

Hockey team loses again

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh's hope of playing in the semifinals of the 49th ONGC Nehru Senior Hockey Tournament was extinguished when they suffered a 2-1 defeat against ONGC XI in their second match at the Shivaji Stadium in New Delhi yesterday.

The second defeat in as many matches means Bangladesh XI will now play an academic match against Army XI on Friday. Bangladesh were earlier beaten 6-0 by Air India.

According to a Bangladesh Hockey Federation press release, Hasan Jubair Niloy scored the lone goal for Bangladesh but they did not mention the timing of the goal from Niloy and the goals from the opponents.

BOA gets new officials

SPORTS REPORTER

Chief of Army Staff General Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan and Bangladesh's ambassador to Kuwait Syed Shahed Reza have been virtually elected unopposed as the president and secretary general of Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) as no other candidates challenged them on the day of nomination submission at the BOA office yesterday.

If their nominations are not canceled during scrutinising today, they will take the helm of the BOA for next four years following the completion of 29 November election.

Some 79 councilors will elect a 37-member committee which will include one president, five vice presidents, one secretary general, three joint secretaries, one treasurer and 26 members.

However, other posts of the committee saw competitions as seven candidates submitted their nomination for the five vice president posts - three from Olympic disciplinary quota, one from non-Olympic quota and one from Bangladesh Women's Association.

Five candidates will fight for three secretary general posts -- two from Olympic disciplinary quota and one from non-Olympic quota while two candidates will vie for the treasurer's post.

Of 27 members, four members -- representatives from Sports Ministry, National Sports Council, Special Olympic and Women's Association -- have been elected straight while three posts -- representatives from International Olympic Committee, Olympiad and Regional Olympic Committee -- will remain vacant following non-fulfillment and 17 candidates will fight for 14 Olympic discipline quotas.

The date for withdrawal of nomination has been fixed for Sunday. REFORM IN PCB

Latif goes to court

AFP, Karachi

Pakistan's former captain Rashid Latif went to court Wednesday, demanding sweeping reforms to the national cricket governing body including the election rather than appointment of officials.

He filed a petition against the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) in the southern province of Sindh.

Jamil in quarters



SPORTS REPORTER

Jamil Bhuiyan of Bangladesh battled his way through to the quarterfinals of the Focal Point 26th Bangladesh ITF Junior Tennis Championships at the National Tennis Complex in Ramna yesterday. Jamil remains the only Bangladeshi player left in the championships as the two female competitors lost their second round matches yesterday.

Unseeded Jamil had a difficult match against eighth-seeded Sahil Gaware of India and went down 4-6 in the first set before taking the second set 7-6 in tie-breaker and wrapping up the match by taking the third set 6-3. Top seed Fancutt of Australia had a 6-4, 6-4 win over Kim of Korea while Rebello and Ashok of India, Lee Ho Jun of Taipei, Al Obaidly of Kuwait, Juprang of Thailand and Seonggyu of Korea were the others making it to the quarterfinals.

In the girls' section,



Jamil Bhuiyan of Bangladesh slices the ball against Sahil Gaware of India during the boys' singles third round match of the ITF Junior Tennis Championships at Ramna yesterday.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Eshita Afroz of Bangladesh lost against ANG Geraldine of Singapore 0-6, 2-6 while Sharmin Alam Sharda lost against Yu-Ting of Taipei 3-6, 1-6. Top seed Ma Ka Man

Carina of Taipei, compatriots WU Fang-Hsien and Fang-Hsien and Vaidya Ria of Singapore were the others making it through to the quarterfinals.

WI reeling from Hasan

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defence when he had to be," he added.

The 9th wicket partnership which lasted for 30 overs saw the batsmen score 172 runs. The toll that the late partnership had on the fielders was quite visible, as they dropped two catches and looked tired on the field.

"It's a natural reaction sometimes. You don't expect something like this. It catches you off-guard. It looked he would get out at any point, but you need luck in certain situations," said Gibson.

"We had six wickets, we thought if we could do the same thing we would get the other four wickets. We are a little bit disappointed at some of the stuff I saw. We should have made more in-roads... it was a tough day for us," he added.

The coach, however, had good words for Fidel Edwards, who picked up a five-for and ran through the batting order of Bangladesh. "He is a quality performer. He was waiting in the side to come back. He proved the sort of bowler that he is."

He also stated that it would only be a matter of time before spinner, Sunil Narine, comes into his groove. "He's a quality bowler, mostly in the one-day format. In Test matches in the Caribbean he got 10-12 wickets in first two Test matches.

He has found bowling here a bit difficult. He has played a lot of cricket in a short space of time in his career. It's a situation we nurture. We help him to understand Test cricket and we continue to support him," said Gibson.

Khulna's warm

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the lack of memorials in the stadium for fallen heroes like the sadly deceased Manjarul Islam Rana. She hoped that the authority concerned would name one part of the stadium in Rana's memory.

Sumona Hossain, a student of Khulna University of Engineering and Technology University was also elated. "It is great moment for me that I am watching the Test match in my home," she said.

Meanwhile, BCB president Nazmul Hasan Papon visited the Sheikh Abu Naser Stadium during the Test match between West Indies and Bangladesh. He also met with the journalists at the media centre.

Later, Papon also made a call to Zamila Khatun, mother of Manjarul Islam Rana, at her residence at the city's Boyra Muzgunni area, around 100 yards away from the stadium. The BCB president gave assurance to Zamila Khatun that they would extend their cooperation to the family.

Manjarul Islam Rana, a former Bangladeshi cricketer was killed in a road accident at Dumuria upazila in the district on March 16 in 2007 from a tragic motorbike accident. His friend Setu, another cricketer was also killed in the accident.

'Never even in a dream'

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because I always made runs at different stages."

"I never thought about a hundred, even in a dream, which is why there was no plan when I came to bat and I just hit the bad balls. But still my main target is to bowl well," said Hasan, who dedicated his maiden hundred to his late father.

Hasan admitted that he was nervous at 98. "Yes, I was under huge pressure because the hundred was in my mind. I first thought about the hundred when I crossed the 70-mark," said Hasan, who was not thinking of another record -- crossing 118 to become the highest scorer as a number ten batsman. Instead, he was looking forward to give as much support as possible to senior partner Mahmudullah Riyad so that they can reach a strong position in the match.

Hasan also said that the wicket was fantastic for batting, even though Bangladesh's specialist batsmen could not take advantage of it.

DRU Media cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Last year's runners-up The Daily Star were eliminated from the Walton-DRU Media Cricket from the quarterfinal stage after suffering a 50-run defeat against holders Maasranga TV at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday. Maasranga will now face Ittefaq in semifinal today while Daily Shokaler Khabor will play against Baishakhi TV in the other semifinal.

In the other quarterfinals yesterday, Shokaler Khabor beat Bangladesh by 18 runs, Ittefaq beat Diganta TV by two wickets and Baishakhi TV beat Channel i by 11 runs.

Div I football

SPORTS REPORTER

Jatrabari Krira Chakra defeated T&T Club of Motijheel 2-1 in their Popular Life Insurance Senior Division Football League match at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

Arif Hossain put Jatrabari ahead in the 65th minute and doubled the lead in the 71st minute. Mohammad Helal scored a consolation goal for T&T in injury time.

Hasan ton

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repute, Hasan's position as specialist fast bowler makes the achievement even more remarkable.

A lot of credit for Hasan's innings should probably go to his partner Mahmudullah as the tall Bangladeshi middle-order batsman played a brisk yet responsible knock, rotating the strike expertly. Mahmudullah scored 72 from 89 balls with nine boundaries; his second consecutive half-century of the series.

For the Khulna public and even the opposition West Indies, the events of the last session began to take a fairytale feel and Hasan's hundred served only to drive home that fact. As far as opening days go, Khulna could hardly have asked for a better debut. As neither could have Hasan. The West Indies though, are probably soul searching.

Pioneer Super League draw held

SPORTS REPORTER

The Super League of Dhaka (North & South) City Corporation Pioneer Football League will get underway from November 26 at three different venues following the completion of the preliminary round where some 83 teams took part.

A total of 20 teams -- the champions and the runners-up from 10 venues -- qualified for the Super League and have been divided into four groups through the draw which was held yesterday at the BFF premises. The matches will be held at the BFF Artificial turf, BG Press ground and the Military Museum ground.

INDIA BLACKOUT Media demand intervention from ICC

AFP, New Delhi

Media organisations called Tuesday on world cricket's governing body to intervene in a dispute over coverage restrictions of the Test series between India and England, saying the row was damaging the game.

The News Media Coalition, writing on behalf of a group of news agencies, newspapers and publishers, urged the International Cricket Council (ICC) to "use its influence and global standing" to persuade the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to lift the curbs which have triggered a text and photo blackout of the series.

"We recognise that the ICC does not have direct authority of the media policy of individual national cricket bodies but view the ICC as the collective custodians of the good name of the sport, fair play and the promotion of the game," said the letter whose signatories include Agence France-Presse.

"The BCCI's policy of locking out an important sector of the news industry risks damaging much that the ICC has sought to achieve."

News agencies such as AFP, Thomson-Reuters and the Associated Press have all suspended text and photo coverage of the four Test series.

Niaz ends 29-year wait



SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Niaz Murshed ended a 29-year wait as he regained the title of the National Chess Championship when he drew against FM Debaraj Chatterjee in the 13th and final round of the 38th edition of the championship at the Media Center of Bangladesh Olympic Association yesterday.

Niaz was a champion for four successive years from 1979 to 1982 after the introduction of the championship in 1974, but after that he opted to stay out of the championship till 2001. In the last 11 years though, he could not win any title and finally he did it as he secured 10 points from 13 games.

Niaz started the tournament well before derailing in the middle rounds. However, he bounced back in the last

three rounds to share the lead with GM Ziaur Rahman and GM Reefat Bin Sattar.

At the close of the penultimate round on Tuesday, Niaz shared the lead with six-time champion Reefat who yesterday lost to FM Taibur Rahman to finish third through a tiebreaking along with 13-time champion GM Ziaur Rahman as both earned 9.5 points. Zia became runners-up.

IM Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar and IM Abu Sufian Shaki became fourth and fifth respectively having 9 points each while Debaraj, who had a good chance of earning an IM norm earlier, failed to keep the momentum after the eighth round, and finished sixth with eight points.

In the final round matches, Zia drew against Parag, Sagar beat Mostafa, Shakil drew against Robin, Nasir beat Jamal and Javed drew against Sheraj as a total of 14 players took part in the championship.



NIAZ MURSHED

PROTEAS PREFER SPIN TO PACE

Second Test from today



AFP, Adelaide

Skipper Graeme Smith has backed leg-spinner Imran Tahir to trouble Australia's left-handers as South Africa seek to establish control of the three-match series in Thursday's Adelaide Test.

The Proteas have made two changes for the second Test, bringing in Tahir and debutant Faf Du Plessis, following a draw in the first Test in Brisbane.

Tahir takes over from paceman Rory Kleinveldt, who was wicketless and ineffective on his Test debut in Brisbane, while Du Plessis comes in for the injured JP Duminy.

Adelaide traditionally takes spin late in the match and Smith is banking on wrist-spinner Tahir to make a valuable contribution with his wrong'un turning away from the left-handers.

Australia's team is stacked with five left-handers among its top seven batsmen and the Proteas are banking on Tahir to make an impact after being left out of the series opener on an unresponsive Gabba wicket.

Pakistan-born Tahir, 33, has captured 26 wickets in 10 Tests since his debut against Australia in Cape Town last year and Smith is confident he will do his bit in Adelaide.

"Hopefully there's a lot of rough [bowlers' foot marks], not for me, but for the Australian left-handers and he's certainly used the rough well in the times he's played for us," Smith said.

"He created a lot of stress for Andrew Strauss and the left-handers in England so the wrong'un turning away from the bat is not a bad option. He's got enough to really contribute in this game."

Smith added that Tahir must have faith in himself to stick at it over the five days of

a Test match.

"Naturally, he'll be anxious to always do well, that's Imran's personality, but he's contributed in key ways for us over the last few Test matches and his role is important," he said.

"Not everything is going to go your way in Test cricket, but you have to be able to find a way to contribute over those five days and I think Imran has done that well for us and I think all of us would love to see him pick up a huge wicket haul.

"Imran is the frontline spinner and we've backed him."

Don't wait for it

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dancing down the wicket to Veerasammy Permalu and mis-hitting to mid on. Nasir had played the innings at a frantic pace and fell to a risk too many, at a time when the team was nowhere near safe.

Abul Hasan then played a blinder to save the Tigers' blushes on a pitch where 193 for eight is inexcusable. While it was a memorable achievement, it can only be expected that the next time he tries to hit one of the 13 fours or three sixes he smote yesterday, he might not be at the wicket for the next delivery. He is, after all, a lower-order batsman.

In fact, the only specialist batsman to emerge with any credit from the first day is Mahmudullah, who dealt with the crisis of the situation with the cool head that he has become associated with, and guided the young Hasan to what was a momentous achievement.

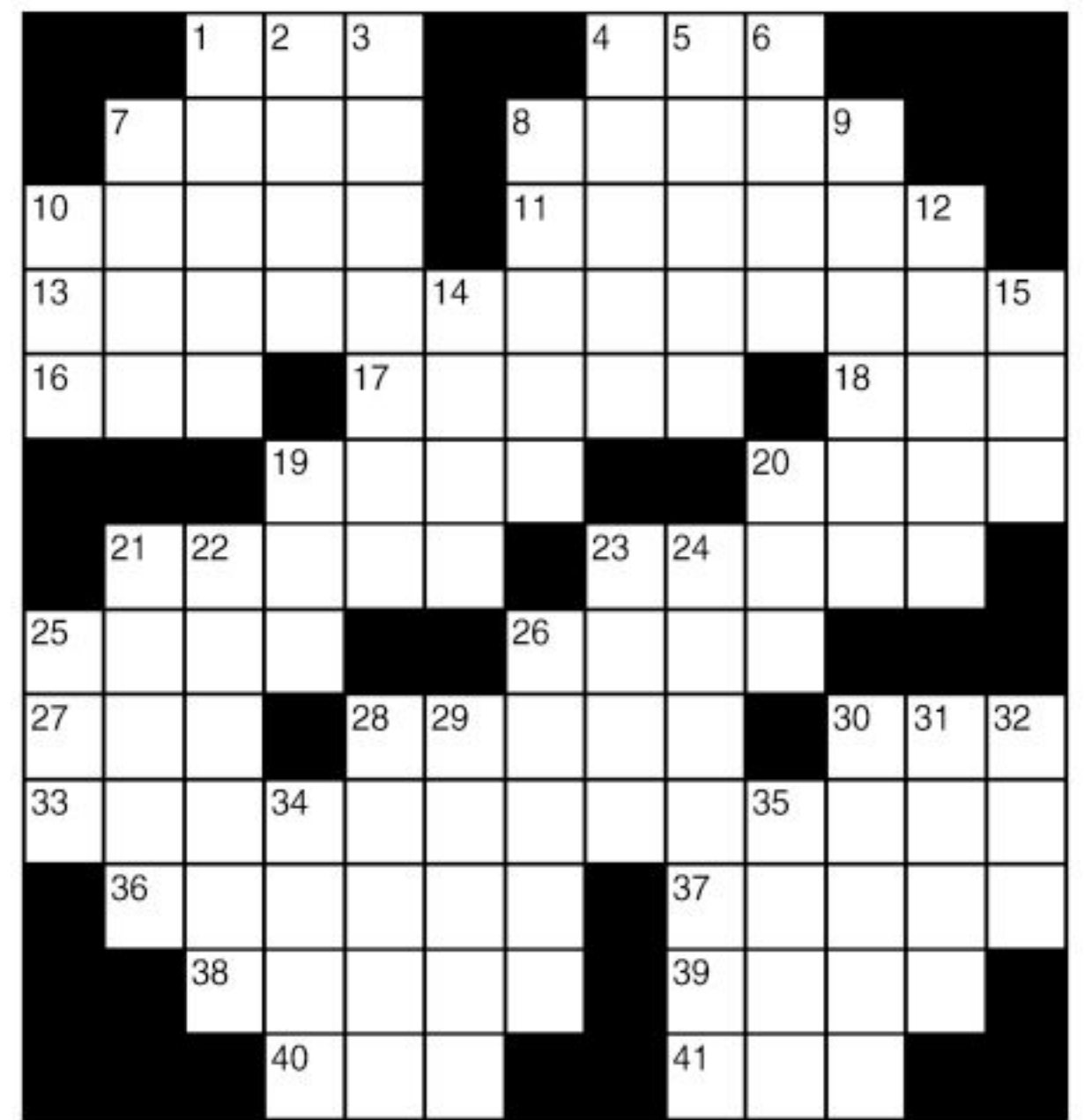
It is a happy occasion that a Bangladesh player achieved such groundbreaking success, but if it serves to mask the frailties of his teammates, in the long term it could be seen as a bane rather than a boon.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Integers (Abbr.)
 - 4 Journey segment
 - 7 Mr. Crockett
 - 8 Baby's ailment
 - 10 Roof edges
 - 11 Parka
 - 13 Square one
 - 16 Chum
 - 17 Jagged
 - 18 Cattle call?
 - 19 Portent
 - 20 Show bore-
 - 21 Accumulate
 - 23 Carriages
 - 25 Coagulate
 - 26 "Peter Pan" pooch
 - 27 Existed
 - 28 Odd-balls
 - 30 Extinct bird
 - 2 Finished
 - 3 Methods
 - 4 Years (for)
 - 5 Run off to
 - 6 Early helicopter
 - 7 Information
 - 8 Church
 - 9 Alligator's cousin
 - 10 Kraskin's claim
 - 12 Recognizes
 - 14 Angers
 - 15 Heavy weight
 - 19 Cheerios
 - 20 Nay
 - 21 Antitheft device
 - 22 Tile art
 - 23 Variety of shark
 - 24 As a substitute
 - 25 5 percent of a ton (Abbr.)
 - 26 Kathmandu's land
 - 28 Travel-ocity
 - 29 Newark's county
 - 30 Strength
 - 31 Sibling-less
 - 32 Candle count?
 - 34 Mosque bigwig
 - 35 Snack in a shell

Solution time: 21 mins.

R	A	N	G	U	S	E	B	A	B	A
S	L	O	E	N	O	T	E	G	O	S
V	I	I	Z	U	C	H	I	N	I	N
F	A	R	S	N	I	P	H	E	N	N
S	C	R	A	P	L	E	T	T	U	C
A	P	E	A	L	I	M	R	O	W	
C	A	B	B	A	G	E	H	I	N	G
T	O	N	N	E	S	P	I	N	A	C
B	R	O	O	C	O	L	I	O	G	L
S	E	T	H	A	U	K	R	O	D	O
P	L	A	I	Y	T	E	E	G	G	S



CRYPTOQUIP

PRQE QOZVF OEA VMZAF
OZQ HQSSKEH OZMCEA PKSR
EM LZMJVQY, K FCLLMFQ
SROS'F EMJKVKS I YMJKVKSI.

Yesterday's Cryptogram: AS HE MUST RELOCATE, THE HARDWARE STORE OWNER IS DREAMING ABOUT BUYING A WRENCH-STYLE HOUSE. Today's Cryptogram Clue: E equals N