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Star Sport

DHAKA, SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2001 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

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- Who lifted FIDE World Chess Championship crown?
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Australia New Zealand England
- Who is European footballer of the year?
Figo Zidane Shevchenko
- Who became Prime Bank Rating chess champion?
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- Who became Americas player of the year?
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Players of Dhaka Metropolis celebrate the fall of another Biman wicket in the one-day in the Green Delta National Cricket League at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday. - Star photo

Another magic from Metro

GREEN DELTA NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE
Biman v Dhaka Metro

Dhaka Metropolis continued their miracle run when they mesmerised Bangladesh Biman yet again in a one-day match of the Green Delta National Cricket League at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Following up their extraordinary win in their four-day match against the same opponents only the day before, they pulled off another unlikely victory while defending a modest 191.

In a weather curtailed match, the tail-up Metro men, who successfully chased 451 runs on the final day on Friday, put behind their batting blues yesterday snatching a surprisingly facile victory. They shot Biman out for 93 in only 21.2 overs with their occasional off-spinner Mehraab Hossain claiming three for 11.

The match was reduced to 42-over-a-side because of early morning fog.

The two consecutive wins topped Dhaka Metropolis at the top of the League along with Khulna, who did exactly the same against Chittagong in Jessore. Both Dhaka Metro and Khulna have now 34 points at end of the first phase of the second round.

The heart-breaking defeat meanwhile pushed down Biman, who started the four-team

Sports Reporter

final round in the front, to the third place with 32 points.

Dhaka Metropolis however never thought of a victory when they sent into bat by Biman's stand-in captain Aminul Islam, were reeling at 97 for six. Al-Shahriar, national captain Naimur Rahman and opener Mehraab Hossain, who each smashed century the other day, failed to reach even the double figure mark.

But a run-a-ball 40 from Biplob and a gritty 30 from Khaled Mahmud salvaged from ignominy. Besides, the tail also waggled in time to make small but very significant contribution to take the score to respectable.

Biman, yet to recover from their Friday frustration, were totally out of sorts and gifted away wickets one after another. Pakistani Manzoor Akhter with 20 was the top-scorer for the national flag-carrier.

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

S/c
DHAKA METROPOLIS
Ashrafur c Javed b Jahangir 16
Mehraab c Sujon b Jahangir 0
Biplob c Ziaur b Jahangir 40
Al-Shahriar c Javed b Jahangir 2
Sajjad run out 14

K Mahmud c Sujon b Manzoor 30
Naimur c Manzoor b Sharif 5
Neyamur c Sanwar b Bishlat 15
Mokul c Sharif b Bashir 13
Shahin not out 13
Ashique c Ziaur b Sharif 1
Extras: lb-10, lb-3, nb-3, w-8 21
Total: (All out in 42 overs) 191
Fall of wickets: 1/15, 2/21, 3/34, 4/64, 5/82, 6/97, 7/113, 8/158, 9/187

Bowler
Jahangir 9 0 34 4
Monir 4 0 29 0
Sharif 9 0 37 2
Ziaur 6 0 33 0
Manzoor 8 0 28 1
Bashir 6 0 17 2

BIMAN
Javed b K Mahmud 14
Ziaur c Shaheen b Ashique 11
Sharif run out 12
Bashir c Shaheen b Ashique 0
Aminul b Mehraab 12
Manzoor b Naimur 20
Sanwar c Shaheen b Neyamur 6
Hasaqqzamm c Ashique b Mehraab 0
Jahangir b Mehraab 4
Sujon c Shaheen b Naimur 0
Monir not out 0
Extras: lb-6, nb-1, w-7 14
Total: (All out in 21.2 overs) 93
Fall of wickets: 1/30, 2/31, 3/31, 4/56, 5/63, 6/72, 7/73, 8/85, 9/93

Bowler
K Mahmud 5 1 19 1
Neyamur 6 0 27 1
Ashique 2 0 21 2
Mehraab 5.2 1 11 3
Naimur 2 0 9 2

Result: Dhaka Metropolis won by 98 runs.



Bishan Singh Bedi
(Former Indian cricket captain)

"Cricket is a religion. One must respect it in a pure form, not reduce it to commerce."

Zim-NZ series decider today

AUCKLAND, Jan 6 (Internet report): Under pressure, New Zealand will face a dangerous Zimbabwe in their one-day series decider at Eden Park tomorrow.

New Zealand need to show their Thursday night's success, after six successive losses, was not a flash in the pan. Several players in the Black Caps are also under pressure to back up their performances to ensure a modicum of consistency before their twin series against Sri Lanka and Pakistan with some confidence.

Zimbabwe in the meantime have the goal of winning its first ODI series against a Test-playing nation away from home.

A solid and competitive performance would also be suitable repayment to the New Zealand selection panel for its faith in players who were controversial first preferences. Selection chairman Sir Richard Hadlee has faced a barrage and now prefers to deal with selection comment via press releases.

Reports are that the pitch which is a new one, should offer more life than is usual for Eden Park. It has grass on it at the moment and if it does have bounce and carry, a high-scoring spectacle could be in prospect.

Weather conditions for the game are expected to be fine and reports are that a crowd close to 15,000 could attend.

Both teams are without injuries and the Zimbabweans may be inclined to include Dirk Viljoen at the expense of Angus Mackay.

BOA to open Olympic library

Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) will establish an Olympic Library to make the Olympic related information easily available to the sportsmen and the general public as well, reports BSS.

BOA received a financial grant from solidarity fund of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to set up the library, a senior BOA official said.

All sorts of Olympic publications, records of present and past Olympic Games, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, SAF Games and other reference books will be available at the library, which will be opened on the Olympic Day Run this year.

Khulna serve second salvo

GREEN DELTA NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE
Khulna v Ctg

Pushtovers Khulna complimented the Dhaka Metropolis triumph ambling to a 30-run win in their one-day match over defending Champions Chittagong at the Jessore Stadium yesterday.

Only the day before, the hosts thumped down a nine-wicket defeat on Chittagong in their four-day game of the Green Delta National Cricket League at the same venue.

Jamaluddin Babu scored a superb 69 as Khulna, batting first after winning the toss, piled up a fighting 242 for nine in the stipulated 50 overs.

The young all-rounder smashed five fours and a couple of sixes in his breezy 78-ball knock. Meanwhile, wicket-keeper Selim chipped in with a precocious 41 off 47 balls that included eight fours.

Sports Reporter

Discarded national right-arm seamer Saifuddin Babu took three wickets for the depleted Chittagong, who missed the services of Akram Khan and his nephew Nafis Iqbal. Opener Nafis lost his father Iqbal Khan in the early hours of Friday.

However, Chittagong, in their chase, got off to an inspiring start with Azam and skipper Minihalz Abidin featuring in a century partnership. But once both the reliable batsmen departed, they just caved in. The port city could manage only 212 runs before being all out in the penultimate delivery.

Minihalz scored 72 off 98 balls. The former national captain clubbed seven fours. Azam's watchful 92-ball 66 was spiced with eight hits across the rope.

National left-arm seamer Monjurul Islam led Khulna from the front by striking early with the new ball. He dismissed makeshift opener Ahsanullah

for two and in-form Ehsanul for a duck to return with two for 30 runs in his 10 overs.

Two quick run-outs of Enamul Hoque and Pakistani Shahid Mahmud later also proved fatal for Chittagong.

With this defeat, the holders now slipped to the bottom of the four-team contest with a collection of 30 points.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the one-day Green Delta National Cricket League match between Khulna and Chittagong at the Jessore Stadium yesterday:

KHULNA
Shaon c Mortuza b Ripon 7
Setu c Mortuza b Saifuddin 28
Naimur c Azam b Saifuddin 10
Selim lbw b Sujon 41
Biplob c s b Mehmd 20
Tushar run out 19
Jannaluddin c Mortuza b S Mehmd 69
Poltu c Azam b Saifuddin 0

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Weeping West Indies

LONDON (Reuters): Little could have hurt the cricket-loving people of the Caribbean more than West Indies' abject performances during their 5-0 Test drubbing in Australia.

The Sydney Telegraph described them as the worst team in 114 years of Test cricket. While that may be an exaggeration, it is clear these are distressing times for West Indian fans.

Dr Nigel Camacho of Trinidad, an original of the 'Trini Posse', a group of supporters who travel with the West Indies cricket team, said the side's failure could justifiably be described as a regional crisis.

"To sit down and watch what is taking place Down Under has gone from painful, to cynical, to unbearable, to just plain ridiculous," Dr Camacho told www.cricinfo.com

"I am certain, even for West Indians who do not like or understand the game of cricket, this must affect them as well. Right now we are a hurting nation."

West Indies lost the final Test by six wickets although they showed signs of a stiffening of morale with an improved batting performance in the second innings.

Colin Croft, who was a fiercely aggressive fast bowler in the all-conquering West Indian teams of the 1970s and 1980s, said that if the series with Australia had been a boxing match, it would have been stopped after the second Test, with the West Indies on their knees.

Croft believes it is high time those players who have repeatedly failed were jettisoned.

If a political ambassador were representing any Caribbean nation as badly as this cricket team with some notable exceptions, has represented the other region that political ambassador would not only have been recalled, but would have been in en route.

"No-one is promised a job anywhere, especially in Test cricket. So it should be with West Indian cricketers."

West Indies supporter Kevin Smith was equally critical of team coach Roger Harper in a column for the Trinidad Express delivered in pithy Caribbean patois.

"Somebody told me that our coach said the players are not up to the required fitness. Well, I never hear that in my life."

"The man talking as if he is an outside observer, as if it wasn't his job to get them fit, or resign if even out of professional pique."

"And then there has been this talk about attitude problem. Whatdat mean? That some of the fellas get too big for their boots? How they reach that

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BCB vetoes it

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) yesterday decided against allowing the national cricketers from taking part in the forthcoming Premier League.

The verdict of the Board laid to rest mounting speculation regarding the involvement of country's top stars in the colourful domestic competition.

"It was not possible on our part to comply with the desire of the clubs who sought the players' services for the entire league," said the BCB joint-secretary Mahmud-ul-Huq adding that the Board will shortly announce the tour party for Zimbabwe. The Test babes will visit the African nation in April to mark its first Test series.

"Once we declare the list of 20 or 22 players they won't be allowed to take part in inter-club transfer," said Mahmud.

The Board also yesterday dissolved the selection committee and entrusted the responsibility of picking the Zimbabwe-bound squad on the shoulders of president Saber Hossain Chowdhury and general secretary Syed Ashrafur Huq.

Besides, the marathon meeting announced the eagerly-awaited election date. The BCB polls will be held on February 5.

The meeting chaired by Saber Hossain, approved the expenditure of last year's Asia Cup, which amounted to 1.5 lakh dollars.

The Board appointed Ashrafur Huq as organising committee chairman for the Under-17 Asia Cup and Mahmud as member secretary respectively.

CBCA open tour today

Bangladesh to get taste of Aussies

Sports Reporter

The visiting Commonwealth Bank Cricket Academy team begin their three-week tour of Bangladesh with a three-day match against the national under-21 team at the Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Prothithan (BKSP) ground in Savar today.

The first side from down under to compete against their Bangladesh counterparts.

The visitors will feature in two three-day, one four-day and four one-day matches during their 21-day stay in Bangladesh.

The two-hour training session at the National Number One Stadium went extremely well for the tourists. Interestingly, none of the players showed any signs of experiencing jet-lag after a long journey from Adelaide.

Most of the players were in jovial mood as were the officials. Nevertheless, Phillips appeared very focused at the task ahead and promised that his boys would put on a good contest.

"Most of my team can bat and bowl. Still, we are hopeful of getting a couple genuine quicks from the MRF Pace Academy in Madras," he said adding that the unnamed last bowlers would join the team at some stage during the tour.

The star attraction however will no doubt be Shaun Marsh, the son of legendary Australian opener Geoff Marsh.

"We have found the conditions here excellent and the facilities are superb," said the 42-year old former Test cap. But he was unaware of the wickets being prepared at the BKSP.

"We have been following Bangladesh cricket closely, so we were very happy after they got the Test status. Besides, I have seen some of the boys who visited our academy and they have done well."

Phillips had fond memories of Al-Shahriar, the national middle-order batsman who was a former student of the academy.

The Bangladesh Under-21



SABIR KHAN

The 13 upcoming stars of Australian cricket enjoyed a good work-out at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in the afternoon after arriving in the city late Friday night.

Former Australian wicket-keeper Wayne Phillips, the Academy's coach-cum-manager, said his boys would be using the tour as a learning experience.

The Adelaide-based academy, which has already visited all the other eight Test playing countries, however will be making their first trip to this part of the world. This is also



NATHAN HAURITZ

Nafis Iqbal, Nahidul Huq, Ashrafur, Kalim, Sajjad, Mazharul Huq, Mohammad Selim (wicketkeeper), Sharif, Monjurul Islam, Rana, Bikash Ranjan Das, Tariqul Islam, Taposh Kumar and Tushar Imran.

CBCA (from): Nathan Hauritz (captain), Chris Hartley, Aaron O'Brien, Shane Stanton, Andrew Kent, Andrew Macdonald, Tim Welford, Daniel Harris, Luke Williams (vice-captain), Adam Voges, Shaun Marsh, Sumit Pandya and G Chaitra

Officials: Wayne Phillips (coach/manager) and Max Pflizer (physiotherapist).

SASF meeting in Islamabad

Jan 15

A meeting of the South Asian Sports Federation (SASF) will be held in Islamabad this month to reconfirm the disciplines of the next South Asian Federation (SAF) Games as well as to discuss other related matters, reports BSS.

The Secretary general of the Olympic Association of South Asian countries are scheduled to attend the two-day meeting beginning on January 15 in Pakistan capital. Secretary General of Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) Zafar Imam said.

The meeting, which was due in August last year, is very essential and vital for the next SAF Games scheduled to be held in Islamabad in September this year, he added.

At least 15 disciplines have primarily been selected for next Games.

The disciplines are: athletics, badminton, basketball, boxing, football, karate, Kabaddi, shooting, squash, swimming, table tennis, taekwondo, volleyball, weightlifting and wrestling.

Aussies sweep awards also

SYDNEY, Jan 6: Mark and Steve Waugh and fast bowlers Jason Gillespie and Glenn McGrath scooped the awards for the five-Test cricket series against the West Indies which finished here on Saturday, reports AFP.

A set of awards, which will be played for in every Australia-West Indies series, went the way of the hosts like everything else in this summer's 5-0 series sweep.

Steve Waugh won the Sir Garfield Sobers award for the most outstanding batsman of the series while his brother Mark won the Joe Solomon award for the best fielder.

Jason Gillespie's 20 wickets in the series earned him the Alan Davidson award for the most outstanding bowler while Glenn McGrath's match-winning performance in the first Test at Brisbane was adjudged the best individual performance.

McGrath was presented with the Norman O'Neill award for his match figures of 10-27.

Australia keep it clean

lot when you consider that the West Indies (in 1984) won 11 and the next side is eight, so we've basically doubled every other side in history besides the West Indies," said team captain Steve Waugh.

"I think it's great that we're doing this. It's great to be a part of this side that's achieving these tremendous things."

"We don't want to talk about it too much, the judgement day will come later when the winning streak ends and hopefully that will continue for a bit longer yet."

Ricky Ponting hit the winning boundary off Marlon Samuels at 2:01pm to remain 14 not out in Australia's 174 for four.

Although this was a competitive West Indian performance compared with some other tame efforts in the series it was still the 18th defeat in their last 20 Tests away from the Caribbean.

Fifteen Tests in a row is a

Australia won the first Test by an innings and 126 runs, the second Test by an innings and 27 runs, the third Test by five wickets and the fourth Test by 352 runs.

Glenn McGrath, who took 21 wickets in the series including 10 in the Brisbane opener, was named player-of-the-series.

Slater, who threw away a certain century in the first innings when he lashed out at leg-spinner Mahendra Naganmootoo and was caught for 96, dictated the scoring and partnered Steve Waugh to a decisive 102-run fourth wicket partnership in 101 minutes to take control.

"In this series it was all about trying to get the side off to a good start and it was a real nice finish to this Test match. I was thrilled with the second innings. I was very frustrated with the first innings finishing a few short of the hundred," said Slater.

Slater had scores of 54, 83, 96 and Saturday's 86 not out in the series for an aggregate of 373 runs at an average of 53.28.

There was some apprehension in only the second over of the day when Mark Waugh was out when he hung his bat at a Nixon McLean delivery outside the off-stump and looped a catch to Adams in the gully on his overnight score of three.

Steve Waugh ran out to the middle, so much so that he reached the batting square before his brother had reached the players' gate on his way back to the dressing room.

Waugh, a first innings centurion, was out just before lunch ending another determined knock when judged lbw to Samuels for 38.

But by that stage it was all academic as Australia needed just 25 runs to win with six wickets intact and were on cruise control.

"The way we chased the runs last night and today shows we're a positive side."

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Aussies sweep awards also

