

FROM CRYSTAL TO GOLD

South African long jumper Luvo Manyonga said he aimed to go another season unbeaten and set his sights on the world record after snatching a brilliant victory at the Commonwealth Games. The former crystal meth addict, who shook off his problems to claim Olympic silver in 2016, underlined his growing status with a final leap of 8.41m to set a new Games record and grab gold from Australia's Henry Frayne. Manyonga said that with more time to acclimatise he could have challenged Mike Powell's world record of 8.95m set in 1991 -- the year he was born. "If I could get some more time, I could give it a try," he said of the damp and slippery Gold Coast track. "Anything can happen. I just have to focus on the run-up and technique, the rest will do itself." Such confidence underlines the heady rise of Manyonga, who was banned after testing positive for methamphetamine in 2012 and struggled with addiction before his triumphant return. --**AFP**



Mushy fulfils home ton target Sabina's dream run ends in semis

Central, South on top in likely stalemates

SPORTS REPORTER



Mushfiquir Rahim's unbeaten hundred was the highlight of the third day of the fourth-round Bangladesh Cricket League (BCL) matches yesterday. The right-hander's century in his first appearance in this season's BCL kept North Zone's hopes of averting the follow-on and saving the match against Central Zone alive at the Shaheed Chandu Stadium in Bogura. At the Sylhet International Stadium, South Zone's end-of-day score of 142 for three in the second innings, which gave them an overall lead of 245, puts them on top against East Zone, but only a dramatic turn can produce result at either venue.

Abu Hider struck in the second over of the day when North Zone resumed their innings on nought for nought in reply to Central Zone's 529, but Mizanur Rahman (32) and Nazmul Hossain (45) shared a 72-run second-wicket stand to repair the damage. Left-arm spinner Mosharraf Hossain removed both batsmen as North went to lunch on 98 for three. Mushfiquir then stood firm when wickets were tumbling regularly at the other end. Pacer Ebadat Hossain did most of the damage by claiming three wickets before Taijul Islam (21 not out) joined Mushfiquir to frustrate Central Zone.

"It feels really good as I made a hundred in my first appearance in this season's BCL. I had a target before the resumption of the BCL that I would start with a century at my home ground and Alhamdulillah, I achieved it. Now my main target is to save the follow-on so that we can save



Mushfiquir Rahim achieved his target of scoring a century at his home ground of Bogura's Shaheed Chandu Stadium in his first appearance for North Zone this season on the third day of the fourth-round Bangladesh Cricket League match against Central Zone yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

the match," Mushfiquir, whose last domestic first-class hundred came at BKSP in January 2014, told The Daily Star over phone after yesterday's play.

One of the biggest stars in Bangladesh cricket, Mushfiquir hit seven fours and a six during his unbeaten 199-ball 101-run innings. He played 143 balls and hit three fours to reach his fifty and then took only 51 balls to complete his hundred.

At the Sylhet International Stadium, Liton Das could not add much to his overnight score of 60 as the right-hander was dismissed by spinner Nayeem Hasan for 75. Nayeem also removed the other overnight batsman Yasir Ali quickly as East Zone went for lunch on 190 for six after resuming the day at 95 for three.

East Zone however managed to reach 300 in reply to South Zone's 403, thanks to a 114-run

seventh wicket partnership between Jaker Ali and Mohammad Saifuddin, who was unbeaten on 75 during his 146-run vigil that contained nine fours and two sixes. Jaker scored 76 off 154 balls with six fours and four sixes.

Pacer Kamrul Islam took more wickets on the third day to finish as the most successful bowler with four for 93 while Abdur Razzak and Nayeem took three wickets each.

South Zone extended the lead to 245 runs with seven wickets remaining as 10,000-run pioneer Tushar Imran, who made a hundred in the first innings, continued his form with an unbeaten 46 and Soumya Sarkar kept him company with 29 as South ended on a dominant note.

Mohammad Ashraful took two wickets after Abu Jayed removed Anamul Haque for a duck.

SPORTS REPORTER



Sabina Khatun's dream run in the Hero Indian Women League came to an abrupt end when her side Sethu FC suffered a 0-2 semi-final defeat against holders Eastern Sporting Club in Shillong yesterday.

The game was settled in the 30-minute extra time, where Eastern scored twice in the first half with Premi Devi and Mandakani scoring in the space of six minutes. Sabina was not on the pitch at that time. She was substituted in the second half and watched her side's departure from the dugout.

The Bangladesh captain took Sethu to the last four with six goals in four straight wins. But she was allowed little space yesterday by a team that also neutralized her in their last group league game, which ended in a 1-1 draw last Sunday.

The 24-year-old striker from Satkhira might have come unstuck in a crucial hurdle, but she has already won a lot of praise for her scoring prowess. She scored six of her side's 11 goals in an impressive campaign -- a strong statement from a genuine markswomen. Besides, it was her influence that took the team from Mizoram all that way to the semifinals.

The Indian League was also Sabina's first major test in a big competition outside Bangladesh after her participation in the Maldives Futsal tournament. Her fluid runs, precise passing and cool finishing has already made her one of the starters in the Indian Women's League this year.

"Relentless on the field, entertaining to watch and delivering goals so often, Sabina Khatun has indeed proven to be Bangladesh's gift to the Indian Women's League," Goal.com writer Manasi Pathak Manasi wrote in an article.

Interestingly, Sabina's participation in India along with Krishan Rani, who made a brief appearance as a substitute for

Sabina in the semifinal, was almost stalled when both were initially denied visas. However, they finally got the visa after much deliberation and the rest looked inspiring as far as the future of Bangladesh's women footballers, who get little opportunity to showcase their skills due to the absence of regular domestic leagues coupled with a poor structure for women's football, is concerned.

For Sabina, the Indian experience must be great. Sabina is one of the few women players who continued to train with the Under-15 team round the year in an attempt to keep herself match-fit. She also hoped that the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) would revive the domestic League, which was last played in 2013.

"In Bangladesh, the league has been shut for the last three or four years. I am hopeful and look forward to our girls playing the league in our homeland. Last time around, there were 8 teams. Hopefully, more teams will attend this year," said Sabina in a recent interview with Goal.com.



Shakib wins Tiger derby Fizz's best effort in vain

STAR SPORT DESK



Mumbai Indian's Mustafizur Rahman with a brilliant penultimate over almost turned what was a

Tiger derby on its head against Shakib Al Hasan's Sunrisers Hyderabad in a pulsating Indian Premier League game in Hyderabad yesterday.

But despite the excellent effort from the left-arm pace bowler in that eventful over in which he took two wickets and conceded just one run, Mumbai Indians failed to defend 11 runs in the final over and conceded a heart-stopping one-wicket defeat.

Billy Stanlake hit the winning runs off the last ball of Ben Cutting, who went for a massive six of the first delivery before conceding three singles after a wide. Deepak Hooda, who hit that crucial six over extra-cover, took Hyderabad over the line with an unbeaten 32 off 25 balls.

Hyderabad were supposed to win the game comfortably after restricting Mumbai to a modest 147 for eight. Shakib played his part in yet another tight bowling effort led by leg-spinner Rashid Khan, who ended with fabulous figures of one for 13 from four overs, which included 18 dot balls. After completing a brilliant catch at square-leg to see the back of Mumbai captain Rohit Sharmar, Shakib, who was introduced in the seventh over, took the wicket Siddarth Kaul. He finished with one

for 34 in his fours overs.

But it was Mustafizur, who played a more dominant role in the match against his former team. He made the vital breakthrough after Hyderabad raced to 73 for one in 7.5 overs. He dismissed Hyderabad captain Kane Williamson for six.

Hyderabad were well in sight of an easy win despite losing Williamson and Shakib, who scored a run-a-ball 12. They needed 15 runs from the last 18 deliveries with five wickets standing. But Jasprit Bumrah's two wickets of successive deliveries in the 18th over, that yielded only three runs followed by Mustafizur's gold-standard penultimate over gave Mumbai a sniff of an unlikely victory. But the defending champions eventually ended up at the receiving end of two consecutive close finishes after that similar margin defeat in the opening game against Chennai Super Kings. Mustafizur finished with three for 24 in his four overs.

SCORES IN BRIEF

MUMBAI INDIANS: 147 for eight in 20 overs (Sharma 11, Lewis 29, Yadav 28, Pollard 28; Sandeep 2-25, Stanlake 2-42, Rashid Khan 1-13, Shakib 1-34) **SUNRISERS HYDERABAD:** 151 for nine in 20 overs (Dhawan 45, Saha 22, Shakib 12, Hooda 32 not out; Bumrah 2-32, Markande 4-23, Mustafizur 3-24) **Result:** Sunrisers Hyderabad won by one wicket

Player-of-the-match: Rashid Khan



PHOTO: AFP

Bangladesh and Sunrisers Hyderabad all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan (R) dismissed Krunal Pandya in their IPL game against Mumbai Indians in Hyderabad yesterday.

C'WEALTH GAMES Amzad fails in quarters

SPORTS REPORTER

Wrestler Mohammad Ali Amzad was eliminated from the quarterfinals of the men's freestyle 74kg weight category in the Commonwealth Games, at the Carrara Sports and Leisure Center in Gold Coast, Australia yesterday.

Amzad beat Ioabo Teetu of Kiribati by 10-0 points to move into the last-eight battle but lost the opportunity to secure a medal by suffering a 4-0 defeat to Nigerian Ebimienfaghe Assizecourt.

Meanwhile at the Belmont Shooting Center in Brisbane, shooters Suriya Akter and Sharmin Shilpa were no where near Shakil Ahmed and Abdullah Hel Baki's silver winning exploits earlier in the week.

Suraiya and Sharmin finished 14th and 17th out of 20 participants in the women's 50-metre prone event with score of 604.3 points and 599.2 points respectively. However, both the shooters will take part in the women's 50m rifle three positions today.

Laugher does dive double

AFP, Gold Coast

English diver Jack Laugher boasted that he had been "on fire" Thursday after winning the three-metre springboard for his second gold medal of the Commonwealth Games.

The Olympic silver medallist racked up a total of 519.40 points from his six dives to secure a whopping 66.7-point victory over Canada's Philippe Gagne with Australian James Connor taking bronze.

In the night's other final, Australia's Melissa Wu stunned defending champion Meaghan Benfeito of Canada with her final dive to win her first major individual title in the women's 10m platform in dramatic fashion.



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