

Manama, Najma victorious in basketball league



Manama's Devin Ebanks with a shot attempt during their game against Isa Town yesterday

TDT | Manama

Title contenders Manama and Al Najma claimed big victories last night as part of week six in the 2021/2022 Zain Bahrain Basketball League.

Manama routed Isa Town 143-103 to stay undefeated after four games while Najma beat Sitra 104-89 for their fourth win in six tries.

Both games were played at Zain Basketball Arena in Um Al Hassam.

In Manama's win, they immediately doubled their advantage at the end of the first quarter at 38-19 and never looked back. They enjoyed their biggest lead of 45 as they cruised in the game.

American professional Devin Ebanks top scored for the winners with 35 points and 10 rebounds. He was one of seven Manama players in double figures. Ali Hussain added 20 off the bench, while skipper Mohammed Hussain chipped in with 19, including four three-pointers, while Ahmed Salman added 13.

Mohammed Nabeel had 33

for Isa Town and US import Ryan Preston 31 in the loss, which was their fifth straight without a victory.

In Najma's triumph, they too took a 38-19 lead at the end of the first quarter. But after Sitra narrowed the gap before the half, Najma extended their lead once more in the final two periods when they went ahead by as many as 23 points.

Three players scored at least 20 points for Najma. Ali Jaber led the way with 29, while CJ Giles and Mohammed Bualay had 20 apiece. Jaber almost had a triple double with eight rebounds and 10 assists. Giles took down 22 rebounds while Bualay dished out 13 assists.

Marcel Jones paced Sitra with 30 points and 13 rebounds in the losing effort.

Najma improved to a 4-2 win-loss record while Sitra dropped to a 1-5 mark.

League action continues on Thursday with Samaheej playing Sitra at 5.30pm followed by a mammoth match-up between Manama and Muharraq at 7.30pm.

Pakistan thrash India by 10 wickets at T20 World Cup

Pakistan recorded their first ever T20 World Cup win over India after reaching a target of 152 without losing a wicket

● Fifties by Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan help Pakistan triumph

Reuters | Dubai

Captain Babar Azam led by example as Pakistan beat India for the first time ever with a 10-wicket romp in a Super 12 blockbuster at the Twenty20 World Cup yesterday.

Virat Kohli played a captain's knock of 57 to rescue India from a top-order wobble and help them post a competitive 151-7 in a rematch of the inaugural 2007 final.

His counterpart Babar combined with Mohammad Rizwan to get Pakistan off to a flying start and then overwhelmed the target with 13 balls to spare to snap India's 100% win record against them in limited-overs World Cups.

Babar remained not out on 68, while Rizwan made an unbeaten 79.

Wary of the dew factor, captains have preferred to field and Babar too followed that trend after winning the toss.

Pakistan did not have to wait long for a breakthrough as Shaheen Afridi (3-31) struck twice in his first seven deliveries to



Pakistan's Mohammad Rizwan bats during the match

rattle India.

The left-arm pacer fired in a searing yorker-length delivery to dismiss Rohit Sharma lbw for a golden duck and, in his next over, rifled one through KL Rahul's gate to rearrange the stumps.

Suryakumar Yadav hit Afridi for a six but Rizwan took a diving catch behind the stumps to dismiss the batsman and reduce India to 31-3 in the sixth over.

Kohli and Rishabh Pant calmed nerves in the Indian camp and guided the team to 60-3 at the halfway stage of the innings.

Pant then decided to counter-attack and hit Hasan Ali for back-to-back sixes but his ultra-aggression ultimately did him in.

Shadab Khan foxed Pant with a googly to induce a skier which the spinner caught himself to dismiss the batsman for 39.

Kohli fell in the penultimate over of the innings trying to accelerate but India still made the 150-mark.

Pakistan, in their reply, not only kept their wickets intact in the powerplay overs but also scored briskly with Babar and Rizwan effectively killing off the contest with their rock-solid stand.

Babar brought up his fifty in style, hitting spinner Varun Chakravathy for a six, while Rizwan reached his own fifty with a pulled boundary off Jasprit Bumrah.

Pakistan next play New Zealand on Wednesday morning.



It was Pakistan's first-ever victory by 10 wickets against any opposition in a T20 while India also faced the ignominy of losing by such a margin for the first time

Meanwhile in the other group, Charith Asalanka and Bhanuka Rajapaksa shared a partnership of 86 to give Sri Lanka a five-wicket win over Bangladesh in their opening match.

Asalanka remained unbeaten on 80 from 49 balls - his first T20 international half century - and Rajapaksa, celebrating his 30th birthday, hit a 31-ball 53 to help Sri Lanka chase down a 172-run target with seven balls to spare.

Put in to bat, Bangladesh posted 171 for four after opening batsman Mohammad Naim anchored the innings with a 52-ball 62 and the experienced Mushfiqur Rahim smashed an unbeaten 57 off 37 balls.

Mochamed Machaev seeks redemption at BRAVE CF 55

● Machaev will square off with Kasum Kasumov on the supporting card of BRAVE CF 55

TDT | Manama

Ever since he strapped on four-ounce gloves as a mixed martial artist, Mochamed "The Beast" Machaev has donned the Austrian colors as his way to pay tribute to the country that welcomed him with open arms.

Machaev was born and raised in Chechnya, Russia, but he and his family decided to migrate to Vienna, Austria when he was four years old.

Like any new kid in town, he pushed through language barriers and prejudice as he turned an unfamiliar place into his home and adopted a new culture and several languages as his own.

Participating in athletics was one way for the then-youngster to ingratiate himself with the local community. Doing so broke the ice and allowed him to make new friends and stay active, but it wasn't until he discovered combat sports that he truly began to shine.

Machaev did shine like a diamond on the sport's global stage, representing Austria in various international promotions such as BRAVE Combat Federation and racking a 10-0 record as a



Mochamed Machaev during training Featherweight before losing the streak during his bantamweight debut.

The 2020 BRAVE CF Breakout Fighter of the Year will get to reconnect with his roots on November 6 as he takes part in the Bahrain-based outfit's return to Russia event in association with Pro FC.

Machaev will square off with Kasum Kasumov on the supporting card of BRAVE CF 55, which is set to emanate from the beautiful city of Rostov-on-Don on November 6th.

"Kasum is in a really great school, Abdulmanap School, they train wrestling and ground and pound like Khabib [Nurmagomedov]," says Machaev.

"This is his game, put me down, hold me down, submit me maybe, that's his goal. My goal is to stay on my feet and defend the takedowns. That's what's going to happen in that fight, a striker against a wrestler."

The 21-year-old seeks vindication after falling short at the hands of Gamzat Magomedov by 54-second knockout at BRAVE CF 52: Bad Blood this past August.

"To be victorious no matter what, I'm ready to do everything to be victorious," says Machaev. "I don't think about how I'm going to end the fight. For me, it's just important to win every single round, that's all that matters to me. It doesn't mat-

"To be victorious no matter what, I'm ready to do everything to be victorious. I don't think about how I'm going to end the fight. For me, it's just important to win every single round, that's all that matters to me. It doesn't matter how the fight will end, it just matters to me that I will be victorious"

MOCHAMED MACHAEV

ter how the fight will end, it just matters to me that I will be victorious."

Machaev could have opted to sit out and recover from the loss, but an opportunity to return home and put himself back in the winner's circle was difficult for him to pass up.

"The Beast" may be coming home with an Austrian citizenship, but on November 6, he will prove that the Russian warrior spirit has been ingrained in his DNA since the first day he stepped inside the cage.

BRAVE CF 55 will be headlined by a Flyweight tournament semi-finals bout between Jose "Shorty" Torres and Ali "Puncher King" Bagautinov and broadcasted live and free on BRAVE CF TV (bravecfv.com) November 6th at 1:00 PM (GMT).

Dela Cruz wins Awali Half Trophy golf event



From left, AGC Captain Susan Scott, winner Charles Dela Cruz and sponsor WNC representative Andy Doherty

TDT | Manama

Charles Dela Cruz emerged as the winner of the WNC Awali Half Trophy, held at Awali Golf Club (AGC) over the weekend.

The 18-hole Stableford competition was played under windy conditions, but the players were able to overcome this and put on a well-contested event.

Dela Cruz claimed the victory after posting 35 points. The youngster scored on every hole as he grinded and never lost focus despite the demanding conditions.

He came away with first place with a better back nine over runner-up Andy Strizovic, who also finished with 36 points.

The third through seventh-placers all scored 35 points, but taking third posi-

tion overall with the best back nine from them all was Ateeq Yaqoob Mujali.

In fourth was Balbir Singh, fifth Stephen Safrany, sixth Ahmed Al Noaimi and seventh Patrick O'Brien. Finishing in eighth place and rounding off the prize winners was Hamed Mohamed Al Bureshaid with 34 points.

At the end of the competition, the top eight were presented their respective prizes and an honouring was held for long-time club member Bronson John.

In attendance were AGC Captain Susan Scott and WNC representative Andy Doherty.

Action at the club continues with the KPAO Qualifier, an 18-hole strokeplay event. It will be the first medal competition of the AGC season and will be used to determine KPAO match play knockout eligibility.