

BGB, Police in handball final

SPORTS REPORTER

Boarder Guard of Bangladesh (BGB) and Bangladesh Police moved into the final of the Exim Bank 22nd National Men's Handball Championship beating their respective rivals in the semifinals at the Shaheed (captain) M Mansur Ali National Handball Stadium yesterday.

BGB handed a 32-17 defeat to Kushtia after dominating the first half 17-7 while Bangladesh Police thrashed Tangail 40-25 after leading the first half 23-13. This will be a repeat of last year's finals where BGB emerged champions.

The third-place deciding match between Kushtia and Tangail will take place today while the date of the final is yet to be finalised.

Team first

FROM PAGE 16

long if his maiden hundred did not help the team win the match. I also scored few hundreds, but what people remember is whether the innings played any role in the team's success. So, team must come first," opined the experienced opener.

Tamim said that the condition will be different in Mirpur comparing to Khulna.

"Dew will be a factor as all the three matches will be played under lights. The good thing is that we had played day-night matches here during the Asia Cup, so we know how we have to set our plan. And the most important thing is that you have to play good and positive cricket, no matter whether the condition is in your favour or not," said Tamim.

He also showed full respect to his opponents. "You should realise that West Indies have some world-class and dangerous players in their side and if you prepare a World XI then you must take three or four players from their side. So, you have to be careful against them," cautioned the opener.

WI back

FROM PAGE 16

against a home team in tune with the conditions and several players in good form.

So it is Gayle and Samuels who have to perform, and the world knows that on their day no side in world cricket can resist their prowess. Having done so well so far, Bangladesh will be buoyed by the knowledge that only one more match in which they neutralise the threat of Gayle and Samuels may be enough to win a memorable series.

It's still quite a task, but their focus on starting well and carrying on with the momentum, especially with the ball, has worked well so far. There is no reason why it will not happen at least once out of three tries.

Hasan too out

FROM PAGE 16

of Bangladesh Cricket Board.

SQUAD
Mushfiqur Rahim (captain), Mahmudullah Riyad, Tamim Iqbal, Anamul Haque, Jahurul Islam, Naem Islam, Mominul Haque, Nasir Hossain, Shohag Gazi, Abdur Razzak, Rubel Hossain, Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, Shaiful Islam, Ziaur Rahman.



South Africa players celebrate with the mace after they beat Australia in the third and final Test to win the three-match series 1-0 and retain the top position at the WACA in Perth yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

SA rout Aussies to stay atop

Cricket

AFP, Perth

South Africa thrashed Australia by 309 runs in the third Test on Monday to hold on to their number one Test ranking and ruin an emotional farewell for veteran batsman Ricky Ponting.

Set a mammoth target of 632 runs to win, Australia lost their first wicket on the second ball of the fourth day and they were eventually dismissed for 322 as the Proteas sealed the three-Test series 1-0.

Graeme Smith's South Africans became the first team in two decades to defeat Australia on home soil in consecutive tours, with the West Indies the previous team to achieve it in 1992-93.

Smith said winning two series in Australia in a row was his finest moment in cricket.

"It has been a tremendous effort," he said.

"I am extremely humbled ... for us it means the world, there are people in our set-up who have taken many beatings on tours of Australia.

"We know what is required to win here, we have been a part of something really incredible and special. This is the proudest achievement of my career."

The South Africans achieved it with sporting good grace after forming a

highly unusual honour guard for Ponting, 37, Test cricket's second highest run-scorer, as he emerged for his final innings.

"I was a little bit embarrassed and wish it didn't happen that way, but it was an amazing gesture by Graeme and the South African team," Ponting said.

In their 200th Test since being allowed back into international cricket, South Africa were only denied their biggest-ever victory in a match decided in the fourth innings by a defiant 87-run last-wicket stand.

Number 10 Mitchell Starc smashed an unbeaten 68 off 43 balls to share in the highest-ever last wicket partnership at Perth's WACA Ground with Nathan Lyon 31 off 43 balls.

South Africa's win also continued their remarkable away record, with the Proteas not beaten in an away series since losing 2-0 in Sri Lanka in 2006. They have lost none of their three Tests at the WACA, with two wins and a draw.

The Australians went into the match as the form side in the two prior drawn Tests.

Australian captain Michael Clarke lamented his team's inability to win the second Test in Adelaide and also their performance on day two in Perth, when they collapsed with the bat to be dismissed for 163, and then watched South

Africa plunder 206 runs in the final session to take total control.

"South Africa showed why they are the number one Test team in the world," he said.

"What South Africa showed us was when they had momentum, they ran with it as long as they could and when they didn't have momentum they did everything in their power to grab it back."

Australia needed to produce an unprecedented run chase to win the match, but that never looked a possibility after David Warner (29) fell to Vernon Philander (2-41) in the first over of the day.

In his 168th and final Test, Ponting came to the crease at 81 for two, but the fairytale ending did not materialise and he made just eight in his last innings.

He lasted only 23 deliveries and 40 minutes before he was caught at first slip by Jacques Kallis attempting to force spinner Robin Peterson off the back foot just before lunch.

"I've been lucky to play as many Tests as I have and cherished every moment, it was always going to end at some stage I guess," Ponting said.

Ponting finished his career with 13,378 Test runs at 51.85, including 41 centuries, but with just 32 runs in his last series at 6.40.

Ponting also shares the record of 168 Test appear-

ances for his country with his predecessor as Australian captain, Steve Waugh.

Clarke and Mike Hussey briefly steadied the Australian ship with a 58-run stand for the fifth wicket, before both fell in quick succession just before tea as the Proteas turned the screw.

Clarke was stumped from the bowling of Peterson (3-127) for 44, while Hussey became the 13th Australian to pass 6,000 Test runs before being caught behind for 26 from the bowling of Dale Steyn (3-72).

SCOREBOARD

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 225 (Du Plessis 78 not out; Lyon 3-41)

AUSTRALIA: First innings 163 (Wade 68; Steyn 4-40)

SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings 569 (Amla 196, De Villiers 169; Starc 6-154)

AUSTRALIA: Second innings (overnight 40-0)

Cowan c Elgar b Steyn	53
Warner c Smith b Philander	29
Watson c Smith b Morkel	25
Ponting c Kallis b Peterson	8
Clarke st de Villiers b Peterson	44
Hussey c de Villiers b Steyn	26
Wade c Smith b Peterson	10
Hastings c Smith b Morkel	20
Johnson c de Villiers b Philander	3
Starc not out	68
Lyon c Smith b Steyn	31
Extras: (lb-3, w-2)	5
Total: (All out in 82.5 overs)	322
Fall of wickets: 1-40, 2-81, 3-102, 4-130, 5-188, 6-198, 7-198, 8-204, 9-235	
Bowler	O M R W
Steyn	22.5 6 72 3
Philander	21 8 41 2
Morkel	16 2 57 2
Peterson	20 2 127 3
Elgar	1 0 4 0
Du Plessis	2 0 18 0

Result: South Africa won by 309 runs and clinched 3-Test series 1-0.

Finn fit for third Test

PTI, Kolkata

England fast bowler Steven Finn, who missed the first two Test matches against India due to thigh injury, declared himself available for the third Test beginning here on Wednesday.

"If I'm needed, I'll be ready for the [third] Test. I've bowled about six overs at the nets and feeling quite okay," Finn, who proved his fitness bowling England's Performance Programme team to victory against DY Patil Academy XI with impressive figures of four for 50 at Mumbai last week, said.

"It feels really nice if your bowling coach is impressed. But I'm not the one who is going to read too much into it. I would stay in my bubble," he added.

There was some concern that the key English pacer would be ruled out of the entire four-Test series after he missed the first Test in Ahmedabad but he stayed with the team for a rehab before proving his fitness in a three-day match against DY Patil Academy XI from November 27 to 29.

"For sometime, I felt I would have to leave early. Previously I thought to be back by the second Test, but it took longer than I expected," he added.

The tall pacer may come into the team in place of a struggling Stuart Board who went wicketless and did not bowl in the second innings in England's 10-wicket win over India in the second Test at the Wankhede stadium in Mumbai.

Finn, however, defended Board, saying he was going through a bad patch.

Third ODI

FROM PAGE 16

bank as well as from the booth at the stadium," said Gazi Ashraf Hossain, organising secretary of the ongoing series.

"The response was immense and people have been really crying for tickets. We are yet to decide about when the tickets for the fourth game go on sale. We will decide tomorrow," added Gazi Ashraf.

The fourth and fifth matches will be held at Mirpur on December 7 and 8.

LOCAL snippets

SPORTS REPORTER

Badda Jagarani Sangsad posted a single-goal win over Dhaka Wanderers Club in the Popular Life Insurance Senior Division Football League at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium yesterday. Rubel Mia struck the all-important goal one minute from time.

Dinajpur, BKSP win big

Meheruzzaman struck seven goals including a treble to power Dinajpur to a massive 14-0 win over Munsiganj in the Agrani Bank 23rd National Youth Hockey Championship at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Dinajpur led the first half through Meheruzzaman's treble but they after the break launched the real onslaught scoring 11 more goals to complete the rout in the one-sided affair.

Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Prishtanan (BKSP) also followed the footsteps of Dinajpur to hand a massive 13-0 defeat to Kishorganj, thanks to a hattrick from Deen Islam. In the day's other match, Naogaon defeated Narayanganj 2-1 with Azir Hossain and Hrydoy netting one goal each.

BCL in January

The Bangladesh Championship League, a second-tier professional football league, which was initially scheduled for a November 10 opening, will now begin in the first week of January 2013.

On the face of demand from the participating clubs, the Bangladesh Football Federation had already extended the last date of the players' transfer for one month to December 10 and shifted the matches of the league to January.

The second-tier professional league, involving eight teams, will also be held in Chittagong as Chittagong Abahani will host seven matches of the league.

Pioneer Football

Mohammad Rohit struck five goals to guide Raipura Football Academy to a 12-0 win over Mir Hajirbagh KC in the Dhaka City Corporation Pioneer Football League at the BG ground yesterday.

Apart from Rohit's strikes, Saiful Islam, Sumon Ali and Jewel scored twice each while Shohel Rana netted one goal for the winners.

In the day's other matches, Akku Football Academy defeated GBHB 4-1, Matuail Udayan Sangsad beat Lalbagh Tarun Sangha 2-0, Narinda Junior Lions Club thrashed KR Boys Samaj Kalyan

Metro win

SCORES IN BRIEF

RANGPUR: First innings 129 all out in 43.5 overs and second innings 266 for 9 declared in 73 overs (Liton 62, Tarik 51; Talha 3-68) v DHAKA METRO: First innings 253 all out in 76.4 overs and second innings 147 for 1 in 25.4 overs (Shamsur 107 not out, Mehrab 21 not out; Sohrawardi 1-34)

Result: Dhaka Metro won by 9 wickets. Player-of-the-match: Talha Jubair.

KHULNA: First innings 171 all out in 59 overs and second innings 268 all out in 103.3 overs (Imrul 104, Mithun 53; Shahadat 3-44, Mosharraf 3-76) v DHAKA: First innings 229 all out in 71.5 overs and second innings 121 for 3 in 22 overs (Rony 57, Shuvagata 30; Robiul 2-38)

SYLHET: First innings 218 all out in 80.1

overs and 188 for 8 in 72 overs (Golam 58 not out; Tajjul 4-73, Saqlain 3-50) v RAJSHAHI: First innings 390 all out in 116.1 overs

BARISAL: First innings 204 all out in 104.4 overs and second innings 97 for 3 in 40.2 overs (Fazle 29; Nur 1-7) v CHITTAGONG: First innings 296 all out in 116.1 overs

Booters fail

again thwarted an effort from the striker but the young goalkeeper could not stop the rebounder off Kaleem in the 80th minute.

The BFF informed that the last 15 minutes of the match was played in poor light as there were no floodlights in the stadium.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- Blonde shade
- Unkempt one
- Old portico
- Adversary
- Hemingway nickname
- Fresh-water fish
- Every crumb
- Court-room call
- Leak slowly
- Couch potato's gizmo
- Supporting
- Feedbag morsel
- Bad lighting?
- Firmament
- Explanation
- At the home of
- Feathery accessory
- Oliver Twist's request

DOWN

- Off mance
- Unrivaled
- Steering wheel
- Exact
- Tier source
- Oil cartel
- Rocket launcher
- "Ivanhoe" author
- Hammer wielder of myth
- Anise-flavored liqueur
- First victim
- "The Wizard —"
- Aye under
- Performer
- Pi follower
- D.C. pol
- Sauce
- Carpool-lane abbr.
- Raw rock
- Teensy
- Faux-suntan cosmetic
- Options list
- Monk's address
- Appeared ominously
- Dictator's aide
- Teatime treat
- Pedestal part
- PC picture
- Fit of peevishness
- Sped
- Out of harm's way
- Thing
- Information

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13				14				
15			16				17				
18			19				20				
			21				22				
23	24	25				26			27	28	29
30						31			32		
33						34			35		
						36			37		
38	39	40				41			42	43	44
45						46			47		
48						49			50		
51						52			53		

CRYPTOQUIP

E Q C T N H C D B K T E K D F B G K
X N F C B S D C N I I G Q C V D C O M G B
N T O O C R M G B X N G V Q S H , M B
G Q N G N R N I N T V M T W N V G ?
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IS THE WEIRD ABILITY TO INFLUENCE WHICH DRINKS FOLKS CHOOSE TO BUY CALLED BEVERAGE LEVERAGE?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals P