

## Niaz shares 2nd position

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Niaz Murshed was sharing second position with other ten players in the Parsvnath International Rating chess tournament now being held at Delhi, India.

Niaz earned 7.5 points from ten games.

The tenth round games were held on Thursday and Niaz drew with Grand Master Sergei Ovsejevtsch of Ukraine.

M B Muralidharan of India, Fide Master Khandaker Aminul Islam, International Women's Master Rani Hamid, Abdul Malek and Arman Monir earned 5.5 points each.

Uzbek Grand Master Marat Dzhumaev , Russian Grand Master Alexander Fominyh, Indian Grand Masters Harkrishna P. and IMRB Ramesh were sharing the lead with 8 points each.

## Special chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Six players jointly were leading the points table with maximum four points each after end of the fourth round games of the fifth Special National Chess tournament at the NSC chess room yesterday.

They are: Kamal Hossain, Sawpan Chakider, Mollah Abdul Malek, Amir Hossain, Mir Hossain and Shah Alam.

In the fourth round games, Kamal beat Dulal, Sawpan beat Nayeem, Maleq beat Taher, Amir beat Shamsul, Mir Hossain beat Mahbub and Alam beat Shaheb.

## ACC U-19 team due Nov 6

SPORTS REPORTER

A combined Asian Cricket Council (ACC) under-19 team will visit Bangladesh to play three limited-overs and two two-day matches against different Bangladesh selections.

The visitors will arrive here on November 6.

The limited-overs series begins on November 8 with the other games on November 10 and November 13. The first two-day match starts on November 15 with other on November 19.

## AB Bank TT

UNB, Dhaka

Brothers Union, Bangladesh Biman, Sheikh Russel KC and Ajax SC won their respective matches in the AB (Arab Bangladesh) Bank Metropolis Senior Division Table Tennis League at the Wooden-floor gymnasium yesterday.

Brothers beat Wari 3-2 while Russel KC and Biman outplayed Engineers Club and Inter Sports each 3-0. Ajax SC defeated Mariner Young's Club 3-1.

In the First Division League matches, Mohammapur Boys beat Ghop KC, Modhumita KS defeated Mansoor SC, Bangladesh Boys outplayed Cynthia SC and Dhaka TT Club beat Khelaghar all in straight sets.

Management Net won against Purbachal Parishad and Angels Club defeated ORCA both 3-1 while Sports World managed a 3-2 victory over Khaza Printing.

## Aussie-Zim

FROM PAGE13  
Extras: (lb-1, w-1, nb-2) 4

A

Fall of wickets: 1-61.  
**Bowler** O M R W  
Lee 6 1 21 0  
Gillespie 10 4 15 1  
Bichel 7 0 25 0  
MacGill 7 2 17 0  
Lehmann 1 1 0 0

**Umpires:** Srinivas Venkataramayyan (India), Peter Willey (England)  
**Toss:** Zimbabwe.

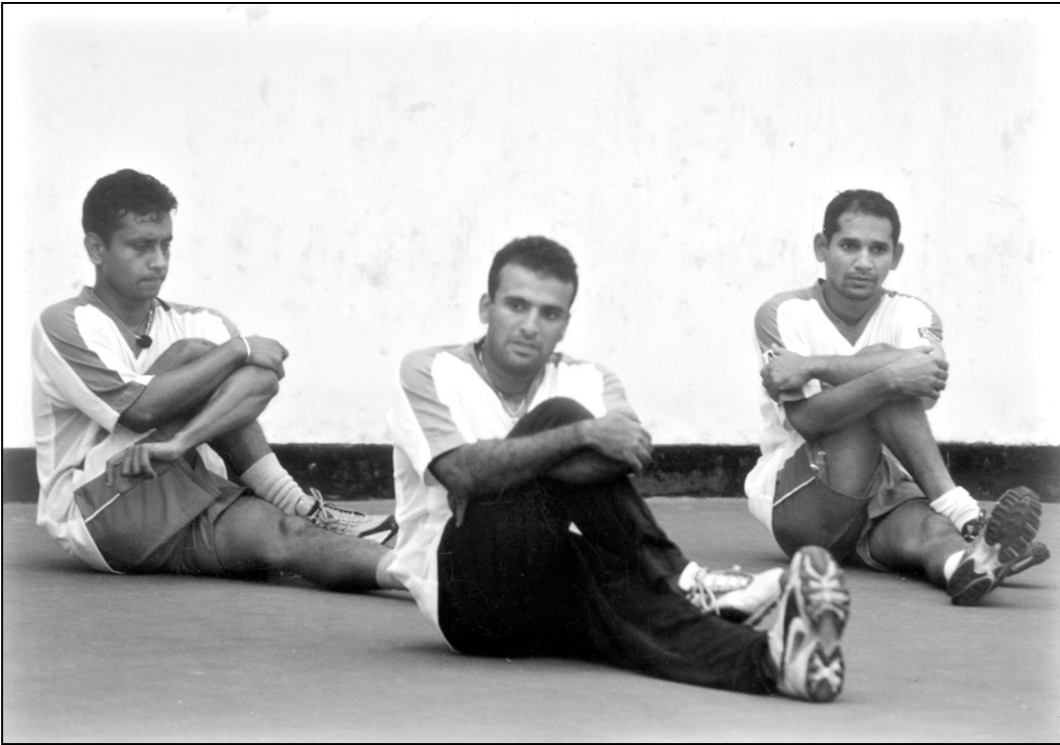


PHOTO: STAR

GRUMPY TIGERS! (L-R) Fahim Muntasir, Javed Omar and Habibul Bashar are unhappy having to practice indoors because of the poor weather.

## Astle leads NZ reply



AFP, Ahmedabad

Nathan Astle hit a defiant 103 under pressure to help New Zealand stay on course to avoid the follow-on in the first cricket Test against India here on Friday.

The middle-order batsman's ninth Test century enabled the tourists reach 282-8 at stumps on the third day in reply to India's first-innings total of 500-5 declared at the Sardar Patel Stadium.

New Zealand still require 19 more to make India bat again with two wickets in hand. Daniel Vettori was batting on 28 with Paul Wiseman (8).

"It was nice to come back and get another century at this ground," said Astle, who made a hundred here in the opening match of the 1996 World Cup.

"I just wanted to play my natural game and try to make India bat again.

"I will be a lot happier if we get the 19 runs tomorrow to avoid the follow-on. Because if we follow-on it is going to be very tough.

"The wicket is still good for batting, but the heat is beginning to get to us."

India had a chance to wrap up the New Zealand innings when they reduced the tourists to 227-7, but Vettori and wicketkeeper Robbie Hart frustrated the hosts with a 38-run stand for the eighth wicket.

India struggled for wickets on an easy-paced track after left-arm fast bowler Zaheer Khan sent New Zealand reeling at 17-3 with three quick wickets on Thursday evening. Astle played a big role in pulling his team out of deep trouble, adding 91 for the fourth wicket with Scott Styris (34) and as many runs for the fifth with Craig McMillan (54).

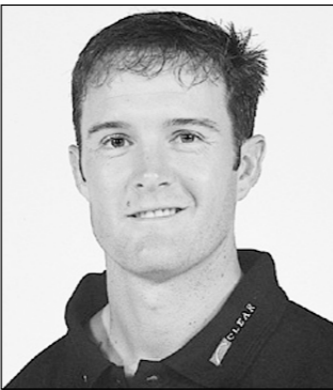
**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the first Test between India

and New Zealand at the Sardar Patel Stadium on Friday:

**INDIA:** First innings 500-5 decl (R Dravid 222, S Ganguly 100 not out, D Vettori 2-128)

**NEW ZEALAND:** First innings (overnight 41-3)

Richardson b Zaheer 6  
Vincent c Patel b Zaheer 7  
Fleming b Zaheer 1  
Styris c Chopra b Harbhajan 34  
Astle st Patel b Harbhajan 103



ASTLE...103

McMillan c Chopra b Sehwaag 54  
Oram c Dravid b Kumble 5  
Balaji 15  
Vettori not out 28  
Wiseman not out 8  
Extras: (b-4, lb-13, nb-4) 21  
Total: (For eight wickets in 109 overs) 282

Fall of wickets: 1-11, 2-16, 3-17, 4-108, 5-199, 6-223, 7-227, 8-265.

**Bowler** O M R W  
Zaheer 18 3 50 3  
Balaji 23 6 71 1  
Kumble 27 9 47 1  
Harbhajan 33 7 8 0

Sehwaag 8 2 17 1

**Toss:** India

**Umpires:** David Shepherd (ENG) and Rudi Koertzen (RSA)

**TV umpire:** Hariharan (IND)

**Match-referee:** Ranjan Madugalle (SRI)

## Henin reaches last four



REUTERS, Filderstadt

Justine Henin-Hardenne led the way into the semifinals of the Filderstadt Grand Prix on Friday, overcoming sixth-seeded Russian Elena Dementieva 7-5, 6-0.

The Belgian, who could take the number one ranking from compatriot Kim Clijsters if results go her way this

week, began sluggishly however and struggled in the face of Dementieva's fierce groundstrokes.

Indeed it was Dementieva who earned the first break when she took a 3-1 lead on her fifth break point. But her efforts came to nothing as the second seed raised her aggression level, immediately broke back to love and then took a 4-3 lead when Dementieva made a forehand error.

Henin-Hardenne stumbled when she netted a forehand on set point at 5-4, and although she then dropped her

serve she was able to break again for 6-5 and serve out the set.

The second set proved to be much easier for the French and US Open champion after Dementieva committed five double-faults as Henin-Hardenne broke for 1-0.

The 11th of the Russian's 12 double-faults then gave Henin-Hardenne another break for 3-0, and the Belgian surrendered just three more points in the match.

The WTA said on Friday that Henin-Hardenne will take the number one spot if she beats Clijsters in the final of the 650,000 dollars tournament.

Clijsters tackles fifth-seeded Frenchwoman Amelie Mauresmo in the second quarterfinal later on Friday.



PHOTO: AFP

Justine Henin-Hardenne of Belgium plays forehand against Russian Elena Dementieva at the Tennis Grand Prix in Filderstadt yesterday.

## Nat'l Swimming ends Navy rule the pool

SPORTS REPORTER

Doly Akhter of Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) became the queen of the Keya Cosmetics 19th National Swimming Champion-ships after finishing with eight gold medals on the concluding day yesterday.

The ace swimmer set new national records in 100 metres freestyle and 200 metres breast stroke to bag her seventh and eighth gold medals of the meet at the National Swimming Complex in Mirpur.

Rubel Rana of Bangladesh Navy was the star performer among the men winning six golds. Yesterday he clinched gold in the 100 metre backstroke with a new national record.

A total of nine new records were set yesterday taking the total number of national records to 27. However, they won't be regarded official as they were hand-timing.

Bangladesh Navy won the overall championship with the highest 16 golds followed by BJMC who bagged 11 golds. Bangladesh Army won seven golds followed by Ansars and BKSP with five and three respectively.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman attended the closing ceremony as chief guest and distributed prizes.

## U-17 booters meet Kirgыз today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh under-17 football coach Shahidur Rahman Shantoo was yesterday upbeat ahead of their first leg Asian Youth Championship match against Kirgызstan.

Shantoo's team take on their Central Asian opponents today in the first match of the Group-8 at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur at 5 pm. The away match will also held at the same venue on October 13.

The winners of the two legs will advance to the finals in Japan in September.

Although Bangladesh lost the all practice matches in Myanmar, the former national goalkeeper said that his team is on the right track to beat the visiting side.

"My team's performance in Myanmar was satisfactory although they lost all matches. I want to implement what they learned over the last two months under my supervision," said Shantoo, who returned home from the United States after long absence.

Bangladesh will miss the services of their regular custodian after number one goalkeeper Himel tore ligaments during a practice session.

"His last minute injury is a problem but I believe we will overcome it," Shantoo said.

Kirgызstan coach Ormobekev said they knew little about their opponents however were still confident of upsetting them.

## Aussie greats

FROM PAGE 13  
"He fully deserves all the accolades he gets," said Boon, who was in the team when Hayden made his debut in 1994.

Hayden came of age as a Test player in India in 2001, when he scored 549 runs in a three-Test series.

"I believe he found the way that he should play [on that tour], he had confidence in his own game and he's played that way ever since," said Boon.

"I find it very difficult to compare players from different eras, but Matthew will continue to be one of the better players we've seen in the modern era."



PHOTO: STAR

LET'S PLAY THE THROWING GAME: England captain Michael Vaughan ( R ) and his predecessor Nasser Hussein are practising their skills at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

## Fighting Proteas



BBC ONLINE, Rawalpindi

South Africa levelled the one-day series by beating Pakistan by six wickets at the Pindi cricket stadium here on Friday..

The two sides will go into the final one-day international at the same venue on Sunday.

South Africa's seam attack proved too much for Pakistan as they were bowled out for 157.

Andre Nel (4-39) and Makhaya Ntini (3-25) did most of the damage, while Shaun Pollock returned remarkable figures of 1-9 from his 10 overs.

Pakistan captain Yousuf Youhana made 60 off 75 balls for Pakistan, but six batsmen failed to reach double figures.

In reply, South Africa raced to the total with more than 10 overs to spare.

Jacques Kallis was unbeaten on 58 and Herschelle Gibbs made a useful 41.

Pakistan made three changes to the side beaten in Faisalabad on Tuesday.

Naved Latif, Shabbir Ahmed and

Mohammad Sami were brought in at the expense of Abdul Razzaq, Saqlain Mushtaq and Umar Gul. They were again led by Youhana in the absence of Inzamamul Haq (hamstring strain) and he chose to bat first after winning the toss.

Nel broke through in the sixth over when he found the edge of Mohammad Hafeez's bat and he was caught behind for a single.

**SCOREBOARD**

Scoreboard of the fourth one-day international match between Pakistan and South Africa at the Pindi Cricket Stadium on Friday

**PAKISTAN**

Hafeez c Boucher b Nel1 1  
Hameed c Boucher b Hall 30  
Iqbal c Hall b Nel1 0  
Youhana c Pollock b Nel1 60  
Younis Khan c Boucher b Nel1 3  
Naved b Pollock 4  
Malik b Makhaya Ntini 5  
Latif b Kallis 18  
Akhtar c Boucher b Ntini 0  
Sami not out 16  
Shabbir b Ntini 2  
Extras: (lb-2, w-6) 8

Total: (All out in 47.4 overs) 157

Fall of wickets: 1-11, 2-16, 3-59, 4-105, 5-114, 6-120, 7-122, 8-122, 9-150

**Bowler** O M R W

Pollock 10 4 9 1  
Nel1 10 0 39 4  
Ntini 7.4 0 25 3  
Hall 8 1 31 1  
Peterson 5 0 31 0  
Kallis 7 0 20 1

**SOUTH AFRICA**

Smith b Sami 13  
Gibbs b Akhtar 41  
Kallis not out 58  
Rudolph c Latif b Hafeez 20  
Dippenaar c Hafeez b Malik 11  
Boucher not out 4  
Extras: (lb-6, nb-4, w-1) 11  
Total: (For four wickets in 38.5 overs) 158

Fall of wickets: 1-31, 2-73, 3-116, 4-153

Did not bat: S. Pollock, A. Hall, R. Peterson, M. Ntini, A. Nell

**Bowler** O M R W  
Akhtar 7 2 23 1  
Sami 6 0 38 1  
Shabbir 6 1 36 0  
Malik 10 0 29 1  
Hafeez 9.5 1 26 1

**Result: South Africa won by six wickets.**

**Man-of-the-match: Andre Nell.**

**Toss:** Pakistan

**Umpires:** Darrell Hair (AUS) and Aleem Dar (PAK)

**TV umpire:** Asad Rauf (PAK)

**Match referee:** Clive Lloyd (WIs)

## A reborn cricketer



BBC ONLINE, undated

The career of the most improved player in world cricket took another upward turn at the WACA in Perth on Friday when Matthew Hayden re-wrote scoring records with a staggering innings against Zimbabwe.

Batsmen aspire to centuries, wish for double tons, dream of triples but few contemplate the prospect of making the highest Test score of all time.

But Hayden's meteor has been rising so fast over the last 30 months it should come as little surprise that if anybody was going to break Brian Lara's benchmark, it was going to be him.

To label Hayden an improved cricketer, however, does no justice to the impact he has made on the game since he travelled to India in 2001 with something to prove, and returned home a star.

Australia famously lost that series but through no fault of Hayden, who after years as a heavy scorer for the Queensland state team finally transferred his talents to

the world stage.

The series -- in which he scored 549 runs in three Tests -- was such a defining time for Hayden that it is convenient to view him as having two careers, one pre-2001 and one after.

In his first seven years as an Australia cricketer, Hayden popped in and out of the team and managed just 13 Test appearances, averaging 24.

Since then, Hayden's run-scoring has been not far short of Bradman-esque. He has featured in each of Australia's 32 Tests, scoring 3,381 runs at stunning average of 72.

The second-highest run-scorer in the team in that period, Ricky Ponting, is nearly 1,000 runs behind. In a team that is a beacon to the rest of world cricket Hayden is one of the brightest of the bunch.

As for his taste for the big score, look no further than a conversion rate from fifties to centuries of 58 per cent.

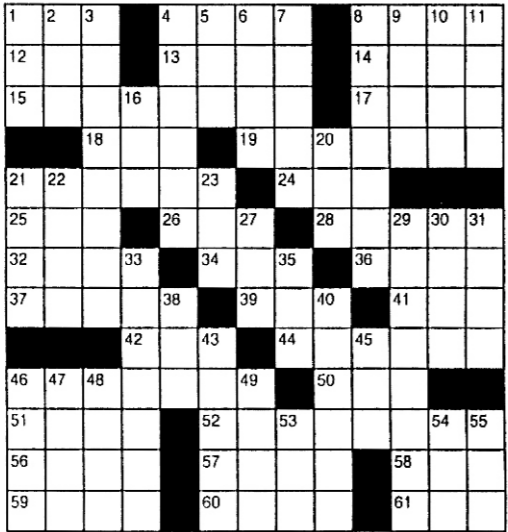
But is it now right to venerate him as one of the greats, alongside the names that now appear below him on the all-time list of highest scores? Detractors will look at Hayden's effort in Perth and say one swallow

### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
1 Scull  
4 Poet  
8 1960s musical  
12 32-  
Across' middle name  
13 "Holy mackerel!"  
14 Loosen  
15 Virginia capital  
17 Do steve-dores' work  
18 Center  
19 Pet-shop rodents  
21 Put on a show  
24 -- good deed!  
25 1960s White House pooch  
26 Tease  
28 Furnish funds  
32 Auto-maker  
34 Make faces  
36 Singer with an ego  
37 Mary-Kate or Ashley  
39 Weir

**DOWN**  
1 "— the ram-parts..."  
2 Clay, today  
3 Kramer's portrayer  
4 One of the gang  
5 Past  
6 Yin coun-terpart  
7 Extra  
8 Use frugally  
9 Con  
10 Ruben Studdard, e.g.  
11 Columns' crossers  
16 Embrace  
20 Cavalier, essen-tially  
21 Wave a swatter at  
22 He got the point across to his son  
23 Poorly lit  
27 Rose-to-be  
29 "Stage Fright" actress  
30 Racetrack  
31 On guard  
33 Reversal  
35 Petrol  
38 Goose egg  
40 The end of a perfect weekend  
43 Strength  
45 Support-ing  
46 All hands on deck?  
47 Comic Bob  
48 Largest of the seven  
49 Go bad  
53 Bullring bravo  
54 1860s faction (Abbr.)  
55 25-  
Across' playmate

**Solution time: 25 mins.**  
PETITINKSCIAM  
ADDOMAN YOGI  
DIEUPHOLSTFR  
STAIRNAT  
ATINO CEDIAH  
SHEPHERD MOVIE  
TENNIS BATTLE  
ARID TOPHEAVY  
RODEO NERO  
SOS ANNOY  
LOOPIHOLESE EGO  
OHIO MAKE OHK  
GOLLY EGOA NEE



CRYPTOQUIP

I W C T C E ' H Y Z Q H X B B W J

Y Z T F W Q D I I X Z J P T J H K C D U

O D J H U , P Z H J X A A Q I T I K

H K W O Z E F K W Q !

Yesterday's Cryptogram: TODAY I SHOPPED AT A STORE THAT SELLS CLOCKS AND CANDY, CALLED "TICK OR TREAT."

Today's Cryptogram Clue: J equals R

The Cryptogram is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.