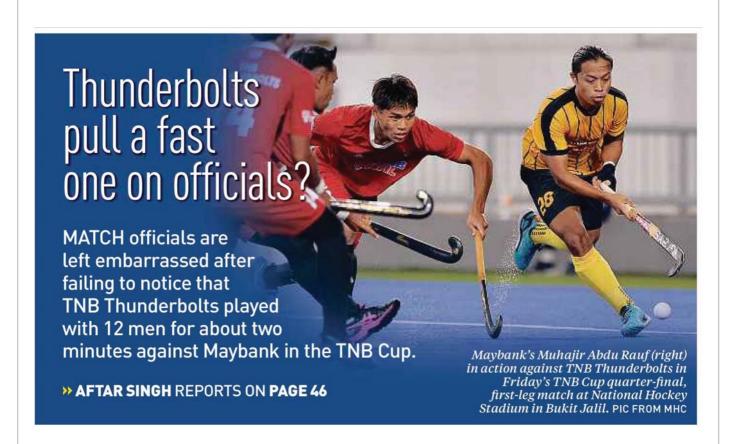


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## MATCH OFFICIALS SLEEPING ON THE JOB?

Thunderbolts had 12 men on the field against Maybank

REPORTS BY AFTAR SINGH nstsport@nst.com.my

ERE the technical officials aware of what was happen-ing during the match being during the match of-tween TNB Thunderbolts and Maybank in the TNB Cup quarter-final first leg at the National Hockey Stadium in Bukit Jalii on Friday? There were 12 Thunderbolts players on

the field against Maybank in the third

It is the job of the technical officials in charge of the match to make sure both teams have only 11 players on the field.

When the officials realised there was an extra man on the field, a yellow card was issued to Thunderbolts captain Shazril Irwan Nazli by umpire Mohd Azry in the 41st minute for his team having 12 players.

Maybank, despite playing with a man

less for about two minutes, still had enough firepower to hammer Thunder-

Meanwhile Universiti Teknologi Mara

(UiTM), who finished fifth in the 11-team Malaysia Hockey League, came from a goal down to edge Nurinsafi Sporting 2-1

goal down to edge Nurinsafi Sporting 2-1 in the TNB Cup quarter-final first leg at the Bertam Hockey Stadium.

However, UiTM coach Nor Aqmal Abdul Gaffar said the one-goal cushion against Nurinsafi, who are powered by five players from India, is not good enough for the return leg.

"Nurisafi defeated us 5-4 in a league

match. We will have to play a tight marking game and cannot allow them to create chances as they have good forwards.

"We also need to improve on our penalty corner set-pieces as we got three PCs against them on Friday but failed to

onvert.
"Our main drag flicker is T. Perabu and for his age (21), he has done well to convert five penalty corners in the league. I'm banking on Perabu to deliver

in the return leg.
"I'm confident that my players will put up another good performance to secure a place in the last four," said Nor Aqmal,

who guided UiTM to fourth in the TNB Cup last year. Meanwhile defending champions

Terengganu look set to make the semi-finals after defeating Liaoning 5-2 in the quarter-final first leg



A Maybank player (in yellow) in action against TNB Thunderbolts in the TNB Cup quarter-final first leg at the National Hockey Stadium on Friday.