

## MSC stay afloat

SPORTS REPORTER



Mohammedan Sporting Club kept alive their outside chance of retaining the title when they defeated Bangladesh Biman by 38 runs in a crucial GrameenPhone Premier Super Six match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Mohammedan became the unlikely victors in the first match after a week's break due to inclement weather when the holders defended 226 in the 43-over contest. The match was curtailed because of the delayed start for overnight rain.

Biman, in their chase, were bowled out for 188 in 37.1 overs.

The result also put an end to Biman's chase for the coveted title. They can now only hope for giving a last minute twist to the battle for glory that tilts towards Victoria Sporting Club, who needed a victory against Mohammedan in their penultimate match on Tuesday to celebrate a rare success.

Victoria is maintaining a lead of

four points from second-placed Mohammedan with two more games in hand.

Mohammedan has a realistic chance to finish on equal points with the 'centenary team' of Victoria. In that case the popular Motijheel outfit should have to win their next two games and then wait for the outcome of the last Super Six match between Victoria and Biman.

Only a day before Mohammedan were bowled out for 202 against the same team but Biman were denied to chase that relatively easy target by the unfriendly rain.

The victory however exacted a sweet revenge for Mohammedan, who lost the first round battle against Biman by four wickets.

Bangladesh Biman appeared to be a better side to win the do-or-die battle until a decisive runout of Ziaur Rashid changed the complexion of the game. The national airliners were eventually bowled out for 188 with 5.5 overs to spare.

Mohammedan skipper Minhazul Abedin returned to action after missing the previous game due to hamstring injury with a superb 56. The experienced right-hander

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### Did U Know?

No match in World Cup history has been more distasteful than the West Germany-Austria clash in Spain 1982. Because of the format of the tournament, only a 1-0 win to the Germans meant that both these neighbour countries would proceed to the next round at the expense of Algeria. When West Germany took the lead after 10 minutes, both teams virtually stopped playing. It slowed down to walking pace with neither of the teams interested in going forward. The neutral Spanish crowd and the Algerian fans constantly booed and shouted, a German supporter was so disgusted that he set fire to his national flag on the terraces. The following day Algeria protested to FIFA that the game had been fixed and called for both teams to be disqualified, but their protest was rejected. From the 1986 World Cup onwards, the last round of matches in the first round have been played simultaneously to avoid scandals like that.



Nitol-Tata National Football League T & T Club vs Khulna Abahani Live at 5:30 pm

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Youri Djorkaeff  
(French int'l midfielder)  
"After the World Cup I'm going to take my bow."



Tick the correct answers, post to  
The Daily Star  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
May 24, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

1. West Indies won the third Test against India by  
8 wickets 10 wickets 19 runs

2. Who will lead Bangladesh A team in the Malaysia Cricket Challenge?  
Akram Amjul K  
Mashud

3. Who won the man-of-the-match award in the first Test between Pakistan and New Zealand?  
Mian Inzamam Afridi

4. Who are the English Premier champions?  
Man United Arsenal Liverpool

5. Who clinched the Hamburg  
Name .....  
.....

Class ..... Roll No. ....  
School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....  
Indians were struggling at 257 for six, having lost three wickets for 24

Mohammedan's Minhazul Abedin about to sweep during their GrameenPhone Premier Division Super Six fixture against Bangladesh Biman at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

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PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

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