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1. Who clinched the world chess crown?
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2. Who lifted the Purabi Div I basketball title?
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3. Who became Leipzig tennis champ?
Hings Davenport Clusters

4. Which club lifted NBL Div I soccer title?
Fakirpool Agrani Bank Wari

5. Who was declared man-of-the-match in the Bangladesh-India inaugural Test?
Saurav Ammul Joshi

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School Address
Phone: (If any)

SPORTS TALK



Kapil Dev
(Former Indian cricket coach)

The media refused to believe me when I said I was innocent. They first tear my clothes off and now offer me new ones to cover myself.

After his name was not included in the CBI report on match-fixing.

Asadullah on song
Sports Reporter

NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE
Barisal v Khulna

Young middle-order batsman Asadullah Khan hammered a superb 90 as Khulna took a convincing first innings lead against Barisal at the Jersso Stadium yesterday.

The superlative effort of Asadullah, who played for Abahani last year, helped Khulna post 292 for seven in response to a modest Barisal first innings score of 179. At close of play Khulna were maintaining a 100-run lead.

Coming in to bat at number seven with the hosts unconvincedly placed at 109 for five, he featured in a century partnership with Sohail Islam. Sohail scored a fine 57.

Asadullah hammered four towering sixes and a couple of fours in his 170-ball stay at the crease.

Barisal, resuming the second innings, scored 13 without loss in seven overs they faced before balls were taken off.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the three-day Green Delta National Cricket League match between Khulna and Barisal at the Jersso Stadium yesterday.

BARISAL: First innings 179 all out in 83.2 overs (Imran 28, extras 32; Sohail 3/27, Monjurul 2/41, Rana 2/35)

KHULNA: First innings (overnight 19 for no loss in 11 overs)

Shahin lbw b Al-Amin 45
Selim c Imran b A Hasan 13
Setu c Hannan b A Hasan 0
Imran c Al-Amin b A Hasan 40
Parvez c M Babu b Safan 3
Sohail c M Babu b Tapu 51
Asadullah b Safan 90
J Babu not out 8
A Kamal not out 7
Extras (lb-9, lb-3, nb-2, w-1) 15
Total (For 7 wickets in 100 overs) 292
Fall of wickets: 1/24, 2/28, 3/104, 4/109, 5/109, 6/211, 7/279

Bowler O M R W
Ashfaq 22 8 54 0
Al-Amin 17 4 34 1
Al-Ansari 22 2 74 3
Mont 6 2 20 0
Tasriq 10 1 41 0



GOAL-BOUND: Muktiyoddha Sangsads substitute striker Farhad (R) on way to scoring the lone goal against Mohammedan Sporting Club in their National Bank Premier Division Football League Super Four fixture at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

— Star photo

Abahani on fire

Muktis' spell over MSC on

Sport Reporter

Holders Mohammedan Sporting Club's championship aspirations suffered a severe blow when Muktiyoddha Sangsads handed them a solitary goal defeat in the last 'Super Four' clash of the Premier Division football league at the Bangabandhu National Stadium last night.

Substitute Farhad scored the winner for the all-reds midway into the second half. The result put Muktiyoddha 15 points back atop the four-team table.

On the other hand, the defeat pulled Mohammedan down to third place on goal difference from arch rivals Abahani, who trounced Rahmatganj 6-1 in the day's first match. Both teams have 33 points.

The three now move on to play the Super Three phase which starts on Sunday.

MUKTIJODDHA - 1; MOHAMEDAN - 0

After a lacklustre start, Mohammedan almost conceded an own goal in the 25th minute when defender Jewel Rana's clearance on a Hasan Al-Mamun's cross rebounded off the post.

With custodian Nizam completely beaten. However Jewel could heave a sigh of relief as the liesman had already lifted the off-side flag.

After surviving the close call,

Mohammedan had their best chance to score two minutes later when Nakhil got the ball unmarked inside the D box. But the experienced former national striker failed to keep his cool and sent the ball wide of the near post.

Muktiyoddha showed more enterprise in the second half and were rewarded when Farhad, who replaced Shamsher early in the first period, found the net with a brilliant angular drive from the right corner in the 68th minute.

Mohammedan custodian Nizam should take the blame for the goal as he failed to read the path of the shot which went underneath his arm through a very acute angle.

In the remaining time Mohammedan tried their best and went close to scoring on a couple of occasions.

Skipper Alaf's power-packed volley was parried by Muktiyoddha goalkeeper Aminul in the 79th minute.

The last chance could have been decisive when Muktiyoddha defender Rajani cleared the ball from a goal-mouth melee with Mohammedan players

pleading for a handball. Television replays clearly showed that referee Virat Khanthachai had failed to spot the ball touching Rajani's hand.

Interestingly, Mohammedan's loss means that they have maintained the dubious distinction of losing all the matches they have played against Muktiyoddha this season including their Federation Cup clash.

ABAHANI - 6; RAH-MATGANJ - 1

Rahmatganj was no match for a marauding Abahani. However the first half never promised the eventual rout as the teams were locked 1-1.

Substitute winger Rokunuzzaman Kanchan and Ghanaian forward Kennedy struck two goals each while striker Galib and Indian Sabir Pasha added one to the Abahani account.

Monir pulled one back for Rahmatganj.

Galib, the Abahani youngster, put his side ahead heading home a Sabir pasha cross

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Aussie day all along

BRISBANE, Nov 23: Glenn McGrath targeted Brian Lara's psychological wicket to rip the heart out of the fragile West Indies batting and put Australia on course to victory in the first cricket Test at the Gabba here on Thursday, reports AFP.

The Australian strike bowler dismissed the enigmatic Lara for a duck with his first ball — the 11th time he's got Lara's scalp in their 14 Test encounters — to put the skids under the tourists as they caved in for 82.

At the close, Australia, bidding to equal the West Indies' 16-year record of 11 consecutive Test wins, laid the foundations for a match-winning first innings lead when they sauntered to 107 for one — a lead of 25 runs.

McGrath snared 6-17 off 20 overs to condemn the Caribbean tourists to their fifth sub-hundred total in two years.

'It is always satisfying to get what we class as the other team's best batsman out cheaply in the first innings of a series, so hopefully we can build on that,' said McGrath.

'The West Indies haven't had a great start to the tour and we wanted to put the pressure right on them and that was our game plan and it worked out pretty well.'

Pre-match predictions of an abbreviated three-or-four-day Test look on the mark.

The tourists' anxieties were realised when their batting succumbed in 49.1 overs to leave them with a mountain to climb just to salvage the Test, let alone win it.

McGrath seized the initiative for Steve Waugh's unofficial

world champions removing Lara on the way to leapfrogging Craig McDermott to become the third all-time highest Australian wicket-taker with 294.

Acclaimed as the best fast bowler in contemporary cricket, 30-year-old McGrath has the impressive average per wicket of 22.02 in his 63rd Test, superior to Australia's top wicket-takers, Shane Warne (366 wickets at 25.97) and Dennis Lillee (355/23.92).

Lara, with so much dependence on him, lasted just four deliveries when he failed to move his feet and edged to wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist.

McGrath was on two hat-tricks during the course of his demolition job, but was denied both times by an element of good fortune for the nonplussed West Indian batsmen.

That's been my game plan whenever we've played the West Indies is to remain patient and build the pressure. It's worked in the past, he said.

At stumps, Michael Slater was not out 54 and night-watchman Andy Bichel was on four.

Slater and Matthew Hayden wiped out the deficit off 29.1 overs with 11 overs remaining. Hayden was run out for 44 by Rainaresh Sarvan in a mix-up going for a second run.

'We should bat for most of tomorrow if all goes well and get a pretty decent lead and then put the pressure on them in the second innings,' said McGrath.

The latest capitulation continued a dire period for West Indian cricket.

The West Indies were skittled for 54 and 61 against England earlier this year and last year were rolled for 51 by Australia in Trinidad and 97 against New Zealand in Hamil-

ton.

They have lost 13 of their last 15 overseas Tests.

In what's becoming a regular

See page 15

ACC's call to India

The Asian Cricket Council (ACC) has appealed to the Indian government to reconsider its decision to postpone Indian team's scheduled tour of Pakistan next month, reports UNB.

If India do not change their decision, it is expected that Pakistan will visit Bangladesh to play two Tests and as many one-day internationals during the time.

A meeting of the ACC in Sharjah, UAE, yesterday unanimously decided to appeal to the Indian government to clear the proposed tour in the interest of the game in the region and use the sport as a medium of promoting regional harmony and cooperation.

The special general meeting further decided that a three-member delegation from the ACC would meet with appropriate levels in the Indian government to formally convey the decision.

BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury will lead the delegation which included Sri Lanka board president Thilanga Sumathipala and Tumko Imran, president of Malaysia Cricket Association.

Rajshahi in front

From Our Correspondent

NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE
Dhaka v Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI: Nov 23: Hosts Rajshahi took a crucial 23-run first innings lead against Dhaka on the second day of their three-day Green Delta National League encounter at the local stadium here today.

Rajshahi, defending a not-so-impressive first innings total of 190, shot the visitors out for 167 with national all-rounder Mushfiqur Rahman and left-arm spinner Mustadrir Litu claiming three wickets each.

Mushfiq, who scored a vital 67 on the first day, also shone with the ball claiming three wickets for 54 runs. Mustadrir took three for 21 runs in his 10 overs.

For Dhaka, veteran right-hander Mahbubur Rahman and off-spinner Fahim Muntasir scored 42 and 34 runs respectively. Star national opener Shahriar Hossain, filling in for captain Naimur Rahman, made only 11.

At close on the second day, Rajshahi were 95 for one in their second knock, an overall lead of 118.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the three-day Green Delta National Cricket League match between Rajshahi and Dhaka DSA at the Rajshahi Stadium on Thursday.

RAJSHAHI: First innings 190 all out in 79.4 overs (Mushfiq 67, Kalim 38; Saiful 5/31)

DHAKA DSA: First innings (overnight 8 for no loss in 4 overs)

Shahriar c Nuruzzaman b Aminul 11
Harun c K Masood b Mushfiq 7
Rashedul c Nuruzzaman b Aminul 15
Mahub c Rezanul b Imran 42
Sajjad c Rezanul b Imran 28
Mazharul c Anwar b Mushfiq 0
Fahim st K Masood b Mustadrir 34
Biplob c Kalim b Mushfiq 17
Saiful lbw b Mustadrir 1
Abu Taher b Mustadrir 1
Bikas not out 9
Extras: (lb-2) 2
Total: (All out in 64.3 overs) 167

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SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the three-day Green Delta National Cricket League match between Sylhet and Dhaka Metropolis at the Dhammond Cricket Stadium yesterday.

RAJSHAHI: First innings 190 all out in 79.4 overs (Mushfiq 67, Kalim 38; Saiful 5/31)

DHAKA DSA: First innings (overnight 8 for no loss in 4 overs)

Shahriar c Nuruzzaman b Aminul 11
Harun c K Masood b Mushfiq 7
Rashedul c Nuruzzaman b Aminul 15
Mahub c Rezanul b Imran 42
Sajjad c Rezanul b Imran 28
Mazharul c Anwar b Mushfiq 0
Fahim st K Masood b Mustadrir 34
Biplob c Kalim b Mushfiq 17
Saiful lbw b Mustadrir 1
Abu Taher b Mustadrir 1
Bikas not out 9
Extras: (lb-2) 2
Total: (All out in 64.3 overs) 167

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Run-fest at BKSP

Sports Reporter

a breezy 59 off 79 balls embellished with eight fours.

Ehsanul shared 69 runs for the third wicket with Minhazul before being dismissed by left-arm spinner Saifullah Gem. But by that time the right-hander was out. Chittagong were well placed at 208 for three in 60.1 overs.

NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE
Chittagong v Biman

Holders Chittagong hit back with plentiful runs against Biman on the second day, leaving the three-day Green Delta National League match of the two worthy opponents wide open at the BKSP in Saver yesterday.

Chittagong scored 294 for four in 75.4 overs after Biman, resuming the day on 355 for two, finished their quota of 100 overs with 411 for five.

On an eventful day, Biman's Pakistani Imran Farath, 195 not out overnight, completed his double century. The left-hander scored 216 before holing out in the deep of the bowling of left-arm spinner Enamul Hoque. Biman captain Aminul Islam added only two runs to his overnight score of 55 before edging right-arm seamer Saifuddin Babu to the wicketkeeper.

But the day will be remembered for a spectacular Chittagong counter offensive with skipper Minhazul Abedin leading from the front.

Chittagong were off to a rollicking start with openers Azam Iqbal and Nafiz producing 90 runs in 31 overs. Nafiz, the nephew of former national captain Akram Khan, hammered a superb 75 off 139 balls. The under-17 captain clubbed ten fours and a six in his 175-minute vigil at the wicket.

Ehsanul Huq, a member of the national team that toured Kenya and South Africa, scored

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard on the second day of the three-day Green Delta National Cricket League match between Chittagong and Biman at the BKSP ground in Saver yesterday.

BIMAN: First innings (Overnight 355 for 2 in 92 overs)

Javed lbw b Enamul 26
I Farhat c S Mehmod b Enamul 216
Bashir lbw b Saifuddin 51
Aminul c Mortaza b Saifuddin 57
Hasanuzzaman b Enamul 18
Atiar not out 8
J Talukder not out 6
Extras: (lb-3, lb-10, nb-13, w-3) 29
Total: (For 5 wickets in 100 overs) 411
Fall of wickets: 1/69, 2/236, 3/371, 4/392, 5/404

Bowler O M R W
Saifuddin Babu 22 2 95 2
Minhajul Abedin 9 3 31 0
Sabir Khan 23 3 75 0
Shahed Mehmod 21 0 104 0
Enamul Hoque 25 4 99 3

CHITTAGONG: First innings:

Azam c Atiar b Shariful 35
Nafiz run out (Aminul) 75
Ehsanul c Saivar b Saifullah 59
Minhajul batting 70
Akram batting 40
Extras: (lb-4, lb-8, nb-1, w-2) 15
Total: (For 3 wickets in 75.4 overs) 294
Fall of wickets: 1/90, 2/139, 3/208

Bowler O M R W
Jahangir 12 2 27 0
Sharif 8 0 40 0
Imran 10 3 29 0
Saifuddin 18 2 63 1
Shariful 16.4 0 56 1
Aminul 3 0 14 0
Habibul 8 0 34 0
Saivar 2 0 10 0

Ashrafu shows spin mettle

Sports Reporter

who hammered a quick-fire 53 off 62 balls that included seven fours and a couple of sixes.

Nahid with 25 was the other notable run-getter for the visitors, who would have a long day ahead to avoid a defeat today.

Ashrafu was ably supported by his captain Khaled Mahmud, the veteran all-rounder who followed up his first innings half-century with two wickets for 21 runs.

Al-Shahriar, who scored a duck in the first innings, was batting on 31 along with a doughty Halim Shah (11) at close of play.

NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE
Dhaka Metropolis v Sylhet

Young leg-spinner Mohammad Ashrafu spun Dhaka Metropolis to the driving seat against runners-up Sylhet on the second day of their three-day Dreen Delta National League match at the Dhammond Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Ashrafu grabbed five wickets for 59 runs as Sylhet, chasing Dhaka's impressive first innings total of 302, were bundled out for 153 in only 67.5 overs.

Dhaka Metropolis, one of the two new entrants in the first-class event this year, scored 60 for two, already an overall lead of 209 runs, before the stumps were drawn for the day.

Resuming the day on 275 for nine, wicketkeeper Anwar and left-arm seamer Morshed Ali added another 29 runs before the former departing for 35.

National left-arm spinner Mohammad Rafique dismissed the young stumper before Dhaka Metro could utilise their last five balls of their 100-over first innings quota. He finished with three for 90.

But it was Ashrafu who stole the spotlight with a telling spell of 20-odd overs. Coming in as a fifth change bowler, the gangling leggie dictated the terms, underlining once again his first and foremost identity as a quality spinner.

Scored a fine 41 as opener in the first innings, the hot prospect of the country removed his Sylhet counterpart Parvez for 29 before mopping up the tail in a jiffy.

Sylhet were in deep trouble when they were reduced to 64 for six in 36 overs. They were however salvaged by Rafique,

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard on the second day of the three-day Green Delta National Cricket League match between Sylhet and Dhaka Metropolis at the Dhammond Cricket Stadium yesterday.

DHAKA METROPOLIS: First innings (overnight 275 for 9 in 96 overs)

Ashrafu c Imran b Iqbal 6
Al-Shahriar Batting 31
Sajjad c b Iqbal 12
Halim batting 11
Extras: 0
Total: (For 2 wickets in 20 overs) 60
Fall of wickets: 1/10, 2/32

Bowler O M R W
Iqbal 7 1 21 2
Nayem 3 1 13 0
Imran 6 1 19 0
Rafique 3 0 18 0
Aloke 1 1 0 0

READERS' ZONE

Learn from Mistake

Do you have any observation regarding sports and its management in Bangladesh? Do you feel certain issues need to be addressed before time runs out? Then, hurry up and send us your burning questions, critical views and thoughtful suggestions not in excess of 400 words. You may be the next contributor of our READERS' ZONE.

-- Sports Editor

Bangladesh are the babes of the world cricket's Test family. So, it would not be logical for us to expect much from them at the moment. But we can expect them a minimum to do.

This minimum they fulfilled with their tremendous batting performance against India in the first innings. But their bowling is so ordinary and effortless! What went wrong with their bowling department? To me, lack of enthusiasm is the main reason. A cricketer can learn a lot only by seeing a world class player in action. It gives me the impression that our cricketers are not used to this practice. It's a very sad news for a Test nation if its strike bowler does not feel obliged at sending down seven to-bats in a row.

During the third day of the inaugural Test match Bangladesh captain Naimur Rahman had also done some selfish

things even though he became a member of the record books. He should have taken the new ball to embarrass the India tail-enders. I really failed to understand why he had not taken the new ball at all. He was also at fault in missing out on the costly run-out (Joshi) opportunity for his surprising lapse of concentration.

Moreover, Bangladeshi players became very relaxed on getting Tendulkar out. That's really why India got the opportunity to stretch their first innings up to 429.

However, I firmly believe that Bangladesh has everything of a developing cricket nation. What they need now to do is to practice really hard, show positive approach and enthusiasm towards the game. I would surely be expecting Bangladesh not to make the same mistakes in their next Test.

-- Janis, East Kafrul

Hodge's 3rd ton on the trot

MELBOURNE, Nov 23: Inform batsman Brad Hodge scored his third successive century for Victoria on the opening day of their Sheffield Shield cricket match against South Australia here Thursday, reports AFP.

Hodge held the Victorian batting together, smashing 104 in a first-innings total of 231.

By stumps South Australia had survived three overs to reach 12 without loss.

Earlier Victoria were comfortably placed at 210 for five but lost nine for four in 27 balls once the second new ball was taken with left arm paceman Brett Swain taking three quick wickets.

However it was Paul Wilson (4-49 off 22.1 overs) who picked up the prized scalp of Hodge.

That was not before Hodge took his season run tally to 470 in four first-class matches at an average of just over 156.