



BATTLE OF BRITS: Britons Mark Hebden and Stuart Conquest put on an air of cogitation not quite becoming of a match at such an early stage during yesterday's proceedings of the second United Insurance Grandmasters' chess tournament at the Jalsa Ghar of Hotel Purbani.

SAARC Gold Cup soccer from Mar 25

Sports Reporter Bangladesh have been placed in Group A along with Nepal and Pakistan in the SAARC Gold Cup football tournament, scheduled to begin in the Sri Lankan capital of Colombo from March 25.

According to the programme released by the organisers Football Federation of Sri Lanka, Bangladesh will play their first match against Pakistan on the inaugural day of the nine-day meet.

Navana cricket resumes today

Sports Reporter The Navana Premier Division cricket league resumes today after a break of sixteen days due to a package of exhibition matches involving three touring sides — Kenya, Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) and Hong Kong — against four local selections.

POINTS TABLE table with columns: Teams, M, W, L, Pts. Lists teams like Mohammedan SC, Abahani KC, etc.

BOA delegation off to Madras

A two-member Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) delegation left last night for India to attend the first meeting of the Seventh South Asian Federation (SAF) Games, reports UNB.

A win at last for Reefat

Sports Reporter Reefat-been-Sattar kept his already tottering campaign for a GM norm on course when the Bangladeshi International Master won his third-round match in the second United Insurance Grandmasters' chess championship against fellow-IM Zillur Rahman at the Jalsa Ghar of Hotel Purbani yesterday.

Smarting under two consecutive defeats, Reefat, who needs nine and a half points from the 13-round meet for a GM norm, launched relentless pressure on Zillur's French Defence and won submission on the 30th move.

Second Test against Zimbabwe begins today

BULAWAYO, Feb 6: After a humiliating innings defeat in the first Test in Harare, Pakistan face the second Test against Zimbabwe, starting on Tuesday, without key fast bowler Aaqib Javed, reports Reuters.



Chowdhury Rowshan Kabir makes a backhand return during her first round match against compatriot Yasmeen Ahmed at the ninth Toyota Bangladesh international junior championships at the Ramna National Tennis Complex yesterday. Rowshan won 6-4, 7-6 (7-4).

who schemed his defence on the Sicilian variation, before coming out winner after 44 moves. Sunday's surprising co-sharer of the top slot, Filipino Enrique Sivilano, who had earlier posted two creditable wins over GM Conquest and Indonesian International Master Ruben Gunawan, found Indian counterpart Varguese Koshi's King's Indian Defence hard to penetrate and agreed to a draw after a taxing 58-move cerebral warfare.

Tajikistan's IM Magaram Magoedov swept aside Indonesian Grandmaster Edhi Handoko to join the Filipino at the second position. Both IMs have two and half points each to their name.

Pakistan minus Aaqib Javed

Among the batsmen, Basit Ali looks set to move into the middle-order, with Asif Mujtaba taking over the opener's role from the out-of-touch Saeed Anwar.

Three matches are billed on the opening day — Munshiganj vs Madaripur at Faridpur, Kushtia vs Narail at Khulna and Nilphamari vs Rangpur at Rangpur Stadium.

— Star photo

Schism in Pak camp?

KARACHI, Feb 6: A newspaper on Monday blamed "mutinies" and "rampant indiscipline" for Pakistan's humiliating defeat in the first Test against Zimbabwe, reports Reuter.

The English-language daily The News said Pakistan's team had gone into free-fall since the 1992 victory in the World Cup. "Shaky batsmen, worn-out bowlers, sloppy fielders, all these... are the inevitable result of a deadly combination of mismanagement and lack of vision," said the paper.

Mixed fortunes for locals

Sports Reporter Bangladesh players had mixed fortunes on the opening day of the ninth Toyota Bangladesh international junior tennis championships at the Ramna National Tennis Complex yesterday.

Sher-e-Bangla nat'l soccer from Feb 15

First phase of the 19th Sher-e-Bangla Cup National football championship begins February 15 simultaneously at nine zonal venues across the country, reports UNB.

Eight districts — Faridpur, Kishoreganj, Cox's Bazar, Habiganj, Patuakhali, Khulna, Joypurhat and Rangpur — will host the first phase to be held outside the capital.

Pele watches Magic in action

RIO DE JANEIRO, Feb 6: It was a meeting of royalty. Brazil's Sports Minister Pele Sunday watched Magic Johnson in action at a basketball tournament on a specially court built on the sands of Copacabana Beach, reports AP.

Hyderabad head home happy

The Hyderabad Cricket Association carried out a winning farewell for themselves when they beat the Bangladesh under-19 team by 17 runs at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

With it came to an end the package visit of three foreign teams, the other two being Kenya and Hong Kong, who after having taken part in a series of exhibition matches left Dhaka yesterday.

CALLUS BCCB

The spares crowd which enjoyed the proceedings, particularly at the flag end of the match reacted strongly and logically when Arvind Shetty of Hyderabad twisted his ankle while coming on to bowl and had to be carried off by his teammates.

India A cornered again

Paras Mhambrey was bowled under his legs by Bombay-born left-arm spinner Minal Patel at the flag end of an action-packed final session.

Dravid, 22, and Mazumdar, 20 both seeking promotion to the senior side, came together with India A at 33 for three.

Pele watches Magic in action

US basketball star Magic Johnson receives an autographed football from Brazilian Special Minister for Sports Edson Arantes do Nascimento 'Pele' in Rio de Janeiro on Sunday.

There were two wickets for Surinder Agarwal who gave away 24 runs. Earlier Hyderabad, who had a record of three losses against two wins in the exhibition series against different Bangladeshi selections at different venues across the country, were all out for 170 in 46.4 overs.



SHIVAJI YADAV ... m-o-m

Organisers, the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB), became the butt of the spectators' wrath for being found wanting in having emergency measures like stretchers ready.

Foster's treble

PARIS, Feb 6: Britain's Mark Foster completed an impressive treble at the Paris World Cup short-course swimming meeting with a runaway victory in the 50 metres freestyle on Sunday, reports Reuter.

India A: First Innings (overnight 145 for 7) Knight b Singh 40 Gallian c Vaidya b Ganguly 11

India A: Second Innings Khoda lbw Chapple 0 Rathore lbw Patel 18 Ganguly c Piper b Cork 8

SCOREBOARD

Table with columns: Player, Runs, Wickets. Lists players like Arvind Shetty, Pappi Reddy, etc.

Table with columns: Player, O, M, R, W. Lists bowlers like Sajal Chowdhury, Hasibul Hossain, etc.

Table with columns: Player, O, M, R, W. Lists bowlers like Vishnu Vardhan, Ghouse Baba, etc.

Table with columns: Player, O, M, R, W. Lists bowlers like Vishnu Vardhan, Ghouse Baba, etc.