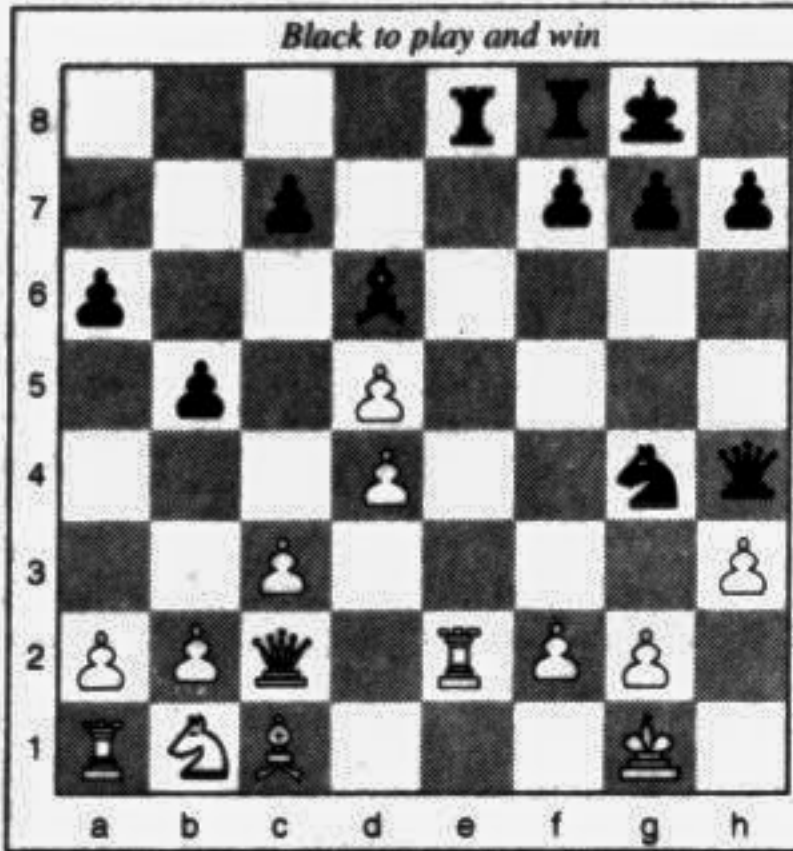


Niaz Murshed's PAPERCHESS

No-13
P EOPLE who are new to the game but find it worth exploring, confront me with the same question.
"Can you teach me a few tricks?"
The problem with tricks in a game of chess is the same as in any other game. What if they don't work? I can also tell you that if you wish to try and take a chance, you should do it in a game of poker. Because the principles on which chess is based, leave very little room for luck.
It is, therefore, better to follow the basics, and the tricks will present themselves in time. If you consider yourself a novice, here are three magic rules you should follow:
1. Try to move your centre pawns in front of your King and Queen first.
2. Bring out your Knights and Bishops first, not the Queen and Rooks. Knights definitely should come out towards the centre.
3. Castle to take your King to safety.

If you follow these principles and not give away any material free you can probably play 20 moves against Kasparov without any major disaster. This is hardly an overstatement. It is actually analogous to keeping a straight bat in cricket, which should keep you out of danger if properly executed.
In today's diagram we have an illustration of what might happen if you don't follow the rules mentioned above. White



has taken two extra black pawns, but he has failed to bring out his Knight and Bishop on the left side. They remain on their original squares, violating the second rule mentioned above.
Can you finish it off for Black?
Solution: 1... Qf2 check 2. R-f2 R-e1 check 3. R-f1 B-h2 check 4. K-h1 and R-f1 mate. (Niaz Murshed is the sub-continent's first Grand Master.)



Seles' fitting riposte

MONTREAL, Aug 7: Top seed and defending champion Monica Seles avenged her stunning Wimbledon defeat by crushing Karina Studenikova of Slovakia in a second-round match at the Canadian Open on Tuesday, reports Reuter.
Seles, determined not to make the same mistakes as in her second round loss at the All-England Club, missed just 55 minutes to dismiss the 33rd-ranked Studenikova 6-2, 6-0.
"At Wimbledon, it was a tough match to lose, but you have to move on," Seles said.
"I didn't take the chance to take charge of the points at Wimbledon so I decided this time that I would really go for my shots," added Seles, who made her triumphant return at this tournament when it was in Toronto last year after more than two years out of the game following her stabbing in Hamburg.
Four seeds fell on the tournament's second day but one was more notable than the rest because it would never have been considered an upset three or four years ago.
Playing her first match since a first-round loss at the French Open in May, former wonderkid Jennifer Capriati won a first round baseline duel with 11th seed Irina Spirlea of Romania 6-1, 6-2.
"It's great to play well and come through against a top player," said the troubled 20-year-old Capriati, once pro-

jected as a future number one now ranked 100.
Capriati, beset by legal and personal traumas, in recent years, said she had not played since the French because she

Becker skips New Haven tourney

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut, Aug 7: Fifth-ranked Australian Open champion Boris Becker was forced to withdraw from next week's New Haven tournament due to the wrist injury he suffered at Wimbledon last month tournament officials announced on Tuesday, reports Reuter.
Becker's doctors advised him that his wrist was not sufficiently healed to compete at a top level, event, officials said in a statement.
The German star is the only top-10 player missing from this week's ATP Championship near Cincinnati and his inability to compete next week could severely hamper his hard court preparation for the US Open.
"I know this has been a serious blow to him in what started out as a great year," said New Haven tournament chairman Jim Westhall. "We all hope to see him healthy in time for the US Open."
The year's final Grand Slam event begins on August 26, leaving Becker at most one week to compete in a summer hard court tournament prior to the Open.

did not feel confident in her game or well prepared.
"I took time off to improve some things," she said.
"The past is the past. I'm here and it's what I want to be doing. You learn from your experiences. You learn from life. You look ahead and you live in the now," she said.

The surprise second round losers were seventh-seeded Dutchwoman Brenda Schultz-McCarthy, who fell to Naoko Kijimuta of Japan 6-7, 6-1, 6-2, and 12th seed Karina Habudova of Slovakia, picked off by American Rennae Stubbs 6-2, 6-4.

In a first-round match, Virginia Ruano-Pascual of Spain bounced 14th-seeded Czech veteran Helena Sukova 7-5, 3-6, 6-4.

Seles, who has been bothered all year by a tear in the lining of her shoulder socket suffered while winning her fourth Australian Open title in January, said the injury was still a problem.

"It's pretty sore every morning when I get up but then with some stretching it improves. It hurts me on about every third serve."
Seles said this will be her lone US open tune-up as she plans to rest the shoulder over the next two weeks.

"I don't think I can stay focused if I'm struggling with an injury," she said. "I'm not as consistent as I would like to be to compete with players like Steffi and Arantxa."
"I'll decide about having an operation on the shoulder after the US Open."

Solid start for Sampras

MASON, Ohio, Aug 7: Top Ten players Pete Sampras and Jim Courier won their opening matches against unseeded opponents in high heat and humidity to advance in the ATP Championship, reports AP.
Sampras summarily disposed of Switzerland's Jakob Hlasek 6-3, 6-4 in 57 minutes Tuesday night, after Courier needed two hours and 12 minutes to overcome England's Greg Rusedski in the previous match 6-7, (3-7), 6-3, 6-4.
Sampras, the tournament's top seed and the world's top-ranked player, said he was pleased with his performance after having taken five weeks off since his quarterfinal loss at Wimbledon.
"To beat a guy like Jakob who's given me problems in the past with a big serve, it was a good test," Sampras said. "I think I handled it pretty well."
Hlasek had defeated Wade McCuire on Monday to face Sampras.
The unseeded Rusedski, who eliminated Denmark's Kenneth Carlsen on Monday, used a powerhouse serve to beat Courier in their 56-minute first set. Courier battled back with an aggressive serve and crafty groundstrokes as Rusedski's serve got erratic in the waning stretch of the match in 80 per cent humidity and a temperature in the low 80s Centigrade (26-28 Fahrenheit).
Courier, the world's ninth-

ranked player, has beaten Rusedski all three times they have played.
Courier, who lives in Miami, said he thrives in extreme conditions, but needed time to regain his intensity.
"I hadn't played many matches since the French Open. It's always difficult to get the mind going — the intensity, the body's willing, but the mind isn't," he said.
Rusedski said he hurt himself because he wasn't aggressive in returning Courier's serves.
"If you don't play intelligent tennis, and get on the back of the court against Jim, you're going to get beat," Rusedski said. "I'm disappointed, the way I returned. I wasn't attacking him."

All the other seeded players in action Tuesday — No. 9 Wayne Ferreira, No. 11 Maliva Washington and No. 14 Cedric Pioline — won their matches to advance.
Spain's Sergei Bruguera, still weary from his Olympic silver medal-winning performance last week, lost to Australia's Patrick Rafter 6-1, 6-4.
Rafter, ranked 68th on the tour, had been 0-5 in his career against Bruguera.

"I was here without energy," said the 70th-ranked Bruguera, who came to the ATP straight from Atlanta, where he lost to Andre Agassi, 6-2, 6-3, 6-1 in the gold-medal round Saturday.
"Even practice was very, very tough for me," he said. "The Olympics go for two weeks like a Grand Slam event, and I've never played in a tournament the week after a Grand Slam."
Rafter, who reached the second round of last week's Infiniti Open in LA, also confessed to being tired.

"I've been trying to get over a cold," he said.
"I was able to hang in there for the first few games and then I was able to lift my game while his just remained flat."
Agassi teased Bruguera about his Olympic loss before saying that he, too, was tired.
"I beat up on him didn't I?" Agassi said. "It was definitely draining, especially with all the security involved and the daily protocol of just getting into the locker room. It might take me a little longer to get going again, but I don't think

OAU's greetings

ADDIS ABABA, Aug 7: The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) on Tuesday congratulated a dozen African states for winning medals in the Atlanta Olympics, reports Reuter.
Salim Ahmed Salim, secretary-general of the 53-member organisation, told reporters the continent's athletes had given their best Olympic performance ever, with 12 countries winning a total of 34 medals in Atlanta.
Salim paid special tribute to the Nigerian "Green Eagles," who won the Olympic soccer gold after beating Argentina 3-2.
"The performance has shown that Africa has come of age as far as world soccer competition is concerned," he said.

it will be too much of a problem."
Washington, the Wimbledon runner-up, needed to win 12 of the final 15 points, including eight in a row, to overcome having his serve broken twice in the second set of a 6-4, 7-5 win over France's Guillaume Raoux.
Ferreira defeated Belgium's Filip Dewulf 6-2, 6-3. Pioline was extended to three sets before overcoming Australia's Sandon Stolle, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4.
Also, Ukrainian Andrei Medvedev outlasted Czechoslovakian Martin Damm 6-4, 7-6 (7-3), and Sweden's Stefan Edberg breezed past Italy's Stefano Pescosolido, 6-2, 6-1. Edberg, 30, who is playing his last pro tennis circuit before retiring, was honoured by the ATP tournament Monday night.
Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman, ranked 58th, upset 26th-ranked Renzo Furlan of Italy, 6-3, 7-6 (7-3).
Great American Insurance sponsors the 2.2 million dollars ATP Championship.

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Atlanta stars to throng Monaco

MONACO, Aug 7: Sprinters Donovan Bailey and Gail Devers in the 100 metres will be among a host of newly-crowned Olympic champions on parade at the Monaco Grand Prix athletics meeting on Saturday, reports Reuter.

The organisers said on Tuesday there would be about 20 Olympic champions and more than 50 medal winners overall from the Atlanta Games that ended on Sunday.

In one of several events pitting Olympic gold and silver medal winners against each other again, world record holder Bailey of Canada races against Namibia's Frankie Fredericks. Briton Linford Christie, who failed through disqualification to defend his title in the Atlanta final, will also be there.

Others competing include Nouredine Morceli of Algeria and Spain's Fermin Cacho in the 1,500 metres and American Frederick Adkins and Samuel Matete of Zambia in the 400 metres hurdles.

The women's 100 metres pits Devers against both silver medal winner Merlene Ottey of Jamaica and fellow-American Gwen Torrence who took bronze. A strong field also includes Mary Onyiah of Nigeria, who won bronze in the 200.

The three women on the podium in both the 400 metres hurdles and javelin, including champions Deon Hemmings of Jamaica and Finland's Heli Rantanen, will also be competing.

French interest expected to help fill the Monte Carlo Stadium to its 20,000 capacity in the 10th Herculis Grand Prix will be centred on double Olympic spring champion Marie-Jose Perle in the 400 metres and pole vault winner Jean Galfione.

Among the new Olympic champions, the organisers also confirmed Russian double gold medal winner Svetlana Masterkova in the 800 metres.

Shearer wraps up mega deal

NEWCASTLE, England, Aug 7: England striker Alan Shearer completed his move to Newcastle United on Tuesday in a world record 15 million pounds (£23.2 million dollars) deal, reports Reuter.

He told reporters and fans: "If any club or supporters deserve success it's this club and hopefully I and the rest of the players can bring it."
From early morning, thousands of fans wearing black and white club colours and begun packing a large car park at the Newcastle ground in anticipation of Shearer's arrival.

The ex-Blackburn marksman's news conference, in front of around 500 media personnel, was relayed to the crowd outside.
Newcastle-born Shearer, who will be 26 next Tuesday, is due to make his first start for his new club against Manchester United in the charity shield on Sunday at Wembley.

No fetter in free world

BUCHAREST, Aug 7: Two Romanian swimmers who refused to return home from the Atlanta Olympic Games are free to seek a future in the United States, Romanian Olympic Committee (COR) officials said Tuesday, reports Reuter.

COR president Lia Manoliu said swimmers Alexandru Ivanovici and Razvan Petcu had their own reasons not to take the flight back from Atlanta with the rest of the Romanian team.

"Every man chooses his own destiny. They are free to make that choice, too," Manoliu, herself a former Olympic discus medalist, told state news agency Rompres shortly after arrival at Bucharest's Otopeni Airport.

Officials at the US embassy in Bucharest said they had no indication whether the two previously little known Romanian swimmers had applied for immigration.



French Prime Minister Alain Juppe (R), who rushed at the Charles de Gaulle-Roissy airport to welcome the Olympic heroes on August 6 having a light moments with Marie-Jose Perec (L), the gold medalist in women's 400m and 200m. — AFP/UNB photo

Russia's gritty recovery

MOSCOW, Aug 7: Russia welcomed its athletes home as heroes on Tuesday after their first Olympics without comrades from former Soviet states or the massive resources the communist superpower once devoted to sporting success, reports Reuter.

But the press, dismayed that Russia came a distant second to the United States in the medals table, sounded a Cold War note by sniping at the Atlanta organisers, alleging dirty tricks over dope tests and warning that Russia would do better next time.

The overall moral victory went to the Russians, as after the collapse of the USSR there were many who wished to "bury Russian sport," the liberal newspaper Sevodnya (Today) said.
It described the overturning of doping decisions against several Russian team members as a victory over an attempt by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to deprive Russia of medal by illegal methods.

Krasnaya Zvezda (Red Star), the official army newspaper, said in a headline: "Now the whole world knows the Russian anthem."
President Boris Yeltsin, in an official statement quoted by Interfax news agency, said the team, which won 26 gold medals to the United States' 44, had "upheld the nation's

glorious sporting traditions... in an honest sporting contest." The Kremlin leader, unseen in public since before his reelection on July 3, was not among officials who welcomed team members in a low-key ceremony at Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport.

The sports-mad president is facing growing demands for state funds to help restore some of the prestige that

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Paralympic torch handed over

WASHINGTON, Aug 7: The torch that will burn beginning August 15 at the Paralympic Games was received at the White House Tuesday during a solemn ceremony and then sent on its way to Atlanta, reports Reuter.

More than 3,500 athletes representing 120 countries will participate in the Games for the handicapped. It is the first time the event has been held in the United States.

President Bill Clinton, who handed the torch to a wheelchair-bound relayer, said the Paralympic Games "are a powerful demonstration of what can happen when inclusion, independence and empowerment become reality in individuals' lives with great abilities and great hearts."

Soviet athletes won in the communist era, Russia's performance in team events in Atlanta was disappointing compared to individual successes.
"Steps need to be taken quickly at a state level if we don't want Russia to become a backwater of world sport," Vitaly Smirnov, the president of the Russian Olympic Committee, told Itar-Tass news agency on Sunday.

The Vechernaya Moskva (Evening Moscow) daily said: "This was an American Olympiad — in every sense."
The hosts may have won the most medals, it said, but the programme of the Games had a heavy American accent with the inclusion of new — and distinctly non-Russian — events like baseball and beach volleyball as Olympic sports.

Moskovsky Komsomolets criticised the heavy commercialism of the Atlanta Games.
"In one Olympiad, America has killed two fat birds with one stone: it proved its mean-ness towards humanity and filled its own pockets," the popular newspaper sneered.

Leading sports daily Sport Express gave the fortnight in Atlanta 10 out of 10 for the quality of competition. But it too slammed the organisers for, among other things, the Athletes Village and the transport system, which got just one out of 10.

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It's party time in Athens

ATHENS, Aug 7: Athens threw a big party on Tuesday, with marching bands and fireworks, to welcome its eight Atlanta Olympic medalists who were cheered by thousands in a triumphant tour of the city, reports Reuter.

A flag-waving crowd lined the streets from the airport to central Athens to honour the athletes who were driven in military jeeps, proudly displaying their four gold and four silver medals.
Athens mayor Dimitris Avramopoulos awarded the athletes the city's gold medal at Hadrian's Arch, Athens main ancient gate. Bands and military honours replaced the ancient tradition of bringing down city walls to welcome Olympic champions.

Today Athens, the cradle of civilisation opens its gates for you. It honours you and it is being honoured," Avramopoulos said.
Holding a huge blue and white Greek flag the medalists then walked to the packed 80,000-seat Panathenean Stadium, site of the first modern Olympics a century ago, for a night-long celebration.

Fireworks lit up the Athens sky as the athletes entered the marble stadium to be greeted by Greek President Costis Stephanopoulos. Prime Minister Costas Simitis and all his ministers.
"We did it for Greece," weightlifter Pyrrhos Dimas, who won his second gold medal in Atlanta, told reporters. "We thank everybody for this warm welcome."
Greece's six main television channels joined forces with common live coverage of the celebration and the acropolis was lit up to honour the winners.

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Yugoslavs usher in heroes

BELGRADE, Aug 7: Some 100,000 people flooded into the centre of the Yugoslavia capital on Tuesday, in a frenzied welcome for their Olympic team returning from Atlanta with four medals, reports Reuter.

A crowd of 20,000 gathered at the airport to see the Olympians arrive, and thousands more lined the 14 kms. stretch of highway into the city.
Hundreds of fans followed the team-buses in a riotous convoy into the city, leaning out of over-crowded vehicles and waving flags and streamers in the national red, white and blue colours.
Outside the federation palace, the team transferred to open-topped buses and drove through the adoring mass to a stage outside the federal parliament building to a welcome usually reserved for rock stars.

The heroes of the Olympic squad — the basketballers who won silver against the American "Dream Team" — stood on the stage and told the crowd that they fought for national glory.
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Flicker of hopes

PARIS, Aug 7: An Olympic soccer tournament rich in skill and excitement has the French licking their lips at the prospect of hosting a tasty World Cup in 1998, reports Reuter.

Following Nigeria's exhilarating gold medal victory at the Atlanta Games on Saturday, France's leading sports daily and soccer weekly have marvelled at the football played by the Africans and South Americans.

"All this promises a well-cooked '98 World Cup," said the weekly France Football on Tuesday in an editorial that began with a look back at the four European championship finals in England in June.
Euro '96 was marked by defensive football and a dearth of goals.

The Olympics tournament, featuring many young players already capped at senior level and sure to be involved in the 1998 World Cup finals in France, saw 14 goals in the semifinals and final, while Argentina and Brazil shared each in the quarter-finals.
Lequipe said: "After a very sad Euro, the moral of these Olympic Games is that Europe needs to wake up if it wants to avoid being trampled underfoot in two years' time."

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Losing finalists Argentina, with 1994 World Cup forward Ariel Ortega at the hub, "weaved a very fine cotton".

South America is unquestionably advancing, Africa has sealed its ambitions and Asia (with a surprising Japan and an always competitive South Korea) is coming on a gallop.
"French spectators can already reserve their tickets for the 1998 World Cup," France Football said. "The majority of promising players were up front (fortunately) and singled out Brazil's brilliant Juninho as perhaps the best player of the tournament."
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