

Narail beat Bandarban

SPORTS REPORTER

Narail defeated Bandarban 2-0 in the Walton Motorcycle 2nd Women's Hockey League at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Nahida Akter Soma put Narail ahead before Kimi Karmaker wrapped it up with a late strike. The league will remain suspended today.

Abahani maul Police

SPORTS REPORTER

Abahani registered their second successive win in the Walton Dhaka Metropolis Women's Football League crushing Police AC by 18-0 goals at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Munmun scored 7 goals, Aung Mra Ching Marma netted 6, Suraiya scored three goals while Putul and Sui Nu Pru Marma scored one goal each for Abahani.

Women's cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka Division outplayed Chittagong Division by six wickets in the 6th Women's National Cricket League at the Shaheed Kamruzzaman Stadium in Rajshahi yesterday.

Panna Ghosh and Fatema Jahan equally shared six wickets as Chittagong were bundled out for 87 runs in 41.5 overs.

In reply, Dhaka Division posted 90 for four in 24.5 overs. Farzana Akter made the team-highest 26 off 60 balls.

Fatema Jahan claimed three wickets for 22 runs.

Bell ton

APP, Queenstown

An unbeaten century from Ian Bell anchored England's innings against a New Zealand XI Wednesday, as rookie pacesman Jimmy Neesham made short work of the tourists' top-order including Kevin Pietersen.

England were seven for 357 at stumps on the opening day of the four-day warm-up game for next month's Test series, with Bell on 127 not out and Stuart Broad unbeaten on six.

Pietersen was rested in the recent one-day and Twenty20 series against the Black Caps. He did not last long in his first hit-out since arriving in New Zealand, dismissed for 14 after just 35 minutes at the crease.

Neesham claimed the prized scalp, also dismissing Nick Compton (21) and Jonathan Trott (1) before lunch to leave England teetering at 3-81.

Alastair Cook and Bell steadied the innings before the England captain departed on 60, with Joe Root (49) and Matt Prior (41) both making starts as Bell resolutely held up the other end. Prior became Neesham's next victim, with the 22-year-old ending the day on figures of four for 65.

The three-Test series begins in Dunedin on March 6.

Skipper

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recovered fine," he added. The Bangladesh team will leave for Colombo in the afternoon today to play two Tests, three ODIs and a T20I besides a four-day tour during the month-long tour.



DIFFERENT BALL GAME! Argentine football legend Diego Maradona tries out tennis against his compatriot Juan Martin Del Potro during a show following the latter's victory against India's Somdev Devvarman in the ATP Dubai Open in the Gulf emirate yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Chance for Pakistan?

AFP, Durban

Pakistan have a chance to hit back after a trouncing in the Test series when they meet South Africa in the first of two Twenty20 Internationals at Kingsmead on Friday.

The tourists were outclassed in the Tests, losing all three matches, but can be reasonably optimistic about their prospects in the shorter forms of the game with the Twenty20 games followed by five one-day internationals.

Only five of South Africa's current Test players are in the T20 squad -- Faf du Plessis, who has been appointed captain in the shortest format, AB de Villiers, Robin Peterson, Rory Kleinveldt and fast bowling discovery Kyle Abbott.

The change of emphasis in South Africa's approach is underlined by the fact that national coach Gary Kirsten handed the T20 reins to Russell Domingo, his assistant coach, before a three-match series against New Zealand earlier in the season.

South Africa won that series 2-1.

Pakistan will be boosted by the inclusion of the experienced duo of Shahid Afridi and Shoaib Malik.

Opening batsman Mohammad Hafeez takes over as T20 captain, although Test skipper Misbahul Haq will resume the leadership for the one-day internationals, which start in Bloemfontein on March 10.

The Akmal brothers, Kamran and Umar, who were not part of the Test squad, are others who could add impetus to the T20 side.

Whereas South Africa's greatest strength is in their number one-ranked Test team, Pakistan are likely to be lifted by the infusion of new players after a morale-sapping experience in the Test series.

"It will be good to have some new players for the one-day games... the new players will come with fresh minds and a positive attitude," Misbah said after the final Test ended in three days on Sunday.

By contrast, Domingo said South Africa faced a "much tougher" challenge in the T20s, describing his team as "a work in progress" with young players being tried out with a view to the next World T20 in Bangladesh next year.

Sk Jamal's academy

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Gambian coach Omar K. Sisse, who reportedly owns an academy back in his native land, has been appointed as the head coach for Sheikh Jamal academy on a one-year term while local coach Mohidur Rahman Miraz will be his deputy.

Omar and Miraz will initially train the players who have already been selected for the BFF Academy in Sylhet until they pick fresh ones from across the country. The training gets underway from Friday.

"All over the world, development in football is done by the clubs, who are parents of football rather than the federations," said BFF president Kazi Salahuddin. "Producing quality booters is a big business, which has a good market across the world and it is the call of the day to build football academies. The initiative that Sheikh Jamal has taken can turn Bangladesh into a footballing nation."

"I promise the federation will provide all the support to Sheikh Jamal football academy," said Salahuddin adding that he would also help any club that wants to build football academies.

Sheikh Jamal's governing body chairman and Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Benojir Ahmed and UCBL vice chairman Showkat Aziz Russel also spoke on the occasion.

Heroes return

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played the best hockey of my career in Delhi," said Jimmy. The midfield maestro also lamented the lack of experience at this level for defeats against India and Ireland.

"It was due to the lack of experience that we could not hold the lead in both the matches. However, one thing has changed for certain. In past times, we used to think of not conceding too many goals, now we think of playing well and scoring against mighty opponents," said Jimmy.

Mamunur Rahman Chayan, the second highest goal scorer of the campaign (7 goals) lamented the lack of facilities and the poor logistics including food, accommodation, practice facilities etc that they are provided in the camp which works as a disincentive to do well.

While the other players will earn an indefinite break from hockey, Jimmy and Chayan will be flying to Germany to play in the German second division from next week.

Ashraful in

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the squad because of injuries and not due to bursts of runs in the Bangladesh Premier League.

"My plan was to take Ashraful in the team only after he showed more consistency in his batting. But the injuries have compelled us to take this decision," said Akram who also lamented the recent spate of injuries that have crippled the team.

Captain Mushfiqur Rahim though was more positive about Ashraful's inclusion.

"He has a very good record against Sri Lanka and if he can play consistent cricket it will be great for us," said Mushfiq yesterday.

"Our batting order has a number of new comers. There's Marshall, Bijoy and Anamul. And even Shakib is not there. So the responsibility is almost three times on the senior players. Now that a senior player is in the side, we can share the responsibility," he added.

23 U-19 cricketers selected

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) selected 23 players for the five-week preparation camp of the Under-19 squad starting from March 3.

The players have been asked to report on March 2 at the SAHARA-BCB National Cricket Academy at 4pm.

The selected players are Joy Raj, Sadman Islam, Nazmul Hasan, Yasir Ali Chowdhury, Mosaddek Hossain, Abu Sayeed Sarkar, Mehedi Hasan Miraj, Saif Hasan, Rahatul Ferdous, Saifuddin, Nehad Uz Aman, Moinuddin Mamun, Zubair Hossain, Jashim Uddin, Abu Sayem, Anil Babu, Abu Hayder, Mustafizur Rahman, Mehedi Hasan Milon, Mehedi Hasan Rana, Rifat Prodhan, Towidal Islam and Ashiqul Islam.

Jahurul fined

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national player by playing an inter-university competition without prior permission.

Jahurul, a Grade C player under the central contract system of the Bangladesh BCB, decided to take part in the Clemon Indoor Uni Cricket Tournament before the start of the third day's play of the BCL final, a game in which he was captaining BCB North Zone.

Jahurul appeared before a BCB hearing on February 26, 2013, and admitted that it was a major error in judgement on his part, and he did not fully comprehend the implications of his actions at the time.

Friendship comes later

APP, Dubai

World number one Novak Djokovic did not let friendship prevent him from carrying on where he left off last month when he made a successful defence of his Australian Open title at the Dubai Open here on Tuesday.

Djokovic's attempt to win back the Dubai Open title began with a 6-1, 6-4 win over Viktor Troicki, the fellow Davis Cup player with whom he grew up and shared tennis courts many times in the city of Belgrade.

The top-seeded Serbian moved so swiftly and turned defence into attack so suddenly that it was hard to believe four weeks had passed since he last played singles on the ATP tour.

Djokovic should have a semifinal against Juan Martin Del Potro, the former US Open champion, although the Argentine nearly did not survive beyond the first round.

Del Potro had to save four match points to beat Marcos Baghdatis, the former Australian Open finalist from Cyprus, by 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7/4).

Nikolay Davydenko, who hopes to return to the top 20 this year as part of his farewell to the tour, reached the second round too, the former world number three from Russia beating Janko Tipsarevic, the sixth-seeded Serbian, 6-0, 7-5.

But Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, the fifth-seeded Frenchman, was beaten by his Davis Cup teammate, Michael Llodra.

Windies sweep series

Cricket

AFP, St. George's

West Indies swept their one-day international series against Zimbabwe 3-0 on Tuesday after making comparatively heavy weather of what should have been a leisurely pursuit of 212 before reaching their target for the loss of five wickets.

Darren Bravo's unbeaten 72 piloted the home team to victory, the left-hander earning both the player-of-the-match and player-of-the-series awards following on his maiden ODI hundred in the first match on Friday.

Kieran Powell contributed 42 at the top of the order while the effort of young wrist-spinners Natsai M'Shangwe and debutant Tinotenda Mutombodzi offered some encouragement for the Zimbabweans ahead of the two T20 fixtures to be played at the weekend in Antigua.

Mutombodzi removed Ramnaresh Sarwan caught-and-bowled with just his third delivery in senior international cricket and also accounted for Powell to a catch at long-on.

There were a few moments of anxiety for the West Indies when the dismissal of Narsingh Deonarine by Hamilton Masakadza was followed by the running out of Kieron Pollard for a duck without facing a ball to leave the home side at 121 for four.

Skipper Dwayne Bravo steadied the innings in partnership with his younger brother and it was left to wicketkeeper-batsman Denesh Ramdin to accompany Darren Bravo at the crease when the winning runs were struck, the captain falling to Kyle Jarvis with the result virtually assured.

Disciplined work by the West Indies in the field had restricted Zimbabwe to 211 for nine after the visitors chose to bat first again.

The home side's bowlers kept wayward deliveries to a minimum and reaped the reward against the Zimbabweans, a couple of whom got decent starts but weren't able to carry on as occurred in the second ODI on Sunday when three got past the 50-run mark.

Chamu Chibhabha, strangely demoted to number seven in the order, gave the innings some respectability with an unbeaten 48, his side's top score.

SCORES IN BRIEF

ZIMBABWE: 211 for 9 in 50 overs (Chibhabha 48 not out, Sibanda 41, Taylor 39; Permaul 3-40, Best 2-38, Dwayne Bravo 2-58)

WEST INDIES: 215 for 5 in 46.2 overs (Darren Bravo 72 not out, Powell 42, Dwayne Bravo 25; Mutombodzi 2-35)

Result: West Indies won by 5 wickets and clinch the 3-ODI series 3-0.

Player-of-the-match: Darren Bravo. Player-of-the-series: Darren Bravo.

Abahani fined Tk 1 lakh

SPORTS REPORTER

Abahani have been fined Tk 1 lakh for walking out of their Monday's game against Mohammedan in the Granceemphone U-16 Football Tournament.

The disciplinary committee of Bangladesh Football Federation also banned Abahani players - Tutul Hossain Badsha and Mohammad Emon - for one match as they assaulted the referee during the match.

Following awarding a 76-minute goal to Mohammedan, Abahani players refrained from the game before their supporters stormed into the pitch to tear up the goal net, corner flag.

Rahmatganj beat Wari

SPORTS REPORTER

Rahmatganj MFS defeated Wari Club by 2-1 goals in the Premier Bank Bangladesh Championship League at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

Striker Nurul Absar put Rahmatganj ahead in the 25th minute and doubled the lead in the 41st minute. Mohammad Rubel scored a consolation goal for Wari in the 89th minute.

The win took Rahmatganj to seven points from four matches while Wari remained at their previous credit of one point from four matches.

Siddikur

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qualify, the popularity of golf in Bangladesh will go to an even higher standard. The Amata Spring course is quite long but I've shot a low number there before.

I'm quite confident of making it this time," said Siddikur while talking to Asiantour.com on Tuesday.

Among other hopefuls vying to play in the year's third Major at Muirfield from July 18 to 21 include Indians Gaganjeet Bhullar and Anirban Lahiri, who won last year's qualifier, Prom Meesawat and Kiradech Aphibarnrat of Thailand and Miguel Tabuena of the Philippines.

Clemon's last day today

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face off with Dhaka Medical College, AIUB play against East West University and Stamford University meet with ULAB in the quarterfinals.

After that, the first semifinal will take place at 3:20pm and the second semifinal will be held at 5:00 pm. The final is scheduled for 8:00pm on the same day.

In the sixth day's matches yesterday, Shanto Mariam University (84/7) suffered a two-wicket defeat against Dhaka Medical College (86/5), BUET (135/5) won by 69 runs against PrimeAsia University (66/4), Daffodil International University (141/1) beat Sylhet Metropolitan University (138/3) by six wickets, AIUB (187/4) beat Independent University Bangladesh (126/3) by 61 runs, BGMEA University of Fashion & Technology (82/7) suffered a 56-run defeat to Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University (138/5), Southeast University (90/1) defeated Green University (89/7) by six wickets, Bangladesh University (144/5) defeated Zahirul Islam Medical College (56/7) by 88 runs and Bangladesh University of Textiles (98/0) defeated ASA University (95/7) by seven wickets.

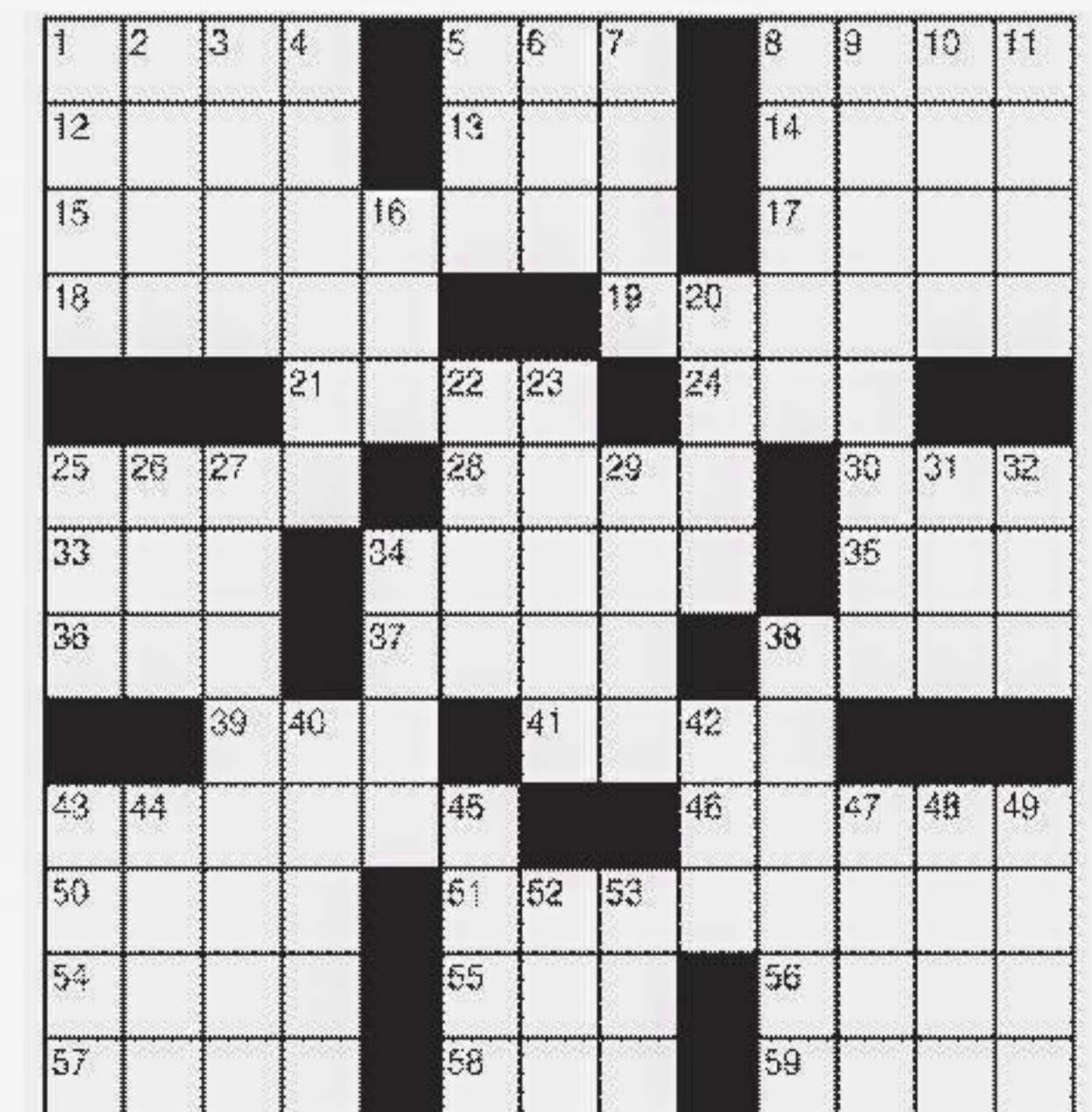
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Grand story
 - 5 Recipe meas.
 - 8 Slender smoke
 - 12 Stereo precursor
 - 13 Conger or moray
 - 14 Opposed to
 - 15 Sit on eggs
 - 17 Highlander
 - 18 Rib
 - 19 Off the path
 - 21 Thing
 - 24 Golf prop
 - 25 Related
 - 28 Sandwich shop
 - 30 Shock and —
 - 33 Lair
 - 34 Duck down
 - 35 Vast expanse
 - 36 Pouch
 - 37 Male
 - 38-Across
 - 38 See
 - 37-Across
 - 39 Eggs
- DOWN**
- 1 Send forth
 - 2 Corn concoction
 - 3 Erstwhile Peruvian
 - 4 Family member
 - 5 With 6-Down, cups and saucers and such
 - 6 See 5-Down
 - 7 Entreaty
 - 8 Haste resuil
 - 9 Enlarge
 - 10 Old portico
 - 11 Compassion
 - 16 Wager
 - 20 Use a swizzle stick
 - 22 Fix a manu-script
 - 23 Olympics prize
 - 25 Billboards
 - 26 Mauna —
 - 27 Arriving
 - 29 Toy block name
 - 31 Teensy
 - 32 Listener
 - 34 Jacob's brother
 - 38 End
 - 40 Bullshot ingredient
 - 42 Zero
 - 43 Crazes
 - 44 Operatic sole
 - 45 Dimension
 - 47 Any time now
 - 48 Neuter
 - 49 Rhyming tributes
 - 52 "Platoon" setting, for short
 - 53 Innards of a PC

Solution time: 21 mins.



Yesterday's answer 1-23



CRYPTOQUIP

B M R Y C M R G Z Y Q Z Y Y J D Y N R Q
A C B J D O Q Y J O J Y E R K G R
E A T A Y E O A T R C J D K P , B Z P
C M Z C Q A P - N J Y N R K C A Y E Y R B P ?

Yesterday's Cryptquip: SUPPOSING HE WANTED HIS OWN TRIBAL SYMBOL, MIGHT A HANDYMAN CRAFT HIMSELF A FACTOTUM POLE?

Today's Cryptquip Clue: C equals T