

Zia wins active chess

Sports Reporter

International Master Ziaur Rahman won the Neptune active chess tournament while national champion Rifat Bin Sattar finished as the runner up.

Zia, who beat Zillur Rahman Champak in the last round at the chess room of the National Sports Council yesterday, finished the tournament with eight points while Rifat drew with Kalam to end the campaign with seven and half points.

Last year's national champion Syed Tahmidur Rahman, Mansur Rahman Raja, Arifuzzaman Shikdar, Kalam and Kazi Mahmudunnabi Lenin shared third to seventh positions with six points each.

Zillur Rahman Champak, Syed Ruhul Kabir Shiplu and Mizanur Rahman Labu shared eighth to tenth spots with six points each.

Khandaker Kayes Hassan, Amr Hossain, Rezaul Huiq, Shawkat Hossain Pallab, Farid Ahmed, Arman Monir Abdul Mobin, and SAM Naser collected five points and half to share eleven to eighteen positions.

In the more significant matches of the final round, Raja, Lenin, Shiplu and Labu beat Rezaul, Lavlu, Shawkat and Mintu respectively, while Tahmid, Kayes and Farid drew with Arif, Amr and Pallab.

Managing Director of

Neptune Theatre Limited MR Manzur gave away prizes as the chief guest. Fifty-six players took part in this nine round Swiss league tournament.

Cash award of Taka ten thousand was shared by the winners.



Ziaur Rahman won the Neptune active chess title.

A fishy draw

Sports Reporter

Wari Club and Farashganj Sporting Club shared points in the First Division football league after the allegedly fixed encounter ended in a two-all draw at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday evening.

All four goals came in the second half. Badal Das found the net for Farashganj in the 58th minute with a shot from inside the Wari box (1-0).

Babu drew level for Wari in the 64th minute (1-1).

Badal Das netted the second goal for Farashganj in the 66th minute utilising a defense lapse (2-1).

Soon afterwards, Aman restored parity for Wari following a goal mouth melee (2-2).

Wari now have 15 points while Farashganj have 12 from 13 outings each.

TEAMS

WARI CLUB : Tony (Totam), Chanchal, Shoton, Haran, Saad, Aman, Bobby, Rabbani, Tutul (Babu), Sudhir and Soyeb.

FARASHGANJ SC : Humayun, Shibu, Salahuddin Sr, Borhan, Raju, Das (Maстан) and Shimul.

Referee : Hasem Shikder.

TODAY'S MATCH

Abahani vs Agrani Bank

Tyson denied bail pending appeal



INDIANAPOLIS, Apr 1: Mike Tyson lost twice Tuesday.

A court rejected the former heavyweight boxing champion's request to be freed while he appeals his rape conviction, and prison officials reprimanded him for giving autographs to fellow prisoners, reports AP.

The Indiana Court of Appeals rejected the request without explanation in a two-sentence order, chief Judge V Sue Shields declined to explain the reasons.

Tyson's defense lawyer said the boxer planned to appeal the ruling to the Indiana Supreme Court.

Tyson went to prison Thursday after being sentenced to six years for rape and criminal deviate conduct. He was convicted of assaulting a beauty pageant contestant in his Indianapolis hotel room in July.

Prosecutors had argued that Tyson's refusal to eat and abide by rules in prison showed he might not obey court-imposed conditions if he were freed on bond during his appeal.

Marion County Prosecutor Jeffrey Modisett said he doubted the state's high court would review the denial of bail.

He said Tyson was likely to serve six months to a year before a decision is made on his appeal. Modisett said he didn't consider Tuesday's ruling an indication of how the appeal would go.

"The court in deciding a motion like this considers many issues," Modisett said. "They consider the risk of the person committing the same offense. They consider the risk of flight."

Tyson's defense lawyer, Alan M Dershowitz said he would appeal to Indiana's high court "as soon as possible."

"We're in the extremely unfair position of having had denied without any explanation, without any grounds," he said in a statement.

Meanwhile, an AFP report said: Mike Tyson's refusal to cooperate with prison officials should be weighed in considering whether he should be freed pending appeal, prosecutors argued Tuesday.

Tyson, in prison on a six-year sentence for raping, faces disciplinary action because he has been signing autographs, a violation of prison rules that prohibits inmates from exchanging objects of value.

The appeals court judges, meanwhile, were reading trial transcripts and other legal briefs Tuesday as they consider

whether to override a trial court judge's decision to send Tyson directly to jail.

Tyson's attorney told the appeals panel that Tyson would be willing to accept strict restrictions in return for his release from prison while he appeals his conviction.

Under those restrictions, court, prosecutor David Dreyer questioned whether Tyson would obey any conditions after his "refusal to obey even the simplest rules of his incarceration or to cooperate with correction officials in feeding or evaluating him."

Prison officials said that Tyson had been giving out his autograph and had also refused to cooperate in his education assessment and was refusing to eat solid food in the prison.

"We found a couple of offenders (prisoners) who had autographs," Kevin Moore, a spokesman for the Indiana Department of Corrections.

"He (Tyson) said, 'Yeah, I gave them. That's what I always do.'"

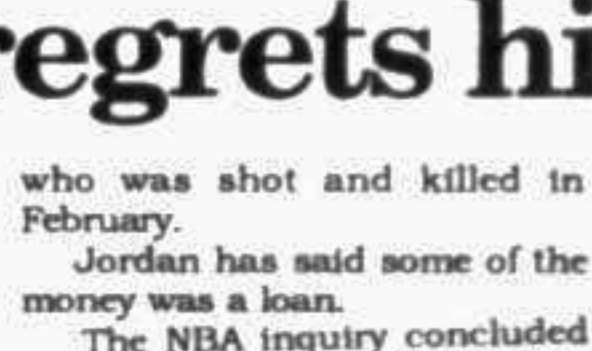
Tyson could simply be reprimanded or could lose the good-time credit for the days he has served so far.

Prison staff also said that Tyson accompanies inmates to the cafeteria but he consumes only liquids.

"He told the staff he wants to lose weight," because he is 13.6 kilos (30 pounds) over his 100 kilo (220-pound) fighting weight," Moore said.

But Moore said not eating is "not atypical of people who are into the (prison) system for the first time. They lose their appetite because of the uncertainty."

But in a brief to the appeals



MIKE TYSON

his attorney said the 25-year-old boxer would agree to be confined to his Ohio home and to refrain from meeting with women he doesn't already know.

But in a brief to the appeals

Borg resumes his comeback

HOUSTON, Apr 1: Bjorn Borg has an answer for those who say he can't become the No 1 tennis player in the world again, reports AP.

"They're right, I couldn't be No 1 again," Borg said. "I'm just trying to play at the best level that I can play. I have no goals. I just want to have some fun and in six months we'll see."

Borg, resuming a comeback he started a year ago, had fun on Tuesday, although he had to battle before beating fellow Swede Peter Svensson 6-2, 6-7, 6-3 in the first round of the River Oaks International tennis tournament.

The trademark blond mane remained bound in a headband but the dominating play that Borg displayed in his prime has disappeared. Still Borg asks only for time and more matches.

"Who knows, I might play unbelievable tennis or I may not. I don't know yet," Borg said. "All I know is I'm looking forward to the next match."

The 35-year-old Borg dominated the first set, fell behind 1-4 in the second and then battled back to serve twice for the match. He was broken on both serves and had to win in the third set.

"I need to come to that point where I have more con-

fidence in what I should be doing in those situations," Borg said. "That was just an example of a lack of match play."

Borg was pushed to the limit by his 17-year-old opponent.



BJORN BORG

Borg broke Svensson's serve in the fifth and seventh game of the first set but he fell behind 1-4 in the second set and eventually lost a tie-breaker 7-3.

Leading 5-4 in the second set, Borg was broken in the 10th game on Svensson's forehand winner. Borg broke Svensson in the 11th game and again served for the match but Svensson came back in the

12th game to force the tie-breaker.

Svensson said he was awestruck against his childhood idol.

"He is the reason that I started paying tennis," Svensson said. "It was very difficult to play him. He's been my idol always growing up."

Borg won 11 Grand Slam events, including five consecutive Wimbledon titles, before retiring from the game in 1981. He attempted a comeback at Monte Carlo a year ago but was beaten in the first round.

Svensson almost pulled off the upset, too.

In the third set, Borg faced a break point in the third game but came back to hold his serve. He then broke Svensson in the fourth game on a backhand error to take a 3-1 lead.

Borg took a 40-15 lead in the final game and double-faulted once and then won at the second match with a forehand volley winner.

Borg reached the finals of the River Oaks tournament as a 17-year-old in 1974, losing in the title match to Rod Laver.

"I think he'll improve as he plays more," Svensson said. "He just doesn't miss anything. He still runs down everything."

Malvial Washington the top seed and Richey Reneberg is second in the tournament. They play their first matches on Wednesday.

Asian u-16 soccer organising body approves budget

The first meeting of the newly-formed organising committee for the 5th Asian youth (under-16) football tournament was held at the Cabinet Room yesterday morning, reports UNB.

The Group Three matches of the tournament will be held in the northern city of Rajshahi from May 1 to 10.

Presiding over the meeting, Law and Justice Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz, who is also the chairman of the organising committee asked all concerned to extend their helping hands to make the prestigious tournament a success.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain, State Minister for Land Kabir Hossain, State Minister for Communication Fazlur Rahman and Football Federation President M Siddiqur Rahman also attended the meeting.

An approximate budget of Tk 22.51,000 has been approved for the competition. The patrons present at the meeting assured to provide Tk 20 lakh.

In the meantime reconstruction work at the Rajshahi Stadium is going on in full swing.

Intensive training for the Bangladesh under-16 squad is also in progress, the meeting was informed.

Row over bonus

ROME, Apr 1: Genoa's preparations for their UEFA Cup semifinal soccer tie with Ajax Amsterdam were upset when a row blew up at the Italian Club over bonus payments on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

The Italian news agency ANSA reported a training session had to be delayed several hours while the players met to discuss their demands.

Genoa are at home to Dutch club Ajax in a UEFA Cup semifinal first leg on Wednesday.

The players later released a statement to journalists saying bonuses offered by the club did not match up to normal standards in the soccer world.

"The norms are obviously not accepted by this club which is clearly not ready to deal with such glorious achievements," the statement read.

Genoa, in their first season in European competition, became the first Italian team to defeat Liverpool at Anfield on their way to a 4-1 aggregate win over the English club in the quarter-final.

The Genoa players said the row would not affect their performance on Wednesday.

"We will play with our usual commitment for our fans irrespective of this situation," the statement said.

Tennis results

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, South Carolina, Apr 1: Fifth seed Conchita Martinez of Spain easily beat unseeded American Mary Lou Daniels 6-0, 6-2 on Tuesday in the day's long second round match at the \$50,000 dollars Family Circle Cup women's clay court tennis tournament, reports Reuter.

In another first-round match, 10th seeded Natalia Zvereva of the Commonwealth of Independent States was troubled by American qualifier Julie Shiflet in the first set but turned on the aggression to win 7-6 (7-3), 6-1.

S Africans succeed in saving cash-starved Unity Games

JOHANNESBURG, Apr 1: Money from the South African government and a major banking group has saved the African Unity Games, reports AFP.

Organiser Danie Malan said here on Tuesday that the Games, which were in danger of being cancelled through lack of funding, will go ahead as planned.

The first leg will be held in Dakar, Senegal, on April 18 and the second leg in Germiston, east of here, on April 24-25.

The Games will mark South Africa's official return to international athletics after decades of apartheid-enforced isolation and will serve as a warm-up for the Barcelona Olympics in July.

Malan, an executive committee member of Athletic South Africa (ASA) said bankers Nedbank, had pledged 1.7 million rand (0.568 million dollars).

The South African government will pick up the rest of the tab, believed to total

around six million rand (2.12 million dollars).

He said the Dakar leg would consist of a one-and-a-half hour prestige meeting, while the South African leg would comprise a two-day meeting in Germiston with a grand opening ceremony to be attended by International Amateur Athletics Federation president Primo Nebiolo.

Athletes from all over Africa would be competing and would arrive in South Africa a week before the event to assist in coaching clinics.

Malan said it had been decided by ASA that South African athletes would not sport the traditional Springbok logo, now at the centre of a blazing row.

Black opposition groups say the logo, which depicts South Africa's majestic Bushveld deer, represents for most black athletes the dark decades when they were excluded from national squads because of the colour of their skins.

The National Olympic and Sports Congress (NOSC), the

umbrella body for all sports, favours the use of the Protea flower as the national emblem in international meetings, but the issue has still to be decided.

Nat'l youth cricket

Sports Reporter

The national youth cricket championship is likely to begin from April 10 at six different venues across the country, according to a BCCB source.

Forty-two teams including the defending champions Dhaka DSA and last year's runners-up BKSP will play in the tournament.

Dhaka DSA and BKSP will, however, play directly in the final round, scheduled to be held in Dhaka at a date not yet finalised.

Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd is expected to sponsor the meet.



Participants of the Neptune active chess tournament seen with the guests at yesterday evening's awards ceremony at the NSC. —Star photo

Jordan regrets his naivete

NEW YORK, Apr 1: Chicago Bulls star Michael Jordan asked for forgiveness for his poor judgement in choosing his associates after the League said on Tuesday its probe of published reports of possible gambling found no cause for disciplinary action, reports Reuter.

"I hope that I can be forgiven — that I will be forgiven for one mistake," Jordan said at Madison Square Garden before a game against the New York Knicks.

Jordan said he showed poor judgement in choosing some of his associates.

"I am aware that my judgement and lack of knowledge of the background of these individuals was very poor."

"I was innocent and naive. I let my family down and I let myself down," he said.

The National Basketball Association probe began after published reports said Jordan had written 165,000 dollar in cheques to golf pro shop owner Jim Boulter, who has been indicted for drug sales, gambling and money laundering, and gambler Eddie Dole,

who was shot and killed in February.

Jordan has said some of the money was a loan.

The NBA inquiry concluded on Tuesday when Jordan was interviewed in New York by Deputy Commissioner Russ Granik, League security director Horace Balmer and former Federal Court Judge and

Prosecutor Frederick Lacey, who was retained by the NBA to help in the investigation.

"The situation has been investigated with complete cooperation from Michael and his attorneys, and Judge Lacey has assured us that there appears to be no reason for the NBA to take action against Michael," Commissioner David Stern said in a statement.

"We've also been advised that Michael is not the subject of investigation by any law enforcement agency."

"However, in light of the fact that there is an ongoing investigation regarding other individuals, it would be inappropriate to comment further except to say there is no evidence that Michael has ever gambled on NBA games."

"Michael has advised us that he understands the gravity of the situations and that if he is not more careful about his associations, it can reflect adversely on his fellow players and the entire NBA."

He has assured us that he will be more careful about those associations in the future."

Olajuwon back in action

HOUSTON, Texas, Apr 1: Houston Rockets centre Hakeem Olajuwon returned to the lineup on Tuesday in a 107-101 loss to the Los Angeles Lakers after being suspended for allegedly faking an injury to gain leverage in contract talks, reports Reuter.

The Nigerian seven-time All-Star was allowed to return after the National Basketball Association board of governors voted on Tuesday to waive the rule that a player must miss at least five games once he is placed on the suspended list.

The special waiver, requested by the Rockets, required the approval of at least 21 of the league's 26 teams.

Results of the vote were not released, a Rockets spokesman told Reuter.

The team suspended Olajuwon on March 24. General manager Steve Patterson claimed Olajuwon faked a hamstring injury after the team refused to renegotiate his contract, which runs through the 1994-95 season and pays US 3.8 million a year.

Although Olajuwon had been suspended for only three games he had missed a total of five after saying he was injured on March 17.

The Rockets lost all five games without Olajuwon.

In his return, Olajuwon chipped in 20 points and

pulled down 16 rebounds in the losing effort, which dropped the Rockets three games behind the Lakers in the race for the eighth and final Western Conference playoff spot.

Olajuwon returned to practice on Monday, saying his leg felt well enough to play, but he added he hoped to be traded at the end of the season because of the allegations made by the team's management.

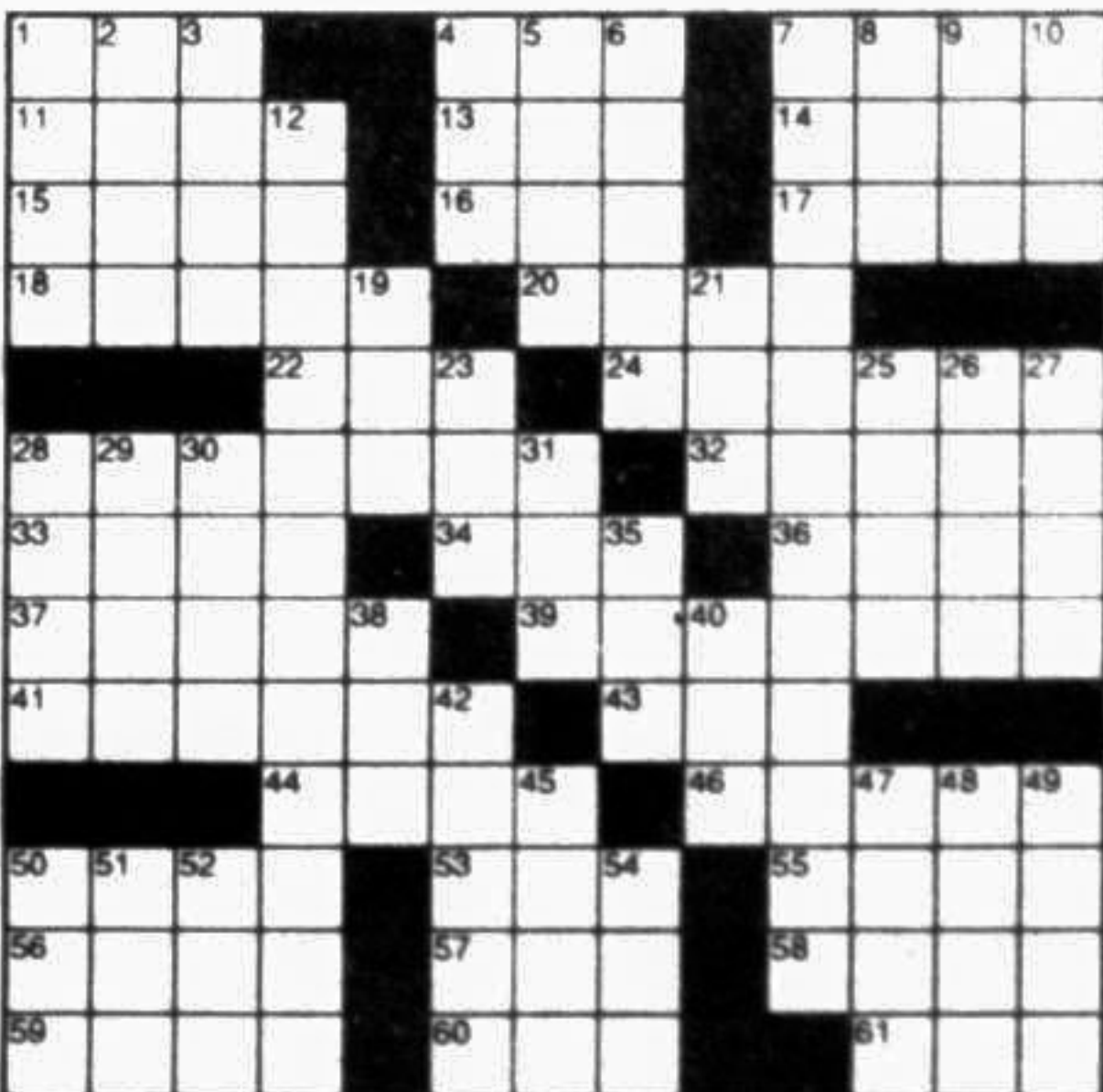
"I'm coming back for my teammates and the fans, but I don't want to play for the Rockets next season. I don't want to work for a company that questions my integrity," Olajuwon told reporters.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Drunkard
4 It's before CIA
7 Do a household chore
11 In the middle of creek
13 Small Prep school on the Thames
15 Appraise
16 Blueprint add-on
17 Suit part
18 Small orchard
20 French military cap
22 "I like —" (slogan)
24 Fashioned
28 Spanish warship
32 Stage whisper
33 Flightless birds
34 "I came, I —"
36 Lend of tennis
37 Classifies
39 Actor Martin

and others
61 Singer Peggy
DOWN
1 Mari-onette maker
2 Anagram for roam
3 Jospin Broz
4 Mine output
5 Shiny fiber
6 Oregon city
7 Former penal colony site
8 Shoshone
9 Call for help
10 Explosive initials
12 Rapid finger drumming
19 Supplement
21 Kentucky bluegrass
23 Dawn goddess
25 Prima donna
26 Dutch treat?
27 Thieves' places?
28 Exploit
29 See 2
Down
30 Entice
31 Seize suddenly
35 Not robust
38 Farm structure
40 — service
42 Trap
45 Improve the copy
47 Render muddy
48 Dies —
49 Bargain bonanza
50 R.R. stop
51 White House nickname
52 Funny Comedy
54 Career resort

Solution time: 24 min.



5-20 CRYPTOQUIP

I Z N I M F B I I C M W U B W U H C F U
V Z F P C E J Q F U Q N G B J
E Q I B M F Q V Q P M A A H Q G
U V Q E C C X F .

Today's Cryptoquip clue: E equals B

The Cryptoquip 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.