

INDEPENDENCE DAY HOCKEY Bima, Navy win

SPORTS REPORTER

Sadharan Bima and Bangladesh Navy won their respective matches of the Lyric Group Independence Day Hockey Competition at the Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Sadharan Bima defeated Armanitola Junior by 4-1 goals in the first match. Titu opened the scoring for Bima in the 6th minute before Emon equalised five minutes later. Turjo got Bima ahead again from a penalty corner in the 28th minute. There were no more goals in the first half, but Habul and Rajon scored two field goals in the 54th and 60th minute respectively to ensure a comprehensive win for Sadharan Bima.

In the other match of the day, Bangladesh Navy came back from a goal down to beat Bangladesh Air Force 3-1. Sohag scored two field goals for the winners late in the second half.



PHOTO: STAR

Tanjina Akter Tani of Motijheel Govt. Girls' High School ponders her next move during her match against Masuda Begum in the Arlene National Women's Chess Competition at the Chess Federation yesterday.

Pak surrender meekly to WI

Cricket

AFP, Providence

Pakistan's batting was undermined by West Indies' three frontline seamers and their bowling upstaged by another blistering innings from Lendl Simmons in a 10-wicket loss in the fifth one-day international on Thursday.

A fluent 55 off 83 balls from Mohammad Hafeez failed to inspire the Pakistanis, and their batting crumbled for the first time in the series as they were all out for 139 in 41.2 overs after they chose to bat on an unpredictable Guyana National Stadium pitch.

The visitors' bowlers found it difficult to defend such a modest target as Simmons hit a career-best, unbeaten 77 from 73 deliveries, and fellow opener Kirk Edwards supported with 40 from 71 ball to guide the hosts to victory with 159 balls remaining.

Pakistan however, won the five-match series 3-2, with comfortable victories in the first three matches, securing the result.

"It is a disappointing end to the series for us because it was not a pitch on which we should have been dismissed for 139," said Pakistan captain Shahid Afridi.

"Our batting has been struggling for a long time, and I think we need someone to help us with situations like this."

"We all wanted to bat on this pitch and that is why the management and I decided to bat, but we did not play well. The thing that I always keep stressing - building partnerships - we did not build any partnerships and this is what was missing."

Afridi added: "The series victory is important for us. We are not playing any cricket at home, so winning this series is very important and will keep the morale high, and I think for the future it will be good for us."

Hafeez and Umar Akmal were the only Pakistani batsman to pass 20 as Ravi Rampaul up-ended the visitors' batting with four for 45 from his allotted 10 overs.

West Indies captain Darren Sammy grabbed three for 30 from 10 overs, and Dwayne Bravo supported with two for 16.

"It is a good feeling to have won again, but it's been well-played in the last two games for the boys," said Sammy.

"We played as a team, and got the result that we wanted. This was the type of performance for which we have been searching for a very long time. It showed the good work that we have been doing at practices has finally transferred to the game, and it was good to see everybody taking part, and it was a total team effort."

He added: "The way we have chased down totals in the last two games, I

guess it may be fair to say that our guys are more comfortable doing this. But throughout the series, we created several opportunities to win it, but we did not put enough runs on the board."

Hafeez dropped Simmons on 31 at slip off Saeed Ajmal before the West Indies opener knocked a short delivery from Afridi to long-on to bring up his 50 from the same number of balls in the 16th over.

He then carried West Indies over the threshold when he punched a delivery from Ahmed Shehzad to point, and stole a second run from an overthrow.

The two sides now contest two Tests, starting next Thursday at this same ground, and from May 20 to 24 at Warner Park in St. Kitts.

Pakistan contest a two-day, practice match on Sunday and Monday at Bouda Oval - the previous international venue here.

SCORES IN BRIEF

PAKISTAN: 139 all out in 41.2 overs (Hafeez 55, Akmal 24, Salman 19 not out; Rampaul 4-45, Sammy 3-30, Bravo 2-16)

WEST INDIES: 140 no loss in 23.3 overs (Simmons 77 not out, Edwards 40 not out)

Result: West Indies won by 10 wickets and Pakistan won five-match series 3-2.

Man-of-the-match: Lendl Simmons.

Man-of-the-series: Mohammad Hafeez.

Man-of-the-match: Anamul Haque Bijoy.

Bijoy seals

FROM PAGE 16
Joshua Richards who made just 12.

BRIEF SCORES

SOUTH AFRICA CRICKET ACADEMY: 136-7 in 20 overs (Hendricks 37, Schoeman 34, Botha 20; Alaudin 2-30, Noor 2-23, Nasir 1-21).

GP-BCB ACADEMY: 139-3 in 19 overs (Bijoy 60, Myshukur 34, Nasir 18 not out; Viljoen 1-15, Botha 1-30).

Result: GP-BCB Academy won by seven wickets and win series 2-0.

Man-of-the-match: Anamul Haque Bijoy.

Muktis salvage a draw

FROM PAGE 16
Packer Ali.

It was totally one-sided traffic in the first half with Sheikh Jamal keeping Muktijoddha Sangsads busy from both flanks and they should have taken at least a 2-0 lead in the first half but they were unlucky not to open their account despite creating four scoring chances.

After the resumption, Sheikh Jamal stepped up the attack and found the back of the net on the 61st minute after left-back Atique Rahman Mishu ran down the flank to release a low cross only to be blocked by defender Rajani and the promising defender found the ball again before putting in a cross for Femi, who latched it in from the edge of the six-yard box past goalkeeper Biplob.

After going down, Muktijoddha started to play attacking football and levelled the margin from an unexpected attempt as substitute

Zahed availing a ball from the right advanced to the edge of the box to strike a poor shot which got one bounce in front of Sheikh Jamal goalkeeper Aminul Haque to kiss the back of the net. Incidentally, it was also the first shot on target from Muktijoddha.

Muktijoddha Sangsads: Biplob Bhattacharjee, Rajani Kanta Barmon, Motiur Munna, Mithun Chowdhury (Zahed Parvez), Yeamin Ahmed Munna, Rajon Mia (Alamgir Kabir), Maruf Ahmed, Arman Aziz (Boris Kochikin), Luciano Ariel Theiler, Paul Emmanuel Dami and James Moga.

Sheikh Jamal: Aminul Haque, Mintu Sheikh, Rezaul Karim, Ariful Islam, Atique Rahman Mishu, Mamunul Islam, Shakil Ahmed (Enamul Haque), Steve Thomas Samnick, Sergio Fils Chico, Stephan Loga Bouga and Femi Orunnumi.

Man-of-the-match: Joshua Richards who made just 12.

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Carl Lewis in political race

AFP, Philadelphia

Olympic athletics great Carl Lewis is back at the starting line for his latest race -- for a state senator's seat in New Jersey.

The nine-time Olympic gold medallist can be on the ballot for a primary election, an appeals court ruled on Thursday.

Lewis said last month that he wanted to give something back to his native southern New Jersey district by challenging for the position as a Democrat.

However, New Jersey's top election official -- a Republican -- had said Lewis wasn't eligible because he didn't meet a state residency requirement.

Warne to quit playing

FROM PAGE 16

developed young players," Warne wrote.

The Australian has been the face of the franchise and it is likely he will continue to be associated with them as a mentor or coach.

"Re next year who knows what or if I will be involved in IPL as mentor/coaching -- am focused on doing best for RR this year -- see you at ground."

The Rajasthan Royals were quick to acknowledge Warne's contribution in shaping the franchise and said they will continue to look to the player for guidance in future editions.

"Shane Warne has been an integral part of Rajasthan Royals for the last four years," Raghu Iyer, the chief marketing officer, said in a statement.

"He has been instrumental in nurturing young talent in the team and making Rajasthan Royals a formidable force in IPL."

"We are looking forward to him assuming a larger role in the team and continuing adding value to the team's success."

Warne has been prominent in Indian newspapers ever since this edition began, be it for his leaner frame, glowing skin or latest girlfriend -- British actress and model Elizabeth Hurley.

Hurley was spotted in the stands for a number of Rajasthan matches and was photographed kissing the divorced Australian star.

Man-of-the-match: Joshua Richards who made just 12.

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