

PREMIER HOCKEY
Usha notch big win

SPORTS REPORTER

Usha KC recorded their third win in the Green Delta Insurance Premier Division Hockey League with a massive 8-1 win over Azad SC at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Pakistani recruit Shahzad Ali struck three goals to help Usha take a comfortable 5-0 lead in the first half while his compatriot Akter Ali scored twice and Moinul Islam Kaushik, Atique and Deen Islam Emon netted one goal each for the Old Dhaka outfit.

Sohanur Rahman struck the consolation goal for Azad SC.

In the day's other match, Bangladesh SC upset Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club beating them 2-0 with Indian recruit Gagandip Singh and Abdur Rashid scoring one goal each.

Women's camp from tomorrow

SPORTS REPORTER

Thirty-two cricketers have been called up to the women's national cricket team which begins on July 5 at the National Cricket Academy ground in Mirpur.

The fitness camp has been scheduled ahead of their tour to Ireland next month while the South Africa women's team are also set to tour the country before the ICC World Twenty20s to be held in Sri Lanka in September.

The last time the players took part in a tournament was the domestic competition held in BKSP two months ago.

PRELIMINARY SQUAD

Salma Khatun, Sathira Jakir Jesy, Aysha Akter, Panna Ghosh, Champa Chakma, Farjana Houque Pinki, Lata Mondol, Rumana Ahmed, Shohely Akter, Tithi Rani, Jahanaara Alam,

Tazia Akter, Sultana Yesmin Baishakhi, Chamely Khatun, Khadijatul Kobra, Tripti Mondol, Sharmin Akter Supta, Nuzhat Tasnim Tumpa, Ritu Moni, Lily Rani, Yamim Rupa, Saila Sharmin, Isma Tanjim, Najnin Nahar Nimu, Sanjida Islam Moyna, Sharmin Sultana, Suktara Rahman, Tulika Biswas, Asha, Diithi Rani, Shamima Sultana, Farzana Akter Lisa.

ASIAN YOUTH CHESS

Fahad 15th, Saif 7th

SPORTS REPORTER

Fahad Ahmed's dream of becoming champion in U-10 group remained only a dream as the country's sub-junior champion finished 15th out of 28 players in the Asian Youth Chess Championship concluded on Sunday in Sri Lanka.

Fahad, who was the highest rated player in the U-10 group, earned 4.5 points from nine games when he lost his final and ninth round game against Pangilinan Stephen Rome of Philippines.

National junior champion Abdullah Al Saif became 7th out of 20 players in the U-18 group as he earned five points from nine games after losing to Naval Gund Niranjan in the last round.

Medals locked

FROM PAGE 16 and men's 10-metre air pistol events.

The gold medals are not actually made of solid gold. They are in fact 92.5 per cent silver and 1.34 per cent gold, while the rest is copper.

Metals used in the medals were mined in Mongolia and Utah in the United States.

Featuring some of the world's largest diamonds, the Crown Jewels are used by the British monarch during coronations and other state functions. They have been kept at the tower since 1661.



Sri Lanka's Kumar Sangakkara rocks back to play a pull shot on the fourth day of the second Test against Pakistan at the Sinhalese Sports Club in Colombo yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Murray moves on

AFP, London



Andy Murray on Tuesday reached a fifth successive Wimbledon quarterfinal where he will meet Spanish bulldozer David Ferrer who has made the last eight for the first time at the 10th attempt.

British fourth seed Murray beat Croatian 16th seed Marin Cilic 7-5, 6-2, 6-3 as organisers scrambled to make up for lost time caused by heavy rain.

He will now attempt to go on to a fourth All England Club semifinal on the trot, but will first have to get past seventh-seeded Ferrer who put out former US Open champion Juan Martin del Potro 6-3, 6-2, 6-3.

Murray had led Queen's Club winner Cilic, against whom he was defending a 5-1 career record, 7-5, 3-1 overnight when play was suspended due to Monday's downpours.

They played two games Tuesday before more rain sent them off Court One for an hour.

But on the resumption, the Scot was rarely troubled as Cilic struggled with his opponent and the damp, chilly conditions.

Only three of the scheduled last 16 men's ties had been completed on Monday with Novak Djokovic, Roger Federer and Mikhail Youzhny able to enjoy a day-off before Wednesday's quarterfinals.

Federer will play Youzhny looking for a 14th win in 14 matches against the Russian.

Defending champion Djokovic will tackle German 31st seed Florian Mayer, who reached the quarterfinals for the second time, eight years after his first appearance, with a 6-3, 6-1, 3-6, 6-2 win over French 18th seed Richard Gasquet.

It was Mayer's first win over 2007 semifinalist Gasquet since 2004 and was sweet revenge for losing a Davis Cup quarterfinal rubber to the French player in 2011 after being two sets to love ahead.

Ferrer never got the chance to start his match on Monday, but the 30-year-old, now carrying Spain's hopes after the shock elimination of Rafael Nadal, wasted no time against ninth seed Del Potro, racing home beneath the Centre Court roof in under two hours.

Del Potro, who had also made the last 16 in 2011, was undone by 20 unforced errors compared to Ferrer's more conservative eight. Philipp Kohlschreiber, the 27th seed, became the second German into the last eight, ending US qualifier Brian Baker's fairytale run with a 6-1, 7-6 (7/4), 6-3 win in an hour and 55 minutes on Court 12.

He will face either French fifth seed Jo-Wilfried Tsonga or US 10th seed Mardy Fish in the last eight.

Kohlschreiber, who fired 23 aces, goes fourth on the list of the most Grand Slams played before reaching the last eight, having got there on the 33rd attempt.

Of joy and sorrow

FROM PAGE 16

but when my club needed a goal I delivered, and I thank Allah for the goals."

Abahani's mercurial winger Zahid Hossain probably saved his best performance for the last match and justified the reasons why both fans and coaches rate him as the best winger of the country. The first goal that Rony scored was beautifully set up by the long-haired winger while the second was finished clinically by the natural number 7.

"This was the best match of my career. I dedicate this goal to my parents. All the time I kept saying to myself if I can get the ball, I can make a difference." And he did make a big difference.

While everyone was celebrating at the Abahani dug-out, the Muktijoddha players Emily, Mithun, Sunday and the others were

sitting dejected at their own dug out, and perhaps reflecting on what could have been. They were close to winning their first professional league title, and twice they thought Sunday Chizoba landed them the silverware, only to be proved wrong. The Nigerian, who had had a terrific season at the All Reds tent scoring 15 goals, was left speechless at the end as he buried his head in his hands at the side of the pitch.

His coach Shafiqul Islam Manik said it was an entertaining encounter, one of the best matches of the league but in the end they fell short of the desired target.

"The league was very entertaining, even if the refereeing was below par, in the last match as well. The opposition played well which caused a few mistakes at the back, and there we lost it," said Manik.

Title Abahani's with thrilling

FROM PAGE 16

in place of winger Touhidul Islam, But despite his superior movement, Abahani found it hard to breach the Muktijoddha backline.

With the clock ticking beyond the hour, the Mukti adopted a slightly more reserved approach and paid the price soon after. Rony had threatened often as an extra presence inside the penalty area and it was he who drove a stake through the heart of the Muktijoddha defence.

But the goal owed much to Zahid who outpaced two defenders before sending in a low cross that was sent in by the substitute on the second attempt.

Far from being despondent, the Reds struck back almost immediately. Sunday again edged beyond the defence to poke home a long free-kick from the right and send the players and the fans into rapturous albeit premature celebrations.

goalkeeper before heading in from close range to ensure the draw that Abahani needed to confirm the title.

For the heart-broken Muktijoddha players it was the second successive season of 'so close yet so far' as they again fell behind by a single point as they had in the previous season.

TEAMS

ABAHANI: Ziaur Rahman, Samad Yossif, Wali Faisal, Mohammad Sujon, Mohammad Linkon, Pranotosh Kumar, Yoko Samnick, Zahid Hossain (Mamun Mia), Touhidul Alam (Shahkawat Hossain Rony), Awudu Ibrahim and Twum Frank.

MUKTIJODDHA SANGSAD: Maksudur Rahman Mustak, Ariful Islam (Mofazzal Hossain Saikta), Rafael De Androde, Emmanuel Demi, Nasir Chowdhury, Maruf Ahmed (Mithun Chowdhury), Mamunul Islam, De Sauza Lima (Ansiur Rahman Sweet), Shakil Ahmed, Zahid Hossain Emily and Sunday Chizoba.

Referee: Azad Rahman.

Dilshan, S'kara hit tons



AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's Tillakaratne Dilshan and Kumar Sangakkara smashed successive centuries against Pakistan to light up the rain-hit second Test in Colombo on Tuesday.

The hosts, replying to Pakistan's first innings total of 551 for 6 declared, took their overnight score of 70-1 to 278-5 by stumps on the fourth day at the Sinhalese Sports Club.

Dilshan scored 121 and Sangakkara was unbeaten on 144 as the pair put on 225 runs for the second wicket after opener Tharanga Paranavithana fell for zero on Monday.

Pakistan grabbed four wickets in the final session to leave Sri Lanka still needing 74 more runs to save the

follow-on on the last day. But a draw appears likely as rain once again wiped off two hours of play in the post-lunch session after bad weather on the previous two days restricted the bowlers to only 71 of the stipulated 180 overs.

More rain has been forecast for the final day on Wednesday.

Sangakkara had scored an unbeaten 199 and Dilshan made 101 in the first Test in Galle last week which Sri Lanka won by 209 runs to take the lead in the three-match series.

Both settled down once again to pound the Pakistani attack on a dead pitch that provided no assistance to the bowlers.

Dilshan was the first to the landmark, lofting off-spinner Saeed Ajmal for a six to bring up his 14th Test hundred and the third against Pakistan.

Left-handed Sangakkara surpassed Australian legend Don Bradman's tally of 29 centuries with a single off Ajmal in the next over.

When Sangakkara reached 60, he became the highest run-getter against Pakistan, surpassing Indian great Sunil Gavaskar's tally of 2,089 runs from 24 Tests.

Sangakkara, who is playing his 15th Test against Pakistan, has scored nine centuries against them with a top score of 230 in Lahore in March, 2002.

Dilshan was dismissed in the final hour of play when he was trapped leg-before by left-arm seamer Junaid Khan. He hit 13 fours and a six.

Junaid then picked up his third wicket as skipper Mahela Jayawardene padded up to an incoming delivery and was declared leg-before by umpire Simon Taufel for no score.

Ajmal removed Thilan Samaraweera for zero and Abdur Rehman sent back night watchman Suraj Randiv in the day's last over to enable Pakistan to end the day on a high.

The third Test will be played in Pallekele from July 8.

SCOREBOARD

PAKISTAN: First innings 551 for 6 declared (Hafeez 196, Taufeeq 65, Azhar 157, Misbah 66 not out; Herath 3-164)

SRI LANKA: First innings (overnight 70-1)

Paranavithana c Azhar b Junaid	0
Dilshan lbw b Junaid	121
Sangakkara not out	144
M Jayawardene lbw b Junaid	0
Samaraweera lbw b Ajmal	0
Randiv lbw b Rehman	5
Extras: (b-4, lb-4)	8
Total: (For 5 wks in 85.4 overs)	278
Fall of wickets: 1-11, 2-236, 3-250, 4-259, 5-278	

To bat: Mathews, P Jayawardene, Kulasekara, Herath, Pradeep

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Cheema	18	5	66	0
Junaid	19	3	56	3
Ajmal	26	0	77	1

Afridi takes on militants

AFP, Karachi

Dashing cricketer Shahid Afridi is to front efforts to eradicate polio from Pakistan, going head-to-head with militants who have banned vaccinations in an Al-Qaeda-linked stronghold on the Afghan border.

The charismatic former Pakistan captain was born in Khyber district, which is part of the militant-infested tribal belt, and campaigners hope his Pashto credentials can persuade parents to inoculate their children.

"It is a noble cause and I am happy to be part of smashing polio from Pakistan which has crippled many children," Afridi told AFP.

Middletons get royal box treat

AFP, London

Michael and Carole Middleton, the parents of Prince William's wife Catherine, were treated to seats in the Royal Box on Centre Court at Wimbledon on Tuesday.

The Duchess of Cambridge's parents were in place to watch David Ferrer take on Juan Martin del Potro, a match followed by two women's quarterfinals, featuring four-time champion Serena Williams against title-holder Petra Kvitova, and Sabine Lisicki versus Angelique Kerber.

It was a move up for Carole Middleton, who was in the regular seats on Centre Court when she visited the All England Club on Wednesday.

PCB receives CL invite



AFP, Karachi

Pakistan's cricket board has received an invitation from India for October's Twenty20 Champions League, in a step towards reviving cricket ties between the arch-rivals which have been suspended since 2008.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) last month gave the go ahead to include Pakistan's Twenty20 champions in the multinational league, which brings together 10 top teams, including those from India, Australia and South Africa.

"PCB (Pakistan Cricket Board) confirms that an invitation has been received from the Champions League Twenty20, inviting the winners of Pakistan Twenty20 event to participate in the qualifying tournament," a statement issued by the PCB said.

"The invitation will be discussed in the PCB's Executive Coordination Committee meeting on Wednesday."

The PCB last month called the invitation "the first step towards reviving cricketing

ties between the two countries".

The main league will be held from October 9-28 in South Africa, with qualifying rounds taking place before the main event.

The Sialkot Stallions won the domestic Twenty20 event in Pakistan earlier this year. They were due to feature in the inaugural Champions League in 2009 but were not invited after India severed bilateral relations with Pakistan in the wake of terrorist attacks on Mumbai.

New Delhi blamed militants based in Pakistan for the attacks which left 166 people dead.

Both Pakistan and India have since come a long way in normalising ties, with the opening of trade earlier this year.

Pakistan's President Asif Ali Zardari toured India for a day earlier this year, requesting prime minister Manmohan Singh to revive cricketing ties, prompting BCCI's decision to include a Pakistani team in the league.

Pakistan expects a breakthrough in relations later this year but the BCCI said the Indian team's hectic schedule is the main hurdle in arranging any series in the near future.

No sleeping pills

AFP, Sydney



Australia's Olympic athletes will be banned from using sleeping pills, officials said Tuesday, after ex-swimming star Grant Hackett admitted to a heavy use of the sedatives while he was still competing.

Australian Olympic Committee chief John Coates said prescription medications such as the powerful sleeping pill Stilnox would be banned for the first time at London after Hackett said he had developed a "heavy reliance" on the drug.

The AOC on Monday decided to amend its team medical manual "to make it absolutely unequivocal that we do not condone and indeed we prohibit the use of Stilnox by our athletes", Coates said.

In North America the drug is marketed as Ambien.

Team doctors are being advised about the changes, which will also emphasise potential problems with caffeine use, and each discipline's squad will be briefed as they enter the Olympic village, Coates added.

"We are very worried about the vicious cycle of athletes taking caffeine as a performance enhancer and then needing to take drugs such as Stilnox to get to sleep," he told reporters in Sydney.

"We've done this because our primary obligation, our overriding obligation, is to protect the health of our athletes."

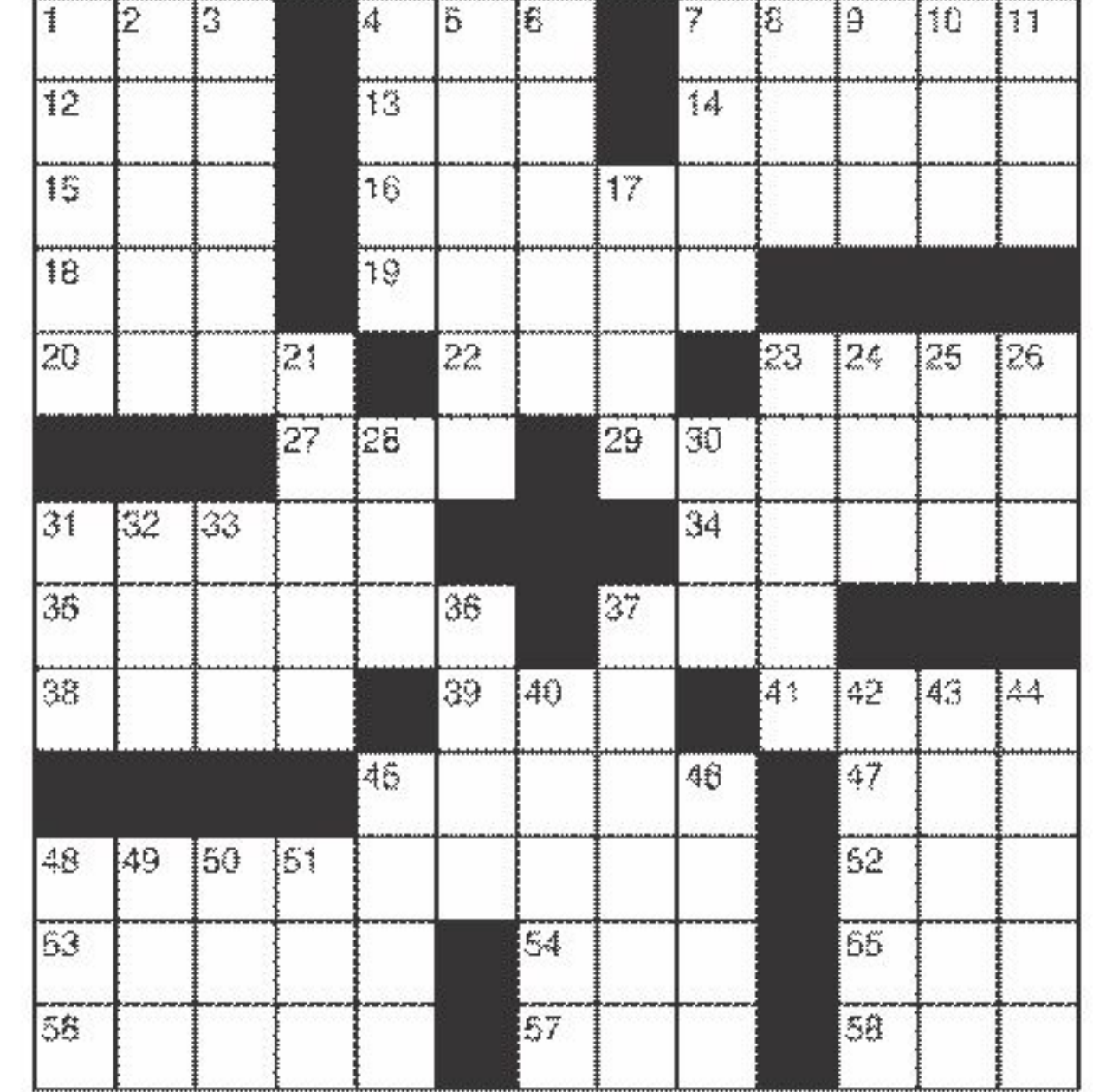
Officials will also have the power to search athletes' belongings if they are suspected of using sleeping pills and disciplinary action including suspension or early return to Australia could follow.

Coates said the changes were triggered by revelations from Hackett, dual gold medallist in the 1500m freestyle, that by the end of his career he had a "heavy reliance" on Stilnox, first prescribed to him by team doctors.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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| 1 Boar's mate | 47 Japanese pond carp | 4 Bleacherites' calls | 24 Flightless bird |
| 4 Deteriorate | 48 Snack for Wimpy | 5 Not transparent | 25 Scepter |
| 7 Blender setting | 52 Tractor-trailer | 6 Doughnut shape | 26 Before |
| 12 N.A. | 53 Pong creator | 7 Picked up the tab | 28 Scale member |
| 13 GI's mail address | 54 "Rocks" | 8 Grecian vessel | 30 Wahine's accessory |
| 14 Game venue | 55 Tray contents? | 9 Rule, for short | 31 Doctrine |
| 15 Transgression | 56 Knapsack part | 10 Away from WSW | 32 Wildebeest |
| 16 Precursor | 57 Dance syllable? | 11 Corn spike | 33 Long, crosser |
| 18 Coop dweller | 58 Prepared | 17 Bob's longtime pal | 36 Dino's tail? |
| 19 Calamari | | 21 Ring used in a throwing game | 37 Full of modern gadgetry |
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| 27 Handle | | | 44 Two-by-four? |
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- DOWN**
- 1** Futomaki, e.g.
- 2** Wicker-work willow
- 31** None dome home
- 34** Duck
- 35** Escargots
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- 38** Hybrid pooch
- 39** —
- 41** Region



CRYPTOQUIP

N K H S N N C Z S N A Y Z X Y N T
V O K K O T V ' Z J I A K T O Q R O J V
I T N G G Z W U B R X C U G N Q R O
X T R Y R X V : " B O Y O T B Z W W O H . "

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AT CONCESSION STANDS IN SPORTS STADIUMS, PEOPLE COULD DEFINITELY SAY THERE IS MUCH FAN FARE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals O