

Ireland Hammer Afghanistan to Level ODI Series 2-2

KABUL - Fired by their ruthless opener, Ireland have beaten Afghanistan by 12 runs in the last encounter to level the five-match one-day international series 2-2, an official said on Wednesday.

For the hosts, Ed Joyce struck a career-best 160 not out in the final match at the Civil Service Cricket Club on Tuesday, Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) spokesman Farid Hotak told Pajhwok Afghan News.

During Sunday's fourth ODI, Joyce was given run-out in a controver-



sial manner, based on Mohammad Nabi's claim that he stopped the ball within the ropes. However, a video clip exposed the falsity of his assertion later on.

On Tuesday, Joyce perfectly demonstrated his class by smashing three sixes and 19 boundaries. He was the biggest contributor to Ireland's total of 265, Hotak said, adding the hosts lost five wickets. Kevin O'Brien bagged three wickets as the visitors were restricted to 253 for the loss of nine wickets. ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

28 ISIS Loyalists Killed During Operations

JALALABAD - At least 28 loyalists of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group were killed during the latest operations conducted in East of Afghanistan.

The 201st Silab Corps of the Afghan National Army (ANA) forces said the militants were killed in Nangahar province in the past 24 hours.

The operations were conducted by the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) in Kot and Achin district, 201st Silab Corps said, adding that the US forces also provided support to the Af-



ghan forces. No further details were given on how the US forces provided the support to ANDSF but the regular airstrikes are carried out by the US forces based in Afghanistan.

No casualties were incurred to the civilians or

the members of the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces, 201st Silab Corps added. The loyalists of the terror group have not commented regarding the report so far.

Both the Taliban insurgents...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Having Lost 6 Sons, Bibi Concerned About Grandchildren's Future

JALALABAD - Niaz Bibi, whose six sons have been killed by Daesh or so-called Islamic State (IS) fighters in eastern Nangarhar province, is concerned about the future of her grandchildren.

On June 23, Daesh insurgents attacked several areas in the Kot district of Nangarhar, leaving several people dead and wounded and torching a number of civilian houses. The rebels also killed some security personnel.

Niaz Bibi's six sons were killed in the attacks two others wounded. The 55 years old woman did her best to fight back her tears, but she could not control



her emotions while narrating her story.

In an exclusive interview with Pajhwok Afghan News, she recalled: "My sons were at home, protecting us and other villagers when the fighters struck." Now she has to

take care of 20 orphaned grandchildren and six widowed daughters-in-law.

"I'm proud of my sons having laid down their lives in defence of the nation. I would proudly ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

3 Taliban, 5 Daesh Rebels Eliminated in Clash, Airstrikes

JALALABAD-MEHTARLAM - Three Taliban and Five Daesh militants have been killed and six Policemen wounded during violence and airstrikes in parts of the country, officials said on Wednesday.

Two Taliban were killed and as many wounded during overnight clash in Momarzarai area of Mehtarlam, the provincial capital, said Sarhadi Zwak, the governor's spokesman.

He said the Taliban commander Jahan Gul known as Fedae was shot dead by Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers in Alingar district at around 10:00am Wednesday morning.

Separately, five Desh rebels have been killed in a US drone airstrike in Achin district of eastern ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Taliban Commander Killed in Ghazni Clash

GHAZNI CITY - A Taliban commander, Mirza, also known as Hamza, and two other insurgents were killed in a counter-attack by security forces in central Ghazni province, the Ministry of Interior said in a statement on Wednesday.

In addition, two other insurgents were injured.

The incident took place in Qarabagh district of the province on Tuesday after a group of insurgents attacked a police post, the statement said.

Following the clash, security forces seized two motorcycles and some weapons in the area, the statement read.

The MoI said there had been no casualties among the ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

4 Butchers Arrested for 'Selling' Donkey Meat in Balkh

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - Police on Wednesday arrested four butchers after being accused of selling donkey's meat in the Sholgar district of northern Balkh province.

Balkh police spokesman Sher Jan Durrani told Pajhwok Afghan News the four butchers were arrested in Khwaja Sikandar area of the district.

He said the four men on Wednesday slaughtered a donkey and wanted to sell its meat or consume it



themselves. Durrani said eating donkey's meat was against Islamic and Afghanistan's laws and the detainees had violated

those laws. He said the four butchers had been brought to Mazar-i-Sharif from Sholgar district and ...*(More on P4)...(20)*

Germany Train Attacker May have been from Pakistan

BERLIN - German media Wednesday cast doubt over the origins of the 17-year-old who attacked passengers on a train in Germany on Monday night.

Reports following the incident claim the teenager was an Afghan refugee in Germany. However, German media on Wednesday report that investigators have said they found clues, including documents, pointing to the teen being from Pakistan.

Social media messages on Tuesday and Wednesday widely claimed the attacker, who made a video prior to the incident in which he pledged allegiance to Daesh, had in fact spoken Pashto with a Pakistani accent.

DPA reported that officials stated on national television that the attacker may have posed as an Afghan refugee in order to better his chances of being granted refugee status in Germany. Officials said he also stated he was 17 years old, which they say may also have been incorrect.

Reuters news agency reported that in a video recorded before the event, the assailant had confessed, in Pashto, that he was about to carry out the attack. Daesh reportedly posted the video to social media on Tuesday.

According to Reuters, experts say the video clearly identified his origins as Pakistani and that in addition to clues found in his over-all ...*(More on P4)...(21)*

Taliban's Expert Bomb-Maker Killed in Airstrike

LASHKARGAH - The Taliban group's expert bomb-maker was killed in an airstrike in the restive southern Helmand province of Afghanistan.

The provincial government media office in a statement said a military chief of the Taliban group for Helmand province Mazlum was also killed in the airstrike.

Mazlum was also the commander of the 'Red Unit' of the Taliban group in southern Helmand province who was killed along with the expert bomb-maker in Babaji area.

According to a statement

by the provincial government media office, the expert bomb-maker was originally hailing from Pakistan.

The anti-government armed militant groups including the Taliban insurgents have not have commented regarding the report so far.

The Taliban insurgents and militants belonging to the other insurgent groups are frequently using Improvised Explosive Device (IED) as the weapon of their choice to target the security forces.

The IEDs are the main con ...*(More on P4)...(22)*

Taliban Torch Telecom Tower, Abduct Guard in Ghazni

GHAZNI CITY - Taliban militants have torched a mobile phone tower of a private telecom company and taken away the tower's guard with them in southern Ghazni province, police said on Wednesday.

The Ghazni police headquarters in a statement said the Taliban torched the MTN tower in Qadam Qala area on the outskirts

of Ghazni City, the provincial capital, at about 11pm last night.

The statement said the Taliban also took away the tower's lone guard with them. "Guards of mobile phone towers do not keep contacts with security forces and as a result such incidents happen," the police statement said.

It ...*(More on P4)...(23)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



You're in a playful mood today and your lighthearted attitude enables you to turn any chore into a game. Although you may be innocently gleeful that you're in touch with your inner child, don't be foolish when it comes to your future. Unfortunately, it's all too easy to ignore an important fact that could prompt you to take things more seriously.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Possessing self-confidence is normally an asset, but being too sure of yourself could backfire today. Even if you feel certain about your chosen career path, don't assume that it's the only way to get what you want from life. In fact, you might want to take this opportunity to reconsider your long-term goals to make sure you're on the right track.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You're a master of disguise these days as the mystical Pisces Sun moves toward hooking up with imaginative Neptune in your 10th House of Worldly Achievements. Whatever you want to be is within the range of alternative possibilities -- or, at least, that's what you think. You won't need to dress up in a fancy costume or don a mysterious mask today; your friends see you as you see yourself.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



You're tempted to avoid facing your money concerns as you become increasingly unsure of your current financial status. However, it isn't a wise idea to throw your cash around just to prove you're operating on a firm fiscal foundation. Your overly dramatic gestures will fall short of the desired expectations now and leave you in a worse position than before.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Differences of opinion between you and a friend are brought to light now that the evocative Moon is hanging out in your sign. At first, you both seem to be reading from the same page, but tensions may suddenly escalate due to a simple misunderstanding. Move past this emotional speed bump by concentrating your efforts on establishing common ground.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Interpersonal tension continues to build to a breaking point; it's obvious that something must give if you want the relationship dynamics to improve. Even if you're resisting the change, you're growing increasingly ready for an energetic shift. Although you can't push this cosmic transition, you are more than clever enough to identify the problems and resolve them.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Your friends may be surprisingly direct in their assessment of your activities today. Nevertheless, there is more going on than meets the eye. Be careful about allowing logic to lead you to a faulty conclusion now. You might assume you're dealing with the facts, but your imagination is running on overdrive without you even realizing it. Ask questions if something doesn't feel quite right.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



You're often content with knowing that you did a stellar job, but the Moon's presence in your 10th House of Status inspires a desire to be recognized for your contribution. It's not that you're insecure about your work; it's simply about getting your moment in the limelight. There's no reason to hide from the appreciation that is showered on you now.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Considering a new course of study makes perfect sense now that the reflective Moon is traveling through your 9th House of Higher Education. But you might only find the time and motivation to read a book about a philosophy, a political perspective or a religion that is beyond your normal scope. Fortunately, you can effortlessly integrate new ideas into your current thinking without fearing that your intellectual foundations are being threatened.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



You might grow anxious today as you sense your hard-won stability beginning to slowly crumble. It's not that any one particular aspect of your life is falling apart; it's just that you can see the likelihood of change that's already out of your control and it makes you nervous. You may even feel as if reality is becoming fuzzy around the edges. But rather than trying to snap your mind back to reality now.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



You need to pay careful attention to every move you make today because you might act recklessly before you even consider the consequences. Unfortunately, clearing up even the slightest misunderstanding takes precious time and energy that could be put to better use. It's much smarter to stop and think so you can get it right the first time around.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



You have a specific point to make today, yet being honest about what you want is trickier than it sounds. The Moon opposes Venus and Mercury in your 12th House of Hidden Agendas now, making it unlikely that you'll come right out and reveal your thoughts. Unfortunately, your behavior could be more misleading than you realize, leaving you with the prospect of having to clean up a relationship mess.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-71.

Across: 1. Mayhem, 6. Blah, 10. Ailments, 14. Pointed arch, 15. Hawkeye State, 16. Ark builder, 17. European blackbird, 18. Any day now, 19. Extinct flightless bird, 20. In a brave manner, 22. End, 23. Leave out, 24. Not present, 26. Plateau, 30. Lyric poem, 31. Excluding, 32. Press, 33. Small slender gull, 35. Not written exams, 39. A flask for carrying water, 41. Mei, 43. Test, as ore 44. As a result, 46. Dwarf buffalo, 47. Precious stone, 49. An Old Testament king, 50. Past tense of Leap, 51. Fleet, 54. Mousses, 56. Mountain pool, 57. Tatterdemalion, 63. 53 in Roman numerals, 64. Nipple, 65. Alcoholic, 66. Vipers, 67. Wisdom, 68. Small mountains, 69. Appear, 70. Terminates, 71. Arm of the sea.

Down: 1. Animal foot, 2. Chills and fever, 3. Brand of credit card, 4. Not under, 5. A stringed instrument, 6. Objector, 7. Adult male chicken, 8. Absent Without Leave, 9. East Indian tree, 10. Manufacturing, 11. Not tight, 12. Burdened, 13. Not tall, 21. Overact, 25. Rude person, 26. Flexible mineral, 27. Historical periods, 28. Male offspring, 29. Hostility, 34. Sickens, 36. Skin disease, 37. Coil, 38. Immediately, 40. Visual organs, 42. Sacred hymn, 45. Gaunt, 48. An evergreen shrub, 51. Collection of maps, 52. Lift, 53. Complain, 55. Raw fish wrapped in seaweed, 58. Many millennia, 59. Thrust with a knife, 60. Replete, 61. Small island, 62. Where a bird lives.

Yesterday's Solution: ASPIC, TINNS, BROW, LEASH, NOUN, LAMA, TESLA, GOLF, AMID, OSTENTATIOUS, CITE, CUE, RAKES, COBWEB, PRISMS, ORIENT, FRANKNESS, SETA, PLUNG, AGUE, TOTTERING, SKIRL, HAUTE, DIESEL, SPERM, GEL, STAR, PERIWINKLE, PIERCE, TIGER, CHAINED, ALGA, SHED, GOULD, SEEN, HOLY, NEWSY

RECIPEVERIFYE
BLOCKXCEYLISA
HYJAERVNRLAEC
IDRNEONEUEEXT
NBVOCATSLSEAI
TWCPRAYOOGJMV
ILOYCAOHITHII
MATTSHTLIRON T
IRASCIBLEIWA I
DIESCOVENANTE
AALARMTABLEIS
TTEMPTRESSROD
EGUIDEXSTRONG