

Sport

Chess playoff meet from June 4

Sports Reporter
The six playoff matches of the recently concluded World Championship of chess for Zone Ekven, held in Isfahan, Iran, will be held at the chess room of the National Sports Council from June 4 to 11.

Gate receipts of DMFA Cup

Sports Reporter
Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA) earned gate receipts amounting to Taka 34,27,255 from the recently concluded DMFA Cup.

The highest single day's turn over was realised in the final of the tournament with Taka 6,22,925 coming from the Abahani-Mohammedan match.

Besides, the 23,000 gallery tickets and 745 VIP tickets were also sold on the day. DMFA will get Taka 50,000 from BTV for its live coverage of Saturday's final.

Hockey league resumes June 9

Sports Reporter
The Green Delta First Division hockey league will remain suspended until June 8 on account of the holy Eid-ul-Azha.

Div II cricket qualifiers

Sports Reporter
A superb all-round performance by Rubel steered Tuhin Smriti Sangsad to a seven wicket victory over Ankur Cricketers in the Second Division cricket qualifying tournament at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium (West) yesterday.

Tuhin Smriti Sangsad asked Ankur Cricketers to use the pitch first after winning the toss. Ankur Cricketers accumulated 114 for the loss of nine wickets from their quota of 25 overs with Sohail topscoring with 26.

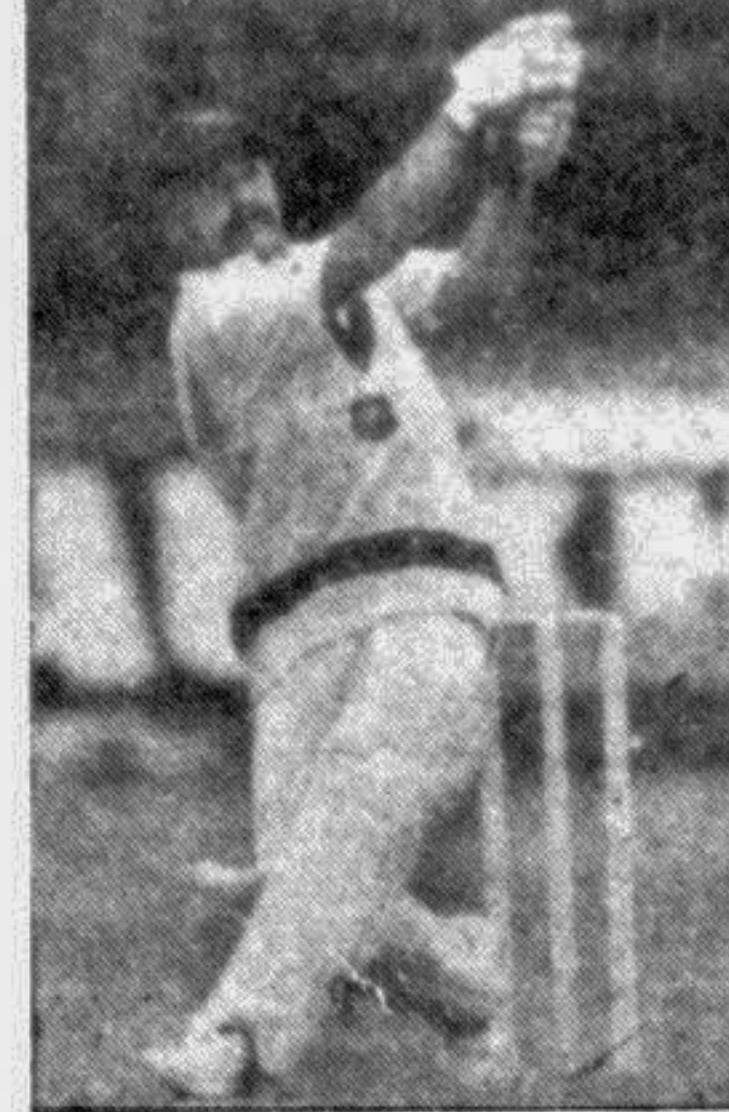
Boon asserts his reliability

LEICESTERSHIRE, England, May 30: David Boon underlined his reputation as Australia's most dependable batsman in recent years with his third century in his fourth first-class tour innings on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Boon hit 123 and shared a second-wicket partnership of 214 with opener Michael Slater (91), driving the Australian's to 323 for three at the close on the opening day of their three-day match against Leicestershire.

Tasmanian Boon, who took 108 and 106 off Worcestershire and made 27 against Somerset in his only other first-class innings, faced 227 balls and struck 19 fours.

Slater's success — he blossomed after taking an hour to score his first six runs — left the identity of Mark Taylors opening partner in next weeks first Ashes Test at Old Trafford unclear.



DAVID BOON ... 123 emerged from his painstaking start by hitting Mullally for three successive fours.

Boon repaired the damage handsomely with Slater, who by Vince Wells. Captain Allan Border (42 not out) and Steve Waugh, who hammered an unbeaten 44 from 89 balls with six boundaries, shared an unbroken fourth-wicket stand of 96 against an attack missing unfit West Indian pace bowler Winston Benjamin.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the first day of the three-day match between Leicestershire and Australia on Saturday. AUSTRALIA: First Innings M Hayden c Nixon b Mullally 2 M Slater c and b Wells 91 D Boon c Parsons b Wells 123 A Border not out 42 S Waugh not out 44

Extras: (b-6, lb-3, W-8, nb-4) 21 Total: (for three wickets) 323 Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-210, 3-227

To bat: I Healy, B Julian, M Hughes, S Warne, T May, C McDermott. Bowling: O M R W Mullally 26 5 65 1 Parsons 28 6 64 0 Wells 25 7 70 2 Pierson 23 6 82 0 Hepworth 5 0 33 0

Bremen take over from Bayern

BONN, May 30: Werder Bremen set up a nail-biting German Bundesliga finale on Saturday, thus dumping Hamburg 5-0 to take over at the top from Bayern Munich on a goal difference of one, reports Reuters.

Bayern beat third-from-bottom Bochum 3-1, but now have a goal difference of plus 29 to Bremen's plus 30 with one game remaining.

There's no reason to go into mourning," said Bayern's trainer Erich Ribbeck. "Let's just see how Bremen handle the pressure."

We took all the risks and were rewarded with a big win," said Bremen trainer Otto Rehhagel, who had a last-minute goal from Austrian Andreas

have the easier final match, away to 10th-placed Schalke. Bremen, whose strength is at home where they have only dropped three points all season, travel to seventh-placed VfB Stuttgart, the reigning champions.

Bremen have had memories of Stuttgart, who beat them on the last day of the 1985-86 season to deprive them of the title. The Northerners struggled initially against local rivals Hamburg, and needed 34 minutes to take control with Herzog's first goal. Two goals from New Zealander Wynton Rufer, one from Stefan Kohn and Herzog's last-minute effort wrapped things up.

Littbarski hits headlines

TOKYO, May 30: Big headlines hailed German ace Pierre Littbarski in Japan's Sunday newspapers for inspiring an underdog team from an anonymous Tokyo suburb to the top of the country's new professional soccer league, reports Reuters.



LOTHAR MATTHAEUS Herzog to thank for moving into first place.

He scored one goal and helped set up the other four in Ichihara JEF United's 5-0 thrashing of Yokohama Marinos, one of the pre-season title favourites.

England's miseries continue

England were literally given a whitewash by their oldest rivals Australia, who lifted the Texaco Trophy 3-0 with an awful ease. After their Asian Brown Wash England must be having a "besmeared" feeling and it will take them quite some time to wipe off the 'colours' and be their own self. The Englishmen completely capitulated and could drive very little consolation from the just concluded three-match series of one-dayers. Their confidence must have reached its lowest ebb. Limitations of their cricketing prowess have been exposed and it will not be easy to make an upward push in the near future in order to breathe and survive. Border & Co cannot be expected to let up the pressure in the forthcoming series of six Tests. This is what one could very well read from the three Texaco Trophy matches.

The weakness of England's bowling was absolutely apparent. In the second match at Edgbaston, their bowlers could not defend a total of 277 and once Mark Waugh and Allan Border consolidated their domination after initial setback (3 for 95), they simply did not have any answer. Australia raced to 280 for 4 with 9 balls to spare. In the first match at Old Trafford, on a good batting wicket, Australia amassed 258 for 9, which their bowlers successfully defended; England fell short by 4 runs. Finally, at Lord's, Australia accumulated 230 for 5 on a wicket which had some early life and, with 11 balls to spare, bowled England out for 211, though at one stage they were 96 for no loss.

Among the English bowlers Andrew Caddick's performance was impressive. He im-

proved with every match: one for 50, none for 43 and three for 39 clearly show his gradual progress. Even though, at the moment, he is not half as good as Sir Richard Hadlee, whose clone he is branded to be, he proved himself to be highly promising and there is very little doubt that he is going to be a recognisable force in the coming encounters.

But the rest of the attack looked fairly ordinary. Derek Pringle has outlived his utility. He even failed to do his containment job in the second included in the second match in place of Illingworth, could only return 0 for 57, though his figures at Lord's (0 for 24 in 9 overs) were impressive. He was not allowed his full quota for reasons best known to Graham Gooch. Dermott Reeve, brought in at Lord's to replace injured Chris Lewis, could hardly make any difference.

One may legitimately ask: Where are the bowlers who could dismiss Australia twice in a Test match to earn a victory for them? The introduction of Devon Malcolm may add some pace to the attack, but he could hardly be a match-winner. Inclusion of Phil Tufnell or Ian Salisbury may augment their spin department, but could hardly become decisive. Of course, 'horses for courses' policy may bring some success in varying English conditions, as Neil Mallender did the trick at Headingley last summer against Pakistan.

England's batting did enjoy short tenures of prosperity in the three matches, but its inconsistency was obvious. Graeme Hick started well with 85 off 102 balls at Old Trafford, but withered away in the next two (2&7). Robin Smith played a thundering innings of 167 n.o. (off only 163 balls) at Edgbaston, but in the other two (9&6) could not stay long enough. Alec Stewart did not prosper in the first two matches (22&0), but at Lord's looked like paying the match-winning innings of 74 and his sweetly timed strokes were real treat to eyes. Neil Fairbrother, reputed to be a fine one-day player, scored 59, 23 and 18, looked like launching on, but failed to bring each of his innings to fruition. He was out playing indiscreet shots. Graham Thorpe (31, 36&22) looked an impressive prospect for England.

Aussies squeeze past Kiwis

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, May 30: Striker Graham Arnolds goal in the 59th minute Sunday gave Australia a 1-0 win over New Zealand in the first Oceania Group World Cup qualifying match, reports AP.

The second match will be played next Sunday in Melbourne, Australia.

The winner of the series play Canada in the next round of qualifying for the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

I could see Carl Veart had the ball and took a gamble he would cross wide, said Arnold. It came in at the far side of the goal leaving me with an easy shot. Arnold scored his previous goal for Australia four years ago. It was the first World Cup win in Auckland over New Zealand in six matches, and Australian coach Eddie Thomson promised the Australians would be far better for the return leg.

The match provided drama for both sides including a disputed goal and a high number of stoppages — 55 — from Swedish referee Bo Karlsson.

Australia lost Frank Farina through injury in the first half and New Zealand had striker Fred de Jong sent off in the second half.

In addition, New Zealand expects to lose striker Billy Wright for the Melbourne match because of two yellow cards in internationals.

Thomson started with Farina and Arnold as strikers but did not anticipate a disorganised defence as the Australians floundered against the wind at Nt. Smart Stadium and a determined New Zealand.

De Jong was the first to shoot for goal when he slotted a Cert Evans pass just wide of the posts in the opening minutes while Arnold missed with a header a few minutes later.

Unruly fans go on a rampage

WARSAW, Poland, May 30: Police say one man was killed and more than a dozen persons injured in violence related to Saturday's Poland-England World Cup soccer qualifier in the southern city of Chorzow, reports AP.

A Polish fan died from loss of blood after being stabbed with a knife in a brawl with a fellow Poland supporter. The incident occurred hours before kickoff on a tram going to the stadium, according to Pawl Bacja, a local police officer on duty.

The nationalities and conditions of those injured were not immediately known. They were hurt in street fights Saturday afternoon and night.

Windows were broken during a short stone-fight in front of the Katowice hotel, where the British fans were staying.

During the match, that ended in a 1-1 tie, police in riot gear had to remove misbehaving Polish fans who were throwing sticks at each other.



A WIMBLEDONESQUE SIGHT: It rarely rains at Roland Garros but spectators were resorted to umbrellas when steady drizzle disrupted yesterday's proceedings of the French Open twice. — Star TV photo

Wright spares England blush

CHORZOW, Poland, May 30: Ian Wright scored his first goal in England colors seven minutes from time Saturday to force a 1-1 World Cup tie with Poland from a game his team should have lost, reports AP.

Dariusz Adamczyk fired Poland ahead in the 34th minute but co-striker Marek Lesniak missed two easier chances as England's defence was caught out by swift Polish counter attacks.

The balanced score cost both teams a point and gave them no promotion in their group. England remain second with 9 points for and 2 against, Poland keep their fourth position with 8-1 result.

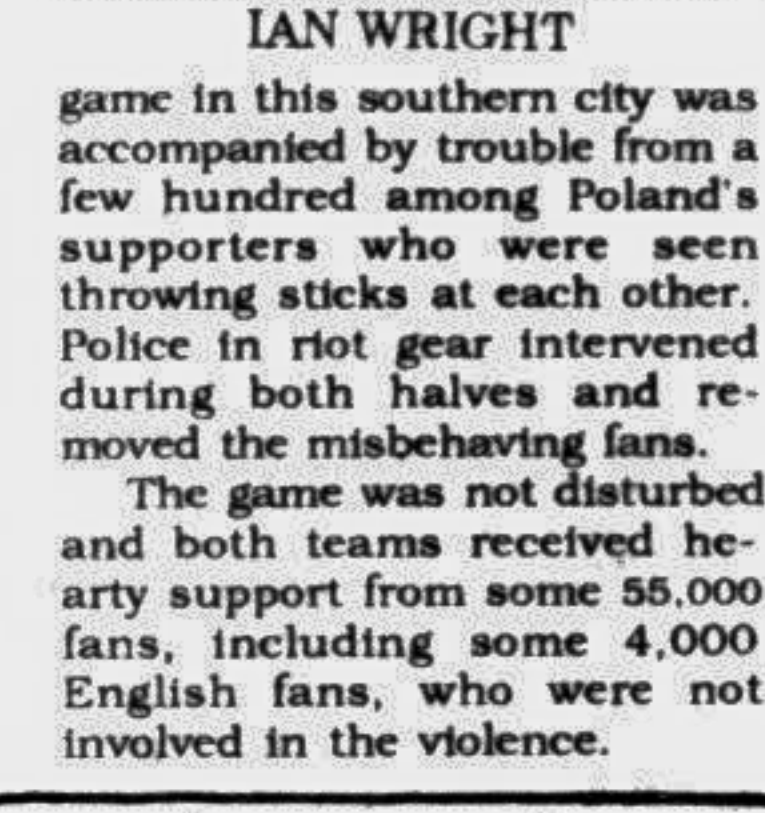
In the 34th minute Adamczyk opened the score when he outpaced Sampdoria defender Des Walker and lobbed the ball over the head of England goalkeeper Chris Woods.

Wright, who replaced Carlton Palmer in the 70th minute, equalized in the 83rd minute with a first time shot from a centre by Australian-born left back Tony Dorigo.

He hit strong and fast at Poland's goalkeeper Jaroslav Bako, who half blocked the shot but could not stop it going in.

Wright had not scored in eight previous appearances for England although he top scored in the English Premier League last season with 30 goals for two-time cup winner Arsenal.

A few minutes earlier pure chance prevented Wright from scoring, when Bako let one of his powerful shots slip out of his hands, but then caught it right before the goal line.



IAN WRIGHT

game in this southern city was accompanied by trouble from a few hundred among Poland's supporters who were seen throwing sticks at each other. Police in riot gear intervened during both halves and removed the misbehaving fans.

The game was not disturbed and both teams received hearty support from some 55,000 fans, including some 4,000 English fans, who were not involved in the violence.

LINEUPS

POLAND: Jaroslav Bako, Piotr Czachowski, Roman Szcwzyk, Marek Kozminski, Andrzej Lesiak, Jerzy Brzezczek (Marcin Jolocha, 82), Piotr Swierczewski, Dariusz Adamczyk, Jan Furtok, Roman Kosceki, Marek Lesniak (Kazimierz Wegrzyn, 71).

ENGLAND: Chris Woods, David Bardsley, Tony Dorigo, Carlton Palmer (Ian Wright, 70), Des Walker, Tony Adams, David Platt, Paul Gascoigne (Nigel Clugh, 82), Paul Ince, Teddy Sheringham, John Barnes.

Booked: Ince, Czachowski, Kozminski, Bako. Referee: Serge Muhmenthaeler, Switzerland.

Ryan Giggs tops Tapie's list

MARSEILLE, May 30: European Champions Cup winners Olympique Marseille look set to swoop for Manchester United boy-wonder Ryan Giggs, reports AFP.

Marseille, who clinched a record fifth consecutive French title by beating second-place Paris St Germain 3-1 here on Saturday, are ready to splash out to stay at the top.

And president Bernard Tapie, a known admirer of the 20-year-old Welsh international, has hinted that Giggs is top of his shopping list for next season.

"We will buy four new, high-calibre players for next season, one to partner Alen Boksic up front and another to replace, Sauxee in midfield," said Tapie after Saturday's triumph.

England's miseries continue : A review on Texaco series

by A M Chowdhury

But Graham Gooch was England's main batting enigma; his footwork was sluggish and he struggled in all the three innings. His 42 at Lord's, after 4 and 17 in the earlier two, demonstrated his fighting spirit, but could hardly erase the question mark on his utility in the team as a batsman, of course, in his current form. England's fielding, once a very strong point of their cricketing prowess, to say the least, was pathetic. With a number of players having bad arms their throwing was not at all sharp, their backing up and catching were poor. Graham Thorpe, otherwise very good, missed two chances in the Lord's match off the bowling of Dermott Reeve. There were lapses by other players too.

Graham Gooch's captaincy left a lot to be desired. He did not appear assertive and the ageing out-of-form veteran, having a long run of failures, did not look like inspiring his team. He was doing his job more on a worked out routine rather than showing any ingenious acumen. Right from the beginning he was on the defensive. Putting Australia in at Old Trafford under cloud cover, he dispensed with the slip after couple of overs and saw at least two chances travelling safe to the third man.

Having to defend 277 at Edgbaston he hardly went on the offensive and chose containment as the cardinal point of his policy. When Mark Waugh and Allan Border were going on fluently in a highly professional way chasing the fairly big total of 277, Graham Gooch was at his worst. Under pressure his handling of the bowling was rather routine than imaginative. He was giving his medium pacers turns of two overs each without any plan and strategy. His thinking

faculty was as sluggish as his footwork.

Among the Australian bowlers Craig McDermott was highly consistent and bowled with great control and venom. His figures of seven for 102 at 15.57 pipped up a clear signal about the things to come in the forthcoming Tests. Allan Border got good support from Merv Hughes, Tim May and Steve Waugh, the last was the usual threat towards the closing stages of each England innings. Bendon Julian, once he got over the debut-nervousness (he was hit for 27 in his initial three overs), bowled well to end with three for 50 conceding 23 in his last eight overs. He looks to be a good prospect for Australia in the Tests with the natural left-hander's away swingers.



GRAHAM GOOCH

Australian fielding was superb. They brought off a few near-impossible catches to turn the tide in their favour. One may recall Mathew Hayden's brilliant catch which dismissed Paul Jarvis at Lord's. Their fast, flat and accurate throws kept the English batsmen always under pressure.

Above all, Allan Border was more positive in his approach. Experienced as he is, he never wavered under pressure. His positive approach could be seen in his field placements; he was seen putting two slips, a gully and a forward short leg, even in the middle of an innings, in order to put additional pressure on the new batsmen.

On the whole, Australia outplayed England in the one-day series and England's miseries, which started last December, continue to linger with them and when the thrashing is from their old rivals the wounds go very deep into their hearts. As England go into the battle for the Ashes things are not looking that bright for them.