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- Who became Leipzig tennis champ?
Hings/Davenport/Clifters
- Which club lifted NBL Div I soccer title?
Fakirpool/Agrani Bank/Wari
- Who was declared man-of-the-match in the Bangladesh-India inaugural Test?
Sourav Amarnath Joshi

Name.....
Class..... Roll No.....
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Phone: (If any).....



Abahani players stretching during a practice session at their Dhanmondi ground yesterday. They take on Muktiyoddha in the 'virtual final' of the Premier Division Football League today. —Star photo

BNS set to take the heat

Muktis, Abahani lock horns today

Sports Reporter

The league of any kind has no set option for a final. But the last match of the National Premier Football League between Muktiyoddha Sangsad and Abahani at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today (at 3.45 pm) will be a final in every aspect.

It will be the final showdown of the two worthy opponents for the coveted title. However, the equation of the promised blood and thunder clash is very simple. Muktiyoddha need a draw to win the League for a second time while Abahani require a victory to emulate the feat of their arch-rivals Mohammedan, who won the crown for a record 11th time.

Although Mohammedan's title hopes have already been put to rest and Muktiyoddha's celebration looks the most likely possibility, it is Abahani who appear to be the most combative side of late to end their success-lorn three seasons.

The popular Dhanmondi outfit has demonstrated a remarkable turnaround since the League resumed after a month's lay-off. Resuming the 'Super Four' phase with six points behind the leaders, Abahani

floored both Mohammedan and Muktiyoddha to bounce back in the title race from a position where many had written them off.

Amalendu's confident boys, who only the other day accomplished a feat by defeating Mohammedan 4-2, a margin that Abahani had never achieved before against their bitter foes, will once again depend on their prolific Ghanaian striker Kennedy.

The muscular marksman has already scored highest 17 goals for his side including a couple in the last match against Mohammedan. Arman is also set to unfold his creative mid-field play and dependable captain Iqbal is ready to deliver his best both in defence and offence. An ever-reliable Nazrul will once again mark the sky-blue fort.

Joined Abahani only this year from Farashganj, Nazrul has already established himself as the most compact and cool

central defender among the participating teams.

Muktiyoddha on the other hand will once more bank on their counter offensive, a ploy that saw tremendous success this season. A team without any recognised scorer, Muktiyoddha, whose strength lies in defence, are certainly going to miss the service of their hard-working midfielder Tushar for this all-important match.

But the all-reds have a potent weapon in striker Maksudul Amin Khan. The diminutive forward is widely being regarded as the nemesis of Abahani.

PROBABLES

Muktiyoddha Sangsad: Aminul, Hasan Al-Mamun, Prodeep Poddar, Sirjon, Rafant, Shamsher, Farhad, Liton, Yarkin, Joy and Amin Rana. Abahani: Biplab, Tio, Nazrul, Ghansha, Partilo, Kundu, Iqbal, Sentu, Arman, Kennedy, Sabir Pasha and Galib.

(M-Matches, W-Wins, W/T-Wins in tie-breaker (two points), L/T-Losses in tie-breaker (one point), GF-Goals for, GA-Goals against)

Team	M	W	W/T	L	L/T	GF	GA	Points
Muktiyoddha	16	10	3	1	2	24	6	38
Abahani	16	11	1	3	1	44	15	36
Mohammedan	17	10	1	6	-	35	20	33



Muktiyoddha booters take a break from practice at the Uttara Armed Police ground yesterday. —Star photo

Toast of teammates

FAISALABAD Nov 29: Pakistan's cricket team surprised its famous paceman, Wasim Akram, Wednesday by presenting him with his 100th Test match, reports AFP.

I am honoured and elated that my teammates honoured me by this memento, it shows that how much they respect and love me. They have surprised me, Akram said.

I am delighted, honoured and flattered. I am feeling younger and very much motivated by the occasion and the gesture shown to me by the members of the team.

I shall remember this for the rest of my life. I wish Pakistan does well here against England to make it even more memorable for me and Pakistan, he said.

Captain Javed Miandad presented the 22-carat gold plaque to Akram before the start of the

second Test in Faisalabad against England.

Miandad was lavish in his praise for Akram: "Playing one hundred Tests and with over 400 wickets in both forms of the game is a testimony of his greatness," Miandad said.

Akram becomes only the third Pakistani and 24th player in the world to play in 100 or more Tests.

Both Miandad and Sami Malik, who is serving a life ban for match-fixing, have played over 100 Tests for Pakistan.

"I have always felt pride in playing for Pakistan and will continue to do so as long as I am fit, performing and motivated," Akram, 34, said.

"I will review my future after every six months and would like to leave the team in a position where they keep a consistent performance level," he said.

Earlier this year the Pakistan Cricket Board bestowed a "life time" award on Akram who made his debut for his country as an 18-year-old on the 1984-

85 tour of New Zealand and Australia.

In only his second Test in Dunedin, Akram proved he was a star in the making by grabbing a match haul of 10 wickets. His Test tally is 408 wickets before the start of this match at an average of 23.02 and 432 wickets in the shortened version of the game at 23.81.

"It has been a long journey but I have enjoyed every bit of it and I am still pumped up," he said.

Pakistan skipper Moin Khan summed up his teammates' feeling for the great all-rounder.

"I have no words to praise him, thousands of words are less if you praise him because he is world's best," Khan said.

"I would like to see Akram make this 100th Test memorable for not only himself but for the team as well by taking wickets and leading us to a win."

Biman rout Dhaka

Sports Reporter

NATL CRICKET LEAGUE
Biman v Dhaka

Bangladesh Biman thrashed Dhaka by an innings and 130 runs in their second match of the Green Delta National Cricket League at the Mymensingh Stadium yesterday.

On the final day of the three-day encounter, Dhaka resumed their second innings on 71 for three, needing another 195 runs to send Biman bat again. But they could only add another 64 runs before they were shot out for 135 in 65.1 overs.

One down Hamur Rashid scored highest 46 followed by Biplab Sarkar who made 24.

Biman's left arm spinner Saifullah Khan was the wrecker in chief taking three wickets for 28 while Pakistani leg spinner Imran Farhat, who forced Dhaka to follow on in the first innings taking seven wickets for 31, added two more in the second innings giving away 49 runs.

Among others, Biman's young right arm seamer Mohammad Sharif captured two wickets for 27 runs.

With yesterday's win, Biman, who earned six points, topped Chittagong in their first matches, earned a solo lead in the Group One table with 12 points.

On the other hand, Dhaka, who lost their first three-day match to Rajshahi, have two points to their credit.

Biman and Dhaka will take on each other in a one-dayer at the same venue today.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard of the three-day Green Delta National Cricket League match between Biman and Dhaka at the Mymensingh Stadium yesterday:

BIMAN: First innings 383 for 9 in 100 overs (Javed Omar 102, Imran 88, Hasanuzzaman 36, Sanwar 34 not out, Bikash 3/120, Saiful 3/81, Biplab 2/50).

DHAKA: First innings 118 all out in 45 overs (Shahriar 28, Mosaddiq 23, Rashidul 20, Imran Farhat 7/31, Ziaur 2/30).

DHAKA: Second innings (overnight 71 for 3 in 33 overs) Shahriar b Jahangir 0, Rashidul c Atiar b Sharif 16, Hamur lbw b Saifullah 46, Sajjad lbw b Sharif 7, Bikash b Imran 10, Sohel c Saifullah b Ziaur 10, Mazharul run out 0, Fahim b Saifullah 0, Saiful c Javed b Saifullah 8, Biplab c Hasanuzzaman b Imran 24, Mosaddiq not out 3, Extras: lb-2, nb-1, Total: (All out in 65.1 overs) 135

Fall of wickets: 1/0, 2/22, 3/66, 4/72, 5/85, 6/96, 7/99, 8/100, 9/110

Bowler O M R W

Jahangir 6 2 13 1
Sharif 13 3 27 2
Imran 15.1 2 49 2
Saifullah 15 7 28 3
Ziaur 14 9 12 1

Result: Biman won by an innings and 130 runs.

Rain points for Barisal, Sylhet

Sports Reporter

Hosts Barisal and last year's runners up Sylhet earned three points each when their Green Delta National Cricket League match came to an end yesterday with no play possible on the last two days due to the water logged ground condition caused by rain on Tuesday.

On the first day of the three-day match on Monday, Barisal scored 207 for 7 in 94 overs.

Both team will take on each other again in a one-day match at the same venue today.

Salim stymies Dhaka

Sports Reporter

NATL CRICKET LEAGUE
Green Delta National Cricket League

Mohammad Salim scored a superb century as Khulna clinched a commendable draw against Dhaka Metropolis in their three-day fixture of the Green Delta National League at the Dhanmondi Stadium yesterday.

The young right-hander smashed 150, his first ton in competitive cricket, as Khulna, resuming the second innings on 52 for no loss, rattled up 345 before being all out after tea, Dhaka, in reply, scored 35 for two, at close.

A member of the Bangladesh team in World Youth Championship in Sri Lanka, Salim was the sole source of Dhaka's frustration on the final day, where the visitors required 68 more runs to equal the hosts.



Mohammad Salim of Khulna pulls one on way to his century against Dhaka Metropolis on the final day of the three-day Green Delta National League match yesterday.

impressive first innings total of 312.

Coming in to bat at number three after left-handed opener Nahidul Haq departed in the second ball of the day, the

wicketkeeper-batsman not only held the innings together but also, mixing caution with aggression, took his side to safety with the help of 17 boundaries.

His 261-minute vigil at the crease also produced the highest individual score by a local batsman so far in this year's National League. Impressive with the bat but rusty with the glove, Salim was eventually out in the 100th over, playing a tired looking shot straight back to occasional spinner Mehraj Hossain. But by the time he was out, Khulna reached exactly 300 for seven.

Dhaka captain Khaled Mahmud, frustrated at not being able to make a headway throughout the day on a placid Dhanmondi wicket, gave the improbable target of 226 a go in maximum 25 overs, but the hosts were quick on to the back foot when both openers departed for 18.

Al-Shahriar was pushed up



Al-Shahriar of Dhaka Metropolis is bowled out by Mohammad Salim of Khulna.

the batting order to clobber quick runs along with first innings centurion Ashraf. But national left-arm seamer Monjurul dismissed both the openers in quick succession.

Al-Shahriar, on five, smashed a cracking shot off his pads but only to be caught brilliantly at mid-wicket by Sapan.

Nahidul Haq spectacularly caught Ashraf at backward point after the young sensation scored a run-a-ball eight. After the two quick blows Mahmud and Halim Shah carefully negotiated the new-ball duo of Monjurul and Ahmed Kamal before the match was called off 28 minutes before the scheduled closure.

Dhaka Metropolis however earned four points because to their first innings lead, Khulna scored 192 in the first innings.

The limited-over match between the two sides will be held today.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard of the three-day Green Delta National Cricket League match between Dhaka Metropolis and Khulna at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday:

KHULNA: First innings 192 all out in 93.1 overs (Raju 75, Selim 25, Jamaluddin 23, Zia 7/63, Ashraf 2/36).

DHAKA METROPOLIS: First innings 312 for 8 in 38 overs (Ashraf 101, Sajjad 39, Ashique 29 not out, Sohel 4/112, Jamaluddin 3/91).

KHULNA: Second innings (overnight 52/0 in 20 overs) Nahidul c Anwar b Mahmud 24, Sajjad c Neevamar b Ashraf 47, Selim c b Mehraj 150, Tushar c Ashique b Ashraf 12, Raju c b Al-Shahriar 25, Sohel c b Sharfuddin 19, Asadullah lbw b Mehraj 20, Jamaluddin c Anwar b Ashraf 6, Rana not out 18, Ahmed c Al-Shahriar b Sharfuddin 23, Monjurul lbw b Sharfuddin 0, Extras: (lb-1) 1, Total: (All out in 111 overs) 345

Fall of wickets: 1/53, 2/97, 3/125, 4/188, 5/236, 6/293, 7/300, 8/309, 9/345

Bowler O M R W

K Mahmud 12 0 43 1
Ashique 4 1 18 0
Zia 24 5 76 0
Ashraf 36 4 114 3
Sharfuddin 17 5 35 3
Al-Shahriar 12 2 46 1
Halim Shah 1 0 6 0
Mehraj 6 2 6 2

DHAKA METROPOLIS: Second innings Ashraf c Nahidul b Monjurul 8, Al-Shahriar c Setu b Monjurul 6, K Mahmud not out 17, Halim Shah not out 1, Extras: (lb-2, lb-1) 3, Total: (For 2 wks in 10 overs) 35

Fall of wickets: 1/9, 2/18

Bowler O M R W

Monjurul 5 1 14 2
Ahmed 5 0 18 0

Result: Match drawn.

Enamul propels holders

Sports Reporter

NATL CRICKET LEAGUE
Rajshahi v Chittagong

After a disappointing start against Bangladesh Biman, holders Chittagong returned to form when they handed hosts Rajshahi a nine-wicket defeat in their second three-day clash of the Green Delta National Cricket League at the Cricket Garden in Rangpur yesterday.

On the final day of the match, Rajshahi, who were forced to follow on after being bowled out for 175 in their first innings on Tuesday in reply to Chittagong first innings of 335, could muster only 164 in their second innings. That left the defending champions needing just five runs to win which they did in one over losing a wicket on the way.

Chittagong's veteran left arm spinner Enamul Haque laid the foundation of the emphatic win by completing a

match-haul of ten wickets.

The national cricketer, who took five wickets for 44 runs in the first innings, returned with his second five-wicket burst for only 29 runs that helped him finish the match with ten for 73.

Enamul was ably helped by right arm medium pacer Shafuddin Ahmed who ended with three for 32.

Both teams will now play a one-day match at the same venue today.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard of the three-day Green Delta National Cricket League match between Rajshahi and Chittagong at the Cricket Garden in Rangpur yesterday:

CHITTAGONG: First innings 335 for 9 in 100 overs (Minhazul 137, Azam 53, Enamul 36, Akram 31, Alamgir 4/93).

RAJSHAHI: First innings 175 all out in 70.3 overs (Kalin 35, Anisur 29, Enamul 5/44, S

Mehmud 3/70).

RAJSHAHI: Second innings (overnight 2 for no loss in 3 overs) Rafiqul c Zakir b Enamul 7, Humayun c Sabbir b Shafuddin 5, Nuruzzaman c Mortuza b Zakir 6, Kalim b Sabbir 23, Mustadr c Minhazul b Enamul 25, Tarekul b Shafuddin 15, K masood c Mortuza b Enamul 14, Anisur c Zakir b Shafuddin 22, Imran c Minhazul b Enamul 21, Aminul jr lbw b Enamul 0, Alamgir not out 0, Extras: (lb-13, lb-6, nb-2, w-5) 26, Total: (All out in 91.3 overs) 164

Fall of wickets: 1/16, 2/19, 3/26, 4/65, 5/96, 6/114, 7/115, 8/158, 9/158

Bowler O M R W

Zakir 11 4 16 1
Shafuddin 21.3 3 32 3
Enamul 27 13 29 5
S Mehmud 21 6 42 0
Sabbir 11 4 26 1

CHITTAGONG: Second innings S Mehmud c Imran b Aminul jr 2, Nalis not out 4, Azam not out 0, Total: (For 1 wkt in 1 over) 6

Bowler O M R W

Aminul jr 1 0 6 0

Result: Chittagong won by nine wickets.

Women's WC cricket Australia win opener

WELLINGTON, Nov 29: Defending champions Australia beat New Zealand by six wickets in the opening match of the 2000 Women's World Cup cricket tournament at Lincoln today, reports Reuters.

Australia overhauled New Zealand's total of 166 for nine (50 overs) with 15 balls to spare.

BRIEFScores

New Zealand 166-9 (Emily Drumm 74, Kathryn Ramey 32, Karen Rolton 2-41).

Australia 167-4 (Karen Rolton 51 not out, Lisa Keightley 44, Catherine Campbell 1-22).



GOLDEN RECOGNITION: Pakistan coach Javed Miandad (L) and captain Moin Khan (R) present a 22-carat gold plaque to cricketer superstar Wasim Akram to mark the latter's 100th Test match yesterday. —AFP photo

Lillee puts his money on Lee

PERTH, Nov 29: Australian firebrand Brett Lee has every chance of smashing the world fast bowling record in the second Test against the West Indies this weekend, speed legend Dennis Lillee predicted on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Lillee (355 Test wickets) and WACA Ground curator Richard Winter both said they believed Lee, 24, could exceed the 160.4 kph (99.5 mph) recorded by Australian Jeff Thomson in Melbourne in 1975.

"It would be no surprise at all if Brett shatters the record. He's a great guy, a great bowler and has pace to burn. If he gets out there and the rhythm is right, anything can happen," Lillee said.