

Star SPORT

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Ter Stegen asks fans for help

Borussia Monchengladbach goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen's dog Bali went missing the day before Christmas eve. He published a note and photo of the dog on his Facebook page, which has over 63,000 "likes," asking for help. Hundreds of fans helped look for the dog and offered words of support and a few hours later, Ter Stegen posted an update on his Facebook page to tell everyone that Bali had been found by the fire department. "I am amazed and speechless, as many have helped," Ter Stegen said.



Malik, Hafeez seal it for Pakistan

SPORTS REPORTER

A 106-run fourth-wicket partnership between captain Mohammad Hafeez and Shoaib Malik helped Pakistan overcome a terrible start to pull off a thrilling last-over win the first Twenty20 International against India by five wickets at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bangalore yesterday. It was a match of contrasting innings from Pakistan and India, as the hosts earlier frittered away an excellent start to be restricted to a sub-par total.

Needing 34 to win from the last five overs, the pair took eleven off Ishant Sharma's sixteenth over and then eight more off Ashok Dinda in the next over. But Hafeez was out off the first ball of the eighteenth over, caught for a 44-ball 61 off Ishant Sharma, who bowled an excellent over to give away only two runs. That over set the cat among Pakistan's pigeons as Kamran Akmal was snapped up at third man off Dinda in the penultimate over, at the end of which Pakistan needed 10 runs to win.

Three runs came off the first three balls of the final over bowled by Ravindu Jadeja as Shahid Afridi and Malik scrambled between the wickets. Off the fourth ball Malik connected with a heave to deposit the ball clear of the straight boundary for a six, in the process winning the match for Pakistan and finishing unbeaten on a 50-ball 57.

Chasing a modest 134 to win, Pakistan got off to the worst of starts as rookie India pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar extracted mesmerising movement from a pitch tinged with green to leave Pakistan wobbling on 12 for three.

Moving the ball both ways, Kumar bowled opener Nasir Jamshed off the last ball of the first over with one that jagged back sharply into the left-hander. An outswinger in the next over accounted for the right-handed Ahmed Shehzad who nicked the ball to skipper

SEE PAGE 17 COL 1

SCOREBOARD

INDIA		R	B	4s	6s
Gambhir	run out	43	41	2	1
Rahane	c U Akmal b Afridi	42	31	5	1
Kohli	c K Akmal b Irfan	9	11	1	0
Yuvraj	c U Akmal b Gul	10	9	0	1
Dhoni	b Ajmal	1	2	0	0
Raina	b Ajmal	10	9	1	0
R Sharma	run out	2	2	0	0
Jadeja	c K Akmal b Gul	2	4	0	0
Kumar	not out	6	6	0	0
I Sharma	b Gul	0	1	0	0
Dinda	not out	3	4	0	0
Extras:	(lb-2, w-3)	5			
Total:	(For 9 wickets in 20 overs)	133			
Fall of wickets:	1-77, 2-90, 3-103, 4-108, 5-115, 6-122, 7-123, 8-124, 9-124.				
Bowler		O	M	R	W
Irfan		4	0	25	1
Tanvir		4	0	22	0
Gul		3	0	21	3
Ajmal		4	0	25	2
Afridi		3	0	26	1
Hafeez		2	0	12	0
Pakistan		R	B	4s	6s
Jamshed	b Kumar	2	6	0	0
Irfan		4	0	25	1
Shehzad	c Dhoni b Kumar	5	7	1	0
Hafeez	c Kumar b Irfan	61	44	6	2
Umar	b Kumar	0	4	0	0
Malik	not out	57	50	3	3
Kamran	b Dinda c Irfan	1	6	0	0
Afridi	not out	3	2	0	0
Extras:	(w-3, lb-1, nb-1)	5			
Total:	(For 5 wickets in 19.4 overs)	114			
Did not bat:	Tanvir, Gul, Ajmal and Irfan				
Fall of wickets:	1-2, 2-11, 3-12, 4-118, 5-123				
Bowler		O	M	R	W
B Kumar		4	0	9	3
Dinda		4	0	26	1
Sharma		4	0	23	1
Kohli		2	0	21	0
Yuvraj		3	0	25	0
Jadeja		2.4	0	29	0
Result:	Pakistan won by 5 wickets.				
Player-of-the-match:	Mohammad Hafeez.				



Pakistan all-rounder Shoaib Malik, who hit a match-winning 57 not out, plays inside out during the first Twenty20 International against India in Bangalore last night.

PHOTO: INTERNET

NAT'L CYCLING Tariqul sets record in 1000m

SPORTS REPORTER

Tariqul Islam of Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) set a new national record in 1000 metre sprint on the second day of Dr Abdul Basit 36th National Cycling Championship at Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Tariqul Islam clocked 14.94 seconds to cross the 1000 metre distance to eclipse the previous record of 15.10 seconds set by Farque of BJMC last year.

Tariqul's teammate Swapan Alam finished second at a time of 15.20 seconds while Abdul Hakim won the bronze medal clocking 15.70 seconds.

It was double delight for Tariqul who teamed up with Iftekhar Alam, Mehdi Hasan and Swapan Alam to win the gold medal in the 1600 metre team time trial. Ripon Kumar, Manwar Hossain, Jewel Ahmed and Sirajul Islam,

SEE PAGE 17 COL 1

Dhaka in knock-outs

SPORTS REPORTER

The Dhaka City team qualified for the 16-team knock-out phase of the World Cities Team Chess Championship after playing out a draw against Lund City of Sweden in the third round in United Arab Emirates on Monday.

Dhaka finished third in Group A with three match points and six game points, said a Bangladesh Chess Federation press release yesterday.

Dhaka city drew 2-2 against eventual group champions Lund city with GM Niaz Murshed beating GM Grandelius Nils while GM Ziaur Rahman and IM Minhazuddin Ahmed Sargar drew their respective boards against GM

SEE PAGE 17 COL 4

BCL a 'timely initiative'

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh vice-captain Mahmudullah Riyad has high hopes for the Bangladesh Cricket League (BCL), the franchise-based four-day cricket league which will get underway at two different venues tomorrow.

The stylish batsman, who will lead the Walton Central Zone in the four-team fray, said yesterday that he was looking forward to some competitive cricket in the newly-designed tournament as four teams have been formed from the best players of the eight participating teams in the recently concluded National Cricket League (NCL).

"Sometimes it was not possible for the national players to play the NCL

matches, so this new competition is an opportunity for us. I hope this tournament will be better and I'm looking for good competition as four



MAHMUDULLAH RIYAD

teams has been formed from the players of eight teams. I think this is a

timely initiative for our cricket," said Riyad while talking to reporters at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

"As I know the players are very much positive about this tournament because it's created an opportunity to play a few more longer-version games. Everybody is really happy," he added.

The all-rounder said that it would be nice if the tournament gets first-class status and becomes the country's second first-class tournament after the NCL. The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has not yet initiated the process of obtaining first-class status for the country's new longer-version tournament.

When asked how different it would be to play under a franchise,

SEE PAGE 17 COL 6

AIR GUN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Asif's first gold in 3 yrs

SPORTS REPORTER

Asif Hossain Khan won his first gold in three years in national level competitions when the Commonwealth Games gold medalist beat holder Jessimuzzaman to win the 10m Air Rifles event in the IFIC 5th Air Gun Championships at the National Shooting Complex in Gulshan yesterday.

Though the performance of Asif, also a gold medalist in the 2004 and 2010 SA Games, was not up to the mark as he scored 589 points in qualification, six points less than his best 595, to move into the shoot-off where he scored 111 points to put behind BKSP student Jessimuzzaman. Asif scored a total of 690.

Jessimuzzaman had to be content with a silver medal as he scored 686.6 (588 qualification) while Gunodhon Singha of Army Shooting Association won bronze

medal with a total score of 688 (584 qualification) points.

Asif had finished fourth in the last edition of Air Gun Championships with a score 685.1 points and won a bronze medal in the National Shooting Championship in June this year with a score of 688.7 points.

"Actually I have been trying to get into form for a long time but could not do it. This time I have succeeded with a gold medal even if the scores were not as good as I expected," said Asif, who dedicated his gold medal to his uncle Firoz Hossain Pakhi, a former national shooter who died in a road accident a couple of months ago.

Asif has been working as a talent-hunt coach for Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP) for the last one and a half year and believes his involvement

SEE PAGE 17 COL 3

Div I cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Hossain Mona slammed a hundred as Tasin Hasin Cricket Academy handed a 100-run defeat to Azad Sporting Club in the First Division Cricket League at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

In the day's other matches, Magnum Cricketers defeated Baridhara Dazzlers by four wickets at DUG, Kathalbagan Green Crescent Club managed a one-wicket victory over Surjo Torun Club at BKSP and Eskaton Sabuj Sangha beat Orient Sporting Club by nine wickets at JUG.

SCORES IN BRIEF

TASIN HASIN CRICKET ACADEMY: 309 (Hossain Mona 106, Asif Iqbal 46; Shimul Ahmed 2-36, Rajib Hossain 2-49)

AZAD SPORTING CLUB: 209 (Ishaque Sajal 63, Imtiaz Hossain 36; Fuad Javed 4-30, Raihan Uddin 2-41).

SEE PAGE 17 COL 4



Archers take aim at the target during the Victory Day Open Archery Tournament at the Paltan Maidan yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Archery with bamboo bow

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP) became champions in the Victory Day Open Archery Tournament after winning two gold and as many silver medals at the Paltan Maidan yesterday.

BKSP were followed by Dhaka Army Archery Club with one gold and one bronze medals while Boarder Guard Bangladesh finished third with a single gold medal. Bangladesh Army Archery Association won one silver and three bronze medals while Bangla College won a silver medal in the day-long competition which featured beginners who used hand-made bamboo bow and arrows.

Recurve bow and compound bow are the most familiar events of archery which feature in the Olympic Games as well. However the event of bamboo bow (20 meter distance) has been introduced for the beginners in the subcontinent.

The Bangladesh Archery Federation last year distributed some hand-made bows and arrows among the beginners and those archers came into the competition to show their competitiveness.

"Except a few archers from BKSP and Army, all archers are competing for the first time and they showed improvement as all of them hit the target, with some of them even hitting 10 out of 10," said national coach Nishit Das during the competitions.

SEE PAGE 17 COL 6