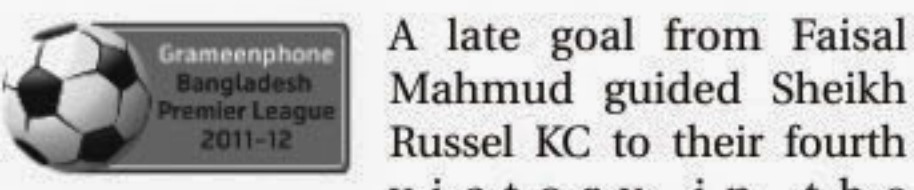


# Last-gasp effort lifts Russel

SPORTS REPORTER



A late goal from Faisal Mahmud guided Sheikh Russel KC to their fourth victory in the Greenphone Bangladesh Premier League as the visitors inflicted a lone-goal defeat on hosts Team BJMC at the Tangail Stadium yesterday.

The outcome took Sheikh Russel KC to fourth position with 14 points from 10 outings while BJMC remained stuck on third position with 16 points from 10 matches.

Fresh from a 3-0 win over Farashganj SC, Sheikh Russel KC adopted a counter-attack-based game against BJMC who had held Muktiyoddha Sangsad to a goalless in their previous home game. In the end, the visitors left the field with heads held high after securing the full three points that also raised their hopes of returning to the title race again.

Faisal Mahmud, who came on in place of winger Mohammad Yousuf at the 80th minute, struck the decisive goal in the 84th minute to justify his coach's decision.

"As they (BJMC) have an advantage on home ground, we played a counter-attack-based game and were successful at the end,"

said Sheikh Russel coach Maruful Haq.

Sheikh Russel also created two to three chances in the first half but striking duo Anwar Hossain and Nigerian Alamu Bukola Olaleken could not avail any of them despite being in good positions.

"Now we have a 10-point gap with leaders Abahani and I still see some hope of returning to the title race as all teams have to play 10 more matches in the second half," said Maruf.

Team BJMC dominated from the outset and Guinean striker Ismael Bangura himself squandered five chances, even failing to beat opponent goalkeeper Biplob Bhattacharjee twice in one-on-one situations.

"If Ismael could have converted the 50 percent chances he got, we would never have dropped any points in the 10 matches we played so far and he would have been the highest scorer," said a disappointed BJMC coach Jakaria Babu.

Babu said Sheikh Russel availed the lone chance they got in the whole match.

Despite conceding the second defeat, Babu is still optimistic about winning the title as he believes there is still a lot to be done in the second leg of the professional football league.

# Shahadat to be sent to Pakistan

SPORTS REPORTER

As part of a development programme between the Bangladesh Cricket Board and Pakistan Cricket Board, a cricketer will be sent from here to the National Cricket Academy in Lahore for training later this year.

"We will send a fast bowler, Shahadat Hossain to the Academy," BCB president AHM Mustafa Kamal said yesterday.

The understanding was signed last December when PCB chairman Zaka Ashraf came to Bangladesh during the Pakistan team's full series.

Shahadat has played 33 Tests and 50 ODIs since making his international debut in 2005.

# Marauding Murray

AFP, Monte Carlo

Andy Murray sprang to life on Tuesday as the Scot began his clay-court season with a 6-0, 6-3 hammering of Serb Viktor Troicki to reach the third round of the Monte Carlo Masters.

Under the watchful eye of coach Ivan Lendl, the third seed was ruthless in his demolition of Troicki, who gave him a brief fright on clay at last year's French Open.

"The goal is Paris, that's what we are working on now," said Murray, who broke five times on his way to victory.

"Usually it takes me a few matches to get comfortable on clay. Today was a really good start."

## LOCAL SNIPPETS

**FROM PAGE 16**  
Sathkha defeated Narail in 3-1 sets to win the men's title for the third time in a row while Rajshahi thrashed Rajbari also by 3-1 sets to win the women's title for the first time.

## Div-II Football

PWD Sporting Club recorded a 3-1 win over BG Press Sports & Recreation Club in the Destiny Group Metropolis 2nd Division Football League at the Bishreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

Humayun, Riad and Tawhidul Islam struck one goal each while Jewel Rana pulled one goal back for the losing side.

## Nat'l Tennis

The quarterfinal line-up in the men's singles of the Samsung National Tennis Championship was completed when eight players including top-seed Amol Roy moved into the quarterfinals beating respective rivals yesterday at the National Tennis Complex in Ramna yesterday.

In women's singles, Ishita Afroz moved into the final with a 6-2, 6-0 win over Kibria Aida Zaman while top-seed Sharmin Alam Sarda set up her semifinal clash with Moumita Jannat Mou beating Pinki Bepari in 6-0, 6-0 sets. Mou beat Ripa 6-3, 7-5 in

## A strange

**FROM PAGE 16**  
Datta -- and coach Shoebuzzaman. The camp has an estimated budget of 65,000 pounds, which will be jointly borne by the BOA, British Government, Canary Wharf and Bureau of Tower Hamlet. It has been learnt that only part of the amount has been ensured as yet and BOA may have to bear a substantial amount of the camp. Under such a circumstance, the presence of an extra member will put serious stress on the pocket of BOA no doubt.

However, Waliullah claims that he is in the team at the insistence of the President of the organisation and he needs to be with the team to negotiate on the cost and look after the well-being of the shooters. "I am going with them to ensure their well-being. I will make sure they get the accommodation and food arrangements right, and at a convenient cost. I will also make sure that the training is managed at a reduced cost," said Waliullah.

That explanation sounds quite absurd as one doubts whether the costs he can reduce will outstrip the expense of his added presence.



Rajasthan Royals batsman Brad Hodge plays a forcing shot through the covers during their IPL match against the Deccan Chargers at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

# Hodge hits Chargers

INTERNET, Jaipur



T20 specialist Brad Hodge played an excellent cameo to guide Rajasthan Royals to their fourth victory in the Indian Premier League, pipping Deccan Chargers by five wickets in a thrilling finish, here on Tuesday.

Hodge smashed an unbeaten 48 off 21 deliveries as the home team successfully chased down a daunting target of 196 with two balls to spare.

It was glovesman Dishant Yagnik, playing his first match of the tournament, who hit successive boundaries off Dale Steyn to clinch the issue on a belter of a track at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium.

Royals required 25 runs in the last two overs and it became all the more difficult after Johan Botha was caught in the deep off Anand Rajan's first delivery of the penultimate over. However, Hodge -- who is the highest run-getter in the history of T20 cricket -- had other ideas.

First, Hodge (6x4 2x6) smashed Anand Rajan to long-on for a boundary and then hit a magnificent six over wide long-off to bring down the equation to 11 in the last over.

First ball by Steyn was hit for two runs by Hodge before he gave the strike to Yagnik with a quick single.

Yagnik smacked the third ball past the off-side field and down to deep cover and then smashed the next delivery past the diving cover fielder to set off wild celebrations in the Rajasthan camp.

Earlier, Jean-Paul Duminy provided the late onslaught with an unbeaten 26-ball 58 after a solid opening stand as Chargers posted an imposing total.

After skipper Kumar Sangakkara (44) and Shikhar Dhawan (52) laid the platform with a 94-run opening stand, Duminy took the opposition bowlers to the cleaners, piling up 53 runs in the last three overs.

Chasing a stiff target, Rajasthan started on an attacking note with skipper Rahul Dravid (42) hitting Steyn for three fours in his first over.

Orange cap holder Rahane (44) then broke the shackles when he took a few paces down the track and whacked a loose delivery from spinner Amit Mishra for a maximum over wide long-off's reach.

## SCORES IN BRIEF

**DECCAN CHARGERS:** 196 for 2 (Sangakkara 44, Duminy 58 not out, Dhawan 52, Christian 29 not out)  
**RAJASTHAN ROYALS:** 197 for 5 (Hodge 48 not out, Dravid 42, Rahane 44; Mishra 3-32)  
**Result:** Rajasthan Royals won by 5 wickets.  
**Man-of-the-match:** Brad Hodge.

# RCB win last ball thriller

INTERNET, Bangalore



AB de Villiers and Saurabh Tiwary didn't let Chris Gayle's outstanding contribution go in vain as they displayed fantastic show in the final over to help Royal Challenger Bangalore chase down 183-run target and beat Pune Warriors by six wickets at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium on Tuesday.

Needing 21 off the last over, Tiwary took a single on the first delivery of Ashish Nehra to give strike to De Villiers.

The South African then smashed the second ball for a boundary and the followed it by two consecutive sixes to make things easier for Bangalore.

With four required of last two balls, Villiers took a single off the fifth ball to bring Tiwary back on strike. The southpaw didn't let pressure mount on him and sailed the final delivery into the crowd over the rope to finish the game for Bangalore on style.

Earlier, Gayle demolished Pune attack with his sizzling show that gave Bangalore some hope after early wickets. He smashed five sixes in an over from Rahul Sharma just after reaching his half-ton.

Gayle scored 48-ball-81, studded with eight sixes and four boundaries, before falling to Nehra.

Gayle's half-ton came soon after Angelo Mathews scalped Virat Kohli.

Local boy Robin Uthappa's belligerent knock of 69 along with useful contributions from Jesse Ryder and Marlon Samuels helped Pune Warriors India set a challenging 183 for Royal Challengers Bangalore.

## SCORES IN BRIEF

**PUNE WARRIORS:** 182 for 6 (Uthappa 69, Ryder 34, Samuels 34; Vinay 2-34)  
**ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE:** 186 for 4 (Gayle 81, Kohli 16, Tiwary 36\*, De Villiers 33\*)  
**Result:** Royal Challengers Bangalore won by 6 wickets.  
**Man-of-the-match:** Chris Gayle.

# WI fighting the odds



AFP, Port of Spain

West Indies made a resolute attempt to recover from the damages suffered late on the second day, losing only one wicket on the third morning to reach 132 for four at lunch on the third day of the second Test against Australia in Trinidad yesterday.

Resuming on 49 for three, the overnight batsmen Shivnarine Chanderpaul and Darren Bravo carried the score to 100 before Bravo was trapped leg-before by Mike Hussey. Thereafter Chanderpaul, who was unbeaten on 45, carried the hosts to lunch with Narsing Deonarine, who was batting on 11.

On the second day, an 89-run partnership between Hussey and James Pattinson ensured Australia remained in control at the end of the day.

Hussey (73) and Pattinson (32) helped push the tourists, who are 1-0 up in the three-match series, to 311 all out as the West Indies finished the day

on 49 for three, still trailing by 262 runs at Queen's Park Oval.

But Kumar Roach insisted the West Indies were still very much in the match.

"We're big boys. We're big men," said the seamer. "So we're a bit behind, but so it goes in cricket. We can come back. We will come back tomorrow and play cricket the way we want to play cricket."

Hussey top-scored for Australia before falling to Narsing Deonarine.

Rain arrived shortly before lunch, just after Hussey had brought up his fifty, and Australia added 59 runs for the loss of one wicket before lunch to take the score to 267 for six.

The showers became heavier and another 100 minutes were lost which will mean early starts for the remainder of the Test.

Hussey admitted the wicket was hard to bat on.

## SCOREBOARD

**AUSTRALIA:** First innings  
Warner c Sammy b Shillingford 29  
Cowan lbw b Roach 28  
Watson c Barath b Shillingford 56  
Ponting c Sammy b Roach 7

Clarke c Shillingford b Deonarine 45  
Hussey c Brathwaite b Deonarine 73  
Wade c Bravo b Roach 11  
Pattinson c Bravo b Shillingford 32  
Hillfenhaus b Roach 5  
Lyon not out 7  
Beer lbw b Roach 2  
Extras: (b-5, lb-5, w-1, nb-5) 16  
Total: (All out in 135 overs) 311  
Fall of wickets: 1-53, 2-65, 3-83, 4-167, 5-178, 6-208, 7-297, 8-297, 9-309, 10-311.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Edwards	23	11	45	0
Roach	27	5	105	5
Sammy	16	6	27	0
Shillingford	49	17	92	3
Deonarine	20	6	32	2

**WEST INDIES:** First innings (49 for 3)  
Barath lbw b Beer 7  
Brathwaite lbw b Hillfenhaus 0  
Powell lbw b Pattinson 19  
Bravo lbw b Hussey 38  
Chanderpaul not out 45  
Deonarine not out 12  
Extras: (lb-4, w-1, nb-6) 11  
Total: (For 4 wks in 60 overs) 132  
To bat: Baugh, Sammy, Shillingford, Roach, Edwards.  
Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-26, 3-38, 4-100.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Beer	16	8	30	1
Hillfenhaus	12	4	24	1
Lyon	16	5	35	0
Pattinson	6	2	16	1

# Champs Trophy to go



CRICINFO, Dubai

The 2013 ICC Champions Trophy, to be held in England, will be the last time the tournament is played as the ICC moves towards having one championship for each of the game's three formats from 2015. The tournament is part of the Future Tours Programme in 2013 but does not appear after that, with the play-offs for the World Test Championship scheduled for June 2017.

"If you don't see it in the schedule, it means it is not planned for the future," Haroon Lorgat, the International Cricket Council (ICC) chief executive, said at a press conference following the executive board meeting on Monday. "We have said for a while that we would like one championship event for each format. We are including the Test championship in there. We have the World Cup to have the champion for 50-overs cricket. So we are not planning to hold Champions Trophy in the future."

The World Test Championship was initially scheduled for 2013, but had to be postponed

due to the ICC's commitments to its broadcaster and sponsors. The ICC's broadcast partner is ESPN STAR Sports, with whom they have a contract till 2015. The ICC had initially hoped to convince all interested parties to switch the Champions Trophy, the ICC's second-biggest 50-over tournament, to play-offs between the top four Test teams as per the ICC Test rankings.

However, after the ICC's Executive Board meeting in October, 2011, it released a statement saying there would be significant commercial challenges in replacing the Champions Trophy without the support and consent of the ICC's broadcast partner. Changing the tournament's format from ODIs to Test play-offs would have required a substantial cut in the broadcast rights fee, which would have repercussions on the members.

Inaugurated as the ICC Knock Out tournament in 1998, the Champions Trophy was played every two years until 2009, switching to a round-robin format in 2002. Originally, all ten Full Member nations of the ICC took part, together with (for the first four competitions) two Associate members. The 2013 event in England will feature the eight highest-ranked ODI teams calculated six months before the tournament.

# Prompt Pak preps



AFP, Lahore

Work is being sped up to get Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium ready for the visit of Bangladesh later this month, cricket officials say -- Pakistan's first home international in three years.

Foreign teams have shunned Pakistan since the deadly militant attack on the Sri Lankan team bus during the third Test in Lahore in March 2009, but on Sunday Bangladesh agreed to a two-match tour.

"The preparation work is fast and we are ready to host Bangladesh," said Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) spokesman Nadeem Sarwar. "We have had a physical inspection of the stadium today and are gearing up for Bangladesh matches."

Work has begun to clean the stands and replace broken seating, but with the security situation still volatile, measures to ensure player safety have taken precedence.

PCB security manager Waseem Shahid said a complete plan for the arrangements will be submitted to the government for their approval.

government and as per the ICC [International Cricket Council] standards will put in place the best possible arrangements for the Bangladesh team," said Shahid.

When Bangladesh and Pakistan line up for their 50-over match at the Gaddafi Stadium on April 29, it will be the end of a 37-month gap in international cricket in Pakistan.

Groundsman Haji Bashir, who has worked at the stadium since its inception 53 years ago, said he was thrilled at Bangladesh's visit.

"I am delighted at the prospect of preparing pitches for the matches and it's great news for the nation that we will host international games again," the 73-year-old said.

The Gaddafi Stadium, named after the former Libyan leader in 1974 -- has been the focus of the cricketing world on numerous occasions.

It was here that Sri Lankan captain Arjuna Ranatunga lifted the trophy after their shock World Cup triumph in 1996, sparking wild celebrations on the island.

But 13 years later, the Sri Lankan cricketers had to be airlifted in a helicopter after the horrifying terror attacks.

Last year, the Pakistan government resisted calls from the world community to change the name of the Stadium after the autocratic rule of Libya's leader ended in a bloody revolution.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

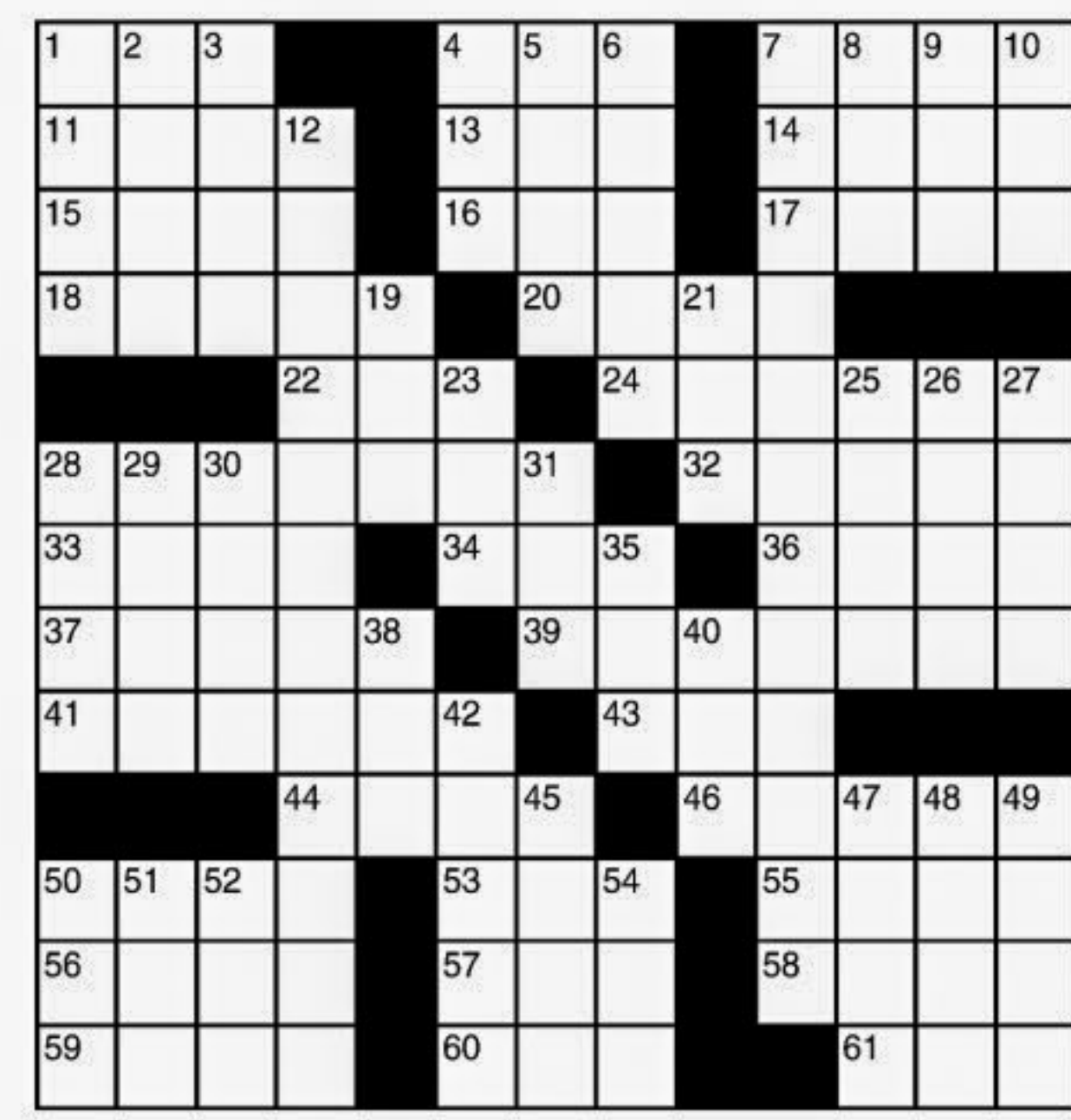
**ACROSS**  
1 Vim and vigor  
4 Had breakfast  
7 Acceptable  
11 Flowing props  
13 Bagel topper  
14 Pleasant  
15 Seniors' big event  
16 Mischievous tyke  
17 Paradise  
18 Provide with funds  
20 Seethe  
22 Barbie's cohort  
24 Ruins the shoe polish  
28 Custodian  
32 Grin  
33 Portent  
34 "Holy mackerel!"  
36 Surveyor's map  
37 Suit material that draws lint  
39 Rocket launcher

**DOWN**  
1 Vatican VIP  
2 Deserve  
3 Poke  
4 Boxer Muhammad  
5 "Who's buried in Grant's --?"  
6 Erstwhile Montreal baseball team  
7 54-Down server's query  
8 Tease  
9 High card  
10 Longing  
12 Head-waiter's obsolescent  
15 Witness query

**19 Drenched**  
**21 Suffix with robot**  
**23 Present**  
**25 Flaky pastry dough (Var.)**  
**26 Anti-aircraft artillery**  
**27 Bristle**  
**28 R&B singer**  
**29 Prayer ending**  
**30 Infamous fiddler**  
**31 Steal from**  
**35 Bankroll**  
**38 Greek vowel**  
**40 Menagerie**  
**42 "OMG!"**  
**45 Day shift start**  
**47 Keep -- on (watch)**  
**48 Actress Falco**  
**49 Get up**  
**50 Angry**  
**51 -- carte**  
**52 Doctrine**  
**54 See**  
**7-Down**

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

**CLOTH AVIAN SHANIA LANCET MISTER LISTER TIPS DROOL ODE LIEF NEW PULE ENSUE RELATED RNA DAY BLAZERS DEFAT RAVE MUM ELSE ORE WOMEN USA WISTER SISTER NATIVE SNEERS TAPED YEAST**



## CRYPTOQUIP

G P J L Z V P T C Z K H U P D  
D H Z Q F J L Z I U H Q F I Z U Q P V H  
C D H J C X - K P T Q N P T Q G Z O Z X :  
" K Q P I E Z Q P T J O C N H I U P I E . "

**Saturday's Cryptoquip:** IF A DETECTIVE NOVEL HAS REDUNDANT CHAPTERS, YOU MIGHT SAY THAT'S MYSTERY REPEATING ITSELF.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals T