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SPORTS TALK



Yousuf Youhana
I (Pakistan Star batsman) stopped cricket for seven months because I have a poor family but find no job. No job, no resources, no money, nobody help me. When I am in Pakistan team every Father, every priest, want to see me.

Sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 140
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to: Dhaka Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Dec 15, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

- Who is IAAF's female athlete of the year?
Marion Jones, Marlene Ottey, Maryjose-Perez
- Who lifted Intercontinental Cup soccer title?
Boca Juniors, Real Madrid, Antlers
- Which country lifted the Fed Cup women's tennis title?
America, Russia, Spain
- Who clinched ACC Trophy?
UAE, HK, Malaysia
- Who became Premier Div football champions?
Mohammedan, Abahain, Muktiyodha

Name:

Class: Roll No.

School Address:

Phone: (If any)

Ctg Soccer

From Our Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, Dec 10: City Corporation earned full points in the Premier Division Football League when they defeated Customs and Vat at the MA Aziz Stadium this afternoon.

After a barren 90-minute of regulation time, the match rolled into tie-breaker where City Corporation won the shoot-out 5-4.

Meanwhile, in the First Division League Rising Star recorded a lone goal victory over Mohammedan Blues with Iqbal netting the all-important one in the tenth minute of the match.

Lankans erase Eastern

PORT ELIZABETH, Dec 10: Sri Lanka sent Eastern Province in to bat and then they allowed them 92 runs Saturday on the first day of a three-day four match at St George's Park in Port Elizabeth, reports AFP.

But Garnett Kruger restored the home side's battered pride with a stunning hat-trick, dismissing Kumar Sangakkara (37), Russell Arnold (0) and Tillekeratne Dilshan (0) with consecutive deliveries.

The visitors still managed to secure 253 for nine wickets before the day's end, starting their innings by racing to 176 for two.

In a show of strength ahead of the three Tests and six one-day internationals against South Africa, openers Sanath Jayasuriya (38) and Marvan Atapattu (42) treating the small crowd to a scintillating display of batting.

The pair put on 85 runs in 20 overs for the first wicket, with Jayasuriya's runs coming off only 57 balls and including seven cracking boundaries. He was caught at slip by Dave Callaghan off Nantie Hayward.

Atapattu was equally aggressive hitting his 42 off only 68 balls.

The Sri Lankan bowling also showed some fire, with opener Dilhara Fernando ending with four for 27 off eleven overs and spinner Muttiah Muralitharan two for nine in his six overs.

Eastern Province were on the back foot right from the outset, crashing to 28 for four and suffering two needless run outs.

Only James Bryant showed any spark, hitting 37 off 59 balls.

Sri Lanka start play Sunday with a 161-run lead.

Their first one-day against South Africa is on Friday and the first Test starts on December 26.

Khulna win at a canter

GREEN DELTA NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE

Barisal v Khulna

Khulna moved to the top of Group B after scoring a resounding nine-wicket win against hosts Barisal in their Green Delta three-day National Cricket League match at the Abdur Rab Seraniat Stadium yesterday.

Khulna, who trailed Dhaka Metropolis by four points at the start of the fourth round, followed their three-day home success against Sylhet with the victory in Barisal.

Barisal, having conceded a 138-run first innings lead, could score only 173 before being dismissed in 88.3 overs.

Resuming the final day on 25 without loss, the hosts never looked like batting out the day in order to avoid defeat.

They lost wickets at regular intervals against Khulna's experienced pace attack led by Khairuzaman and Ahmed Kamal. The new ball pair tore apart the top order before occasional left-arm slow bowler

Sports Reporter

Shaon ripped the lower half to finish with four for 17 runs. For Barisal only Towhid offered any resistance, making 51.

The outright victory took Khulna's points tally to 16, two more than Dhaka Metropolis. Barisal, on the other hand slipped to the bottom of the table on 9 points.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard of the three-day Green Delta National Cricket League match between Barisal and Khulna at the Abdur Rab Seraniat Stadium in Barisal yesterday.

BARISAL: First innings 194 all out in 97.2 overs (Hassan 78, Shaifaz 44; Rana 4/53, Sohail 3/40, A Kamal 3/42)

KHULNA: First innings 332 for 9 in 100 overs (Sajjad 147, Parvez 84; Ishfaq 5/53, Hannan 3/93)

BARISAL: Second innings (overnight 25 for no loss in 7 overs)

Imran b Khairuzaman 6
Shafiqat e Salam b Khairuzaman 16
Hannan c Selim b A Kamal 25

ISHTAQ lbw b Shaon 39
Towhid run out 51
Mizanur c Parvez b Shaon 0
Hassan c Sajjad b Shaon 0
Moin lbw b Jamal 0
Shahinewaz c Rana b Shaon 0
Al-Amin not out 11
Ashfaq c Biplob b A Kamal 2
Extras (lb-4, lb-11, nb-2, w-1) 18
Total: (All out in 88.3 overs) 173

Fall of wickets: 1/25, 2/34, 3/74, 4/147, 5/149, 6/151, 7/155, 8/155, 9/164

Bowler O M R W

A Kamal 21.3 11 30 2
Khairuzaman 10 2 37 2
Rana 21 8 37 0
Sohail 10 5 8 0
Jamal 13 1 28 1
Naz 2 1 4 0
Shaon 11 7 14 4

KHULNA: Second innings

Shaon c Mizanur b Shahinewaz 19
Sajjad not out 6
Selim not out 6
Extras: lb-1, nb-1, w-1) 3
Total: (For 1 wicket in 7.4 overs) 36

Fall of wicket: 1/40

Bowler O M R W

Ashfaq 4 0 17 0
Al-Amin 2 0 12 0
Shahinewaz 1.4 0 6 1
Result: Khulna won by 9 wickets.

Kapali shines for Sylhet

GREEN DELTA NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE

Sylhet v Dhaka Metro

A virtuoso all-round show from Alok Kapali ensured that hosts Sylhet picked up four vital points against Dhaka Metropolis after their Green Delta National Cricket League three-day match ended in a tame draw at the Sylhet Stadium yesterday.

The unheralded leg-spinner, whose five-wicket haul gave Sylhet a first innings lead, also scored a brave 76 as the home side recovered from a shaky 49 for three to post a respectable 225 in their second innings on the final day.

Kapali put on 97 runs with opener Parvez, who made 65. Last year's runners, resuming the day on 53 for three, rode on the combined effort of Parvez and Kapali to take Sylhet to a huge overall lead of 278 runs.

The visitors, needing to topple the improbable target in only 12 overs, scored 26 for three when the stumps were drawn.

Kapali, the unlikely Sylhet hero, returned with five for 35 as Metropolis, chasing the hosts first innings score of 220, were shot out for 167.

Kapali was equally impressive with the willow in the second innings. He hammered three fours in his 240-ball vigil at the crease.

The four points Sylhet earned from their first innings advantage improved their tally to ten. While Dhaka Metropolis, who were leading the Group B at the end of the third round, remained content with their previous collection of 14 points.

SCOREBOARD

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

SYLHET: First innings 220 all out in 98 overs (Rajin 115, Nahar 38; Saikat 6/45, Neevamar 2/18)

DHAKA METROPOLIS: First innings 167 all out in 77.2 overs (K Mahmud 45, Mehrah 42; Alok 5/35, Rafique 3/33)

SYLHET: Second innings (overnight 53 for 3 in 36 overs)

Parvez lbw b Saikat 85
Kabi lbw b Neevamar 3
Nahid c Biplob b Zia 17
Tajshib c Ashraf 7
Alok lbw b Neevamar 7
Rajin not out 34
Rafique c Saikat b Mehrah 12
Extras: lb-1, lb-1, w-1) 13
Total: (For 6 wickets in 115 overs) 225

Fall of wickets: 1/10, 2/40, 3/49, 4/146, 5/204, 6/222

Bowler O M R W

K Mahmud 8 2 13 0
Neevamar 15 6 22 2
Saikat 27 15 33 1
Ashraf 23 7 50 1
Zia 10 0 25 1
Biobol 9 0 28 0
Al-Shahriar 7 1 10 0
Mehrah 6 2 21 1
Halim 5 3 5 0
Anwar 5 2 7 0

DHAKA METROPOLIS: Second innings

Ashraf c Imon b Tajshib 11
Biplob b Hasibul 9
Halim lbw b Iqbal 0
Neevamar not out 5
Anwar not out 0
Extras: (lb-1) 1
Total: (For 3 wickets in 12 overs) 26

Fall of wickets: 1/19, 2/20, 3/26

Bowler O M R W

Hasibul 5 1 16 1
Iqbal 5 0 9 1
Tajshib 1 1 0 1
Rafique 1 1 0 0

Result: Match drawn



BUDGING CRICKETERS' MASS: The Bangabandhu National Stadium was crowded with young cricketers who flocked the BNS for under-13 and under-17 cricket clinics yesterday.

HOLDERS pay Biman back

GREEN DELTA NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE

Chittagong v Biman

Defending champions Chittagong exacted sweet revenge against Bangladesh Biman when the port city outfit got back the same number of points they lost in their opening Green Delta National Cricket League three-day match at the BKSP last month.

Chittagong drew their first home match against Biman at Comilla yesterday. But they earned four points by virtue of taking a first innings lead.

Chittagong, who scored 317 in their first innings and booked Biman for 252, made 199 for eight declared in their second innings on the final day leaving the visitors an impossible target of 254 in 15

Sports Reporter

Biman ended up with 23 for four at close.

The outcome of the match, however, was a forgone conclusion when Chittagong, resuming their second innings yesterday, scored 49 and

Mehrud scored 43 and Mortuza chipped in with a plucky 43.

The outcome now left both Chittagong and Biman on equal points (18) at the top of Group A.

CHITTAGONG: First innings 317 all out in 88.4 overs (Nafis 147, Minhaz 63, Akram 48; Sharif 6/46, Jahangir 3/56)

BIMAN: First innings 262 all out in 88 overs (Javed 71, Bashar 44, Sanwar 44; Safiuddin 4/52, Sabbar 2/31)

CHITTAGONG: Second innings (overnight 0 for no loss in 2 overs)

Azam lbw b Rafiqul 22
Nafis c Farhat b Sharif 14
Sabbar run out 0
Eftanul lbw b Farhat 0
Akram c Jahangir b Farhat 14
Minhaz ret'd. Hurit 28
S Mehrudd c Aminul b Safiuddin 49
Mortuza lbw b Sanwar 43

Result: Chittagong won by 15 wickets.

Capital crashes again

GREEN DELTA NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE

Dhaka v Rajshahi

Dhaka maintained their losing streak in the longer version matches of the Green Delta National Cricket League.

The understrength Dhaka without their regular captain Niamur Rahman, who is in Calcutta undergoing treatment on his bruised right hand, stumbled to a 57-run defeat against Rajshahi at the Faridpur Stadium yesterday, their fourth successive defeat in three-day matches.

Also missing the services of stand-in captain and national opener Shahriar Hossain, the beleaguered capital side needed 250 runs to avoid another defeat on the final day, but were shot out for 193 in 63 overs.

Mushfiqur Rahman, responsible for Dhaka's debacle in the first innings with a four-wicket haul, also played the role of tormentor in the second innings, claiming three for 62 runs.

Earlier, resuming the day on 70 for four, Rajshahi scored 173 in their second innings before being all out in 50.1 overs. Opener Rafiqul, not out on 29 at stumps on the second day, made 55 and lower middle-order batsman Raizwan hammered a rapid-fire 45 off only 30 balls inclusive of four sixes

Sports Reporter

Dhaka, in their chase, kept on losing wickets at regular intervals after yet another fiery spell from Mushfiq. Only Rashedul Huq offered some resistance with a typically aggressive 52 off 70 balls.

The victory improved Rajshahi's tally to 12 points while Dhaka remained glued to their previous collection of six.

The two teams will play their regulation One-day match today. Dhaka however has so far enjoyed a hundred percent record in the limited-over game.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard of the three-day Green Delta National Cricket League match between Rajshahi and Dhaka at the Faridpur Stadium yesterday.

RAJSHAH: First innings 230 all out in 83.3 overs (Nuruzzaman 80, Mushfiq 28, Anisur 28; Fahim 4/57, Bikash 2/64, Saiful 2/31)

DHAKA: First innings 153 all out in 64.3 overs (Biplob 31, Rubel 27, Mushfiq 4/51, Aminul jr. 2/30, Ripon 2/25)

RAJSHAH: Second innings (overnight 70 for 4 wickets in 29 overs)

Rafiqul c Sadek b Bikash 55
Omar c Sadek b Saiful 18
Farid lbw b Bikash 1
Anisur lbw b Rubel 11
Kalin lbw b Rubel 0
Nuruzzaman c Sadek b Rashedul 9

Mushfiq b Bikash 0
Mustadir c Pappu b Rubel 0
Rizwan b Biplob 45
Imran b Fahim 2
Aminul jr. not out 10
Extras: (b-7, lb-13, nb-1, w-1) 22
Total: (All out in 50.1 overs) 173

Fall of wickets: 1/37, 2/38, 3/70, 4/70, 5/108, 6/108, 7/108, 8/121, 9/160

Bowler O M R W

Saiful 22 7 64 3
Rashedul 14 6 24 1
Mazharul b Mustfiq 18
Ripon c & b Ripon 26
Fahim c Mustadir b Rizwan 35
Biplob c Rafiqul b Ripon 38
Bikash c & b Mustadir 12
Saul c Raizwan b Mustadir 12
Rubel not out 5
Labir b Rizwan 0
Extras: (b-3, lb-2, nb-6) 11
Total: (All out in 63 overs) 193

Fall of wickets: 1/19, 2/30, 3/76, 4/120, 5/128, 6/147, 7/168, 8/174, 9/193

Bowler O M R W

Aminul jr. 11 2 28 0
Mushfiq 14 1 62 3
Mustadir 17 3 42 3
Ripon 17 3 49 2
Nuruzzaman 2 0 7 0
Rizwan 2 2 0 2

Result: Rajshahi won by 57 runs.

Fascinating final day

KARACHI, Dec 10: Pakistan fought hard against time and inconsistent form for a result in the third and final cricket Test against England at National Stadium England, reports AFP.

Pakistan were struggling at 71 for three with Salman Elahi on 14 and nightwatchman Saqlain Mushtaq on nothing when stumps were drawn on day four, 7.3 overs before schedule due to bad light.

The hosts, seeking to repair their dented pride at home after three successive series losses, found themselves in a difficult position as they led by 88 runs, and have seven wickets to enforce a draw.

England on the other hand have a slight chance if they make successful inroads into Pakistan's batting on the fifth morning to finish off the match with a surprise win.

England, resuming at 277 for four, made 388 in their first innings, conceding only a 17-run lead to Pakistan's 405 runs in the first innings.

Michael Atherton could add only eight runs to his overnight score of 117 but a plucky innings of 35 by Craig White and a last wicket stand of 39 between Ian Salisbury and Darren Gough minimised Pakistan's chances of enforcing a favourable result.

Atherton's 125 off 430 balls came in nine hours and 39 minutes with nine fours.

With 7254 runs in 105 Tests, Atherton surpassed Wally Hammond's 7249 aggregate runs and now lags behind M.C.Cowdrey (7624), G. Boycott (8114), D.Gower (8231) and G.Gooch (8900).

England lost Graeme Hick off the fifth ball of the day when he hooked a rising one from Waqar Younis straight down Shahid Afridi's throat at square leg.

Hick continued his poor form of runs in the series, scoring only 12.

Craig White followed up his 93 and 41 in the first two Tests with some useful hitting and took full advantage of two dropped catches, hitting three fours and a six off Saqlain Mushtaq in his brisk 35.

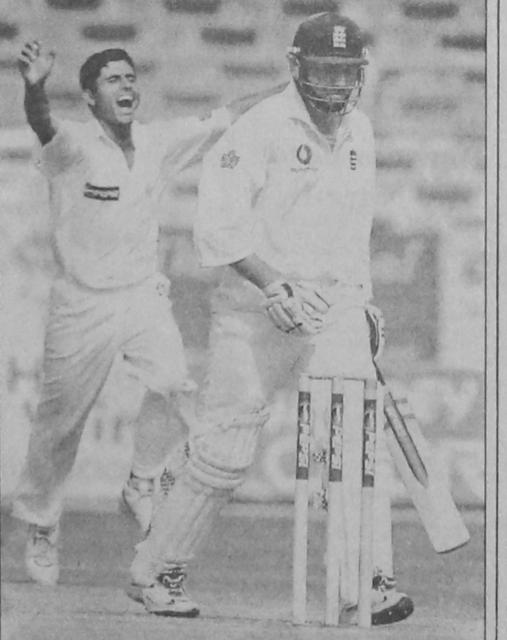
Younis finished with 4-88. Pakistan captain Moin Khan faltered behind the stumps when he let off Craig White twice, first when White, on 6, miscued a hook off Younis and

then at 32 off Abdur Razzak. Pakistan skipper also gave Giles a lease of life on two off Abdur Razzak.

At lunch England had reached 335-6 with White in full flow.

Leg-spinner Danish Kaneria forced White to come out of the crease and had him stump by Moin Khan and then had Andrew Caddick caught behind by

See page 15



Abdur Razaq, the Pakistan all-rounder, is ecstatic after sending back England's centurian Michael Atherton at Karachi yesterday.

Waqar misses other W

KARACHI, Dec 10:

(AFP): Pakistan's speedster-chieftain Waqar Younis said Sunday that he was keen to bowl with his long time pace-partner Wasim Akram again, saying the pairing was a great challenge for both of them.

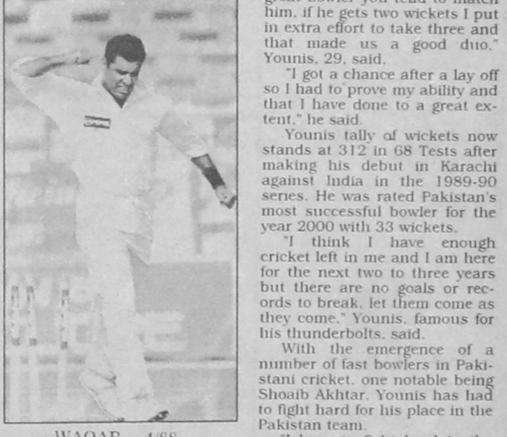
"I look forward to bowl with Akram again because it was a great challenge bowling in tow with him, Younis said after he took 4-88 against England in the third Test.

Akram did not play in the Test due to back trouble.

Younis and Akram formed a lethal new ball pairing and were dubbed the "two Ws" for their destructive fast bowling.

The duo hit the headlines with their 43 wickets in the 1992 England series and helped Pakistan win 2-1 with Younis' share being 22 wickets.

"When you bowl with such a



Waqar Younis... 4/88

READERS' ZONE

Environment a must

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

Ind-Zim fourth ODI today

A spirited Zimbabwe take on hosts India in the fourth match of their one-day series in Kanpur today.

The tourists, chasing India's 283-8, scrambled a single off the penultimate over to record their first win in the five-match series in Jodhpur on Friday. Saurav Ganguly's India are leading the series 2-1.

The match will start at 9.50am (BST) with Channel 1 providing live coverage of the proceedings.

Prime Bank Rating Chess

Sports Reporter

Taibur Rahman of the League Club earned a solo lead on completion of the fourth round of the third Prime Bank Rating Chess Tournament at the NSC room yesterday.

Taibur beat Kazole Mahmud to collect highest four points. Sved Ruhul Kabir of Titas is following Taibur hard on the heels with 3.5 points.

Meanwhile, the Open Women's Chess Competition begins at the Sultana Kamal Women's Complex at 11am today.

when they are not getting even a single decent place to practice on?

We need not to go very far for comparison. If we look at our neighbouring Indian state of West Bengal, we will see that the stadiums they have got are totally different from those we have in Bangladesh. There are no shops and the atmosphere around the stadium is like a park. When there is no play the place turns deserted, and no other activity takes place other than the maintenance work for the ground.

Our sports authorities and journalists communities always find a way to blame our boys for their failure. We tend to point our fingers at the lack of practice or the shortage of a good coach for failure. But, did we ever think of improving the conditions of our sports complex across the country. I guess never.

Therefore, if we expect good performance from our boys and girls let's not criticise them only. Instead, we should try to ensure an environment where they can be relaxed, confident and fully focused. We must provide them a proper sporting environment first so that they can have a chance to prove themselves at the competitive level.

—Sohel Ahmed, Kornapara, Savar

Women's WC Aussies stay unbeaten

WELLINGTON, Dec 10: Australia maintained their place at the top of women's World Cup table at the expense of England's semifinal hopes when they beat them by 54 runs in Christchurch today, reports Reuters.

In the day's other match Sri Lanka beat the Netherlands by 26 runs.

Unbeaten Australia lead the competition with 10 points from five wins, ahead of New Zealand with four wins and South Africa and India with three each.

England and Sri Lanka have two wins while Ireland and the Netherlands are without a victory.

BRIEF SCORES

AUSTRALIA: 190-7 (50 overs)

ENGLAND: 136 (47.3)

Australia won by 54 runs.

SRI LANKA: 139 (Rasanjali Silva 53) 47.1 overs.

NETHERLANDS: 113 (Chamuni Seneviratne 4-23) 39.4

Sri Lanka won by 26 runs.