

# Rana rescues Sheikh Jamal

SPORTS REPORTER



An 88th minute strike from substitute striker Sohel Rana salvaged one point for Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club as they held Brothers Union to a 1-1 draw in their Grameenphone Bangladesh Premier League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Sheikh Jamal, the early pace-setters, looked heading for their first defeat of the league, but a sudden attack two minutes before time, initiated at midfield by Nigerian Sunday Chizoba who took the ball towards the goalie before releasing it for Sohel Rana, who needed a nod to put it in the net. The goal restored parity 73 minutes after Brothers Union had taken the lead through a deflected free-kick from Brazilian striker Anderson Garcia.

The third draw in eight matches lifted Sheikh Jamal to 18 points as they ended the first-leg one point behind leaders Sheikh Russel. Defending champions Abahani however can join Sheikh Russel at the top with a win at Muktijoddha Sangsad today in the last match of the first-leg.

Sheikh Jamal coach Joseph Afusi was nonetheless satisfied with the effort, as he felt the opponents were a competitive one. "Brothers Union are a big club, no matter what their position is in the league. And we had our own problems in the midfield. We are missing a number of key players including striker Mike Otojareri," said Afusi with a wry smile.

Afusi's opposite number and compatriot Ladi Babalola was absent at the press conference which was attended by his deputy Arifur Rahman Pannu instead. Pannu felt the team was starting to grasp with coach's strategies and were playing much better than before. However, four points from eight matches leave Brothers just a single point above the bottom two and still in grave danger of relegation.

This match was at the centre of attention from different corners, as the same fixture last season produced a controversial 3-1 win for Brothers Union, giving rise to a lot of questions and initiated an investigation, which is yet to see the light.

But yesterday's match was seemingly a much different affair, as both teams played in earnest for a win -- one in search of lead while the other playing for survival. The intensity was there, and it only increased as the game wore on. The first goal took 15 minutes to come as Garcia's free-kick from 25 yards out deflected off the wall and wrong-footed the Sheikh Jamal goalkeeper Maksudur Rahman to nestle at the back of the corner of the net.

The Sheikh Jamal coach Afusi brought on Rana in the 79th minute and that proved to be the vital move as the former Farashganj star turned in the Sunday's through-ball in the 88th minute for the equaliser. There was time for more action in the stoppage time and Sheikh Jamal might have left the field with all three points had Mohammad Conte's fierce shot gone in after hitting the bar.

# Lance wants to compete again



AFP, Los Angeles

Shamed cyclist Lance Armstrong, shorn of cycling's greatest prizes and expelled from sport, wants to compete again and doesn't believe he deserved the "death penalty" of a life ban.

"Hell yes, I'm a competitor," Armstrong told talk show host Oprah Winfrey when asked in the second installment of their televised interview on Friday if he wanted to compete again.

"It's what I've done my whole life. I love to train. I love to race. I love to toe the line," Armstrong said. "Not the Tour de France, but there's a lot of other things I could do.

"I made my bed," he said. "But if there was ever a window, would I like to run the Chicago Marathon when I'm 50? I would love to do that."

In the opening segment of the interview shown Thursday, Armstrong confessed that his record seven Tour de France titles were fueled by drugs, confirming much of the US Anti-Doping Agency's findings about his use of blood-boosting EPO, blood doping, cortisone, testosterone and human growth hormone.

Despite that, Armstrong said he believes he should have a chance to return to competition. "I don't expect it to happen," he acknowledged.

"Frankly, this may not be the most popular answer, but I think I deserve it," he said, telling Winfrey that former team-mates who implicated themselves in testifying against him received lesser punishments.

## Niaz in 15th position

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Niaz Murshed was in the 15th position in the Chennai Super Kings 5th International Grandmasters Chess Tournament with 5.5 points after he defeated Prodim Kumar of India in the 7th round yesterday.

Niaz had drawn against IM GB Prakash of India in the sixth round. Another Bangladeshi GM Ziaur Rahman was in 37th position with 5 points after beating Laxminarayan of India in the seventh round.

## India romp ahead

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After Gambhir's dismissal, Kohli and Yuvraj Singh (30) accelerated the pace of scoring with a flurry of explosive shots much to the delight of the home crowd. Yuvraj was, however, out with 12 runs left.

Kohli blasted as many as two sixes and nine fours during his knock which formed the cornerstone of the Indian response.

Dhoni hit the winning runs by pulling Steven Finn to the square-leg boundary to trigger off scenes of celebration in the galleries and the Indian dressing room.

The two teams will now travel to Mohali for the



PHOTO: AFP

Swiss tennis legend Roger Federer pumps his fist after winning a point during his Australian Open third round victory over Australia's Bernard Tomic in Melbourne yesterday.

## Rajshahi clinch last-over

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Mahmudullah Riyad however was the main culprit behind losing the low-scoring match. The right-hander's 42-ball 40 went in vain as he played the wrong shot at the wrong time to leave his team at 87 for seven in the 18th over. The Tigers vice-captain had victory in his hands but unnecessarily tried to clear the ball over midwicket only to find the hands of Tamim at long-on off pacer Abul Hasan, who actually turned the match in Rajshahi's favour by earlier taking the wickets of Naem Islam and New Zealand hard-hitting batsman Jacob Oram.

The focus was however on dashing opener Tamim because of last season's controversy with his former team Chittagong Kings, but the left-hander got out cheaply and none could excel with the bat in the match that resulted in Rajshahi being bundled out for below a hundred after deciding to bat first.

Rajshahi's two foreign recruits Moeen Ali and Ervine failed to even reach double digits while their local brigade were also unable to put up a respectable total. Number eight batsman Mukter Ali was top-scorer with an unbeaten 31-ball 22. His knock eventually proved vital for his side and the athletic fielding effort and impressive bowling from

the local players helped Tamim to make a mark in the end with a typically expressive celebration enacted for the benefit of the Kings dugout.

**SCORES IN BRIEF**  
**DURONTO RAJSHAHI:** 99 for 9 in 20 overs (Mukhtar not out 22, Tamim 17, Ziaur 13, Extras 16; Mahmudullah 2-17, Bopara 2-19)  
**CHITTAGONG KINGS:** 97 all out in 19.3 overs (Mahmudullah 40, Mehrab 18; Abul 3-20, Ervine 2-6)  
**Result:** Duronto Rajshahi won by 2 runs.

**Player-of-the-match:** Sean Ervine.

## No benefit

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meeting to take the opportunity and I'm happy that they played their part. It was a chance for them and they took up the challenge. You know, some of them didn't even know that they were going to play in the BPL," he added.

## Div-I cricket

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three wickets.  
**SURJO TORUN CLUB:** 288-4 in 50 overs (Sakil Haider 109, Sadman 45, Rakib Ahmed 34, Habibur Rahman 34; Nasir Uddin 3-52)  
**YOUNG CRICKETERS:** 205 all out in 48.1 overs (Moinuddin 57, Nasir Uddin 47; Golam Kibria 4-42, Omar Sharif 3-23)  
**Result:** Surjo Torun Club won by 83 runs.

## 4TH ODI TODAY Aussies call in Bird for SL match

AFP, Sydney

Australian selectors have added fast bowler Jackson Bird to their one-day squad for Sunday's crucial clash against Sri Lanka in Sydney.

Sri Lanka lead the five-match series 2-1 after a four-wicket win in Brisbane on Friday, bowling out Australia inside 27 overs for just 74 runs.

"Jackson Bird will join the squad as cover for the fourth Commonwealth Bank Series match in Sydney," Cricket Australia said in a statement late Friday.

Bird, 26, yet to play in a one-day international, has made an impressive start to his Test career, taking seven wickets in his second Test against Sri Lanka earlier this month in Sydney to be named man of the match.

# Federer sends Tomic packing

## Testing day for Williams, Murray

AFP, Melbourne



Swiss great Roger Federer put big-talking Australian Bernard Tomic firmly in his place Saturday as he joined Andy Murray and Serena Williams in the second week of the Australian Open.

The revered 17-time Grand Slam-winner, afforded a bigger cheer than Tomic as he entered Rod Laver Arena, held court as he swept to a straight-sets win, after coming through a tight second-set tie-break, 6-4, 7-6 (7/5), 6-1.

After Tomic had talked up his chances of an upset, Federer's motivation was clear as he broke immediately and took the first set, clawed his way back from 4-1 down in the second-set tie-break and then sped through the third.

Federer, who became the first man to collect 250 Grand Slam wins, will now face Canada's Milos Raonic in the fourth round as he continues his bid for a fifth Australian Open crown.

Earlier, Williams and defending champion Victoria Azarenka came through their first uncomfortable moments, and Murray was also tested before reaching the last 16 at Melbourne Park.

Williams, eyeing a calendar-year Grand Slam, was broken for the first time in the tournament by Japanese number one Ayumi Morita, before recovering from 0-3 down in the second set to win 6-1, 6-3.

World number one Azarenka screamed at herself and thrashed her racquet before overcoming an unexpectedly stiff challenge by America's Jamie Hampton, who bravely played through severe back

pain.

Argentina's Juan Martin Del Potro, seeded six, became the tournament's biggest casualty when the 2009 US Open champion slumped to a five-set defeat to unseeded Frenchman Jeremy Chardy.

Jo-Wilfried Tsonga and Richard Gasquet also went through, and with Gilles Simon playing Gael Monfils later France was assured of having four men in the fourth round, equalling their best performance at the tournament.

In the most competitive day so far, Murray extended his Grand Slam winning streak to 10 matches but not before a thorough workout from hitting partner Ricardas Berankis, and he let his frustrations show in the 6-3, 6-4, 7-5 win.

Williams unleashed her fastest ever serve, a 207 kilometres per hour (128 mph) bullet which equalled a speed clocked in round two against Garbine Muguruza, as she subdued the challenge of Morita.

And Azarenka admitted she needed to improve "everything" to successfully defend her title after surviving a scare in a 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 win against Hampton. She next plays Elena Vesnina.

World number seven Del Potro won four titles last year and dropped just 13 games in the first two rounds, but he found Chardy in inspired form and couldn't recover after going two sets down, finally succumbing in five.

Italy's Andreas Seppi ousted 12th seed Marin Cilic, but Tsonga found it easier with a straight-sets win over Blaz Kavcic, who was on an IV drip just two days ago after playing a five-hour marathon in intense heat.

# Kiwis' nail-biting win



AFP, Paarl

New Zealand defeated South Africa by one wicket in a thrilling finish to the first one-day international of a three-game series at Boland Park on Saturday.

South Africa were dismissed for 208 before the Kiwis recovered from 140-8 to seal victory in the 46th over.

Earlier, left-arm opening bowler Mitchell McClenaghan took four wickets on his debut as New Zealand bowled out South Africa cheaply.

McClenaghan took the key wickets of Graeme Smith and captain AB de Villiers and followed up with two lower-order wickets to finish with four for 20 in his 10 overs.

Part-time off-spinner Kane Williamson took four for 22 as the South African batsmen failed to master some steady bowling on a slow pitch.

Faf du Plessis made a dogged 57 off 71 balls to top-score for South Africa, while tail-ender Rory Kleinveldt hit three sixes off four balls from Kyle Mills in making all 26 runs in a last wicket stand with Lonwabo Tsotsobe.

Brendon McCullum's decision to send South Africa in to bat paid dividends when the home side's three most experienced batsmen, Smith, Hashim Amla and de Villiers were dismissed within the first 12 overs.

All three senior players were trapped in front.

### SCOREBOARD

#### SOUTH AFRICA

Amla lbw b Mills	13
Smith lbw b McClenaghan	7
Ingram c N McCullum b Williamson	29
De Villiers lbw b McClenaghan	7
Du Plessis c Nicol b Williamson	57
De Kock c N McCullum b Franklin	18
McLaren c B McCullum b Williamson	33
Peterson lbw b McClenaghan	0
Kleinveldt c Mills b Williamson	26
Steyn b McClenaghan	0
Tsotsobe not out	0
Extras: (b-4, lb-3, nb-1, w-10)	18

Total: (All out in 46.2 overs) 208  
Fall of wickets: 1-25, 2-27, 3-37, 4-83, 5-119, 6-178, 7-179, 8-182, 9-182

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Mills	8	1	55	1
McClenaghan	10	2	20	4
N McCullum	6	0	34	0
Franklin	10	1	44	1
Williamson	7.2	0	22	4
Neesham	4	0	22	0
Elliott	1	0	4	0

#### NEW ZEALAND

Nicol c Smith b Tsotsobe	4
Guptill run out (de Villiers)	0
Watling b McLaren	45
Williamson c du Plessis b Tsotsobe	5
B McCullum lbw b Kleinveldt	26
Elliott c Smith b Kleinveldt	1
Franklin not out	47
Neesham lbw b McLaren	0
N McCullum lbw b McLaren	24
Mills b McLaren	26
McClenaghan not out	0
Extras: (lb-13, w-15, nb-3)	31
Total: (For 9 wickets in 45.4 overs) 209	
Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-4, 3-21, 4-73, 5-81, 6-105, 7-105, 8-140, 9-187	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Steyn	10	3	33	0
Tsotsobe	9	2	47	2
Kleinveldt	9	0	37	2
McLaren	8.4	0	46	4
Peterson	9	0	33	0
Result: New Zealand won by 1 wicket.				

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

### ACROSS

- PC alter-native
- Like omelettes or quiche
- Second-hand
- Have bills
- Color quality
- "The Thin Man" heroine
- Hotel personnel
- Cole Porter's "Let's —"
- Willingly
- From then on
- Jousting garb
- Hunk of soap
- Slender
- Starving
- Encountered
- Bullwin-kie's foe
- Greek vowel
- Ran through, in a sense

### DOWN

- Horde
- Shock and —
- Pen pal?
- Old number?
- Blunder
- Economist's stat
- "Of course"
- Victoria's Secret wares
- Any time now
- Idle or Clapton
- Social engage-ment
- Friend of Dorothy
- Vail gear

### 20 Charitable donations

- Stench
- Mariah or Drew
- In the thick of
- Place setting component
- Squalid site
- Needle holder
- "Phooey"
- Flex
- Electri-cian's job
- Spill the beans
- Apportion
- Blueprint detail
- Frau's mate
- Met melody
- Huffed and puffed
- Tri-umphed
- Before
- Scoundrel
- Leno's employer

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

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		

### CRYPTOQUIP

BKPD BEKD BMKLD DPOVKQDDDB

BMKVD PXGQ KH MED BEKO'B

HVZO-HVKOB, JLDXMXZGW X

LDXV BXGAXV BJXGAXV

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WATCHING RACES, I ALWAYS ROOT FOR THE ONE WHO'S A MEMBER OF THE CLERGY. MAY THE BLEST MAN WIN!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals F