

Headline	Edging towards glory		
MediaTitle	Sunday Mail		
Date	06 Dec 2015	Language	English
Circulation	35,000	Readership	105,000
Section	Sport	Page No	53
ArticleSize	421 cm ²	Journalist	N/A
PR Value	RM 14,430		



► HOCKEY

Edging towards glory

By May Robertson

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KUALA LUMPUR — Perak secured their place in the 53rd TNB Tun Abdul Razak Cup final after dismantling Kuala Lumpur 3-2 last night.

Despite the tough fight, Perak coach K. Yogeswaran had full confidence in his boys.

"We knew that they (Kuala Lumpur) would be a tough opponent to beat, but I knew my boys were determined enough to win it," he said.

Perak snagged their first goal as early as the third minute thanks to Haziq Samsul while Hafiz Hanafi gave the team another goal in the 19th minute and Azlan Mison gave Perak the winning goal in the 26th minute.

"The game was intense ... it was daunting to see how Kuala Lumpur put up a fight," Yogeswaran said.

"They wanted to win as much as we did and we gave each other a great game."

Perak are looking to clinch their third consecutive title when they face Malacca in the final at the National Hockey Stadium in Bukit Jalil at 8.30pm today.

"Claiming the title for a third consecutive time is not impossible if the players maintain their focus," said Perak manager Datuk Azhar Ahmad.

"We won't shy away from the opportunity to leave a new legacy for Perak in the cup."



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