

Chess Olympiad Russians claim top spot

YEREVAN, Armenia, Sept 21: Russia moved past China on Friday to take the lead in the World Chess Olympiad, even though the leader of the Russian team, Gari Kasparov, was down with a cold and did not play, reports AP.

In the fifth of the Olympiad's 14 rounds, Russia beat China 2-5-1.5, and now has 15 points to China's 14.5.

Armenia's first team — as host country it had two — moved into a tie for third place with England and Spain. Each has 14 points.

England's leading player, Nigel Short, played to a draw with the Netherlands' Jan Timman.

Hungarian top player Judit Polgar, a woman who ranks No. 9 in the world among male players, reached a draw with Czech player Vlastimil Babula.

In the women's competition, China defeated Hungary 3-1 and moved up to share the lead with Ukraine, at 12 points each. Georgia was second with 11.5 points, and Vietnam and Romania were tied for third with 11 points each.

Leading men's results:
Russia 2.5, China 1.5
England 2.5, Netherlands 1.5
Armenia 1.5, Kazakhstan 1
Spain 2.5, Sweden 1.5
Georgia 2, Cuba 2
Hungary 2.5, Czech Republic 1.5
Belarus 2, Romania 2
Germany 2.5, Slovakia 1.5
Ukraine 2, Portugal 2
France 3, Moldova 1
Estonia 2.5, Iceland 1.5
Bosnia 1, Slovenia 1
Bulgaria 2.5, Philippines 1.5
Peru 2.5, Latvia 1.5
Croatia 3, Denmark 2
Israel 2, Argentina 2
USA 3, Greece 1

Leading women's results:
Georgia 1.5, Ukraine 1.5
China 2, Hungary 1
Vietnam 2, Russia 1
Romania 2, Moldova 1
Germany 1.5, Bulgaria 1.5
Latvia 2, Cuba 1
Slovakia 2.5, Armenia 0.5
Yugoslavia 2.5, Spain 0.5
England 1.5, Israel 1.5
Kazakhstan 0.5, Uzbekistan 0.5
USA 1.5, Mongolia 1.5

Jansher's 74th

CAIRO, Sept 21: World champion Jansher Khan avenged his defeat by Australian Rodney Eyles in the final of the Hong Kong Open earlier this month by defeating him in the Gazira Open final on Friday, reports Reuter.

Jansher claimed his 74th major tournament victory in 65 minutes, winning 15-13, 15-14, 15-6.

World number two Eyles kept pace with Jansher in the opening two games, leading 13-12 in the first and reaching 14-14 in the second.

But the Pakistani upped the pressure in the third with a run from 5-3 to 14-3 and match ball in a single hand.

He ended the second game tiebreak with as sweet as wrongfooting, backhand cross-court drop as he has played and finished the match by forcing the tiring Australian into a desperate attempt at a forehand kill that clipped the tin in the top left corner.

"It was like playing in Pakistan," said Jansher. Good, hot weather and good crowds. I play well here and will come back every time they want me."

Said Eyles: "I needed the break in one of those early games but he lifted his game at the vital moments."

Mr World pageant on Star Plus

HONG KONG, Sept 21: Star Plus will exclusively showcase the first ever Mr World pageant on Monday, September 23 at 20:30 (BST). A beauty pageant with a difference, the Mr World 96 pageant will be held in the magical city of Istanbul, Turkey. Gorgeous, single men between the ages of 17-25 from 50 countries, including Mr India, Bikram Saluja, will compete in what will be the most glamorous of international male spectacles, says a press release.

Held at the splendidly new Istanbul Convention and Exhibition Centre, contestants will fulfill a programme which includes filming inserts on location around the beautiful city of Istanbul to rehearsing for the show as well as a behind-the-scenes glimpse of what goes on backstage, all of which will make up an integral part of the final televised event. The men will be assessed not only for their good looks but for their "brawn" in the casual wear, swimwear, formal wear categories. Of the 50 contestants, 10 will be selected as semi-finalists who will then contend to be included as one of the 5 finalists. These finalists will be interviewed and their answer will be considered by the judges in their selection of runner-ups and winner of the pageant.

The Mr World 96 pageant will also include a line-up of international presenters and entertainers, and international celebrity judges including four former Miss World title holders, British comedian Bruce Forsyth and "international lady of style" Ivana Trump.

So, don't miss this history-making event when the first ever Mr World is chosen on Star Plus on Monday, September 23.

Taiwan lead

TAIPEI, Sept 21 (AP): Results Saturday in the Davis Cup Asia Oceania Zone I playoff between Taiwan and Indonesia:

Doubles: Sulistyono Wibowo and Bonit Wirayawan, Indonesia, def. Lien Yu-hui and Chen Chih-jung, Taiwan, 6-2, 6-4, 6-2.

Taiwan lead 2-1.

Islanders win series 2-0 Another Lankan cakewalk

COLOMBO, Sept 21: Sri Lanka completed a clean sweep of the two-Test series against Zimbabwe when they won the second by 10 wickets with a day to spare on Saturday, reports agencies.

Zimbabwe were dismissed in their second innings for 235 shortly after launch, leaving Sri Lanka the formal task of scoring 27 for victory.

Openers Sanath Jayasuriya and Roshan Mahanama hit the required total in 6.4 overs, the winning runs coming off a leg glance by Jayasuriya to the long leg boundary.

Sri Lanka won the first Test — also inside four days — by an inning and 77 runs.

Hashan Tillekeratne, who hit a career-best unbeaten 126 in the Sri Lankan first innings, was adjudged man-of-the-match.

Zimbabwe's tail wagged to deny Sri Lanka a chance of a second successive innings victory and they went to lunch at 227 for nine wickets.

A passing shower drove the players for an early lunch 15 minutes before the scheduled time. But the resistance was ended 13 minutes after the break by Chaminda Vaas.

Sri Lanka won the first five-day series after they became the one-day world champions in March.

On Saturday, Ali Shah, the top scorer for his side, failed to add to his overnight score of 62. He offered a simple catch to Chaminda Vaas at Gully off paceman Ravindra Pushpakumara with the score on 167 for 7.

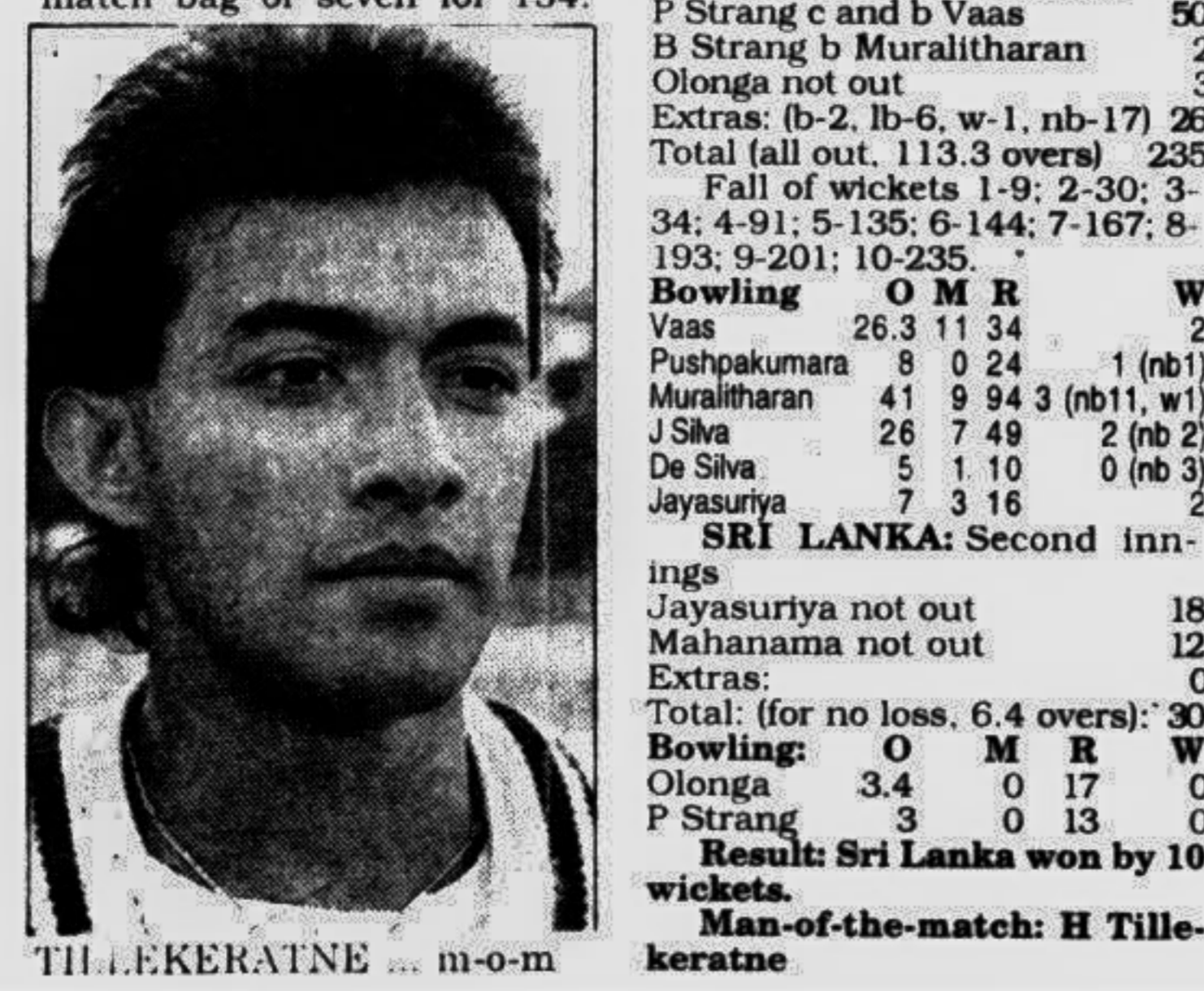
Andrew Whitall took the score to 193 before he was bowled by off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan for 10.

Eight runs later, Muralitharan bowled Bryan Strange for two, and Sri Lanka looked set for another innings victory.

But the last pair of Paul Strang and Henry Olonga defied the Sri Lankan bowlers and put on a 34-run stand to take the total to 235. Chaminda Vaas held on to a fierce drive from Strang to end Zimbabwe's challenge.

Paul Strang batted with aplomb to score his maiden half century in his ninth Test, off 95 balls in 103 minutes, including five boundaries.

Muralitharan captured three wickets for 94, finishing with a match bag of seven for 134.



TILLEKERATNE... m-o-m

Jayantha Silva added two for 49 to finish with six for 65.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the end of the Sri Lankan second innings on the fourth day of the second cricket Test against Zimbabwe on Saturday:

ZIMBABWE: First innings 141

SRI LANKA: First innings 350 for eight decl.

ZIMBABWE: 2nd innings (162 for six over/night)

G Flower lbw b J Silva 13
M Dekker lbw b Vaas 4
A Shah c Vaas b Pushpakumara 62
Campbell c sub (Atapattu) b J Silva 4
A Flower c Gurusinha b Muralitharan 31
Wishart c Kaluwitharana b Jayasuriya 25
G Whitall c Gurusinha b Jayasuriya 3
A Whitall b Muralitharan 12
P Strang c and b Vaas 50
B Strang b Muralitharan 2
Olonga not out 3
Extras: (b-2, lb-6, w-1, nb-17) 26
Total (all out, 113.3 overs) 235

Fall of wickets: 1-9: 2-30; 3-34; 4-91; 5-135; 6-144; 7-167; 8-193; 9-201; 10-235.

Bowling O M R W

Vaas 26.3 11 34 2
Pushpakumara 8 0 24 1 (nb1)
Muralitharan 41 9 84 3 (nb11, w1)
J Silva 25 7 49 2 (nb 2)
De Silva 5 1 10 0 (nb 3)
Jayasuriya 7 3 16 2

SRI LANKA: Second innings

Jayasuriya not out 18
Mahanama not out 12
Extras: 0
Total: (for no loss, 6.4 overs): 30

Bowling: O M R W

Olonga 3.4 0 17 0
P Strang 3 0 13 0

Result: Sri Lanka won by 10 wickets.

Man-of-the-match: H Tillekeratne

Seles, Sanchez in final

TOKYO, Sept 21: Former world number one Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario put an end to Kimberly Po's seed-killing run on Saturday and then said she would take risks to beat Monica Seles in the 450,000 dollars Nichirei international women's tennis tournament final, reports APF.

The second-seeded Spaniard, the 1994 champion and runner-up last year here, had her first serve working in a 6-4, 6-3 victory over the American.

Seles, current world number one with Steffi Graf of Germany, faced quite a scare, staving off three match points before beating the last local hope, Kimiko Date, 6-3, 1-6, 7-6 (8-6).

"I have nothing to lose, because she is the first seed in the tournament. That can help me in tomorrow's match," Sanchez-Vicario said of her final match against Seles.

"Playing Monica, you have to take the opportunities that you have and close that out, otherwise, she can come back with great shots, you have to be aggressive."

"You will make a lot of winners but also some errors because you have to go for it more than normal, but that's the key if you want to beat her," added the Olympic silver medalist.

Date also played aggressively against Seles in the semifinals, hitting an array of lightening approach shots to charge to the net.

But the Japanese tennis queen failed to serve out for the match at 5-4 and 6-5 in the final set, and then missed three match points after 6-3 in the tie-breaker. She surrendered the match with five consecutive errors.

"I was very lucky when I was down 5-3 and then 5-4 and 6-3 in the tie-break, especially at 6-3 — that was pure luck. You wish tennis will have two winners when you have a match like this," said Seles after the match, which took just over two hours to play.

On the first match point at 6-3 on her serve, Date hit a backhand wide, which Seles said was "one of the key points that was lucky for me... that was a very long point, that was really important."

On her next serve Date missed a forehand, and Seles then drew level on another backhand error, casting a shadow of gloom over a near sell-out crowd at the Ariake Coliseum.

Seles wrapped up the match as Date made successive backhand and forehand errors.

"Coming into the match, I knew it would really be tough, because she beat Steffi (Graf of Germany) really well here. I knew she loves this surface," said Seles.

"But I still really didn't think she could play a three-set match at that level."

Date said: "I knew I couldn't play 100 per cent, I would cope with her at all. I just tried to take rare chances which came by."

"Monica played really well today. She hit some deep shots on the important points... it was not my day."

It was the fourth straight win for the Yugoslav-American over the Japanese player. Her most recent victory being in the Federation Cup semifinals in Nagoya two months ago.

Sunday's final will be the 13th encounter between the current and former world number ones with Seles leading the series 11-1. Sanchez's only win came at the 1992 Canadian Open final.



Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario makes a return during her semifinal match against American Kimberly Po in the Nichirei Ladies' tournament in Tokyo yesterday.

Davis Cup semifinals Sweden, Italy in control

LONDON, Sept 21: Twelve years after he helped Sweden beat the United States in the Davis Cup final, Stefan Edberg put his country within touching distance of another Friday when he downed Daniel Vacek of the Czech Republic 7-6 (7-2), 7-5, 4-6, 6-3 in Prague, report agencies.

Hampered recently by an Achilles tendon injury, the 30-year-old Swede, a two-time US Open and Wimbledon titlist, put his country 2-0 ahead by outlasting the Czech.

Edberg admitted "The key for me today was to win the first set. That was very important. I felt like I was playing some good tennis and I didn't have any problems from my injury. Obviously it would be a wonderful final curtain for me if we reach the final and then play for the trophy back home in Sweden."

Thomas Enqvist earlier scored a 6-4, 6-3, 7-6 (11-7) over Petr Korda in the opening match in the same indoor venue where the Czechs beat defending champions the United States in April.

Korda squandered six break points in the second set and the two players traded six service breaks in the third before the Swede clinched the match in

the tiebreaker.

The Swedes, five-time Davis Cup winners, will field Jonas Bjorkman and Nicklas Kulti in Saturday's doubles against Bohdan Ulihrach and Jiri Novak.

A victory will put the Swedes into the ninth final in 13 years.

Favourites France, overconfident and unable to dictate play despite partisan home support and a faster indoor surface especially chosen to upset Italy's clay-court specialist, left themselves a mountain to climb in their semifinal showdown in Nantes.

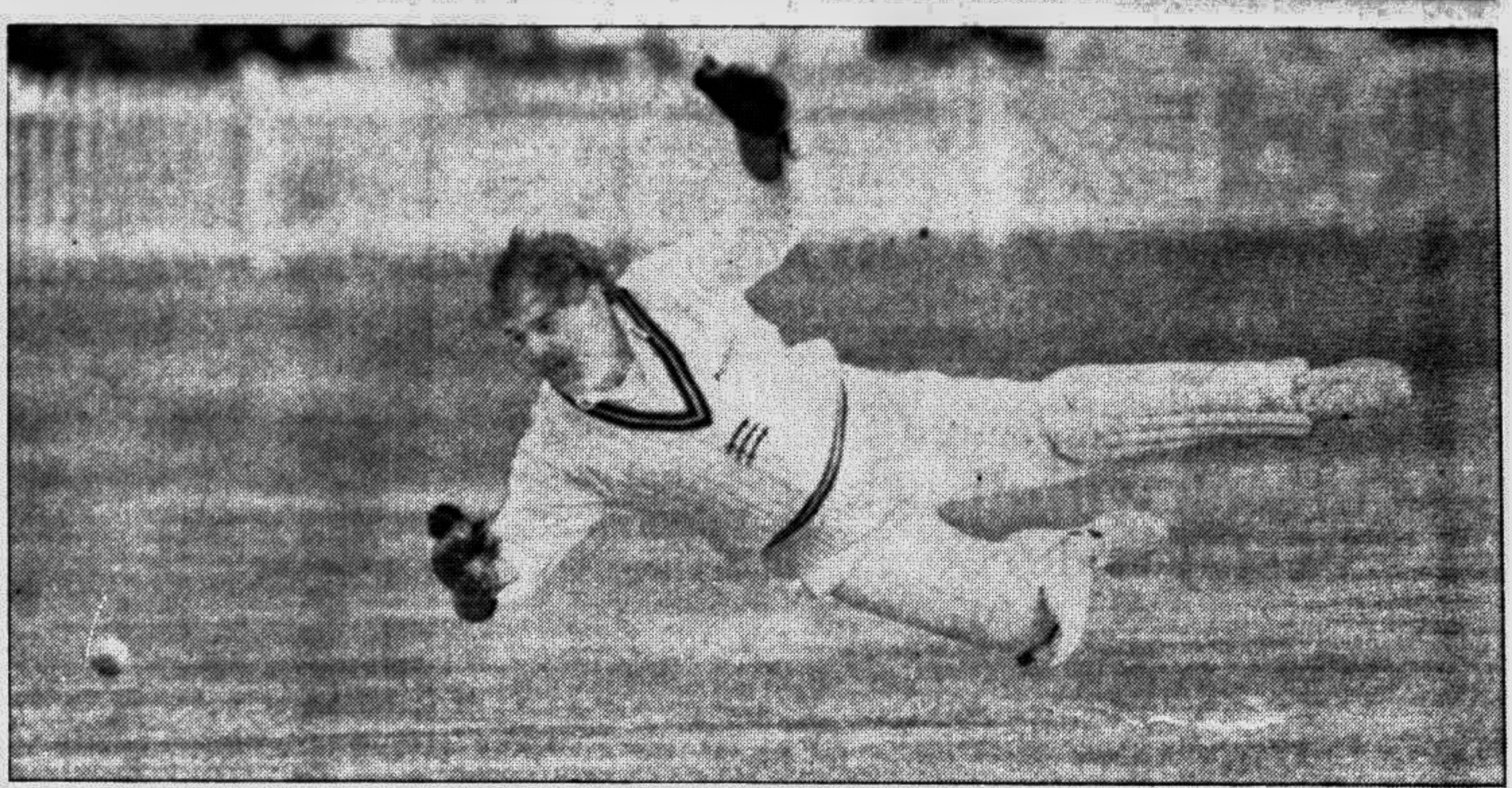
They lost both of the opening singles — Cedric Pioline going down 5-7, 6-1, 7-6 (7-4), 6-3 to Andrea Gaudenzi and Arnaud Boetsch then crashing 5-7, 6-1, 3-6, 6-7 (5-7) to Renzo Furlan.

Gaudenzi, 23, who trains with Austrian Thomas Muster, demolished Pioline with his steady baseline aggression to chalk up his fourth victory over the French number-one in five career encounters.

And Boetsch, who was constantly left stranded at the net by Furlan's deadly accurate cross-court passing shots, threw away a 5-1 lead in the fourth set tie-break.

France had gone into the tie oozing confidence after posting 5-0 victories over Denmark and Germany in previous rounds.

The Italians deserve their



SUPERMAN?? Keeping wicket, Mike Gatting the former England Test batsman is in full flight as he attempts to catch the ball during Middlesex's county cricket match against Leicestershire on Sept 20 at Grace Road Leicester.

HK Cricket 6s S Africa storm into semis

HONG KONG, Sept 21: Defending champions South Africa scored victories over Sri Lanka and New Zealand on Saturday to advance to the semifinals of the Cathay Pacific-Wheelock NatWest Cricket Sixes tournament, reports AP.

The top-seed South Africans defeated Sri Lanka by 37 runs in their first preliminary match of the Red Group and followed up with a nine-run victory over the New Zealanders at the Hong Kong Stadium in heavy rain.

Sri Lanka also qualified for the six-team semifinals after beating New Zealand by four wickets.

South African captain Hansie Cronje said "We played well to win those matches, but it is too early to start talking about winning the tournament."

England, seeded eighth, won the Blue Group with solid victories over Australia and the West Indies. The English team are without several top players because of the last round of county matches in England.

Australia set England a competitive 81 runs to win the match. Ian Austin, with 30 and Kevan James, who hit 22, were England's main scorers, leading their team to a four-wicket victory.

England then defeated the West Indies by five wickets, easily reaching their target of 77 with two balls to spare.

The West Indies joined England in the semifinals following their 10-run victory over Australia.

Pakistan and India also qualified for the semifinals from the Green Group after both teams beat Hong Kong.

Pakistan beat Hong Kong by six wickets while India defeated the local team by three wickets.

The semifinal qualifiers will be divided into two groups of three, with the winners of each group meeting in Sunday's final.

Middlesex's method booted

LONDON, Sept 21: Leicestershire coach Jack Birkinshaw hit out at Middlesex's spilling tactics as his side moved closer to the English county championship title with a determined batting display on Friday, reports Reuter.

Birkinshaw became embroiled in a fiercely-contested argument over the reality of Middlesex's defensive policy after lunch involving England spinner Phil Tufnell and wicketkeeper Keith Brown as the leaders claimed maximum bonus points by reaching 381 for eight when bad light halted play early.

Middlesex made 190 in their first innings.

The dispute, only settled by a ruling from Lord's, began when Brown, off the field all morning after dislocating a finger on Thursday, resumed his duties behind the stumps and Tufnell was introduced into the attack after lunch.

Instead of standing behind the stumps, Brown stood well outside the leg stump to nullify the sweep shot as Tufnell bowled a consistent leg-side line.

Birkinshaw twice came on to the pitch to question the legality of the tactic — the laws of cricket state that the number of outside fieldsmen behind the popping crease at the instant of the bowler's delivery shall not exceed two — as Middlesex had already posted fielders at backward square leg and long leg.

But after being told the wicketkeeper did not qualify as a fielder, Birkinshaw insisted: "When an England bowler does that at this stage of the game it spoils it — it's something that has to be looked at."

The controversy failed to deflect Leicestershire from their championship target and, despite the negative tactics, they finished the day needing only a draw to remove Surrey, their only remaining challenger, from the equation.

Surrey's chances were again seriously undermined by the weather. Less than three hours play was possible in their match at the Oval, Worcestershire reaching 134 for three in their first innings thanks to an unbroken stand of 102 between Tom Moody and Reuben Sprin- gling.

Canada holds out hope

TORONTO, Canada, Sept 21 (AP): Canada's hopes of becoming a big-time cricket venue have been boosted by the one-day series between India and Pakistan.

"We are looking at converting Canada into a regular stop for teams travelling to the West Indies," Jimmy Siew, president of the Canadian Cricket Association, told the Associated Press on Friday.

"The current series of one-dayers between India and Pakistan have provided cricket good visibility and will benefit the game in many ways," he said.

The Jamaica-born Siew, who immigrated to Canada in 1948, says the CCA is planning to build on the gains from the India-Pakistan series and conduct more tournaments involving the elite cricket-playing nations.

"The current series have given the game a shot in the arm and secured the CCA revenue for its cricket-promotional activities," he said. "Now we are working on adding a four-nation tournament involving World Cup winners Sri Lanka, Australia, South Africa and the West Indies for next year."

Government cuts in sports funding last year hurt cricket.

"Cricket in Canada is listed as a non-performance sport and our pertinent need was to secure finance for the promotional programme," said Siew. "The series between India and Pakistan came as a boon."

The Indo-Pakistan series will be an annual feature for five years but the CCA is now looking at building the infrastructure to beef up top-grade international cricket.

"Lack of facilities to conduct a full-fledged international has restricted us from hosting such fixtures in the past although we were aware of the interest cricket would generate among a big section of the society," Siew said.

The series between India and Pakistan is being played at a private cricket club in Toronto which will inherit a turf pitch from the event. The existing track at the Toronto Cricket, Skating and Curling Club was developed to make it fit for an official one-day international.

"We are now looking at developing a stadium dedicated to cricket," said Siew.

Canada played in the 1979 World Cup finals but has since failed to qualify for the premier limited-over competition. With the sport being included as a

discipline for the Commonwealth Games in 1998, Canadian cricketers will once again compete with the best cricketers in the world.

Siew said Canada's dreams did not end with the annual tournaments. "We want to go a step ahead of other off-shore cricketing centers and aspire to join the West Indies as co-hosts of the World Cup finals in the future," said Siew.

Canada has a well-organized domestic cricket structure with 3,000 active cricketers and the game is played in eight of the country's 10 provinces.

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Invitation for Bids (IFB) for Procurement of Gas Pipeline Materials under Cash Foreign Exchange

Date of Issuance of IFB: 19th September, 1996

1. Sealed Bids are invited from the bonafide manufacturers or their authorised agents for supply of Gas Pipeline Materials as listed below under Cash Foreign Exchange:

Sl. No.	IFB No.	Description of Materials	Cost of Tender Document	Bid Closing Date
1.	PD.2312/370-T&P	Polyethylene Tape & Primer	Tk. 1,500.00 or US\$ 35.00	28th Oct '96.
2.	PD. 2312/370-TM.	Turbine Type Gas Meter.	Tk.1,500.00 or US\$ 35.00	28th Oct '96.
3.	PD.2312/370-RM	Rotary Type Gas Meter.	Tk.1,000.00 or US \$ 23.00	29th Oct '96.
4.	PD.2312/370-DM.	Diaphragm Type Gas Meter.	Tk.1,500.00 or US\$ 35.00	29th Oct '96.
5.	PD.2312/370-REG.	Gas Pressure Regulator.	Tk. 1,500.00 or US \$ 35.00	30th Oct '96.
6.	PD. 2312/370-PV	Plug Valve.	Tk. 1,000.00 or US\$ 23.00	30th Oct '96
7.	PD.2312/370-FIK.	Flange Insulating Kit.	Tk. 250.00 or US \$ 6.00	31st Oct '96.
8.	PD.2312/370-SBN.	Stud Bolts & Nuts.	Tk. 500.00 or US \$ 11.00	31st Oct '96.

2. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Deputy General Manager (Purchase) at the above address.

3. Tender documents may be purchased by any interested bidder or their authorised representative upon payment of the cost of respective documents from Accounts Department of this Company at the above address from 09.00 hrs. to 13.00 Hrs. on all working days with effect from 28th September '96. Copy of Money Receipt evidencing purchase of Tender Documents is to be furnished with the bid. No document will be sold on the bid closing date.

4. All bids accompanied by a bid security for 2.5% of bid amount in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled Bank located in Bangladesh or Bank Guarantee issued by a scheduled Bank in Bangladesh or from any reputable foreign bank, duly endorsed by a scheduled Bank in Bangladesh must be delivered to Titas Gas Transmission & Distribution Co. Ltd., at the above address on or before 11:00 hrs of the closing date of the respective IFB. The bids will be opened on the same day at 11:15 hrs in presence of bidders, if any. Should this day happens to fall on any holiday, bids shall be opened at the same hours on the first subsequent working day.

5. The company reserves the right to accept any bid or reject all the bids without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Titas/PR-31/96-97
D-1004
Deputy General Manager (Purchase)