

BD A earn three points in draw

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh A earned three points from their drawn opening match against Baroda Cricket Association XI in the Shafi Darashah cricket tournament at the KSCA ground in Alur yesterday.

Mominul Haque's second fifty of the game shepherded the side's second innings after it was set 344 runs to win the game. Baroda made a comeback when they finished their second innings on 445 all out in 109.5 overs.

The young left-hander struck nine boundaries and a six in his unbeaten 72-ball 52, as he added 75 for the unbroken fifth wicket partnership with Naeem Islam, who was not out on 29 at the close of play.

Skipper Shahriar Nafees gave the A team a rapid start through 32 which had five fours but fell in the 15th over. His opening partner Imrul Kayes however stuck around longer, scoring 59 off 136 balls with the help of eight fours.

Earlier, the Baroda side added a rapid 57 runs from 8.5 overs after starting the day on 388-5.

Kedar Devdhar was caught behind off Shahadat Hossain for 91 but his initial burst was enough to give them a substantial lead that was beyond the Bangladesh A team.

The plus point with the ball remained Enamul Haque Jr, who took a five-wicket haul for 130 runs while Farhad Hossain took three wickets.

Bangladesh A now take on Karnataka State Cricket Association XI in their next match from August 1.

SCORE IN BRIEF

BARODA CRICKET ASSOCIATION XI: First innings 202 all out; second innings 445 all out in 109.5 overs (Rayudu 86, Shah 76, Gupta 67, Devdhar 91; Farhad 3-54, Enamul 5-130).

BANGLADESH A: First innings 314 all out; second innings 184-4 in 68 overs (Imrul 59, Mominul 52 not out, Nafees 32; Bhajja 2-16, Bhatt 2-88).



West Indies pacer Kumar Roach, who took five wickets, is in his delivery stride during the final day's play of the first Test against New Zealand in Antigua on Sunday.

Roach roasts Kiwis

Cricket

AFP, North Sound

A five-wicket haul for Kumar Roach and an unbeaten 64 from opener Chris Gayle saw West Indies beat New Zealand by nine wickets on Sunday to win the first Test of their two-match series at North Sound.

After dismissing the tourists for 272, the hosts raced to their target of a measly 102 for the loss of just Kieran Powell as Assad Fudadin hit the winning single to put the West Indies 1-0 up in the two-match series.

Gayle had already laid the foundation on his return to five-day cricket after more than 18 months due to his stand-off with the West Indies Cricket Board following comments he made about officials in a radio interview by smashing 150 in the first innings -- Powell adding a ton of his own for good measure.

The 32-year-old followed up with 64 off 49 balls and although Doug Bracewell took the wicket of Powell for 30, Dean Brownlie taking the catch, Fudadin bagged the winning single in the 20th over at the Sir Vivian Rich-

ards Stadium.

Despite Roach's and Gayle's efforts it was Sunil Narine who bagged the man of the match honours with his 3 for 91 giving him match figures of 8 for 223.

The Black Caps, just 28 ahead overnight after the West Indies pummelled their way to 522 in response to the visitors' first innings tally of 351, only added 26 more runs before lunch and their chances faded away as Roach dismissed captain Ross Taylor and Kane Williamson in the morning session.

Paceman Roach bowled Taylor following a rain delay -- when Taylor was given out lbw when an angled ball hit him low on his pads.

In his next over Roach then bowled Williamson for a duck, finding his off stump.

Kruger van Wyk gave Roach -- who had earlier also accounted for Brendon McCullum and Neil Wagner -- his fifth wicket to end the New Zealand innings and Gayle and Powell then set up the victory by putting together a partnership of 77 before Fudadin applied the coup de grace.

SCOREBOARD

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 351 (Guptill 97, Flynn 45, Bracewell 39; Narine 5-132,

Roach 2-44				
WEST INDIES: First innings 522 (Gayle 150, Powell 134, Fudadin 55, Deonarine 79; Martin 3-134, Bracewell 2-96)				
NEW ZEALAND: Second innings				
Guptill c Fudadin b Narine				67
Flynn lbw Narine				20
McCullum b Roach				84
Taylor lbw Roach				21
Wagner c Ramdin b Roach				13
Williamson b Roach				0
Brownlie c Gayle b Rampaul				5
Van Wyk b Roach				30
Vettori c Ramdin b Rampaul				13
Bracewell lbw b Narine				0
Martin not out				0
Extras: (b-7, lb-8, nb-4)				19
Total: (All out in 105.2 overs)				272
Fall of wickets: 1-47, 2-170, 3-194, 4-217, 5-217, 6-225, 7-225, 8-251, 9-258				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Rampaul	17	3	52	2
Roach	23.2	4	60	5
Narine	42	13	91	3
Sammy	16	6	25	0
Samuels	3	1	22	0
Deonarine	4	2	7	0
WEST INDIES: Second innings				
Gayle not out				64
Powell c Brownlie b Bracewell				30
Fudadin not out				7
Extras (w1)				1
Total: (For 1 wkt in 19.3 overs)				102
Fall of wicket: 1-77				
Did not bat: Samuels, Chanderpaul, Ramdin, Sammy, Narine, Deonarine, Rampaul, Roach				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Bracewell	6	0	25	1
Martin	4	0	12	0
Williamson	3	1	30	0
Wagner	5	0	32	0

Li lifts gold with new record

REUTERS, London

China's Li Xueying won her country's second weightlifting gold on Monday, blowing away the rest of the field and breaking two Olympic records to take the women's 58 kilogram weight division.

Li lifted an Olympic record total of 246 kg, comprising an Olympic record 108kg in the snatch lift and a 138 kg clean and jerk.

Thailand's Pimsiri Sirikaew took the silver with a total of 236kg and the bronze medal went to Ukrainian Yuliya Kalina.

Eighteen-year-old Briton Zoe Smith came 12th, having lifted a total of 211kg in the earlier B group session, setting a new British record of 121 kg in the clean and jerk to the delight of a raucous crowd in the 6,000 seat ExCel arena.

Chapal unbeaten champion

SPORTS REPORTER

Hafizul Islam Chapal became the unbeaten champion in the Metropolitan Selection Chess Tournament at the close of the final and ninth round at the Bangladesh Chess Federation hall room yesterday.

Chapal, who confirmed the title with one round left on Sunday, drew against Ripon to earn the highest eight points from nine game.

Four players earned seven points each and their standings were decided through a tie-breaker based on progressive scores. The tournament's second to fifth finishers were Abdul Momin, Khorshed Alam, Jewel Khan and Nasiruddin Apu respectively.

Eleven players secured 6.5 points each and their standings were also decided by tie-breaker. They are Shahjahan Kabir, Shamsul Kabir Chowdhury, Khairul Islam, Masum Hossain, Faisal Hossain, Mohammad Sirajul Kabir, Badrul Alam, Harunur Rashid, Ziauddin Ahmed, Shahnaz Mohammad Faruk and Mukitil Islam Ripon occupying the 6th to 16th positions.

The top 16 players from this tournament will advance to the preliminary phase in the Dhaka Metropolitan City Chess tournament of the 38th National Chess Championship.



SPORTS REPORTER from London

Neymar ran to the sideline and struck the famous Usain Bolt lightning pose. It was football's biggest Olympic star honouring one of the London Games' most acclaimed athletes.

Neymar celebrated by imitating his idol after scoring from a free-kick and leading Brazil to a 3-1 win over Belarus on Sunday, securing the gold medal favourites a spot in the quarterfinals of the men's Olympic tournament.

"It was for Bolt, we did his celebration," Neymar said.

Neymar has his own legion of fans following him everywhere he shows up, but even before heading for London he had already said he was hoping to meet Bolt to get an autograph and take a photo with the Jamaican, who will be competing later in the Olympics.

"I haven't met him yet but I hope it happens," said the 20-year-old Brazilian, touted as the future of Brazilian football.

It's different for girls

Robbie Savage was heard to say the following to swimmer Mark Foster while watching Korea's men play China in the hockey at the Riverbank Arena.

"This is a game for girls. Mind you, your sport [swimming], isn't even a sport, it's a past-time."

The same Robbie Savage who, as a former Welsh international footballer, found wider fame by taking part in the BBC TV ballroom dancing programme Strictly Come Dancing.

Wrong turn for Cisse

Senegal men's football team press conference at Wembley Stadium Saturday night was delayed by an hour when the coach of the African side got lost inside the vast stadium.

Aliou Cisse played for Birmingham City and Portsmouth in the English Premier League but never at Wembley.

"This is the Olympics and there's always plenty of security, but somehow I finished up on the other side of the stadium to the media conference room," Cisse said. "But I'm here now and that's all that counts."

Bindra off target

Beijing Olympics gold medalist Abhinav Bindra crashed out of the London Games by failing to qualify for men's 10-metre air rifle final while compatriot Gagan Narang made it with an overall score of 598 on Monday.

Bindra, who became India's first individual Olympic gold medalist in Beijing, shot 594 to finish 16th out of 47 contestants.

Narang was one of the top eight shooters who quali-

More positives

FROM PAGE 16 they were vanquished in a last-ball finish against the same opponents.

"Personally I feel happy after the tour. I thought it was a decent effort in conditions which I wouldn't call ideal for Twenty20 cricket," he said.

The topsy-turvy fortunes during the tour were also well reflected by the ICC Twenty20 rankings in which Bangladesh jumped to No 4 by winning 3-0 against the Irish. But one loss to the Scots brought them back to No 9, which didn't change despite winning against the Netherlands the next day or losing on the day after.

"We felt good when we became the No 4 team in Twenty20s and when we lost to Scotland and became No 9, we obviously didn't feel that good," said Tamim. "It wasn't important to be honest and it wasn't really our goal during the series. But going up the rankings is definitely a goal for the future."

The Tigers go into a rest period but five of them, Tamim included, are set for another domestic Twenty20 competition, the Sri Lanka Premier League (SLPL), which begins on August 11. Tamim believes that it will not only be important for those who have contracts, but will help the team too.

"It will be great for the five players but since we'll be playing the World Twenty20s in Sri Lanka in September, it'll definitely help us as a team because the captain [Mushfiqur Rahim] is also one of the five players," he said.

Dominant

FROM PAGE 16 goals each and Malaysian forward Tanku Ahmed Tajuddin scoring one goal to complete the rout.

Certainly the comfortable victory will boost the confidence of the Black and Whites before their penultimate match against archrivals Abahani on Wednesday.

order will be something to worry about for India against the hosts, who will be without their top batsman Kumar Sangakkara following a fracture in his little finger that has ruled him out of the series.

Apart from opener Gautam Gambhir, who scored a much needed century in the last game, and Raina's match-winning knock of 65, the Indian batsmen have thrown away their wickets after getting the starts.

Both Virender Sehwag and Virat Kohli have not delivered the goods after decimating the Sri Lankan bowling in the first match.

Rohit Sharma's miserable run seems to have no end and with the voices growing loud for his ouster, it remains to be seen whether the Indian think tank gives Manoj Tiwary a fairly deserving chance.

Greene's head says Bolt, but his heart says Blake

AFP, London



Former Olympic 100m champion Maurice Greene thinks Usain Bolt will deliver at the London Games, but backed the world's fastest man's Jamaican compatriot Yohan Blake to win the 100m.

"I think he's going to get along just fine," Greene, who won the 100m at the 2000 Sydney Olympics and claimed bronze in Athens four years later, said of Bolt.

"Usain will go out there and continue to do the things he does... But Blake is going to win."

Five-time world champion Greene, however, had a word of warning for Bolt as the Jamaican seeks to defend his double sprint titles won in Beijing four years ago.

"The pressure of coming back to the Olympic Games is very tough, especially when you're trying to replicate what you did four years ago," the American said, citing his own experience of having failed to claim a second gold in the blue riband event of track and field in Athens in 2004.

"It's hard to come back and do it again. I'd say just focus on what's in front of you, not the past."

Another former track star plumping for Blake over Bolt was Edwin Moses, the 400m hurdler who went unbeaten in 122 races over more than nine years of competition.

"In track and field, you have a saying: 'Stuff happens, you're only as good as your last race'. I'm not sure the cards are in Bolt's favour, so I'm going for Blake," Moses said.

"Bolt ran some very good times last year, but he's not at same level as years previous.

He's had to regroup, start from zero and work way back up."

The predictions were better for Bolt's chances in the 200m, an event in which the 25-year-old Jamaican is also world record holder.

"Bolt will have no problem winning the 200m," said Greene.

Bolt, who also secured triple gold at the 2009 world championships in Berlin, has admitted that losing in both the 100 and the 200m at the Jamaican Olympic trials to training partner and 100m world champion Blake hasn't been the best preparation for the Games here.

Blake has long lurked in the shadows cast by teammates Bolt and Asafa Powell -- but after some stunning results, "The Beast" has suddenly roared to prominence.

Blake's personal best of 9.75sec in the 100m makes him the fourth fastest sprinter of all time after Bolt, American Tyson Gay and Powell. His 19.26sec in the 200m is the second fastest ever after Bolt.

Emdadul bows out

FROM PAGE 16

famous cricketers Mohammad Ashraf and Mosharraf Hossain Rubel, who cheered him all the way in what is known as the home of cricket.

Godfrey paid a tribute to the venue when he imitated hitting a six from the middle of the ground after his victory.

Earlier, shooter Sharmin Akhter Ratna and gymnast Syque Caesar were also eliminated in the first round.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	41 Milk- maid's perch	DOWN	23 Gomor- rah's sister city
1 Little devil	43 Part of SMU (Abbr.)	1 Wading bird	25 Rani's rayment
4 Julie of "The Talk"	44 Unsold of basket- ball fame	2 50-Down ingredient	26 Hodge- podge
8 Pokes	46 Column style	3 Wan	27 Night light?
12 Sheepish remark?	50 Hobby	4 List after a movie	28 Wedding exchange
13 European capital	55 Praise in verse	5 Scuttle	29 Aid and --
14 Nastase of tennis lore	56 Volcanic outflow	6 Ostrich's kin	30 "Arrive- derci"
15 Under the weather	57 Redact	7 Bottle feature	31 Respect- able
16 Learning	58 Fa follower	8 Small bus	38 Diet- friendly
18 Trusty mount	59 And others (Abbr.)	9 Foreman foe	40 However, in verse
20 Family	60 Horse- back game	10 Life story, briefly	45 Dance lesson
21 Disen- cumbers	61 Right angle	11 D.C.	47 Schnozz
24 Physi- cist's fundamental particle		17 Pick a target	48 "Ameri- can --"
28 Holiday		19 Historic time	49 Honey- comb compartment
32 Harvard rival		22 Use a rotary phone	50 Harty brew
33 Japanese sash			51 Cistern
34 -- Hawkins Day			52 Eggs
36 Carnival city			53 -- not choose to run"
37 Healthy state			54 Lubricate
39 Site			

Solution time: 21 mins.

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59						60			61		

CRYPTOQUIP

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H U J I J L V T S A Q H D D Z F J
U H Q J S A Z J F U H A . O J V O D J
L H D D Z F J T O V T - S U H A S H A R .
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN ENTERTAINER
PETER IMPOSES HIS OWN RULE UPON PEOPLE, I
SUPPOSE THAT'S MARSHALL LAW.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: D equals L