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Star SPORT

DHAKA TUESDAY MAY 21, 2002, E-MAIL: dssports@gonet.com

bringing you

TEN SPORTS & SPORTS

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2002 FIFA WORLD CUP
KOREA JAPAN



days to go



Did U Know?

The 2000 European Championship marked the first time a soccer tournament had been co-hosted by two countries - Holland and Belgium.



ESPN

England vs Sri Lanka
First Test, Day Five
Highlights at 7:30 pm
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm
STAR Sports
Trans World Sport
Int'l Sports News
Taped Version at 8:30 am
Soccer World Cup Heroes
Zico
Repeat at 3:00 pm
Cricket Programming
Super Selector
Repeat at 4:00 pm
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News

SEE PAGE 14



Adegboye Onigbinde

(Nigeria football coach)
"My players will rise on the occasion. It's good that we peaked at the right time and I believe the world will see the wonder of Nigeria in Japan."

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

- West Indies won the third Test against India by
8 wickets 10 wickets 19 runs
- Who will lead Bangladesh A team in the Malaysia Cricket Challenge?
Akram Aminul K Mashud
- Who won the man-of-the-match award in the first Test between Pakistan and New Zealand?
McMillan Inzamam Afridi
- Who are the English Premiership champions?
Man United Arsenal Liverpool
- Who clinched the Hamburg Open tennis title?
Venus Clijsters Hingis

Name

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

School Address

Phone: (If any)



Mohammedan defender Jewel Rana (R) intercepts Sylhet Chaturanga forward Uzzal during their Nitol-Tata National Football League encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Ctg win Abahanis war

NITOL-TATA NAT'L FOOTBALL LEAGUE

SPORTS REPORTER

The stage for the semifinals of the Nitol-Tata National Football League was set on Tuesday but not before the two Abahanis were involved in a high-scoring drama in the last round robin match at the flood-lit Bangabandhu National Stadium on Monday.

Defending champions Abahani Krira Chakra scored two goals in the second half against their namesake from Chittagong to avoid a premature clash with arch rivals Mohammedan Sporting Club.

Chittagong Abahani won the goal-fest second match 3-2 against their more colourful opponents. But despite the victory, the boys of Abu Yousuf will be up against Mohammedan in the first semi-final.

The holders on the other hand will take on a lowly Sylhet Chaturanga in the second semi-final. Both semifinals will be held tomorrow.

Mohammedan won the day's first match against Sylhet Chaturanga 1-0.

The result of the two games meant three teams - Mohammedan, Abahani and Chittagong Abahani finished with six points each. But Mohammedan topped the standings by virtue of having a better goal difference. Abahani finished second and Chittagong Abahani third.

Ctg Abahani 3: Abahani 2

Three goals in just 38 minutes and that too against the top team of the country was certainly a dream come

true for the blue-clad outfit from Chittagong.

But that was not a plot conspired off the field. It was evident when Abahani's substitute striker Kanhan entered in the second half for a double strike only to satisfy both the warring parties and to some extent the organisers Bangladesh Football Federation.

But apart from the second half drama, it was Chittagong Abahani who dominated their illustrious opponents with an attacking display of football.

The port city team took the lead in the third minute when Abahani defender Dula shot the ball into his

own net while attempting to clear an innocuous cross from Hari Khadka.

Hari, one of Chittagong Abahani's four foreign recruits, doubled the margin with a spectacular header off a Mintu cross from the right.

But undoubtedly Moni scored the best goal of the game in the 38th minute.

The nimble attacker after receiving a ball on the top of the box swiveled in a flash to fire a magnificent left-foot volley into the upper right-hand corner of Apel's post.

Interestingly Apel was unbeatable in the tournament until last

SEE PAGE 14



Action from yesterday's Nitol-Tata National Football League clash between two Abahanis - Dhaka and Chittagong - at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Butcher baffles Lankans

Cricket

REUTERS, London

Mark Butcher completed a slow, ugly, vital century on Monday while Graham Thorpe became the fifth batsman in a row to pass 50 as England stayed on course to save the first Test against Sri Lanka at Lord's.

The home side had reached 483 for five, 203 ahead, at tea on the final day after being forced to follow on late on Saturday following a dismal 275 in their first innings.

The Sri Lankans' hopes of a 10th Test win in a row had slipped away during the afternoon as the left-handed Butcher, who had looked in wretched form after coming to the crease, produced an innings memorable for stodgy determination rather than sparkling strokeplay.

He reached three figures, his fourth in Tests, with a nudge to fine leg after six-and-a-half hours at the crease, during which he faced 291 balls and hit nine fours. Perhaps exhausted by his marathon effort, he ran himself out moments later for 105, needlessly risking a third run.

Graham Thorpe followed him for 65, chipping Aravinda de Silva's occasional off-spin lazily to mid-on after a half-century partnership with John Crawley.

Crawley was 21 not out at tea with Alec Stewart the new batsman.

A Sri Lankan win still appeared

possible in the morning, with England 41 runs in credit with eight wickets left but skipper Nasser Hussain and Butcher, intent on survival, avoided all risks.

Their 159-run stand for the third wicket ended just before lunch when Hussain fell for 68 to left-arm seamer Ruchira Perera.

Hussain batted four-and-a-half hours during his back-to-the-wall innings, facing 185 balls on a strip favouring the batsmen throughout

the five days.

Sanath Jayasuriya's Sri Lankans appeared resigned to a draw themselves as they stuck to conservative fields, even dispensing with first slip after lunch.

Sri Lanka had looked in total control after scoring 555 for eight before dismissing England for 275 in their first innings but Michael Vaughan, with an attractive 115 - which took two hours less than Butcher's to compile - laid the foundations for the fightback.



Sri Lanka paceman Chaminda Vaas appeals unsuccessfully for an lbw decision against Nasser Hussain as the England captain sets off for a single yesterday.

BD A maul Malaysia

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh A team made an expected start to the Malaysia Challenge three-nation limited-overs cricket tournament when they thrashed the hosts by nine wickets in the inaugural match at the Club Aman ground in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

Chasing a paltry Malaysia total of 66 in 50 overs, the Aminul Islam and Company racked up 67 in 12.5 overs.

Opener Hannan Sarkar got himself out on 24 after putting on exactly 66 for the opening stand along with Moniruzzaman, who topscored with 31 not out.

Earlier, put in to bat, Malaysia were bundled out in 29.5 overs, with right-arm seamer Tareq Aziz Khan snapping up four wickets for 21 runs off seven overs. Left-arm twacker Mohammad Rafique was at his miserly best, conceding only 10 runs for his three scalps.

The winners are scheduled to take on USA in their next match at the same venue today.

SCORES IN BRIEF

Malaysia: 66 all out in 29.5 overs (Tareq 4-21, Rafique 3-10)
Bangladesh A: Moniruzzaman 31 no, Hannan 24
Result: Bangladesh A won by nine wickets

Div I cricket

Agrani muscle past Khelaghar

SPORTS REPORTER

An unbeaten century partnership between Sohail Hossain and Mohammad Kalim throttled Agrani Bank to an eight-wicket win over Khelaghar Samaj Kalyan Sangatha in a First Division Cricket League match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

The duo put on 121 runs as the bankers, chasing 180 in 50 overs, reached 181 in 36 overs with eight wickets to spare.

Sohail was unbeaten on 69 off 99 balls that included six fours while Kalim smashed a 60-ball 51 with a six and five boundaries.

Earlier, Khelaghar were all out for 180 in 47.3 overs after electing to bat first.

In the other match of the day, Bangladesh Boys Club beat Lalmatia Club by seven wickets at the Khan Shaheb Osman Ali Cricket Stadium in Fatullah.

BRIEF SCORES

Khelaghar SKS: 180 all out in 47.3 overs (Ishtiaque 36, Shamsul 32, Hira 26, Ashraf 4-34)

Agrani Bank: 181 for two in 36 overs (Sohail 69 no, Kalim 51 no)
Result: Agrani Bank won by eight wickets

Lalmatia Club: 218 for 9 in 50 overs (Fakhrul 67, Hasan 34, Mamun 3-8)
Bangladesh Boys Club: 222 for 3 in 42 overs (Manash 69, Mamun 62 no, Mahibul 60 no)
Result: Bangladesh Boys Club won by seven wickets

Age-group cricket

UNB, Dhaka

Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions won their respective matches in the Under-17 age-group development tournament in Rajshahi on Monday.

Rajshahi Division scored 190 for three in 36.1 overs in reply to Dhaka Colts' 187 all out in 44.5 overs to earn a comfortable seven-wicket victory.

Sylhet Division beat Dhaka Greens by 38 runs. Dhaka Greens were bundled out for 165 in 36.3 overs in reply to Sylhet Division's 203 for eight in 45 overs.

In the under-15 matches in Faridpur, Dhaka Colts and Rajshahi Division won their matches.

Dhaka Colts beat Sylhet Division by 16 runs after they made 189 for nine in 45 overs and then dismissed Sylhet for 173 for nine in 44 overs.

Rajshahi Division earned a massive 121-run victory over Dhaka Greens. Rajshahi Division restricted Dhaka Greens to 102 runs after defending a total of 223 for six in 30 overs.

In the under-13 matches in Brahmanbaria, Dhaka Colts beat Sylhet Division by five wickets and Rajshahi Division defeated Dhaka Greens by three wickets.

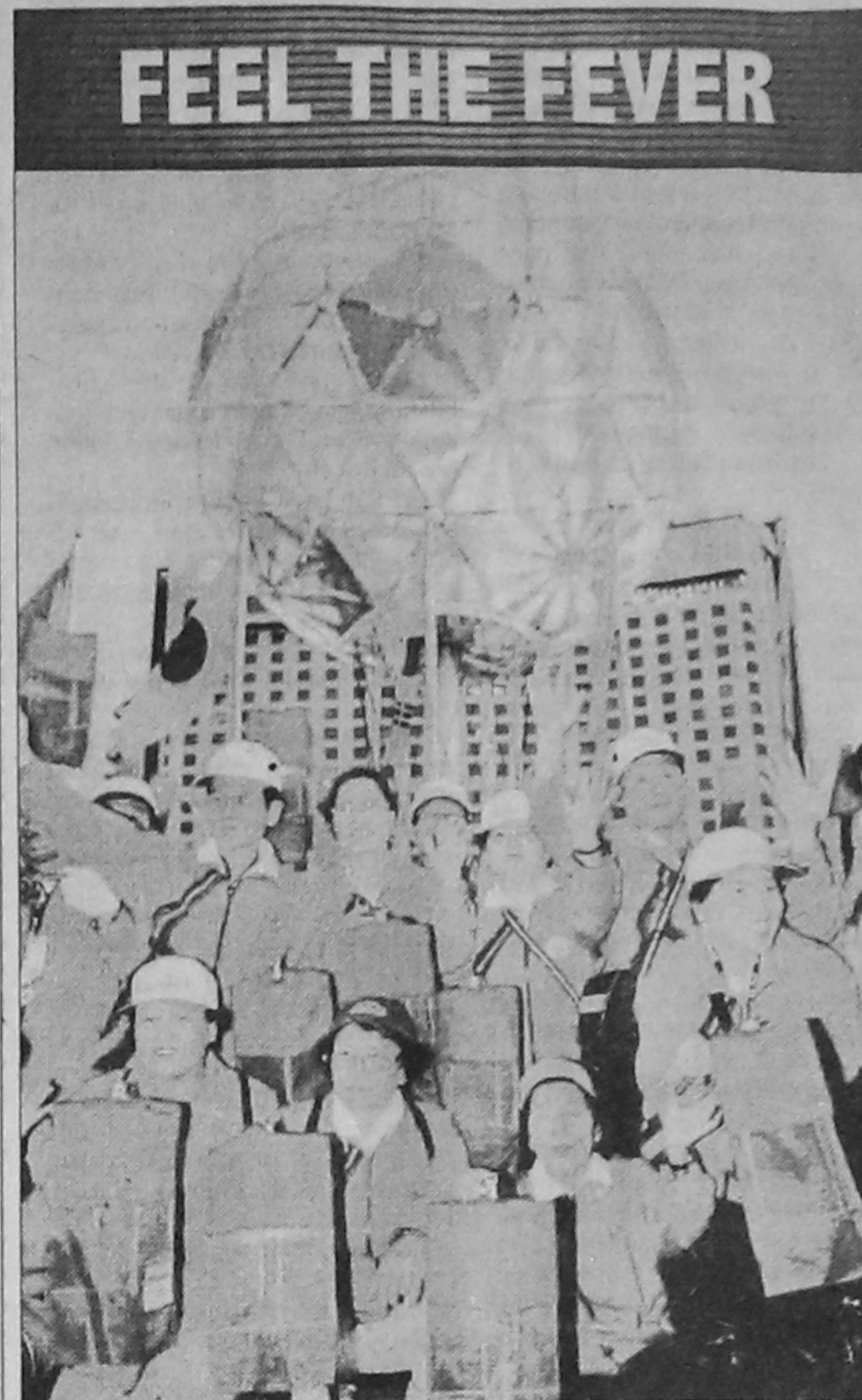
Inter-varsity swimming

RU CORRESPONDENT

The two-day long inter-university swimming competition began at the Central Swimming Pool of Rajshahi University on Sunday.

A total of 25 participants from Dhaka University, Chittagong University and hosts Rajshahi University took part in the competition.

Prof. Faisal Islam Faruqui, Vice Chancellor of Rajshahi University, inaugurated the meet as chief guest and will distribute prizes today.



LIGHTING UP THE WORLD: A group of senior citizens hold traditional lamps called 'Chungsa-chorong' in front of the 'World Ball 2002' in Seoul yesterday. 'Chungsa-chorong' are used for traditional ceremonies and means welcome to guests.

CUP CORNER

2002 FIFA WORLD CUP
KOREA JAPAN

INTERNET

Fighter jets, English hooligans, German pessimism, sports cars and a bottle of aftershave have dominated the World Cup headlines.

As more teams prepared to fly out to South Korea and Japan or settled into their training camps, events off the pitch took centre stage.

High-tech Japanese military planes will patrol the skies over stadiums to prevent any September 11-style attacks during the tournament. Japanese newspaper Asahi Shimbun reported on Saturday.

Planes equipped with the airborne warning and control system (AWACS) will monitor the skies while F-15 fighter jets will be mobilised if necessary, the paper said.

RUSSIANS MAY DRIVE PORSCHE

Moscow

Russia's players were given an added incentive when an oil firm promised to give players Porsche sports cars as rewards for victories.

A dollars100,000 Porsche Boxster is to be presented to the best Russian player in each match the team wins at the World Cup in South Korea and Japan next month, Tyumen Oil Company (TNK) said.

"Seven is the maximum number of games a team can play in this World Cup. As you can see, we believe Russia can get to the final because we ordered seven Porsches," TNK vice president Dmitry Ivanov told Reuters.

GERMANS FAR FROM CONFIDENT

Berlin

Germany, the home of the Porsche, is in more pessimistic mood as the finals draw closer.

SEE PAGE 14

SA's busy season ahead

Cricket

REUTERS, Johannesburg

A crammed 2002-03 season looms in South Africa following the announcement of the international fixtures by the United Cricket Board (UCB) of South Africa in Johannesburg.

CityCell U-19 cricket

Tangail, Rajshahi in group finals

UNB, Dhaka

Tangail and Rajshahi reached the group finals in the final round of CityCell 21st National Youth (U-19) Cricket Competition at different venues across the country on Monday.

Tangail defeated Chittagong by 54 runs at the Bogra Shaheed Chandu Stadium. They will play holders BKSP in the Group A final today for a place in the final on May 23 at the Natore Stadium.

Tangail scored 165 in 49.4 overs after deciding to bat. Chittagong were all out for 111 in 40.5 overs.

At the Natore Stadium, Rajshahi moved into the Group-B final beating Jessore by five wickets.

They will play in the group final against Comilla also today at the same venue.

Jessore were all out for 83 runs in 43.2 overs after deciding to bat. Rajshahi reached 85 for five in 11.4 overs.

Green Delta hockey Mariner edge past Abahani

SPORTS REPORTER

Mariner Youngs Club moved up to the second spot in the Green Delta Premier Hockey League with a solitary goal win over title contenders Abahani Krira Chakra at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

Midfielder Ashiq Abedin Shahin scored the all-important goal at the stroke of the breather. Mariner raised their tally to 22 points from nine matches.

On the other hand, it was the second defeat for Abahani in nine matches that left them with their previous collection of 21 points.

Holders Mohammedan Sporting Club are leading the table with highest 24 points from eight matches.

Earlier, in the day's first match, Ajax Sporting Club beat Farashganj Sporting Club 2-0.

Mujahidul Islam put Ajax ahead through a short corner in the 22nd minute while Golam Sarwar doubled the margin in similar fashion in the 46th minute.

Romario, Baggio for Al-Hilal?

INTERNET, Riyadh

Brazilian ace Romario and Italian veteran Roberto Baggio are topping the shopping list for Asian Cup-Winners' up holders Al-Hilal of Riyadh, according to Sunday's edition of daily Al-Jazirah here.

"The club should start next season on a flying note," honorary club member Prince Bandar Bin-Faysal Bin-Abdullah told the daily paper on Sunday.

"We have won the Cup-Winners' Cup last term, and another prize at the start of the new season can only boost the players for the new Champions' League competition."

Now that Al-Hilal have extended the contract of Colombian manager Francisco Maturana, the newly-elected Saudi league champions are more than ever favourites to land continental silverware in the upcoming new season.

"I have been in personal contacts with the likes of Croatia forward Davor Suker, David Ginola of France and Mexican striker Hernandez...all of them have shown real interest in our genuine offers, with only Baggio and Romario preferring to move on a loan basis to compete in the Super-Cup," added Prince Bandar.

Al-Hilal, Super-Cup reigning holders, are scheduled to face South Korea's Samsung over two legs, the first one to be held in Seoul.

"Experience at the highest level of the game is what both Romario and Baggio are enjoying, and this is what we are exactly looking for in the Super-Cup. The game throughout Asia is moving at a fast speed, and we should not be taken by surprise, and left behind the runaway train," concluded Prince Bandar.