to return in SL

SPÖRT

Minakshee, Ganguly lead

SPORTS REPORTER

Indian GM Surya Shekhar Ganguly regained the solo lead in the Asian zonal chess championship with a win over Bangladesh IM Enamul Hossain Rajib in the sixth round at the NSC conference room yester-

With that win, Ganguly raised his tally to highest 5.5 points, half a point more than fellow GM Pentala . Harikrishna who drew his yesterday's tie with compatriot IM S

In other matches of the day, Bangladesh IM Reefat-bin-Sattar beat Nepal's Krishna Thapa while Sri Lanka's VTS Svothayan beat Pakistani Amir Karim. The other two all-GM matches between Niaz Murshed and Avijit Kunte and Ziaur Rahman and Tejash Bakre ended in dull draws.

In the women's division, Indian IWM S Minakshee maintained her solo lead with a draw against fellow Indian Nisha Mohta in the tenth round. Minakshee now has 8.5 points, one point more than her compatriots Nisha, Esha Karabade and Swati Ghate who all have 7.5 points each.

New injury for Astle

CRICINFO, undated

Nathan Astle, who returned home early from New Zealand's tour of India with a knee problem, has a new injury, a small tear in his left patella tendon

Astle has been placed on a strengthening programme.

It is hoped that this will have him available in time for consideration for a place in the side to play in the home series against Pakistan. Rob Campbell, the doctor to the

Black Caps, said while the injury was a new one, it was similar to a previous injury involving his left knee. Campbell is hopeful Astle can return to club cricket in December. Astle said he would not be rushing his recovery.

"I am pleased with the way I am recovering and hope to be available this summer. I will be taking the time to ensure I am fully fit before return-

Unimpressive

four minutes from the break.

Earlier State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman inaugurated the meet and assured that a proper press box would be in place

The stadium still does not have

posses any press box. And the journalists were facing great difficulty filing their reports. Yellow cards: Parvez Babu (Broth-

TEAM

BROTHERS UNION: Mohammad Ali, Titoo (Jahangir), Rajani, Nazrul, Sujon, Iqbal (Liton), Monwar, Rikta, Alfaz, Parvez Babu and Abul (Em-

DIPALI JUBO SANGHA: Sayeed, Jalal, Russel, Nira (Liton) (Nizam), Shaheen, Shahed, Faisal (Mahfuz), Farid, Ching Boaja, Ojobo and Bashir.

Referee: Ramkrishna Gosh.

What to watch

FROM PAGE 13

Sport News Live at 8.30 nm **STAR Sports**

Bangladesh vs England Second Test, Day Three Live at 9:15 am Sportsline Tonight Sport News Live at 8:00 pm Tennis Masters Series, Paris Quarterfinals

Live at 11:00 pm

amount

36 Rife with

37 FDR's

40 "My

Friend

41 Pound

45 Snug

and

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Angler's

prize

5 Grammy

8 Child's

12 Wan

13 Past

14 One of

Bears

34 Witness'

15 Check

the Three

category

Indian under-19 cricketers arrive at the Lahore airport on October 29. They will take part in a four-nation

WI deny WC doubts

Cricket

BBC ONLINE/REUTERS,undated

The man in charge of the 2007 World Cup has on Wednesday played down reports the Caribbean could be dropped as venue.

An Australian newspaper claimed the country is on stand-by in case the game's world governing body International Cricket Council (ICC) decides the West Indies are incapable of playing host. Melbourne-based The Age

suggested concerns over the staging of the 2007 tournament in West Indies had reached a "significant Australia hosted the 1992 World

Cup.
"The ICC has been expressing quite a great deal of confidence in the Caribbean's ability to host the Cricket World Cup 2007," said Chris The ICC executive board meets

to discuss the World Cup on Thursday. "We have been working closely with the management of the ICC to

put in place everything that is required for the CWC 2007," managing director Dehring added. An ICC spokesman told BBC there was no substance in the

report, published in Melbourne

newspaper The Age.

And Cricket Australia chairman Bob Merriman denied claims that he had told state administrators of significant fears over the tournament within the ICC.

"Cricket Australia has contractual arrangements in place that would preclude it having the 2007 World Cup in any case," he went on. Worries have been raised widely

over the quality of stadiums and infrastructure in the Caribbean although several new grounds have been built in the last two years. In a report on the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) website,

Dehring said the ICC is expected to

sign a host agreement at the end of

the month WICB president Teddy Griffith added: "We are confident that as a nation we have the capacity to deliver on our obligations.

Griffith said the World Cup would be discussed by the ICC executive board meeting in Barbados over the next few days, adding: "WICB is fully aware of the significant challenges that it faces in hosting the 2007 World Cup.' Griffith said he did not know if

comments attributed to Merriman in the paper were accurate, adding: "We expect the fullest support and cooperation from all our fellow members of the ICC as we under-

Delegates from 10 Test-playing

nations plus three associate members, are this week expected to rubber stamp a plan to expand the World Cup to 16 teams.

But the tournament would be cut to four weeks in length from this year's six, with four groups of four Under plans already drawn up by

the ICC, each side in the secondround Super Eight format would play six more matches. The proposed tournament in

West Indies will be staged in 14 nations, with the possibility of matches also being played in Canada or the United States. There have been previous concerns expressed over travel, hotel accommodation and venues in the region. ICC chief executive Malcolm

Speed said earlier this year that it would be "inherently difficult" to stage the Cup in West Indies but that the sport's governing body was confident of it going ahead. The Barbados meeting will also discuss a new protocol for

cancelling tours and whether to recognise players' associations. India's request to release the whole of their World Cup earnings of 6.5 million dollars will be heard by

the ICC's commercial arm on Friday. The cash is being held back against legal action after a row over Indian players' sponsorship con-

'We could beat anyone'

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

Coach Javed Miandad believes Pakistan could beat anyone, including Australia, after beating South Africa in a Test series for the first

The hosts batted out a draw in the second Test to clinch a 1-0 series verdict their first home win against high-ranking opponents

"It is a big win for us against a quality side," said Miandad.

"I feel if we play with the same spirit and discipline we can win against any team and that includes Australia Australia downed Pakistan by an

emphatic 3-0 margin when the sides met in neutral venues a vear ago.

Miandad will have a chance to prove his claim against the world's top-ranked Test nation in Australia

By Eugene Sheffer

11 TV

network

appella-

politician

Dorothy's

siblings

19 Artesian

21 Honest

23 String

24 One of

25 Sans

54 Hockey

55 Stench

DOWN

1 Zinger

2 Cruising

location

impulae

5 "M*A*S*H"

3 Tibia's

4 Nerve-

New Zealand are due in Pakistan next month to play five one-day internationals. And Inzamamul Haq's side then

tour New Zealand to play two Tests and another five-match one-day series. Miandad paid tribute to the home

side's ability to play as a unit with key batsman Yousuf Youhana and pace bowlers Mohammad Sami and Shoaib Akhtar unavailable. "I think in the last two series

against Bangladesh and South Africa we have also unearthed four or five young players for the future who are willing to work hard," he

"[This team] are willing to learn and work hard and be around for a long time. They have improved day by day.'

Inzamam gave credit to opening batsmen Taufeeq Umar and Imran Farhat, who posted three successive century stands in the series. But he singled out Danish

RXZQN

puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe

give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

spinner took 11 wickets in the

"If he continues to improve this way he is our biggest find for a long time," the Pakistan captain said. "He carried the burden of the

bowling and I thought the South African batsmen were never able to relax against him.' And Pakistan Cricket Board

chairman Taugir Zia sent a message of congratulation to Inzamam himself after a dogged 60 helped save the second match. "I am proud of the way you have

led the team," said Zia in an open message to the skipper, who took over from Rashid Latif last month. "Your batting in the second

innings was an inspiration. You captaincy and the way of

handling your youngsters in the absence of star performers like Yousuf Youhana, Mohammad Sami and Shoaib Akhtar was brilliant."

AFP, Karachi

promote the game in the territory.

team to participate in the November 1-2 tournament that will also feature England, India, New Zealand, Sri Lanka and South Africa.

the game in Hong Kong and there is a great potential for further growth, provided more tournaments are organised there regularly," said Khan, under whom Pakistan will bid to defend its title.

matches could be held in Hong to the game

rounders Abdul Razzaq, Azhar Mahmood, batsmen Imran Nazir, Imran Farhat and Naved Latif.

"People come in large numbers to see the Super Sixes and once bigger events are held interest of the game will increase in Hong Kong manyfold," said Moin.

Nat'l cricket to be held at

SPORTS REPORTER

DCS

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has selected Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium (DCS) as one of the two venues for the second round of the Emirates 27th National Cricket Championship that will start from November 6.

The other stadium to play host to the championship is Mymensingh. A total of 13 teams have been

split into four groups for the robin league second phase. According to the schedule, A and C groups will play at the DCS while Groups B and D will play in Mymensingh. On the opening day, favourites

Chittagong will take on Nilphamari at the Mymensingh Stadium while last year's joint champions Biman will face Dhaka at the DCS. On completion of the robin

league, winners of A and C groups will play the first semifinal at the DCS while Group B and D winners will play the other semifinal in

The final will be held at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on

2ND ROUND FIXTURES Group A: Biman, Bogra and Dhaka. Venue: DCS

November 20.

Venue: DCS

Match Biman v Dhaka Bogra v Dhaka Biman v Bogra Group C: Jessore, Sylhet and

Match Nov 7: Jessore v Mymensingh Sylhet v Mymensingh Nov 9: Nov 11: Sylhet v Jessore Group D: Chittagong, American International University (AIUB) Kushtia and Nilphamari

Venue: Mymensingh Match Date

Chittagong v Nilphamari Nov 6: Nov 7: AIUB v Kushtia AIUB v Nilphamari Nov 8: Chittagong v Kushtia Nov 9: Nilphamari v Kushtia Nov 10: Nov 11: Chittagong v AIUB Group B: Rajshahi, Pirojpur and

Comilla Venue: Mymensingh Match Date Nov 12:

Rajshahi v Comilla Pirojpur v Comilla Nov 15: Pirojpur v Rajshahi

Holyfield vows to fight on

Evander Holyfield, still hoping to reclaim the heavyweight throne at age 41, posted a letter on his web site vowing he will remain in boxing after considering but rejecting the idea of retirement.

"I want to continue my boxing career," Holyfield wrote. "Éveryone else may agree or disagree but that

A fading Holyfield was outclassed on October 4 by James Toney, who stopped Holyfield in nine rounds and ended any realistic hope the four-time heavyweight champion had of reaching another title fight in the near future.

"It is important to me how I go out," Holyfield wrote. "I still want to leave boxing as the undisputed heavyweight champion of the world. I believe that a setback is nothing but an opportunity for a comeback. "I had a bad night. I got beat.

After I make the necessary adjustments, I will take the first step back with a much better performance. "There are definitely things I can do to improve. I have some lingering bad habits. I need to spend more

time in the gym getting rid of these bad habits.' Holyfield, who turned 41 on October 19, made five million dollars for fighting Toney but poor payper-view numbers from the bout

Some critics have even suggested having boxing officials in key states refuse to sanction Holyfield fights, a forced retirement that riles the ex-champion.

"I strongly object to any efforts by anyone to force me to retire by taking away my right to make my own decision about my own career," Holyfield wrote. "I am aware that a few people have

revoke my license and for television networks to refuse to allow me to fight on their shows. I wonder how those people would like someone else deciding whether they should be forced to There is also a health risk, some-

Trescothick may

seriously hurt and Marcus is hopeful of playing a part in the one-day

series starts on November 7.

Aussies cap busy season in Lanka

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

Australia will round off a frantic six months of cricket with a six-week tour of Sri Lanka in February next

The Sri Lankan board announced on Thursday Australia would play three Tests and five oneday internationals. Concluding on March 29, the tour

heralds the end of a non-stop halfyear schedule that sees Australia take on four teams in three different lands. They arrive in Colombo on February 14, just four days after the

schedule. Australia are currently taking part in a triangular one-day series in India, having recently hosted

Zimbabwe for a two-Test series.

last fixture of their summer home

The fixture iam mirrors England's gruelling itinerary for 2004, which has drawn criticism from International Cricket Council Match Referee Clive Lloyd. Galle, Kandy and Colombo will

host the three Test matches, with the first-named venue hosting the first Test starting on March 8. The Tests follow the one-day

series, which gets underway in

Top seed and world number one

Juan Carlos Ferrero of Spain

crashed out of the Paris Masters

here on Thursday losing to the

Czech Republic's Jiri Novak 7-5, 7-5

It was Novak's second career

win over the French Open champion

and it gave him a quarter-final clash

against Morocco's Hicham Arazi

who defeated eighth seed Paradorn

Basel tournament last week

packing

Tennis

AFP, Paris

in the third round.

Dambulla on February 20. Australia last played a Test

series in Sri Lanka in 1999, losing 1-0. The two sides last met in the World Cup semifinal in South Africa, which Australia won en route to tournament glory.

Sri Lanka, faced with an accommodation shortage, has decided to convert British-built bungalows into hotels to accommodate about 10,000 fans who are expected to travel for England's tour beginning n November.

No estimate was available on now many Australian fans will travel, but the administration is not taking anv chances

Sri Lanka's tourism industry, battered by a two-decade civil war, has been recovering thanks to a peace process between the government and Tamil Tiger rebels struck

TOUR ITINERARY

Feb 14: Arrival in Sri Lanka Feb 20: 1st ODI, Dambulla Feb 22: 2nd ODI, Dambulla Feb 25: 3rd ODI. Colombo Feb 27: 4th ODI, Colombo (D/N) Feb 29: 5th ODI, Colombo Mar 8-12: 1st Test. Galle Mar 16-20: 2nd Test Kandy Mar 24-28: 3rd Test. Colombo Mar 29: Depart Sri Lanka

REUTERS, Karachi

The disciplinary committee of the

bowler Saqlain Mushtaq off with a reprimand for verbally abusing coach Javed Miandad. PCB legal advisor Asghar Haider confirmed on Thursday that the committee had decided against a

stiffer punishment after Saqlain apologised at Wednesday's hearing in Lahore. Saglain was asked to appear before the disciplinary committee after he verbally abused Miandad

series against South Africa. "They have not fined or banned him." Haider said. "The committee reached the decision after Saglain apologised to Javed Miandad for his

But Haider said that the PCB chairman Tauqir Zia, who is abroad, could still take further action against Saglain if he felt the need to do so.

U-19 cricket

FROM PAGE 13

Manzoor, Jehangir Mirza, Shahid Yousaf, Mohammad Altaf, Salman Qadir, Mansoor Amjad, Riaz Afridi, Ali Imran Pasha, Zulqarnain

ITINERARY

Oct 31: Bangladesh v Pakistan India v Sri Lanka Nov 2: Pakistan v India Bangladesh v Sri Lanka Pakistan v Sri Lanka

Bangladesh v India

Overmars fears

FROM PAGE 16

moments, but I'm not a goalscorer I'm a passer of the ball. I'm not as brilliant as say Ronaldo or Ronaldinho, but I work more for the team.'

The 30-year-old also said that

although he was prepared to wait for his opportunity, there would be difficulties if he was sidelined for an extended period of time.

for my chance," he said. "But if my situation is the same in two or three months then we will have a prob-

Deportivo

FROM PAGE 16

minutes before the whistle. Barcelona finally brought a smile to the faces of their long-suffering supporters with an emphatic 3-0

Nou Camp since the start of the season and Javier Saviola got the ball rolling after 38 minutes, finishing off a good move which involved Ronaldinho and Gerard Lopez. After having been castigated by

were in no mood to go into cruise control after the break Xavi Hernandez and Ronaldinho found the net early in the second half and pressed for more goals but were thwarted as Murcia attempted

one behind the ball. Bottom club Espanyol got their first win of the season with a 1-0 win

If Espanyol had lost again, after

two consecutive 4-0 defeats, then it

would have been unlikely that coach Javier Clemente would still be in a job at the weekend. However, Clemente got a stay of

Atletico Madrid play Real Sociedad on Thursday with the

doing a fantastic job. But sometime their passion for the game leads them stray. Instead of checking the gates some of the cricket-crazy cadets were hosts bidding to win three consecutive games since they returned to the top flight of Spanish football at the start of last season.

Moin for more cricket in HK

He suggested India-Pakistan

Pakistan captain Moin Khan

Wednesday proposed holding more cricket events like the Super Sixes tournament in Hong Kong to further Moin is due to lead a six-member

"There is a significant interest in

Kong as such competition would attract large crowds, giving a boost The Pakistani squad includes all-

give him little clout in future talks with promoters.

called for boxing commissions to

thing Holyfield said he has considered. "I am not unaware of the risks of continuing to fight. I understand the risks better than almost anvone." he wrote. "Life is full of risks. There is no way to achieve great things without risk. Those who think I will fight again only if I dont fully appreciate the risks are

FROM PAGE 13

Trescothick suffered a multiple

fracture on the same thumb last year and was out of action for six weeks. The three-match one-day

Novak sends Ferrero because of injury, had already struggled in the second round here where he toiled to beat Nicolas

His defeat will also threaten his position as world number one with closest rival Andy Roddick, the second seed here, breathing down his neck and due to face Tommy Robredo of Spain later Thursday. Novak, the 14th seed, cut an emotional figure at the end of the

match as he converted his third

match point to exact revenge for two

previous Masters tournament

defeats by the Spaniard, in Montreal

in 2001 and at the Masters Cup in

Mahut of France.

Srichaphan of Thailand 7-6 (7/3), 6-Ferrero, who pulled out of the



Jiri Novak of the Czech Republic exults after beating Spaniard Juan

0 0

2 0

36

Carlos Ferrero at the Paris Masters Series yesterday. **BD-ENG SCOREBOARD**

16

Total: (For 4 wkts in 38 overs)	ξ	93		
Fall of wickets: 1-6 (Javed), 2-44	(Bashar), 3-6	1 (Hannar	n), 4-63 (Ka	apali)
To bat: Mohammad Rafique, Kha	aled Mashud,	Khaled M	ahmud, M	ashrafe
bin-Mortuza, Enamul Haque jr.				
Bowler	0	M	R	W
Matthew Hoggard	13	1	42	1
Richard Johnson	10	3	26	1
Rikki Clarke	7	4	7	2
Martin Saggers	6	1	16	0

SERIES SALAD

Umpires: Aleem Dar (Pakistan) and Ashoka de Silva (Sri Lanka).

FROM PAGE 13 But they were optimistic that it would not take long before a Chittagonian would play for Bangladesh. "We have two promising cricketers in the pipeline in the likes of Aftab and

FROM PAGE 13

Extras: (nb-5)

Alok Kapali c Mark Butcher b Rikki Clarke

Mushfiqur Rahman not out

Nafees Iqbal (nephew of Akram) and hopefully they will be seen in action **CRICKET-CRAZY CADETS** This is not the first time cadets of Bangladesh National Cadet Corps (BNCC)

have been entrusted to look after the gates at the stadium. And they are

found engrossed watching the action on the second day. "Please, don't bar us from watching the game for a while. After all, we are also cricket lovers," was the response of a cadet when a CJKS official tried to wise him up about his duty.

BBC ONLINE, undated Injured England fast bowler Steve Harmison hopes to be fit in time to face Sri Lanka in December Harmison flew back to England on Thursday after missing the second Test against Bangladesh in

Harmison

hopes

Chittagong following the recurrence of a back injury. "I'm confident I'll be in Sri Lanka I'll be trying everything to get there and it's just a case of seeking advice

in England," Harmison said.

The first Test against Sri Lanka starts on December 2 in Galle. "I hope the medical people in England can tell me what my back

problem is, and then say how to put it right," he added. "(Hopefully) they'll say 'you'll be okay' and I'll get the green light to go to Sri Lanka when the rest of the

boys go.' Harmison took nine wickets to gain the man-of-the-match award as England won the opening Test by

seven wickets. Seamers Richard Johnson and Martin Saggers were both called up for the second Test, as England left

Saglain warned

out spinner Gareth Batty

Pakistan cricket board (PCB) has let

on the phone after being dropped from the Pakistan team for the Test

behaviour and also to the committee members

Hussain Hyder, Tariq Mehmood, Azizul Haq

"At the moment all I can do is wait

defeat of struggling Murcia. It was the Catalans first win in the

their coach Frank Rijkaard for relaxing in the second half of Sunday's 3-1 win at Mallorca, Barca

to cut their losses by putting everyat Racing Santander.

execution thanks to Oscar Garcia's stunning goal from a free kick 30 metres out, seven minutes before the end.

16 Hidewarm character 26 Stylish away 47 Intimidate 6 Time 27 "Mary -17 Pinnacle 49 Modernof your little ...' 18 Bicvcle life? 28 Cologne seat style money 7 Floating spritzer 20 Mexican 50 Bread support 32 "-- Road" entree spread 8 The final 33 Trail-22 Popular 51 Prompt frontier blazer type of 52 Rocker 9 Custard-35 Seaver or mush-Clapton filled Selleck PLVOXYNrooms 53 Geog. pastry 36 Winter U Z S O C26 Big pit region 10 Gorilla affliction 29 Trouble 38 "Stir K Z V X I K XUIQJIQLVN, Solution time: 25 mins. 30 Aachen Crazy' article actor EWRLVNRR EWXXNQ 31 Loathe 39 Diminish 42 Remedy 32 10th Yesterday's Cryptoquip: 1'VE WONDERED, DOES THE GUY WHO'S BUSY LAYING SHINGLES anniver 43 Pennsylvania port sary gift 44 Punch HAVE THE BURDEN OF ROOF? 33 Combine, 45 Barracks Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals S furniture The Cryotoguip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for 46 Bullring another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the

bravo

48 "- Town"