

Tigers go down fighting in the end

PLEASURE IS ALL MINE



SHAH HUSAIN IMAM

AFTER the India-Bangladesh T-20 match in the Nidahas Trophy, 2018 tri-series on Wednesday, I felt that the Tigers had deprived themselves of a back-to-back victory. Closely on the heels of last Saturday's epic win against Sri Lanka chasing down a target of 215 runs, the fourth highest in the history of international T-20 cricket, Bangladesh fancied its chances to defeat India.

It had lost by one run and all but clinched a match against a full Indian side in Bengaluru a couple of years back. But the team that India fielded at the Premadasa Stadium was not quite at full strength, though suffused with tested younger players. So man-to-man they could be matched and outplayed—so Bangladesh thought, especially after that gargantuan victory against Sri Lanka.

India won the second match against Bangladesh on Wednesday by 17 runs, a much narrower margin of victory than in the first encounter which India won by six wickets against the Tigers.

India put up a score of 176 for 3 wickets setting Bangladesh a gettable target of 177 in 120 balls. We finished our innings at 159 for the loss of six wickets. India goes to the finals through three straight wins, leaving Bangladesh and Sri Lanka perhaps in a semi-final contest. Both teams have another round to play. And, who gets the finalist's slot to play against India will be decided in favour of the team accumulating better run rate going forward. Can Bangladesh be in the reckoning? One wonders!

The scorecards do not give off the full cadence of the bowling and batting struggles between the two teams with only 120 balls to play for. Split-second change of gears and use of skill variants based on the template of the constantly changing over to run ratios make the T-20 version of cricket so challenging and attractive.

The pitch for Bangla-India match

was slow, so both sides made a languid start. India's 49 in six powerplay overs compared with Bangladesh's 51 in seven overs. But we lost our top batsmen in quick succession, something that's amply illustrated by Bangladesh being at 64 for 4, vis-à-vis India's 68 for none.

Our bowling cramped India right up to the 15th over when big hitters like Shikhar Dhawan and Rohit Sharma were kept unusually quiet by good bowling. Rubel bowled fiercely in the crucial 17th and 20th over. Although Mustafiz was not at his best, he came in for a round of praise by Sunil Gavaskar.

Frequent bowling changes in terms of the end from which they bowled and trying new bowlers may have betrayed a sign of indecisiveness. Still the fact that India was contained well within 180 runs must go down as a measure of generally effective bowling.

in a line-up!"

Mushfiqur Rahim, fondly called "pocket dynamo" or "pocket rocket", almost made it to the finishing line this time also with his unbeaten 72 in 55 balls. He could have repeated his Premadasa victory against Sri Lanka in the game with India, had a near-flying start been given by our specialist batters; they wouldn't have thrown away their wickets; and he would have partners like Sabbir a little earlier on.

To the BCCB president's reported expression of surprise over Mushfiqur's massive sixes, the "cheeky" batsman who puts "punch" into his shots as Sunil Gavaskar noted, merely pointed to the hard training sessions he was having of which the BCCB chief might not be aware.

It is somewhat inexplicable why Courtney Walsh's name hardly figures in discussions even though



Mushfiqur Rahim (Right) celebrates after pulling off a magnificent last-over victory against Sri Lanka in a Nidahas Trophy tri-series T20I at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo on March 10.

PHOTO: BCB

Even Pakistani commentator Aamir Sohail who had abrasively termed Bangladesh's bowling "pedestrian" against Sri Lanka in a match we would win magnificently in the end, spoke in praise of our bowling effort against India. In a cryptic remark, he wondered that although India was getting "ascendancy, why it was not blasting." He was effusively appreciative of Mustafizur, adding, "What a wonderful bowler to have

he is now head coach of team Bangladesh, stand by that he may be. Notably since his elevation to that position, Bangladesh has been performing better than before—the last two matches should bear that out. Credit needs to be given where it is due.

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With Stephen Hawking's death, humankind has lost a brilliant mind. His groundbreaking work in the field of physics and cosmology has given the world a better understanding of black holes and relativity.

Black holes dissolving like aspirin

How Hawking changed physics

MARIETTE LE ROUX

WHEN Stephen Hawking postulated in the mid-1970s that black holes leak radiation, slowly dissolving like aspirin in a glass of water, he overturned a core tenet of the Universe.

Ever since Albert Einstein published his theory of general relativity in 1915, predicting the existence of black holes, it was thought they devour everything in their vicinity, including light. Black holes, it was thought, were bottomless pits from which matter and energy could never escape.

But Hawking, sometimes described as the most influential theoretical physicist since Einstein, questioned this, saying that black holes were not really black at all and must emit particles. In so doing, he touched on a persistent headache for physicists: Einstein's theory, which has withstood every experimental test so far, does not explain the behaviour of particles in the subatomic, "quantum" sphere.

Considered controversial at first, Hawking's black hole theory pointed to a possible bridge between the two mainstay physics theories—general relativity and quantum mechanics.

"Hawking realised that black holes, these objects that are made of gravity,

because of quantum mechanics... can actually emit particles," astrophysicist Patrick Sutton of Cardiff University said. "This was the first case where we had a physical process that links gravity, this classical theory of gravity, with quantum mechanics."

The mechanism was named "Hawking radiation" after the famous scientist who died on Wednesday—Einstein's birthday.

And it painted a completely new portrait of black holes.

"Stephen Hawking discovered that when the quantum laws governing the physics of atoms and elementary particles were applied to black holes, the surprising outcome was that black holes actually must emit radiation," physicist Raymond Volkas of the University of Melbourne said via the Australian Science Media Centre.

'Theory of Everything'

Hawking showed that because black holes give off radiation they actually have a temperature. And in losing mass and energy, they would slowly shrink and eventually evaporate — "a real shock" proposition, according to Sutton.

"Hawking's most important scientific legacy is his idea that black holes slowly dissolve like aspirin in a glass of water," said Lisa Harvey-Smith of the University of New South Wales.

But Hawking radiation in turn

posed a new problem, the so-called "black hole information paradox." If a black hole disappears, all the cosmological information from matter and energy that initially went into it will disappear too. But physics predicts that information can never be lost.

Hawking himself had conceded a wager on the point, having initially bet that black hole information will ultimately be lost.

"It is still the focus of theoretical interest, a topic of debate and controversy more than 40 years after his discovery," said British cosmologist Martin Rees. A former collaborator of Hawking, he added, once described the radiation theory as causing "more sleepless nights among theoretical physicists than any paper in history."

Hawking radiation has heavily influenced the ongoing quest for "New Physics," a "Theory of Everything" that can unify general relativity with quantum mechanics.

Besides his deep imprints on theoretical physics, many credit Hawking's popularisation of science with motivating their own interest and careers. "His impact on the public understanding of science is almost beyond measure," said Harvey-Smith.

Mariette Le Roux is a journalist for the Agence France-Presse (AFP). Copyright: AFP

Looking at climate change through culture and art

MERAZ MOSTAFA

IF you go to Cape Farewell's website, you will see written in large letters, against what seems to be a giant glacial art installation, the question: "What does Culture have to do with Climate Change?" And just below it, the answer, written plainly: "Everything."

Cape Farewell was started by UK artist David Buckland back in 2001 to inspire a cultural response to climate change. Bringing together artists working in a wide variety of mediums together with climate scientists, the project attempts to push society to imagine a more sustainable and vibrant future.

They believe—just as I do—that climate change is not just a scientific problem, but a cultural issue as well. As we continue to burn fossil fuels and emit greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, societies around the planet will have to learn what it means to live in a warmer world.

This is why we are hosting the "Climate, Culture, and Art Symposium 2018" for the youth at the end of the week. (Registration for the event itself is closed; but read till the end if you want to attend the final programme.)

As part of the Climate Youth Initiative Project funded by USAID, the symposium will bring together youth from across the country—from both private and public

universities—to engage with climate change from a cultural and arts perspective.

Loss of traditional culture and folklore

For instance, as our country's seasonal patterns change, we have to ask difficult questions about what will happen to festivals such as Poush Mela and Chaitra Shangkranti (celebrated respectively by Bengali Muslims and Bengali Hindus) at the start of the winter if winter no longer comes?

And what about the words of Khona, the famous astrologer who lived between the 9th and 12th century CE in Bengal? Her proverbs about agriculture, will they still be relevant under these new climate conditions, when rains no longer come at the time of year they used to?

Then there are the Bauls, who would wander around preaching their wisdom through songs, drawing their inspiration from nature. As the country has quickly urbanised and our natural ecosystems transformed, what will happen to their way of life? How will this be reflected in their songs?

Now, of course, we have to recognise this loss is not all due to climate change but also rapid industrialisation and modernisation. There is a whole generation of urban youth who know more about *Westeros*, the fictional land of the hit TV show *Game of Thrones*, than they do about the weaving

rivers of Bangladesh.

As this new generation loses touch with traditional practices that would have otherwise tied them to the rhythms of the landscape, will they even notice the Earth's atmosphere changing around them?

The poster child for climate change?

Dr Kasia Paprocki, an assistant professor at the Department of Geography and

As this new generation loses touch with traditional practices that would have otherwise tied them to the rhythms of the landscape, will they even notice the Earth's atmosphere changing around them?

Environment at LSE, wrote an important opinion piece recently in Al Jazeera titled "We need to change the way we talk about climate change."

In it, she argues that the story of Bangladesh as the poster child of the biggest victim of climate change is not only worn out and untrue, but a liability for the country to successfully adapt. This is because this

narrative defines the country by "powerlessness, inferiority, dependency, and failure."

Part of the symposium will challenge participants to think about where this outdated understanding of Bangladesh comes from, and how we can tell our own stories of a people who have survived the most volatile natural hazards. As climate expert Dr Saleemul Huq always says, "We are not the

a distinct Bengali identity.

And I believe young artists can do the same thing again, this time to help the public confront climate change. Because as the famous climate change slogan goes: "To change everything, we need everyone!"

Plus by art, I don't just mean paintings, but also theatre, poetry, film, photographs, and emerging forms of multimedia.

This is why the "Climate, Culture, and Art Symposium 2018" will end with closing performances with help from Open Space Theatre; sound designers who worked on the Dhaka Noise project; poets whose words I'm sure have inspired you; rickshaw artists from Old Dhaka; and many more.

Whether you are a concerned citizen, a researcher, a practitioner, an artist yourself or even a student who dreams of one day changing the world, we would love to have you at the final day session of our symposium.

The closing programme of the "Climate, Culture, and Art Symposium 2018" will be held at the auditorium of the Independent University, Bangladesh in Bashundhara on Saturday, March 17. Doors open at 4pm.

Meraz Mostafa is a research officer at the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) at the Independent University, Bangladesh.

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY



My Lai Massacre Memorial Site, Vietnam

March 16, 1968
US TROOPS KILLED HUNDREDS OF UNARMED CIVILIANS IN VIETNAM IN WHAT IS KNOWN AS MY LAI MASSACRE

The 504 victims of the My Lai Massacre included many children and infants. In the aftermath, some low-level troops were lightly punished, while there was an unwillingness to try higher officials.

CROSSWORD BY THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Up to now
- 6 Dapper
- 11 Japanese cartoon genre
- 12 Boise's state
- 13 Basic belief
- 14 Hollowed out
- 15 Arduous journey
- 17 Stew sphere
- 18 Street openings
- 22 Toe the line
- 23 Not toned
- 27 School group
- 29 Bender
- 30 Kitchen whistler
- 32 Pharmacy unit
- 33 Beach-combing find
- 35 Gear part

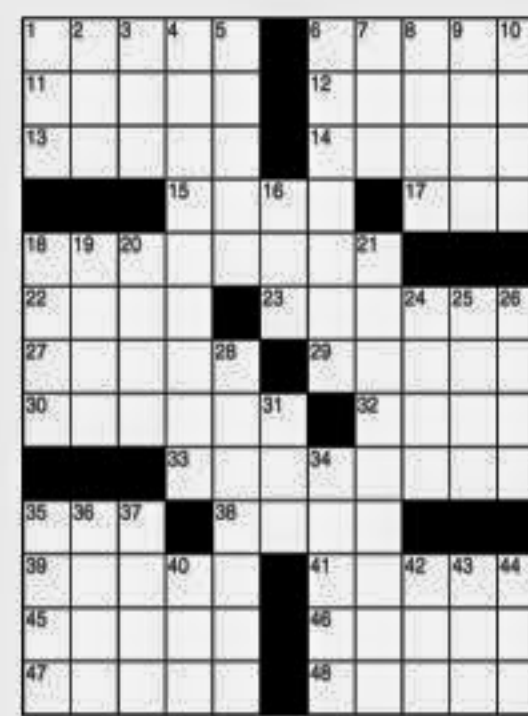
- 38 Eins und zwei
- 39 Steer clear of
- 41 Bert's buddy
- 45 Off limits
- 46 Decade parts
- 47 David's weapon
- 48 Up to now

DOWN

- 1 Used a chair
- 2 Start of a count
- 3 Shark feature
- 4 February birth-stones
- 5 Stylishly quaint
- 6 Some change
- 7 Bother
- 8 Field protector
- 9 "Of -- I Sing"
- 10 Luke's teacher

- 16 North Pole worker
- 18 Make fun of
- 19 Skilled
- 20 Tidy
- 21 September birth-stones
- 24 Goody cheese
- 25 Hotel desk fixture
- 26 Holler
- 28 Iditarod animal
- 31 Corn unit
- 34 "Bye!"
- 35 Alley prowlers
- 36 Track shape
- 37 Asian desert
- 40 Charged bit
- 42 Opposing vote
- 43 Rage
- 44 Id --

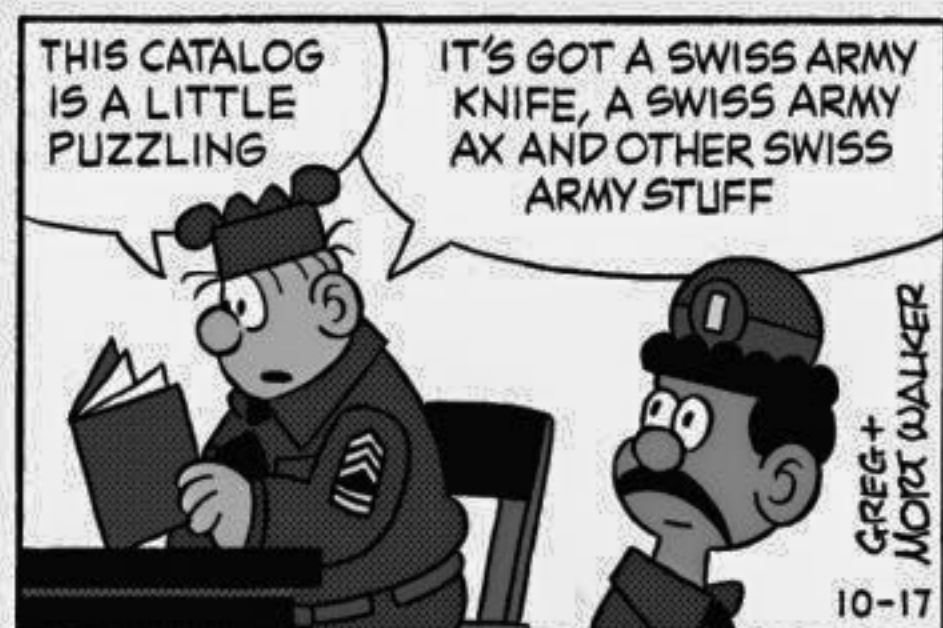
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YESTERDAY'S ANSWER



BEETLE BAILEY



BY MORT WALKER



BABY BLUES



BY KIRKMAN & SCOTT

