

PEPSI-DRU CRICKET
Daily Star in
quarterfinals

SPORTS REPORTER

In what was tipped as a clash between the Leviathan and traditional giant, The Daily Star defeated The Daily Ittefaq by 13 runs to storm into the last eight of the DRU-Pepsi six-a-side cricket tournament at the Maulana Bhashani National Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Electing to bat after winning the toss, The Daily Star scored a massive 72 in their share of six overs with Abul Kalam Azad, a worthy recruit in the reporting section this year, hitting a fluent 31. His back-to-back 30s not only gave The Daily Star their second win in the ball-bashing competition between the media houses. Azad also hit a perfect 35 in the first match that The Daily Star won against UNB with all wickets standing.

Jasim Uddin Khan (17) and Shariful Islam (7) also made useful contributions after Azad fireworks.

Ittefaq, in their chase, found the going very tough against the disciplined Daily Star attack backed up by brilliant keeping from Helemul Alam Bipol on a hard synthetic turf. They eventually scored 62 for the loss of three wickets.

The Daily Star will now face Amader Arthinity in the quarterfinal today.

Hoping for

FROM PAGE 17



Pakistan pace bowler Shoaib Akhtar (L) sends down a delivery to Fawad Alam (R) during the nets at the Sheikh Zayed Cricket Stadium in Abu Dhabi on Monday. Pakistan will play two ODIs against the West Indies here with the first scheduled for today.

England stoop to new low

AFP, Mumbai

England's brittle batting was exposed once again when they crashed to a 124-run defeat against a scratch Mumbai side in a one-day warm-up game here on Tuesday.

Chasing a modest 223, the visitors slumped to 98 all out in 25 overs to set alarm bells ringing ahead of the real action, which starts in Rajkot on Friday with the first of seven one-day internationals.

Local seamer Khsemal Waingankar picked up 5-37 as the tourists lost their top five batsmen for 33 runs in a collapse reminiscent of their recent Twenty20 drubbing in Antigua when they were bowled out for 99.

Waingankar had played in just one first-class game prior to Tuesday's outing at the Brabourne stadium.

England captain Kevin Pietersen afterwards tried to downplay his side's failure against unimpressive opposition.

The England bowlers did well to restrict Mumbai President's XI to 227-7 off 50 overs after electing to field with paceman Steve Harmison and left-arm spinner Samit Patel picking two wickets each.

The local team owed their total to Sushant Marathe, who struck a fine 65 with seven fours, and opener Paul Valthay, who made a patient 44 off 75 balls. Shoaib Shakti boosted the total further with a cameo 35-ball 37.

The visitors struggled from early in their innings when in-form opener Ian Bell, who made 58 in the side's 122-run victory in the opening tour match here on Sunday, was caught behind off Waingankar for six.

Pietersen was out for a duck, trapped leg before by Waingankar who also accounted for Patel (13), Ravi Bopara (nine) and Luke Wright (one).

Andrew Flintoff failed to sustain the form that saw him smash an unbeaten century in Sunday's game, edging behind off Rahil Shakti having made just five.

The Rajkot one-dayer will be followed by matches in Indore (Nov 17), Kanpur (Nov 20), Bangalore (Nov 23), Cuttack (Nov 26), Guwahati (Nov 29) and New Delhi (Dec 2).

The one-day series will be followed by two Tests in Ahmedabad and Mumbai.

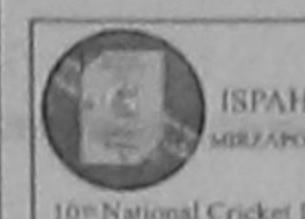
BRIEF SCORES

MCA XI: 227-7 in 50 overs (Marath 65, Valthay 44, Harmison 2-38, Patel 2-50)

ENGLAND: 98 all out in 25 overs (Swann 24*, Waingankar 5-37).

Nabil makes it 13

SPORTS REPORTER



10th National Cricket League

Left-arm spin duo Nabil Samad and Monir Hossain destroyed

Chittagong and put Sylhet in the driver's seat in their fifth round National Cricket League match at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium yesterday.

Both shared the ten second

innings wickets as Nabil took his

match tally to 13 to bowl out the

hosts for 140, leaving Sylhet 23 for

win. They ended the day at 83 for 3.

At the Shaheed Chandra Stadium

in Bogra, 'hosts' Barisal had it all

to put to the hosts under pres-

sure. Khulna were 183-7 in their

second innings, leading by 22 runs.

CHITTAGONG v SYLHET

Sylhet captain Imtiaz Hossain

declared their first innings on 201-9,

despite trailing by 92 runs.

But that didn't deter the away

side who were inspired by another

good show from left-arm Nabil.

He took the wickets of Gazi

Salahuddin, Mahmudul Hasan and

Tariq Ahmed before adding Rahan

and Rezaul Karim to his tally.

Fellow spinner Monir took the rest,

as Chittagong were bowled out for

only 140 - ahead of 232 runs.

Imtiaz wanted to finish the game

on the third day as he launched into

the Chittagong pacemen. He struck

seven boundaries in his 36-ball 42, before being caught by Kamrul Islam off spinner Mahmudul Hasan in the 13th over.

Mohammad Mithun remained

unbeaten on 29 off 46 balls with the

last wicket - Rajin Saleh -- falling at

the last ball of the day.

BARISAL v DHAKA

Elias Sunny added to the left-armers

kitty, taking four wickets in Barisal's

second innings. Resuming the day

on 38 for one, Barisal were bowled

out for 146, just enough to give

Barisal a 300-plus second innings

target of 233.

BARISAL: First innings 274 and

second innings 146 all out in 48.5

overs (Rony 12, Faruque 28, Shahin

4, Tariq 3, Imran 14, Nasir 30,

Raisul 3, Arafat 1, Sajid 40*, Talha 0,

Nazmul 1-4, Riyad 1-37).

DHAKA: First innings 116 and 182.8

in 52 overs (Fayed 0, Anwar 33,

Shamsur 53, Riyad 1, Marshall 58,

Nadir 21, Milon 7, Elias 1, Kabir 4*,

Ashraf 1*, Talha 2-44, Tariq 1-23,

Dutta 3-49, Arafat 1-8, Nasir 1-24) [target 305].

KHULNA: First innings 229 and

second innings 183-7 in 53 overs

(Monirul 0, Amit 28, Ashraf 30,

Salahuddin 56, Tushar 40, Salim 16*, Zia

10, Dollar 0, Sadat 5, Murad 0*, Kabir

1-37, Shuvo 1-48, Shahzada 1-31,

Shafiq 1-24).

RAJSHAHI: First innings 390 all out

in 133.4 overs (Jahurul 130, Mizanur

4, Farhad 51, Anisur 67, Shuvo 40,

Mashud 8, Saqlain 5, Mashfiqur 32,

Shahzada 18, Kabir 3, Shafiq 9*, Zia

4-64, Dollar 2-89, Murad 1-89,

Tushar 1-28, Salim 1-4).

Sahagir Hossain top-scored with a 99-ball 56.

BRIEF SCORES

CHITTAGONG: First innings 293 and second innings 140 all out in 51.2 overs (Salahuddin 23, Nafis 6, Mahmudul 0, Tariq 28, Faisal 69, Mintu 5, Karim 0, Kamrul 0, Tariq 4, Anas 0, Younis 0*; (Monir 5-35, Nabil 5-47).

SYLHET: First innings 201-9 dec and second innings 83-3 in 24 overs (Imtiaz 42, Saikat 10, Mithun 29, Rajin 2*, Mahmudul 2-12, Anas 1-7) [target 233].

BARISAL: First innings 274 and

second innings 146 all out in 48.5

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Shamsur Rahman and Anwar

Hossain added 72 for the second

wicket with Shamsur hitting 53 off

56 balls but after both batsmen and

Mahmudul Riyad fell, Dhaka were

in big trouble.

They slipped further, losing

Nadir Chowdhury and Nazmul

Hossain Milan in quick succession

as Dhaka looked down the

wicket.

Shamsur Rahman took four wickets for

Khulna.

The hosts however were off to a

disastrous start, losing Monirul