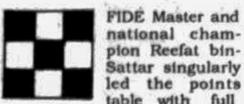


# Reefat leads points table

Sports Reporter



FIDE Master and national champion Reefat Bin Sattar singularly led the points table with full three points at the end of the third round of the second Prantik International Masters' chess tournament at the chess room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

In an unprecedented instance of speed, two rounds — the second and third — were completed yesterday with Reefat beating compatriot Nahid Miyazid and Indian Vishal Sareen respectively, to climb up the ladder.

Pakistani IM Mahmud Lodhi beat Ziaul Kader Tuhin of Bangladesh in the second round.

Other second round winners were Indian Mishra against Niamul Huq Niru of Bangladesh, Sareen against Amir Hossain of Bangladesh, Mansura Hamed Qadhi against Abdul Khaleq of Bangladesh, Reza of Bangladesh against compatriot Majid Rana, Shabbir of Bangladesh against compatriot IWM Rani Hamid, Bangladesh Kalam against Lenin, his Bangladesh coun-

terpart, Bangladeshi Pallab against the countrymate Liton, Ranadeb against Arif, both from Bangladesh.



REEFAT BIN SATTAR

Bangladeshi IM Zillur Rahman Champak drew with compatriot Khandaker Kayes Hassan while Indian rated player Atanu Lahiri also drew against Sheikh Anwar of Bangladesh.

In the third round, Atanu beat Kayes, India's Swapna Mitra outwitted Sheikh Anwar, Labu got the better of Tabun, Hanif knocked off Mamun, Lodhi drew with Hamed Qadhi, the Yemeni IM. Rezaul Huq of Bangladesh drew with Mishra of India.

Ruhul Kabir Shiplu held Indian IM Sekhar Sahu, while Shabbir snatched half a point from his more fancied compatriot Champak.

Lodhi, Indians — IM Mishra, rated players Atanu Lahiri, Swapna Mitra — Yemeni IM Hamed Mansour Qadhi and two Bangladeshis — Rezaul Huq and Syed Ruhul Kabir Shiplu — jointly held the second position with two and a half points each.

Champak, Shekhar Sahu, Saifuddin Labu, Niamul Huq Niru, Abdul Khaleq, Kalimullah Kalam, Amir Hussain, Hasibul and Shabbir Chowdhury have two points each.

## Tyson will not be allowed to attend father's funeral

NEW YORK, Oct 30: Mike Tyson will not be allowed to leave an Indiana prison to attend his father's funeral, according to a published report, reports AP.

The New York Post reported Friday that Jimmy Kirkpatrick, who was married to Tyson's late mother, Lorna Tyson, died Tuesday in Brooklyn at the age of 68. The newspaper said the cause of death was not immediately available.

"Mike was informed Wednesday by the prison chaplain of his father's passing," Indiana prison spokesman Kevin Moore told the newspaper. "He was distraught and upset. However, he will not be able to attend the funeral. We do not send offenders out of state, especially considering his crimes."

Tyson is serving a six-year term for raping Desiree Washington at the Black Expo pageant in Indianapolis in 1990.

Kirkpatrick left his wife and three children in 1968 when the former heavyweight champion was 2. He did not see his son again until 1982 at Lorna Tyson's funeral. The newspaper said Kirkpatrick disappeared again until the funeral of Tyson's sister Denise, who died in 1990 at age 24.

## Game 26 goes to Spassky

BELGRADE, Oct 30: Staving off match defeat for at least one more game, Boris Spassky on Thursday beat his old nemesis Bobby Fischer, slowly trapping Fisher until he was forced to resign after Spassky's 58th move, reports AP.

A win Thursday could have clinched the \$1.5 million chess rematch for Fischer. By winning the 26th game, Spassky narrowed Fischer's lead to 9-5.

The first player to win 10 games takes the match and the \$1.5 million top prize. The next game will be played Saturday.

Spassky, 55, won Thursday by "slow strangulation," forcing Fischer into a very cramped position with no room to manoeuvre. Playing a slow but methodical game, Spassky gradually increased his advantage over Fischer.

After the game, Spassky said he had a "clearly better position" on the board after the 30th move. But several experts said he gave away an early victory after the 41st move.

Fischer said he "should have sealed the queenside at some point" but agreed that Spassky had "a slight edge" in the crucial phase of the game at Belgrade's Sava Centre.

After beginning several games with 4 Spassky, playing white, Thursday, opened the game with 4 Fischer repeated the Benoni defence, which brought him success in game 16.

Spassky's 12th move, exd5, led to a symmetrical position more characteristic of the King's Indian Defence.

After 46 moves, the consensus among expert observers was that Spassky would win.

Fischer captured the world chess championship by beating the Russian-born Spassky in 1972, but the International Chess Federation stripped him of the title in 1975 after he refused to defend it in a dispute over match rules.

The 49-year-old American insists the current rematch is for the world championship, although it is not sanctioned by the chess federation.

The match is being played in defiance of UN sanctions against Yugoslavia, now composed of only Serbia and Montenegro, for provoking war in the former Yugoslav republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Fischer's next opponent could be Hungary's Judith Polgar, who replaced him as the youngest grandmaster ever. A tentative agreement has been reached for a \$1.5 million match earlier next year in Montecarlo.

## Deng's desire

BEIJING, Oct 30: China's 88-year-old senior leader, Deng Xiaoping, last seen in public looking extremely frail, plans to be around to attend the Olympics in 2000



which he believes Beijing will host, a local newspaper reported, reports Reuter.

Deng Pufang, son of the patriarch, was quoted by Thursday's edition of the Tianjin newspaper Jinwan Bago as saying his father was in good health.

He hopes Beijing will succeed in winning the bid for holding the Olympics in the year 2000 and wishes to see the Games with his own eyes," the newspaper quoted him as saying.

Deng Pufang said his father also planned to visit Hong Kong when the British colony returns to Chinese control in 1997.

"Just think, comrade Xiaoping will be 93 years old when visiting Hong Kong and 96 when watching the Olympic Games," Deng Pufang said.

He attributed his father's longevity to his even-tempered nature and the fact that he carried on playing tennis as he got older.

"My father is in good health," the younger Deng said. "At such an advanced age, he is very nimble and quick-witted... My father loves sports... When he was getting on in years, he still plays tennis."

Deng Pufang said his father had been invited to visit Hong Kong by Zhou Nan, head of the Hong Kong bureau of the official Xinhua news agency and the most senior Chinese official in the colony.

The invitation was issued earlier this year when Deng Xiaoping made a trip to the economic powerhouses of southern China to spearhead the country's current reform campaign.

The reclusive leader, architect of China's bold economic reforms, appeared very frail and quavery when he appeared at a gathering of cheering delegates on October 19 after the close of the 14th Communist Party congress.

He failed to appear during the week-long congress, and his emergence from the shadows seemed designed to quell speculation about his health.

## Four title bouts cancelled due to cable TV conflict

LAS VEGAS, Oct 30: A boxing card of four title fights including a defence by World Boxing Council super lightweight champion Julio Cesar Chavez, all cancelled due to a cable television conflict, will be rescheduled for January, a hotel-casino executive said on Thursday, reports Reuter.

The card scheduled for December 5 at Caesars Palace was cancelled when SET, the pay-per-view arm of Showtime Cable Television, determined its competitor Home Box Office would not reschedule a fight card it was televising the same night, Caesars Palace vice president Rich Rose said.

The decision to reschedule was made jointly by Caesars Place, Showtime and promoter Don King, Rose said.

# Iran start Asian Cup campaign in style

HIROSHIMA, Japan, Oct 30: Asian Games gold medalists Iran began their Asian Cup campaign in style here Friday when they rolled over North Korea 2-0 in Group A, reports AFP.

Winger Farshad Peyoos put Iran one up in the first half when he cracked a volley over the head of the Korean keeper and Sirous Chayeghran put in beyond doubt with a sizzling drive in the 80th minute.

The North Koreans only managed several weak shots on goal as the Iranians strengthened their defence in the second half.

Iran, who won this competition in 1968, 1972 and 1976, will take on the United Arab Emirates on Sunday, while North Korea will play Japan in the four team preliminary round robin competition.

An earlier AFP report said: Two-time defending champions Saudi Arabia and their nearest rivals Qatar both got off to a shaky start on the opening day of the eight-team Asian Cup football championships here Thursday.

Saudi Arabia was frustrated by China; while Qatar has a scare against Thailand, both drawing their first games 1-1 in the four-team preliminary round-robin competition.

With only three minutes left in the first-half, Kajohn Punnaves picked up the ball and headed to the right of the penalty area, where Thanis Aresangkul flicked in from close range to put Thailand one up.

Qatar tried hard in the second-half and finally capitalised on their efforts in the 81st minute when forward Mahmoud Yaseen Soufi slotted in a rebound during a goal-mouth melee for the equaliser.

"I told them before the game that we wouldn't have an easy game, because Thailand beat South Korea (in the qualifying round in June) and they are fighting very well," said Qatar's coach Sebastiao Lapola.

"But now we will start the competition again as the four teams are equal with one point each."

Thailand's coach Peter Stubbe agreed with him, saying

"The chances are even and now luck is going to be involved."

"I'm very satisfied that I'm still in the competition, because Qatar is favoured at least in our group. We were lucky. We tried our best and my boys and my small country Thailand have done their best. I'm very proud of that," added Stubbe.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia took the lead when winger Yousef Al Thunyan opened the score in the 17th minute, but the Chinese made it even with Li Bing's header in the 41st minute.

Saudi Arabia suffered another setback when midfielder Khalid Al Muwallid got his marching orders 11 minutes into the second-half and they had to fight to stay on the defensive against the spirited Chinese.

Owairan made use of his sides few attacking chances with some good shots, but neither side was able to find the net.

There is no extra-time or penalty shoot-out in the preliminary competition.

"In the second-half, China

had one more player for the benefit of their team," said Nelson Rosa Martins, the Brazilian coach for Saudi Arabia. "As a result of that, China was able to control the second-half."

"We then tried to counter attack, but after 20 minutes in the second-half, I decided to play more defensively. Nevertheless, we were still trying to look for an opportunity to counter-attack. I think the result is fair to both teams," he added.

China's coach Klaus Schlappner of Germany said: "I'm pretty content with the result. I'm satisfied with my team's performance."

On Saturday, Qatar will take on Saudi Arabia, while Thailand will meet China.

The eight teams were divided into two groups in the preliminary round-robin competition and the top two from each group will move into the knockout semi-finals.

Today will see the Beijing Asian Games gold medalists Iran play North Korea, while the United Arab Emirates meet hosts Japan.

# Euro giants have a tough week ahead

PARIS, Oct 30: The visit of Torino on Sunday presents champions AC Milan with the toughest challenge to their perfect start to the Italian league season, reports AP.

In Germany's match of the day, champions Stuttgart take on league leaders Bayern Munich while in France and Spain, leaders Mantes and La Coruna should sustain their surprise leads.

Six wins and 22 goals in six matches have left the rest of the league asking who can stop Fabio Capello's men bulldozing their way to another Italian title.

But second placed Torino have one of the tightest defences in the league and if AC are to be stopped, they are the kind of team that has to start taking points from them soon.

Milan showed signs of a reaction to last weekend's record breaking 41st match when they defeated in mid-week when they managed only a 0-0 draw with lowly Cagliari for a 3-0 winning aggregate in an Italian Cup match. Torino weren't much more impressive, beating Second Division Bari 1-0 to scrape through 2-1 on aggregate.

The clash in the San Siro Stadium will be an emotional affair for Gianluigi Lentini. The Italian international midfielder was signed by Milan from

Torino for a world record fee in the summer after promising never to leave prompting days of protest from Torino fans with the bitter taste of betrayal in their mouths.

Genoa go in to the derby match with Sampdoria away that last weekend's 4-3 win over Pescara could have to be repeated. Russian striker Igor Drobovolski received two yellow cards but the referee failed to give him his marching orders.

In other Italian games, Napoli, struggling in the bottom half of the table, travel to Atlanta with coach Claudio Ranieri under severe pressure.

A 5-0 cup win in midweek alleviated some of the pressure but after his side lost 2-0 at home to Paris Saint Germain in their first leg UEFA Cup tie last week, Ranieri's days are thought to be numbered.

Third placed Fiorentina travel south Cagliari with Danish star Brian Laudrup feeling the effects of virtually non-stop football since he led his country to their European Championship triumph in June.

"I have never played so badly in my whole career" he said after the 1-1 draw with AS Roma on Wednesday. "Since July I haven't stopped for barely a minute and now I'm paying the price in terms of fatigue."

Lazio's strong run since England's Paul Gascoigne fi-

nally started his Italian career should continue away to Udinese. The Rome club beat Atlanta 3-0 on Wednesday with Gazza hitting the bar with a 20-yard drive.

In Germany, champions Stuttgart take on league leaders Bayern Munich. After losing their unbeaten record to Werder Bremen last Saturday,



GIANLUIGI LENTINI

Bayern recovered their form to hold highly-rated Eintracht Frankfurt to a 1-1 draw on Wednesday.

Eintracht, who are level on points with Bayern at the top, also face a tough away tie when they travel to fifth-placed Karlsruhe.

Barcelona and Real Madrid are closing in on La Coruna at the top of the Spanish table but the leaders should beat Sporting Gijon at home to stay on top.

Johan Cruyff's Barcelona emerged from a sticky path with an impressive 3-0 win over Valencia last weekend

and the European champions should have no trouble against lowly Logrones, currently propping up the Spanish top flight.

Real Madrid, whose early season problems seem to have been forgotten since the return of midfield international Rafael Martin Vasquez, are away to Zaragoza.

In Portugal, Bobby Robson's sporting Lisbon entertain FC Porto while city rivals Benfica, Managerless following the sacking of Tomislav Ivic earlier in the week, take on Boavista.

Dutch league leaders PSV Eindhoven face a tough challenge to their unbeaten start to the season when they visit second-placed FC Twente Enschede.

French league leaders Nantes slipped to their second defeat of the season when they went down 1-0 at St Etienne on Thursday — leaving the gate open for Paris St Germain, who have what looks to be a relatively easy away game against lowly Nimes at the weekend.

Champions Olympique Marseille travel to Eastern France for a clash with Sochaux without international defender Basile Boli who begins a three-match suspension for elbowing Monaco's Jurgen Klinsmann earlier this month.

The German striker's side, currently fourth, travel to Normandy to face Caen.

# Ruddock embodies Patterson's dream

LONDON, Oct 30: Thirty years ago, Floyd Patterson lost his undisputed world heavyweight boxing title for the second and last time, reports Reuter.



RAYZOR RUDDOCK

He donned the false beard and moustache he had bought earlier and slipped away incognito.

Sonny Liston, the winner that September evening in 1962, is dead and other old foes have long retired. But Patterson is eyeing the title again — as coach.

Ever popular and remarkably fit for his 59 years, the American is using his expertise to help Canada's Donovan "Razor" Ruddock in a heavyweight title eliminator against Briton Lennox Lewis at London's Earl's Court on Saturday.

The winner on October 31 will fight either the champion, Evander Holyfield, or fellow-American Riddick Bowe, who met for the title on November 13.

Ruddock's promoter Murad Muhammad said that, if all went according to plan, Patterson could become the first former world champion to train a heavyweight world champion. "We look forward to that history," he said. "Floyd still runs five miles (eight kms) a day and he still has the will to win. That's what he's instilling in Ruddock."

"How to win, not just having guts and power but to know how to disarm the opponent and knock him out."

Patterson, the first man to regain the world title after los-

ing it in 1959 to Sweden's Ingemar Johansson, says the key to Ruddock's future lies in the past.

"What I'm teaching Razor is what yesterday's heavyweights did," he explained at a workout in a London gym as ageing fight fans gathered round to revive old memories.

"The two most important things in boxing are repetition and concentration. After a while that combination that you're throwing will become a part of you," he said.

Faded black and white photographs were produced for Patterson's inspection, autographs were sought (and given) and dim and distant friendships vaguely recalled.

"I'm used to the old tactics, defence as well as offence," said Patterson, who as a 21-year-old in 1956 became the youngest man to win the professional heavyweight title.

"I get a bigger thrill in making a buy miss a punch that I do in hitting him, believe it or not."

He weighed around 183 pounds (82 kilos) in his prime but proved the power of speed, movement and defence in knocking out opponents weighing in at over 200 pounds (90 kilos).

"The trainers of today teach more offence than defence because, well, I don't suppose they know how to teach defence how guys like Sugar Ray Robinson used to box, used to Bob and wave and make you miss a variety of punches."

"One is just as important as the other. The fighters of yesterday were much better defensively than those of today," he said without a trace of boasting.

"The trainers of today teach 95 per cent offence because they figure you want to win the fight so you teach all offence. But what's the other guy going to be doing?"

Muhammad said the arrival of Patterson had a sensational effect on the hard-hitting Ruddock.

"One day I woke up at about three in the morning with this intuition that Floyd Patterson could be the man. And it worked... When he met Floyd it was like love at first sight."

"I don't smoke and I've never drunk — I can't stand the smell of alcohol," he added firmly.

Patterson admitted he made mistakes in his youth but time had healed his feelings about the 1962 fight.



FLOYD PATTERSON

"I could take defeat — but the fact there were so many people out there wanting me to win meant I could no longer take defeat because it was more for them than myself."

"The one thing I have learned since is that I will never be ashamed of feeling ashamed."



French racehorse Arazi, owned by Allen Paulsen and trained by Francois Boutin, having a practice run at Gulfstream track on October 29. Arazi is one of the three European favourites in the Breeders' Cup mile turf race.

# Milan's campaign will end in tears!

MILAN, Oct 30: AC Milan, the "Dream Team" of Italian soccer, might be dominating the league, but clairvoyants and psychologists are moving in to offer the challenge that rival teams can't immediately provide, reports AP.

Barbanera (Blackbeard), a clairvoyant who calls himself the Wizard of Foligno, predicted this week that Milan team's supremacy will be short-lived and that it will be upset for this season's title.

"The end of the campaign will bring tears to the Milan club," Barbanera predicted.

Meanwhile, several psychologists debated the stress faced by long unbeaten teams and athletes.

"The psychological burden of invincibility could cause a collapse of Milan players," said Fabio Lucchi, a psychologist and psychoanalyst from Brescia.

Milan's opponents certainly need to be reassured that the defending league champions and current leaders can be stopped, sooner or later.

AC Milan are off to a record

pace in the initial part of the 34-round Italian First Division campaign and is leading their potential title contenders by two to four points overall — with one game to make up.

Many Italian soccer experts express concern that Milan's undisputed leadership could soon cause a big drop in interest and attendance.

The Milan team, owned and richly sponsored by media tycoon Silvio Berlusconi, on Sunday set an all-time league record of 41 straight games without a defeat.

Berlusconi, an avid soccer fan, said Tuesday that his players had achieved a legendary result with their unbeaten streak, beating the 36-year-old record of Fiorentina.

"They are now in the legend along with campionissimi (superstars) such as Fausto Coppi and Cassius Clay," Berlusconi said.

This season Milan have 13 wins in as many league, Italian Cup and Champions Cup games and is the only First Division team to remain unbeaten and untied with an overall record of 6-0.

Juventus of Turin, considered Milan's toughest rival for the title, suffered a 3-1 upset at the hands of Inter last Sunday and trails Milan by four points with a record of 2-4-1.

The gap could stretch to six points when Milan has a next up game with Sampdoria next month for a league game rained out in Genoa in September.

"The title seems lost already, but Milan can only slow down while Juventus, and other teams, should improve in the next rounds. We are not giving up," Juventus coach Giovanni Trapattoni said.

Juventus, who are owned by the Agnelli family of auto tycoons, invested dozens of millions of dollars this year to sign new players and challenge Milan's domination. La Juve was runner-up to Milan last season.

"Milan seems unbeatable but let's hope that the fight for the title is not over already. It would be a hard blow for Italian soccer," wrote Rome's sports daily Corriere dello Sport.

But Berlusconi and coach Fabio Capello insist that the league title is still not guaranteed.

"With 27 rounds left, everything still can happen. We must engage hard every Sunday because all teams, including the underdogs, play their best game of the year against us," said Capello.

The coach denied, however, that the unbeaten was causing

any psychological stress.

"I believe that losses, more than wins, cause problems to the players," Capello added.

However, the Milan team, who are shooting for their 13th league title and fifth Champions Cup this season, does have its own psychologist on hand for group therapy sessions prior to big games.

Milan's supremacy is said to stem from perfect teamwork and a 22-player roster which allows for the rotation of players and reduces the effects of injuries.

"Capello can always field 11 players of equal class and efficiency," Milan's Corriere della Sera wrote.

Milan's roster includes such talented players as Marco Van Basten, Ruud Gullit, Frank Rijkaard, Jean-Pierre Papin, Dejan Savicevic, Gianluigi Lentini, Franco Baresi, Paolo Maldini and Roberto Donadoni.

Eight Milan players are regular members of the Italian national team, which played to a 2-2 draw with Switzerland in its first qualifying match for the 1994 World Cup.

Commenting on Milan's invincibility, Pierino Prati, a former Italian star-forward commented: "Let's put a reward on Milan. The first team which stops Milan certainly deserves a big prize."

# Mtolo, Markova have different goals

NEW YORK, Oct 30: The leading man and woman in the New York City Marathon will be stepping off the starting line on Sunday with different goals in mind for the 26.2 mile (42.16 Km) trek through the city streets, reports Reuter.

South African Whittle Mtolo is the fastest man in the field with the world's 18th best clocking of two hours eight minutes fifteen seconds.

But in his first major international marathon outside his home boundaries, the soft-spoken Zulu is not thinking about winning the 20,000 US dollars first-place purse and the luxury sports car.

"I'm hoping to finish in the top five," he said. "If I break

2:10 I'll be happy."

However, Russian Olga Markova has the money and the car in her sights as she hopes to become the first woman since Ingrid Kristiansen of Norway in 1989 to win the New York and Boston marathons in the same year.

"Before Boston I never thought about winning itself," said Markova, who finished second to Liz McColgan of Scotland in last year's race. "But want to win."

Markova is expected to be challenged by Australian Olympian Lisa Ondieki, who finished third last year, and Japan's Yoshiko Yamamoto, a surprising second-place finish at Boston this year.

handful of contenders in a field that is missing most of the world's top runners because the event comes so soon after the summer's Olympic Games.

"He is a big question mark," Eyestone, who finished 13th in Barcelona, said of Mtolo. "When you look at his fastest time, that was six years ago. You can't say he is the overwhelming favourite by any stretch of the imagination."

Other top challenges in the 17th running of the race through the city's five boroughs are Briton Steve Brace, who finished third in the 1990 race, Mexico's Alejandro Cruz and South Korean Kim Wan-Ki.