

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.

Smarting under two con-

secutive 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

national level and another

campaigner for a GM norm, IM

Ziaur Rahman, however, came

across a superior opponent in

Russian Grandmaster Mikhail

Krasenkov and resigned after

45 moves. The Russian with

the meet's highest FIDE rating

made most of a game played

along the lines of Queen's

Gambit declined and manoeu-

vred his white pieces to a

strong position after an inter-

Krasenkov now jointly leads

the 14-man fray with three

wins on a trot along with

English counterpart Mark

Hebden, who took care of

compatriot and fellow-GM

Steve Conquest in his third

Playing with white pieces

BULAWAYO, Feb

6: After a humilia-

ting innings

defeat in the first

Test in Harare,

Pakistan face the

Hebden came across stiff resis-

tance against his fellow-Briton,

second Test against Zimbabwe,

starting on Tuesday, without

key fast bowler Aagib Javed.

But manager Intikhab Alam

has ruled out sending home for

reinforcements, such as leg-

spinner Abdul Qadir, to boost

babwe first innings on

Wednesday and left the field

holding the back of his thigh.

The problem was first diag-

nosed as cramp, but it now ap-

pears that Aaqib is suffering

from a thigh strain and is un-

Aaqib pulled up in the Zim-

reports Reuter.

the squad.

likely to feature.

esting middle game.

round match.

Reefat's arch-rival at the

on the 30th move.

#### 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 tourmatch in the second United nament, scheduled to begin in Insurance Grandmasters' chess the Sri Lankan capital of championship against fellow-Colombo from March 25. IM Zillur Rahman at the Jalsha Ghar of Hotel Purbani vester-

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.

Bangladesh will play their last group match against the sixth South Asian Federation (SAF) Games champions Nepal on March 29.

Meanwhile, in the six-team meet, hosts Sri Lanka are placed in Group B along with India and Maldives.

#### FIXTURES

March 25: Sri Lanka vs Pakistan Maldives: Bangladesh. March 27: Bangladesh vs

Nepal: Maldives vs India. March 29: Pakistan vs Nepal; Sri Lanka vs India.

#### Semifinals

March 31: Winners Group (A) vs Runners-up Group(B) Winners Group (B) vs Runners up Group (A) April 2: Final.

## 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.

Krira Chakra, who had so far won four matches out of their five previous engagements, will meet lowly Surja Tarun Club at the Dhaka Stadium in one of the two billings on the resuming day.

Joint title holders Abahani

· The Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club (GMCC) will meet Sàdharan Bima, in the other match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

#### DOINTRE TABLE

POINTS	AB	LE		532	
Teams	M	W	L	Pts	
Mohammedan SC	6	5	1	10	37
Abahani KC	5	4	1	- 8	
Brothers Union	5	4	1	8	
Kalabagan KC	5	4	1	8	
Victoria SC .	5	4	1	8	
Bangladesh Biman	5	3	2	6	
GMCC	5	3	2	6	
Wari Club	5	3	2	6	
Eskaton SS	5	1	4	2	
Surja Tarun Club	5	0	5	0	
Gulshan Youth	. 5	0	5	0	
Sadharan Bima	6	0	6	0	

### **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.

The day-long meeting begins today in the Indian city of Madras, which will host the Games possibly in December this year.

The meeting will decide the schedule and the sporting disciplines of the Games, the biggest sports carnival of

the region. Bangladesh will propose inclusion of hockey in the Games for the first time and will also seek to ensure that kabaddi is retained as one of the disciplines.

## - Star photo A win at last for Reefat

Sports Reporter

who schemed his defence on Reefat-been-Sattar kept his the Alpine variation of the already tottering campaign for a GM norm on course when Sicilian Defence, before coming out winner after 44 moves. the Bangladeshi International Master won his third-round 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



BANGLADESH CHESS FEDERATION 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. Magoedov adopted the Lodhi Alpine variation of the Sicilian Defence against the theoretically superior Indonesian's white pieces and had

Pakistan minus Aaqib Javed

major blow for a team which is

low on confidence and morale

after two successive heavy Test

defeats - by 324 runs against

South Africa and now to Zim-

babwe by an innings and 64

nis, who returned to Pakistan

with a back strain, has not

been offset by the arrival of fel-

low-pace bowler Wasim Akram.

who is still struggling to regain

form after being out for over

two months following a sinus

Pakistan now face the like-

lihood of going into a Test with

Wasim backed up by Kabir

Khan and Aamir Nazir. With

off-spinner Akram Raza prov-

ing ineffective in Harare, they

may also be tempted to include

another seamer in Manzoor

The absence of Wagar You-

runs.

operation.

Handoko's citadel in complete disarray after only 37 moves.

The stars must have been in the wrong alignment for the Indonesians as Handoko's compatriot IM Ruben Gunawan came across a similar fate in his tie against Pakistani national champion IM Mahmood Ahmed Khan Lodhi.

The jovial Pathan opened the attack with his queen's pawn and after gruelling 58 moves left his opponent with only one option — to resign.

Grandmaster Niaz Murshid seemed destined for drawn matches as the lone Bangladeshi GM managed half a point for the third consecutive day

Niaz played the longest match of the day against fellow-GM Gregory Sherper of Uzbekistan and after 66 moves in a game of Queen's Gambit declined, both Grandmasters agreed the match was heading nowhere.

#### FOURTH ROUND MATCHES

IM. Magoedov vs IM Zillur Rahman

IM Ziaur Rahman vs IM Reefat-been-Sattar GM Conquest vs GM Krasenkov

IM Gunawan vs GM Mark Hebden IM Varguese Koshi vs IM

GM Gregory Sherper vs IM

Sivilano GM Handoko vs GM Niaz

Murshid.

# Second Test against Zimbabwe begins today

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

After Saturday's defeat.

skipper Salim Malik suggested

that someone - perhaps Qadir - might be flow in as back-up. But manager Intikhab denied this on Sunday. Zimbabwe, still basking in

the euphoria of their first win in 11 Tests, are also likely to be without one of their fast bowlers, as 18-year-old Henry Olonga

Olonga has been included in the squad, for Bulawayo, his home patch, but if he is not fully fit then his place will probably go to another youngster. left-arm seamer Brian Strang



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 - Star photo (7-4).

Schism in Pak camp?

KARACHI, Feb 6: A newspaper on Monday blamed "mutinies" and "rampant indiscipline" for Pakistan's humiliating innings 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

"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.

It accused Pakistan's cricket managers of failing to quell "rampant indiscipline." in the team, adding: "There have been so many mutinies that Pakistan's dressing room could well have been the deck of a rudderless ship, manned by a crew that trusts neither its captain nor one another."

But former captain Imran Khan, now involved in a cancer hospital project in Lahore, said there was no shortage of talent among the Pakistani touring party.

"The team is not cohesive." he told Reuters. "It's only when you have problems within that a team with such talent can be destroyed so

### **Mixed fortunes** for locals

Sports Reporter

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

While four local campaigners, two each from boys' and girls' groups, made it to the second round, the rest crashed at the starting block.

Faisal Saifullah overcame a listless performance against compatriot Fahim Ahsan to record a 7-5. 2-6, 6-4 victory while the other victorious Bangladeshi; Moazzem Hossain went through tiebreakers in both sets to edge out V Soontarat of Thailand 7-5, 7-6 (7-3).Meanwhile. Munir and

Mukul went through wretched time in their first round encounters with the opponents top seeds Indian Saurav Panja and Thai Witoonpanich Bhee respectively.

Sauray, the number one seed in the six-day meet who is ranked 91 in the world junior ranking, took time to settle down but still raced to a 6-4. 6-2 victory over Munir.

Second seed Witoonpanich

wasn't as generous as the Indian, blasting a hapless Mukul off the court in a 6-0, 6-0 demolition. Eighth Raja seed

Muhammad of Pakistan managed two games in each set in his match against Slovenian Miha Gregor.

in the girls draw, Chowdhury Rowshan Kabir was stretched to tiebreakers in the second set to prevail over compatriot Yasmeen Ahmed 6-4, 7-6 (7-4).

National champion Saathi Sarker advanced to the next round without hitting a ball as Bangladeshi number one received a bye in the first round.

Sixteen boys' and six girls' singles matches were decided on the opening day of the meet, inaugurated by Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman.

## 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. Three matches are billed on

the opening day - Munshigant vs Madaripur at Faridpur. Kushtia vs Narail at Khulna and Nilphamari vs Rangpur at Rangpur Stadium. In all, seventy one teams -

62 districts, six services teams and three universities - are expected to participate in the two-week-long tournament organised by the Bangladesh Football Federation. Eight districts - Faridpur.

Kishoreganj, Cox's Bazar, Habiganj, Patuakhali, Khulna, Joypurhat and Rangpur - will host the first phase to be held outside the capital. The zonal matches of the

three university teams and the six services teams will be held at the Mirpur Stadium from the third week of this month.

#### 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 Sports Reporter



The Hyderabad

Cricket Associa-

tion carved out a

winning farewell

for themselves

when they beat

the Bangladesh under-19 team

by 17 runs at the Dhaka

package visit of three loreign

teams, the other two being

Kenya and Hong Kong, who

after having taken part in a

series of exhibition matches

sociation, a regional combina-

tion from India yesterday sub-

dued the belated resurgence of

Reddy, stationed in the deep,

order. Zakaria, the right

Batting with pleasing con-

youngman, who has a stamp of

boyish innocence rather than

devilment, made 54 off 104

deliveries hitting only two

ninth man out with the score

with Morshed Ali Khan had

earlier claimed six HCA wick-

ets evenly in the morning,

brought the game alive with

play for Mohammedan Sport-

ing in club cricket, added 31

runs for the last wicket before

Hasib holed out leaving Mor-

most successful of the visiting

bowlers bagging three for 22.

Vishnu Vardhan was the

Sivaji Yadav, who was later

shed high and dry on 14.

The young pace pair, who

some hefty blows.

The stuggy batsman was the

Hasibul Hossain, who along

belt, pitched himself in.

in 48.4 overs.

boundaries.

The Hyderabad Cricket As-

With it came to an end the

Stadium yesterday.

left Dhaka yesterday.

heading off for home.

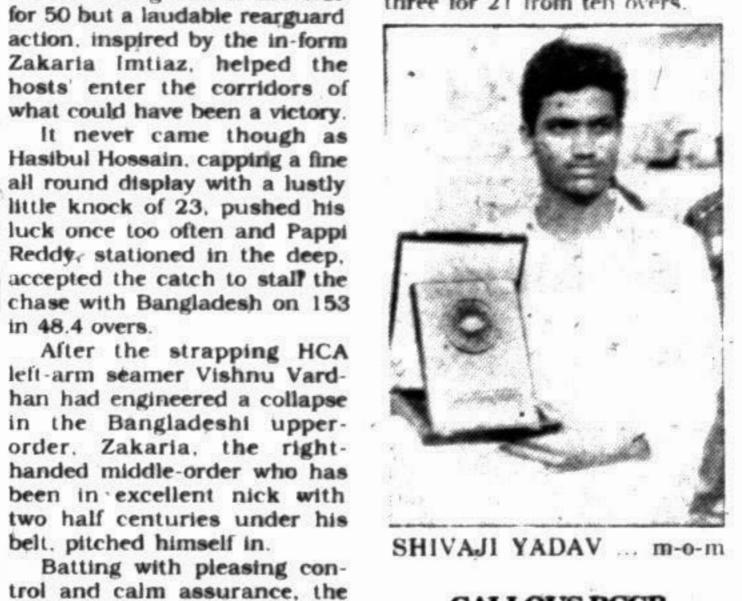
named man-of-the-match, took two for 34. There were two wickets for Surinder Agarwal who gave away 24 runs.

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.

Arvind Shetty and Praveen Reddy topscored with 27 each. followed by Narsh Sharma who made 25.

Shivaji Yadav remained unbeaten on 20 while two other batsmen - Pappi Reddy and skipper Azeem Khan — scored 19 each.

the youth cricketers before Hasibul Hossain's well-directed in cutters earned him a After being set a victory tarhaul of three for 26 but wiry get of 171 in 50 overs. left-armer surpassed all with a Bangladesh landed in deep truly commendable analysis of trouble losing half of the side three for 21 from ten overs. for 50 but a laudable rearguard action, inspired by the in-form



#### CALLOUS BCCB

The spares crowd which enjoyed the proceedings, particularly at the fag 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. 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. It did not do any good to

the image of the Bangladeshi Cricket Control Board when a section of people in the VIP enclosure hurled abuses at the journalists on duty. Despite BCCB's pretensions

about no complimentary admission into that area, many felt the VIP enclosure remained occupied by people with little interest in the game itself throughout the season right from the four-nation SAARC tournament.

#### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the exhibition cricket match between the Hyderabad Cricket Association and the Bangladesh under-19 team at the Dhaka Stadium vesterday:

HYDERABAD CRICKET AS-SOCIATION: Arvind Shetty b Morshed Khan 27

Yuvraj Singh c Atiar Rahman b Pappi Reddy b Morshed Khan Srikumar e Naim b Morshed

Abdul Azeem run out Praveen Reddy b Sohel Islam Naresh Sharma c Naim Mustadir Shivaji Yaday not out Ghouse Baba Ibw Mustadir Vishnu Vardhan b Hasib Surinder Agarwal b Hasib

Total: (All out in 46.4 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-2; 2-45; 3-47: 4-49: 5-86: 6-106: 7-140: 8-162: 9-169

Extras: (lb-7, nb-3, w-5)

Sajai Chowdhury Morshed Khan Mihrab Hossain 20 Naunur Rahman Mustadir

BANGLADESH U-19: Sajid Hasan c Yuvraj b Ghouse Baba

Sajjad Ahmed Ibw Vishnu

Mihrab blossain b Vishnu Atiar Rahman Ibw Naresh Sharma 6 Zakaria Imtiaz run out Natmur Rahman c Ghouse Baba b Shivaji Yadav Mostadir e Abdul Azeem b Surinder Sohel Islam c Yubraj Singh b Surinder Agarwal

Hastbul Hossain c Pappt Reddy b Vishnu Vardhan Morshed Khart not out Extras (lb-6, nb-2, w-5) Total: (all out in 48.4 overs) Fall of-wickets: 1-1; 2-21; 3-23; 4-39; 5-50; 6-65; 7-101;

Sajal Chowdhury c Pappi Reddy b

Shivaji Yadav

8-111: 9-122. Bowling Vishnu Vardhan Ghouse Baba Naresh Sharma Shivati Yaday Surinder Agarwal 6 5 0 16 Arvind Shetty

# India A cornered again Paras Mhambrey was



CHANDIGARH, India, Feb 6: Glen Chapple took the ree vital wickets with a stylish

burst of fast-bowling as England A regained the advantage in a fluctuating third and final Test against India A here Monday, reports AFP.

The home side were totter ing on 136 for eight in their second innings at close of play on the third day after losing five wickets in a sensational last hour. Chapple, the bowling find of

the series, struck twice in 16 balls after Rahul Dravid and Amol Mazumdar pulled India A out of early trouble and built on a slender 20-run first innings Steaming in for a second spell, the 21-year-old Lan-

81-run stand for the fourthwicket by claiming Dravid lbw for a valuable 47 that included seven fours from 115 balls. Rizwan Shamshad and Avinash Vaidya edged catches to wicketkeeper Keith Piper to

cashire paceman broke their

take Chapple's match tally to eight and the series count to Utpal Chatterjee was run out to a direct throw by Dominic Cork in a mix up with

COppe

bowled round his legs by Bombay-born left-arm spinner Minal Patel at the fag 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. The duo blunted the

English attack with a mixture of watchful defence and ocasional aggression, taking the score to 114 before Chapple struck. Mazumdar remained not out

on a patient 41, striking two fours from 169 deliveries in a stay of three hours and 14 minutes. Chapple had also made the

initial breakthrough by trapping opener Gagan Khoda lbw with just one run on the board. Saurav Ganguly hit two fours before edging Cork into Piper's

gloves while skipper Vikram Rathore fell lbw to Patel for 18. England A, resuming at 145 for seven, were all out for 209. 34 minutes before lunch. Piper and Patel put on a breezy 56

runs for the ninth-wicket to take the visitors past 200. Piper faced 87 balls and hit five fours before falling lbw to medium-pacer Ganguly for 30. Patel cracked a quick 35 with five boundaries off 46 balls be-

fore becoming Mhambrey's

— AFP photo

fourth victim.

England A have won the series with victories in Bangalore and Calcutta and are looking for a clean sweep to avenge the 0-3 whitewash their seniors suffered on their 1993 tour of India.

#### SCOREBOARD

Third day's scoreboard in the third and final Test between India A and England A here Monday.

INDIA A: First innings 229 (R Dravid 59, P Mhambrev 42 not out; Chapple 4-60). ENGLAND A: First Innings

(overnight 145 for 7)

Knight b Singh Gallian c Vaidya b Ganguly Hemp c Dravid b Singh Wells c Shamshad b Chatterjee 42 Weeks c Shamshad b Chatterjee 15 Cork b Mhambrey Piper lbw Ganguly Chapple c Vaidya b Mhambrey Johnson Ibw Mhambrev Patel c Mazumdar b Ml.....pro Stemp not out Suas: 12 lb 2-01 Total: (All out)

3-163, 4 119; 5 148, 0-143; Bowling Gune ! Photomulablian

Fall of Mikels: ! 15, 2-47;

10 35 Singh 37 Chatterjee INDIA A: Second innings Khoda Ibw Chapple Rathore Ibw Patel Ganguly c Piper b Cork Dravid Ibw Chapple Mazumdar batting

Shamshad c Piper b Chapple Vaidya c Piper b Chapple Chatterjee run out Mhambrey b Patel Singh batting Extras: (1-nb, 1-lb, 1-w, 3-0) Total: (for eight wickets) Fall of wickets: 1-1; 2-23;

3-33; 4-114; 5-120; 6-120; 7-126; 8-132. Bowling Cork 30 Chapple

Patel Johnson 0 19 0 23 0. Stemp

#### Foster's treble

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 Foster, who won the 100

PARIS, Feb 6: Britain's Mark

metres freestyle and 50 metres butterfly on Saturday trounced American rivals David Fox and Jon Olsen to win the 50 freestyle by the best part of a second in 21 85



US basketball star 'Magic' Johnson receives a autographed

football from Brazilian Special Minister for Sports Edson

Arantes do Nacimento "Pele" in Rio de Janeiro on Sun-