

Greenidge steals Vengsarkar's thunder

Windies win Masters Cup

BOMBAY, Mar 12: A brilliant century by Gordon Greenidge powered West Indies veterans to a seven-wicket victory over their Indian counterparts in the Masters Cup Cricket final here on Sunday, report agencies.

Greenidge slammed 114 off 131 balls with 13 boundaries as the West Indies reached the 252-run target with 4.5 overs



GREENIDGE man-of-series to spare. The victors pocketed a cheque of 50,000 pounds.

The 43-year-old Barbadian, who is now based in England, was named man-of-the-series for his two hundreds and a half-century from four matches in the tournament for retired cricketers.

Greenidge shared a 124-run second-wicket stand with Gus Logie (56, 53 balls, seven fours) to take the match away from India.

Greenidge also added 74 runs for the third wicket with Viv Richards (38 not out) to complete India's rout on a humid day at the Brabourne Stadium.

Earlier, a majestic, unbeaten innings of 105 by Dilip Vengsarkar powered India to a challenging 45-over total of 251 for six wickets.

Vengsarkar blitzed his way

to his second century of the tournament in just 82 balls with the help of five mighty sixes — three of them in one over of Vivian Richards — and nine fours to remain unbeaten at the end as the home team set the West Indies an asking rate of 5.60 to win the title and the top prize of 50,000 pound sterling (Rs 25 lakhs).

A capacity crowd of 40,000 was kept enthralled by the former India captain Vengsarkar whose 105 gave the home side, which won the toss and elected to bat, a very good chance of clinching the crown.

Vengsarkar's blazing knock, after India has been reduced to 67 for three wickets in the 20th over by some fine fast bowling by Windies skipper Joel Garner, who gave away just 50 runs in his first 5 overs. Vengsarkar's partner, Ezra Moseley, included some splendid driving in front of the wicket especially on the outside.

Mohinder Amarnath (23) and opener Srikanth (32 in 53 balls) added 42 runs for the second wicket. After the exit of the duo, Vengsarkar put on 84 runs in 85 balls with Gundappa Vishwanath, who played a wristy innings of 26 in 44 balls, for the fourth wicket.

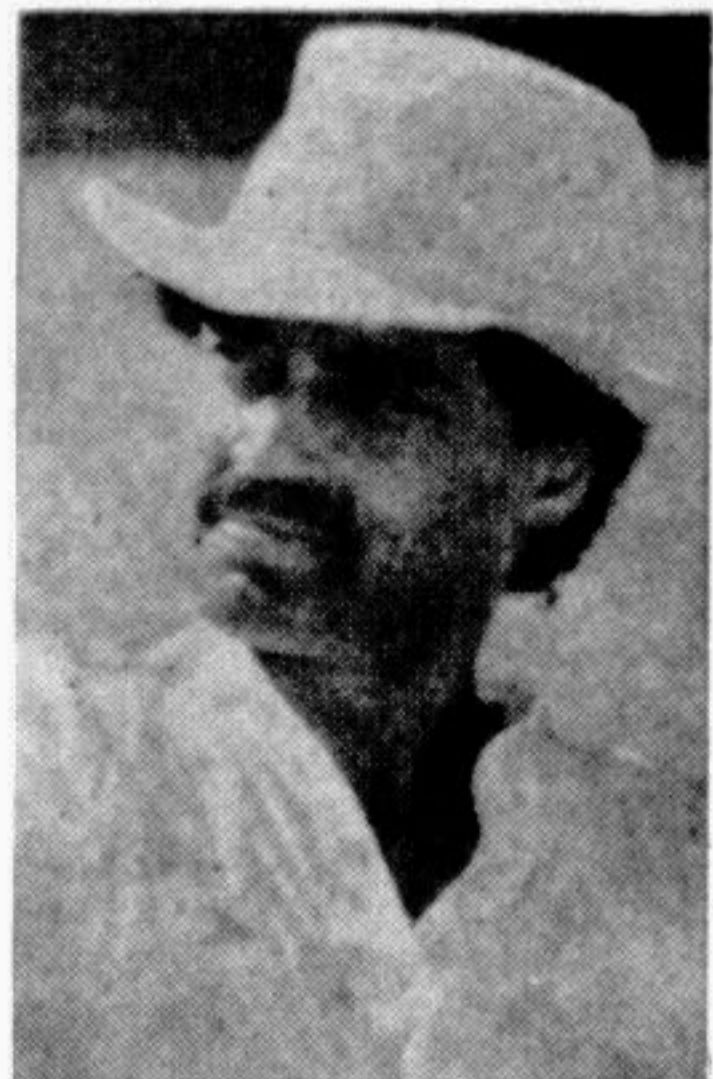
Vengsarkar, who reached his first 50 in 48 balls, jumped from 32 to 51 in just four scoring strokes. He later put in 42 runs in only 29 balls with Kapil Dev, who hit three super-fours off his pads against the West Indies pace attack in making 21 off 16 balls.

The Indians, led by Kapil Dev in place of injured Sunil Gavaskar, added 87 runs in the last 10 overs with Vengsarkar and Madan Lal (18 off 14 balls) unbeaten at the end.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the BSI World Masters Cup cricket tournament final between India and the West Indies today:

INDIA
K Srikanth b Moseley 32
R Binny c Dujon b Clarke 2
M Amarnath c Logie b Gomes 23

D Vengsarkar not out	105
G Vishwanath st Dujon b King	26
Kapil Dev c Garner b Clarke	21
Yashpal Sharma c Greenidge b Clarke	3
Madan Lal not out	18
Did not bat: S Kirmani, K Ghavri and S Venkat	
Extras: (b-4, lb-4, w-12, nb-1)	21
Total: (for 6 wks in 45 overs)	251
Fall of wickets: 1-15; 2-57; 3-67; 4-151; 5-193; 6-209	
Bowling	O M R W
Garner	9 0 39 0



VENGSAKAR man-of-final	
Clarke	9 0 58 3
Moseley	9 1 47 1
King	9 0 37 1
Gomes	3 0 16 1
Richards	6 0 46 0

WEST INDIES	
Greenidge lbw Srikanth	114
C Best lbw Madan Lal	12
G Logie lbw Ghavri	56
V Richards not out	38
C King not out	30
Extras: (b-11, nb-1, w-20)	32
Total: (for three wickets in 40.1 overs)	252
Fall of wickets: 1-44; 2-168; 3-242	
Bowling	O M R W
Kapil	7 0 33 0
Binny	3 0 19 0
Madan Lal	4.1 0 31 1
Amarnath	3 0 27 0
Ghavri	9 0 57 1
Venkat	8 0 40 0
Srikanth	6 0 34 1
Result: West Indies won by seven wickets.	

Jansher is Marshall's jinx

LISBON, Mar 12: World squash champion Jansher Khan sustained his 12-month spell of dominance over Peter Marshall by beating the Englishman in the Portuguese Open final on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Jansher won 15-13, 15-8, 15-7 against the double-handed British champion, a more emphatic victory than the close encounters that have characterised recent meetings.

Since beating Marshall over four games in the Portuguese Open final last year, Pakistan's Jansher has won eight major finals half of them against Marshall.

In the same period, Marshall has scored two league wins over Jansher. In the British Super League two weeks ago and in the finals of the European Club Championship last September.

"I felt before the match I was playing well enough to beat him this time and in the first game I was confident, but he got away from me again," Marshall said.

In fact Marshall led through much of the 34-minute first game to which the world champion contributed an astonishing error count of nine unreturned shots.

From an initial deficit of 1-4 Marshall steadily worked his way to 6-4 in a single hand, then to 9-6 and 12-11. But a harsh no-let decision from referee David Stevenson of England, then two unreturned errors from the Englishman allowed Jansher the relaxation of a game under his belt.

That was plainly all the world champion needed. He came out for the second game with a blazing attack to either hand, took a 4-1 lead and, from 5-5 closed out the rest of the 13-minute game in just four hands.

Marshall managed a 4-3 lead at the start of the third with his best shot of the match, a stretching backhand pickup in the top left corner crashed away down the side-wall, but he was tiring and his opponent was showing that all too familiar late improvement of both pace and tactic.

A destructively relaxed spell of deliberate rallying took Jansher to 8-4 in a single hand and then he began to play the front court with cynical ease to open the gaps behind his slowing opponent.

The odd error still crept into the Pakistan's play as he looped the ball around the court, but he allowed Marshall only three more serves before finishing with a marvellously contrived forehand pickup across the face of the front wall which completely wrong-footed Marshall.

Jansher has not been beaten since he lost 13 months ago to Scotland's Peter Nicol.

Gradus wins Nagoya marathon

NAGOYA, Japan, Mar 12: Kamila Gradus of Poland scored an easy victory in the Nagoya women's marathon here today, clocking 2hrs: 27 min and 29 sec, reports AP.

Gradus, the 1993 winner, led with three others at the 27-kilometre mark and spurred 12 kilometers before crossing the finish line.

Yukari Komatsu and Miki Igarashi, both of Japan, finished second and third in 2:29:41 and 2:31:46 respectively.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard on the second day of the first Test between New Zealand and Sri Lanka at McLean Park today:

SRI LANKA: First innings
183 (A Ranatunga 55; Morrison 3-40)

NEW ZEALAND: First innings (overnight 33 for three)
B Young c Dumusinghe 2
D Wickremasinghe 1
D Murray lbw b Vaas 1
M Greatbatch lbw 1
S Fleming c S Ranatunga b Vaas 35
K Rutherford c Tilkekeratne b Pushpakumara 32
S Thomson c Muralidharan b Vaas 8
A Parore c Dumusinghe 7
D Wickremasinghe 7
G Larsen c Dumusinghe b Vaas 0
D Nash lbw b Pushpakumara 0
D Morrison not out 0
K Walmesley b Vaas 4
Extras: (b-5, lb-1, nb-5, w-1) 12
Total: (all out) 109
Fall of wickets: 1-2; 2-4; 3-6; 4-53; 5-65; 6-78; 7-79; 8-94; 9-104.

Bowling

Wickremasinghe	19	7	33	3
Vaas	18.5	3	47	5
Pushpakumara	5	1	23	2

SRI LANKA: Second innings

Asanka Gurusinha lbw b Larsen	8
Dulip Samaraweera run out	6
Sanjeeva Ranatunga lbw b Larsen	7
Aravinda de Silva not out	52
Hashan Tilkekeratne not out	16
Extras: (3-lb)	3
Total: (for 3 wks)	92
Fall of wickets: 1-14; 2-21; 3-22	
Bowling:	O M R W
Nash	14 9 12 0
Walmesley	10 0 42 0
Larsen	13 4 28 2
Thomson	2 0 7 0

Lankans have Kiwis cornered

NAPIER, New Zealand, Mar 12: Sri Lanka worked their way to a position of strength against New Zealand by stumps on a controversy-tinged second day of the first Test at McLean Park today, reports Reuter.

New Zealand were dismissed for 109 in their first innings after starting the day at 33 for three. It was their worst innings score since being dismissed for 93 by Pakistan in the second innings in Hamilton in the 1992-93 season.

Left arm medium-fast seamer Chaminda Vaas did most of the damage taking five for 47, his first five-wicket haul in Test cricket.

By the close Sri Lanka were 92 for three wickets, recovering from 22 for three to stretch a first innings lead of 74 to an overall lead of 166 runs.

Sri Lankan batting linchpin Aravinda de Silva, who was out for a duck in the first innings, was on 52 while Hashan Tilkekeratne was on 16.

However, the talking point of the day came with the first Sri Lankan wicket to fall.

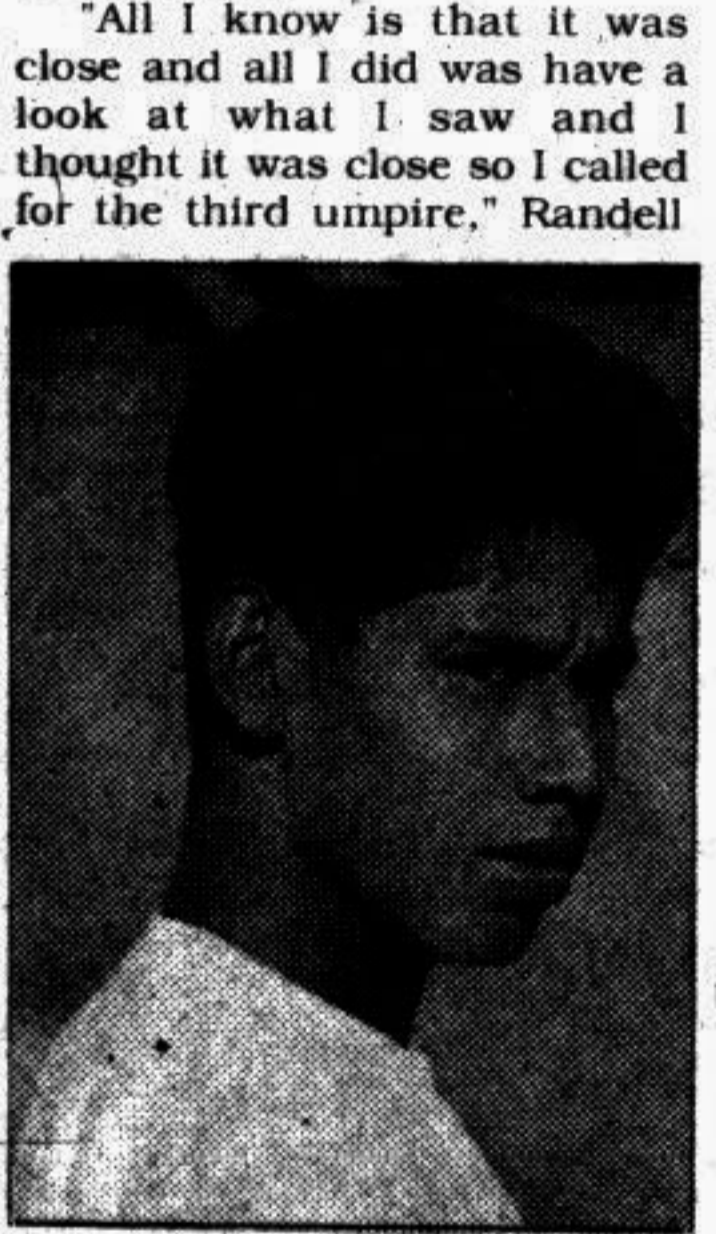
Dulip Samaraweera was on six when he leapt high in the air with legs apart to avoid being struck by Ken Rutherford's direct throw at his stumps. Australian umpire Steve Randell called on third umpire Evan Watkin who ruled that he had been run out.

The decision appeared to contravene law 38 of the game which says: "...if he makes his ground he shall not be out run out if he subsequently leaves his ground in order to avoid injury, and the wicket is put down."

Randell is no stranger to

controversy. He stood in the Test during England captain Mike Atherton's infamous dirt-in-the-pocket affair, and was also present when the now former Pakistan captain Salim Malik accused Zimbabwean umpire Ian Robinson of ball tampering in the recent series in Zimbabwe.

"All I know is that it was close and all I did was have a look at what I saw and I thought it was close so I called for the third umpire," Randell



CHAMINDA VAAS... 5 for 47 said.

Sri Lankan captain Arjuna Ranatunga said it was up to the umpires to make the decision and that his players on the sidelines had tried to alert the umpires to rule 38.

New Zealand coach John Reid said he was aware of the law but did not think there was anything sinister in Rutherford's throw. "I'm a hundred per cent sure that Rutherford had no intention to hit the batsman," he said.

The incident detracted from a fine aggressive innings by De Silva whose 13th Test

Graf, Martinez in final

DELRAY BEACH, Florida, Mar 12: Three-time defending champion Steffi Graf worked her way into the final of the 430,000 dollars Delray Beach women's tournament, while second seed Conchita Martinez advanced Saturday without a worry, reports Reuter.

The top-seeded Graf took 69 minutes to defeat fellow-German and third-seeded Anke Huber 6-4, 6-4.

Martinez spent a brief six minutes on court when her opponent, fourth seeded Brenda Schultz of the Netherlands, retired from the match with a left thigh muscle injury she suffered in Friday's quarter-finals.

The Spaniard was serving in the second game of the first set, leading 1-0, when the 15th-ranked Schultz quit the match.

Prior to the match, there was speculation about who would be left standing in the Martinez-Schultz match since the Spaniard had also sustained an injury, to her left hip, in her Friday quarter-final.

Schultz became the latest in a string of casualties at this event. Ten other players who were supposed to compete here called in sick with a variety of medical problems.

Graf, who benefitted from the sick-out when Barbara Rittner of Germany defaulted in their quarter-final, maintained her untarnished record against Huber by posting her eighth successive victory against her.

"I'm a little stiff when I play her because I want the match a little too much," Huber said.

Both players had difficulty working through the windy conditions, but Graf showed greater mental strength.

In the first set, Graf broke serve at 0-40 in the fifth game

when Huber made three errors in a row and Graf belted a winning backhand return.

Graf went ahead 3-0 in the second set, but Huber managed to recoup one service break at 15-40 in the fourth game. Graf failed to capitalise on two match points, she had on Huber's serve in the ninth game, but served out the match at 40-30 with a winning forehand in the 10th game.

Schultz said she felt all right until Martinez pulled her wide on the forehand side in the middle of the second game. That strategy severely tested the Dutchwoman's injury.

"I stretched for that forehand and almost fell to the ground," Schultz said.

Martinez, whose only victory in 10 tries against Graf came in their last encounter at the 1993 Slims of Philadelphia, said her injury seems to have improved.



Russian Yolanda Chen jubilates after setting a new world record in the women's triple jump at the fifth World Indoor Athletic Championships in Barcelona on March 11. Chen leapt a distance of 15.03 metres some 13 centimetres longer than the old marks.

Barcelona World Indoors Championship
Blazing new kids on block

BARCELONA, Mar 12: New kids on the block Geir Moen, Galina Astafieva and mystery man Hicham el Guerrouj almost stole the show at the World Indoor Championships here on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Only they forgot to tell Sergey Bubka, who exercised his Barcelona ghost to add yet another title to his huge trophy collection.

Moen's win in the 200m. El Guerrouj's shock victory over Olympic champion Fermin Cacho in the 1,500m and Astafieva's near flawless display for her new country Germany suggested an overturning of the established order.

Bubka — who no-heightened at the Olympics here three years ago — however, took a gamble that paid off to earn himself his third world indoor title ahead of the chasing pack.

He cleared 5.70m first go, then sat it out until 5.90 which he cleared only at the second attempt and only after rattling the bar.

That, however, was enough to beat Igor Potapov of Kazakhstan (5.80) and South African Okkert Brits and Andrej Tiwontshik of Germany, who tied for bronze (5.75).

Bubka said, "After the Olympics, this was special, I thought it was important for me to be here."

Dubbed the fastest white man on earth, Moen's win in 20.58 sec ahead of Bermudan Troy Douglas (20.94) and Sebastian Ketel of Chile (20.98) was almost guaranteed when British world outdoor

silver medalist John Regis pulled out of the event on Saturday morning, fearing injury.

But the 25-year-old Norwegian, who won the European title last year when Regis pulled out yet again with injury, did at least have the consolation of beating the British sprinter in the semi-finals.

He said "I wasn't that worried that Regis dropped out — if his hamstring was a problem it was a smart move."

My big year will come next year but there's a lot to do — I need to work on my acceleration and start to rival the best."

The 20-year-old El Guerrouj, in his first major competition, pushed the pace a long way out to finally demoralise Cacho, who faded from second with 50m to go to finish a poor sixth.

The Moroccan, who won in 3min 44.54sec ahead of Mateo Canellas of Spain (3:44.85) and Eric Neadeau of the United States (3:44.91), had posted a warning earlier in the season at Grenoble when finishing behind Noredidine Morcelli.

Nobody, however, took that warning, Cacho, before the race, said he thought he was definitely the favorite and knew nothing about El Guerrouj except his age — which he announced, wrongly as it happens, as 23.

The winner said: "I knew Cacho has a good finish so I began my attack at 600m. I was afraid of him — but I had a feeling I could win."

Astafieva, meanwhile, may not be such a new face but it was a new experience to represent

Germany, who she had just qualified for after a bitter feud with the Romanian Athletics Federation.

The 25-year-old, beaten by her new teammate Heike Henkel at the Barcelona Olympics, turned the tables by clearing 2.01m without a miss. Already assured of gold she then tried to equal the championship record of 2.05 but missed out.

Henkel, back from having a baby last year, took bronze on countback behind European champion Slovenian Britta Bilac after both had cleared 1.99.

The other highlights came from 33-year-old Russian Yolanda Chen, who set a world indoor triple jump record of 15.03m to take gold while reigning champion Ivan Pedroso of Cuba leapt 8.51 to win the men's long jump with the second best indoor performance of all time.

Only the legendary Carl Lewis, with 8.79 eleven year ago, has done better.

There was also a gold for Australian Melinda Gainsford who went one better in the 200 after taking silver in Toronto by clocking 22.64sec ahead of Pauline Davis of the Balfama and Natalya Voronova of Russia.

No such luck for Lynn Jennings of the United States a bronze medalist two years ago but who lost out to Romanian Abgriels Szabo over 3000m.

Szabo, in her first indoor race since 1989, produced the perfect ambush on the final lap to time 8min 54sec after the American had done all the running.

Three-way lead in Linares chess

LINARES, Spain, Mar 12: Russia's Anatoli Karpov, Bulgaria's Veselin Topalov and Ukrainian Vasili Ivanchuk continued atop of the standings Saturday after the 9th round of the Linares international chess tournament, reports AP.

Ivanchuk ended a four-game winning streak for tournament favourite Karpov when, playing whites, he held the Russian to a draw after 51 moves.

Topalov joined the two players with 6.5 points after drawing with Yugoslav Inubomir Lubojevich in 47 moves.

This was the third consecutive round to leave the three players sharing the first place.

Of the 9th round's seven games only Russian Lxevi Dreiev managed a win when, playing whites, he defeated fellow countryman Alexander Khalifman in 40 moves.

Spaniard Miguel Illescas' game against Ukrainian Alexander Beliavski was postponed until Sunday after Illescas complained he was not feeling well.

Players receive one point for a victory and a half-point for a draw in the 13-round championship, which groups 14 of the world's top players.

The tournament ends March 17.

Anand back on track

LAS PALMAS, Canary Islands, Mar 12: Indian Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand evened his match against American Gata Kamsky by winning the third game of the Professional Chess Association candidates' final Saturday. Each player now has 1.5 points, reports AP.

As in the first game when Anand had the white pieces, the players once again chose the ancient Ruy Lopez, or Spanish opening. But in the first game, Kamsky played the closed defence with 5. Be7, the most popular line. On Saturday he opted for the relatively rare 6. Bb7.

Kamsky played this line against Anand last year in the seventh game of their FIDE candidates match. In that game Anand played 7... d3 (instead of Saturday's 7... Re1); Kamsky won that game to tie the score after being two points behind — and went on to win the match.

On Saturday, Anand admitted that he had got a big advantage but found it difficult to pinpoint exactly where Kamsky had erred. When they reached the time control at move 40, Anand was up a pawn with a winning position. The American resigned at move 58.

It was the first time in their last 11 encounters, including two speed games in the FIDE playoffs last year, that Anand scored a victory against Kamsky.

After three games, both players are tied with 1.5 points each. Players receive one point for a win and a half-point for a draw. The first to reach 6.5 points in the 12-game series is declared winner.

The winner will go on for the title match against FCA champion Garry Kasparov, scheduled for September in Cologne, Germany.

Gold for Chen, win for China

BEIJING, Mar 12: Teenager Chen Lu's achievement in winning China's first world skating title was seen Sunday as an even greater stride for China's campaign to

cast off a drug shadow and stake a claim for the 2004 Olympics, reports AP.

The 18-year-old, forced to prepare her bid for the championships in Birmingham, England on an open air skating rink in her native Changan, beat France's European title holder Surya Bonaly into second place. Earlier leader Nicole Bobek finished third.

Chen, who won China's first Olympic bronze medal at Lillehammer, last year, proudly said of her new victory: "It is not only the first time for me to win the gold, but also the first time for my country," Xinhua news agency reported.

The skater has said she is determined to keep her performances as Chinese-influenced as possible and dancing to the theme music from the movie, "The Last Emperor," her superior artistic impression kept the title out of European hands. Bonaly has now been runner-up three times at the World Championships.

Chen has been groomed to become China's first world class skater since being spotted as a 12-year-old. For many years she had to train at night on the rink at her home in northeast China. Her other main training aid was a video of Japan's former star skater Midori Ito.

Chen said before going to Birmingham she had set her heart on an Olympic title at Nagano in 1998. International sports officials believe her victory will be a boost to China's drug-stained sporting reputation and its chances of hosting the 2004 Olympics.

The prestige of a win like this will definitely cheer the Chinese leaderships," said one Asian member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Prestige is very important for the Chinese at

this stage."

IOC officials have already predicted that China will soon formally announce its candidacy for the 2004 Games. Chinese Olympic Committee secretary general Wei Jizhong is understood to have discussed the bid with other Asian sports leaders during a recent trip to Hong Kong.

Wei said publicly that a formal decision would be announced by the June 1 deadline for national Olympic committees to put forward preliminary bids.

China was put into semi-sporting quarantine after 11 athletes, including seven members of the world beating swimming squad, tested positive for drugs at last year's Asian Games.

The Chinese authorities have strongly denied any organised doping taking by sportsmen and women. But the International Swimming Federation has said such a possibility cannot be ruled out. Two world champions were among the swimmers to test positive last year.

However, the Asian IOC official said China was hoping win back "Good points" by taking titles such as Chen's in Birmingham.

"There are other events coming up where the Chinese are going to surprise the rest of the world," he predicted.



Romania's Gabriela Szabo (C) is flanked by Italian Elisa Rea (L) and American Lynn Jennings during the last lap of the women's 3,000 final at the World Indoor Championships in Barcelona on March 11. Szabo took the gold clocking 8:50.50 minutes.

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cast off a drug shadow and stake a claim for the 2004 Olympics, reports AP.

Parjatan Cup golf

Picabo first American to make it

INDONESIAN ambassador Hadi Wayarabi Alhadjar became the winner in the Parjatan Cup golf tournament at the Bay View Golf Links in Cox's Bazar, a Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation press release said here on Saturday, reports BSS.

Communications Minister Ghil Ahmed was the runner-up.

LENZERHEIDE Switzerland, Mar 12: Picabo Street became the first American to clinch a World Cup downhill title Saturday, winning her fifth victory of the season, sixth hundredths of a second ahead of Watwawa Zelenskaja of Russia, reports AP.