

Abahani, Jamal joint top

SPORTS REPORTER



Holders Abahani and title contenders Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club notched their third successive victory to stay joint top in the Grameenphone Bangladesh Premier League after beating their respective rivals at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Abahani handed a 2-0 defeat to Brothers Union to extend their eight-match unbeaten run against Brothers. Brazilian hitman Generoso Da Silva struck a brace for Abahani.

A last gasp strike from Nigerian Mike Otojareri helped Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club beat last season's runners-up Muktijoddha Sangsad 1-0 in the keenly contested match under the floodlights despite Jamal's Nigerian coach Joseph Afusi being sent off on 40 minutes.

Both Sheikh Jamal and Muktijoddha Sangsad came into the

tie on the back of two successive victories and put up a spirited show before the previous side came close to taking a lead in the 20th minute but winger Shakil Ahmed saw his left-footer rattle the crossbar.

Five minutes later, Jamal goalkeeper Maksudur Rahman foiled an effort from Muktijoddha Sangsad's Brazilian Thiago Tyson Silva while Silva's teammate Mohammad Yousuf squandered a chance inside the box.

After the resumption, Sheikh Jamal stepped up the attack and found the lead in the 79th minute with Otojareri heading a Raihan Hasan long throw-in home to break the hearts of Muktijoddha Sangsad.

In the day's first match, Brazilian forward Da Silva, who was uncertain in the starting eleven, struck both in the second half after Brothers' Brazilian hitman Servalli Fabio missed a spot kick in the first half.

Brothers were awarded a penalty

kick in the very eleventh minute after Abahani defender Mohammad Sujan bought down Brazilian Garcia Anderson but Fabio's weak shot was parried by goalkeeper Shahidul Alam Shohel, who dived to his left to stop the shot.

It worked as a wake-up call for the Sky Blues.

Five minutes later, Abahani's Silva saw his left-footed shot inside the box come back off the post while Abahani goalkeeper Shohel managed to foil a 25-yard free kick from Anderson at the cost of a corner two minutes from the break.

After the resumption, Abahani pressed hard for the lead and went ahead three minutes into the second half with Silva rising high to nod right-back Atiqur Rahman Meshu's cross home. The Brazilian showed his dazzling performance to dance past three Brothers players and goalkeeper Piaruzzaman Piru to fire home in the 61st minute.



Abahani's Brazilian striker Generoso Da Silva (R) fires home one of his two goals against Brothers Union during a Bangladesh Premier League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Nat'l youth hockey from tomorrow

SPORTS REPORTER

The ad-hoc committee of the Bangladesh Hockey Federation has kept the ball rolling on the turf round the year as the National Youth (Under-18) Hockey Championship is all set to get underway at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium from tomorrow.

Some 24 teams, split into eight groups, will first play the round-robin matches and the top team of each group will advance to the eight-team second round which will also be contested in another group phase.

Peter, Ben left out

3rd Test against SA from today

AFP, Perth

Fast bowlers Peter Siddle and Ben Hilfenhaus were Thursday left out of the Australian team for the third Test in Perth on Friday after their exhausting workload in Adelaide.

Instead pace quartet Mitchell Johnson, Mitchell Starc, Josh Hazlewood and John Hastings were named in the 12-man squad, while star all-rounder Shane Watson will play after recovering from a calf injury.

Sammy's eyes

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instead of three, did not worry Sammy. "We have a lot of explosive batsmen in our side. We are a boundary-hitting team and it hasn't changed since we started playing cricket and I don't see it changing."

Although stating that 5-0 was the aim, he did pay his opponents due respect after having to fight hard to win the Test series 2-0. "They [Bangladesh] keep coming back when you think they're down. In the last Test, the No. 8 and No. 10 put on a partnership. We are not taking them for granted. Once we play to our full potential, we could be a very destructive force."

And the Chris Gayle question was bound to come up, especially after the explosive left-handed opener had a Test series to forget. "Chris turns up anytime. He is the best batsman in limited-overs cricket right now. He's the most dangerous in any format. I am not worried about him. He has his routine, and has scored all over the world. Good for us if he's due some runs, not for Bangladesh."

Jewel just fails to sparkle



SPORTS REPORTER

On the first day of the National Swimming Championship, Jewel Ahmed broke his idol Rubel Rana's national record in 400m individual medley but the 18-year old swimmer could not beat his idol in the 50m backstroke on the second day at the Syed Nazrul Islam National Swimming Complex in Mirpur yesterday.

Jewel of Bangladesh Army however fought neck to neck with SA Games gold medalist and Navy swimmer Rubel Rana to miss the gold narrowly. Jewel had to be content with a silver medal, clocking 00:29.73 seconds, just 00:00.06 seconds more than Rubel clocked to win the gold 50m backstroke medal. Kanchan Mia of Bangladesh Army finished third with a time of 00:29.99 seconds.

Jewel Ahmed had however something to say in the individual medley as he finished far ahead of his teammate Kamal Hossain to bag gold in the 200m individual medley timing 2:18.70 seconds. Kamal clocked 2:21.99 seconds to win silver while bronze went to Palash Chowdhury, who timed 2:23.66 seconds.

Mahfizur Rahman Sagar of Bangladesh Navy stole the show on the second day as he kept his dominance in the freestyle events following his 50m freestyle triumph on the first day. Sagar yesterday won gold medals in both 200m and 400m freestyle events clocking 2:05.53 and 4:26.62 seconds respectively.

The feats of Sagar also helped Bangladesh Navy topple table-topper Bangladesh Army to finish the day on the top with eight gold, two silver and as many bronze.

Bangladesh Army was followed by Bangladesh Navy with seven gold, 12 silver and five bronze while Bangladesh Ansar was in the third position with seven gold, five silver and five bronze.

BCB members given

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after the meeting.

Sajjadul Alam, who was the vice-president in the last elected committee, also informed that the board would soon advertise for the post of the head coach along with other members of the team management.

"Regarding the Pakistan tour the BCB will ask the International Cricket Council [ICC] to give their security assessment and after that the board will take further decision," informed Sajjadul Alam.

"Besides, an inspection team of the ICC will inspect the venues for the World Twenty 2014 from December 9-12 and submit their report subsequently," he added.

The committees chairmen are Mahbubul Anam (working committee & facilities), Enayet Hossain Siraj (cricket operations committee & women's wing), Afzalur Rahman Sinha (finance committee), Ahmed Sajjadul Alam (marketing and commercial committee), Jalal Yunus (media committee & CCDM), Gazi Ashraf Hossain (game development), Naimur Rahman (tournament committee), Khaled Mahmud (age-level committee & umpires committee), Gazi Golam Mortaza (disciplinary committee & tender and purchase), Lokman Hossain Bhuiyan (grounds committee), Dr IH Mallick (medical committee & logistic and protocol committee) and AZM Nasiruddin (audit committee).

Tearful Ricky says bye

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to call it a day.

"Over the last couple of weeks my level of performance hasn't been good enough," said Ponting, who had already been dumped from the one-day and Twenty20 international squads.

"My passion and love for the game hasn't changed but at the end of the day [the decision] was based on my results.

"In this series so far they have not been up to the level required of batsmen and players in the Australian team," he added.

"I'm glad I have got the opportunity to finish on my terms."

Ponting insisted the decision was

entirely his own and he had not been pushed by selectors. The normally stoic batsman, affectionately known as Punter, said he was highly emotional when he told his teammates.

"I tried to say a lot but I didn't get much out," he said. "They'd never seen me emotional before, but I was this morning."

Michael Clarke, the current captain, was close to tears following Ponting into the press conference, saying he would be sorely missed and the announcement took him by surprise.

"I didn't have a feeling it was coming," Clarke said of his friend and mentor. "Ricky spoke to me after Adelaide and obviously made his decision over the last few days."

"The boys [in the team] are obviously hurting right now. He's been an amazing player for a long time."

BOA ELECTION CSO panel makes clean sweep

SPORTS REPORTER

The Combined Sports Organisers' Panel led by Bangladesh's ambassador to Kuwait, Syed Shahed Reza, made a clean sweep winning all the posts of the Bangladesh Olympic Association's polls held at the BOA Media Center yesterday.

Of the 37-member committee, there had been polls in 19 posts as others posts including president candidate Army Chief Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan, secretary general candidate Syed Shahed Reza had earlier been elected unopposed.

Meanwhile, there had been no other panels in the contest except some individual candidates.

Harunur Rashed (70 votes), Sheikh Bashir Ahmed (61) and Mizanur Rahman Manu (50) have been elected vice presidents from Olympic discipline quota. The nearest rival ASM Ali Kabir bagged 20 votes. Anjan Chowdhury Pintu and Rafia Akhter Dolly had earlier been elected unopposed.

Ashiqur Rahman Miku (62) and Imtiaz Khan Babul (55) have been elected deputy secretary generals as AK Sarker was defeated after bagging 29 votes. Badal Roy had earlier been elected deputy secretary unopposed.

Shatadal make solid start

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Shatadal Club made a good start in the Chittagong Premier Football League as they beat Chittagong Mohammedan Sporting Blues 2-1 at the MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

Khaled Saifullah struck both the goals for the winners in the 32nd and 74th minutes while Tony scored for Mohammedan in the 65th minute.

Kiwis end 14-year wait



AFP, Colombo

New Zealand registered their first Test win in Sri Lanka in 14 years Thursday, overcoming Angelo Mathews's defiance in the second and final Test in Colombo to level the series 1-1.

New Zealand won by 167 runs, bowling Sri Lanka out for a second innings total of 195 in the last session of the fifth and final day at the P Sara Oval as the hosts chased a 363-run target.

All-rounder Mathews offered stiff resistance to the tourists, top-scoring with a fighting 84 which included one six and 11 fours. He was the last man dismissed after batting for more than two sessions.

New Zealand, who had lost five successive Tests

before this match, put in an improved all-round show in Colombo, posting 412 in the first innings and their bowlers, especially the pacemen, delivered in both innings.

The tourists tightened their grip on the match on Wednesday when they reduced the hosts to 47-4, but had to work hard for success on a fifth-day wicket, which was still good for batting.

New Zealand got just one wicket in the morning session and two in the second before completing the job with the second new ball in the evening.

Fast bowlers Trent Boult and Tim Southee each finished with three wickets.

SCOREBOARD

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 412 (Taylor 142, Williamson 135, Flynn 53; Herath 6-103)

SRI LANKA: First innings 244 (Samaraweera 76; Southee 5-62, Boult 4-42)

NEW ZEALAND: Second innings 194-9 declared (Taylor 74; Herath 3-67)

SRI LANKA: Second innings (overnight 47-4)

Paranavitana lbw b Southee	0
Dilshan c van Wyk b Southee	14
Sangakkara b Bracewell	16
M Jayawardene c van Wyk b Bracewell	5
Samaraweera run out	7
Mathews c Guptill b Boult	84
P Jayawardene c van Wyk b Astle	29
Randiv c Guptill b Boult	0
Kulasekara c Williamson b Boult	18
Eranga c Williamson b Southee	0
Herath not out	6
Extras: (b-4, lb-11, w-1)	16
Total: (All out in 85.5 overs)	195
Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-35, 3-41, 4-46, 5-63, 6-119, 7-122, 8-168, 9-169	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Southee	20	5	58	3
Boult	17.5	6	33	3
Bracewell	13	6	13	2
Patel	16	7	20	0
Astle	18	4	56	1
Flynn	1	1	0	0

Result: New Zealand won by 167 runs and level two-Test series 1-1.

'It'll be strength v skill'

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were a few big teams. We probably play consistently well in the one-day format, so we are confident," he said before going on to the handicap of not having Shakib for the first two games. "Obviously we don't have our best performer [Shakib Al Hasan], but there are a few new players and it's an opportunity for them. If they can play to their potential and our senior players can combine with them hopefully as a team we will see a good one-day series."

Shakib's absence looms large over the first two games of the series.

"If we had Shakib we could have taken an extra batsman depending on the wicket. Now our batsmen have to take more responsibility and bowlers also need to do the same as we have one option reduced. Those who are in the team are also capable, but it will be challenging for them," said Mushfiqu about the absence of his star performer who last missed a match for Bangladesh in July 2008 against Pakistan in Karachi. The seven matches he has missed so far for Bangladesh since his debut in August 2006 have all been because of his responsibilities as a student sit-

ting for his intermediate exams; this is the first through injury.

From talking about his own trump player the skipper's attention was drawn to the opposition's biggest draw -- Gayle. The batsman who instils fear in every bowler's heart has been kept quiet so far, and Mushfiqu hoped that the trend continued.

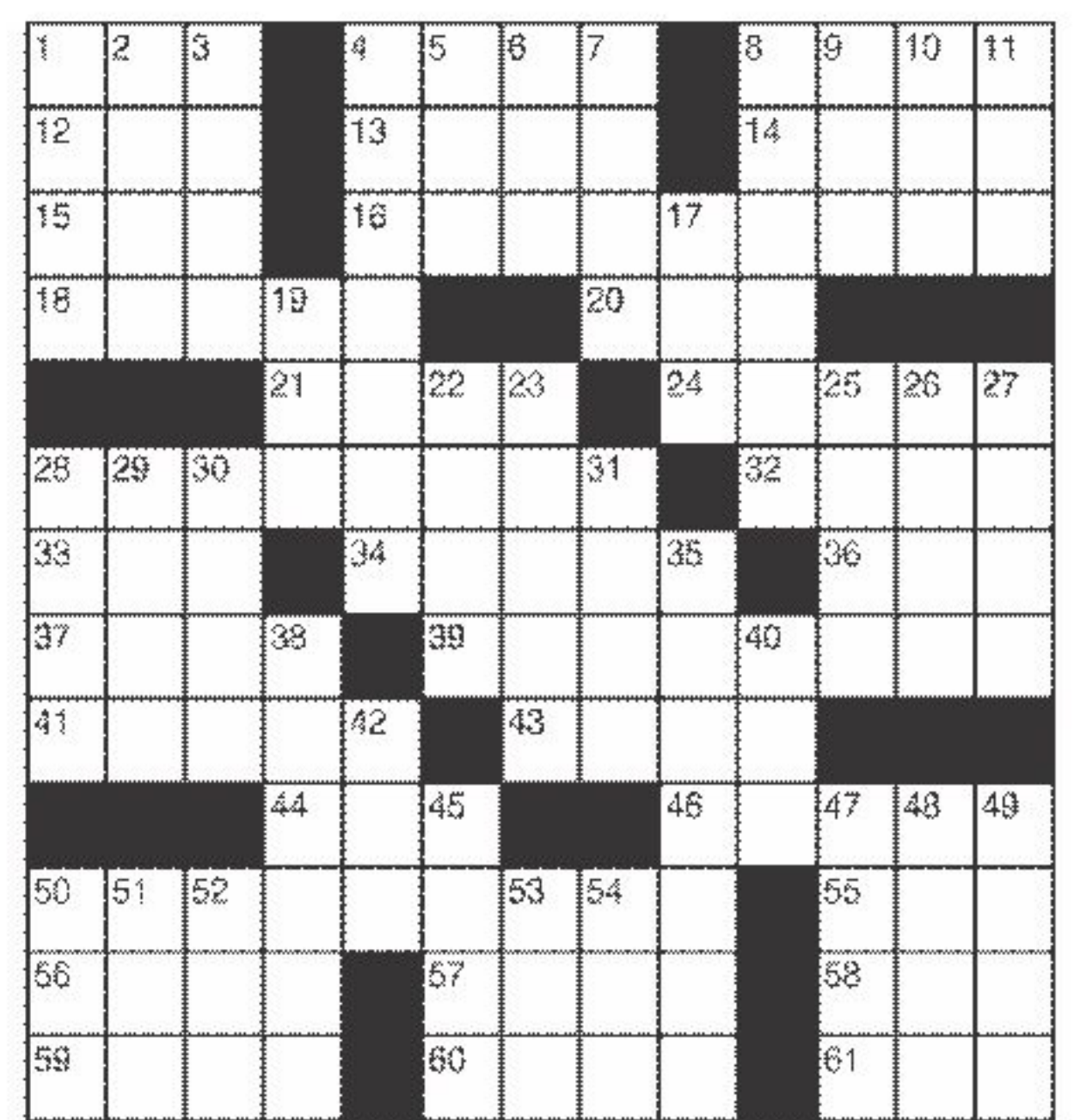
"We have special plans for all their batsmen, not just for Gayle. You really can't do anything if Gayle has a good day. We were successful in the Tests as he did not score too many runs, hopefully we will be able to do the same in ODIs."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	44 Atmosphere	3 Boo-boo's mentor	23 Crenshaw, for one
1 Express	46 Lowly soldier	4 Promotional trips	25 Legal document
4 Leprechauns' dances	50 Super-easy decision	5 UN workers agcy.	26 Tragic
8 Quest	55 Fish eggs	6 Econ. statistic	27 Calendar period
12 Area 51 vessel	56 British noble	7 Ganges garment	28 DEA agent
13 Arm bore	57 Leslie Caron role	8 Rub elbows	29 Hodge-podge
14 Sandwich treat	58 Pistol	9 Web address	30 Coop group
15 Tatter	59 Salver	10 Born	31 Actress Downey
16 "Consider it done"	60 Bit of plankton	11 Male turkey	35 Punch-bowl contents, maybe
18 Pat down	61 Conclusion	17 Reaction to fireworks	38 With all one's heart
20 Charged bit		19 "Star Wars" initials	40 Pitch
21 Consider		22 Harrow rival	42 Spy org.
24 "Greetings, partner"			45 Latvia's capital
28 Nolan Ryan specialty			47 Incite
32 Soft cheese			48 Proper subject?
33 Brewery product			49 Incine
34 One's performances?			50 Profit
36 401(k) alternative			51 Rowing need
37 Peel			52 Lingerie item
39 "Don't sweat it"			53 Zero
41 Trig ratio, for short			54 Early bird?
43 "Peter Pan" dog			

Solution time: 21 mins.

U	S	A	F	C	A	M	P	S	P	A
P	A	L	E	A	L	A	R	W	O	
S	W	I	N	G	V	O	T	E	T	R
			C	A	S	I		C	O	N
I	N	S	E	T		B	E	R	G	
M	O	W	S		L	A	U	D	A	B
P	S	I		S	A	B	R	E	A	U
S	E	N	T	E	N	C	E		O	N
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J	A	D	E	D		B	O	U	T	
U	F	O		S	W	I	N	G	S	E
T	A	O		I	O	T	A		A	R
E	A	R		N	O	G	N		T	A



CRYPTOQUIP

RP HVN YNB XHIQVJX ZPBD O
B W D S V O K X " Q Z I " Z A K
" M Z Y V S , " E V N J K HVN E Z J J
B W V X D Y N A E W - N Z B R V A I Z O M X ?

Yesterday's Cryptiquip: I SUPPOSE SEVERAL FAMILIES OF CLOTHING MAKERS COULD DECIDE TO LIVE TOGETHER IN A TAILOR PARK.
Today's Cryptiquip Clue: H equals Y