

Double crowns for Rochi, Saleha

Rochi and Saleha of Bangladesh Biman earned double crowns in the Silver Jubilee table tennis tournament...

Rochi clinched the men's singles title beating Kochi by 17-21, 21-11, 21-10, 23-21 while Saleha emerged women's singles champion defeating Rumi...

Parag of Bangladesh Biman lifted the boys' singles title beating Tirtha by 22-24, 21-14, 21-15, 21-10.

Clean slate

floodgates. There was neither little substance nor stability from the rest of the Pakistani batting and they fell to their second defeat against West Indies in as many matches.

The last six Pakistani wickets tumbled for 87 in 13.4 overs including the key wicket late of captain Moin Khan...

Earlier, Campbell hit the top score of 56 off 91 balls to give the innings early momentum and Powell gathered 50 off 35 balls to accelerate the scoring rate late in the innings.

Campbell and Philo Wallace gave West Indies a useful opening stand of 35 inside the first eight overs, but the batsmen got bogged down in the mid-section of the innings by accurate bowling.

Mushtaq Ahmed, Abdur Razaq and Arshad Khan each captured one wicket to check West Indies' advance every time it looked like they were about to step up the tempo.

Wallace was adjudged lbw to Abdur in the eighth over for 17, but there was a stand of 51 between Campbell and left-hander Wavel Hinds before Mushtaq broke through in the 26th over.

Hinds swept the leg-spin bowler into the lap of square leg to be dismissed for 24 to make way for Campbell and Chris Gayle to add 41 for the third wicket.

Campbell dropped on 56 by Yousuf at deep square leg off the third ball of Arshad's fifth over, gave his hand away next ball when he repeated the same flick shot and skied a catch to the same fielder. He hit five fours and one six.

Just when Gayle and Jimmy Adams was about to get into the thick of things, the West Indies captain was run out by a throw from Inzamam at mid-wicket to the bowler's end to be out for 11 in the 38th over.

Gayle remained to score 42 off 48 balls including four fours, but was caught at mid-on off fast bowler Waqar Younis in the 41st over.

Powell and Ridley Jacobs were the ones to give the West Indies innings substance with a stand of 62 off 50 balls.

They helped their side to raise 84 runs in the final ten overs, but Jacobs was run out by Mushtaq's throw from deep mid-wicket to wicketkeeper Moin Khan in the 47th over.

SCOREBOARD

Final scorecard in the sixth and final preliminary round match in the tri-nation Cable and Wireless 2000 Trophy limited-overs series between West Indies and Pakistan at Queen's Park Stadium on Sunday.

WEST INDIES: Wallace lbw b Razaq 17, Campbell c Youhana b Arshad 56, Hinds c M Wasim b Mushtaq 24, Gayle c Wasi b Waqar 42, Adams run out (Inzamam) 11, Powell not out 50, Jacobs run out (Mushtaq) 25, Rose not out 2.

Extras: (lb-1; lb-5; w-12; nb-3) 21. Total: (For 6 wks in 50 overs) 248. Did not bat: N. Perry, N. McLean, R. King.

Fall of wickets: 1-35, 2-88, 3-127, 4-147, 5-170, 6-232. Bowler O M R W: Waqar 10 1 43 1, Fazil 6 0 46 0, Razaq 10 2 45 1, Mushtaq 10 0 33 1, Arshad 10 0 46 1, Wasi 4 0 29 0.

PAKISTAN: Nazir c Jacobs b King 9, Wasi b King 10, M Wasim run out (Adams) 0, Inzamam run out (Rose) 41, Youhana c Adams b Rose 56, Moin c Rose b Perry 16, Razaq b King 24, Waqar c Hinds b Perry 6, Fazil c Adams b McLean 15, Mushtaq st Jacobs b Adams 4, Arshad not out 20, Extras: (lb-5; w-7; nb-8) 20. Total: (All out in 48.1 overs) 231.

Fall of wickets: 1-19, 2-19, 3-24, 4-147, 5-162, 6-200, 7-206, 8-214, 9-229. Bowler O M R W: King 10 0 38 3, Rose 10 3 26 1, McLean 9 1 0 47 1, Perry 10 0 54 2, Adams 5 0 23 1, Gayle 4 0 23 0.

Result: West Indies beat Pakistan by 17 runs. Man-of-the-match: Reon King.

FINAL STANDINGS (Team, played, won, lost, points): W Indies 4 4 0 8, Pakistan 4 2 2 4, Zimbabwe 4 0 4 0.

Apr 19: First final: Bridgetown, Barbados. Apr 22: Second final: Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

Apr 23: Third final: Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

Imran pilots Pakistan



ST. GEORGE'S, Apr 17: A stroke-filled maiden limited-overs international century from Imran Nazir helped Pakistan confirm their place in the three-match finals...

Teenager Imran struck ten fours and two sixes in an unbeaten 105 off 133 balls to anchor Pakistan to the magic number of 205, after Zimbabwe were restricted to a modest 204 for seven off 50 overs.

The defeat meant Zimbabwe ended their first tour of the Caribbean winless and they will hope for greater success when they travel to England for a series of two-Tests and a tri-nation tournament also involving West Indies.

The 18-year-old Imran, playing in his tenth limited-overs match for Pakistan, had scores of six and nought in the two previous matches and his place in the side appeared tenuous for Saturday's encounter.

He responded to the challenge however, with a barrage of shots that left his opponents bewildered and helped his side recover from their 96-run defeat to West Indies on Wednesday in Kingstown.

Pakistan were given a flourishing start of 49 in eight overs from Imran and Shahid Afridi, who was caught at cover off medium-paced bowler Andy Blignaut, playing his first match of the series.

While Imran was literally having his way with the bowling, but Younis Khan and Yousuf Youhana made it look quite difficult before Pakistan declined to 78 for three in the 17th over.

Younis was caught and bowled by left-arm spin bowler Dirk Viljoen in the 16th over and Yousuf was bowled by fast-medium bowler Heath Streak in the 17th over.

A stand of 63 between Imran and Inzamam Hq put Pakistan firmly on course for their result.

The two were never troubled at anytime by the bowling, although Inzamam appeared to have been lucky with an lbw verdict early in his innings.

In the 33rd over, Guy Whittall had Inzamam caught behind for 34 off 51 balls with Pakistan 141 for four.

Imran and captain Moin Khan made sure Pakistan would not lose another wicket with an unbroken stand of 64. Moin was not out on 35 off 36 balls.

Earlier, Zimbabwe were given their best opening stand of the series, but fell to mount a total to serious challenge Pakistan.



NAZIR ... 105 n.o. three wickets for 45 runs from three overs.

It was leg-spin bowler Mushtaq Ahmed in particular and Abdur Razaq, whose bowling really restricted Zimbabwe's scoring in the heart of their innings.

Abdur made the breakthrough when Wishart, whose 45 off 67 balls was the top score, flicked to mid-wicket in the 23rd over.

Zimbabwe never got it going after his dismissal, although Johnson hit four boundaries in 43 off 88 balls and there was a stand of 59 for the fourth-wicket between Murray Goodwin and captain Andy Flower.

SCOREBOARD: Final scorecard in the fifth match of the tri-nation Cable and Wireless 2000 Trophy limited-overs series between Pakistan and Zimbabwe at Queen's Park Stadium on Saturday.

ZIMBABWE: Johnson c Arshad b Mushtaq 43, Wishart c Younis b Razaq 45, Carlisle b Arshad 5, Goodwin c (sub) Malik b Arshad 35, A. Flower c and b Arshad 31.

Blignaut b Razaq 3, G. Flower not out 9, Whittall c (sub) Malik b W Akram 7, Viljoen not out 26, Extras: (lb-14; w-9; nb-3) 26. Total: (For 7 wks in 50 overs) 204. Did not bat: H. Streak, M. Nkala.

Fall of wickets: 1-84, 2-98, 3-118, 4-177, 5-182, 6-186, 7-200. Bowler O M R W: Akram 8 1 27 1, Waqar 10 0 44 0, Razaq 10 2 32 2, Mushtaq 10 1 29 1, Arshad 10 0 45 3, Afridi 2 0 13 0.

PAKISTAN: Nazir not out 105, Afridi c Viljoen b Blignaut 19, Younis c and b Viljoen 1, Inzamam c A. Flower b Whittall 34, Youhana b Streak 0, Moin not out 35, Extras: (lb-6; w-4; nb-1) 11. Total: (For 4 wks in 43.1 overs) 205.

Did not bat: Abdur Razaq, Wasim Akram, Mushtaq Ahmed, Waqar Younis, Arshad Khan. Fall of wickets: 1-49, 2-77, 3-78, 4-141. Bowler O M R W: Johnson 4 0 26 0, Blignaut 7 0 37 1, Streak 9 0 33 1, Nkala 4 0 23 0, Viljoen 10 1 34 1, G. Flower 4 1 0 24 0, Whittall 5 0 22 1.

Result: Pakistan beat Zimbabwe by six wickets. Man-of-the-match: Imran Nazir.

Div III cricket Sports Reporter

BRIEF SCORES: NAKHALPARA SUSSEX CC: 143 all out in 34.2 overs (Sumon 77, Benu 14, Keramat 13; Arman 3/36, Ripon 2/14).

HILLOL JUBO SANGHA: 70 all out in 19.3 overs (Shanto 18, Arman 17; Jahangir 4/17, Sumon 2/13). Result: Nakhpalpara Sussex won by 79 runs.

Nakhpalpara Sussex Cricket Club outplayed Hillol Jubo Sangha by 79 runs in a Third Division cricket league encounter played at the Uttara Friends Club ground yesterday.

In a low-scoring affair, Sussex scored 149 in 34.5 overs before being all out. Opener Sumon scored highest 77 off 100 balls with eight boundaries.

Benu scored 14 followed by Keramat who added 13. In reply, Hillol Jubo Sangha were shot out for 70 in just 19.3 overs after a hostile five-over spell from paceman Jahangir who returned with four for 17.

Middle-order batsman Shanto scored highest 18 for the losers.

Golden Star won the toss and batted first to score 110 runs in 40 overs losing all the wickets. In reply, Shuda made 112 losing six wickets in 30.4 overs. Alal of Shuda was declared man-of-the-match.

Sirajganj cricket SIRAJGANJ, Apr 17: Shuda Smriti Sangha beat Golden Star Ekadosh by four wickets yesterday at Shaheed Shamsuddin Stadium.

Golden Star won the toss and batted first to score 110 runs in 40 overs losing all the wickets. In reply, Shuda made 112 losing six wickets in 30.4 overs. Alal of Shuda was declared man-of-the-match.

Clusener Bowler O M R W: Pollock 9.5 1 37 4, Hayward 10 0 37 2, Kallis 7 1 38 2, Ntini 10 2 30 0, Klusener 10 1 45 2, Hall 3 0 12 0.

SOUTH AFRICA: Kirsten b B Lee 1, Hall c Symonds b Warner 46, Gibbs lbw b McGrath 4, Kallis c M Waugh b B Lee 30, Rhodes c sub (Hayden) b Warner 4, Boje lbw b B Lee 0, Boucher not out 55, Klusener not out 52, Extras: (lb-1; lb-2; nb-4; w-10) 17. Total: (For 6 wks in 47.5 overs) 209.

Falls: 1-9, 2-19, 3-91, 4-91, 5-91, 6-122. Bowler O M R W: McGrath 9 1 37 1, B Lee 10 2 32 3, Harvey 5.5 1 32 0, S Lee 7 0 47 0, Waugh 10 2 30 2, M Waugh 1 0 6 0, Bevan 3 0 11 0, Symonds 2 0 11 0. Did not bat: S Pollock, M Hayward, M Ntini.

Result: South Africa won by 4 wickets and took the three-match series 2-1. Man-of-the-match: Lance Klusener.

Man-of-the-series: Lance Klusener.

Bagan flay Bowler O M R W: Did not bat: Biplab Sarkar and Aftab Islam. Fall of wickets: 1-23, 2-35, 3-103, 4-139, 5-239, 6-239, 7-248.

Bowler O M R W: Bikash 8 1 40 0, Ashfaq 8 0 33 2, Saiful 4 1 19 0, Zahoor 8 0 49 0, Fahim 10 0 46 1, Mustadr 4 0 23 0, Tareq 8 1 39 3.

KALABAGAN KC: Rafiqul b Biplab 150, Salim not out 1, Zahoor c Shahnawaz b Towhid 65, Tareq run out 10, Fahim 17, Rajni not out 13, Extras: (lb-1; w-12) 13. Total: (For 3 wickets in 44.4 overs) 259.

Did not bat: Saiful Islam, Zubair Ishtiaq, Fahim Muntasir, Bikash Ranjan Das, Ashfaq Ali and Mustadr Litu. Fall of wickets: 1-9, 2-170, 3-194.

Bowler O M R W: Shahnawaz 5 0 36 0, Biplab 9 0 44 1, Sabbir Khan 9.4 0 50 0, R Hanif 8 0 35 0, Ziaul 4 0 31 0, Towhid 7 0 41 1, Moniruzzaman 2 0 21 0.

Result: Kalabagan Krira Chakra won by seven wickets.

'We were short on quality'

ST GEORGE'S, Grenada, Apr 17: Zimbabwe captain Andy Flower admitted his side were "a little off the mark on quality" during their first Caribbean tour, reports Reuters.

They lost both Tests to West Indies and were beaten in all four one-day matches of the triangular series also involving Pakistan.

"It is disappointing but to be honest I am not overly dejected," said Flower as his team prepared to fly home. "I think we have got to accept we are a little off the mark on quality."

"We didn't display enough quality in any department to beat these guys. I thought we started the four quite well and quite confidently but we slipped away in our confidence."

"The one-day tournament was disappointing. We were never in it really. We didn't provide really competitive games and that was probably the most disappointing aspect."

Flower said one of the lessons to be learned from the tour was to convert positions of dominance into victory.

"If we had done that in the first Test we could have had a very different tour altogether." Zimbabwe were shot out for 63 by West Indies pace bowlers as they chased a modest 99-run target.

Nat'l badminton Biman reap rich

CHITTAGONG, Apr 17: The 22nd Goalini Condensed Milk national badminton competition concluded with the domination of Bangladesh Biman at the CJKS gymnasium here yesterday, reports BSS.

Bangladesh Biman won in six events out of 13. Chittagong and Dinajpur districts earned the titles of two events each, while Jessore, Pabna and Bogra won in one event each.

Sumon of Biman clinched the men's singles trophy beating his teammate Mahub 13-15, 15-6, 15-12.

Elna of Biman won the women's singles championship for the consecutive seventh time outplaying her teammate Nuri 11-3, 11-0.

In all, 185 players, including 30 women, from 37 teams participated in the competition. Labour and Employment Minister M A Mannan distributed prizes among the winners as the chief guest.

Sirajganj cricket SIRAJGANJ, Apr 17: Shuda Smriti Sangha beat Golden Star Ekadosh by four wickets yesterday at Shaheed Shamsuddin Stadium.

Golden Star won the toss and batted first to score 110 runs in 40 overs losing all the wickets. In reply, Shuda made 112 losing six wickets in 30.4 overs. Alal of Shuda was declared man-of-the-match.

Clusener Bowler O M R W: Pollock 9.5 1 37 4, Hayward 10 0 37 2, Kallis 7 1 38 2, Ntini 10 2 30 0, Klusener 10 1 45 2, Hall 3 0 12 0.

SOUTH AFRICA: Kirsten b B Lee 1, Hall c Symonds b Warner 46, Gibbs lbw b McGrath 4, Kallis c M Waugh b B Lee 30, Rhodes c sub (Hayden) b Warner 4, Boje lbw b B Lee 0, Boucher not out 55, Klusener not out 52, Extras: (lb-1; lb-2; nb-4; w-10) 17. Total: (For 6 wks in 47.5 overs) 209.

Falls: 1-9, 2-19, 3-91, 4-91, 5-91, 6-122. Bowler O M R W: McGrath 9 1 37 1, B Lee 10 2 32 3, Harvey 5.5 1 32 0, S Lee 7 0 47 0, Waugh 10 2 30 2, M Waugh 1 0 6 0, Bevan 3 0 11 0, Symonds 2 0 11 0. Did not bat: S Pollock, M Hayward, M Ntini.

Result: South Africa won by 4 wickets and took the three-match series 2-1. Man-of-the-match: Lance Klusener.

Man-of-the-series: Lance Klusener.

Bagan flay Bowler O M R W: Did not bat: Biplab Sarkar and Aftab Islam. Fall of wickets: 1-23, 2-35, 3-103, 4-139, 5-239, 6-239, 7-248.

Bowler O M R W: Bikash 8 1 40 0, Ashfaq 8 0 33 2, Saiful 4 1 19 0, Zahoor 8 0 49 0, Fahim 10 0 46 1, Mustadr 4 0 23 0, Tareq 8 1 39 3.

KALABAGAN KC: Rafiqul b Biplab 150, Salim not out 1, Zahoor c Shahnawaz b Towhid 65, Tareq run out 10, Fahim 17, Rajni not out 13, Extras: (lb-1; w-12) 13. Total: (For 3 wickets in 44.4 overs) 259.

Did not bat: Saiful Islam, Zubair Ishtiaq, Fahim Muntasir, Bikash Ranjan Das, Ashfaq Ali and Mustadr Litu. Fall of wickets: 1-9, 2-170, 3-194.

Bowler O M R W: Shahnawaz 5 0 36 0, Biplab 9 0 44 1, Sabbir Khan 9.4 0 50 0, R Hanif 8 0 35 0, Ziaul 4 0 31 0, Towhid 7 0 41 1, Moniruzzaman 2 0 21 0.

Result: Kalabagan Krira Chakra won by seven wickets.



Winners of the Silver Jubilee table tennis tournament pose with the guests after the prize-giving ceremony at the National Sports Council on April 15. The tourney started on April 12.

New shockwaves in SA

CAPE TOWN, Apr 17: The publication of the transcript of alleged conversations between sacked national cricket captain Hansie Cronje and bookmaker Sanjiv Chawla in South Africa for the first time has sent new shockwaves through the country, reports AFP.

The transcript, first published in Australian newspapers, received splash treatment by the local press Sunday.

If proven to be genuine, the transcript appears to confirm that Cronje was involved in match-fixing in spite of his denials.

Cronje was fired on Tuesday after he admitted receiving what proved to be 8,200 dollars from a bookmaker in return for information about a match. He claimed the payment was for forecasting and not for match-fixing.

Leaked by Delhi police to reporters, the transcript was allegedly taken from police recordings made in Nagpur before the last of the five matches in the South Africa-India one-day series last month.

It appears to shed light on reports - since denied - of a disagreement between Cronje and all-rounder Klusener. According to the transcript, an aggressive innings by Klusener scuppered a "deal" organised between Cronje and a bookmaker to limit South Africa's score in the final match of the recent one-day series in India.

Cronje allegedly assured bookmaker Chawla that the South African "target" was 270 runs.

Chawla is alleged to have said: "OK, so if it touches 270, it's off."

But the South African tail, inspired by a swashbuckling performance from Klusener, added 80 runs in the last eight overs to reach 320 runs, apparently wrecking the deal.

The transcript alleges that Cronje told the bookie he would use non-regular bowlers in the match, which he did.

Alli Bacher, managing director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCB), has refused to comment on the transcript.

"There is going to be an inquiry headed by a judge, who will probably be appointed next week," he said, referring to a commission of inquiry being set up by the South African government to probe the allegations of match-fixing.

Indian police claim that Cronje and three other South African players were involved in match-fixing during the one-day series.

Cronje's lawyer, Leslie Sackstein, told the Sunday Independent newspaper that he knew nothing about the transcript.

"I've never seen this before," he said. "It really would be helpful if the Delhi police were more forthcoming. They seem to have decided to release information in serial form to the newspapers."

Radio talks shows, meanwhile, were flooded with callers expressing disbelief at the transcript and expressing support for the beleaguered ex-skipper. Opinion polls have shown a surge of support for Cronje despite his admissions of being on the take.

Some callers, however, admitted to being shocked by what seems to be clinching evidence against Cronje and said they were finding it increasingly difficult to continue believing his denials of match-fixing.

The Johannesburg Sunday Times, meanwhile, quoted leading Indian legal experts as saying they doubted Cronje could indeed be charged with match-fixing in an Indian court as a number of procedures involved in the tapping of his telephone had not been done according to the book and that police had prejudiced their own case by releasing the transcripts to the media.

The disgraced skipper has gone to ground, according to Afrikaans-language newspaper Rapport, which said his house in the central city of Bloemfontein as well as his "millionaire's holiday home" in the Cape resort town of George were both deserted.

Estoril Open Carlos' ESTORIL, Portugal, Apr 17: Carlos Moya capped a comeback from six months away with back problems, winning an all-Spanish final at the 765,000 dollar Estoril Open on Sunday 6-3, 6-2 over Francisco Clavet, reports AFP.

Moya triumphed in the battle of unseeded players held in a vicious, swirling wind and chilly temperatures barely above 15 centigrade.

He wouldn't tell me then date of the game or where it was played but just said the player who was tapped-up became a very happy man.

Lewis told the News of the World that he did not reveal the names of the players involved because he feared for his life.

"People will say if I cared about the game I should have told the ECB their names."

"But if my name had come out, my career in the sport would be over."

"I also genuinely would have feared for my life."

"If I had helped smash a multi-million pound betting ring, I don't think they would be happy with me. Do you?"

"When I did report the details about the plot to fix the New Zealand game the ECB effectively didn't tell the police about it until Khetarpal fled the country."

against New Zealand. Police investigated the matter and interviewed all the England players but are now believed to be completely satisfied there was no illegal activities.

"They are all famous players hero-worshipped by millions of young fans in this country," said Lewis.

"Khetarpal said dozens of top players were at it - so why didn't I just come inside?"

The England and Wales Cricket Board have moved to negate the sting of the Lewis comments, with an ECB spokesman saying: "Chris Lewis has not contacted us about this."

Lewis, who, according to the paper, met Khetarpal above a newsagent's shop in Harlesden, north London, added: "I nearly fell off my chair in shock when he told me who the players were."

"The amounts the three received went into 'thousands'. I was told everybody was at it, including players from South Africa, India and Pakistan."

"He told me that one of the three - a batsman - had received a 'substantial figure' to get himself out deliberately during a one-day international against Australia."

"He wouldn't tell me then date of the game or where it was played but just said the player who was tapped-up became a very happy man."

Lewis told the News of the World that he did not reveal the names of the players involved because he feared for his life.

"People will say if I cared about the game I should have told the ECB their names."

"But if my name had come out, my career in the sport would be over."

"I also genuinely would have feared for my life."

"If I had helped smash a multi-million pound betting ring, I don't think they would be happy with me. Do you?"

"When I did report the details about the plot to fix the New Zealand game the ECB effectively didn't tell the police about it until Khetarpal fled the country."

Lewis' revelation

LONDON, Apr 17: England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) officials on Sunday said they would look into match-fixing allegations involving England players before deciding on any course of action, reports AFP.

Former international all-rounder Chris Lewis has claimed that the widespread match-fixing epidemic spreading through world cricket has also infected England.

The Leicestershire star told Britain's News of the World tabloid newspaper he was informed of three famous England players who have taken money to influence the result of matches.

Lewis, 32, says he had the unnamed players' identities revealed to him by sports promoter Ashim Khetarpal.

But the ECB have refused to launch an immediate investigation until they discover more of the facts.

"After we have studied the article in detail we will then decide what course of action to take, if any," said ECB media relations officer Andrew Walpole.

England were investigated last year when Lewis made other claims that he had been approached to persuade England players to throw a match

against New Zealand. Police investigated the matter and interviewed all the England players but are now believed to be completely satisfied there was no illegal activities.