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DHAKA, MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2001 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Faruque propels Biman

Sports Reporter

Biman on 131. Faruque took his side home along with Sanwar who remained not out on 6.

Faruque, who scored a half century in the four day match preceding the one day game against the same opponents, faced 130 balls for his undefeated knock which included one six and 20 fours.

This was only the third century in the one-day matches of the national league till date. Khulna's Tushar Imran scored 106 against Dhaka Metropolis at the Dhamondii Cricket Stadium on December 23 while Al-Shahriar of Dhaka Metropolis hit 107 against Chittagong at the Comilla Stadium on January 27.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the Green Delta National Cricket League one-day match between Bangladesh Biman and Dhaka Metropolis at the BKSP ground in Savar yesterday.

DHAKA METROPOLIS

Ashrafal c Mukhter b Sharif	0
Mehrab c & b Monir	29
Mofizul c Mukhter b Jahangir	15
Sajjad c Mukhter b Monir	2
Naimur c Ziaur b Jahangir	3
K Mahmud c Sharif b Monir	3
Halim Shah c & b Wasim	37
Neyyannur c Hasanuzzaman b Ziaur	27
Safiq b Monir	13
Mukul not out	20
Shahin not out	3
Extras: (b-4, lb-6, nb-2, w-9)	21
Total: (For 9 wickets in 50 overs)	172
Fall of wickets: 1/1, 2/46, 3/50, 4/52, 5/56, 6/57, 7/89, 8/139, 9/152	

BIMAN

Javed b Naimur	32
Faruque not out	102
Bashar st Shahin b Mukul	10
Sanwar not out	24
Extras: (b-4, lb-3, nb-7, w-10)	26
Total: (For 2 wickets in 32 overs)	176
Fall of wickets: 1/84, 2/131	

Bowler

	O	M	R	W
Jahangir	10	3	23	2
Sharif	10	1	50	1
Monir	10	1	40	4
A Wasim	10	2	24	1
Ziaur	10	0	25	1

FARUQUE ... 102 n.o

Earlier, Biman's young right arm medic pacer Monir took four wickets as Dhaka Metropolis were restricted to 172 for nine in the stipulated 50 overs after opting to bat first.

Monir conceded 40 runs in his ten overs which included one maiden. Monir apart, left arm seamer Jahangir Alami Talukder got two wickets for 38 runs.

Halim Shah made the high-



FARUQUE ... 102 n.o

Silly BFF lets Kottan down

Sports Reporter

With the performance of the national football team in the Sahara Millennium Cup against world class opponents renewed hope among the local football buffs.

Kottan, the newly appointed Austrian coach who has been duly credited with a number of positives that have spotted in the match against Bosnia and Yugoslavia, was full of anguish while talking to a group of journalists at the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) office last night.

"I'm sitting on this (!-!-?) ?-!-?) chair but no one takes a time to listen to me. I'm insisting that we must play at least two warm-up matches before we travel to Saudi Arabia for the World Cup qualifiers," said a visibly frustrated Austrian.

Kottan was waiting to take his charges from the BFF office to the BKSP where the 23 called-up booters will undergo training for the 2002 World Cup qualifiers. Bangladesh have been placed with Saudi Arabia, Vietnam and Mongolia in the qualifying, to be held in Riyadh from February 8.

"Is not it silly that there is no international telephone line in the federation? I can't understand why they (BFF) fail to arrange even matches against a club side of Thailand? It is very important to play matches against good teams before travelling to Saudi Arabia," Kottan moaned in frustration.

Having been failed to hit some senses into the heads of indifferent BFF officials, Kottan was fuming with helpless agony. His bewilderment was so much so that he even went on to ask, "Is there anybody who cares for football here?"

Milo U-13 cricket Metro Blues reach final

Sports Reporter

An unbeaten half-century from middle-order batsman Ayub guided Metro Blues to the final of the Milo Under-13 Cricket Tournament with a six-wicket win over Dhaka Colts in the second semifinal at the Dhamondii Club ground yesterday.

Ayub scored 58 not out as Metro Blues, chasing Dhaka Col's total of 162 in 45 overs, scored 166 for four in just 27 overs.

Ayub took only balls for his 58 which included nine fours.

After Metro Blues lost four wickets for 56 runs, Ayub shared an unbeaten 110-run for the fifth wicket with Sajid who was undefeated on 40.

Earlier, put into bat, Dhaka Colts scored 162 for eight in the allotted 45 overs with Farhad hammering highest 47.

Metro Blues will take on Rajshahi Tista in tomorrow's final at the same venue.

UNDER-15
Meanwhile, Rajshahi Padma beat Metro Blues by six wickets in the first round of the Milo Under-15 Tournament at the Rajshahi College ground yesterday.

Chasing Metro Blues' 126 in 45 overs, the winners reached 127 in 25 overs with six wickets in hand.

One down Sharif scored highest 46 while opener Ashrafal added 28.

SCORES IN BRIEF
Metro Blues: 126 all out in 41 overs (Mustafiz 43, Shoeb 3/8)
Rajshahi Padma: 127 for 4 in 25 overs (Sharif 46, Ashrafal 28)
Result: Rajshahi Padma won by six wickets

Khulna stoop to Minhaz

Sports Reporter

Delta National Cricket League one-day match between Chittagong and Khulna at the Comilla Stadium yesterday.

KHULNA
Nahidul c Minhaz b Ripon 22
Sajjadul c Sumon b Shaifuddin 31
Uzail c Faisal b Minhazul 31
Jamaluddin c Minhazul b Enamul 28
Tushar c Minhazul b Enamul 8
Selim c Minhazul b S Mehmod 9
Asadullah b S Mehmod 19
Rana c Azam b Shaifuddin 1
Niaz not out 0
A Kamal b Shaifuddin 0
Monjurul b Shaifuddin 0
Extras: (b-4, lb-3, nb-7, w-11) 25
Total: (All out in 40.5 overs) 140

Fall of wickets: 1/24, 2/27, 3/100, 4/103, 5/112, 6/135, 7/139, 8/139, 9/140

Bowler

	O	M	R	W
Ripon	5	0	25	1
Shaifuddin	6.5	0	27	4
Sumon	5	0	21	0
Minhazul	10	1	23	1
Enamul	10	2	21	2
S Mehmod	4	1	19	2

CHITTAGONG
Faisal c Selim b A Kamal 1
Nafces b A Kamal 5
Ehsanul c Selim b A Kamal 17
Azad b A Kamal 8
Azam b Niaz 18
Minhazul not out 51
Sumon c Monjurul b Niaz 10
S Mehmod c Uzail c Jamaluddin 9
Enamul not out 6
Extras: (lb-5, nb-5, w-6) 16
Total: (For 7 wickets in 38.3 overs) 144

Fall of wickets: 1/5, 2/6, 3/30, 4/40, 5/75, 6/93, 7/117

Bowler

	O	M	R	W
Monjurul	10	1	24	0
A Kamal	10	2	31	4
Raju	7	0	36	2
Rana	7	0	31	0
Jamaluddin	3	0	9	1
Nahidul	1	0	4	0
Tushar	0.3	0	1	0

Result: Chittagong won by three wickets.

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

MINHAZ ... 51 n.o
Chittagong will now travel to Dhaka where they will take on hosts Dhaka Metropolis in the final clash at the Bangabandhu National Stadium, Biman, on the other hand, will travel to Jessore to play Khulna.

The final round will commence on January 27.

Lankans following on



CENTURION, South Africa, Jan 21: Sri Lanka suffered another blow when veteran Aravinda de Silva was sensationally caught for five by a diving Gibbs at backward point. De Silva hammered a cut against Jacques Kallis and Gibbs flung himself to his left to take the ball two-handed.

Ntini then took over, having Mahela Jayawardene caught behind for 17 immediately before lunch and taking the next three wickets after the break. New cap Justin Kemp finished off the innings by taking the last two wickets for 19 runs.

Wicketkeeper Romesh Kaluwitharana was Sri Lanka's top scorer, making 32 off 30 balls. He gave a difficult chance to Danyil Cullinan at first slip off Ntini when he had one and then went for his shots.

Kaluwitharana twice slashed the ball dangerously close to gully and immediately before his dismissal hit Ntini for 4, 6 and 4 before flashing at a wide delivery to be caught behind.

Donald left the field briefly for treatment after hurting his right elbow diving in a futile attempt to stop a boundary by Jayasuriya. It was the same elbow on which he developed an abscess which caused him to miss the second Test in Cape Town last month.

Although he seemed to be in pain, it was in his next over that Donald made his double breakthrough, with Jayasuriya trying one powerful shot too many after punching the previous delivery through the covers for four.

Donald bowled three overs after lunch but did not look well and at one stage called for a drink. He took the field at the start of the second innings but did not open the bowling. Kallis shared the new ball with South African captain Shaun Pollock.

Sri Lankan captain Jayasuriya, who had scored only 50 runs in five innings in the series, did not open the batting in the second innings, with Sangakkara taking over.

Sri Lanka made another poor start when Atapattu completed a dismal series with the bat. He was caught at first slip for nought. He made 41 runs in six innings in the three matches.

South Africa lead the series 1-0 after winning the second Test by a record margin of an innings and 229 runs.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard at tea on the second day of the third and final Test between South Africa and Sri Lanka at Centurion Park Sunday.

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings (375-9 overnight)
Dippenaar c Kaluwitharana b Perera
Gibbs c Kaluwitharana b Zoysa
Kallis c Arnold b Fernando
Cullinan c Kaluwitharana
See page 15

Asia Cup put on hold



KARACHI, Jan 21: The Asia Cup cricket tournament scheduled for April in Karachi has been postponed.

Asian Cricket Council secretary Zakir Hussain Syed said Saturday.

Syed told AFP the postponement was mainly due to cricket commitments of Pakistan and India, although strained relations between the two countries could also have been a factor behind the decision.

He was commenting on a report in Hong Kong's South China Morning Post that the feud between the cricket bodies in India and Pakistan was believed to have forced the postponement.

"It may be one of the causes as Pakistan and India have strained ties. I don't know whether India would have come for the event or not," Syed said.

India refused to let its cricket team tour Pakistan last December in protest against Islamabad's alleged involvement in unrest in the Indian part of the Himalayan state of Kashmir which is divided between the two countries.

"Instead of Asia Cup the member countries have decided to hold the second Asian Test Championship between September this year to January 2002," Syed said.

"I know the decision will cause disappointment in Hong Kong and UAE (United Arab Emirates) who were anxiously waiting for the event."

"But too many commitments for India and Pakistan was the main cause of postponement," he said.

He said the Asia Cup featuring India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, the UAE and Hong Kong would now be held in April next year in Karachi.

UAE, as winners, and Hong Kong, as runners-up of the ACC Trophy held last year had qualified for the Asia Cup.

The Asian Test Championship will feature 37 days of cricket spread over five months so that Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh have extra time to fulfill any other international commitments in between, Syed said.

Pakistan won the inaugural Asia Cup in 1999.

Syed said Hong Kong was one of the places where the ACC wanted to promote cricket.

"ACC's development committee is meeting in Calcutta, India next week and among other countries Hong Kong, Nepal, Singapore and Malaysia are countries where we intend to promote cricket," he said.

The Hong Kong newspaper said the delay meant the cash-strapped HKCA will have to wait for a 100,000 dollar windfall they had been promised after surprisingly qualifying for the tournament last year.

But Hong Kong Cricket Association official Mark Burns told the paper the delay could help the Asian cricket minnows bolster their pool of players as they prepare to take on the Test-playing giants in the tournament.

"While the delay will give those players on the fringes of qualifying the opportunity to play under the residency rule, it will also mean that others will get older."

Sampras, Safin sink

MELBOURNE, Jan 21: It was bloody Sunday at the Australian Open as two of the pre-tournament favourites, Pete Sampras and Marat Safin, were sent home early in major fourth round upsets, reports AFP.

Sampras, bidding to extend his record-breaking haul of 13 Grand Slam titles, looked on track when he edged a first set tiebreak against compatriot Todd Martin.

But from then on, Martin's serve and return were irresistible as he completed a 6-7 (2/7), 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 win that was only his third in 20 matches against Sampras.

The gentle giant now faces Andre Agassi, who beat Australian Andrew Ilie earlier in the day, in the quarter finals. With Sampras, Safin and world number one Gustavo Kuerten all out, Agassi is now odds on favourite to claim his third Open title.

Safin's conqueror, Dominik Hrbaty, will meet Australia's Pat Rafter in the other quarter in the top half of the draw.

Despite the defeat and a growing sense that his best days are behind him, Sampras insisted retirement was not an issue.

"I feel like I can still win majors and I want to win a few more before I am done," he said.

"I'm disappointed not to have done it here but I've got many years and many slams ahead of me."

Agassi tamed showman Ilie in four sets to book his place in the last eight.

Ilie, who has delighted the home crowd with his shirt-ripping antics, looked briefly like he could pull off his biggest ever victory.

The Romanian-born player produced a string of winners to sweep the first set tiebreak and then broke Agassi in the third game of the second.

But the Las Vegas broke back immediately and soon took control.

"He played some spectacular tennis," Agassi admitted. "I wasn't really doing that much."

See page 15

Prize giving ceremony

PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY
SARAFI AND TEAMS BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS 1997-2000
APTECH-DHAKA CLUB OPEN TEAMS BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP 2000
VENUE: NATIONAL SPORTS COUNCIL AUDITORIUM
ORGANIZED BY: BANGLADESH BRIDGE FEDERATION

President of the Bangladesh Bridge Federation Farooq Sobhan (seated third from left) is seen with the winners of the National Pair Bridge Championship for the Fazole Sobhan Trophy, National Bridge Championship (team) and APTECH-Dhaka Club Open Championship at the National Sports Council auditorium yesterday.

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GREEN DELTA NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE

Biman v Dhaka Metro

Veteran batsman Faruque Ahmed scored his first hundred in the Green Delta National Cricket League to power title aspirants Biman to a eight-wicket cruise over Dhaka Metropolis in a crucial one-day match at the BKSP ground in Savar yesterday.

The win kept Biman's championship hopes alive as they stayed atop the table along with holders Chittagong who beat Khulna by three wickets in the day's other one dayer at the Comilla Stadium. Both teams are now on equal 44 points with one round of games remaining.

The defeat further dampened Dhaka Metropolis' dreams as they remained second in the table along with Khulna, each having 36 points.

Faruque, the former national skipper, smashed an unbeaten 102 as Biman, chasing an ordinary Dhaka Metropolis total of 172, reached 176 for two with more than ten overs of the allotted 50 to spare.

The right hander, who has taken the new role of opening the Biman innings along with Javed Omar, shared a flowing 84-run partnership with Javed which came off 20 overs.

Their stand was broken when Javed, the national opener, was bowled by off spinner Naimur Rahman on 32. Javed smote half a dozen fours in his 51-ball knock.

After Javed departed, Faruque, who reached 50 off 74 balls with a six and nine boundaries, put on 47 runs along with Habibul Bashar who the later contributed only ten runs before being stumped by wicketkeeper Shahin off Mukul.

When Bashir returned with 15.

Earlier, Biman's young right arm medic pacer Monir took four wickets as Dhaka Metropolis were restricted to 172 for nine in the stipulated 50 overs after opting to bat first.

Monir conceded 40 runs in his ten overs which included one maiden. Monir apart, left arm seamer Jahangir Alami Talukder got two wickets for 38 runs.

Halim Shah made the high-

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Carl Hooper

(Former West Indies all-rounder)

"It is just rumour. Getting back into Test team is not something I am losing sleep over. What I want to do is play some cricket for Guyana."

On the Rumours of returning to the West Indies Test side as captain.

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Sports Whizz Kid

Competition 143

Tick the Correct Answers
Post to City Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Feb 2, 2001 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Which is FIFA's top ranked country?
Brazil Italy Holland

2. How many Test hundreds has Steve Waugh scored?
24 25 26

3. What is the result of the South Africa-Sri Lanka ODI series?
5-1 6-0 4-2

4. Who is the lone double centurion in the National Cricket League?
Farhat Javed Omar Aminul

5. By which margin did Bangladesh go down to Bosnia in the Sahara Millennium Cup?
2-0 3-0 4-0

Name

Class

School Address

Phone: (If any)

BCB's different XIs for CBCA day-nighters

Sports Reporter
Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) yesterday named two different teams for the second and third day-night matches against the visiting Commonwealth Bank Cricket Academy (CBCA) at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on January 24 and 25.

National skipper Naimur Rahman will lead the BCB Eleven in the second match on Wednesday while Akram Khan will captain CBCA Eleven in the last day-night fixture on the following day.

BCB have already named a team for the first day-night encounter which is scheduled at the same venue tomorrow with Aminul Islam leading the side.

SQUADS
For January 24: Naimur Rahman (captain), Nafces Iqbal, Mehrob Hossain, Sajjad Ahmed, Hasanuzzaman, Mushfiqur Rahman, Anwar Hossain (wicketkeeper), Fahim Muntasir, Ashfaq Ali, Bikash Ranjan Das, Sharifuddinul Islam, Shahid Salkat, Rajin Saleh and Asadullah Khan.

For January 25: Akram Khan (captain), Mohammad Ashrafal, Habibul Bashar, Sanwar Hossain, Anisur Rahman, Mushfiqur Rahman, Golam Mortuza (wicketkeeper), Mohammad Rafique, Saiful Islam, Mohammad Sharif, Nassir Alami and Sajjadul Hassan.

The selected cricketers have been asked to report to coach Sarwar Imran at 11 am on the day of the matches.

Nasim-ul in town
Sports Reporter
The International Cricket Council's development officer for Asia, Nasim-ul Ghani arrived in the capital yesterday.

Nasim-ul in town

Sports Reporter

The International Cricket Council's development officer for Asia, Nasim-ul Ghani arrived in the capital yesterday.

He will report on the preparedness of the Bangladesh Cricket Board to host the Second ICC Under-17 Asia Cup from February 15-25.

The former Pakistan Test cap, who played a key role as chairman of the ICC's Evaluation Committee during Bangladesh's bid for Test status, had a meeting with the tournament's

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