

## Hockey team finish second

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh's dream run in the Asia Cup Under-16 Hockey Five ended in a defeat in the final where they went down 3-5 against Pakistan in Singapore yesterday.

Bangladesh, who reached the final with five straight wins over Singapore, Malaysia, Kazakhstan, Korea and Japan respectively, conceded a 2-0 lead in the first half before bouncing back in the second half pulling back two goals through Ashraful Rummon and Emon. But their efforts were not enough to overcome the final hurdle as Pakistan prevailed with a 5-3 win.

Ashraful of Bangladesh was adjudged as the player of the tournament.

Bangladesh, along with Pakistan, have already earned the right to play in the 2nd Summer Youth Olympics which will be held in China in 2014. The Bangladesh team will return today.

## Lions SA's T20 kings

AFP, Johannesburg

Highveld Lions turned the tables on the Titans Sunday to win the South African Twenty20 Challenge final by 30 runs at the Wanderers.

The Titans won the decider between the same franchises last season and entered this final as favourites after a recent run of mini-league phase victories, including a narrow one over the Lions.

After the Lions posted 55-5 off 20 overs with young Quinton de Kock (44) and veteran Neil McKenzie (39) the main contributors to the total, many supporters at the Wanderers feared it might not be sufficient for success.

The Titans started superbly and reached 40 without loss within four overs, but the run rate slowed and the wickets started to fall with only Herschelle Gibbs (22) and David Wiese (21) making meaningful knocks.

Chris Morris, Sohail Tanvir, Aaron Phangiso, Hardus Viljoen and Imran Tahir took two wickets each for the Lions, who celebrated wildly when the last wicket was captured.

Both finalists qualify for the lucrative 2013 Champions League.

## Alfaz calls

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second match of the season for the Black and Whites.

"Retiring from football is at the same time disappointing as well as pleasing for me," said Alfaz. "Firstly, I will not be seen in the pitch as a player which is disappointing for me. Secondly, it is pleasing for me because I was given a grand stage like the match between Mohammedan and Abahani to hang up my boots."

However, Alfaz doesn't want to leave football as he wants to develop a new career in coaching. He has already been appointed football director of Cambrian-Midfield Sports Academy, which will be launched from April 19.

Alfaz, who has already been working as an assistant coach of Mohammedan, wants to earn the AFC coaching certificates to be eligible to guide the club teams in the professional football league.



PHOTO: CRICINFO

**Kings XI Punjab's Manan Vohra plays through the covers off the back foot against Pune Warriors during their Indian Premier League match at the Subrata Roy Sahara Stadium in Pune yesterday.**

# Venus ousted from Family

Tennis

AFP, Charleston

Serena Williams crushed her older sibling Venus 6-1, 6-2 to reach the final of the Family Circle Cup in the most lop-sided match of their WTA Tour careers between the American sisters.

In the first match between them in four years, Serena needed just 54 minutes to send Venus packing on the green clay surface here on Saturday.

Defending champion Serena dominated from the opening serve against Venus who had eight double faults and won just 27 per cent of her second serves.

Venus, 32, even had trouble with Serena's 70 mph second serve which was considerably slower than Serena was serving in her quarterfinal match on Friday.

Serena will get a chance to go for her second straight Charleston crown and third overall when she plays the final against Jelena Jankovic who defeated Stefanie Voegelé 6-4, 6-7 (6/8), 6-2 in the other semifinal.

Serena said she is handling pressure better now than she did in the past.

"I will never change who I am. I am passionate, I get angry, frustrated but not as much," Serena said Saturday. "As long as I know how to bring it back and not take

it too far, US Open-style, then I can stay calm."

The 31-year-old Serena said she was fortunate to be back in good condition and not struggling with health issues like Venus, who has an ongoing battle with Sjogren's Syndrome -- an auto-immune disorder that can cause fatigue.

"I am so inspired by Venus everything she is going through," Serena said. "I feel like I don't have those problems so why am I not winning."

Serena finished with six aces and won 75 per cent of her first-serve points although she won just two points all match on her reduced second serve.

Serena now owns a 14-10 career win mark over Venus, which includes a 6-2, 7-6 (7/4) victory in their last contest in 2009 in the final of the WTA Championships in Qatar.

This was even more one-sided than when she beat Venus 6-2, 6-2 in Miami in 2002. Serena has won the last five consecutive matches in their sibling rivalry.

The sisters, who grew up in the crime-ridden, drug-plagued streets of south Los Angeles, have played some competitive matches over the years but this certainly wasn't one of them.

Serena won the opening set in just 22 minutes and clinched the match when Venus lobbed a return of serve high and well past the baseline.

## Super Sunrisers

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didn't do their chances any good by dropping two catches and some lacklustre bowling.

scored 100 for two in 12.2 overs, ending the match with 46 balls to spare. Adam Gilchrist (15) and Mandeep Singh were the only wickets to fall for the hosts while David Hussey was unbeaten on eight.

Earlier, Pune, electing to bat, suffered a setback in the very first over of the match. Manish Pandey (0) edged a Praveen Kumar (2/31) ball back onto his stump, setting the trend for the rest of the innings.

Buoyed by the wicket, Punjab bowlers hit the right line and length and made it very difficult for Pune to score.

Tirulamasetti Suman (6) was the next to go with former Pakistan all-rounder Azhar Mahmood (2/19) coaxing him into an expansive shot and was easily caught by Praveen Kumar.

A run out gave Punjab their third wicket while Robin Uthappa (19), who failed to get going, was castled by a low-keeping ball from leggie Piyush Chawla (1/19).

Things went from bad to worse for the hosts as skipper Angelo Mathews (4) edged an Parvinder Awana (1/16) ball straight into the gloves of his opposite number Adam Gilchrist.

With the opposition already tottering at 53 for five, Gurkeerat Singh took an exceptional one-handed catch on the square leg boundary to get rid of the dangerous Ross Taylor (15).

Mitchell Marsh (15) provided some fireworks for the home fans by hitting a boundary and the only six of the innings but he too fell soon enough clean bowled by his countryman from Australia Ryan Harris.

Abhishek Nayar (25 not out) battled on but with wickets falling all around him never got the opportunity to hit the big shots.

Pune have so far lost both their matches in this edition and are bottom of the table with zero points. Delhi Daredevils too lost their opening two matches but are seventh above Pune and Chennai Super Kings, who lost their first match to Mumbai Indians Saturday night, due to better run-rate.

**SCORES IN BRIEF**

**PUNE WARRIORS:** 99 for 9 (Uthappa 19, Taylor 15, Nayar 25 not out, Marsh 15; Kumar 2-31, Mahmood 2-19)

**KINGS XI PUNJAB:** 100 for 2 in 12.2 overs (Gilchrist 15, Mandeep 31, Vohra 43 not out; Mathews 1-12)

**Result:** Kings XI Punjab won by 8 wickets.

**Player-of-the-match:** Manan Vohra.

**ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE:** 130 for 8 (Kohli 46, Henriques 44; Sharma 3-27)

**SUNRISERS HYDERABAD:** 130 for 7 (Vihari 44 not out, Reddy 23, Henriques 2-14, Unadkat 2-24)

**Result:** Match tied, Sunrisers Hyderabad won the one-over eliminator.

**Player-of-the-match:** Hanuma Vihari.

## CHAMPIONS TROPHY SL take in 5 rookies

REUTERS, Colombo

Sri Lanka have named five uncapped players in their provisional 30-man squad for the ICC Champions trophy in England and Wales in June.

The squad includes batsmen Kithuruwan Vithanage, Angelo Perera and Shehan Jayasuriya, fast bowler Ishara Jayaratne and spinner Milinda Siriwardana.

Veteran batsman Mahela Jayawardene, who missed the home series against Bangladesh due to a finger injury, was also selected.

**SQUAD**

Tillakaratne Dilshan, Kusal Perera, Upul Tharanga, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene, Angelo Mathews, Lahiru Thirimanne, Dinesh Chandimal, Kithuruwan Vithanage, Angelo Perera, Shehan Jayasuriya, Chamara Kapugedara, Thilina Kandamby, Lasith Malinga, Nuwan Kulasekara, Thisara Perera, Shaminda Eranga, Suranga Lakmal, Farveez Maharoof, Chamara Welegedara, Ishara Jayaratne, Dilhara Lokuhettige, Rangana Herath, Ajantha Mendis, Jeevan Mendis, Dilruwan Perera, Milinda Siriwardana, Malinga Bandara, Seekuge Prasanna, Sachithra Senanayake.

## Crunch time for Cardiff

CRICINFO, London

Alan Hamer, Glamorgan's chief executive, has admitted that Cardiff's role as one of the host venues for the Champions Trophy "raises the stakes" for county and country and that their success or otherwise will have a direct impact on the SWALEC Stadium's prospects as a venue for international cricket in Wales.

Cardiff is up against Birmingham and London as one of three grounds hosting the June 6-23 event. While three of the five games at each of The Oval and Edgbaston sold out in the first round of ticketing, only one of Cardiff's -- the opening fixture between India and South Africa -- did so, with sales in the other matches, which include England's group game against New Zealand, described as average.

# Spurs hold on

AFP, London



Gylfi Sigurdsson snatched a late equaliser as Tottenham Hotspur denied Champions League qualification rivals Everton victory in a 2-2 draw at White Hart Lane on Sunday.

Spurs went into the game aiming to tighten their grip on third place and they took the lead after just 34 seconds when a stretching Emmanuel Adebayor toed Jan Vertonghen's cross past Tim Howard.

However, Phil Jagielka equalised in the 15th minute, rising to nod Leighton Baines' corner between the legs of Spurs goalkeeper Hugo Lloris.

Kevin Mirallas then put the visitors in front eight minutes into the second half with a goal to rival his strike in last weekend's 1-0 win at Stoke City.

David Moyes' side were within sight of a fourth straight league win, only for Sigurdsson to tap home an equaliser in the 87th minute after Adebayor's shot

came back off the post.

Liverpool's bid for a European berth faltered as they were held to a frustrating 0-0 draw at home to West Ham United.

The result meant Brendan Rodgers' side remained in seventh place, six points below the European qualifying places.

Arsenal won 2-1 at West Bromwich Albion on Saturday to climb into the Champions League places at Chelsea's expense while Aston Villa claimed a precious win in their fight to avoid relegation from the Premier League.

A brace from Tomas Rosicky gave Arsenal victory at The Hawthorns, but they allowed West Brom to come back into the game after Per Mertesacker was sent off for bringing down Shane Long in the penalty area.

Meanwhile, Matthew Lowton and Christian Benteke scored potentially crucial late goals to give Villa a 3-1 win at Stoke City that lifted Paul Lambert's team out of the relegation zone and drew the hosts into trouble.

RESULTS	
Liverpool	0 West Ham 0
Tottenham 2	(Adebayor 1, Sigurdsson 87) Everton 2 (Jagielka 15, Mirallas 53)
Norwich 2	(Snodgrass 40, Turner 60) Swansea 2 (Michu 35, Moore 75)
Reading 0	Southampton 2 (Rodriguez 34, Lallana 72)
Stoke 1	(Kightly 80) Aston Villa 3 (Agbonlahor 9, Lowton 87, Benteke 90)
West Brom 1	(Morrison 71) pen)

## Abahani salvage a point

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thanks to the brilliant the free-kick from Meshu after they had survived a close call from Morison on 66 minutes.

Abahani even could have left the pitch with all three points had goalkeeper Mamun Khan not thwarted a long-range shot from Ibnul Siraji in the stoppage time.

Earlier, Sheikh Jamal confirmed they stayed well in the title race with a 2-0 win over strugglers Arambagh KS, although the relegation threatened side put up more than a fight.

Sheikh Jamal, who came into this match after a 2-3 defeat against Sheikh Russel KC in the Independence Cup final, almost conceded a lead in the eighth minute, but goalkeeper Masud Rana rescued them by thwarting a Khokon Das header.

Arambagh dominated in the first half and came close to taking the lead in the 35th minute but Nigerian midfield Uzemefon Joel floated his shot over the crosspiece.

The game seemed to be heading for a draw when, Towhidul Alam Sabuj broke the deadlock with an accurate header off an Arup Kumar Baidya cross in the 83rd minute. The diminutive striker then turned the provider as his cross was turned in by Nigerian midfielder Chibuke Ibeji in the stoppage time.

## Mashrafe

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have much experience of handling many cases except for Dollar Mahmud and under-19 bowler Dewan Sabbir. Normally it takes eight weeks but we need Mashrafe for the series against Zimbabwe," headed.

Bangladesh will play their first one-dayer of the three-match series on May 3 on completion of the two-match Test series in Harare.

**Siddikur**

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the day to lift himself from overnight 44th position.

The title was claimed by Wade Ormsby of Australia who finishing on nine-under par (279) after a one-under-par (71) in the last round.



PHOTO: COURTESY

**Finance Minister and chairman of the 8th Bangladesh Games organising committee Abul Mal Abdul Muhit (L) receives a cheque of Tk 1 crore from Mohammad Abdul Mannan, managing director of Islami Bank, at the Conference Hall of Finance Ministry yesterday.**

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

<b>ACROSS</b>	<b>42</b> Silly	<b>2</b> Discour-	<b>21</b> Possess
<b>1</b> --- about	<b>43</b> Not so	<b>teous</b>	<b>23</b> Chow
(spread	<b>much</b>	<b>3</b> Eskimo	<b>down</b>
the word)	<b>6</b> Utters	<b>boat</b>	<b>24</b> Expert
	<b>12</b> Grads	<b>4</b> Office-	<b>25</b> Govt.
	<b>13</b> Recluse	<b>holders</b>	<b>lender</b>
	<b>14</b> Gymno-	<b>5</b> It gets	<b>26</b> Season-
	<b>sophist's</b>	<b>punched</b>	<b>ing</b>
	<b>practice</b>	<b>6</b> Avoid	<b>herb</b>
	<b>15</b> Incompe-	<b>7</b> Punish-	<b>28</b> Guar-
	<b>ent</b>	<b>ment-</b>	<b>anteed</b>
	<b>16</b> Vicinity	<b>related</b>	<b>30</b> Male
	<b>17</b> Sicilian	<b>8</b> Geologi-	<b>turkey</b>
	<b>sputer</b>	<b>cal</b>	<b>31</b> One or
	<b>19</b> Tier	<b>time</b>	<b>more</b>
	<b>20</b> Onetime	<b>9</b> Food	<b>33</b> Business
	<b>NYC</b>	<b>of the</b>	<b>abbr.</b>
	<b>mayor</b>	<b>gods</b>	<b>34</b> Hoose-
	<b>22</b> Writer	<b>10</b> Narc's	<b>gow</b>
	<b>Buscaglia</b>	<b>measure</b>	<b>39</b> Back
	<b>24</b> Sternward	<b>11</b> Crockpot	<b>street</b>
	<b>27</b> Near the	<b>creation</b>	<b>41</b> Disney
	<b>treasure</b>	<b>12</b> Literary	<b>pachy-</b>
	<b>29</b> "Thin	<b>collection</b>	<b>derm</b>
	<b>Man" dog</b>	<b>18</b> Menaces	<b>42</b> Wild
	<b>32</b> Just one		<b>party</b>
	<b>thing after</b>		<b>43</b> Never
	<b>another?</b>		<b>again?</b>
	<b>35</b> Deserve		<b>45</b> 41-
	<b>36</b> Arp's		<b>Down's</b>
	<b>movement</b>		<b>"wings"</b>
	<b>37</b> Poehler or		<b>47</b> Noisy
	<b>Grant</b>		<b>48</b> Schnozz
	<b>38</b> Pana-		<b>49</b> Illustr-
	<b>sonic</b>		<b>ations</b>
	<b>competitor</b>		<b>51</b> Blunder
	<b>40</b> Incline		<b>53</b> Neither
			<b>mate</b>

**Solution time: 27 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 3-2**

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
50			51				52	53		
54							55			
56							57			

## CRYPTOQUIP

P U W R O F S H J P I L B M Z H H F M T  
W A H S O I P R R A M E P G P E  
A L S H Q L X L R H X M O P X M K M G H Q M .  
P O X W R O K M T M U L B P M J .

**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** WHEN I ASKED THE VOCALIST IF HE'D KINDLY SING THE CHORUS OVER AGAIN, HE SAID HE WOULD REFRAIN.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals I