

Grandmaster Niaz Murshid contemplates his next move against his seventh round engagement with Pakistani International Master Mahmood Ahmed Khan Lodhi in the second United Insurance GMs chess championship at the Jalsha Ghar of Hotel Purbani yesterday. - Star photo Niaz won.

Delightful day for locals

Niaz Murshid extended his Handoko and won submission it came over a theoretically suwinning streak to three matches when the country's lone Grandmaster beat Pakistani International Master Mahmood Ahmed Khan Lodhi in a seventh-round encounter as the second United Insurance Grandmasters' chess championship resumed vesterday alter a scheduled one-day recess.

. At the Julylin Ghar of Hotel Purbani, Naz designed his de lence in the line of the Slav system against Lodhi's white pieces and was in control from the very onset. After an interesting middle game. Niaz went two pawns up to leave Lodhi virtually in an irreversible position. The jovial Pathan resigned after 54 moves.

Yesterday's win raised Niaz's collection to four and half points and placed him in the third place behind English GM Mark Hebden and Russian GM Mikhail Krasenkov.

Meanwhile, the top-of-thetable rivalry between Hebden and Krasenkov continued with the Briton still maintaining a slender half-a-point lead.

Playing his seventh round match with white pieces, Heiden tried the Meran variaaion of the Queen's Gambit de-Clined approach against Indonesian counterpart Edhi

Feb 11: Record-

setting perfor-

mances by Mic-

hael Johnson and

Jackie Joyner-

Kerson stole the spotlight in a

meet dominated by glitz and

record of 44.97 seconds in the

400 metres Friday night, fin-

ishing off a Reno Air, Games

that opened with Joyner-Ker-

see breaking her own Ame-

rican indoor mark in the 50-

in 12 indoor 4000s, got out to

a blazing start and won easily.

The old record was 45.02, set

by fellow American Danny

boards since 1991. I don't re

ally like it, but now I have a

world record. It's kind of

strange," said Johnson, the

world's top-ranked runner at

200 and 400 metres. "I feel

good. I wanted to give the

people in Reno something to

odds of 1-5 in what was be-

lieved to be the first non

Status to allow legal betting

Olympic meet in the United

Olympic medalist, had a time

ing to ease up at the end of the

infrequently run event. The

world record is 6.58 seconds.

set in 1988 by Cornelia

Oschknat of the former East

of 6.84 was set by Kim McKen-

zie in 1989 and matched by

Joyner-Kersee in 1993 in Lo-

Joyner-Kersee, an asthma

tic, said tite 4,500-foot (1,370)

metre) elevation and the

thinner-air of Reno may have

bit," she said, "But as far as my

breathing, it didn't help at all."

later in the meet to win the

long jump with a leap of 22

feet, 3 1-2 inches (6.79 me-

Maria Mutola kept live her

unbeaten streak in the

women's 800 metres, finishing

in 2 minutes, 0.95 seconds to

win by nearly six seconds. The

native of Mozambique had not

lost, indoors or outdoors, since

Gwen Torrence won the

Joyner-Kersee came back

"I think it helped a little

helped here set the record.

The previous American best

of 6.67 seconds despite seem

Joyner Kersee, a five time

Johnson began his race at

"I haven't been on the

Johnson, who has never lost

Johnson set a world indoor

gambling, reports AP.

metre hurdles.

Everett in 1992.

remember.

Germany.

tres].

August 1992.

Sports Reporter

after 54 moves. Hebden's haul now stands at six and a half

For Krasenkov, the tie against Uzbek GM Gregory Serper was surprisingly less demanding. Serper, who . boasts the highest FIDE rating of the 13-round meet, failed to stave off the Russian's white



pieces with his Slav Defence

and resigned after 43 moves. The day turned out to be quite delightful for the local fans as coeval arch-rivals IMs Reefat-bin-Sattar and Ziaur Rahman both shrugged off recent losses to post creditable victories in their respective seventh-round engagements.

National champion Zia's win' was of a special significance as

Johnson, Joyner-Kersee

steal the show

women's 200 metres despite

feeling so sick she threw up

the flu and was trying to get

used to braces placed on her

think I was going to make ft.

she said. "I'm weak and I've

lost a few pounds. I thought if I

could pull out a win at my

Olympic 1,500-metre cham-

pion Hasiba Boulmerka to win

the women's mile, finishing in

a relatively slow 4 minutes

51.62 seconds. Boulmerka was

in the men's mile, three-

1.40 seconds behind.

Regina Jacobs held off

worst, I can win at my best."

I told my husband I didn't

teeth on Wednesday

after the race. Torrence had Games last week at New York.

5.75.

Chinese Sun Caiyun. 21, flies over the bar in the women's

pole vault competition at the 5th International Olympic

Night athletic meet in Berlin on February 10. Sun improved

- AFP photo

her world record of 4.11 metres up to 4.12.

perior English Grandmaster Stuart Conquest. The success lorn Briton adopted the Classic variation of the King's Indian defence but found Zia's white pieces irrepressible before resigning after 60 moves.

Reefat's win was equally impressive as the anthropology student of Dhaka University pushed his Indian counterpart Varigese Koshi to the corner in only 39 moves. Koshi's Modern Defence never looked strong enough to deny Reefat a fourth victory.

With four points under his belt, Reefat joins Serper and Handoko in the fourth position - half a point adrift from Niaz:

However, the other Bangladeshi in the fray, IM Zillur Rahman, couldn't come out of his nightmarish stint as the bespectacled cerebral warfarer bowed to his sixth defeat so far. Zillur's vester day's conqueror was Indonesian IM Ruben Gunawan, who employed his black pieces following the Kahn variation of Sicilian Defence to prevail in 50 moves.

The other match of the day between Tajik IM Magaram Magoedov and his Filipino counterpart Enrique Sivilano fizzled into a draw after 60

lienry Neal, who won the

50 meter dash in the Millrose

held off Jon Drummond and a

field that included Dennis

Mitchell to win again Friday in

5.63 seconds — the third-

lastest ever by an American.

Drummond was second in 5.72

and Mitchell was fourth in

two-time world indoor cham-

mike Conley finished just

wighth in the triple jump

leaping 50 feet, 9 1-4 inches

[15.47 metres]. The winner

was Kenny Harrison at 55-11

1-4 (17.05 metres).

Olympic gold medalist and

further ahead

SANGHINAGAR, India, Feb 1: American Grandmaster Gata Kamsky drew in 107 moves against Valery Salov of Russia in the fourth game of the World Chess Championship semifinals Saturday, reports

The draw gives Kamsky a 3lead over Salov in the 10game tournament in this southern Indian city.

Salov started cautiously and hose a variation of the Nimzo-Indian defense to gain time. He maintained a slight advantage when the opening phase of the game was over and the middlegame fight began.

Kamsky's moves were complicated and ended up helping Salov. The game was adjourned with Kamsky sealing his 61st, move and experts considered it as dead drawn position. Kamsky needed another 47 moves to secure a

Privalova plans to better previous best

BRUSSELS, Feb 11: Russian sprint queen Irina Privalova said on Friday she aimed to break her own world 60 metres indoor record at a meeting in Ghent on Sunday, reports Reuter.

It's possible. I'm in good shape," Privalova told a news conference.

Privalova, who broke the world indoor 50 metres best on her way to equalling her 60 metres record in Madrid on Thursday, said she hoped Jamaican Merlene Ottey would push her to a new 60 metres mark.

Privalova, European 100 and 200 metres champion, clocked 6.92 seconds over 60 metres in Madrid, equalling the record she set on the same track in February 1993. She hopes to lower the mark to 6.90 on the fast Ghent track.

"My results in training are better than last year. In weightlifting, sprint and long distance I'm stronger now.

Privalova said her main am bition this year was to perform well over 100 metres in the World Championships.

She also plans to run 400 metres races as part of her preparation for the sprints.

Sun soars higher than ever

BRLIN: Feb 11: China's Sine Caiyun raised her own women's world indoor pole vault record by one centimetre to 4.12 metres at a 300,000 dollar athletics meeting on Friday: reports Reuter. It was the fourth time Sun

had broken the record this year, and the third time she had done it in Germany in the space of two weeks.

On January 28 she vaulted 4.10 metres in Zweibruecken and on February 3 she leapt 4,11 in Putheim, near Cologne.

The International Anfateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) only began to recognise world records in this relatively new women's discipline last month.

Sun has put in a remarkable series in an event which is still becoming established, but her performance have not escaped controversy.

She was banned for three months after failing a dope test at a meeting in the German town of Karlsruhe in March ratified by the IAAF.

1995 world bests.

Germany's former European champion Jens-Peter Herold ran the 1,000 metres in two minutes 20.19 seconds and Russia's Ludmila Borisova won the 3.000 metres in 8:56.72.

hoping for her first seven-mehad to be content with an in-Canadian-born Mark McKoy

ran a national record of 7.53 seconds for his adopted coun try, Austria, in the 60 metres hurdles.

Popov proves a point

SAINT VICENT, Italy, Feb. proved he remains the man to a World Cup short course meeting on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

Popov skipped the first three of the seven World Cup meetings to continue training in Australia but his trip to northern Italy proved worthwhile as he added the 50 metres to Tuesday's 100 metres freestyle win. The Russian, winner of gold

over both distances in the long course World Championships in Rome last September. clocked 22.56 seconds on Wednesday. That was well outside the world record of 21.50 seconds he set in the Italian town of Desenzano last year.

A draw takes Gata Kamsky Familiar foes in final



reports AFP.

the semilinals of the Indira

Gandhi Gold Cup hockey

tournament here Saturday.

Subbiah brilliantly saved three

times in the tie-breaker to fire

the hosts to an exciting 5-2

victory over Australia, after the

two were tied 2-2 in regulation

speedy Koreans secured a 2-1

win over Kazakhstan.

the Asian Games title.

the preliminary league.

Darren Duff.

Subbiah.

In the second semifinal, the

Sunday's final will be the

third between the arch-rivals

since November 1993, when

South Korea defeated India to

win the Asia Cup in Hiroshima.

They repeated the feat at the

same venue last year to clinch

those defeats partially in the

World Cup in Sydney in

December with a 2-0 victory in

by vociferous 5,000 crowd at

the National Stadium, dived to

save all three strokes in the

tie-breaker taken by Max

Diamond. Glen Kingston and

The Indians converted all

their strokes to put a smile on

the face of coach Cedric

D'Souza, who was distraught at

seeing his team struggle car-

lier against the second-string

Australia took the lead in

the second minute when

Kingston scooped a loose ball

inside the circle past a diving

drew level with a stringing

penalty corner in the 16th

minute, and Gavin Ferreira put

India ahead of five minutes be-

fore half-time with an indirect

Australia pressed for the

equaliser in the second half

and were rewarded in the 51st

minute when Kingston scored

his second goal from a penalty

shot off a penalty corner.

But defender Anil Aldrin

The lanky Subbiah, backed

India, however, avenged

Indian goalkeeper Anand

NEW DELHI, Feb "It was too close for com-11: Asian champifort," a relieved D'Souza said ons South Korea later, "We should have won the and India set up match in normal course, but their third title poor play in the second half alclash in 15 monthe with contrasting wins in lowed the Australians to

bounce back." "Luckily, Subbiah did not wilt in the pressure of the tiebreaker and saw us home. He. was brilliant today." D'Souza committee will meet Sunday to decide his fate.

South Korean captain Park Shin-Heum who slammed five goals in the three league matches, scored once more to give his team an early lead in the eighth minute.

It looked all over for Kazakhstan when Keon Wook Kang increased the margin five minutes into the second half.



him after defeating Australia in the semifinal of the Indira Gandhi Gold Cup hockey tournament at the National Stadium in New Delhi yesterday. India won the match — AFP photo

The Indians may be without star midfielder Shakeel Khan for the final after he earned his second yellow card in the tournament. The technical

but Gennady Kalinin reduced the deficit in the 55th minute. Kazakhstan fought hard to

him 6-4, 7-5 last year in

Atlanta. They have not met

Greg Rusedski that reached a

record 137 mph (220 kph).

holding on to win two topsy-

turvy tiebreakers 7-6 (8-6), 7-

Chang fought off serves by

"I don't know too many

A tournament official said

things that go faster than that.

Chang said "Maybe the

Rusedski's serve is the lastest

ever recorded since the ATP

Tour started clocking them in

1989. But like a pitcher who

throws nothing but heat, speed

won't win games without

most," Rusedski said. "If you

have placement and speed, it's

Canadian left-hander, came

within a few key points of

turning the match around. At

5-5 in the second set, Chang

was down love-40 before he

rallied to hold serve and force

Rusedski, a 21-year-old

"Placement counts the

Concorde."

proper location.

bonus."

level the score but it's forwards were baulked by the sturdy Korean defence in fading light.

Graf to return next week

PARIS, Feb 11: Former world number one Steffi Graf has confirmed she will make her comeback next week at the Paris women's Open after three months out through injury, organisers said on Friday.

reports Reuter. A spokesman said the German player will attend Monday's draw for the 430,000 dollars indoor event which

starts the following day. Graf has not played since losing to Australian Open champions Mary Pierce of France in the Masters in New York in November because of a lingering back pain and a calf

She lost her number one ranking to Arantxa Sanchez of Spain, losing finalist in the Australian Open, after 276 weeks at the top.

Ferreira in Dubai Open semis

DUBAL, Feb 11; Wayne Ferreira of South Africa booked his place in the semifinals of the I million dollar Dubai Open tennis tournament with a convincing 6-1, 6-2 victory over ex-Wimbledon champion Pat Cash on Friday, reports

Ferreira, the number four seed, is joined by sixth seeded Petr Korda of the Czech Republic, who beat Germany's Carsten Arriens 4-6, 6-2,6-4.

Calling it his best performance in the tournament so far. Ferreira said: "I was returning the ball pretty well and that swung the match in my favour. Pat wasn't serving well and if helped me break his serves easily. in today's semifinals,

Ferreira will take on Spain's Javier Sanchez, who beat Australian Todd Woodbridge 6-2. 6-4, while Korda meets Andrea Gaudenzi of Italy, who went through 6-4, 6-2 against Sweden's Henrik Holm.

Sabatini staves off Rubin CHICAGO, Feb 11: Second

seed Gabriela Sabatini overcame service difficulties on Friday to hold off eighth seed Chanda Rubin 7-6, 6-4 and advance to the semifinals of the 430,000 dollars Ameritech Cup tennis tournament, reports Reuter.

Sabatini, ranked seventh in the world, double faulted six times, but took advantage of 32 unforced errors by the American to claim her place in the final four.

"I'm all right," said the laughing Argentine, who next faces third-seeded Bulgarian Magdalena Maleeva, 6-3, 6-3 winner over unseeded

Laurence Courtois of Belgium. Today's other match pits seventh seed Zina Garrison-Jackson against unseeded Lisa Raymond in an all-American

semifinal. Raymond, who picked off top seed Natasha Zvereva of Belarus in the previous round.

claimed her second consecutive seeded scalp with a 6-4, 6.3 win over fifth-seeded compatriot Amy Frazier. Garrison-Jackson, playing her final year on the tour.

upset hard-serving fourth-seed Brenda Schultz of the Netherlands 6-7 (4-7), 6-3, 7-6 (7 4) in two and a half hours. Despite her struggles.

Sabatini raised her perfect record against Rubin to 6-0.

Courier stays on course streak to Agassi when he beat All four semifinalists have



SAN JOSE, California, Feb 11: Three years to the day he first reached tennis lop ranking. Jim courier kept on

track in his quest to climb back by getting past Jim Grabb 6 1, 7 6 (7-5) Friday night at the San Jose Open, reports AP.

instead of dwelling on his past glory. Courier just wants to think about what's happening now.

"I was happy to end it in two sets." Courier said. Courier, now ranked Lith

earned a meeting with second seed and No. 6 Michael Chang a hearty rival over the years, in Saturday night's semifinals. Top seed Andre Agassi will face fifth seed MaliVai Washington in the afternoon semifinal

"There won't be any surprises," Courier said about playing Chang again. 'We know each other's game really well.

Grabb, who had 24 aces in his last win, managed just one against Courier, Still, he had the chance to force a split set when he went up 5-4 in the tiebreaker before Courier won three straight points to take

4 Worm,

often

8 Soda-

shop

order

13 Skilled

14 Summit

15 "Wichita

singer

18 Exemplar

19 Category

bines, as

resources

20 Com-

22 Contro-

'60s

24 It's all in

Vein

25 Private

home?

34 "- for All

versial

musical

of redness

17 Ground

12 Zsa Zsa's

advanced without losing a set in three tournament matches. Courier is 13-1 in match play this year, winning 35 of 37

The second-ranked Agassi who held off Brian MacPhie 6-4. 6-3 said he didn't feel like he was playing somebody ranked 374th.

"To me, he's a much better player than his ranking shows," Agassi said, "I feli like I had to stay focused the cutire match. I felt if I stayed on him, good things would happen."

Agassi had never before med MacPhie, a 22-year-old hometown boy from San Jose who had never faced a player

in the top 10. In each set, Agassi had to wait until 3-3 to break the determined MacPhie.

"You know how those matches turn here." Agassi said. "I was down three or four break points in the first set.

the adrenaline going." Agassi has won 25 of his last 26 matches against players not in the top 100.

couldn't afford to let him get

Now he'll face Washington, who beat Bryan Shelton 6-2, 6-1. Ranked 40th. Washington broke a three-game losing

another tiebreaker. "Had I not held that service game," Chang said, "It would

(be suspi-

cious)

dish of a

25 Serving

sort

26 Tea type

27 Genghis

or Kublai

28 Having all

marbles

success

delphia's

neighbor

one's

30 Junta's

34 Vicinity

36 Energetic

Atkins

38 Loathe

have gone to split sets. That was a crucial point for me.

CRYPTOQUIP

UQMMZU QRZUDJQU CJZDY

GDC WZRUZCCZW — SXC

SXY IMDJ. GXIZ MZIJ Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SAID SODAJERK ABOUT HIS STUBBORN COLD: "I JUST CAN'T SHAKE IT."

Today's Cryptoquip clue: I equals F

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one 44 Sticky stuff letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

The meet is the second of time US indoor champion the match. five events of the indoor Grand Marcus O'Sullivan pulled away 1994, and a world best of 4.08 Prix, which began last weekfrom the field in the final Jap metres she had set at that end with the Miltrose Games to win in 4:01.89 meeting was subsequently not **ACROSS** Apart from Sun's record. the meeting provided two 1 Johnny's

Germany's Heike Drechsler. tre long jump of the season different 6.76 metres.

Russian Alexander Popov beat in freestyle sprint events when he won the 50 metres at

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer tomorrow 3 King Seasons* Sihanouk's 20 Asset 35 Give the 21 Seep OK: abbr bandleader

36 Back up? 37 Titleholder 40 Appear hood 41 Flush, e.g. 42 Run for office

46 Diminutive ending 47 "- and Away' 48 Bud's Lineman"

> 50 Obligation 51 Aurora's counterpart DOWN

1 Calendar abbr 2 Eggs

terrorism 30 Reef stuff 31 "Caught you! 32 Shore

6 Under the weather 7 - Aviv 8 Prop for Diane **Arbus** 9 Tourna-

partner format 49 Adolescent 10 Archie creator

> legend 19 The

Solution time: 26 mins. ABEL ALI TOOL 40 Pornogra-DIAL BAR ASIF STROBE WALLFLOWER SAWED OFT ARE

29 Weapon TRAD PRE PLIE OIL YON PILED WALLAWALLA OOZE OYSTER CAPOROWITONE WIDE

land 4 Infants 22 Severe 23 Smell -5 Help a

ment

Bunker's 11 Wheelbase 33 Philaterminus 16 Soccer

woman of 37 Huntley or

42 Bovine chew Simpsons* storekeeper

45 Greek

conso-

nants