

Zazai's Ruthless Ton Lifts Kabul to Seven-Wicket Win

SHARJAH - Hazratullah Zazai's incredible cameos saw Kabul Zwanan dry and home in their Afghanistan Premier League encounter against Nangarhar Leopards in Sharjah on Tuesday. Asked to bat first, the Leopards set the opposition a reasonably decent target of 179 in the stipulated 20 overs on a dry track. Anton Devcich top-scored for them with an unbeaten 94 -- six short of what would have been his first T20 ton.

His solid knock included seven boundaries and six sixes at a strike rate of 163. The New Zealander, who faced 58 deliveries, was lent strong support by Najeeb Tarakai, who scored 42 off 38 balls, including four boundaries and two sixes.

Tarakai was caught by Zazai off Shahidullah in the dying moments of the game, telecast live by the Pakistani TV channel Geo. Hashmatullah fell to Javed Ahmadi, stumped by Ronchi. The Zwanan launched the chase on a ruthless note, bringing up their first 50 runs in less than three overs. Zazai was in a class of his own, entertaining the crowd with a rain of sixes and fours and sending a chill down opposition bowlers' spine.

With a strike rate of more than 250, the audacious cricketer from southeastern Paktia province raced to a glorious century (124) studded with nine maximums and 12 fours. He was dismissed by Cutting.

Wicket-keeper Luke Ronchi, the only cricketer who has represented two countries (New Zealand and Australia), blended caution and aggression to give Kabul a flying opening stand together with Zazai. ...*(More on P4)...(9)*



40 Militants Eliminated in Countrywide Operations: MoD

KABUL - wounded in clearing operations across the country over the past 24 hours.

A statement from the ministry said the security forces conducted 21 joint clearing operations, including 213 commando raids and eight airstrike, against the insurgents nationwide.

It added during the operations 40 militants were killed and nine others wounded. Eight fighters were killed and three wounded in the capital of central Uruzgan province. Another eight fighters were killed and two of their vehicles destroyed in the Adraskan district of western Herat province. Six rebels were eliminated Faryab, five Zabul province and four in Farah. Three guerrillas were killed and two wounded in Balkh, three killed in Greshk and two Daesh fighters put to death in Nangarhar, the statement concluded. (Pajhwok)



119,000 Teachers to Get Salaries Via Mobile Phones

KABUL - The Ministry of Education continues its efforts to bring transparency and end corruption by establishing mobile phone salary system.

The Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology signed contracts for mobile phone salary payments of 119,000 teachers with two telecommunication companies in Kabul on Tuesday. The contract for monthly salaries of 43,000 teachers from Kabul was signed with Afghan Wireless and another contract for 76,000 teachers from Herat, Balkh, Paktia, Badakhshan, Laghman and Khost provinces was signed with Roshan.

A pilot phase of the mobile sal-



ary payment scheme started six months ago in Parwan, Nangarhar and Kandahar provinces, covering 32,000 employees of the Ministry of Education including teachers.

The process has proven successful and is now being expanded, said the acting education minister Mirwais Balkhi.

After registering for the mobile ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

Kidnap Gang Busted, Teenage Boy Freed in Kunduz

KUNDUZ CITY - National Directorate of Security (NDS) personnel have arrested a seven-member kidnap gang and freed an individual from their captivity in northern Kunduz province, an official said on Wednesday.

An intelligence official, who wished to go unnamed, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the detainees, including an Afghan local policeman, had abducted Abdul Qaium, 18, from Kunduz City, the provincial capital, to Ali Abad district fortnight ago. ...*(More on P4)...(11)*



OIC Chief Condemns Attacks on Election Candidates

KABUL - The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Dr Yousef Al-Othaimeen on Wednesday condemned the attacks on election candidates in Afghanistan and urged all stakeholders to double their efforts to achieve reconciliation and peace.

In a statement issued by the OIC, Al-Othaimeen "deplored in the strongest terms the recent attacks and intimidation attempts targeting parliamentary election candidates in Afghanistan."

This comes after a suicide bomber detonated his explosives inside an election candidate's campaign office in Lashkargah, Helmand, on Tuesday, killing at least eight people - including the candidate himself.

According to the statement, the secretary general drew attention to the letter and spirit of the Makkah Declaration of the International Ulema Conference for Peace and Security in Afghanistan and urged member states, the parties to the conflict and ...*(More on P4)...(12)*



Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



A temporary separation from your romantic partner could have you agitated, Aries. Are you worried that your friend has forgotten you? This is probably an overreaction, but your insecurities are getting the better of you. Find a distraction. Have faith. Phone calls from your friend should prove reassuring.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Are things getting a little bit crazy, Taurus? Too many tasks and too many people vying for your attention could have your nerves stretched as taut as violin strings. Try to get outside for a while. Treat yourself to a nice lunch or do a little shopping. Take a good long nap. Whatever seems so urgent isn't worth sacrificing your peace of mind. Try to stay focused!

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



A rush of creative inspiration could take you temporarily away from your social life today, Gemini. At some point you could be working as if there were no tomorrow, perhaps worrying that you will forget it if you don't get it all down now. It's no use telling you to slow down. Be sure to keep sufficient snacks on hand, and do take occasional breaks.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



An impromptu party may take place at your house today when some unexpected but welcome visitors turn up at your door. Expect the conversation to alternate between lots of laughs and discussion of some pretty serious subjects. The gathering could continue well into the night if you let it, but don't let it continue past the point of enjoyment.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Is a new neighbor moving in nearby, Leo? This person could come from a very interesting locale, so you might want to get to know him or her. Don't expect to be able to do this today. This person may be in and out throughout the afternoon and too busy with settling in. Drop some cookies off some time over the next few days, however. You will be glad you did.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Have you been spending too much lately, Virgo? Today you could be feeling the effects of it. You may have to wait to make a purchase that you've wanted for a long time, and this could be frustrating. Don't worry about it, though. You will get through this unscathed, and the item will still be in the store when you have money again. Relax.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Your sweetheart may seem upset today and unlikely to want to talk about it, Libra. This could prove frustrating for you, since you don't like to be kept in the dark. Take care to avoid giving in to the temptation to push. This won't make your partner any more likely to share, and it could drive a wedge between you. Just hang in there and let your friend talk when the time is right.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Vague aches and pains could have you feeling a little under the weather, Scorpio. You may not be able to discern why you have these pains, since there's no apparent reason. Don't assume the worst. Your condition is probably just due to a little intensified nerve strain and extra stress. Take it easy and relax today. Go back to your usual routine tomorrow.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Expect some delays, upsets, and unexpected turns when it comes to romance today, Sagittarius. Jealousy may rear its ugly head, as you may at some point get the impression that your beloved is noticing someone else. Bear in mind that there's a strong chance that these impressions are illusory, and that the truth may be totally different from the way things seem. Take care to stay focused.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Changes may be taking place on the home front, Capricorn, perhaps unexpected repairs or someone moving in or out. Your household could seem frenetic and disorganized until the dust settles, which doesn't sit well with your love of peace and quiet. Whatever needs to be done is best accomplished one step at a time, with your mind focused on the results.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

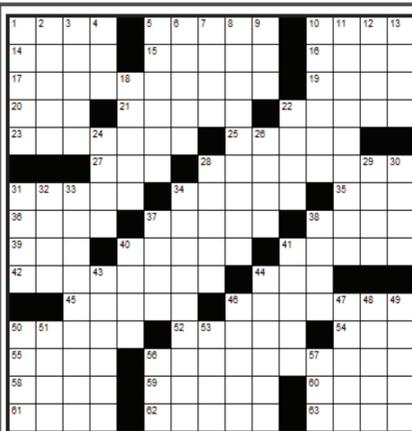


An unexpected and perhaps not altogether welcome call could come your way today, Aquarius. It could come from someone you don't particularly care for or someone who has some disconcerting news to report. Whichever it is, you will probably just have to deal with it. However you may feel about the caller or what he or she has to report, you will probably consider it important to have the conversation.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Worries about money that may have preoccupied you for the past day or so could prove unfounded, Pisces. This should come as a real relief to you, although it may be difficult to grasp at first. Your mind is still getting in the way of accepting it. Go over your correspondence and bank records as many times as you want. The answer should be the same - all is better than you thought.



Across

1. Killed, 5. Log home, 10. Sexual assault, 14. Trail, 15. Pee, 16. Atop, 17. Odium, 19. Potato, 20. It unlocks doors, 21. Aquatic mammal, 22. Utilizers, 23. Oval, 25. Heron
27. Ottoman governor, 28. Merrymaking, 31. Abominable snowmen, 34. Electrical pioneer, 35. Vaporize, 36. Former lovers, 37. Tweaked, 38. Plateau, 39. Be victorious, 40. Made a mistake, 41. Verrucas, 42. Sons of a new spouse, 44. Letter after sigma, 45. Sail supports, 46. Mirror, 50. Not here, 52. Corrupt, 54. Solemn promise, 55. Hindu princess
56. A language of India, 58. The products of human creativity, 59. Adapt, 60. Poems
61. Netting, 62. Ganders, 63. Annoyance, ,

Down

1. Spoke (archaic), 2. Tag, 3. Kind of alcohol, 4. Which person?, 5. Respectful bending of the knees, 6. Mountain crest, 7. Common hop, 8. Made greater in size, 9. Bom as, 10. A reddish brown, 11. Canape, 12. Decant, 13. Terminates 18. Hemp cords, 22. Component of urine
24. Nile bird, 26. Decorate with gold leaf, 28. Segments of DNA, 29. Where the sun rises, 30. Resorts, 31. Evergreens, 32. Way out, 33. Run-down apartment houses, 34. Gate, 37. Gait faster than a walk, 38. Mangle 40. Being, 41. Blows gently, 43. Diocese, 44. Incumbency, 46. Carnival attractions, 47. Avoid, 48. Type of retinal cells, 49. Chubby Checker's dance, 50. Streetcar, 51. Rabbit, 53. Pot, 56. Witch, 57. Not bottom, ,

Yesterday's Solution

PANDA BEDS VAST
ORION RARE LEWER
RETRO USER NAPE
TASKMASTER TRAY
ASK ARTEL
UNROLL PETAL
SOURN BOWSWATER
EDIT WOUND TIDE
DENTIGRATE SINGS
ANTH GATE GINKS
GUILT BUM
SUNS INCI DENTAL
WAIT MOOK HOUSE
ANTH GATE GINKS
BOSS SHED WREST

against, ammunition astronomy, aura, black, blank, broad, brush crime effort, energy, faculty, fence, flare, force, function, gasoline ground, gust, hail, hobo holster, ideal, mental monument, night

B Y F L A R E N O P A E W
R T S O I X J I D E A L F
O L T Y R A E W K N M O U
A U R A T C H N N I S H N
D C O M S S E O A L H W C
N A F M R T N S L O O E T
U F F U Y I R I B S R C I
O M E N T A L O A A T N O
R B C I S Y C P N G R E N
G L R T N I G H T O A F R
G A I I S S E R T P M E T
W C M O N U M E N T S Y L
K K E N E R G Y B R U S H