

Sport

Sirajganj cricket

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Apr 9: Ovijatri Club Ekadosh defeated Renesa Club Ekadosh by 161 runs today at Shaheed Shamsuddin Stadium.

Winning the toss Ovijatri Ekadosh decided to bat and made 233 all out in 40 overs.

Renesa Ekadosh were shot out for 72.

Our football

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their wide network of resources across the country to scout talents for long-term planning, bring schools and colleges into football tournaments, and organise one really big annual international tournament with which our crowd can associate their footballing sentiment.

The National league was a brilliant idea but executed badly, if not barely. Perhaps the chink in the armour can be overlooked as a first-time effort. Although the league visited three other divisional headquarters, the entire nation was not involved as such. BFF needs to create a nourishing rivalry somewhere - say among districts with their native players - to act as a catalyst. The club giants can only lock horns once again only if their players have the skill to grow the horns. Emotion has to be brought back into play. That is the keyword.

Despite the dismal state of the game, the most heartening factor is that BFF has found a dedicated partner in Nitol-Tata. Together they can try to scale the rungs of a ladder that has disappointingly become a bit too steep. No thanks to the madness that prevailed before the beginning of the decline when some footballers were demanding Taka 5 lakh for no more than a kindergarten performance.

As a football fan, I too am doing my turn for the cause of football. You see I have discussed football's problems without once mentioning the game that was once haughtily meant only for 'gentlemen'. Even they had to stoop to conquer the world. How's that?

The periodic columnist is the former Advisory Sports Editor of The Daily Star. — Sports Editor

Sanwar shines

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3/32, Humayun 2/17, Johnny 2/8.

Result: Saurav Smriti High School won by 93 runs.

Nabakumar Institute vs Mastermind

Venue: CCG

MASTERMIND: 193 all out in 32.4 overs (Rayhan 33, Tareq 32, Erfan 30; Rajib 3/44, Partho 2/35).

NABAKUMAR: 179 for 9 in 33.3 overs (Mahmud 22, Afzal 21, Extras 54; Arban 3/36, Rayhan 2/22).

Result: Nabakumar Institute won by 1 wicket.

BADC High School vs Ideal School

Venue: Dhamondi Club ground

IDEAL: 109 all out in 21.3 overs (Safkat 18, Extras 41, Rashedul 5/25, Sanwar 2/21).

BADC: 112 for 6 wickets in 18.5 overs (Sadek 21, Shahed 15, Yousef 3/18).

Result: BADC School won by 4 wickets.

Maple Leaf International vs Shaheed Nabi HC

Venue: Uttara Police Lines ground

MAPLE LEAF: 222 for 9 in 35 overs (Sarwar 83, Khalid 31, Sajid 5/22, Sharif 2/38, Alangir 2/12).

SHAHEED NABI: 123 all out in 21.4 overs (Mehmood 29, Extras 47, Sarwar 3/17, Wazizuzzaman 2/23, 3/17, Result: Maple Leaf International won by 99 runs.

Green Herald International vs Dhamondi International

Venue: Mirpur Outer Stadium

DHAMONDY INTI: 90 all out in 23.5 overs (Adnan 34 not out, Huraira 4/23, Faisal 2/17).

GREEN HERALD: Savio 35 not out, Nasir 38 not out.

Result: Green Herald won by 10 wickets.

Kalra appears

From page 13

Prominent Indians on Sunday deplored the latest scandal to rock international cricket.

Cricket was perhaps the only field where real heroes existed. Now the pedestal is empty, leading film and cricket fan Mahesh Bhatt said.

Film actor Victor Banerjee said cricket should have never travelled out of élite clubs, adding: 'We have glamourised the game and forgotten the spirit it should be played with.'

Reputed fashion designer Ritu Beri said she was 'disappointed and sad.' Amaan Ali Bangash, a well-known classical musician, posed the rhetorical question: 'Is nothing sacred anymore?'

Cronje has vehemently denied the charges. South African junior Foreign Minister Aziz Pahad has said his government would seek an explanation from India about players' telephones being tapped while they were touring India.

A fallout of the scandal was the withdrawal of a local sporting advertisement featuring Cronje, the Indian Express reported Sunday.

The Indian charges relate to the five one-day international series South Africa played here between March 9 and 19. India won the series 3-2 after a tie for test losses.

Indian police said they had recordings of a telephone conversation between Cronje and bookie Sanjiv Chawla that backed up their allegations.



Bayer Leverkusen's Paulo Rink (C) celebrates his second strike against Borussia Dortmund during their Bundesliga clash at Leverkusen on April 8. — Internet photo

Bundesliga

Rink leaders' hero



BERLIN, April 9 (Reuters/Internet):

Paulo Rink struck twice to help German First Division leaders

Bayer Leverkusen beat 10-man Borussia Dortmund 3-1 on Saturday and keep alive their dream of a first title.

With six matches remaining, Leverkusen remain two points clear of defending champions Bayern Munich, who recaptured their winning habits with a 4-0 demolition of SV Ulm.

Dortmund must have hoped for their first victory of the year when striker Giuseppe Reina put them 1-0 up after two minutes and goalkeeper Jens Lehmann stopped a penalty from midfielder Michael Ballack 11 minutes later. But Lehmann was unable to prevent German international Paulo Rink levelling for the home side three minutes from the interval.

Dortmund, who have not won a match since Bernd Krauss was appointed coach during the winter break, lost liberally and captain Stefan Reuter for a second bookable of

fence in the 53rd minute.

Leverkusen, who had looked nervous in the opening stages, then took control.

Brazilian-born Paulo Rink, eager to show Germany head coach Erich Ribbeck that he deserves to go to Euro 2000, struck again six minutes before time to give them the lead.

"It was not as easy as it may seem and we were lucky to open that 2-0 lead," said Bayern president Franz Beckenbauer.

"Ulm were determined to avoid repeat of what happened to them against Leverkusen," he added, referring to Ulm's 9-1 thrashing by the current leaders last month.

"We had to be patient and we were," said coach Ottmar Hitzfeld, whose men were far more impressive than in their dull 1-1 draw away to Porto in the first leg of their Champions League quarter-final tie on Tuesday. "Our goals came exactly when we needed them."

A hat-trick by former Stuttgart striker Jonathan Akpoborie inspired VfB Wolfsburg to a brilliant 5-2 win at VfB Stuttgart which lifted them two spots up to seventh and kept them on course for a place in Europe.

63rd minute.

Substitute Slawomir Wójcikiewicz sealed Bayern's win with six minutes left.

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