

## Zahids rout Rahmatganj

SPORTS REPORTER



National striker Zahid Hasan Emily scored a hattrick as ten-time champions Mohammedan SC thrashed minnows Rahmatganj MFS 5-2 in a high-scoring encounter of the Walton Federation Cup

at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday to confirm their quarterfinal berth.

Emily scored in the 34th, 55th and 87th minutes while his national teammate Zahid Hossain netted one and set up two more goals in the convincing win for the Black and Whites. Wahed Ahmed grabbed the fifth for Mohammedan while Nurul Absar bagged a late brace for Rahmatganj.

The win took Mohammedan to the quarterfinals along with archrivals Abahani, who had beaten Rahmatganj 3-0 in their first match of the competition. The two sides will meet on Monday to decide the Group 4 winners. For the second-tier side Rahmatganj, devoid of any foreign player, it was the end of the journey.

The match was basically a show of the two Zahids as they complemented each other with their skill and technique to terrorise the vulnerable Rahmatganj defence.

Winger Zahid, who courted a lot of controversy recently regarding indiscipline and transfer payments, started the goal-fest in the 23rd minute with a free kick which took a wicked deflection off the wall before finding the back of the net.

Emily doubled the lead seven minutes later with another fortuitous goal as his shot, meant for a cross in the middle, slipping under the legs of the Rahmatganj keeper.

Emily made it 3-0 ten minutes after the break, converting a spot-kick which resulted after Zahid was brought down inside the box by the hapless Rahmatganj keeper.

Rahmatganj forward Nurul Absar reduced the deficit by scoring in the 78th minute before Emily clinched his hattrick in the 87th minute by heading in an inch-perfect cross from Zahid. More goals came in the last frantic exchanges as Wahed got his name on the scoresheet for Mohammedan on the stroke of ninety minutes before Nurul scored his second in the stoppages.

Emily was ecstatic after notching his third hattrick for his old club, where he had an earlier stint during the 2009-2010 season.

"Zahid (Hossain) was brilliant as we expect from him. I have not seen him to give this sort of effort too many times. But everyone knows, what talent he is," said Emily, paying tribute to his controversial strike partner.

Meanwhile, Mohammedan an Abahani were not the only teams to have confirmed their quarterfinal berths on the day, as Feni Soccer had earlier booked theirs by beating Uttar Baridhara 3-2 in a lively encounter of Group 1. Ali Hasan scored twice in the second half to give Feni their first win. Beninese forward Wassiou Oladikpikpo grabbed the other goal for Feni while Faiz Alam and Abul Kalam scored for the newly-promoted side in a lost cause.

Feni will now play Sheikh Jamal in the last match of the group on Monday to decide the group champions.



**WE TWO SUFFICE!** Zahid Hasan Emily (R) and Zahid Hossain scored Mohammedan's all five goals barring one in their Federation Cup match against Rahmatganj at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Rokibul keeps Gazi on top

SPORTS REPORTER



Foreigners Elton Chigumbura, Ravi Bopara and Hamilton Masakadza all hit hundreds but it was Rokibul Hasan's unbeaten 90 which proved

most valuable on the day. Out-of-favour Rokibul's brilliant effort not only cancelled out Zimbabwean Chigumbura's blazing century but also helped Mahmudullah Riyad's Gazi Tank Cricketers maintain their position at the top of the table, as they beat the Mushfiqur Rahim-led Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi at Fatullah by six wickets yesterday in a vital encounter in the Super League round of the Dhaka Premier League.

The game at BKSP-2 saw two centurions and two five-wicket hauls as Kalabagan Cricket Academy beat Prime Bank Cricket Club by eight runs.

Mashrafe Bin Mortaza's Mohammedan

Sporting Club, on the other hand, continued their poor form with the bat as they were beaten by second-placed Prime Doleshwar by seven wickets at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.

After being put in to bat Sheikh Jamal slumped to 87 for 6 and were looked down the barrel at Fatullah. However, a late surge from Chigumbura (109 not out) who smacked nine sixes and six fours, took Sheikh Jamal to 259 for nine. Coming in at number seven, Chigumbura blasted 12 of his 15 boundaries in the last ten overs and reached his century off 90 balls.

In reply, Gazi Tank rode on half-centuries from national discards Imrul Kayes (81) and Rokibul Hasan (91 not out) to overcome the target with 3.2 overs remaining. Imrul's innings came off 95 balls with five fours and two sixes. Rokibul, on the other hand, faced 93 balls and hit ten fours and two sixes.

At BKSP-2, slow left-armer Nazmul Hossain Apu's five wicket haul helped bundle out Prime Bank CC for 298 runs in reply to Kalabagan's

305. Hamilton Masakadza smacked 15 fours and five sixes in his 101-ball 125 and laid the foundation for Kalabagan's middle-order. He was eventually removed by Rezaul Karim, who finished with 5 for 54, in the 46th over.

In reply, Prime Bank went on an all-out attack mode right from the word go as Shehan Jayasuriya smacked off-spinner Sharifullah for 29 runs , which included four sixes and a four, in the second over the innings. However, Nazmul removed openers Saykat Ali and Shehan by the ninth over. Ravi Bopara (138) and Taiabur Parvez (76) took Prime Bank to 232 for 2 in 40 overs and all they required was the late charge. However, some good bowling from Nazmul at the end led to Prime Bank losing their last eight wickets for just 66 runs.

At Mirpur, Doleshwar continued to chase league leaders Gazi Tank, after they successfully chased down Mohammedan's target of 144 yesterday. They are now two points behind Gazi Tank, who they are yet to face in the Super League.

### Siddikur slips further

SPORTS REPORTER

Siddikur Rahman's campaign in the ISPS HANDA World Cup of Golf continued to unravel as the 29-year-old golfer slipped to 58th position after the end of Round 3 yesterday. The two-time Asian Tour winner returned with a card of six-over-par (77), his worst performance in three days, at the tricky Royal Melbourne Golf Club on Saturday.

The 77 on the third day, followed by 73 and 75 on the previous two days, took Siddikur's tally to 12-over-par (225), only two places above the bottom-placed Gaganjit Bhullar of India (235).

Siddikur started the day well however, firing a birdie on the third hole. But that good start was soon undone as he carded a double-bogey on the next hole, which was followed by five more bogeys -- on the sixth, seventh, ninth, 11th and 16th holes.

**SHEIKH JAMAL:** 259 for 9 (Chigumbura 109 not out, Mushfiqur 38; Ten Doeschate 3-56)

**GAZI TANK:** 260 for 4 in 46.4 overs (Rokibul 90 not out, Imrul 81; Crook 2-46)

**Result:** Gazi Tank won by 6 wickets

**KALABAGAN CA:** 305 for 7 (Masakadza 125, Abdul Majid 54; Rezaul 5-54)

**PRIME BANK CC:** 298 all out in 49.5 overs (Bopara 138, Taiabur 76; Nazmul Apu 5-59)

**Result:** Kalabagan won by 8 runs.

**MOHAMMEDAN:** 143 all out in 42.3 overs (Muktar 46; Sabbir 4-39, Forhad Reza 3-9)

**PRIME DOLESHWAR:** 145 for 3 in 27 overs (Mehedi Maruf 40; Delwar Hassan 1-28)

**Result:** Prime Doleshwar won by 7 wickets

SCOREBOARD				
<b>AUSTRALIA:</b> First innings 295 (Haddin 94, Johnson 64; Broad 6-81)				
<b>ENGLAND:</b> First innings 136 (Carberry 40; Johnson 4-61)				
<b>AUSTRALIA:</b> Second innings (overnight 65-0)				
Rogers c Carberry Broad	16			
Warner c Prior b Broad	124			
Watson c Broad b Tremlett	6			
Clarke b Swann	113			
Smith c Prior b Tremlett	0			
Bailey b Swann	34			
Haddin c Anderson b Tremlett	53			
Johnson not out	39			
Siddle not out	4			
Extras: (b-4, lb-8)	12			
Total (For 7 wts; 100 overs)	401			
Fall of wickets: 1-67, 2-75, 3-233, 4-242, 5-294, 6-305, 7-395				
<b>Bowler</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>W</b>
Anderson	19	2	73	0
Broad	16	4	55	2
Tremlett	17	2	69	3
Swann	27	2	135	2
Root	15	2	57	0
<b>ENGLAND:</b> Second innings				
Alastair Cook not out	11			
Michael Carberry b Harris	0			
Jonathan Trott c Lyon b Johnson	9			
Kevin Pietersen not out	3			
Extras (lb 1)	1			
Total (2 wts; 15 overs)	24			
Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-10				
<b>Bowler</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>W</b>
Harris	5	2	7	1
Johnson	4	2	7	1
Siddle	3	1	6	0



PHOTO: AFP

Australia's David Warner jumps for joy on reaching his maiden Ashes century on the third day of Brisbane Test yesterday.

## England stare at defeat

AFP, Brisbane



England were fighting to save the opening Ashes Test after a demoralising third day dominated by Australia at the Gabba on Saturday.

Skipper Michael Clarke left the tourists toiling in the field chasing after the ball, before calling a halt with just over an hour left and setting England an improbable 561 runs to take a 1-0 lead in the five-Test series.

England will have to create Ashes history to win the Gabba Test, with their previous highest winning fourth innings score at 332 for seven in Melbourne in 1928.

The world record for the highest successful run chase is the West Indies' 418 for seven against Australia in Antigua in 2003, while the highest winning chase at the Gabba is Australia's 236 for seven against the West Indies in 1951.

England had a wretched start to their mara-

thon salvage operation when Michael Carberry was bowled by Ryan Harris through his legs for a duck in the fifth over, and Jonathan Trott completed a sorry match when he pulled straight to Nathan Lyon at deep square leg for nine.

England went to stumps at 24 for two with Alastair Cook on 11 and Kevin Pietersen not out three.

Pietersen almost ran out his skipper when he took off for a quick single on his first ball faced and Cook just made his ground.

Clarke held on to his declaration decision, seemingly to inflict maximum mental damage on Cook's team to set the tone for the rest of the Tests, after England's 3-0 series win three months ago for their third straight Ashes triumph.

Clarke and David Warner hit centuries as Australia accumulated an imposing 401 for seven, representing an overall lead of 560 as the home side set out to protect their 25-year unbeaten run at the Gabba ground.

"We'll take the third wicket tomorrow morning and hopefully we take the rest after that," Warner

confidently predicted. "Our bowlers are bowling fast at the moment. England are on the back foot. It does look like they've got scared eyes at the moment."

Dashing opener Warner scored his first Ashes Test century, and skipper Clarke raised his 25th Test ton and sixth against England as the Australians rammed home their 159-run innings lead to seize control.

Clarke bounced back strongly from his first innings failure when he was caught off a Stuart Broad lifter for one, and has now scored 1,029 runs at the Gabba at an average of 114.33.

Warner raised his fourth Test ton with three runs off part-time spinner Joe Root a half-hour after lunch but later became another victim of Broad when he was caught behind for 124 off 154 balls with 13 fours and a six.

The feisty left-hander shared in a 158-run partnership with Clarke in 131 minutes and his Ashes ton followed earlier Test centuries against New Zealand (123 not out), India (180) and South Africa (119).

### BPL SPOT-FIXING

## Hearing from today

SPORTS REPORTER



A three-member tribunal will conduct the preliminary hearing of the spot-fixing allegations made against nine individuals -- who participated in the

second edition of the Bangladesh Premier League -- by the International Cricket Council's (ICC's) Anti-Corruption and Security Unit (ACSU) from today.

On August 12 this year, the ACSU charged nine individuals, including three foreigners, with breaching the Bangladesh Cricket Board's (BCB's) anti-corruption code -- seven of whom were charged for spot-fixing and two for failing to report corrupt approaches to authorities -- after conducting a six-month long investigation which included numerous interviews.

Former judge of the Supreme Court Justice Khademul Islam Chowdhury will be the convener of the tribunal. Former national cricketers Shakil Kasem and Ajmalul Hossain form the rest of the tribu-

nal formed by the chairman of the BCB's disciplinary panel

In a press conference at the old BCB office at Gulshan 1, Justice Chowdhury said, "We will try to work on the procedures as fast as possible. The preliminary hearing will begin tomorrow (today) and the final hearing will take place later on."

The accused include Mohammad Ashraful, Mohammad Rafique, Mosharraf Hossain, Mahbubul Alam, Gladiators owners Selim Chowdhury and Shihab Chowdhury, its Indian CEO Gaurav Rawat, Sri Lankan spinner Kaushal Lokuarachchi and Englishman Darren Stevens.

A question was also raised with regard to the time-frame of the hearing. According to BCB's anti-corruption code the full hearing should have taken place no longer than 40 days after the receipt of charge by the participant, save in exceptional cases.

In this regard Justice Chowdhury said, "The question over here is from when the 40-day count should start. The Tribunal has just been formed. So the count should start from the start of the tribunal."

### T20 Corporate Cricket

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Walton, Anowara Group, Beximco Pharma and DBL Group reached the last four of the Marcel 3rd T20 Corporate Cricket Tournament at the Dhaka Residential Model School & College ground yesterday.

Beximco Pharma (112/7) beat Bando Design (110/10)

by three wickets, DBL

(174/6) posted a comfortable 67-run victory against Square Group (107/10),

Walton (83/1) outplayed Computer Source (81/10) by nine wickets and Anowara

Group (107/6) defeated Multi Securities (106/10) by four wickets.

## SA, Pakistan share series

AFP, Cape Town



Mohammad Hafeez and Umar Akmal went on a six-hitting spree before Shahid Afridi sealed a series-levelling victory for Pakistan in the second and final Twenty20 international against South Africa at Newlands on Friday.

Hafeez hit 63 off 41 balls with three sixes and Akmal hammered 64 off 38 deliveries with four sixes as Pakistan made 176 for four, easily their best total in four 20-overs matches in the space of ten days against the same opponents -- two of them in the United Arab Emirates. South Africa won all three previous matches.

**SCORES IN BRIEF**

**PAKISTAN:** 176 for 4 in 20 overs (Akmal 64, Hafeez 63, Jamshed 19, Afridi 13 not out; Steyn 2-29, Phangiso 1-33, Parnell 1-37) **SOUTH AFRICA:** 170 for 4 in 20 overs (Amla 48, Duminy 47 not out, De Kock 26, Miller 22 not out, De Villiers 13; Afridi 3-28, Ajmal 1-30) **Result:** Pakistan won by 6 runs and the two-match series was shared 1-1