote a huge sixer and seven disdainful boundaries in his polished knock. But Tikolo departed in an unfortunate manner when he dragged the ball into his stumps while trying to hook a snorter from Aamir Hanif.

The former Pakistan inter-

national also captured the wicket of Tikolo's compatriot Odumbe, who scored a workmanlike 55 off 93 balls. It was Odumbe's second half-century after his match-winning 88 in the inaugural game against Wari.

Skipper Mohammad Rafique, who put on 43 runs for the sixth wicket with Odumbe, chipped in with 22. But the



S SAEED ... 5for 58

southpaw, who hammered a sweetly-timed straight six off off-spinner Sanuar, threw away his wicket at a stage when more responsibility was expected of him. Rafique, carried away by the sudden rush of blood, holed out at deep mid-wicket while attempting a big hit against Sanuar Hossain.

After Rafique's departure, Odumbe took the score to 250, sharing an invaluable 53-run partnership with wicketkeeper Golan Mortuza for the seventh wicket.

In the remaining six overs, Mohammedan scored 44 runs, thanks to Mortuza, who chipped in with a patient 30 off 86 balls.

The match will continue today.

At the BKSP ground, Victoria, put into bat, were bundled out for 68 in the face of some fired-up bowling from Sajal Chowdhury, who finished with magnificent figures of five for 24 from his 9.4 overs. He was ably helped by his senior new-ball partner left-arm pacer Anisur Rahman, who took three wickets for 33.

In reply, Surjo Tarun raced to 72 for two in 16.2 overs with Khaled Mahmud remaining undefeated on 26. Opener Parvez, who scored 25, was the other notable run-getter.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, opener Sajid Hassan scored an unbeaten 59 as Kalabagan, chasing a paltry Orient total of 141, reached 143 in 32.4 overs with eight wickets to spare.

Earlier, Kalabagan's Pakistani all-rounder Shahid Saeed also returned with five for 58 as Orient, sent into bat, were all out for 141 in 50.4 overs.

SCOREBOARDS

BROTHERS VS MOHAMMEDAN

(Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium)

MOHAMMEDAN

Reshedul b S Kabir 3

Imran c S Kabir b Saifuddin 5

Shahed c Jahangir b K Mahmud 13

Tikolo b A Hanif 63

BROTHERS

Surjo Tarun 72

Parvez c Kamru b Mustadir 25

Minhajul not out 7

Extras: (lb-1, nb-6, w-6) 13

Total: (For 2 wickets in 16.2 overs) 72

Fall of wickets: 1-9, 2-57

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Shahid Saeed	5	0	18	1
Saifuddin Ahmed	12	2	38	1
Khaled Masud	12	0	53	1
Zahid Ahmed	16	5	52	2
Amir Hanif	13	0	41	2
Sanwar Hossain	13	0	47	1
Imran Rahim	8.4	1	37	2

KALABAGAN VS ORIENT

(Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium)

ORIENT

Mofizul b Mushfiq 17

Jewel c Ishfaq b S Saeed 22

Narayan lbw b Mushfiq 12

Rizwan b Masudur 12

Sohail run out 14

Reaz lbw b S Saeed 14

Mizanur c b Fahim 6

Mridul b S Saeed 39

Azim lbw b S Saeed 11

Neaz not out 2

Aminul b S Saeed 0

Extras: (lb-1, nb-3, w-9) 13

Total: (All out in 50.4 overs) 141

Fall of wickets: 1-5, 2-25, 3-43, 4-51, 5-67, 6-77, 7-88, 8-118, 9-140

Bowler

Shahid Saeed 13.4 1 58 5

Mushfiqur Rahman 10 2 26 2

Saikat 9 3 13 0

Masudur Rahman 9 2 19 1

Mahim Muntasir 7 3 17 1

Abul Hasan 2 0 7 0

KALABAGAN

Harun c Mofizul b Neaz 36

Sajid not out 59

Gulam Ali b Sohail 18

Mushfiq not out 22

Extras: (lb-1, w-7) 8

Total: (For 2 wickets in 32.4 overs) 143

Fall of wickets: 1-81, 2-104

Bowler

Mizanur Rahman 5 1 13 0

Aminul Islam 2 0 16 0

Sohail Islam 8.4 1 32 1

Neazuddin 8 2 39 1

Raez Sheikh 9 0 42 0

Result: Kalabagan won by eight wickets.

SURJO TARUN VS VICTORIA

(Venue: BKSP)

VICTORIA

Imran b Anis 13

Monti c Enamul b Sajal 6

Rezaul c Anis b Sajal 5

M Elahi b Anis 19

R Hanif c K Mashud b Anis 4

Sabbir c K Mashud b Sajal 11

Mustadir not out 11

Jewel b Athar 7

Rakib c Sajal b Enamul 1

Kamru c Parvez b Sajal 3

Jakir c K Mashud b Sajal 0

Enamul Hoque 3 2 4 1

Athar Ali 3 1 7 1

SURJO TARUN

Athar c Kamru b Jazir 1

Parvez c Kamru b Mustadir 25

K Mashud not out 26

Minhajul not out 7

Extras: (lb-1, nb-6, w-6) 13

Total: (For 2 wickets in 16.2 overs) 72

Fall of wickets: 1-9, 2-57

Bowler

Jakir Hasan 6 1 23 1

Rakib Hasan 4 0 14 0

Mustadir Litu 4 0 22 1

Sabbir Khan 2.2 0 12 0

Result: Surjo Tarun won by eight wickets.

2nd SAARC Bridge Press confce today

Sports Reporter

A press conference in connection with the 2nd SAARC Bridge tournament will be held at the Dhaka Club today at 5 pm.

The date for the press conference was mentioned as February 27 in the Bangla invitation letters, an official of the tournament said last night.

Arjuna relieved for the moment

ADELAIDE, Jan 26: The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced on Tuesday it had postponed its hearing into allegations of misconduct against Sri Lanka captain Arjuna Ranatunga, reports Reuters.

ICC match referee Peter van der Merwe said in a statement the hearing was adjourned after two hours and would be reopened at a date to be fixed.

Van der Merwe was later quoted as saying on Australian television: "Certain points were raised by Mr Ranatunga's legal representatives and I thought that was the best thing to do."

Ranatunga was ordered to appear before the disciplinary panel after he was cited during Saturday's controversial limited-overs match against England.

Ranatunga was charged with conduct unbecoming an international player, showing dissent, intimidating an umpire and using abusive language, local media reported. A charge was also added by Van der Merwe relating to a captain being responsible for upholding the spirit of the laws.

Ranatunga led his players off the Adelaide Oval in protest after Australian umpire Ross Emerson called Sri Lankan off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan for throwing.

Play was halted for about 12 minutes and a visibly angry Ranatunga and Emerson could be seen pointing fingers at each other. Ranatunga also pointed his finger at van der Merwe during the delay.

On Tuesday, Emerson was stood down by the Australian Cricket Board when it was discovered he was on stress leave from his regular job.

Sri Lanka went on to post a one-wicket win last Saturday's match that also featured several clashes between players from the two teams.

Ranatunga declined to speak with local media after Tuesday's hearing was postponed.

Sri Lankan team manager Ranjit Fernando also refused to comment when the team arrived in Perth ahead of Friday's limited-overs match against England.

"Our lips are sealed", Fernando told reporters.

Asked when the hearing would be, he shrugged his shoulders and said: "Ask the match referee."

Susantika may be banned for two years

COLOMBO, Jan 26: Sri Lanka's top sprinter, Susantika Jayasinghe who is training in the United States, is likely to face a two-year ban for drug abuse, but could still compete at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, a state-run newspaper reported Tuesday, reports AP.

The Daily News said Sri Lanka's Amateur Athletics Association has been informed by the International Amateur Athletic Federation it was recommending to its International Arbitration Panel that Jayasinghe be banned for two years from the date she tested positive for a prohibited substance.

An official at the AAA reached by The Associated Press confirmed the Daily News report, but declined to give details. AAA's chief was out of the country.

The panel, scheduled to meet soon, would make a final decision, the reports said.

Bichel blows S Australia away

BRISBANE, Jan 26: Fringe Australian pace bowler Andrew Bichel took six for 54 today to lift Queensland to a 50-run win over South Australia in a Sheffield Shield match at the Gabba ground, reports Reuters.

Bichel's haul, a first-class career-best, saw South Australia dismissed for 225 in their second innings after resuming at nine for no wicket.

South Australia scored 266 in their first innings, in reply to Queensland's 364. Queensland were all out for 177 in their second on Monday.

Brad Young (36) and Brett Swain (36 not out), batting down the order, were joint top-scorers for South Australia.

The win lifted Queensland to the top of the Sheffield Shield table on 22 points. Ahead of Western Australia on 20, Victoria on 18 and South Australia on 16.

Hick's hundred fails



ADELAIDE, Jan 26 (Reuters/Internet): Graeme Hick cracked 109, his third century in four one-day games, but failed to prevent Australia beating England by 16 runs in their tri-series match on Tuesday.

Glenn McGrath and Shane Warne took three wickets apiece, while Brendon Julian grabbed another two, in an England total of 223.

England had lost their last eight wickets for 61.

Leg-spinner Warne gave his best display since returning from shoulder surgery and took three for 39 off 10 overs. Pacer McGrath finished with three for 40, after collecting five for 40 in Australia's win over Sri Lanka on Sunday.

Australia had lost their previous two one-day matches against England but joined them on eight points after seven of 10 matches. Sri Lanka have four points from six games.

Hick earned man-of-the-match honours after his innings, which came off 119 balls, but it proved in vain as the England batting crashed.

"It was just a fantastic performance," said Australian captain Warne, taking the role in the absence of the injured Steve Waugh.

Warne, who used eight bowlers in the match, said he had been annoyed by his performance against Sri Lanka on Sunday, when he failed to take a wicket.

"I wanted to make amends, and the wicket was turning a bit more today," Warne said.

It was a bitter finish for the gallant Hick, who scored an unbeaten 126 against Sri Lanka in Saturday's controversial match only to finish on the losing side.

"I'd rather get nought and win the game," said Hick, whose innings included six fours and two sixes.

Warne and Julian were instrumental in the England slide after the visitors appeared to be in a commanding position after Hick and Nick Knight (42) put on 80 for the second wicket and Hick and Nasser Hussain (21) added another 64 for the third.

After Neil Fairbrother was bowled by McGrath for 10,

Warne and Julian shared the next four wickets to leave England needing 30 with eight wickets down.

Julian brilliantly caught and bowled John Crawley (11) and then repeated the feat against Robert Croft (0). Warne also caught Mark Ealham (4) off his own bowling and had Darren Gough caught by Adam Dale for two.

Hick was the next to go, run out after advancing down the pitch and failing to remake his ground.

McGrath then dismissed Dean Headley (2) to complete a home win on the Australia Day public holiday.

Australia's 239 for eight was achieved by partnerships of 93 by Mark Waugh (65) and Darren Lehmann (51) and 90 from Damien Martyn (59 not out) and Lee (41).

Waugh's total came off 80

