

Tara propels Shatadal

CU CORRESPONDENT

Shatadal Club defeated Agrabad Naojan Club 1-0 in an ANZ Properties Premier Division Football League match here yesterday at the MA Aziz Stadium.

Earlier on Tuesday, a match between the two teams was abandoned ten minutes from time due to insufficient light.

Yesterday, Shatadal defender Khan Mohammad Tara scored the all-important goal from a long-range shot in the 32nd minute.

But, Naojan at first got the chance of going ahead but that went in vain when Jakir missed a penalty in the 20th minute. Goalkeeper Babul saved the ball comfortably.

Army clinch b'ball title

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Army clinched the Premier Bank 23rd National Basketball title beating Bangladesh Navy 71-65 in the final at the Rajshahi Divisional Women's Sports Complex yesterday.

Earlier in the semifinals, Navy outclassed Khulna 90-61, while Army trounced Bangladesh Rifles 80-60.

Divisional Commissioner of Rajshahi Hafizul Rahman Bhuiyan was the chief guest at the day's closing function and distributed the trophies.

Vice-president of Bangladesh Olympic Association M Mizanur Rahman was the special guest at the function, chaired by Police Superintendent and tournament committee chairman Shahabuddin Khan.

Div II football

SPORTS REPORTER

Little Friends Club came back from a goal down to beat Prantik Krira Chakra 2-1 in the Second Division Football League at the Kamalapur Stadium.

After Eco netted the opener for Prantik in the second half, goals from Shahinor and Rubel scored for Little Friends.

In today's matches, T&T Club take on North Baridhara Club while Sadharan Bima are up against BG Press.

Bandarban in final

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

Bandarban XI moved into the final of the Bandarban Hilly District Council under-16 football tournament at the local stadium here yesterday.

They beat Naikongchari 2-0 in the first semifinal with goals from Mong Nue and Zafar. In today's second semifinal, Alikadam XI take on Loma XI.

The final will be held on August 31.

A tough wicket

FROM PAGE 17
Bangladesh, Australia, AIS and Northern Territory players, members of the Bangladesh community, cricket officials and local dignitaries on the lawn overlooking the sea, Hampton lauded the Bangladesh cricket team.

The Bangladesh side was the first international team to play Test cricket in Darin when they came here in 2003 and they will always have a special place in our hearts," said the Sports Minister who also made special mention of Ashraf.

To all school children I want to present Mohammad Ashraf who was 16 when he became the youngest batsman in history to make a Test hundred. He was also the batsman who scored a century when Bangladesh beat Australia in a one day international and he will be one to watch out for in this series."

Abahani meet

FROM PAGE 17
games and the return of ex-international Sujan at the heart of defence with full form proved they did not miss Nazrul's service at all in the quarterfinal.

History, though, will be against Farashganj, who have reached this stage of the Federation Cup for the second time after 2000 when they had eventually lost to Arambagh.

While Kamal Babu's Farashganj pin hopes on Enamul and slightly on two-goal Mamun, Abahani's ten goals in the meet have been mostly shared by Emily, who netted his fourth goal inside the first minute of the quarterfinal against Russell and surprisingly, Arif Khan Joy, who has three goals to his name although the holding midfielder is not famous as a marksman.

Ghanta's striker Pomeyie has scored twice for the inaugural B. League champions but he was not used in the last match as Abahani look unsatisfied with his performance.

Although the Federation Cup has yet to draw big crowds, Bangladesh Television will telecast the two semifinals and the final live.



PHOTO: STAR
Action from yesterday's Senior Division Football League match between Agrabad Naojan Club and Shatadal Club at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong.

Mahela blames batters

Cricket

CRICINFO, Colombo

on Wednesday was the only other fifty for Sri Lanka in the series besides Jayawardene's two, and the remaining batsmen haven't been able to make up for the poor scores from Kumar Sangakkara.

Jayawardene admitted the lesser-known players need to step up their game. "That is something we really have to work with. Our guys need the confidence to go out there and express themselves which we have asked them to do," he said. "But they haven't been consistent. We definitely need to work hard and make sure we get it right because this is our future."

A positive for Sri Lanka, though, was the performance of their bowlers, especially the medium-pacers in the absence of Lasith Malinga, Dilshan Fernando and Farveez Maharoof. "That's something that we can fall back on," he said. "Especially with the injuries we've had guys who put up their hands and performed. Thilan Thushara has been outstanding with ball and bat, so was (Nuwan) Kulasekera's 60-80-60.

"I was disappointed the way we played. We had our opportunities," Jayawardene said after the match. "Our one-day cricket hasn't been consistent especially the overall performances with the bat," he said. "If you are not capable of getting the runs it's quite difficult to win matches." Sri Lanka, set a competitive target of 259, were bowled out for 212.

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