

## Spin, Mushfiq save Bagan

SPORTS REPORTER



Kalabagan Krira Chakra escaped a possible embarrassment when they edged past Young Cricketers by 28 runs in a low-scoring Super Six affair of the GrameenPhone Premier League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Defending a modest 163, the youthful side bowled Young Cricketers out for 140 in a match where both teams failed to play out their full quota of 50 overs.

The outcome however means little both for the winners and the vanquished as far as the title race is concerned. It has turned into a two-way battle between leaders Victoria Sporting Club and holders Mohammedan Sporting Club.

Victoria won a win to lift the coveted title when they take on Mohammedan in the virtual League deciding match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today.

Back in the day's match where Kalabagan played for pride, they managed to prevail, thanks to the contributions of their captain Mushfiqur Rahman and leg-spinner Mosaddek Hossain.

Mushfiq held the Kalabagan innings together with a disciplined 60 off 89 balls under the left-right combination of Nahidul and Rafiqul put on 45 runs for the first wicket.

But Kalabagan needed special efforts from the three-pronged spin attack of Mosaddek, Manjarul Islam and Imran Parvez to successfully defend the unimpressive total against Pegasus, a surprise package in the Super Six. The trio shared nine wickets among them. Mosaddek bowled beautifully to mesmerise the top-order of

Pegasus. He captured three wickets giving away only 19 runs in his ten overs.

Left-arm spinner Manjarul Islam also bowled well to mop up the Pegasus tail, claiming four wickets for 10 runs. Imran took two wickets for 32 runs.

Pegasus wicketkeeper-batsman Shamsul top-scored with 28 and Tanvir made 24. Tanvir was unlucky to have been adjudged leg before by umpire MA Reza off Manjarul.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the GrameenPhone Premier Super Six match between Kalabagan Krira Chakra and Young Pegasus played at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

**KALABAGAN**  
Rafiqul c Shahajada 25  
Nahidul c Majed b Saifullah 23  
Nasirul run out 25  
Mushfiq c Tanvir b Saifullah 60  
Anisur c Shahajada b Rana 0  
Rajin c & b Mahabub 3  
Manjarul run out 3  
Mosaddek run out 1  
Lablur b Majed 0  
Bikash c Shahajada b Mahabub 3  
Imran not out 7  
Extras: (lb-5, nb-1, w-5) 11

Total: (All out in 44.4 overs) 163  
Fall of wickets: 1-45, 2-53, 3-95, 4-104, 5-115, 6-120, 7-122, 8-123, 9-134

**Bowler** O M R W  
Shahajada 8 0 23 1  
Faisal 6 0 30 0  
Saifullah 6.4 0 28 2  
Rana 7 0 24 1  
Majed 10 0 24 1  
Mahabub 7 0 29 2

**YOUNG PEGASUS**  
Humayun c & b Mosaddek 9  
Mahabub c Lablur b Mushfiq 16  
Shamsul lbw b Mosaddek 28  
Hasan c Imran b Mosaddek 4  
Majed b Imran 0  
Faisal c Lablur b Imran 24  
Tanvir lbw b Manjarul 18  
Tariqul st. Lablur b Manjarul 9  
Shahajada b Manjarul 9  
Rana b Manjarul 0  
Saifullah not out 5  
Extras: (lb-9, nb-2, w-14) 25

Total: (All out in 40.4 overs) 140  
Fall of wickets: 1-34, 2-59, 3-68, 4-75, 5-75, 6-75, 7-107, 8-122, 9-122

**Bowler** O M R W  
Mushfiq 9 0 28 1  
Bikash 6 0 42 0  
Mosaddek 10 5 19 3  
Imran 9 3 32 2  
Manjarul 6.4 2 10 4

Result: Kalabagan KC won by 23 runs.

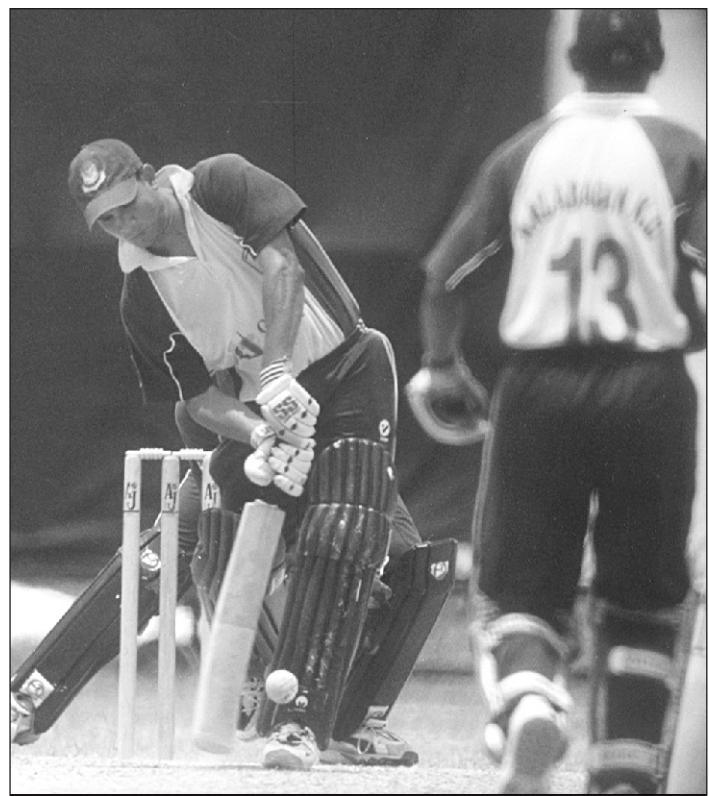


PHOTO: STAR

Kalabagan's Mushfiqur Rahman playing off his pads during the GrameenPhone Premier Division league match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

## Proteas to play in tri-series in Dhaka?

AFP, Dhaka

India and South Africa will join hosts Bangladesh in a three-nation limited-overs tournament in Dhaka in April next year, Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) sources said on Monday.

The April 1-15 event will be followed by South Africa's first Test tour of Bangladesh which will include two Tests and three one-day internationals between April 15 and May 10.

South Africa will visit Bangladesh after hosting the World Cup in February and March.

Bangladesh, the youngest of the 10 Test-playing nations, begins a hectic schedule from July which includes tours of Sri Lanka and South Africa and a home series against the West Indies this year.

Meanwhile, two former Pakistani stars, bowler Mohsin Kamal and batsman Ali Zia, have taken charge of the Bangladesh cricket team following the sacking of Trevor Chappell of Australia last month.

Bangladesh have lost 10 of their 11 Tests so far, the only draw against Zimbabwe coming from a rain-hit Test earlier this year.

However, when our correspondent contacted, a Board high-up admitted that they are working on such a fixture. "But India have not confirmed it as yet officially," said Syed Ashraf Haque, chairman of the Cricket Committee.

## Hannan show for Tarun

SPORTS REPORTER

Surjo Tarun Club recorded a nine-wicket win over Young Cricketers in a GrameenPhone Premier Relegation League match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Skipper Hannan Sarker led his side from the front with an all-round show.

Hannan captured four wickets for 12 runs with his mixed gem of deliveries to shoo Young Cricketers out for 84 in 38.3 overs.

The right-hander then struck an unbeaten 63 off 47 balls as Surjo Tarun rattled up the required 85 for one in 10.5 over.

The defeat put another nail in Young Cricketers' coffin who have already confirmed their demotion to the First Division.

## CUP CORNER



AFP, Tokyo

Japanese airlines Monday appealed to people to refrain from rude or boorish behaviour on planes as companies prepare to handle increased passenger traffic during the World Cup.

Television pictures showed flight attendants representing domestic and international airlines handing out fliers at Tokyo's Narita airport to bemused and respectable-looking passengers, most of them middle-aged.

The leaflets explain what constitutes annoying behaviour or creating a disturbance, such as drunkenness and the legal penalties that might ensue, said an official with the Scheduled Airlines Association of Japan, which organised the campaign.

The campaign was launched as the airlines feared the anticipated increase in passengers during the month-long soccer tournament could lead to increased rowdiness, the official said.

"This is also part of our ongoing efforts to curb rude behaviour, such as smoking and too much drinking," the association official said. The campaign runs through this month until the World Cup kicks off on May

### TURKISH ARE GOOD

Ankara

Turkish police have said they expect no trouble from Turkish football fans at the World Cup finals to be co-hosted by Japan and South Korea, the Anadolu news agency reported Monday.

The police remarks followed a request by Japanese security officials for information on potential trouble-makers to be included on a database in a bid to ensure a calm atmosphere during the matches.

"No-one in Turkey fits the description," the police said in their response to their Japanese colleagues, Anadolu said.

The police report said that football-related violence in Turkey was "infrequent and unsystematic".

However, the soccer-mad country has been alerted to soccer violence since two English fans were stabbed to death in Istanbul in April 2000 ahead of the UEFA Cup semi-final between Turkish champions Galatasaray and English Premiership side Leeds United.

A criminal court in Istanbul sentenced an unemployed 23-year-old Turkish man to 15 years in jail in early May after a two-year legal saga.

The Turkish police also said that they would send three officers to accompany and protect the Turkish national team during the World Cup finals which are to kick off on May 31, Anadolu said.

Two of the officers would be based in South Korea while the remaining one would be in Japan, it added.

Turkey will be competing in the World Cup finals for the first time in 48 years and will play four-time champions Brazil, Costa Rica and debutants China in Group C.

### LOUTS TO BE SHIPPED OUT

Tokyo

In a move reminiscent of a harsher age of justice, Japan announced Monday that hooligans arrested at the England v Argentina World Cup match at Sapporo will be shipped to a holding pen in Tokyo on a specially-chartered ferry.

The Tokyo Immigration Bureau said it would use the ferry transfer hooligans arrested in Sapporo during the June 7 game -- an expected flashpoint for trouble -- roughly 800 kilometres (500 miles) to its facility in Ushiku in Ibaraki prefecture, some 50 kilometres north-east of Tokyo.

Hooligans will be held there until they are deported.

The announcement coincided with Japan's latest World Cup anti-hooligan drill, at Oarai port, 50 kilometres from Ushiku.

Around 100 police officers practised catching and restraining hooligans who started a disturbance during a voyage to Ushiku.

In another World Cup venue, Niigata, about 120 police, a ferry, six patrol boats and a helicopter were used in a drill on quelling hooliganism on a regular passenger ferry trip.

Police in Hokkaido plan to mobilize 7,000 policemen during the week of the England-Argentina match.

The organizers in Sapporo are now erecting 2.2-metre-high (seven feet) iron fences at the stadium to separate rival fans, the Nihon Keizai Shimbun reported.

## BLAST FROM THE PAST



PHOTO: STAR FILE

The opening encounter of the 1990 FIFA World Cup pits Cameroon against the holders, Argentina. It is a case of déjà-vu for the South Americans, who lose their first match by the same 0-1 scoreline as they had done in 1982. Cameroon's lanky striker François Omam-Biyik rises highest above the scrum of players to direct a super header, with Argentina goalkeeper Pumpido left rooted to his spot. The "Indomitable Lions" continued to impress and made it to the quarterfinals.

## Bandaged Anil steals show

AFP, St John's

Leg-spinner Anil Kumble returned to bowl with a fractured jaw to hurt the West Indies batting pride in the fourth Test against India here Sunday.

It was difficult to recognise the 31-year-old when he made a surprise appearance with the bandaged jaw in the last session of the third day, only to restrict the hosts to 187-3 in reply to India's 513-9 declared.

Ramnaresh Sarwan was batting on 50 and skipper Carl Hooper on 26 as the West Indies required 127 more runs with seven wickets in hand to avoid a follow-on.

Kumble stunned not only his teammates, but also batting superstar Brian Lara who was trapped leg-before for four by a straighter one.

Hooper was then caught by Shiv Das at forward short-leg off a no-ball from Kumble, who bowled 14 disciplined overs in pain to finish with 1-29.

Kumble, struck on the jaw by a rising delivery from fast bowler Mervyn Dillon while batting on Saturday, was greeted by his teammates as well as a handful of Indian spectators.

The spinner needed medical attention by team physio Andrew Leibus near the boundary after each over, but continued to bowl with nagging accuracy to make the

batsmen struggle for runs.

"He insisted on bowling," said Indian manager Gautam Dasgupta.

There were more surprises in store for the hosts as part-time spinner Sachin Tendulkar bowled a free-stroking Wavell Hinds round the legs for 65.

Kumble's decision to bowl after a visit to a hospital in the morning nearly overshadowed young Ajay Ratna's feat of becoming the first Indian wicketkeeper to slam an away Test century in 49 years.

Also pushed into the background was left-handed opener Hinds' return to the Test squad with an impressive knock and Sarwan's solid half-century.

Hinds and Chris Gayle (32) put on 65 for the opening wicket, the West Indies' best in the ongoing series.

India were indebted to Ratna for crossing the 500-mark for the first time in the series as the 20-year-old struck 12 fours in his 244-ball 115 not out.

He also had a hand in the first dismissal, taking a low catch to his left to account for Gayle off left-arm fast bowler Zaheer Khan.

Ratna, 93 overnight, overcame quite a few anxious moments on 99 before reaching his century with a four to fine-leg off Dillon.

India batted 16 overs before declaring their first innings closed, losing three wickets for 51 runs after resuming at 462-6.

Venkatsai Laxman was the first to go, trading on to his stumps while

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## Brazil fly off



REUTERS, Rio de Janeiro

Brazil, backed by a good-luck message from their president but with public confidence at a low ebb, have set off for the World Cup in a plane laden with black beans and manioc flour.

The four times champions took off from Sao Paulo in the early hours of Monday in a chartered Boeing 767.

"Like the rest of the country, I wish good luck to the national team," said President Fernando Henrique Cardoso in a statement. "They are taking with them the dreams and the support of 170 million Brazilians."

The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) said the squad were taking 140 kilos of the beans and flour, the local staples.

Around 500 fans gathered at Sao Paulo to give the team a send-off but local media said that fewer than 100 were present in Rio de Janeiro, where the plane began its journey.

"I prefer things this way, without people talking about us they way they are with France and Argentina," said Inter Milan striker Ronaldo.

Technical director Antonio Lopes, who also joined in Rio, said: "I expected more people but there's no problem, nobody believed in the team in 1970 and 1994 and we

came back with the world title."

An unprecedented wave of public apathy has greeted the 2002 World Cup in Brazil following the national team's poor recent results and performances, plus a wave of scandals in the sport and the tournament's inconvenient kick-off times.

Brazil's matches will be played in the middle of the night local time or at dawn.

Coach Luiz Felipe Scolari's defensive, physical tactics have also dampened enthusiasm, along with his decision to leave out charismatic veteran striker Romario.

Scolari, who became Brazil's fourth coach in a year when he took over last June, has at least halted a decline which saw an unprecedented string of defeats to teams such as Honduras, Paraguay, Chile, Australia and Ecuador.

Brazil's first stop will be Barcelona in Spain where they will spend a week training and face a Catalan XI on Sunday.

They then head for Kuala Lumpur, where they will spend another week before playing Malaysia in a friendly on May 25.

They reach South Korea on May 27, six days before their first match against Turkey. China and Costa Rica are their other opponents in group C.

Brazil's big doubt remains the fitness of Barcelona's forward Rivaldo, who is still struggling with a knee injury.

## Ratra feasting on rare feat

AFP, St John's

Indian wicketkeeper Ajay Ratna conceded Sunday he had spent a sleepless night before completing his maiden Test century in the fourth Test against the West Indies here.

The 20-year-old needed just seven runs Sunday to complete his hundred and become the first Indian wicketkeeper to reach the three-figure mark on foreign soil.

"I hardly slept as I was restless to get those seven runs," said Ratna

after achieving a rare feat. He was on 93 on Saturday.

He was the first Indian wicketkeeper to score an away Test century in 49 years, the last being Vijay Manjrekar against the West Indies in 1953 at Jamaica.

Manjrekar, however, was a batsman who kept wickets in that match in place of Padmanabh Joshi.

The highest score in an overseas Test by a specialist Indian wicketkeeper was 89, by Farookh Engineer against Australia in 1967 at Adelaide.

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The match was held in front of an empty stand with soccer fans apparently staying off in protest of the police assault during Sunday's crucial game between Mohammedan Sporting Club and hosts Rajshahi Abahani.

Mohammedan won that troubled match 3-2 to earn a final round berth that also include holders Abahani Krira Chakra, Chittagong Abahani and Sylhet Chaturanga.

The final round will commence at the Bangabandhu National Stadium from May 16.

He survived a leg-before appeal off fast bowler Mervyn Dillon, hit on the fingers by Cameron Cuffy and then nearly fell on his stumps while trying to duck a Dillon bouncer.

"Yes, it was a painful blow and the nail hurt a lot," said Ratna. "I was in pain, but I knew my responsibility because there was no one to keep wickets. I was determined to get those seven runs."

He said it was a big challenge to score a hundred against the West Indies fast bowlers and he was happy to have done it.

"I like batting in the Caribbean because fast bowlers are here. So, it's a big challenge for youngsters to score runs here and I always like challenges."

Ratna said he was confident of scoring big after having completed his half-century.

"I was very confident after reaching the half-century," he said. "I just played my natural game. I wanted to stay at the crease for a long time and didn't want to play risky shots."

He was lucky to have made it to the squad, having scored just 16 in his previous four Test innings.

"I couldn't score in the last two Tests, so I worked hard with the coach. My captain and team-mates gave me a lot of confidence. That's why I was able to do well."

## NFL match sans fans

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Khulna Abahani recorded a 3-1 win against Barisal T & T Club in the last of the first round match of the Nitol-Tata National Football League at the Rajshahi Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 2-1. Abul scored twice and Kabir drove in the second to give Khulna Abahani their first victory in the meet.

Dipu scored for Barisal, who returned home empty-handed losing all of their matches in the meet.

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## Green Delta Hockey Abahani's seven in seven

UNB, Dhaka

Abahani Krira Chakra recorded their 7th consecutive victory in the Green Delta Premier Division Hockey league after defeating Ushku KC 2-0 at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

Abahani now share the joint top position with holders Mohammedan Sporting Club

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2002 FIFA WORLD CUP KOREA JAPAN

1 7

days to go



## Did U Know?

For the United Arab Emirates, winning the FIFA World Cup was not realistic. In the 1990 finals, they were knocked out after three straight defeats in the group stage. However, they managed to score two goals and no wonder the goalscorers celebrated as if they had won the World Cup. The players received a Rolls Royce for every goal they scored!



## What to WATCH

**ESPN**  
English Premiership Highlights at 7:30 am  
Derby County v Sunderland  
English Premiership Repeat at 8:30 am  
Football Focus  
Football Magazine 7:30 pm  
**Sportscenter Hindi**  
Sports News Live at 8:30 pm  
Western Union World Football

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## Michael Owen

(England marksman)  
"There are half a dozen to eight teams that could probably win the tournament and we could be one of them."

His World Cup ambition.

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 171

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 Amihul K Mashud

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

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

5. Who elbowed the Hamburg  
Name .....

Class. .... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....



PHOTO: INTERNET

DON'T GET SICK! Superstar Ronaldo (C) gets a measles vaccine at the Rio de Janeiro airport on May 12 before the Brazilian squad departed for Barcelona and Malaysia where they will play friendly games leading to the World Cup.