

# Star SPORT

DHAKA TUESDAY APRIL 26, 2011, E-MAIL: sports@thedailystar.net

## Trophies matter more than goals

Javier Hernandez admits his impressive first season at Manchester United won't be a success unless he finishes the campaign with trophies to celebrate. Hernandez has proved himself one of the buys of the season. "This season has been a dream come true for me. I have scored 19 goals and we have almost won the Premier League. It is an unbelievable thing. "But if I had the chance to swap my 19 goals for a lot of championships for this team, I would do it." - AFP



## Alam boli keeps his crown

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

Alam Boli from Teknaf under Cox's Bazar retained the title in the traditional wrestling competition, popularly known as Jabbarer Boli Khela, in its 102nd year held at the Laldighi Maidan in the port city yesterday. The century-old competition is one of the oldest events in the country.

Alam also emerged champion in the 101st edition in 2010. He was also the joint-champion in the hundredth meet the preceding year.

To encourage the youths to join the anti-British movement Jabbar Sawdagor arranged the competition at this ground in 1909.

Alam defeated Jasim Boli from Comilla in the final. Jasim took part in the competition for the first time and it was a performance to remember for him.

After the competition Jasim however said that he expected to win the championship.

"I will try to win the title next year," hoped Jasim.

Abdul Jabbarer Boli Khela and Boishakhi Mela Udjapan Parishad has been organising the event since its inception.

Thousands of wrestling-loving people started thronging the historic Laldighi Maidan from 2pm to enjoy the fight, but all could not enjoy the duels as the ring was not visible from all corners.

A total of 76 bolis (wrestlers) from different parts of the country took part in the competition with their followers coming here to support them.

Chittagong City Corporation Mayor Mohammad Manjur Alam inaugurated the programme as the chief guest while Chittagong Metropolitan Police Commissioner Abul Kasem

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CENTURIES PASS, TRADITIONS REMAIN: Just as it has been for the last 102 years, the arrival of Boishakh means the staging of 'Jabbarer Boli Khela' at Chittagong's Laldighi Maidan. In this photo taken yesterday at the historic site, two wrestlers grapple to establish their superiority as fans watch.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

## Rajshahi win dress rehearsal

### Kapali ensures draw for Sylhet



SPORTS REPORTER

Rajshahi inflicted a heavy defeat on Dhaka on the fourth and final day of the National Cricket League at the Shaheed Chandu Stadium in Bogra yesterday.

With an innings and 157-run victory, Rajshahi not only finished top of the points table but also warmed up well before their final clash against the same opponents. The five-day final match will start from April 29 at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

At the Shaheed Kamruzzaman Stadium in Rajshahi, Sylhet rode on Alok Kapali's 92 to recover from the early hiccup to ensure a draw against Barisal.

#### DHAKA-RAJSHAHI

Dhaka survived for only 17 overs before they were bundled out for 81 runs in 30 overs to suffer the humiliating defeat at the hands of their final opponents.

Resuming on 33 for five, Dhaka lost their first wicket of the day when Uttam Sarker was caught by Taijul off Shahjada Hossain, who finished with figures of 3 for 43.

Mehrab Hossain, the other overnight batsman started the day on 16 and showed some resistance, but the left-hander's effort was not good enough to give his opponents any trouble. Mehrab scored the team-high 35 off 67 balls with seven boundaries before offering a catch to wicketkeeper Dhiman Ghosh off Farhad Hossain.

Spinner Saqlain Sajib then finished the job by taking two wickets for 10 runs in 4 overs.

#### SYLHET-BARISAL

Kapali continued his good form with a 152-ball 92 that featured twelve boundaries as Sylhet managed a draw against Barisal. Kapali was adjudged man of the match for back-to-back half centu-

ries.

Resuming the day on 272 for five, Barisal declared their second innings at 306 for eight to set Sylhet a daunting winning target of 312.

Barisal enhanced their chances of winning the match when Sylhet lost three quick wickets for 53, runs but Kapali joined Rajin Saleh to share 68 runs for the fourth wicket to steady the ship. Rajin was dismissed for 20 runs off 65 balls with the help of three boundaries.

Tasamul Haque and Kapali then contributed 84 runs for the fifth wicket as Sylhet scored 211 for 5 in 82 overs before stumps were drawn on the final day.

Tasamul made an unbeaten 39 off 104 balls with five fours.

#### BRIEF SCORES

DHAKA: First innings 294 and second innings 81 all out in 30 overs (Mehrab 35, Uttam 16; Delowar 3-21, Shahjada 3-43).

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## A pleasant surprise



SPORTS REPORTER

After suffering a 4-2 defeat to Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club and playing out a 2-2 draw against Rahmatganj MFS in their group-stage matches of the Independence Cup football tournament, champions Farashganj had released all their players anticipating their elimination at the early stage.

Little did they realize that luck was on their side, and it propelled the minnows into the knock-out stage on virtue of a better goal difference after group champions Sheikh Jamal had handed a 4-1 defeat to Rahmatganj in the final match of Group A. Since then the Old Dhaka Outfit never looked behind and produced one after another surprising result to emerge as champions from nowhere.

Farashganj SC, who have managed only two victories in the ongoing Bangladesh League to stay in 10th

position out of 12 teams, surprisingly dispatched three-time professional league champions Abahani 3-2 in a tiebreaker, beat star-studded Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club 1-0 and newly emerging powerhouse Sheikh Russel KC 5-4 in a tiebreaker to bring the first-ever silverware in their club history since its establishment in 1959.

After entering into the Senior Division League in 1981, Farashganj have always been a middle-table team but sometimes produced stunning results against the giants, even this season, their one of two victories in the professional league was against three-time champions Abahani.

Farashganj's highest success was to play the Federation Cup semifinals twice and emerging champions in such tough tournament was beyond imagination but they finally did it with some young and energetic players as well as coach Kamal Babu.

"We gave up our hopes after playing out a 2-2 draw against Rahmatganj MFS

and most of the players left the camp but they were hurriedly asked to join the camp after the Rahmatganj-Sheikh Jamal match and got only a single day before the quarterfinal match against Abahani and since then you know what happened," said coach Kamal.

The success not only brought the Old Dhaka Outfit into the limelight, it also made young-striker Sohel Rana, goalkeeper Sujon Chowdhury and coach Kamal familiar with the wider public.

"Now my duty is to avert the relegation in the professional league and I am hopeful that this success will encourage my boys to play better in the professional league," said coach Kamal.

"I was not familiar in my town of Narayanganj before this tournament, but this has actually made me famous in Narayanganj," said the 21-year old Sohel, who was instrumental in Farashganj's success having scored three important goals.

"People in my village, Pathantole,

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## Inter-district cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Rajshahi rode on twin tons from Rahat and Kanon to secure a comfortable 147-run victory over Thakurgaon in the 31st Inter-district Cricket Championship at Gaibandha yesterday.

Rahat hammered 125 and Kanon hit 104 as Rajshahi posted 312 for seven in 44 overs. In reply, Thakurgaon scored 165 runs for nine wickets in 44 overs.

At Comilla, Hanif made 111 and Mehedi scored 92 as Chandpur amassed 307 for six in 50 overs and then dismissed Laxmipur for 210 runs to secure a 97-run win.

In the day's other matches, Narayanganj beat Jamalpur by five wickets, Rajbari beat Dhaka by 101 runs, Cox's Bazar defeated Noakhali by 71 runs, Chapainawabganj beat Naogaon by 18 runs, Khulna beat Narail by 80 runs, Moulvibazar beat Shunamganj by 63 runs while Kushtia and Barisal won their respective matches through coin tosses as the matches were postponed due to heavy rain.



SMALL STEPS, BIG AMBITION: A young boy (C) plays a cultured lofted drive on the banks of River Buriganga in Keraniganj while behind the wicket another youngster (L) displays the trophy to be awarded to the winner of a tournament that the boys themselves arranged.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## Spin destroys SA Academy



SPORTS REPORTER

Sanjamul Islam took two wickets to complete the formalities quickly on the morning of the fourth and final day as GP-BCB National Cricket Academy sealed a massive innings and 125-run victory over the visiting South Africa Cricket Academy in the second and final four-day at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

It was always going to be a matter of time for the home side to complete the victory as the visitors resumed the day on 141 for eight in their second innings. It took only 3.1 overs for the home side to finish the job.

Sanjamul produced the first breakthrough by removing Hardus Viljoen, who added only one run to his overnight score of 48. The left-arm spinner then trapped the other overnight batsman Marchant De Lange in front as South Africa Academy were bundled out for 155 runs in their second dig.

Sanjamul, who claimed four wickets in the second innings for 45 runs, bagged an eleven-wicket haul in the match and was adjudged man of the match.

The South African batsmen were helpless against the two left-arm spinners Sanjamul and Shaker Ahmed, who helped the home side to exact sweet revenge for their heavy defeat in the first match at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium.

Having shared the honour in the four-day series, the two teams will now take part in a three-match one-day series.

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