

### V Sharavanan replaces Reefat at the top

**Sports Reporter**  
V Sharavanan brought a little change in a rather monotonous pattern when he climbed to the top of the points table in the eleventh Dr QM Hossain International Master's chess tournament at the conference room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

At the end of the ninth round, he garnered a haul of seven and a half points to displace Bangladeshi IM Reefat bin Sattar at the top of the points table.

Reefat, who, until yesterday, had been to the fore, lost the lead pot through any setback but because his scheduled encounter with Indian IM Lanka Ravi for the day was not held. The putoff match is expected to be played on November 1. Reefat trails Sharavanan with seven points.

Sharavanan owed his rise to the top to a ninth round victory against Bangladesh's Tayebur Rahman Suman in a match lasting 58 moves.

Holder Lodhi had relatively easy passage against local Kalimullah Khan whom he defeated in 34 moves. He stays in the third position along with Lanka Ravi with six and a half points from eight matches.

National champion IM Ziaur Rahman checkmated fellow FM Tahmidur Rahman in 27 moves. Zia, last year's runner-up, has five and a half points.

Indian IM Ravi Hegde won against Bangladesh's Hasibul Hassan Hanif in day's another match. Hegde has a bag of five points.

In another Deshi affair Abdullah Al Rakib wrought submission from Nahid Miyazid in just 24 moves to place in the sixth position with four and a half points.

Seasoned Indian IM Shekhar Chandra Saha raised his tally to five with a 55-move victory against Bangladesh's Maruf Ahmad.

India, who have eight points from two matches, go into the second leg of the preliminary league beginning Sunday almost assured of playing in the final on November 5.

New Zealand and the West Indies are tied at two points each after the first leg and will battle each other for the second finalist's spot.

The Kiwis, who were robbed of victory in their first match by bad weather after bowling the West Indies out for

22 called for Nirman XI trials

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Twenty-two cricketers from different city schools have been selected initially to form the Nirman Schools Eleven team for the imminent 15th Damal Summer tourney.

The players are: Junayed Rahman, Ridwan Hassan, Tasa-bur Hassan, Yassir Arif, Mir Rubaiyat Jamil and Shaker Chowdhury (Scholastica); Tanveer Islam Khan, Qazi Reaz Hamid (Dhanmondi Govt School), Ehsanul Huq, Adnan Majid Haq (Motijheel); Narayan Chandra, Jewel Hossain, Sohel Hossain and Ariful Huq (Narayanganj High School); Shamimudzoa, Mashrur Ul Quader (Mirpur Bangla High); Touseeq Ahmad Jasm (Kalindi High School); Khalid Saifullah (Siddheshwari High School); Faiyaz Ahmed (Armanitola Govt School); Mahtab Billah (Willes Little Flower); Asifur Ahmad and Itrat Jahan (St Joseph's High School).

Selected cricketers have been requested to report to coach Monir Ali Khan with their kits at the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) office at 3 pm on Tuesday.

### Nat'l women's h'ball on

The four-day national junior women's handball tournament began at the Dhanmondi Women Sports Complex yesterday, reports UNB.

Sixteen district teams are taking part in the meet organised by the Bangladesh Women's Sports Federation.

The opening day's results were:  
Rangpur beat Feni 19-2 goals; Narail beat Comilla 9-2 goals; Mymensingh beat Patuakhali 15-0; Jessore defeated Naogaon 16-2 goals; Faridpur beat Bogra 12-0 goals; Rajshahi defeated Dinajpur 12-5 goals and Dhaka beat Pirojpur 20-5 goals.

### Parma in Italian Cup quarters

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Parma, who advanced on a 3-1 aggregate, take on next Fiorentina, who eliminated defending champions Sampdoria.

All the thrill of the game came in one minute.

Panamanian striker Dely Valdes put Cagliari in the lead, at Sant'Elia Stadium, with a late goal in the 90th.

Argentine defender Nestor Sensini kicked in a quick equaliser for Parma in injury time.

Parma controlled play throughout the game to defend a 2-0 lead from the first-leg game.

## Rutherford, Parore plough in the sands Tendulkar toys with Kiwis

**BARODA, India, Oct 28:** Sachin Tendulkar returned to form with a brilliant century on Friday as India brushed aside New Zealand in a high-scoring one-day match in the triangular series here, reports AFP.

The 21-year-old, who made just eight runs in his last three one-day innings slammed a glorious 115 to help India overtake New Zealand's huge 269 for four with 11 balls and seven wickets to spare.

Opening the innings, Tendulkar batted until the 46th over before he was run out when a hard drive from skipper Mohammad Azharuddin was deflected by bowler Dion Nash into the non-striker's wicket.



**TENDULKAR ... 115**  
India still needed 23 runs off 25 balls at that stage, but Azharuddin (47 not out) and Vinod Kambli (12 not out) ensured the home team's second successive win in the tournament.

Parore, on 72 when Rutherford was dismissed, helped Stephen Fleming (33 off 27 balls) put on 61 for the fourth wicket to take the Kiwis beyond the 250-mark.

India take on the West Indies next at Kanpur on Sunday in the first match of the second leg. The Kiwis play the West Indians at Guwahati on Tuesday.

### '96 Euro tickets on sale

LONDON, Oct 28: More than one million tickets for the 1996 European Soccer championships went on sale on Thursday with officials predicting the finals will be the biggest sporting event in England since 1966, reports Reuters.

Tournament director Glen Kirton told a news conference: "It is going to be the biggest party in sporting and cultural terms since England hosted the World Cup 28 years ago. We are determined to make it a success."

With 590 days to go before the tournament kicks off, a total of 1.15 million tickets were made available for the 31 matches being staged at eight grounds during the three-week tournament being held from June 8-30 1996.



Danish football manager Richard Nielsen (L) and his English counterpart Terry Venables pose with the European Championship trophy in London on Oct 27 at the ticket-launching ceremony for the 1996 tournament. — AFP photo

123, once again put up a grand show — only to see their efforts go waste.

Skipper Ken Rutherford hit a superb 108 and shared a 180-run stand for the third wicket with Adam Parore (96) to help New Zealand set India a stiff target of 5.4 runs an over.

But the in-form Indians, who defeated West Indies in their first match, rose splendidly to the task at hand in perfect batting conditions.

Tendulkar and Manoj Prabhakar (74) put on 144 for the first wicket before left-arm spinner Matthew Hart, who claimed a career-best five for 22 on Wednesday, set India back with two quick wickets.

Hart accepted an easy return catch from Prabhakar and then had Navjot Sidhu caught in the deep for 11 as India slipped to 162 for two in the 34th over.

Tendulkar, who smashed nine boundaries and three sixes, and Azharuddin put India on the road to victory by adding 85 for the third wicket.

The match followed a similar course to the one between the two teams here six years ago when Azharuddin's world-record century off 62 balls enabled India overcome New Zealand's 278 for three with two wickets to spare.

Rutherford and Parore joined hands with New Zealand reeling at 27 for two in the ninth over after they won the toss and elected to bat first.

Rutherford hit 13 boundaries before being run out in the 42nd over as Azharuddin broke the wicket with a direct throw from backward point.

Parore, who needed four runs off the last two balls of the innings to reach his maiden century, skied seamer Manoj Prabhakar's penultimate delivery to Anil Kumble at mid-off.

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### Div I badminton from Nov 27

The Senior Division badminton league, organised by the Bangladesh Badminton Federation and sponsored by National Bank, will begin from November 27.

The eight participants — Mohammedan Sporting Club, Surja Tarun Club, Shelltech Club, Biman Bangladesh Airlines, Dilkhusha Sporting Club, Sputnik International, Dhaka Badminton Club and Renaissance Sports Club — have been requested to complete entry formalities by November 20.

### Cricket masters tourney in India next March

BOMBAY, Oct 28: India is to host a six nation cricket tournament in Bombay next March for players over the age of 35, organisers said on Thursday, reports Reuters.

The World Masters Cricket Cup is being organised by a Hong Kong based company and will have teams from Australia, England, India, Sri Lanka, West Indies and South Africa.

Former Test stars such as Sunil Gavaskar, Viv Richards, Dennis Lillee, Greg Chappell, Allan Border, Barry Richards, Graeme Pollock, Clive Rice and Dwayne Mendis are expected to take part.

A total of 45 matches will be played in two leagues at Bombay's Brabourne Stadium from March 3, with the final on March 12.

The tournament will also be a tribute to one of India's great cricketers, CK Nayudu, in his centenary year.

### AC Milan's magic waning?

ROME, Oct 28: AC Milan's domination of Italian soccer could be coming to an end, reports Reuters.

After winning the Italian championship for the third successive season last May when they also produced a superb display of attacking football to destroy Barcelona in the European Cup final, Milan are struggling.

At the tie their 4-0 demolition of Barcelona in the European final in Athens silenced the doubters who said Milan lacked the sparkle of earlier vintage years.

But now the critics have plenty of fresh ammunition — a glance at the Italian league

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### Lara suspended

NEW DELHI, Oct 28: West Indies star batsman Brian Lara was handed a one-match suspension on Thursday for refusing to leave the wicket promptly after he was given out in a one-day international match against New Zealand, reports Reuters.

Local news agencies said Lara was also fined 50 per cent of his match fee for Wednesday's game at Margao in western India for questioning India's K Murali, umpiring at square leg, who declared him out, stumped off the bowling of New Zealand spinner Matthew Hart.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) quoted a statement by the Indian cricket board (BCCI), saying Lara had apologised to the umpires after a hearing by the International Cricket Council (ICC) observer, Raman Subba Row.

Subba Row's decision to suspend Lara will keep him out of the West Indies next match in the series, against India at Kanpur on Sunday.

Several Indian newspapers disagreed with Murali's decision to give Lara out.

"It was a sad display of dissent by Lara who, one hopes has been made to realise the error of his ways," said the Delhi's Times of India.

"But it was also a dreadful peace of umpiring in a splendid competition which has been marred only by some horrendous decisions," the Times said.

Lara scored 32 in 58 balls, the highest scorer in the West Indies total of 123. The match was abandoned due to rain, earning two points each for both the teams.

India won the first match of the series against the West Indies at Madras.

"As per the ICC code of conduct Clause 3, Brian Lara is suspended for one World Series Match — the next match to be played by the West Indies," PTI quoted the BCCI statement as saying.

It said Lara was subjected to a hearing by the ICC when the umpires complained in their report that he had "stayed at the wicket for an unacceptable length of time" after being given out by Murali.

Lara had also signalled to the umpire to take the opinion of the third umpire, telling Murali that he would protest if the replay showed he was not out, PTI said.

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Germany's two top players, arch-rivals Michael Stich and Boris Becker, cruised through to set up a classic quarter-final clash.

Both won in straight sets but Stich, defending the Stockholm title as third-seed, had the tougher game, grinding down strong-serving American Jim Courier 7-5, 6-3.

Another quarter-final will pitch world number one Pete Sampras of the US against the only remaining Swede, Magnus Larsson.

Four of the world's top five players advanced, with Croat Goran Ivanisevic, ranked and seeded second, and Spain's Sergi Bruguera, fourth, overcoming their opponents' with ease.

Edberg, however, succumbed to the toughest and

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Kafelnikov, who expects to lead Russia's assault on the Davis Cup against Sweden in December, said he felt he had played one of his best and most important matches of the year.

"It was an important match for me before the Davis Cup. I want to play all my matches like this — it has happened only once or twice before this year," he told reporters.

Edberg, winner of the US Open in 1991 and 1992, says he wants to stay in the world's top five at least until the end of this year but admitted he was outplayed.

Praising his opponent's game, he said: "He has a good serve, a fine volley and one of the best returns in the world."

The fast surface at Stockholm's Globe Arena was also a factor, both players said, though neither was complaining.

"It's quick in there. Even if you serve well, if you've got a guy who gets to the ball quickly, you've got no chance," said Edberg who was not really satisfied with his serving.

Swedes' attention will now shift to another Davis Cup hopeful, Larsson. Ranked 28th in the world, he was a hero in Sweden's Davis Cup semifinal last month, helping secure a sensational win for his country over a US team led by

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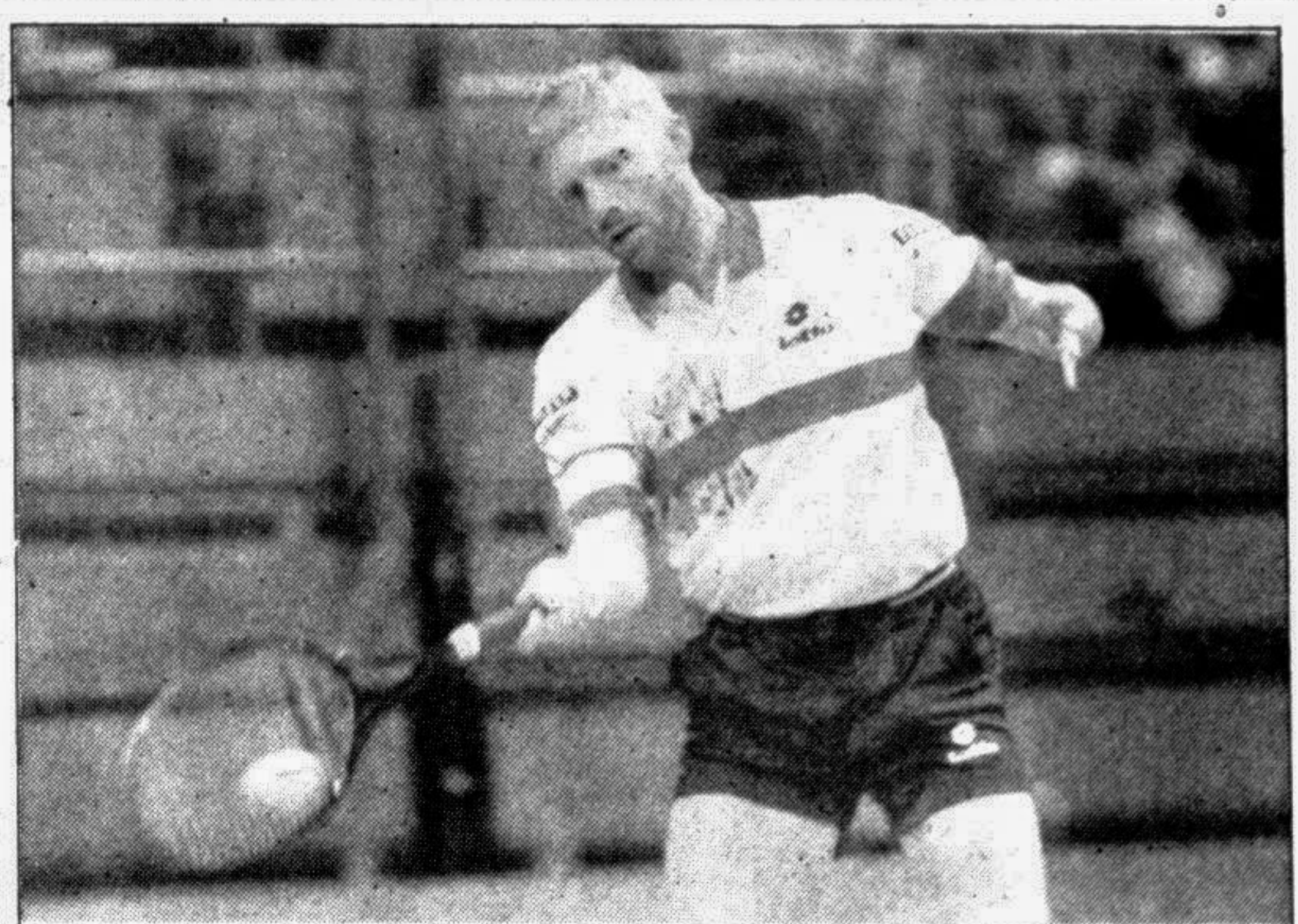
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Germany's Boris Becker makes a forehand return against Russian Andrei Chesnokov during their third round match at the Stockholm Open on Oct 27. Becker won 6-4, 6-3. — AFP photo

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