



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 Rakim, Tuhin and Anup outclassed their opponents by winning all their games.

Sheikh Raseel 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 Rochie.

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

## Jewel Rana's

FROM PAGE 17 Muktiyoddha 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

FROM PAGE 17

Thilina Kandamby off Kulasekara before Thushara trapped Kamran Akmal in front and Kulasekara dismissed opener Khuram 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 naught.

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				
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 wks 50 overs)	309			
Did not bat: Thushara, Kulasekara, Muralidaran, Mendis				
Fall of wickets: 1-76, 2-180, 3-237, 4-284, 5-284				
PAKISTAN				
Manzoor c Maharoof b Kulasekara	3			
Younis lbw b Thushara	4			
Butt lbw b Kulasekara	9			
Akmal lbw b Thushara	0			
Malik c Jayawardene b Maharoof	19			
Misbah c Sangakkara b Thushara	0			
Afridi b Kulasekara	27			
Gul lbw b Mendis	0			
Ifthikhar lbw b Muralidaran	0			
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				
Kulasekara	7	2	17	3
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.

## Div I T20 Kalabagan on winning run

SPORTS REPORTER

Kalabagan K.C yesterday beat Dhaka Wanderers Club by a narrow margin of 10 runs at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium in the third day of the Dhaka First Division T20 Cricket Tournament.

Batting first in the shortened match of 13 overs a side, Kalabagan scored 92 runs and lost four wickets in the process. In response, Dhaka Wanderers Club made 82-7 with Delwar unbeaten on 40. Kalabagan's Nasir picked up 3-16.

At the same venue, later in the day Lalmitia Club lost for the second time in the tournament against group rivals Rupali Bank C.C. Winning the toss and electing to bat first Lalmitia (99-9) were handed a six wicket defeat by their opponents who successfully chased their target down in the 18th over. Zico remained not out on 34 to see Rupali Bank C.C win their first match of the tournament.

In other matches at the Dhaka University Ground, Baridhara Dazzlers held onto their good form in the tournament by beating Orient S.C by two wickets. Being put into bat first Orient S.C could only muster up a score of 99-9 in their allotted twenty overs. Baridhara (100-8) reached their target in a close finish with two balls remaining in the match. It was their second consecutive win.

In another close match at DUG, Khelaghar S.K.S (131) beat Eskaton S.S (117) by 14 runs. Eskaton's rookie batsman Rohan put up a brave effort by blasting a quick 59 but fell short of securing a victory for his team.

## Niaz on a roll

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Niaz Murshed continued his winning spree when he beat Saravana Krishnan of India in the fourth round of First Gurgaon Open International Chess Tournament in Haryana yesterday.

Niaz earned maximum four points to share the lead with GM Alexander Areshchenko of Ukraine, IM P.D.S. Girinath and Lalith Babu of India.

FIDE Master Mohammad Javed and Mohammad Ali secured three points each while Debaraj Chatterjee and Monir Hossain bagged 2.5 points each after the end of the fourth round.

In the other fourth round games, Javed beat Saket Kumar of India; Ali beat Sarbajit Adhikari of India, Monir beat Nazarov Rustem of Turkmenistan and Debaraj drew with Aribam Sharma of India.

## Premier

FROM PAGE 17 time at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium.

After a hectic international schedule the national cricketers now shift their focus to the domestic competition but Bangladesh vice-captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, Tamim Iqbal, Shakib Al Hasan and Rubel Hossain have been given rest as per instructions from the national team physio Michael Henry.

Twelve teams, split into two groups are taking part initially on league basis matches and then the two top teams from each group will play in the semifinals on February 1; while the final and third place decider will be held on February 3 at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.

Group A: Abahani, Victoria, Young Pegasus, Mohammedan, Old DOHSSC and Partex. Group B: City Club, Surjo Torun, Cricket Coaching School, Gazi Tank, Biman and BKS.

## Muscles

FROM PAGE 17 positive. They were a bunch of rough-looking people hurling filthy language and threatening the officials," said an eyewitness who declined to disclose his name.

The incident frightened the people present to the extent that when contacted no-one was interested to make named comments. BCB's media committee chairman Jalal Younus said that, "It is not possible to say anything as I was not present there."

It is hardly a pioneer incident as different wings of the party always seek to take advantage whenever their backers come to power. All things aside, it is doubtless a bad sign for the sport.

## Mushy bucks Monty up

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

England's spin coach Mushtaq Ahmed has tipped Monty Panesar to bounce back from a disappointing series in India in the Test matches against West Indies.

Panesar took just 6 for 303 in two Tests against India as England lost the series late last year.

But Mushtaq believes Panesar can help England win the four-Test series in the West Indies, starting February 4.

"I don't think it's a technical issue with Monty -- more confidence. He will definitely beat it," said Mushtaq.

"I believe Monty's game is all about confidence. Spinners, or any sportsman in the world, can have a bad game or two, but Monty will always do well for England."

"If I'm going to be working with him I've got to remind him that he's got a 10-wicket haul against Pakistan, that he's got five wickets at Lord's -- all these

things to remind him he has done good things in the past."

"He has over 100 wickets in Test matches which is a great achievement -- and he has plenty of feats left in him. Monty has that potential to win games single-handedly."

The series will also be England's first opportunity to put the recent captain and coach restructuring to the test.

Kevin Pietersen resigned as captain and Peter Moores was sacked as coach in January, with the breakdown in the pair's working relationship making headlines across the globe.

However, with Andrew Strauss leading the tour as captain, Mushtaq believes the spirit in the camp is good, saying: "There's a great atmosphere in the camp."

"Everyone is having fun, enjoying each other's company, practicing hard -- the goal for them now is to start winning games."

And that sentiment is echoed by Graham Thorpe, the man who topped the averages with 91.33 the last time

England toured the West Indies in 2004.

"If England don't get off to a good start then all the recent shenanigans will rear their head again in the media and they will then have to deal with a difficult series," Thorpe told BBC Sport at a special event at the Surrey County Cricket Club Academy.

"But if, as I expect them to, England get off to a good start then they should go on and win the series."

"Barbados and Jamaica are the two result wickets, traditionally, with Antigua quite flat and Trinidad a bit slow."

"The West Indies attack still has pace but they don't have the consistency of yesteryear, so England need to get through the hard work and the tough periods when they come along."

"The Windies will bowl well from time to time but if England can keep them out in those periods I expect us to post big scores. Then if we bowl anything like we know we can, I expect us to take wickets and win matches."

## Nadal cruises

FROM PAGE 17

The Wimbledon semifinalist, the 22nd seed, beat Ukraine's Kateryna Bondarenko 6-2, 6-2

to continue her best-ever Australian Open showing with a fourth round tie pending against former US Open champion Svetlana Kuznetsova.

The woman who ousted Venus Williams, Spain's unseeded Carla Suarez Navarro, continued her surprise march, beating countrywoman Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez 6-1, 6-4.

Next up for her is another Spaniard, Anabel Medina Garrigues, who sent Italian 12th seed Flavia Pennetta packing 6-4, 6-1.

Suarez Navarro said she wasn't thinking too far ahead. "Maybe, maybe not," she said of her quarterfinal chances.

While the focus has been on the big-name stars on the men's side, the French contingent is looking dangerous.

Twelfth seed Monfils came into the Open overshadowed by higher-profile countrymen Tsonga and Simon but has been making his mark.

He produced another impressive display to dismiss 17th seeded Spaniard Nicolas Almagro 6-4, 6-3, 7-5 and will face off for a quarterfinal spot with Simon, who beat Croatia's Mario Ancic in straight sets.

"It will be a hard match against Gael who is a very, very good player," he said. "When he focuses he plays well and

when only 16 people are left in the draw, every match is going to be hard."

Tsonga, a surprise finalist last year, recovered from a third-set lapse to grind down Israeli qualifier Dudi Sela 6-4, 6-2, 1-6, 6-1.

But the hard-hitting showdown between Gonzalez and Gasquet was the match of the day, spanning four hours and nine minutes with the Chilean staging a remarkable comeback after going two sets down.

In other action, Spanish 14th seed Fernando Verdasco was an easy 6-4, 6-0, 6-0 winner over Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic and will next face Murray.

## Winners take

FROM PAGE 17

and half, my boys played all out. I will also praise my forwards for utilising the chances and also Biplab for giving a tremendous performance at the goal," added Amalesh.

Hasid Hasan Emily was also ecstatic and the toast of his teammates in the dressing room.

"It was one of my best football matches. It was exciting, we played well and also our opponents were great on the field. But I feel most happy for the fans who watched a great match today," said Emily, who scored Abahani's equaliser and also set Emeka Christian's match winner.

## DU Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka University Marketing Department reached the semifinals of the DU inter department cricket tournament 2009 by beating International Relations Department by 39 runs at the Jagannath Hall ground yesterday.

Batting first Marketing department made 129 runs for the loss of nine wickets in their allotted twenty overs.

In reply, International Relations department were shot out for a meagre 90 runs.

For the winning team, Ishitaq top scored with 42 runs while Mitul, Atik and Faisal picked up two wickets apiece.

## Asif heard

AFP, Mumbai

Pakistan fast bowler Mohammad Asif appeared before an Indian Premier League (IPL) tribunal on Saturday to defend charges over a failed dope test, officials said.

Asif, 26, tested positive for the banned steroid nandrolone during the opening season of the IPL's Twenty20 tournament last year, in which he turned out for the Delhi Daredevils franchise.

A three-member IPL drugs tribunal, which heard Asif and his representatives for three hours, deferred a decision on the fast bowler's fate until an unspecified later date.

## Last laugh Abahani's

FROM PAGE 17 forfeit the result of the Russel-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 Mosadddek 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 Ghanaian playmaker Ibrahim, fielded an experimental side with two holding midfielders and captain Nazrul as righthack. 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 Biplab from a freekick before Nigerian striker Bukola was denied from a one-on-one situation by Sujun'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 outstriding Biplab saw the ball loop to an unmarked Bukola who nodded into the far post to separate the two sides 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 Maruful 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 Korean import Oh Ddogyi, the midfielder who created three opportunities

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

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 Emily to put a glancing header into Aminul's far post.

The Mohammedan backline was one man down at that time as Kamal, who had minutes ago stopped Emeka from pouncing an Emily pass in the danger zone, was being nursed for an injury.

Mohammedan, who seemingly looked satisfied with a slim lead, paced up the game again but Komol, set free by Ddogyi, failed to test Biplab from ten yards in the 81st minute.

The match became even livelier in the last five minutes with both sides producing great chances. But Bukola, who got inside the Abahani area on his own, let Biplab snatch the ball from his feet.

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

A minute later, it was all over when Emily 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 Emily now have 12 goals for Abahani.

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: Sujun, Emily (Abahani) and Komol, Ddogyi (Mohammedan)

## TEAMS

ABAHANI: Biplab, Nazrul (Obaidur, 46), Sujun, Samad, Waly, Abul (Tipu) and Zahed, 68 and 84), Joy, Pranotosh, Mamun, Emeka and Emily. MOHAMMEDAN: Aminul, Jewel (Kamal, 25), Rajani, Saikat, Ripon (Sharif, 85), Nasir, Arman Aziz, Hazem, Komol, Ddogyi and Bukola). Referee: Abdul Hannan.



Winners of the 10th Square Golf Tournament are seen with chief guest Election Commissioner Brig Gen (retd) M Sakhawat Hussain, ndc, psc at the Kurmitola Golf Club on Friday.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS									
1	Mandible	36	Under-	DOWN	20	"Now --			
4	Corporate	37	wear	1	Toast	me			
9	Bear hair	38	division	2	brand	spread			
12	Muslim	39	Suntan	2	Past	down to			
13	official	40	abbr.	3	Series	sleep"			
14	individual	41	abbr.	4	of	21	Ex-fresh		
15	Telegra-	42	40 -- out a	5	battles	22	Emanation		
16	pher's	43	living	6	of	23	Steam		
17	means	44	Ship's	7	alter-	24	locomotive		
18	cumber	45	chassis	8	native	25	and		
19	plan	46	43 Ducks	9	game	26	don'ts		
20	acronym	47	45 Hex	10	parlors	27	Grasp		
21	Forces	48	"Smoking	11	6	30	Belligerent		
22	Travel	49	or --?"	12	Zodiac	31	delity		
23	like	50	48 Blunder	13	elline	32	Ver-		
24	Columbus	51	cumber	14	8	33	23 Ver-		
25	25 -- "Town"	52	plan	15	Mr.	34	delta		