

Flame Boys record win

SPORTS REPORTER

Flame Boys defeated Bangladesh Boys by 63-50 points in an entertaining encounter of the Citycell Premier Division Basketball League at the Dhanmondi Basketball Gymnasium yesterday. The winners led the first-half by 36-33 points. Sakib and Shuvo scored 16 and 14 points respectively for Flame Boys.

In the late match on Friday, Europa Youth defeated Hornets SC by 85-43 points after leading the first-half by 48-24 points. Akash and Sagar caged 18 and 16 points respectively for the winningside.

Jimmy to be rested for 3rd Test

ANI, London

England fast bowler James Anderson is set to be rested for the final Test match against West Indies at Edgbaston after retaining the Wisden Trophy 2-0 with a win at Nottingham in the second Test.

Coach Andy Flower is keen to protect Anderson, who has bowled 111 overs in the two Tests against West Indies so far, from a crippling workload, and believes it is in England's interest to give a well-merited chance to Steven Finn.

Another bowler who could be rested in the final Test match is Stuart Broad, and another deserving bowler Graham Onions can get an opportunity in his place, The Daily Mail reports.

Play like

FROM PAGE 16 everything because he won't learn from his mistakes that way. The PCB should've kept him where he was and told him to improve his show because that's what is expected of him," Ali added. The 41-year-old, who has also served as a national junior selector in the past, said, "Umar is of the same calibre as Virat Kohli but look where the two players stand today. Kohli has taken huge strides, being one of the best batsmen in the world."

Basit also said Umar should bat regularly at number four, starting with the One-Day Internationals and against Sri Lanka so that he is able to get a big innings under his belt.

"I hope he plays like a man and not a boy who gets carried away and doesn't play according to the situation. In my opinion, he doesn't like being in the middle for long and that's where he needs to improve," he added.

DOHS, Victoria

FROM PAGE 16 and two sixes during his 84-ball knock and was aided by Mehrab Hossain Jr, who made 47, and contributions from Mahmudul Hasan and Ariful Haque towards the end of the chase.

For Mohammedan earlier, their Sri Lanka recruit Danushka Gunathilaka and Imrul Kayes hit half-centuries.

SCORES IN BRIEF
OLD DOHS: 294-5 in 50 overs (Kaul 105, Shuvagata 62; Saqlain 3-54).
ABAHANI: 220 all out in 49.5 overs (Farhad 52; Shuvagata 2-43, van der Merwe 2-30).
Result: Old DOHS won by 74 runs.

GAZI TANK: 151-7 in 24 overs (Mominul 71 not out; Shakib 2-27, Iqbal 2-25, Al-Amin 2-43).
VICTORIA: 155-4 in 23.1 overs (Tamim 42, Shakib 30; Alauddin 2-23).
Result: Victoria won by six wickets.

MOHAMMEDAN: 224-7 in 38 overs (Imrul 52, Gunathilaka 51; Sunny 2-36, Baisya 2-48).
SHEIKH JAMAL: 226-6 in 37.2 overs (Mushfiqur 92 not out; Rasel 2-36, Noor 2-45).
Result: Sheikh Jamal won by four wickets.



PHOTO: AFP

Defending champion Li Na of China serves to USA tennis player Christina McHale during their 3rd round French Open match at Roland Garros in Paris yesterday.

David's date with idol



AFP, Paris

When Roger Federer was winning his first Wimbledon in 2003, David Goffin was a starstruck child, hanging posters of the great Swiss on the wall of his bedroom in the Belgian city of Liege.

Now, nine years on, the 21-year-old gets the opportunity to play against his idol with a French Open quarterfinal place at stake.

However, just one week ago, such a scenario had looked impossible. Goffin, the world 109, had lost in the qualifying tournament at Roland Garros and was ready to pack his bags for home. But when top French player Gael Monfils pulled out of the event with a knee injury, he was handed a lifeline into the main draw as a lucky loser -- an alternate on standby -- and has not looked back.

Goffin has become the first lucky loser to reach the last 16 of a Grand Slam since compatriot Dick Norman at Wimbledon in 1995 and the first at Roland Garros since 1978. "I haven't realised what has happened. Not yet. Maybe next week," said baby-faced Goffin, making his Grand Slam debut.

"Now I'm playing against Roger, and I can't believe it. When I was young I had a lot of pictures of him in my bedroom. I will give it my best on Sunday." Thanks to his efforts this week, Goffin's Grand Slam record now stands at 3-0. Federer, nine years his senior, has 16 Grand Slam titles in his total haul of 74 career trophies, a 235-35 match record at the majors as well as more than \$70 million in prize money.

"I've been watching Roger playing on TV for so many years. He has always been my favourite. He has perfect tennis, perfect technique, and I like the man," added Goffin.

"From a human standpoint, he is a great person, whether on the court or outside the court.

"So I expect a very difficult match on Sunday. I don't know exactly how I should prepare for this match, but I'll try and have fun."

Goffin, whose best performance on the main tour so far was a quarterfinal appearance in Mumbai in January, has looked comfortable so far at Roland Garros, defeating experienced Radek Stepanek and Arnaud Clement in the first two rounds.

A straight sets win against Poland's Lukasz Kubot paved the way for his dream Sunday date with Federer.

When Federer was told of how Goffin regarded him as an idol growing up, the world number three admitted it was a position he was getting accustomed to.

"Not the first time it happens. It's strange, weird. It's everything you can imagine. I'm happy to hear it, though," said Federer, the 2009 champion in Paris.

"So it's a big match for him, and for me, too. It's gonna be an unusual match for me, knowing that now."

Federer admitted he knows little of his opponent, but had seen glimpses of what he may face on Sunday after he watched Goffin beat Clement.

"I've seen him around, but it's a nice game, he's a smooth ball striker and talented, obviously. Otherwise he wouldn't be coming that far in this tournament."

Strike down under?



AFP, Sydney

Australia's cricketers may go on strike ahead of next month's one-day tour of England over performance-related pay issues, reports said on Saturday.

Australian Cricketers Association (ACA) head Paul Marsh said there were contingency plans should a resolution not be agreed with Cricket Australia before July 1.

The Australian newspaper said players have examined a boycott of next month's one-day tour of England or the Twenty20 World Cup in Sri Lanka in September-October. "Relationships between players and

management are heated and threatening to become as ugly as the stand-off surrounding the first player contract negotiations during Mark Taylor's captaincy [1994-1999]," the newspaper said.

"Cricket Australia is playing hardball in negotiations and has frozen all state and Big Bash [domestic T20] contract talks under the threat of a 50,000 Australian dollar fine until the new agreement is in place."

The newspaper said players and state administrators have both raised the possibility of a boycott of next month's tour to England.

Marsh told the newspaper his members were preparing for the possibility of an industrial stand-off if there was no contract in place before the current one ends.

Li, Maria progress

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round in 2010 and 2011. Italian 14th seed Schiavone, who was runner-up to Li last year and the oldest woman left in the tournament, lost 3-6, 6-3, 8-6 to America's Varvara Lepchenko, the world number 63 who has now reached the last 16 of a Grand Slam for the first time.

The Uzbekistan-born left-hander gave another boost to American tennis which was sent reeling by the shock first round loss of Serena Williams and the

more predictable second round exit of Venus Williams. Lepchenko, who had defeated 19th seed Jelena Jankovic in the second round, squandered the opportunity to serve for the match against the 31-year-old Schiavone in the ninth game of the decider, but held her nerve in the 14th.

It was the 26-year-old's second successive win over the Italian veteran, having also won in three sets in the second round of the Madrid claycourt tournament in May.

Kvitova struggled past Russia's world number 109 Nina Bratchikova 6-2, 4-6, 6-1 to reach the last 16 for the third time.

The 22-year-old served up eight double faults and committed 37 unforced errors and was only saved by the fierce, flat hitting of her groundstrokes which often left the Portugal-based Bratchikova gasping.

Also making the last 16 was Shvedova, a quarterfinalist in 2010, who eased past Spain's Carla Suarez-Navarro 6-4, 7-5.

London to be Bolt-ed

AFP, London



Usain Bolt has promised to "wow" the world with his performances at the 2012 London Olympic Games.

The Jamaica sprinter is the reigning Olympic 100 metres and 200 metres champion after some dazzling displays in Beijing four years ago, where he also helped the Caribbean island in the 4x100m relay gold medal.

World record holder in both individual sprint disciplines, Bolt endured a relatively modest start to the European track season but was back into top form when winning the Rome Diamond League 100m in 9.76 seconds on Thursday.

"I know I can go faster because this is the start of the season. I have a long way to go," Bolt said in London on Friday, where he was launching Jamaica's Bob Marley-inspired kit.

"I'm really looking forward to competing here. I haven't competed in London for a while so I'm really looking

forward to it."

Bolt said he would seek inspiration from London's Jamaican community, adding: "I know all the Jamaicans living here are looking forward to it also so I'm just preparing to put on a great show."

"At the end of the day I just want to wow people after this Olympics so I'm looking forward to it."

Asked whether he will need to improve on 9.76secs to win gold, and whether he can go faster, Bolt said: "That's what I do."

"The season is still early. Everybody is running 9.8 so that's good competition. 9.7 is also good for me."

"I'm happy with the way it is and just want to continue working hard and run faster so I'm looking forward to it. I'm ready to go."

Bolt 'only' managed a 10.04sec run in winning the 100m in Ostrava last week, but he said: "I never doubt my ability, never. People forget, and I keep explaining to people, that athletes have bad days."

"Every athlete can -- cricket, foot-

ball, any sport -- you have bad days and that was just one of mine and I got past it and now I'm just moving forward."

Bolt's triple Olympic triumph in Beijing was powered on a diet of chicken nuggets -- but there will be no repeat of that in London.

"The good thing about the fact we are in London is there will be a lot of Jamaican food -- the only thing I have to worry about is putting on weight," he said.

"There will be no chicken nuggets this year."

The Jamaican kit was designed by Cedella Marley, who drew inspiration from her father and his music.

"We took the fit of what my dad would wear and updated it to 2012," Marley said.

"You have the Iron Lion military jacket, the Buffalo Soldier shirt. I tried to incorporate the Bob Marley fit in as many pieces as possible where we were able to accommodate that."

"You did see dad on the jacket, right? So that's a little piece of him that's going to be in London."

So close, yet so far for Compton

AFP, London

Somerset's Nick Compton completed 1,000 first-class runs on Friday -- just a day after rain denied him the chance to become the first player to do so before the end of May in 24 years.

No batsman had reached the coveted landmark since Graeme Hick in 1988 and it was widely though the subsequent reduction in first-class, and especially County Championship fixtures, would make it tough for anyone to equal his feat.

But Compton, the grandson of England batting great Denis Compton, got desperately close.

He was nine not out when rain stopped play Thursday in Somerset's First Division County Championship clash away to Worcestershire at New Road.

But the 28-year-old, who was at Middlesex, the only county Denis ever represented, put any lingering frustration to one side to make 108 -- his fourth first class hundred of the season -- on Friday.

Born in South Africa to a father who also played first-class cricket, as did his uncle and great-uncle, Nick Compton arrived in England as a teenager, where he attended the elite Harrow School -- whose former pupils include Winston Churchill.

Compton, yet to play senior international cricket, joined Somerset two years ago after leaving Middlesex frustrated by what he thought were a lack of opportunities at Lord's.

Ottis relies on Sunil



IANS/CMC, Leicester

Mystery off-spinner Sunil Narine could prove a huge asset to the West Indies' attempts to avoid a whitewash against England, head coach Ottis Gibson has said.

The 24-year-old, who was a stand-out in the recently concluded Indian Premier League (IPL) for champions Kolkata Knight Riders, was unexpectedly called up Wednesday to replace injured fast bowler Kemar Roach.

Narine will not arrive here until Sunday and will therefore miss the two-day tour match against Leicestershire at Grace Road starting Saturday.

However, Gibson said Friday that Narine, an unknown quantity in England, could be his potent weapon if he was selected for the final Test of the three-match series at Edgbaston starting next Thursday.

"He's just come back from playing a hell of a lot of cricket. He's played a lot of cricket this year so I'm sure he's been bowling a lot," said Gibson.

"I think it's his first time playing interna-

tional cricket in England and there's a disadvantage playing for the first time in these conditions but it's an advantage because the opposition haven't seen him yet."

"If he were to play this two-day game then there would be some footage of him for them to go and have a look at. He isn't playing and it means that if he plays [in the Test] it will be something completely new to them so that could be a bit of an advantage for us."

The West Indies will be looking to avoid a clean sweep in the series after losing the first Test at Lord's by five wickets and the second match at Trent Bridge by nine wickets inside four days earlier this week.

In the absence of Roach, who spearheaded the attack in the first two Tests, Gibson said he believed Narine would provide adequate cover and would bring strong personal attributes to the squad as the Windies chase their first win of the tour.

"It is an interesting replacement. He's somebody we've identified from the shorter version of the game but the selectors also believe he can play the longer version and this is an opportunity to put that to the test," Gibson pointed out.

Muktijoddha keep

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70th minute when Nasiruddin Chowdhury clinically finished with an angular shot from inside the box after receiving a through ball from Sunday Chizoba.

Sunday, the former Mohammedan striker, then spurned two great opportunities to increase the margin as he tried to finish things off on his own rather than teeing it off for forwards who were in better positions to score. On both occasions, Brothers' young keeper Raghu came to the rescue. But the Nigerian had the last laugh, as he scored his 10th goal of the season in the stoppage time by dodging three players in the midfield

before neatly placing the ball over the keeper to seal a convincing 3-0 victory.

Muktijoddha coach Shafiqul Islam Manik said they were very much in the title race and hoped his side would keep playing like they did in this match. "The way we are playing, we have every chance of winning the title, which is what we need to motivate the players. We have four matches left, and if we can play like this, we can mount a title challenge," said Manik.

Brothers' coach Syed Nayeemuddin said his team were lacking quality foreign players in attack and that the club is not financially solvent to challenge the big guns.

Pybus in town

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South Africa being the other teams.

His first major assignment is the ICC Twenty20 World Cup to be held in Sri Lanka in September, but before that he will get enough opportunities to prepare the team as after the Zimbabwe trip, Bangladesh are scheduled to play T20 matches in Trinidad & Tobago, Ireland and the Netherlands.

Pybus is Bangladesh's third coach in a year as Stuart Law, who resigned in April due to family commitments, had been in the post for only nine months after succeeding another Australian, Jamie Siddons, last July.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 Hospital section
- 5 Nitwit
- 9 "How I Met Your Mother" network
- 12 Chills and fever
- 13 Sandwich cookie
- 14 Matter-horn, for one
- 15 Soft yellow cheese
- 17 Scratch
- 18 "— in Boots"
- 19 Driver for hire
- 21 Took a curved path
- 24 "Oops"
- 25 Reddish horse
- 26 Hinged (on)
- 30 Doctrine
- 31 Autumn tools
- 32 Rage
- 33 Left the flight

DOWN

- 1 Service-woman
- 2 —
- 3 Pirates' potable
- 4 Dig further
- 5 Moves up and down
- 6 Raw rocks
- 7 "— the fields we go"
- 8 Messes up
- 9 Phnom Penh resident
- 10 Spill the beans
- 11 Agile
- 16 Kids' pie filling?
- 20 Landers or Curry
- 21 Desert-like

Solution time: 21 mins.

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F	O	R	E	T	E	L	L	R	O	S
P	I	N	K	R	O	N	E	R		
W	R	A	P	S	D	Y	A	N		
H	E	R	E	F	O	R	G	E	R	
Y	E	N	E	R	N	I	E	O	A	F
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51				52					53		

CRYPTOQUIP

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O D D B T W N F D E T N H F P X
I D N H X N X H Q P D F D Z , Z D W
Z R Q Q D Z X W J T L L X H F P X J N T A X Z.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AT THE EYE DOCTORS' GALA, I RECKON THEY JUST LOUNGE AROUND ALL NIGHT TELLING CORNEA JOKES.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals S