

City climb



SPORTS REPORTER

City Club climbed into second spot in the GrameenPhone Premier Division Cricket League with a 51-run win over Indira Road Kira Chakra at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Put into bat, the Mirpur club mustered 215 for the loss of nine wickets.

Opener Faruque Ahmed top-scored with 45 off 87 balls. Moniruzzaman and former Indian all-rounder Ashish Kapoor added 39 and 32.

In reply, Indira Road were restricted to 164 for seven with middle-order Kiran un-defeated on 49.

City Club's sixth win in eight matches raised their tally to 32 points, 12 points adrift of leaders and defending champions Victoria Sporting Club who have 44 points from nine matches.

It was Indira Road's third defeat in eight matches. They stay in fourth position with 26 points.

ORIENT SC-UTTARASC

In the other match of the day, promoted Orient Sporting Club trounced Uttara Sporting Club by eight wickets at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Chasing a paltry Uttara total of 120, Orient took only 25 overs to score 121.

Opener Masumuddowla hammered a run-a-ball 49 it contained ten fours while one-down Mahbubul Karim chipped in with an unbeaten 56-ball 43.

Earlier, electing to bat first after winning the toss, Uttara were bundled out for 120 in 48.3 overs.

Orient's new ball bowler Aminul Islam grabbed three wickets for 27.

SCOREBOARDS

Scoreboards of the two GrameenPhone Premier Cricket League matches yesterday:

City Club v Indira Road KC

Venue: FCS

CITY CLUB

| | |
|--|-----|
| A Kapoor c Mowlab Arafat | 32 |
| Faruquest Papon b Humayun | 45 |
| Moniruzzaman c Kiran b Raihan | 39 |
| Rajin c Hadib Humayun | 20 |
| Hasan run out | 30 |
| Mazharul b Arafat | 15 |
| Kadiril b w b Arafat | 0 |
| Jamaluddin run out | 12 |
| Alamgir run out | 2 |
| Tareq not out | 0 |
| Extras: (b-10, lb-5, w-5) | 20 |
| Total: (For 9 wickets in 50 overs) | 215 |
| Fall of wickets: 1-41, 2-112, 3-132, 4-159, 5-180, 6-210, 7-212, 8-214, 9-215. | |

| Bowler | O | M | R | W |
|---------|----|---|----|---|
| Biswas | 8 | 2 | 38 | 0 |
| Arafat | 10 | 2 | 29 | 3 |
| Imran | 10 | 0 | 52 | 0 |
| Raihan | 10 | 0 | 33 | 1 |
| Sanjay | 2 | 0 | 12 | 0 |
| Humayun | 10 | 0 | 36 | 2 |

INDIRA ROAD KC

| | |
|---|-----|
| Humayun b A Kapoor | 37 |
| Papon run out | 13 |
| Mowlab Jamaluddin | 14 |
| Kalimlbw b A Kapoor | 1 |
| Hadi c Alamgir b Saifullah | 18 |
| Kiran not out | 49 |
| Arafat st Kadir b Saifullah | 5 |
| Sanjay c Kadir b Saifullah | 0 |
| Imran not out | 12 |
| Extras: (lb-5, nb-1, w-9) | 15 |
| Total: (For 7 wickets in 50 overs) | 164 |
| Fall of wickets: 1-51, 2-71, 3-74, 4-76, 5-112, 6-123, 7-123. | |

| Bowler | O | M | R | W |
|------------|----|---|----|---|
| Alamgir | 10 | 1 | 25 | 0 |
| Tareq | 10 | 1 | 33 | 0 |
| Saifullah | 10 | 0 | 45 | 3 |
| A Kapoor | 10 | 0 | 34 | 2 |
| Jamaluddin | 10 | 2 | 22 | 1 |

Result: City Club won by 51 runs.

Orient SC v Uttara SC

| | |
|--|-----|
| Venue: BNS | |
| UTTARASC | |
| Moniruzzaman c b Aminul | 6 |
| Faisal c Nadim b Mahbub | 0 |
| Saifullb w b Aminul | 11 |
| Arman c Sajub Aminul | 25 |
| Monirul st Azamb Mufassin | 20 |
| Sumon c Nadim b Sajub | 2 |
| Rashed st Azamb Asrek | 28 |
| Rabbani run out | 0 |
| Aslam c Masumuddowla b Rashed | 5 |
| Rakib b Asrek | 9 |
| Debabrata not out | 1 |
| Extras: (lb-1, nb-3, w-9) | 13 |
| Total: (All out in 48.3 overs) | 120 |
| Fall of wickets: 1-8, 2-11, 3-43, 4-53, 5-65, 6-89, 7-85, 8-92, 9-105. | |

| Bowler | O | M | R | W |
|----------|-----|---|----|---|
| Aminul | 10 | 2 | 27 | 3 |
| Mahbub | 7 | 0 | 37 | 1 |
| Saju | 10 | 4 | 13 | 1 |
| Mufassin | 10 | 2 | 15 | 1 |
| R Hanif | 7 | 3 | 9 | 1 |
| Asrek | 4.3 | 0 | 18 | 2 |

ORIENT SC

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Masumuddowla b Aslam | 49 |
| Sajid c Moniruzzaman b Debabrata | 2 |
| Mahbub not out | 43 |
| Asrek not out | 15 |
| Extras: (lb-4, nb-3, w-5) | 12 |
| Total: (For 2 wickets in 25 overs) | 121 |
| Fall of wickets: 1-19, 2-75. | |

| Bowler | O | M | R | W |
|-----------|---|---|----|---|
| Debabrata | 4 | 1 | 22 | 1 |
| Rabbani | 3 | 0 | 22 | 0 |
| Rakib | 4 | 0 | 26 | 0 |
| Faisal | 8 | 4 | 14 | 0 |
| Monirul | 2 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Aslam | 4 | 0 | 18 | 1 |

Result: Orient SC won by eight wickets.

Mother of all matches

FROM PAGE 16

Wasim and Shoaib aside, the rest of the bowlers have bagged just 13 wickets between them and the problem is magnified by the high number of wides and no balls conceded.

Pakistan conceded 41 extras against the Netherlands on Tuesday, the highest in the tournament so far, surpassing their own tally of 31 squandered against Australia.

It may be a different ball game against India, but Pakistan can't afford to repeat the same mistakes if they are to remain in the tournament.

LINE-UPS

PAKISTAN (from): Waqar Younis

(captain), Saeed Anwar, Taufeeq Umar, Saleem Elahi, Younis Khan, Yousuf Youhana, Inzamamul Haq, Shahid Afridi, Abdur Razaq, Azhar Mahmood, Wasim Akram, Rashid Latif, Mohammad Sami, Shoaib Akhtar, Saqlain Mushtaq.

INDIA (from): Saurav Ganguly (captain), Rahul Dravid, Virender Sehwag, Sachin Tendulkar, Anil Kumble, Harbhajan Singh, Javagal Srinath, Zaheer Khan, Ashish Nehra, Dinesh Mongia, Parthiv Patil, Sanjay Bangar, Ajit Agarkar, Yuvraj Singh, Mohammad Kaif.

Umpires: David Shepherd (Eng) and Rudie Koertzen (Rsa)

TV umpire: Billy Bowden (Nzl)

Match referee: Mike Procter (Rsa)

| FORM GUIDE | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|------------------|--|
| AFP, Centurion | | | |
| <i>Form guide for Pakistan and India ahead of their World Cup Group A game at Super Sport Park here on Saturday:</i> | | | |
| PAKISTAN (won 4 lost 6) | | | |
| Feb 25 2003 | beat Netherlands by 97 runs | Paarl | |
| Feb 22 2003 | lost to England by 112 runs | Cape Town | |
| Feb 16 2003 | beat Namibia by 171 runs | Kimberley | |
| Feb 11 2003 | lost to Australia by 82 runs | Wanderers | |
| Dec 18 2002 | lost to South Africa by 34 runs | Newlands | |
| Dec 16 2002 | lost to South Africa by 9 wickets | Paarl | |
| Dec 13 2002 | lost to South Africa by 62 runs | East London | |
| Dec 11 2002 | beat South Africa by 182 runs | Port Elizabeth | |
| Dec 8 2002 | lost to South Africa by 132 runs | Kingsmead | |
| Dec 1 2002 | beat Zimbabwe by 70 runs | Harare | |
| INDIA (won 6 lost 4) | | | |
| Feb 26 2003 | beat England by 82 runs | Durban | |
| Feb 23 2003 | beat Namibia by 181 runs | Pietermaritzburg | |
| | beat Zimbabwe by 83 runs | Harare | |
| Feb 19 2003 | lost to Australia by 9 wickets | Centurion | |
| Feb 15 2003 | beat Netherlands by 68 runs | Paarl | |
| Jan 14 2003 | lost to New Zealand by 6 wickets | Hamilton | |
| Jan 11 2003 | beat New Zealand by 1 wicket | Auckland | |
| Jan 8 2003 | beat New Zealand by 2 wickets | Wellington | |
| Jan 4 2003 | lost to New Zealand by 7 wickets | Queenstown | |
| Jan 1 2003 | lost to New Zealand by 5 wickets | Christchurch | |

Sehwag has a score

FROM PAGE 16

Tendulkar was reverted back as opener for the World Cup and responded by top-scoring in four of the five matches so far to emerge the tournament's leading run-getter with 371 runs.

Sehwag now wants to give the master a break.

"It's my turn to get a big one," Sehwag said on Friday.

"I feel bad when I let the team down. We can't expect Sachin to score all the time. I have to do my bit as well and want to do it against Pakistan."

An out-of-form Sehwag has the backing of his captain.

"Veeru is too good a batsman to stay away from runs. It is only a matter of time before he returns to form. Then all will be well," said Ganguly.

Sehwag proved he was not just a slogger when he scored two centuries on the recent New Zealand tour at a time when other batsmen from both teams struggled to put

bat to ball on the treacherous wickets.

The confidence gained by five international hundreds under the belt makes Sehwag one of the players to watch during the high-voltage clash on Saturday.

He has a simple formula for batting: smash the ball because it is there to be hit.

"I have a natural instinct for shots. I see the ball not the bowler," he said recently.

Sehwag also remains an integral part of the Test team, a century on debut at Bloemfontein in November 2001 giving him that extra confidence of doing well in South Africa.

But he will not tolerate being compared with Tendulkar.

Last summer when an English journalist asked him what was common between him and Tendulkar, Sehwag shot back: "Nothing. Tendulkar's bank balance is much bigger."

| WORLD CUP STANDINGS | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|-------|--|--|--|--|
| AFP, Johannesburg | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>World Cup standings after Friday's Group A match between Zimbabwe and the Netherlands (played, won, lost, tied/no result, points, net run-rate):</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| POOL A | | | | | | | | | | |
| Australia | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 20 | +2.49 | | | | |
| India | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 16 | +1.28 | | | | |
| England | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 12 | +1.07 | | | | |
| Zimbabwe | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 12 | +0.50 | | | | |
| Pakistan | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 8 | +0.39 | | | | |
| Netherlands | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | -2.04 | | | | |
| Namibia | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | -3.32 | | | | |
| POOL B | | | | | | | | | | |
| SAfrica | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 12 | +2.10 | | | | |
| Kenya | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 12 | -0.39 | | | | |
| Sri Lanka | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 12 | +1.73 | | | | |
| NZealand | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 12 | +0.40 | | | | |
| WIndies | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 10 | +1.03 | | | | |
| Canada | 5 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 4 | -1.69 | | | | |
| Bangladesh | 5 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 2 | -2.51 | | | | |
| <i>Note 1: Three teams from the group will advance to the super-six round.</i> | | | | | | | | | | |

Flintoff pins hope

FROM PAGE 13

miserly overs at Kingsmead and then smashed India's attack for three sixes as he top-scored for England with 64.

"Irrespective of how I played, you are disappointed to lose," he said. "I may have put in a decent performance but it is the team that counts. If I'd gone for nought for 80 and got a duck, it wouldn't have mattered if England had won.

"I'm working on my game and trying to improve. Maybe it has taken longer than people thought, including myself, but I'm working hard and trying to get better."

Flintoff was sent home early from England's recent tour to Australia after failing to recover from hernia surgery and had to prove his fitness before being included in the World Cup squad.

He made his international return in the second match of the triangular series final against Australia in Melbourne, where England came within five runs of victory.

"I was very disappointed with the groin," Flintoff said. "I did my rehab but wasn't quite right when I went out there and had to go home and get fit for the World Cup.

"When I was at home, the spe-

cialist couldn't guarantee that I'd be alright for the World Cup. In December, when I sat down with him, he painted a pretty grim picture so I'm just very, very happy to behave.

"When I went home, I was still in some discomfort but, a week before I went away again, it improved."

Quips & Quotes

FROM PAGE 13
Pakistan and India will not lead to more regular matches between the two nations.

"We want to win, not only because it is Pakistan, but we want to take as many points as we can into the Super Six."

Indian captain Saurav Ganguly.

"We don't want to leave it to other teams to decide our fate. We have to win."

Pakistan captain Waqar Younis.

"I hope I can get eight now against England."

Australian paceman after taking World Cup record figures on 7-15 against Namibia.

"He has a lion heart, walks like a lion and has the strength of a lion."

Kenyan skipper Steve Tikolo on Collins Obuya who bowled his team to victory over Sri Lanka.

Memorable Indo-Pak ties



AFP, Centurion

Memorable one-day matches between Pakistan and India who clash in the World Cup Pool A match at SuperSport Park here on Saturday:

March 22, 1985, Sharjah, UAE

The first match between the two countries on neutral ground in Sharjah ended in a sensational 38-run win for India. India successfully defended a paltry 125 as Pakistan stumbled for 87.

April 18, 1986, Sharjah, UAE

Needing four to win off the last ball, Javed Miandad hit a six over mid-wicket off Indian seamer Chetan Sharma to pull off a one-wicket win for Pakistan. Chasing the Indian target of 246, Miandad held the innings together to remain unbeaten on 116.

October 25, 1991, Sharjah, UAE

Pakistan's Aaqub Javed claimed 7-31, including a hat-trick to help Ravi Shastri, Mohammad Azharuddin and Sachin Tendulkar to help his team win by 72 runs in the Champions Trophy. India, who were forced to bat in near darkness, did not play in Sharjah for two years in protest.

March 9, 1996, Bangalore, India

Venkatesh Prasad and Anil

Kumble took three wickets apiece to help India win the World Cup quarter-final by 39 runs. India made 287-8 with Navjot Sidhu making 93 and Ajay Jadeja 45 off 25 balls. Pakistan stumbled after a rollicking start to finish on 248-9. Pakistani captain Wasim Akram, who pulled out of the match at the last moment due to a shoulder injury, received death threats after the loss and his Lahore home was stoned.

January 18, 1998, Dhaka, Bangladesh

India chased a then world record of 315 runs to win the best-of-three Independence Cup final. Centuries from Saeed Anwar and Jjaz Ahmed in Pakistan's innings were followed by Saurav Ganguly's 124 as India won in near darkness through a last-over boundary by Hrishikesh Kanitkar.

June 3, 2000, Dhaka, Bangladesh

The last match between the two teams, part of the Asia Cup, saw Pakistan win by 44 runs. Yousuf Youhana's last ball six gave him a century and lifted Pakistan to 295-7 from 50 overs. India were bowled out for 251 despite Jadeja's 93 that included eight boundaries and

four sixes.

FACTBOX

one-day cricket:

First match: October 1, 1978, Quetta, Pakistan. India won by four runs.

HIGHEST TOTAL

India 316-7, Dhaka 1997-98

Pakistan 314-5, Dhaka 1997-98

LOWEST TOTAL

India 79, Sialkot 1978-79

Pakistan 87, Sharjah 1984-85

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORE

Pakistan: 194 Saeed Anwar, Madras 1997-98 (world record)

India: 141 Saurav Ganguly, Adelaide 1999-2000

BEST BOWLING

Pakistan: 7-37 Aaqub Javed, Sharjah 1991-92

India: 5-16 Saurav Ganguly, Canada 1997-98

World Cup: Played: 3 India: 3 Pakistan: 0

HEAD TO HEAD

| Played | M | P/won | I/won | N/R | Tied |
|----------------|----|-------|-------|-----|------|
| In India: | 14 | 10 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| In Pakistan: | 15 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| Neutral venues | 56 | 32 | 22 | 2 | 0 |

Snail-paced Maraj



REUTERS, East London