

## Sub-junior chess

Sports Reporter

Mohammad Javed, Ruhul Islam Bobby, Md. Hasan Parag and Mahtabuddin Robin, were sharing a joint lead in the 18th national sub-junior chess championship winning their respective third round matches at the NSC chess room yesterday.

On the third day of the nine round Swiss league meet, Javed beat Romance, Bobby defeated Ejaj, Parag tamed Arif and Robin outplayed Murad to remain top of the table with full three points.

Besides, Yanur Rahman Royal, Rownak Ehsan, Nasif Ahmed, Hanif Ahmed and Farhad Imam were in the crowded second spot with two and a half points apiece at the end of Tuesday's round.

## Rangamati cricket

RANGAMATI, Jan 6: A cricket tournament, organised by the Shantimoy Dewan Suniti Sangsads will begin here tomorrow at Shah High School ground, reports BSS.

Eight teams will take part in the tourney.

The tournament will be inaugurated by the chairman of Rangamati Municipality, Moni Swapan Dewan.

The opening match will be played between Tribal Officers' Colony and Lake View Cricket Club.

## Bairstow dead

LONDON, Jan 6: Former England and Yorkshire cricketer David Bairstow has been found hanged, police said today, reports AFP.

The 46-year-old former wicketkeeper was found dead at his home in Marton-cum-Grafton, north Yorkshire, late Monday.

A north Yorkshire police spokesman said: "Bairstow was found hanging at his home at 8.30 pm last night. He was found by a member of his family."

An inquest into his death was being opened in Harrogate later today.

## 'Woodies' win

ADELAIDE, Australia, Jan 6: Mark Woodforde beat former world top-ranked Jim Courier of the United States in a battle of former champions at the Australian men's hardcourt tennis tournament Tuesday at Memorial Drive, reports AP.

The depth of this year's tournament meant Courier, winner of the title in 1995, was forced to face the left-handed Australian, who won the title in 1988 and 1989, in the first round.

Woodforde had little trouble disposing of the third-seeded Courier, now ranked 21st in the world, winning 7-5, 6-2.

In the 10 meetings between Woodforde, ranked 46, and Courier, the Australian has won five times and admitted he always felt comfortable playing the fellow redhead.

Todd Woodbridge opened his title defence with a hard fought victory over the Czech Republic's Martin Damm 7-5, 4-6, 6-3.

Germany's Jens Knippschild beat Australia's Richard Fromberg 3-6, 6-3, 7-5 and Alex Radulescu downed French qualifier Nicolas Escude 6-0, 7-5.

## Li misses world meet

PERTH, Jan 6: An elbow injury has forced China's 50- and 100-metre freestyle world record holder Le Jingyi out of her individual events at the World Swimming Championships, reports AP.

Le Jingyi set world records in both the 50- and 100-metre freestyle events as well as winning gold as part of China's 4-x-100-metre freestyle and medley relays.

But the Atlanta Olympic 100-metre champion said on her arrival in Australia on Tuesday that she had been forced to withdraw from her individual races in Perth because of a recurring elbow injury and will only contest the 4-x-100-metre freestyle relay.

## Law, Lehmann drafted



SYDNEY, Jan 6: Stuart Law is hoping that two years of prolific scoring in English county cricket with Essex will win him a place for the 1999 World Cup in England after his recall to the national one-day team here Tuesday, reports AFP.



STUART LAW

Law, 29, was included in Australia's limited-over team for the second half of the triangular international series against South Africa and New Zealand along with hard-hitting batsman Darren Lehmann.

Lehmann has played three one-day internationals while Law was played 44 games and



DARREN HENMANN

Lehmann replaces Tasmanian Michael Di Venuto as the power hitter to partner Mark Waugh at the top of the order.

Australia plays South Africa in Brisbane on Sunday but fast bowlers Glenn McGrath and Adam Dale were not considered because of injury.

All three teams have played four matches and play another four before the best-of-three fl-

## Aussie media's U-turn



SYDNEY, Jan 6: Leg-spinner Shane Warne was ranked by the Australian newspaper on Tuesday with Sir Donald Bradman and pace bowler Dennis Lillee as one of the three most influential Australian cricketers, reports Reuters.

Three weeks ago Warne was lambasted in the Australian media over his weight but on Tuesday the stocky blond bowler was feted for his stellar performance this week in his side's second Test win over South Africa.

Warne took 11 wickets in that match to become only the second Australian player to capture 300 Test wickets.

Warne took six wickets for 34 in the second innings on Monday and, at 28, became the second youngest bowler behind retired India all-rounder Kapil Dev to take 300 Test wickets.

The national daily newspaper The Australian said Warne, like Lillee, was a fierce competitor whose natural aggression and emotional approach to the game often drew disapproval.

"Lillee was never universally loved, and neither is Warne," wrote the newspaper.

"But they are both univer-

sally admired and have impacted on the game like few Australians other than Sir Donald Bradman."

Lillee took 355 wickets in 70 Tests, the most wickets taken by an Australian player. Dev holds the all-time record with 434 wickets from 131 Tests.

Australia Prime Minister John Howard took time out

from his annual holiday to issue a statement congratulating Warne.

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out due to heavy rains, officials said.

The last Test match played here was in August 1994 when Sri Lanka were thrashed by Pakistan in under three days with rain helping fast bowlers like Wasim Younis.

Since then, there have been no Test matches played here, mainly because of fears of rain.

The out-field and the bowlers' run-up were soggy over the weekend as ground staff were working overtime to prepare for Wednesday's first Test.

The weather forecast was for occasional showers or thunder showers in this central region on Wednesday.

Sri Lanka are looking at the possibility of playing three pace bowlers Chaminda Vaas, Sajeeva de Silva and Ravindra Pushpakumara — while Zimbabwe are expected to name their team after inspecting the wicket.

**TEAMS**

ZIMBABWE: Alastair Campbell (captain), Andy Flower, Grant Flower, Gavin Rennie, Murray Goodwin, Craig Wishart, Guy Whittall, Heath Streak, Paul Strang, Andy Whittall, Adam Huckle, Bryan Alister Campbell

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