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Sunday January 23, 2011

YNS bounce back from thrashing to upset Tenaga

By RONNIE OH

GEORGE TOWN: Yayasan Negri Sembilan (YNS) bounced back from their 6-1 thrashing by Sapura on Friday to stun Charity Shield winners Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) 1-0 in the Malaysian Hockey League at the USM Stadium yesterday.

Tenaga dominated the game from the start but failed to score and in the few forays up front YNS' Pakistan import Shakeel Abbasi conjured the winner in the 49th minute.

The YNS skipper blasted the ball towards goal only to see TNB goalkeeper S. Kumar blocking his cracker of a shot. But the rebound fell to Prabjoth Singh who joyfully shot home for the lone goal of the match.

YNS chief coach Hasnizan Ah Sim described their shock win over TNB as a perfect kiss of life to their campaign which had all gone wrong a day earlier at the same venue.



Going in: UiTM player Mohamad Izad Hakim Jamaluddin (left) scores against Sapura UiTM 8 0 0 8 11 33 0 during their Premier Division match at the USM Stadium in Penang yesterday.

“I am more than happy with the performances my players have shown today and I strongly believe it was a two-hour soul searching postmortem we conducted after being shamed by Sapura 6-1 on Friday that made it happen,” said Hasnizan.

“Although many would have viewed that we were lucky to beat TBN, the fact that we capitalise on the chance that came along is enough for us to walk tall. More important is the fact that the win help us to make up for the disappointing show against Sapura.”

Coach Nor Saiful Zaini was left fuming after the match which he described as the worst in their league campaign.

“I seriously cannot understand how we could have lost when we were in full control of the entire match. Although we were on top with our offensive display and were the more creative of the two sides, we just lack the intelligence to make our efforts count.

“The fact that we squandered seven penalty corners and have nothing to show from it automatically meant that we were just not good enough,” said Nor Zaiful.

TNB’s defeat leaves KLHC on top of the standings with 19 points after their draw with Maybank on Friday. UniKL took over second spot on 17 points after their 1-1 draw with Nur Insafi yesterday. Tenaga dropped to third place on 16 points.

The other two MSL matches saw Sapura overcoming a two-goal deficit to edge UiTM 3-2 while ATM-Airod picked up their second win with a shock 1-0 victory over Maybank.

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