

SPORT

SCOREBOARDS

TITANS V DYNAMITES

Khulna Titans	R/B	4s/6s		
Fletcher c Nasir b Sunzamul	20/16	1/1		
Hasanuzzaman run out	0/0	0/0		
Shuvagata b Bravo	24/20	4/0		
Mahmudullah c Bravo				
b Shahid	62/44	4/4		
Pooran c Sangakkara b Bravo	16/16	1/1		
Talbur not out	21/22	1/0		
Cooper not out	1/2	0/0		
Extras: (lb-2, w-11)	13			
Total: (For 5 wkts in 20 overs)	157			
Did not bat: Junaid, Shafiul, Mosharraf, Ariful				
Fall of wickets: 1-3, 2-23, 3-67, 4-96, 5-153				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Shakib	3	0	17	0
Sunzamul	3	0	22	1
Coles	4	0	32	0
Prasanna	1	0	11	0
Bravo	4	0	27	2
Shahid	4	0	38	1
Nasir	1	0	8	0

Dhaka Dynamites		R/B	4s/6s	
Maruf lbw b Cooper		6/6	1/0	
Sangakkara c Mahmudullah				
b Junaid		2/6	0/0	
Coles b Shafiul		11/9	1/1	
Nasir c Shafiul b Cooper		7/8	1/0	
Mosaddek c Shuvagata				
b Mosharraf		35/28	2/2	
Shakib b Mosharraf		8/13	0/0	
Bravo c Junaid b Talbur		4/6	1/0	
Sunzamul c Talbur b Mosharraf		12/15	1/0	
Prasanna c Ariful b Cooper		53/22	0/7	
Shuvo run out		2/3	0/0	
Shahid not out		1/1	0/0	
Extras: (lb-3, w-2, nb-2)		7		
Total: (All out in 19.1 overs)		148		
Fall of wickets: 1-10, 2-14, 3-22, 4-30, 5-68, 6-73, 7-83, 8-139, 9-145				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Junaid	4	0	18	1
Cooper	3.1	0	35	3
Shafiul	4	0	21	1
Ariful	2	0	20	0
Shuvagata	1	0	15	0
Mosharraf	4	0	31	3
Talbur	1	0	5	1

Result: Khulna Titans won by 9 runs
Player of the match: Mosharraf Hossain

VICTORIANS V KINGS

Comilla Victorians	R/B	4s/6s		
Nazmul c Mehedi b Sammy	41/40	4/0		
Khalid c Junaid b Farhad	6/9	1/0		
Shehzad c Junaid b Mehedi	11/7	2/0		
Imrul run out	34/25	5/0		
Mashrafe Nurul b Sammy	10/10	1/0		
Ten Doeschate not out	21/15	1/0		
Tanvir not out	15/15	1/0		
Extras: (lb-5, w-8, nb-1)	14			
Total: (For 5 wickets in 20 overs)	152			
Did not bat: Sharif, Liton, Saifuddin, Nabil				
Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-41, 3-84, 4-103, 5-111				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Mehedi	4	0	29	1
Sami	4	0	26	0
Farhad	4	0	26	1
Abul Hasan	4	0	32	0
Sammy	4	0	34	2

Rajshahi Kings	R/B	4s/6s
Mominul c Khalid b Ten Doeschate	53/43	5/1
Junaid b Sohail	10/13	1/0
Sabbir c Khalid b Sohail	0/1	0/0
Umar c Imrul b Saifuddin	3/12	0/0
Nurul c Nazmul b Saifuddin	8/9	0/0
Patel b Mashrafe	12/14	1/0
Sammy run out	0/1	0/0
Mehedi c Liton b Sohail	5/10	0/0
Farhad c Liton b Sohail	1/3	0/0
Abul Hasan not out	6/3	1/0
Sami b Saifuddin	7/5	1/0
Extras: (lb-4, w-11)	15	
Total: (All out in 19 overs)	120	
Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-27, 3-40, 4-66, 5-91, 6-91, 7-105, 8-105, 9-107		

Result: Comilla Victorians won by 32 runs
Player of the match: Sohail Tanvir



Dhaka Dynamites' Seekkuge Prasanna used his muscles to devastating effect, smacking seven sixes for a 22-ball 53. But his late thunder was not enough for Dhaka to avoid a nine-run defeat against Khulna Titans in Chittagong yesterday.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

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India tighten grip

AFP, Visakhapatnam



Skipper Virat Kohli struck a dominant half-century Saturday to help India tighten their grip on the second Test after England's pacers rattled the Indian top order on the third day.

India were 98 for three at stumps with Kohli and Ajinkya Rahane at the crease.

With the hosts having stretched their second innings lead to a formidable 298, it will be an uphill battle for England from here on.

It was off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin's five-wicket haul that helped India bowl out England shortly before tea and gain a crucial 200-run lead.

England seamers came back roaring as Stuart Broad, who is doubtful for the rest of the match after suffering injury, sent the Indian openers trudging back to the pavilion early in their second essay.

Murali Vijay was caught at gully while Lokesh Rahul was plucked behind as England successfully used the review system on both occasions after the on-field umpire had adjudged the batsmen not out.

Kohli and Rahane then got together to put up an unbeaten 58-run stand and thwarted the persistent bowling attack in the final hour of play.

SCORES IN BRIEF

INDIA: First innings 455
ENGLAND: First innings 255 (Root 53, Stokes 70, Bairstow 53; Ashwin 5-67)
INDIA: Second innings 98 for 3 (Kohli 56, Rahane 22; Broad 2-6)

Jimmy, Chayan power Bangladesh past HK

SPORTS REPORTER



Bangladesh started their title defence of the AHF Cup on a positive note as the two-time defending champions beat hosts Hong Kong 4-2 at the Kings Park Stadium yesterday. Skipper Rasel Mahmud Mamunur Rahman

Jimmy and defender Chayan scored a brace apiece as the men in red and green cruised to victory in the first match.

The charges of Oliver Kurtz, who went through a conditioning camp in Germany and played number of practice matches in Poland and Austria last month, took the lead in the 22nd minute through a penalty corner conversion by Chayan. The Penalty corner specialist doubled Bangladesh's lead three minutes later before Jimmy scored another from a penalty

stroke on 33rd minutes as Bangladesh took a stranglehold on the game. The hosts deposited one back in the final minute of the first half and made things a bit tighter by scoring again on the 42nd minute.

However, any hopes of an upset were quashed when Jimmy, recently handed the captain's armband for the first time since 2012, scored a field goal on the 52nd minute. After which, there were no more goals scored at either end, allowing Bangladesh to leave the pitch with a comfortable victory and more importantly, without conceding any booking.

Earlier in the first match of the tournament, Chinese Taipei defeated Macau 2-0.

Next, Jimmy and Co. take on Chinese Taipei tomorrow before facing Macau on Tuesday in the final game of Pool A in this second-tier competition in Asia, which is also a qualifying platform for next year's Asian Cup.



JIMMY



CHAYAN

Titans survive Prasanna scare to win thriller

SPORTS REPORTER



If you suffer from high blood pressure, then it is not a good idea to be a Khulna Titans fan at the moment, for they seem to find themselves in the midst of last

over finishes almost every time they take the field.

In the past, they stole matches by defending six or seven runs but yesterday it seemed as though they were about to get a taste of their own medicine when Dhaka Dynamites Seekuge Prasanna's half-century almost took away a game that the Titans should have comfortably won.

After Mahmudullah's composed 44-ball 62 helped the Titans finish on 157, they reduced the Dynamites to 83 for 7 after 14 overs. With their main players back in the pavilion, the game seemed done and dusted. However, that is when Prasanna, who previously had just one half-century in T20 cricket to his name, unleashed the magic.

He began by hammering Kevon Cooper for three sixes in the 16th. Those three hits displayed the immense power that Prasanna possesses. He first hit Cooper over the cow corner and then slammed him over long-off two more times.

In the next over he hit Shafiul Islam over his head for a six. Hence, from 65 required off 30 balls, the equation came drastically down to 32 required off 18.

The game then seemed to slip out of Khulna's hands when Mosharraf Hossain, who until then bowled brilliantly, was hit down the track twice for sixes by Prasanna.

While Mosharraf did manage to get Sanjamul Islam caught off the fourth ball of that over, he leaked three more runs off the next ball and that brought up Prasanna's half-century off just 18 balls, the quickest in this edition of the tournament so far and the second-fastest in the tournament's history, bested only by Ahmed Shahzad's 16-ball 50 when he represented the Barisal Burners in 2012.

Prasanna seven sixes are also a second-best as Sabbir Rahman had bludgeoned nine sixes during his 122 off 61 balls earlier this edition. Interestingly, Prasanna hit all seven of his sixes off the first 16 balls he faced, meaning he dispatched every other ball over the rope during that time.

With 15 required from 12 balls and Prasanna on strike, it seemed as though the Dynamites had the game was in the bag.

However, Junaid Khan bowled a good 19th over that saw him give away just five runs. It also saw Sohrawadi Shuvo get run out and that brought the last batsman onto the crease.

In the last over, the Dynamites needed ten runs from six balls with Prasanna still on strike. Many expected Mahmudullah Riyad -- who had bowled tightly in the last overs in the past two games to lead them to wins -- would bowl the last over. However, he did the sensible thing and gave Cooper the ball. Yes, he might have been smacked for three sixes by Prasanna during the game, but it would have been riskier to play a spinner against Prasanna.

The plan clicked and Prasanna was caught at long-off off the first ball of the over. It was a length ball, which he failed to time to perfection and as a result was dismissed. Khulna had once again edged home by a whisker, this time by nine runs.

Cooper and Mosharraf finished with three wickets each.

The win tied the Titans with Dhaka and Rangpur at the top with eight points each. But Khulna, with a game in hand, are in an advantageous position.

Earlier, Mahmudullah's 62 off 44 balls, which saw him hit four fours and four sixes, helped revive Khulna from 23 for 2. He was particularly harsh against the spinners from the start, taking Sanjamul and Prasanna away for two sixes and a four.

As time progressed, Mahmudullah decided to play the anchor role and started working on singles. It was during the last five overs that he planned to take the attack to the bowlers again and this time he hit Mohammad Shahid over mid-wicket for a six to bring his half-century up in style. He hit two more fours before eventually losing his wicket in the last over.

'I think every team has a unique DNA'

Sri Lankan batting legend Mahela Jayawardene is currently in Bangladesh to play for Dhaka Dynamites in the Bangladesh Premier League. And in a freewheeling interview on Friday with The Daily Star's Naimul Karim in Chittagong, he shed light on his post-retirement life, discussed Bangladesh's rise in international cricket and spoke about how Mosaddek Hossain plays the cut shot better than him. Following are the excerpts of the interview.

The Daily Star (TDS): It has been two years since your international retirement. Is post-retirement life difficult?
Mahela Jayawardene (MJ): No, not really. When I retired from international cricket I had always planned that retirement. The reason I have played a bit of cricket around the world is that while I was playing for Sri Lanka I never really had the opportunity to play and enjoy myself. I think there is a lot more pressure when you are playing for your country and the last two to two-and-a-half years have been good for me. I got to play in different leagues, be in different countries and meet different people. I never played county cricket before either. It was only after I retired that I went and played two seasons. At the same time I get to spend more time with my family because they can travel with me.

TDS: You were always an aggressive player on the field. Off it though you were regarded as one of the gentlest cricketers. How do you strike that balance?

MJ: I played the game really hard but I respected each and every opposition. Yes I wanted to win the matches, but in the right spirit. You have to respect the game. The game is above all of you or anyone. You have to value that and have good values as a professional sportsman as well. Yes I have played

hard. Whenever I had to get into certain people I did, but in the right way. But I have always walked away from the ground having good friends and people I think appreciate that kind of camaraderie rather than anything else. That's probably why I have made many good friends throughout my cricketering career.

TDS: The elegance with which you batted has inspired so many cricketers. Was that something that came naturally to you?

MJ: It was natural. But the thing is I always tell young cricketers don't try to copy someone because it is hard work to copy someone. Everyone has got his or her own identity. The way you have been built is different for each and every individual. It would have been a very boring place if each and everyone was the same. So I always wanted to back myself with my ability. Yes, I have taken lot of things from different players; how they think about the game, how they approach certain things. I have learnt from that but I have always been close to my own identity.

TDS: You were a part of the Sri Lankan team that went through two transitions. It's going through another one right now. Do you think they are on the right track?

MJ: There is no hard and fast rule about how best you can have a transition. I

think it's all up to the individual players to believe that you are good enough. Obviously the first two transitions when the people left, yes we had big holes, but we had talent coming through. So, I think you know even with the latest transitions you see quite

ence is how you manage the game up here. How you prepare yourself and discipline yourself and approach. That's where the big battles are won. **TDS:** Bangladesh has gone through a transition as well, haven't they?
MJ: I think they have come a long way



a few young Sri Lankan players have come through. You just need time and confidence to develop.

I always feel that it's a mind game. 75 per cent is up here (points towards his head). Everyone is naturally gifted. Some might be a little bit different than the others. But the biggest differ-

ence in the last four years. Obviously having a good Sri Lankan coaching group has helped them. It's a very steady set up. They have given lots of good opportunities to some very exciting talent and they are reaping good rewards. But you still have the nucleus of Tamim [Iqbal], Mashrafe [Bin] Mortaza, Shakib [Al

Hasan], Mushfiq [ur Rahim] and Mahmudullah [Riyad].

Some of the times you feel... like if you see in the T20 World Cup where they didn't finish matches off, that is a criticism you have in Bangladesh. That consistency is not there. That belief that they could consistently beat teams and kill the games off... even in this Test series, they should have won the first Test and they should have won the one-day series as well. So that killer instinct is lacking but that's something that will come with experience. But there is a huge rise in Bangladesh's cricket.

TDS: Is it too early to compare Bangladesh's rise to that of Sri Lanka in the 90s?

MJ: I don't like to compare different teams or eras or whatever. I think every team has a unique DNA. The culture of Bangladesh is different to Sri Lanka, Pakistan or even India. That DNA needs to come through. Because I have always said, we need to play the Sri Lankan brand of cricket to win matches either at home or away. If we play the Sri Lankan brand of cricket we can beat any team. We can win World Cups. That's what we have done. We have come to six or seven World Cup finals in the last 15 years and that is because we played our brand of cricket. So the DNA needs to come through.
TDS: What's your take on some of the

youngsters in the BPL and the Dynamites?

MJ: Well obviously, this is the first time I have seen Mosaddek [Hossain]. He is a fantastic player. The way he controls the game at such a young age and without much experience is fantastic, and obviously Mehedi Maruf as well. He didn't play first class cricket for a while but he has come back. The maturity he shows when he bats is brilliant. There are a lot of youngsters from the under 19s who are doing well too.

TDS: Mosaddek likes to play the cut quite a bit. That's something that you did often, didn't you?

MJ: (Laughs). He is probably playing it much better than me to be honest. I didn't have that much power over extra cover or cover.

TDS: You have played just one game. But still, how has the BPL treated you so far?

MJ: It has so far has been very good. The experience has been very good security wise as well as with our owners. It's a very good franchise. I have only played one game purely because of the combination we have and we have a very good team. There are very exciting young players in the Dhaka team and we have done very well with our combination. As a tournament it has come a long way in the last three to four years. The level has improved.