

Mobarak carries Narsingdi

SPORTS REPORTER

Mohammad Mobarak struck twice as Narsingdi outplayed Jhenidah 3-1 in the final phase of the Western Union National Youth Football Championship at Satkhira Stadium yesterday.

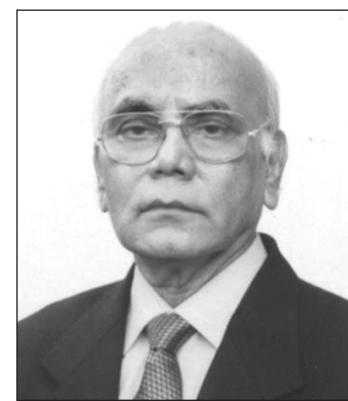
Mobarak scored twice, in the 20th and 67th minutes, while Arif netted the other for the winners in the 25th minute. Mashru Rahman scored the consolation goal for the losers in the 54th minute.

In another match at the same venue, Khulna played out a 1-1 draw with Rajshahi. After a barren first half, Rabul scored for Khulna in the 46th minute while Raju restored parity for Rajshahi in the 69th minute.

Zafar's death anniversary today

SPORTS REPORTER

The third death anniversary of the former secretary general of Bangladesh Olympic Association



ZAFAR IMAM

Zafar Imam will be observed in a befitting manner today.

Sports organisers and relatives will place floral wreaths at his grave in the Banani graveyard on the morning.

A Milad Mahfil and Quran Khwani will be held at the Mosque next to the Paltan ground after Asr prayer.

The pioneer sport organiser from Rajshahi died of cardiac arrest at the National Heart Institute on May 20, 2004.

Kaka seeks

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others to follow," Kaka said.

"He is a true leader, on and off the pitch, and carries it off with a certain style. It's not something you learn, it's something you are born with."

Kaka identified Steven Gerrard as Liverpool's danger man.

"Gerrard is a leader; he runs, he defends, he shoots and knows how to lift his team," Kaka said.

The compliment was reciprocated by Gerrard.

"You have to look at Kaka as one of their most dangerous players because he scores a lot of goals and has a lot of assists," said the England midfielder.

"You have to show a lot of respect to him, but their whole team is covered with world class players and players who have won the World Cup."

Kaka has played most of the season as a withdrawn striker rather than an out-and-out midfielder, and his speed and eye for goal have propelled Milan into the final.

He scored twice at Old Trafford in the 3-2 semifinal, first leg defeat to Manchester United, and he was on target once more in the 3-0 win at the San Siro.

Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson was full of admiration for Kaka after seeing his team's defence brutally exposed by the creative Brazilian.

"Kaka is a wonderful player who floats from side to side behind the striker," Ferguson said.

"He has wonderful movement, a long stride and is deceptive with his pace."

Kaka is two goals away from equaling Ruud van Nistelrooy's Champions League record of 12 goals.

"It would be incredible if I could score twice in the final and become (joint) all-time top scorer, but the most important thing is that we lift the trophy," he said.

"It will be wonderful to face Liverpool again. It's a great chance to win a match we should have won two years ago."

"I don't look at it as revenge, more an opportunity to make up for that day."



Did U Know?

England's John Briggs, playing in his 25th Test, became the first bowler to reach the landmark of 100 wickets.



LOCAL SNIPS

SPORTS REPORTER

Eleven players including International Women Master Rani Hamid earned full points on the opening day of Prime Bank second Women International Rating Chess tournament at the BCF hallroom yesterday.

Hamid beat Evana while in the day's other matches, Shamima Akhter, Nazrana Khan and Sharmin Sultan won as well.

Twenty-one players are taking part in the tournament, which will resume today.

INTER-DISTRICT VOLLEYBALL

Dinajpur and Kushtia moved into the semifinal of the NCC Bank Inter-district Volleyball competition at the Dhaka Volleyball Stadium yesterday.

The northern giants dropped a set but still defeated Naogaon 25-21, 25-21, 14-25, 26-24 while Kushtia trounced Jessor 25-22, 25-13, 25-15.

Dhaka are the other semifinalists while the match between Khulna and Gazipur will decide the fourth and final spot.

Both the semifinals will be held today at the same venue.

TABLE TENNIS SUPER LEAGUE

Dhaka South East and Palolic Group crushed their opponents in their respective matches of the AB Bank Dhaka Metropolis Table Tennis First Division Super League at the Wooden Floor Gymnasium.

South East had Bappi, Tirtha and Rabbi win their matches easily against Combined Sporting Club to clinch the game 3-0 while Palolic had Rocky, Parag and Shovon to thank for their easy 3-0 victory over Table Tennis Academy.

In the other match of the day, Sports World defeated Barma Table Tennis Club 3-1 with individual wins from Hasib and Rana. Shawkat won the sole game for Barma.

BOOST U-13 CRICKET

Adnan turned in a stunning all-round show to propel Discovery to a nine-wicket annihilation of Happy Times School in the Boost Power Cup under-13 Cricket tournament at the Kalabagan Cricket Ground.

After Happy Times had won the toss and opted for bat first, Adnan picked up two wickets for just 14 runs to help restrict the school side to 10-8 in 20 overs. Nawajesh struck 26 and Priom cracked 18 off 10 balls in the end of the innings. Apart from Adnan, Masud took 19 wickets.

Adnan then went about to smash 44 off just 21 balls as Discovery notched up their target in just 8.1 overs, losing just one wicket. Rabbi, the more sedate of the two, cracked 38 off 19 balls.

Empty Abahani

FROM PAGE 17

players are batsman Jahurul Islam, Nazimuddin and Mohammad Shahjada, who is down with a high fever.

As a result, seven of their first team players are out of action for these crucial games of the super league, one of which they have already lost to Biman by seven wickets on Saturday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the third day of the first Test between England and West Indies at Lord's on Saturday:

ENGLAND: First innings (overnight 553-5)

Strauss & Smith b Powell 33
Cook & Brav b Taylor 105
Shah & Smith b Powell 6
Pietersen & Smith b Collymore 26
Collingwood b Bravo 111
Bell not out 109
Pietersen not out 126
Strauss, Cook & Collymore 14
Extras: (6-8, w-14, nb-2) 28
Total: (For 5 wkt in 59 overs) 217

To bat: Ramdin, Powell, Taylor, Collymore.

Bowler O M R W

Hoggard 10.1 3 29 0
Harrison 14 1 52 1
Plunkett 16 2 68 1
Collingwood 1.5 0 4 0
Panesar 17 2 52 4

WEST INDIES: First innings

Gayle b Plunkett 30
Ganga lbw b Paneser 49
Smith b Paneser 21
Sarwan lbw b Paneser 35
Chanderpaul not out 26
Morton lbw b Paneser 14
Bravo not out 14
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