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Star Sport

DHAKA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2000 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

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SPORTS TALK



Romario
(Brazilian soccer superstar)
"I don't know what sort of criteria they use if it leaves out players like me (Juan Roman Riquelme and Ariel Ortega)."
After he was not nominated by FIFA for world-player-of-the-year award.

Sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 139
Tick the Correct Answers
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Dec 1 2000 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who clinched the world chess crown?
Kasparov, Karpov, Kramnik
- Who lifted the Purnabi Div I basketball title?
Dhanketu, Josepites, Titas
- Who became Leipzig tennis champ?
Hings, Davenport, Clijsters
- Which club lifted NBL Div I soccer title?
Fakirerpool, Agrani Bank, Wari
- Who was declared man-of-the-match in the Bangladesh-India inaugural Test?
Saurav, Aminul, Joshi

Name.....
Class..... Roll No.....
School Address.....
Phone: (if any).....

Nafis' knock makes the difference

Sports Reporter

NATL CRICKET LEAGUE

Rajshahi v Chittagong

Nafis Iqbal's superb half century steered holders Chittagong to a 45-run victory over hosts Rajshahi in their one-day match of the Green Delta National Cricket League at the Cricket Garden in Rangpur yesterday.

Nafis, the right handed batsman scored 68 as Chittagong made 202 for nine in their allotted 50 overs.

Nafis, the nephew of former national skipper Akram Khan, snout two sixes and nine boundaries in his 97-ball innings.

In reply, Rajshahi were shot out for 157 in 44.4 overs with middle order Mustadr Litu scoring highest 42.

Right arm seamer Shafiqul Alam and left arm spinner Enamul Haque evenly shared six wickets among themselves.

Chittagong's victory makes them the only team in the league so far to have eaned full eight points against an opponent. They earlier defeated Rajshahi by nine wickets in the three-day encounter that finished the day before.

Nafis was declared as the man-of-the-match.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Green Delta National Cricket League one-day match between Rajshahi and Chittagong at the Cricket Garden in Rangpur yesterday.

CHITTAGONG

Aziz c K Masood b Aminul Jr	16
Nafis b Aminul Jr	68
Jalanger run out	7
Ehsanul c Anisul b Tareque	12
Akram c Rafiqul b Nuruzzaman	21
Munib c Nuruzzaman b Alamgir	4
Enamul c Rafiqul b Tareque	7
Sabbir b Tareque	20
S Mehmon c Alamgir b Aminul Jr	23
Zahir not out	4
Shahidul not out	2
Extras (b-3, lb-1, nb-3, w-11)	18
Total (all out in 50 overs)	202
Fall of wickets: 1/32, 2/39, 3/84, 4/127, 5/150, 6/147, 7/153, 8/190, 9/196	
BOWLER	O M R W
Aminul Jr	10 2 34 3
Alamgir	10 0 42 1
Nuruzzaman	10 1 39 1
Tareque	10 0 50 1
Tareque	10 1 42 2

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Muktis regain crown

Abahani choke at the crux

Al-Amin



Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra ensured their status as a dominant force in the domestic football when the all-reds lifted yesterday the coveted Premier Football League title for a second time in three years.

Needing a draw in the last match of the 1999-2000 season against crowd-favorites Abahani, Muktijoddha did exactly what was required in the regulation 90 minutes by playing out a goalless draw at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

The Muktijoddha team burst into euphoria once Thai referee Satoph Tongkhan blew the long whistle and the players went on a premature victory lap before the penalty shootout.

Although the shootout was rather academic for Muktijoddha, their 4-3 victory rubbed more salt into the wound of Abahani who needed an outright victory to pip their opponents at the post. The outcome comes as double delight for Muktijoddha who took back the trophy from Mohammedan and avenged their Federation Cup defeat at the hands of Abahani this year.

It was a tremendous achievement for a team that has been lacking support in numbers compared to the likes of Abahani and Mohammedan Sporting Club, who have been monopolising the scene for

the crunch moment. While Abahani struggled throughout, Muktijoddha looked the more likely team to prevail in a match marked by an overdose of physical strength rather than skill. The referee had to caution as many as seven players — five of Abahani and two of Muktijoddha — to restore order.

While the water-tight defence manned by young central defender Sujon denied Abahani

ROAD TO C'SHIP

First Round		
Sep 3	1. Muktijoddha-3 Vijayan (3)	Rahmatganj-0
Sep 7	2. Muktijoddha-1 (Asif)	Brothers-0
Sep 11	3. Muktijoddha-1(7) (Tushar)	Farashganj-1(6) (Mithu)
Sep 18	4. Muktijoddha-1 (Farhad)	Badda-0
Sep 22	5. Muktijoddha-3 (Asif) (2), Liton	Arambagh-0
Sep 25	6. Muktijoddha-1(10) (Asif)	Dhanmondi-1(11) (Manju)
Sep 28	7. Muktijoddha-1 (Masood Rana)	Abahani-0
Oct 1	8. Muktijoddha-1 (Liton)	Mohammedan-0
Oct 9	9. Muktijoddha-5 (Johny) (2), Mintu (2), Amin Rana)	Victoria-0
Super Four		
Oct 9	10. Muktijoddha-0(5)	Rahmatganj-0(4)
Oct 12	11. Muktijoddha-1(4) (Joy)	Abahani-1(5) (Pasha)
Oct 15	12. Muktijoddha-1(6) (Sourav Raju)	Mohammedan-1(5) (Nakib)
Nov 16	13. Muktijoddha-2 (Nazarov, Liton)	Rahmatganj-0
Nov 20	14. Muktijoddha-1 (Liton)	Abahani-2 (Iqbal, Kaneddy)
Nov 23	15. Muktijoddha-1 (Farhad)	Mohammedan-0
Super Three		
Nov 26	16. Muktijoddha-1 (Farhad)	Mohammedan-0
Nov 30	17. Muktijoddha-0(4)	Abahani-0(3)



The victorious Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra team members who became the Premier Division Football League champions defeating Abahani at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. Rajani (standing L), the team captain, was hospitalised after the match with a head injury. —Star photo

ROLL OF HONOUR

Year	Champions	Runners-up
1973	Abahani/Mohammedan/BIDC	Abahani/Mohammedan/Dhaka Wanderers
1974	Abahani	Dilkusha SC
1975	Mohammedan SC	BJMC
1976	Mohammedan SC	Abahani
1977	Abahani	Rahmatganj MFS
1978	Mohammedan SC	Brothers Union
1979	BJMC	Abahani
1980	Mohammedan SC	BJMC
1981	Abahani	Not decided
1982	Mohammedan SC	Abahani
1983	Abahani	Mohammedan SC
1984	Abahani	Mohammedan SC
1985	Abahani	Brothers Union
1986	Mohammedan SC	Abahani
1987	Mohammedan SC	Abahani
1988-89	Mohammedan SC	Abahani
1989-90	Abahani	Mohammedan SC
1991	Abahani	Mohammedan SC
1992	Not held	
1993	Mohammedan SC	Abahani
1994	Abahani	Mohammedan SC
1995	Abahani	Mohammedan SC
1996	Mohammedan SC	Abahani
1997	Muktijoddha Sangsad	Mohammedan SC
1998	Not held	
1999	Mohammedan SC	Abahani
2000	Muktijoddha Sangsad	Abahani

Khulna stoop to Mahmud

Sports Reporter

NATL CRICKET LEAGUE

Dhaka Metro v Khulna

Skipper Khaled Mahmud's bowling exploits guided Dhaka Metro to a comprehensive seven-wicket win over Khulna in their Green Delta National Cricket League limited overs match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

All-rounder Mahmud, the former national vice-captain, captured four wickets for 24 runs as Khulna were shot out for 174 in 42.3 overs. Off spinner Mukul and exciting youngster Ashraful Mahmud admirably support by sharing five wickets among themselves.

Mukul gave away 20 runs in his 6.3 overs for his three wickets while Ashraful, who scored a century against the same opponent in the three-dayers, took two wickets for 35 runs

with his leg spinners. Tall-ender Ahmed Kamal hammered the highest 58 off only 39 balls for Khulna with two sixes and four boundaries. In reply, the home side reached their target in 42.5 overs with seven wickets to spare.

Test cap Al-Shahriar top scored with 41 off 87 balls with three fours followed by opener Ashraful and one-down Biplob Sarkar who each made 35.

With this win, Dhaka Metro joined Biman at the top of the Group A table having raised their tally to 12 points.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Green Delta National Bank Cricket League one-day match between Dhaka Metro and Khulna at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

KHULNA

Nahidul c Mehbab b K Mahmud	0
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even the slightest of a scoring opportunity. Muktijoddha frontline almost grabbed a winner three minutes away from the final whistle with Amin Rana racing down the right flank. But with only Abahani custodian Biplob at his mercy, the nimble marksman fired the ball wide off the mark from ten yards.

His attacking partner Liton could have stolen the show a couple of minutes later when his chip shot was sailing into the far post but had to be parried away by Biplob.

Muktijoddha keeper Aminul on the other hand was hardly called into action apart from the occasional set pieces and corners.

However in the shootout, Aminul proved why he is regarded as the country's number one goalkeeper ahead of his close friend Biplob. Aminul saved two shots including the decider taken by Ghanisha while Biplob thwarted Liton's weak effort.

Masud Rana, Hasan al Mamun, Sujon and Prodig converted for Muktijoddha. For Abahani, Partho, Nazrul and Kennedy scored from the spot. Aminul stopped Titu's feeble effort.

Muktijoddha coach Shafiqul Haq Manik, who was the toast of the celebration, attributed the victory to his players sticking to a plan and the introduction of foreign referees.

"I'm very proud of my charges who did everything that was planned ahead of the match. Besides, I commend the league committee's decision to introduce foreign referees. Without foreign officials we could not have won the title," said the smiling Muktijoddha coach after the match.

"No doubt the defence played its part, but we never played negative football. Rather, we played attractive football and could have won had Amin Rana scored," he added.

His Abahani counterpart Amalesh Sen pointed to his exhausted midfield for the unexpectedly poor performance.

"I was amazed seeing how my boys, despite having been backed up by very vocal support, collapsed under pressure against a team trying to establish itself. We failed to create a single chance due to our inept midfield trio," said a grim-faced Amalesh at the gloomy Abahani dressing room.

At the end of the 17-match league Muktijoddha collected 40 points, Abahani ended up with 37 and Mohammedan with 33.

Yellow cards: Ghanisha, Partho, Arman, Kennedy and Don (Abahani), Joy and Aminul Rana (Muktijoddha).

TEAMS

MUKTIJODHA SANGSAD: Aminul, Rajani, Sujon, Hasan al Mamun, Masud Rana, Prodig, Joy, Shansher (Liton), Saurav Raju (Prodip Barua), Amin Rana and Yarkin (Farhad).

ABAHANI: Biplob, Titu, Nazrul, Ghanisha, Partho, Iqbal, Seitu (Zaki), Arman, Kennedy, Sabir Pasha and Galib (Kanchan).

Referee: Satoph Tongkhan (Thailand)

Rajani in hospital

Sports Reporter

Muktijoddha captain Rajani Kanta Barman could not celebrate his team's league triumph at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The dependable central defender was rushed to Holy Family Hospital after sustaining a head injury.

He underwent a CT scan. The attending doctors termed his condition as stable but said he would remain under close observation for the next 24 hours.

Sylhet overcome Barisal

Sports Reporter

NATL CRICKET LEAGUE

Barisal v Sylhet

Sylhet beat hosts Barisal by three wickets in their Green Delta National Cricket League one-day encounter at the Abdur Rab Serniabat Stadium in Barisal yesterday.

Chasing a paltry Barisal total of 108 in 50 overs, the tourists survived a batting collapse and lost seven wickets before reaching 109 in the 38th over.

Opener Parvez Ahmed top-scored with 37 followed by middle order Alok Kapali who was unbeaten on 20.

Barisal's right arm seamer Ashfaq Ali returned with impressive figures of four for 31.

Earlier, put into bat, Barisal



MILLENNIUM CELEBRATION: Muktijoddha Sangsad players having a party after they clinched the Premier Division Football League title. —Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Dhaka baffle Biman

Sports Reporter



Dhaka handed leaders Bangladesh Biman a five-wicket defeat in their limited overs match of the Green Delta National Cricket League at the Mymensingh Stadium yesterday.

Opener Harunur Rashid scored a dazzling 75 and one-down Rashedul Haque made 68 as Dhaka, chasing a fighting Biman total of 220 for five in 50 overs, reached 221 for five with more than five overs to spare.

Harun, the former national

opener gave Dhaka a resounding start sharing a 87 runs for the first wicket along with Test opener Shahriar Hossain. The stand was broken when Shahriar got out on 24.

Harun then put on 69 runs for the second wicket along with Rashedul Haque before being caught behind off Anwar in the 29th over.

In his brilliant 88-ball innings, Harun hammered five sixes and three boundaries.

After Harun's departure Rashedul, who lost three partners in quick succession, played a highly responsible innings to guide his side home. Rashedul, faced 105 balls

for his unbeaten 68 which included ten fours. Earlier, Biman's total was built around notable contributions from Test stars Habibul Bashar (52), Aminul Islam(42) and Pakistani opener Imran Farhat (32).

Dhaka's Rashedul Haque was later adjudged the man of the match. With the win, Dhaka have earned four points so far after two rounds. On the other hand, Biman are jointly leading the table with Dhaka Metropolis having 12 points apiece.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Green Delta National Cricket League one-day match between Biman and Dhaka at the Mymensingh Stadium yesterday.

BIMAN				
Javed Omar b Bikash	13			
Farhat c Sajjad b Saiful	32			
Habibul c Sajjad b Mazharul	52			
Aminul b Mazharul	42			
Faruque c Shahriar b Biplob	12			
Hasanuzzaman not out	36			
Sauwar not out	25			
Extras (lb-3, nb-12, w-3)	18			
Total (for 5 wks in 50 overs)	220			
Did not bat: Atiar Rahman, Ziaur Rashid, Mohammad Shari and Anwar Hossain.				
Fall of wickets: 1/54, 2/62, 3/150, 4/152, 5/162				
BOWLER	O M R W			
Bikash	7 0 30 1			
Zakir	7 1 45 0			
Saiful	9 0 35 1			
Fahim	10 0 41 0			
Biplab	10 1 27 1			
Mazharul	7 0 39 2			

Biman flying high

Sports Reporter



Bangladesh Biman kept their impressive streak intact in the First Division Chess League when they blanked Rajshahi Daba Unnayan Sanghita 4-0 in the tenth round yesterday.

With this win, the national airline outfit improved their tally to 35.5 points, two clear of their nearest challengers Titas Club.

In this round at the NSC Chess Room, Biman's International Masters (IMs) Ziaur Rahman, Reefat-bin-Satrat and Abdullah Al Rakib recorded victories against Kawsar Ali, Alamgir Hossain and Rezaul Haque respectively. FIDE Master Rezaul also continued his good showing defeating Rabul Islam in the other board.

Titas Club, following hard on the heels of the leaders, conceded half a point against Kamalpur Samajkalyan & Krira Sangha in this round. The 3.5-0.5 victory raised their tally to 33.5.

FIDE Master Enamul Hossain Razib, Saifuddin Lavlu, and Sved Ruhel Kabir Shiplu won against Sved Ejaz Husain, Mohammed Javed and Hasan Emam respectively. While Khandaker Aminul Islam of drew with Mehdi Hasan Porag.

Leoune Chess Club hold the third position with 31 points.

Rieh in foreign recruits, Leonie beat Farashganj Sporting Club 3-1. Russian GM IGors, Indian IM Sankar Roy and Mamuddin Ahmed won against Devashis Mukharjee, Golam Mostafa Bhuiyan and Rupankar Nath.

Kazi Taherul Islam of Farashganj won against Monirul Karim Sujon of Leonie. Bangladesh Ansars meanwhile captured the distant fourth position with 27.5 points. Ansars drew with Anu Memorial Club.

In the day's other matches, Narayanjan District Chess Players Association (2.5-1.5 against) Sonali Bank, Nakhilpara Yubo Sangha (3.5-0.5 against Uttara Daba Sangha) and Mohakhali Prodip Sangha (3-1 against Ultra Central Chess Club) emerged winners.

Amushilan Daba Krira Chakra and Dhaka University Chess Team played to the day's only draw.

The eleventh round starts from 2:30 pm at the same venue today.

POINTS TABLE

Biman-35.5, Titas-33.5, Leonie-31, Anwar-27.5, Narayanjan-23.5, Prodip-23, Dhaka University-20, Kamalpur-19.5, Farashganj-19.5, Nakhilpara-19, Sonali Bank-18, Amushilan-15.5, Anu Memorial-11.5, Uttara Daba-8.5, Uttara Central-7.5 and Rajshahi-6.5.

Hosts have the edge



FAISALABAD, Pakistan, Nov 30: Pakistan had England on the ropes at the end of Day Two in the second

Test here on Thursday despite a career-best 5-75 by left-arm spinner Ashley Giles, reports AFP.

At stumps, England were 110-3 with Graham Thorpe on two and nightwatchman Ian Salisbury on one, leaving the tourists 206 runs behind.

In the fading light England lost the crucial wickets of Michael Atherton and captain Nasser Hussain on a track which has started to turn and deceive with uneven bounce.

Hussain looked stunned after West Indian umpire Steve Bucknor gave him out leg before off Saqlain Mushtaq for 23 when television replays showed the ball touched the foot of his bat before it hit his pads.

It was the second time on the tour that Hussain has lingered at the wicket following a leg before decision. But this time he was careful not to open his mouth after narrowly escaping punishment for dissent following the one-day at Rawalpindi.

Earlier, Pakistan's quicks Wasim Akram and Abdur Raz-

zak threw everything at England's opening combination of Atherton and Marcus Trescothick, but they managed a stand of 49 before Trescothick fell to debutant spinner Danish

Kanerla.

Kanerla, 19, forced Trescothick forward to a googly and had him stumped for 30 by Moin Khan off his 14th delivery

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England spinner Ashley Giles, who claimed career-best 5-75 in Pakistan's first innings, bowling on the second day of the second Test in Faisalabad yesterday. —AFP photo