

SPORT

Mash rolls back the years

SPORTS REPORTER



Mashrafe Bin Mortaza seems to have taken a page out of his past in this season's Dhaka Premier League. The straps holding the 32-year-old's legs together may be getting heavier as the days pass, but there seems to be no end to his magic.

On May 14 he had frustrated Mahmudullah Riyad's Sheikh Jamal by scoring the fastest ever List A century by a Bangladeshi against Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club. And yesterday he ran through Soumya Sarkar's Legends of Rugganj with a six-wicket haul in Fatullah.

This was only the second time that the Bangladesh limited-overs captain scalped a six-wicket haul. The only other time he reached this landmark was almost 10 years ago when he finished with figures of six for 26 against Kenya on August 15, 2006.

His six-wicket haul helped Kalabagan Krira Chakra notch a much-needed win against Legends of Rugganj. The win has given Mashrafe's side eight points and a good opportunity to avoid the relegation league.

Batting first, Rugganj were



Kalabagan Krira Chakra skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza (R) unfurled his full fury with a six-wicket haul, helping his side to a 10-run victory over Legends of Rugganj in their Dhaka Premier League fixture at the Khan Saheb Osman Ali Stadium in Fatullah yesterday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

bundled out for 191 in 49 overs. While Dewan Sabbir did the early damage by removing Rugganj openers Shahin Hossain and

Soumya Sarkar, Mashrafe arrived in the mid-stages of the league and got a number of wickets with his slower deliveries. He got the cru-

cial wickets of Mohammad Mithun and Mosharraf Hossain before the 27th over and then ran through the tail.

Kalabagan made a good start to the chase with Jashimuddin and Rohan Prem putting a 50-plus stand for the second wicket. By the time rain stopped play in the 36th over, Kalabagan were poised at 127 for four. As per the Duckworth-Lewis system, they needed 118 on board and as a result won the game comfortably by 10 runs.

A low-scoring game at the BKSP saw Gazi Group Cricketers beat Brothers Union by 43 runs. Batting first Gazi Group were bowled out for 167 in 35.2 overs. Opener Anamul Haque scored a 52-ball 46 and put on 70 with Shamsur Rahman for the first wicket. However, once Anamul got out, they crumbled.

However Brothers Union too had a tough time with the bat and were bowled out for just 124 in 40.1 overs. Mahedi Hasan, who finished with figures of four for 16, was the chief destroyer.

A half-century from Mominul Haque and a four-wicket haul from Kamrul Islam Rabbi helped Victoria Sporting Club score a 28-run win over Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club at Mirpur yesterday. Batting first, Victoria were bowled out for 247 in 49.4 overs. Sheikh Jamal however could only manage 219.



PHOTO: STAR

Having won the 2016 IPL with Sunrisers Hyderabad, Bangladesh pace sensation Mustafizur Rahman was given a royal reception when he touched down at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport last night.

SCORES IN BRIEF

GAZI GROUP CRICKETERS: 167 all out in 35.2 overs (Anamul 46, Faruque 29; Tushar 4-27, Iftekhar 3-33)

LEGENDS OF RUGGANJ: 191 all out in 49 overs (Sajjadul 48, Asif 40; Mashrafe 6-42, Dewan 3-25)

KALABAGAN KRIRA CHAKRA: 127 for 4 in 35.4 overs (Jashimuddin 33, Rohan 33; Alauddin 2-13, Tajjul 1-14)

BROTHERS UNION: 124 all out in 40.1 overs (Tushar 41, Zakir 19; Mahedi 4-16, Salehin 2-23)

VICTORIA SPORTING CLUB: 247 all out in 49.4 overs (Mominul 50, De Silva 39, Fazle 37, Nadif 36; Riyad 3-40, Abdur 2-22)

FIBA ASIA U-18 B' BALL Qualifiers start today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh will take on India in the opening match of the Treat FIBA Asia U-18 Basketball Qualifiers, which get underway tomorrow at the Shaheed Suhrawardy National Indoor Stadium in Mirpur.

Four teams -- India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and hosts Bangladesh -- will face each other once respectively in the two-day competition, and the champions will qualify for the final round to be held in Iran in July.

General secretary of Bangladesh Basketball Federation, AK Sarker, disclosed the details at a press conference at Bangladesh Olympic Association auditorium yesterday.

AKM Moinul Islam Moin, head of marketing and sales of sponsors PRAN Confectionery Limited Group, and the company's brand manager Shakhawat Ahmed also spoke on the occasion.

Gamage quits

CRICINFO

Bangladesh women coach Janak Gamage has resigned from his job on Monday following an extended period during which, he said, he worked with the team without the BCB extending his contract. His next assignment, he said, will be with Thailand women.

Gamage, a former Sri Lanka fast bowler, was appointed by the BCB in August 2014 on a one-year contract, but he was kept around for another 10 months as he took the team to the Women's World T20 in India earlier this year.

"I am leaving Dhaka tomorrow," Gamage said. "I will work with the Thailand women's team from now. I did not get any offer for extension from the BCB. There is a tournament coming up in Thailand and they have called me. I have resigned because the BCB has not shown any interest in retaining me."

'Watching local games crucial'

SPORTS REPORTER



Amid the buzz surrounding limited-overs cricket, the importance of Bangladesh improving in Test cricket somehow found a space in a Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) forum when technical committee members brought it to the notice of BCB president Nazmul Hassan Papon at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

While briefing the media about the outcome of the meeting, Papon talked about many issues from improvement in Test cricket to the current burning topic regarding the revamp of the selection panel.

"We gave our suggestions about how we can improve our performance in the longer-version, playing more Tests and longer-version cricket because it's a very important issue," said former national crick-

eter Athar Ali Khan, who is a member of the technical committee.

The allegation against poor umpiring in the domestic leagues was another major issue discussed while Papon shared ideas with technical committee members Jahangir Shah Badshah, Athar, ASM Faruque, Ishiaque Ahmed, Mainul Haque and Shafique-ul Huque Heera.

Everyone however was eager to know about the stance of the BCB president, who appeared before the media after a long gap, on the selection committee revamp proposal from the working committee. Interestingly, Papon believed that the existing system and the selectors have been doing a good job but still they felt the need for change to make it 'smoother'.

Papon informed that the final decision regarding the post of chief selector was yet to be taken and he did not get any proposal regarding the inclusion of the team manager

to the selection panel. He however said that the one point that he and the technical committee members agree on is that the coach should be in the selection panel.

"Coach was earlier also in the selection panel and we are just now going to re-introduce it," said Papon. He also stressed on an active role for the coach in the selection panel, which means he will be required to watch domestic competitions to scout new talent and take a proper decision when it comes to selecting a new player for the national team.

"It's not necessary for a coach to see all the domestic matches but it would be a responsibility for him to watch domestic matches like the selectors," he added.

When his attention was drawn to the long vacations taken by the national coach Chandika Hathurusingha, which saw him missing the last BPL matches and now the current Dhaka Premier League matches, Papon said: "How

can you tell him [to stay longer periods in Bangladesh] if he is not in the selection team and to make sure it will not continue we want to include him."

The BCB boss said that the selectors will pick the teams but they want to create a system where the ultimate decision will be taken under the leadership of cricket operations committee chairman before it comes to the president for approval.

"We however will take the best decision in the board meeting after examining everything," he promised, adding that it was in the media that he saw problems and not inside his board.

The poor and reportedly partial umpiring appeared as a dangerous malady in domestic cricket from the second-division league to the premier league and Papon said that there was no scope to tolerate this kind of malpractice, which if left unchecked can destroy the country's progress.

Eng win series on Cook's day

AFP, Chester-le-Street



Alastair Cook became the first England batsman to score 10,000 Test runs as his side sealed a series win over Sri Lanka at the Riverside on Monday.

England won the second Test by nine wickets with more than a day to spare to go an unassailable 2-0 up in the three-match series.

Set 79 for victory after making Sri Lanka follow-on, England finished on 80 for one.

Left-handed opener Cook was 47 not out and Nick Compton, who hit the winning runs 22 not out.

His innings saw Cook score the five he needed to become just the 12th player of all time to make 10,000 Test runs.

Cook reached the landmark when he clipped Nuwan Pradeep for four through mid-wicket, having got off the mark with an edged single against left-arm spinner Rangana Herath.

At 31 years and 157 days he was the youngest player ever to achieve the feat, beating the previous record of India great Sachin Tendulkar (31 years and 326 days).

Earlier, Dinesh Chandimal made it all possible by ensuring that England bat again as the Sri Lankan scored an excellent hundred to lead Sri Lanka to 475 in their second innings.

Chandimal's 126 was his sixth hundred in 27 Tests but first outside Asia.

He received excellent support from Rangana Herath (61) in seventh-wicket



Alastair Cook became the first Englishman to reach 10,000 Test runs on the fourth day of the second Test against Sri Lanka in Chester-le-Street yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

stand of 116.

Sri Lanka resumed on 309 for five, 88 runs adrift of England's 498 for nine declared built around Moeen Ali's Test-best 155 not out.

Chandimal was 54 not out overnight

and Milinda Siriwardana unbeaten on 35 after Sri Lanka captain Angelo Mathews (80) and Kaushal Silva (60) initially kept England at bay.

Siriwardana had not added a run to his overnight score when he edged Anderson straight

YOUNGEST TO REACH 10,000 TEST RUNS

Name	Country	Age
Alastair Cook	Eng	31y 5m 5days
Sachin Tendulkar	Ind	31y 10m 20days
Jacques Kallis	SA	33y 4m 10days
Ricky Ponting	Aus	33y 5m 11days

Alastair Cook is the first Englishman to score 9,000 and 10,000 Test runs. The next highest on the list is Graham Gooch with 8,900 runs.

Although he is the youngest to reach the landmark, he is by no means the fastest in terms of innings. Brian Lara, Sachin Tendulkar and Kumar Sangakkara all reached the mark in 195 innings. Cook has taken

to Alex Hales at gully to end a stand worth 92.

Chandimal, however, cover-drove Broad for four and late-cut Anderson behind point for another boundary.

SCORES IN BRIEF

ENGLAND: First innings 498 for 9 decl

SRI LANKA: First innings 101

SRI LANKA: Second innings 475 (Karunaratne 26, Silva 60, Mendis 26, Mathews 80, Chandimal 126, Siriwardana 35, Herath 61; Anderson 5-58, Woakes 2-103)

ENGLAND: Second innings 81 for 1 (Cook 47 not out, Hales 11, Compton 22 not out; Siriwardana 1-37)

Result: England won by nine wickets and lead three-match series 2-0.

Player-of-the-match: James Anderson.

Mariners overcome S Bima

SPORTS REPORTER

Mariner Youngs Club edged Sadharan Bima by 4-3 goals a thrilling encounter of the Green Delta Insurance Premier Division Hockey League at Maulana Bhashani National Stadium yesterday.

Shohanur Rahman Sabuj converted penalty corner goals early in the first half to give Mariners a 2-0 lead before Ziaur Rahman reduced the margin. Mainul Islam Koushik then struck a in the 42nd minute as Mariners regained a two-goal cushion, but Ziaur converted his second penalty corner to keep Sadharan Bima in the tie.

Ashrafur Islam extended the margin yet again, but Faisal Hossain's 61 st minute strike made sure the Mariners lived a nervous last ten minutes before eventually winning.

In another match, Wari Club beat Ajax Sporting Club 2-0. Obiad Hasan struck both the goals -- from penalty corners -- in the 15th and 18th minutes of the match.