

SCANDEX TENNIS
Arif lifts U-12 boys' crown

SPORTS REPORTER

Arif Hossain clinched the Under-12 boys' singles title in the Scandex Bangladesh Open Tennis Competition when he beat Jamil 6-3, 6-2 in the final at the National Tennis Complex in Ramna yesterday.

Amol Roy and Prithul Mondal were set to play in the men's singles final while Baishakhi and Ruma moved into the women's singles final. Both the finals will take place today.

In the men's singles semifinals, Amol thumped Alamgir Hossain 6-3, 6-3 and Prithul beat Dipu Lal 3-6, 7-6, 2.

Baishakhi handed Sathi Sarkar a 6-3, 6-3 defeat while Ruma eliminated Bhabna 6-3, 6-4 in the semis.

DIV I SOCCER
Another draw for Victoria

SPORTS REPORTER

Victoria Sporting Club registered another draw in the First Division Football League when Mohakhal XI held them 1-1 at the Bir Shreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalpur yesterday.

After two consecutive victories Victoria drew goalless with BRTC in the previous match.

Victoria went ahead through a 27th strike by Mamun but Alaudin equalised for Mohakhal in the 42nd minute.

Both teams secured eight points from four outings.

Youhana missing second Test also

BBC ONLINE, undated

Pakistan batsman Younus Youhana will miss the second Test against West Indies after visiting his ill father.

But captain Inzamamul Haq is set to return after serving a one-match ban for excessive appealing.

Youhana returned home on Saturday, and said: "I don't have enough time to make it back to Jamiaca.

"My father was very ill and I want to be close to him at this time. I don't think I would have been able to concentrate on my cricket."

Men's champ

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the final four games and the last seven points.

The 2003 champion and seeded tenth, Henin-Hardenne won her third three-set match in four rounds. She improved to 24-1 since returning in March from a seven-month layoff because of a blood virus and knee injury, and extended her winning streak to 21 matches, all on clay.

When Henin-Hardenne double-faulted on break point to fall behind 4-3 in the final set, she clutched her back and walked gingerly to the chair. Kuznetsova, seeded sixth, hit three big serves in the next game to hold at love.

But Henin-Hardenne overcame two match points in the next game, both to Kuznetsova errors, and held serve. Three more errors by the Russian in the next game allowed Henin-Hardenne to break and pull even at 5-all.

Kuznetsova lost the final two points by misfiring on forehands. She finished with 68 unforced errors, including 10 double-faults.

The Russian missed plenty of opportunities in the 78-minute first set, failing to convert her first five break-point chances. She rallied from a 5-3 deficit, took a 5-2 lead in the tiebreaker and served for the set at 6-5. But she hit a backhand in the net for 6-all, then double-faulted and dumped a forehand in the net to lose the set.

Sharapova's match was halted Sunday night because of drizzle with the second set 3-3 and resumed on a 60-degree afternoon. She needed 17 points to complete the win, with Llagostera Vives shanking a backhand on match point.



Dav Whatmore
(Bangladesh cricket coach)

"Trying to achieve what everyone wants us to achieve is tough but to solely take Bangladesh out of international status full representation is just pure folly, ridiculous. We need to have a means to an end."

A win for WI finally



Cricket

APP, Bridgetown

Shahid Afridi's third Test hundred could not prevent West Indies from winning their first Test in a shade over one year, when they completed a comprehensive 276-run win over Pakistan in the first Test on Sunday.

Chasing a highly improbable, if not impossible target of 573 runs to win, Pakistan were dismissed for 249 in their second innings about 40 minutes after lunch on the fourth day at Kensington Oval, despite a typically belligerent 122 from Afridi.

Chris Gayle was the chief wrecker of the Pakistan innings, taking five wickets for 91 runs from 18.3 overs, and Darren Powell was two for 47 from 11 overs to give him support.

The result gave West Indies a 1-0 lead in the two-Test series, and their first victory in a Test, since an innings and 99 runs win over Bangladesh at Kensington last June.

"This win is for the fans that stuck

with us throughout the season," remarked West Indies captain Shivnarine Chanderpaul, who was also named man-of-the-match.

The second Test in the series begins at Kingston on Friday, when Pakistan will be hoping to regroup and earn a series-levelling win.

Afridi powered his way to his second hundred in Tests against West Indies, when he moved down the pitch and clouted fast bowler Darren Powell – one bounce – into the long-off boundary for four.

All but 32 of his 122 from 95 balls in a shade under three hours were in boundaries comprising nine fours and six sixes.

Afridi added 115 for the fifth wicket with Asim Kamal, who was caught at slip off Gayle for 55 that contained eight fours and one six from 100 balls in a little under 2-1/4 hours.

West Indies, who were beaten 2-0 at home in the two-Test series, and their first victory in a Test, since an innings and 99 runs win over Bangladesh at Kensington last June.

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Bridgetown, much less a Test series in the Caribbean, to Pakistan in five previous trips.

The match was also the final international fixture at Kensington Oval before it undergoes major renovations ahead of the 2007 World Cup in the Caribbean.

BRIEF SCORES

WEST INDIES: First innings 345 (Lara 130, Chanderpaul 92, Hinds 28, extras 38; Razzaq 3-58, Shabbir 3-66, Kaneria 3-114)

Pakistan: First innings 144 (Younis 31, Butt 27; Edwards 5-38, Collymore 3-20, King 2-46)

WEST INDIES: Second innings 371 (Chanderpaul 153 not out, Hinds 52, Gayle 50, Lara 48; Afridi 3-49, Razzaq 2-36, Shabbir 2-70, Kaneria 2-115)

Pakistan: Second innings 296 (Afridi 122, Kamal 55, Razzaq 41; Gayle 5-91, Powell 2-47)

Result: West Indies won by 276 runs and take 1-0 lead in the 2-Test series.

Man-of-the-match: Shivnarine Chanderpaul.

PRIMERA LIGA

Final day drama



APP, Madrid

Villareal and Real Betis secured their entry to next season's Champions League after respective must-win games on the final day of action in the Spanish league on Sunday.

Villareal were sitting in third place before their final encounter at home to relegation-threatened Levante but only a point ahead of Real Betis and two ahead of Sevilla in the chase for the final Champions League places.

Sevilla also took a UEFA Cup spot but finished the season in sixth position having begun the day hoping that Villareal and Real Betis would slip up and thus allow them to finish in third.

The third Spanish team to grab a UEFA Cup spot will be Osasuna, who face Champions League-tied Betis in the final of the Spanish Cup.

Levante's hopes were raised when Reggi gave them a surprise 22-minute lead, however

Champions League were Real Betis who secured a precious point in a 1-1 draw away to Real Mallorca, who unlike Levante staved off relegation by finishing in 17th place.

Betis finished only a point ahead of Barcelona-based Espanyol, whose 2-0 home win over Athletic Bilbao guaranteed them a place in next season's UEFA Cup competition.

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On Saturday matches Real Madrid in recorded a 3-1 league win over Real Zaragoza.

Recently-crowned champions and arch rivals Barcelona, played out a scoreless draw at Real Sociedad.

Levante's hopes were raised when Reggi gave them a surprise 22-minute lead, however

that was perhaps the worst thing they could have done as Villareal hit back with a vengeance.

Josico levelled in the 40th minute then Diego Forlan gave the hosts a half-time lead in first half injury time.

In what was largely a one-way encounter Forlan added his second of the game in the 89th minute before Figueroa finished off in style for Villareal, scoring in injury time to leave Levante well and truly buried.

Valencia, last year's champions, ended their season in distant seventh place which means their only ticket to Europe will be through the Intertoto Cup.

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