



Sri Lanka bowler Nuwan Kulasekara (L) celebrates taking the wicket of Pakistan batsman Shahid Afridi (R), who looks back at his disturbed furniture after being clean-bowled by a gem of an inswinger, during the third and final one-day international at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore yesterday.

Metropolitan table tennis

SPORTS REPORTER

Wari Club defeated Engineers Club by 3-0 in the senior division league of the KDS Dhaka Metropolitan Table Tennis Championship.

Wari's Rakin, Tuhin and Anup outclassed their opponents by winning all their games.

Sheikh Rasel K.C. handed a defeat to Dhaka Mariner Y.C. also by the same margin with Mustafa, Haseeb and Shovon recording victories for the winning team. Biman made it a day for whitewashes by beating Ajax S.C. 3-0, capitalizing on the comprehensive display of their players Manash, Anirban and Roche.

Pallik Group closed in with a triumph by the same scoreline over Armanitola J.S. in the day's last game. Somayajit, Shahid and Ripon won their respective games against Armanitola's Tuhin, Munna and Gautam.

Jewel Rana's

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Mukti Joddha and Brothers Union but his only regret is to not have played for Abahani.

"I have come this far for dedication and hard work. These are the assets of a footballer," said Jewel, who was given a warm farewell by his team and the oppositions, who embraced the great defender on the pitch after the assistant referee signalled his substitution.

Jewel was also showered with flowers during his last walk off a football pitch.

SL blow Pakistan away

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Thilina Kandamby off Kulasekara before Thushara trapped Kamran Akmal in front and Kulasekara dismissed opener Khurram Manzoor (three), caught brilliantly by Farveez Maharoof at square-leg.

Misbahul Haq's dismissal, caught behind without scoring off Thushara, left Pakistan in desperate trouble at 18 for five.

Four runs later Kulasekara bowled Shahid Afridi for nought.

Malik (19) and top-scorer Umar Gul (27) added 46 for the seventh wicket but it only delayed the inevitable.

Pakistan's previous heaviest defeat in terms of runs was by 224 runs against Australia at Nairobi in 2002.

Sri Lankan captain Mahela Jayawardene said his team played a perfect game.

"My players deserve the accolades," said Jayawardene. "The first match was disappointing but we came back strongly and won the series."

"Once we saw through the first 15 overs, we batted wonderfully and a 300-plus total was good to have on the board," said Jayawardene, whose team will return next month to play a Two-match Test series.

Pakistan captain Shoaib Malik said his side had failed to take their chances.

"We bowled well initially, but then let them off and once they put a 300-run-plus total it was always difficult. We lost early wickets and that did not help us."

Earlier, 32-year-old Dilshan batted throughout the Sri Lankan innings after the visitors won the toss and batted on a docile Gaddafi Stadium pitch.

Dilshan hit 10 boundaries during his 139-ball knock and set the tempo with a 76-run first-wicket stand with Sanath Jayasuriya (45).

Jayasuriya was caught off a miscued pull off Gul, who finished with 3 wickets for 45 runs.

Dilshan consolidated the innings in a second-wicket stand of 104 with Kumar Sangakkara (50) and put on 57 for the third wicket with Kandamby (32) as Pakistan toiled for wickets.

His previous best of 117 not out came against The Netherlands in 2006. He cut loose after his hundred as Sri Lanka added 83 runs in the final ten overs.

Pakistan won the first match by eight wickets, while Sri Lanka clinched the second by 129 runs -- both played in Karachi.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the third and final day-night one-day international between Pakistan and Sri Lanka at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore on Saturday:

SRI LANKA

	O	M	R	W
Dilshan not out				137
Jayasuriya c Ajmal b Gul				45
Sangakkara run out				50
Kandamby c Manzoor b Sohail				32
Jayawardene c Akmal b Gul				18
Kapugedera c Akmal b Gul				0
Maharoof not out				8
Extras: (lb-5, nb-1, w-13)				19
Total: (For 5 wkt 50 overs)				309
Did not bat: Thushara, Kulasekara, Muralidaran, Mendis				
Fall of wickets: 1-76, 2-180, 3-237, 4-284, 5-284				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Gul	9	2	45	3
Sohail	10	1	52	1
Iftikhar	5	0	53	0
Ajmal	9	0	51	0
Afridi	10	0	60	0
Malik	7	0	43	0

PAKISTAN

	O	M	R	W
Manzoor c Maharoof b Kulasekara				3
Younis lbw b Thushara				4
Butt lbw b Kulasekara				0
Akmal lbw b Thushara				9
Malik c Jayawardene b Maharoof				19
Misbah c Sangakkara b Thushara				0
Afridi c Kulasekara				0
Iftikhar lbw b Muralidaran				27
Sohail b Muralidaran				4
Ajmal not out				2
Extras: (lb-1, w-6)				7
Total: (All out in 22.5 overs)				75
Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-5, 3-17, 4-17, 5-18, 6-22, 7-68, 8-68, 9-72				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Thushara	7	1	33	3
Mendis	3	0	10	1
Maharoof	4	1	12	1
Muralidaran	1.5	0	2	2

Result: Sri Lanka won by 234 runs to win the three-match series 2-1.

Man-of-the-match: Tillakaratne Dilshan.

Man-of-the-series: Tillakaratne Dilshan.

Toss: Sri Lanka.

Umpires: Nigel Llong and Asad Rauf.

Last laugh Abahani's

FROM PAGE 17
forfeited the result of the Russell-Mohammedan match.

The BFF officials tried to bring them back to the ground but after the daylong antics, Mohammedan agreed to play around 3 pm, only after Bangladesh Football Federation president Kazi Salahuddin's phone call to Mohammedan president Mosaddeq Hossain.

The match started at 5 pm with heavy fog creeping onto the pitch and Mohammedan should have done better than scoring just one goal in the first half after enjoying superior ball possession.

Abahani, though, rushed early blood but Abul's header during a corner and Mamun's low drive from 20 yards hardly gave Aminul any trouble at the Black and Whites goal.

Amalesh Sen's Abahani, in absence of Ghanian playmaker Ibrahim, fielded an experimental side with two holding midfielders and captain Nazrul as rightback. And the Sky-Blues were under constant threat after ten minutes as their rivals began to take control of the midfield.

Mohammedan pressed hard but Ripon nodded a corner by Egyptian midfielder Hazem Mahmud just wide. Arman Aziz then forced a superb save by Abahani

keeper Biplob from a freekick before Nigerian striker Bukola was denied from a one-on-one situation by Sujan's inspired tackling inside the Abahani area.

The pressure told on the stroke of halftime when Ripon's long throw-in flew into the Abahani box. A mix-up between Joy and outrushing Biplob saw the ball loop to an unmarked Bukola who nodded into the far post with his 12th goal.

It could have been 1-1 within minutes when Aminul smothered on a cracking sidevolley by Abahani medio Pranotosh but the spectacular save in the stoppage time kept Maruf Haque's men ahead at the break.

Abahani came out after resumption without Nazrul, who had to be benched due to a bleeding nose following an earlier clash with Ripon, and his replacement Obaidur showed more attacking spree.

Pranotosh got behind the rival backline in the 54th minute with a through from Emeka but failed to keep his shot under the bar from ten yards while Mohammedan fluffed a golden chance to seal the match on the hour.

It was all Abahani in the dying minutes but Mamun's diving header on a low centre

for the strikers without avail, who squandered the easiest chance. He had only Biplob to beat when the ball ran to him after a defence lapse but Biplob's feeble effort inside from the box rolled harmlessly to Biplob.

Abahani equalised midway through the second half after Emeka picked up Mamun from the middle during a counter attack. Mamun, the outstanding Sky-Blues winger, lobbed an inch-perfect cross from the right for Emeka to put a glancing header into Aminul's farpost.

The jubilation began immediately in and off the field, just similar to the 2-2 draw between the local heavyweights exactly two months ago, but in different colours. It were Mohammedan who were celebrating that day after Hedayetullah Robin's stoppage time equaliser but the side heavily missed the injured striker.

Yellow cards: Sujan, Emeka (Abahani) and Komol, Ddogi (Mohammedan).

TEAMS

ABAHANI: Biplob, Nazrul (Obaidur, 46), Sujan, Samad, Waly, Abul (Tipu and Zahed, 68 and 84), Joy, Pranotosh, Mamun, Emeka and Emily.

MUHAMMEDAN: Aminul, Jewel (Kamal, 25), Rajani, Saikat, Ripon (Sharif, 85), Nasir, Arman Aziz, Hazem, Komol, Ddogi and Bukola. Referee: Abdul Hannan.

for substitute Zahed came off the crossbar in the 88th minute.

A minute later, it was all over when Emeka raced past Saikat at the right flank. The national striker fired a left footer from close but Aminul made a one-handed save but Emeka's bicycle shot on the rebound went into the bottom left corner. Both Emeka and Emeka now have 12 goals for Abahani.

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