

# Star Sport

DHAKA, TUESDAY MAY 16, 2000 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

## Column One

### Boost sports WHIZZ KID Competition-130

✓ Tick the Correct Answers Post to The Daily Star Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm May 26, 2000 and draw shortly afterwards

1 Who replaced David Lloyd as England cricket coach? Fletcher Woolmer Richardson

2 Which country will host the Euro 2004 Championship? Portugal Germany Spain

3 Which Kiwi batsman hit 214 on his Test debut against West Indies? Sinclair Fleming Crow

4 Which country won the four-nation football tourney in Maldives? Sri Lanka Bangladesh India

5 Who won the national chess title this year? Reesat Zia Tipu

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

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### SPORTS TALK



**Robert Pires**

(Marseille's French striker) I don't know what my future is, I must see my agent to ensure everything is done before Euro 2000. Arsenal? Who would not want to go there?

On his probable move to Arsenal.

### Rezwan boosts Bima

#### Sports Reporter

Sadharan Bima Krira Sangha ended their Premier Division Relegation League campaign on a winning note with a comprehensive four-wicket win over Agrani Bank in their last match at the Dhamondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

In a high-scoring game reduced to 45 overs after rain stopped play for 40 minutes in the morning session, all-rounder Rezwanul Islam hammered an unbeaten 103 as Bima, chasing a commanding Bank total of 289, reached 293 for six in 43.3 overs.

Rezwan, who earlier in the first session took three wickets for 37 runs, hit three sixes and eleven boundaries 80 balls to propel his side to their seventh win in the league.

Opener Moin scored 53 off 51 balls with nine fours while Minto added 40 off 26 balls with one six and seven boundaries.

Earlier, electing to bat, Agrani Bank scored 289 for 7 in 45 overs with Mofizur Rahman scoring 96 at nearly a run a ball. It included four sixes and eleven boundaries. Opener Abid Hanif added 59. Rezwan was backed up by Tashriq who captured two for 44.

Bima, with yesterday's win, finished jointly second in the six-team Relegation League along with City Club with 14 points each from 16 matches. Victoria Sporting Club stood atop with 16 points.

On the other hand, with their eleventh defeat against five wins, Agrani Bank finished fourth out of relegated Wari Club and Gopibagh Friends Association, who will play in the First Division next season.

### BRIEF SCORES

Agrani Bank v Sadharan Bima KS

Venue: Dhamondi Cricket Stadium

**AGRANI BANK:** 289 for 7 in 45 overs (Mofizur 96, A. Hanif 59, Mridul 38; Rezwan 3/37, Tashriq 2/44).

**SADHARAN BIMA:** 293 for 6 in 43.3 overs (Rezwan 103 n.o., Moin 53, Minto 40, Tashriq 36; Moin 2/24).

**Result:** Sadharan Bima won by four wickets.

## Title for Abahani, but glory for Kalabagan

Sports Reporter

 Curtain fell on the Janakantha Premier Division Cricket League with Abahani with Abahani Krira Chakra winning the coveted title for a record 13th time at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

But the title celebration of the popular Dhamondi outfit turned sour when they conceded a five-run defeat in the last match of the Super League against Kalabagan Krira Chakra. It was Abahani's third defeat in a row. On the other hand, Kalabagan, who started the Super League with six points behind Abahani, recorded their fifth straight victory, but sadly missed out the title on inferior net run rate.

Although the match virtually left an academic interest with Kalabagan concentrating more on winning the prestigious battle rather than going after the improbable task of toppling Abahani's impressive run-rate, it eventually turned into a cracker of a contest.

In a nail-biting finish, Kalabagan, defending a fighting total of 240 for nine in the stipulated 50 overs, restricted their more colourful neighbours to 235 for nine.

The final reached a fitting climax with an unheralded Zakir Hassan leading a fantasy chase for Abahani at a stage when many thought a victory for Kalabagan was only a matter of time.

The tall right-arm seamer with a little credential as a batsman brought the Abahani supporters on the edge of their seats with a career-best 50 after his side were reduced to 175 for seven. Zakir's heroics changed the complexion of the game completely.

He shared 52 runs for the eighth wicket with fellow medium pacer Iqbal Hossain and was all set to pull off an unlikely victory.

Abahani needed 12 runs from the final over and Zakir, who has just completed half-century, off 62 balls and with the help of four fours, appeared confident to make himself a cricketer to be deified for long.

But his superlative came to a sad end in the face of an exceptionally matured bowling from Kalabagan young left-arm seamer Bikash Ranjan Das, who bowled the last six deliveries with great intelligence.

Zakir missed the first two balls but firmly struck the third. The ball was travelling like a tracer of a bullet before Bikash plucked it up diving to his left. A bemused Zakir was only the half way mark when Bikash dislodged the balls at the bowler's end.

Hasibul Hossain drove the fourth ball for four through extra cover and picked up a couple from the final delivery, but that was not enough to avoid a defeat.

After the nerve-wrecking last over, the Dhaka cricket perhaps witnessed a rare incident with both the winners and the vanquished celebrating their success.

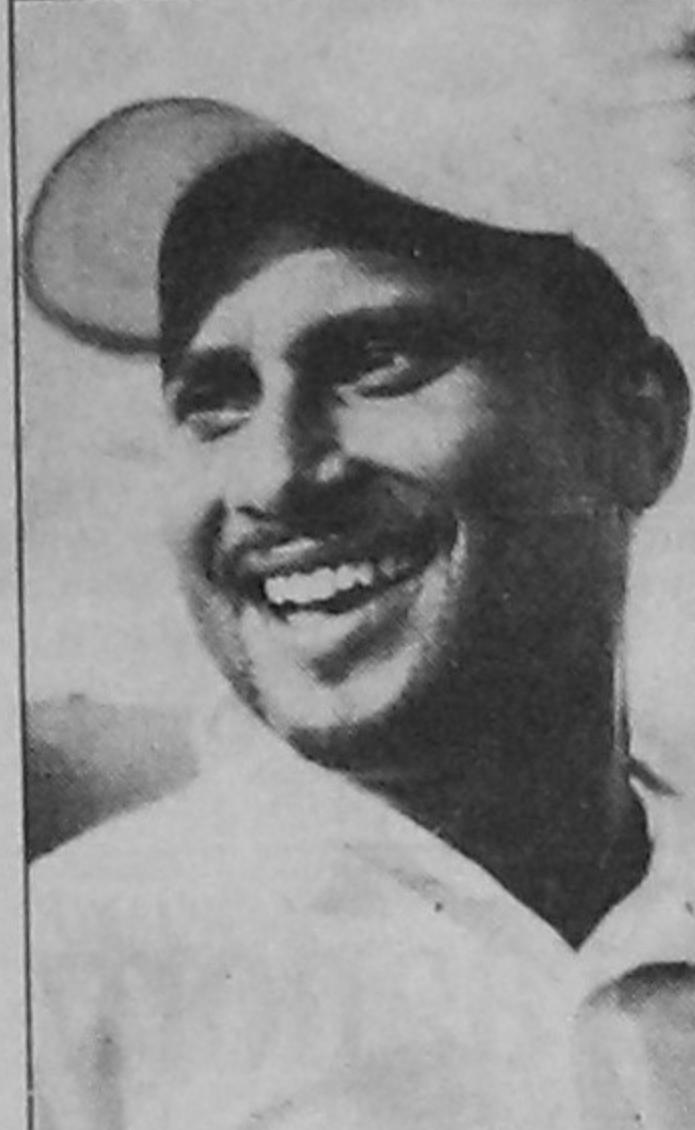
### POINTS TABLE

#### Super League

| Team           | M  | W  | L  | Pts | NRR   |
|----------------|----|----|----|-----|-------|
| Abahani KC     | 16 | 13 | 3  | 26  | +1.19 |
| Kalabagan KC   | 16 | 13 | 3  | 26  | -0.57 |
| Biman          | 16 | 12 | 4  | 24  | -0.67 |
| Surj Tarun     | 16 | 10 | 6  | 20  | -0.16 |
| Mohammedan SC  | 16 | 8  | 16 | 15  | -0.11 |
| Brothers Union | 16 | 8  | 8  | 16  | -0.11 |

### TODAY'S MATCH

Relegation League  
Wari Club v Gopibagh FA  
Venue: Dhamondi Cricket Stadium



HARUN ... 66



ZAKIR ... 50

### CENTURIONS

| Batsman        | Team          | Runs | Against     | Venue | Date     |
|----------------|---------------|------|-------------|-------|----------|
| Zahoor Elahi   | Kalabagan     | 100* | Agrani Bank | BNS   | Feb 28   |
| Zahoor Elahi   | Kalabagan     | 144  | Mohammedan  | BNS   | March 2  |
| M Ramzan       | Surj Tarun    | 105  | Victoria    | BKSP  | March 4  |
| Zahoor Elahi   | Kalabagan     | 110* | Surj Tarun  | BNS   | March 7  |
| Javed Omar     | Binman        | 102* | Victoria    | BKSP  | March 9  |
| Saifulah Magsi | City Club     | 136* | Wari Club   | BNS   | March 11 |
| Iqaz Ahmed     | Abahani KC    | 101* | Agrani Bank | BKSP  | March 12 |
| Javed Omar     | Binman        | 100  | Agrani Bank | DCS   | March 29 |
| Fahad Khan     | Victoria SC   | 100  | Gopibagh    | DCS   | March 29 |
| Kamal Chopra   | S Bima        | 106* | Wari        | DCS   | March 30 |
| Saifulah Magsi | City Club     | 107  | S Bima      | DCS   | April 6  |
| D Ramaniyake   | Wari Club     | 142* | Agrani Bank | DCS   | April 15 |
| Mehrab Hossain | Abahani KC    | 123  | City Club   | BNS   | April 17 |
| Salim Elahi    | Kalabagan KC  | 150* | Victoria SC | BNS   | April 17 |
| D Samaraiweera | Mohammedan SC | 127  | S Bima      | BNS   | April 18 |
| Salim Elahi    | Kalabagan KC  | 119  | Surj Tarun  | BNS   | May 4    |
| Rehan Rafique  | City Club     | 115* | Wari Club   | DCS   | May 5    |
| Fahad Khan     | Victoria SC   | 102* | City Club   | DCS   | May 13   |
| Rezwanul Islam | S Bima        | 103* | Agrani Bank | DCS   | May 14   |

### FIVE-WICKET TAKERS

| Bowler          | Team      | Figure     | Against     | Venue | Date     |
|-----------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------|----------|
| Hasibul Hossain | Abahani   | 5/35(8.2)  | S Bima      | BNS   | March 3  |
| Zahoor Elahi    | Kalabagan | 5/36 (9)   | Abahani     | BNS   | March 9  |
| Amirul Islam Jr | Binman    | 5/34(6.1)  | Victoria    | BKSP  | March 9  |
| M Hussain       | Abahani   | 5/34(7)    | Binman      | BNS   | April 20 |
| Hasibul Hossain | Abahani   | 5/45 (8.5) | BU          | BNS   | May 3    |
| Shahid Nazir    | Binman    | 5/22 (9.1) | Mohammedan  | BNS   | May 5    |
| Rehan Rafique   | City Club | 5/23(10)   | Gopibagh FA | DCS   | May 12   |

### ROLL OF HONOUR

| Year      | Champions           | Runners up       |
|-----------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1974-75   | Abahani KC          | Shantinagar Club |
| 1975-76   | Victoria SC         | Abahani KC       |
| 1976-77   | Abahani KC          | Victoria SC      |
| 1977-78   | Mohammedan SC       | Abahani KC       |
| 1978-79   | Abahani KC          | Abahani KC       |
| 1979-80   | Binman              | Azad Boys Club   |
| 1980-81   | Binman              | Mohammedan SC    |
| 1981-82   | Mohammedan SC       | Abahani KC       |
| 1982-83   | Abahani KC          | Abahani KC       |
| 1983-84   | Binman              | Mohammedan SC    |
| 1984-85   | Abahani KC          | Mohammedan SC    |
| 1985-86   | Abahani KC          | Mohammedan SC    |
| 1986-87   | Abahani KC          | Mohammedan SC    |
| 1987-88   | Mohammedan SC       | Abahani KC       |
| 1988-89   | Abahani KC          | Rupali Bank      |
| 1989-90   | Brothers Union      | Abahani KC       |
| 1990-91   | Mohammedan SC       | Abahani KC       |
| 1991-92   | Abahani KC & Binman | Mohammedan SC    |
| 1992-93   | Abahani KC & Binman | Kalabagan KC     |
| 1993-94   | Mohammedan SC       | Brothers Union   |
| 1994-95   | Mohammedan SC       | Kalabagan KC     |
| 1995-96   | Abahani KC          | Abahani KC       |
| 1996-97   | Abahani KC          | Brothers Union   |
| 1997-98   | Binman              | Abahani KC       |
| 1998-99   | Binman              | Kalabagan KC     |
| 1999-2000 | Abahani KC          |                  |

Sports Reporter

Abahani captain Akram Khan gave full credit to his teammates for regaining the Premier Division cricket title after a season.

The famous son of Chittagong, who has been captaining the Dhamondi giants for last five seasons, was talking to the local press after yesterday's title decider against Kalabagan Krira Chakra.

Although Abahani lost by five runs and finish equal on points(26), it was Akram's men who clinched the prestigious title on superior net run rate.

Ironically Kalabagan had surrendered the crown last season under similar circumstances to Bangladesh coach for the forthcoming Asia Cup.

"We did not have four regular players including two foreigners in our last three matches and that was the main reason why we lost those matches," said an exhausted Akram. "But I'm happy in the end as we have won the title."

"We became a bit complacent in the last few