

## Sport

**Rakib, Short share lead**

International Master Abdulla Al Rakib of Bangladesh and English Grand Master Nigel Short are jointly leading the 4th United Insurance Grand Masters chess tournament with full two points after the second round yesterday, reports UNB.

Rakib beat the country's lone Grand Master Niaz Murshed in the 26th move while Short defeated Uzbek Grand Master Sergei Jagreveleni after 36 moves.

Another local IM Ziaur Rahman beat GM Peter Szekey of Hungary in 48 moves, GM John Ehvest of Estonia beat local IM Reesat bin Sattar in 37 moves, GM Alexander Wozkiewicz of Poland drew with GM Yury Suhman of Belarus in 10 moves and Enamul Hossain Rajib of Bangladesh drew with Nilpot Das of India in 45 moves. In other 2nd round matches of the day.

**Schools cricket**

JHALAKATHI, Feb 20: Taruli Secondary School confirmed their final berth in the national schools cricket becoming champions in the Group Kha, reports APB.

In the last match played at the local stadium today Taruli beat the Udbodhan Secondary School by a 95-runs.

Battling first, Taruli made 180 for eight in the stipulated 30 overs.

Shimul and Ismail contributed 34 and 27 runs for the Taruli side.

In reply, Udbodhan lost all making only 85 runs in 18 overs. Only Milon managed with a not out 22.

Tuhin and Sanjoy of the Taruli grabbed three wickets each.

Earlier on Friday, Jhalakathi Government High School moved to their respective group final beating Pourasava School by one wicket.

Pourasava School scored 132 for all in 28 overs after opting to bat first. Chanchal made the highest 25 for the side while Zahir was the other notable scorer with 17.

Kamrul and Emon took three and two wickets respectively for the winners.

In reply, Jhalakathi Government School reached their target making 133 for nine wickets with five balls remaining. Sohag made 33 and Moon scored 18.

Shishir and Zia captured three and two wickets respectively for Pourasava School.

**Anti-doping body Euro ministers sound support**

BRUSSELS, Feb 20: Europe's Sports Ministers on Friday backed the setting up of an independent international anti-doping agency to combat drug-taking in sports, reports AFP.

The 15 EU ministers were meeting for the first round of discussions on the formation of the agency, put forward during the three-day world conference on doping in sport in Lausanne, Switzerland, early this month.

The sports ministers, however, showed some reserve on the composition of the agency suggested by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The original working paper on the agency, represented to around 600 delegates at the Lausanne conference, put the IOC firmly in control of such a body.

Plans for Olympic boss Juan Antonio Samaranch to run the international agency appear, however, to have been damaged by recent bribery scandals.

At Friday, meeting the sports ministers agreed to maintain pressure on the IOC to set up the anti-doping agency.

The ministers agreed that while it was important that the IOC be involved, they favoured an agency made up of representatives of each continent sporting organisations, governments and scientific and legal experts.

"It is important that the composition of this agency is balanced," said Jean-Pierre Schenkelhaar, head of the office of the sports ministry of Belgium's French-speaking community.

The ministers agreed with an IOC suggestion to wait three months to establish a working group to formulate the structures, missions and financing of the agency. They will meet on the subject at the end of March.

The IOC expects the anti-doping agency to be in operation for the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

**Borussia running after Worms?**

DORTMUND, Germany, Feb 20: German First Division side Borussia Dortmund were Friday reported to be interested in bringing German international defender Christian Worms home from a stint with French club Paris St Germain, reports AFP.

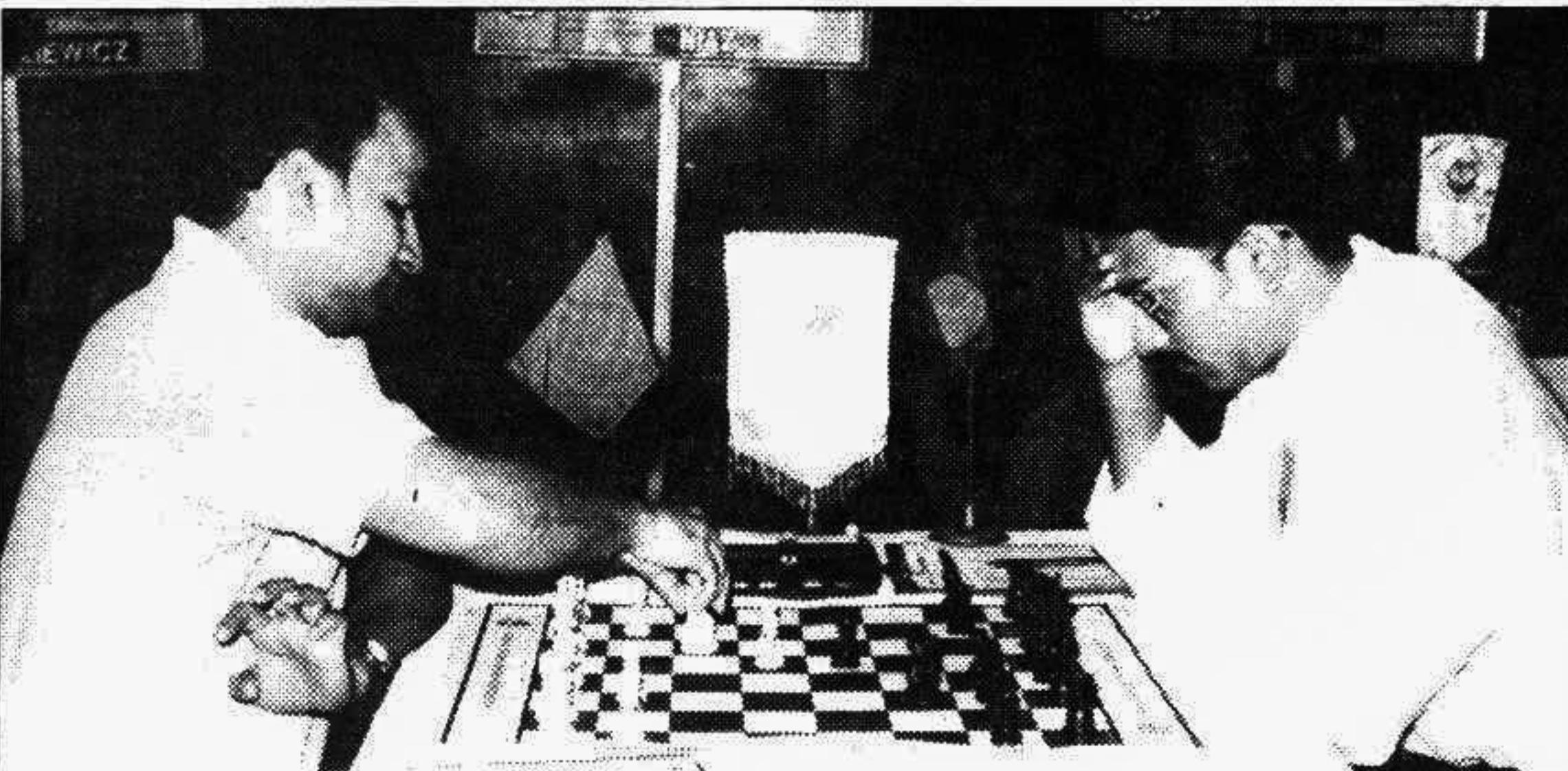
Club spokesman Josef Schneid said he would neither confirm nor deny that Borussia are planning an offer of around 15 million marks (8.6 million US dollars) for Worms.

Local newspaper Westfalen post quoted the club's sporting director.

Michael Zorc, as describing Worms as "an extraordinary defender — one of the best in Europe."

Worms, one of Germany's few stars at the 1998 World Cup finals, has promised PSG he will remain with them until the end of the current season.

Worms joined PSG from Bayer Leverkusen at the start of the season but the club have struggled and face an uphill battle to qualify for the UEFA Cup next season.



Grand Master Niaz Murshed (L) makes a move against International Master Abdullah Al-Rakib during their United Insurance GM chess tournament second round engagement at the NSC yesterday.

**ANZ Grindlays Cup golf held**

The fourth ANZ Grindlays Cup golf tournament was held last Friday at the Bhatiary Golf & Country Club, Chittagong, says a press release.

Major Gen Abu Kaiser Fazlul Kabir, ADC, PSC, GOC of the 24th Infantry Division, Chittagong and Senior Vice President of the Bhatiary Golf & Country Club was the chief guest on the occasion.

He distributed prizes among the winners.

Muhammad A Ali GM, ANZ Grindlays Bank, Lt Col (Rtd) M Iqbal Shafi, Member Secretary of the Bhatiary Golf & Country Club and chairman of the tournament committee and Anis A Khan, Sr Manager of Corporate Banking, ANZ Grindlays Bank also were present at the prize distribution ceremony.

The winners are as follows :

1. Winner	- M A Hamid
2. Runner-up	- Lt Col (Rtd) M Iqbal Shafi
3. Second runner-up	- Jong-o-Bae
4. Senior winner	- Maj Gen Abu Kaiser Fazlul Kabir
5. Lady winner	- Mrs. Eb Shaw
6. Lady runner-up	- Mrs. T Baki
7. Best Front Line	- M A Sabur
8. Best Back Line	- Brig. F E Akbar
9. Longest Drive	- S S Rahman
10. Nearest to Pin	- Col. Shawkat Jamal

**Hockey series****Some solace for India**

PESHAWAR, Feb 20: India at last tasted victory, beating Pakistan 2-1 Saturday in Peshawar in the seventh of a nine-game hockey Test series, reports AP.

However, the result had only an academic interest as Pakistan had already bagged the series and now enjoys an unassailable 5-2 lead. Pakistan won three of the four games played in the Indian leg and also won in the Pakistani cities of Lahore and Karachi.

Pakistan went into the match with key forward Mohammad Sarwar suffering from an unexplained illness, but he was brought on late in the second half with the home team trailing 2-1.

Baljit Singh Dhillon cashed in on an ideal pass from Mohammad Riaz in the 13th minute, and India kept their 1-0 lead until half time.

Soon after resumption, Gagan Ajit Singh's try was stopped by Pakistan's goalkeeper Ahmad Alam. However, winger Rajesh Kumar Chauhan pounced onto the rebound and flicked the ball into the net.

Pakistani forwards in absence of Sarwar failed to test Indian custodian B C Poomacha before a 38th minute short corner was brilliantly converted by Sohail Abbas.

"At last I think we have learned from our mistakes. Our ball possession was much better than Pakistan which eventually led us to victory," said Indian coach Vasudevan Bhaskaran.

"We have already lost the series, but I think if we keep on playing like we did today, we could certainly narrow the gap of Pakistan lead," he added.

Pakistan coach Shahzad Sheikh blamed a bumpy turf of Lala Ayub Hockey Stadium for his team's defeat.

The remaining two Test matches will be played at Rawalpindi on Feb 22 and at Lahore on February 24.

**6.7 million dollar teen**

MADRID, Feb 20 (Reuters/Internet): Real Madrid have placed a 1,000 million peseta (\$6.7 million) price tag on their talented teenager David Aganzo, the club said on Saturday.

But he forecast victory for Australia in both the four-Test and seven-match one day series.

"You've always got to back yourself going into any series. If you go in with a negative frame of mind then you will probably play not as well as you could," Bernard said.

"Our players will be very positive. I'm sure the West Indies will feel the same way but we know that we've played well overseas lately."

"It would be good if Bishop

**Cut Premier h'ball**

Holders Bangladesh Rifles outplayed promoted Christian Youth Club 40-6 in the inaugural match of the Cut Premier handball league at the Outer Stadium handball court yesterday, reports UNB.

Winners led the first half 20-4.

Kamruzzaman of Bangladesh Rifles netted highest ten goals while Saidur Zaman eight, Rony of Christian Youth scored three.

Earlier, Deputy Police Commissioner of the Dhaka Metropolis and chairman of the league committee Muklesur Rahman inaugurated the meet.

Nine teams are participating in the league.

Monday's matches: Bangladesh Police vs Dhaka Waraders Club (2.45 pm), Menjus KC vs Jatrabari KC (4 pm).

**Lara to lose captaincy?**

ST JOHNS, Antigua, Feb 20 (Reuters/Internet): Brian Lara will lose the West Indies captaincy before the month is out following the recent Test drubbing in South Africa, the Antigua Sun reported.

The Antigua Sun said:

Lara, manager Clive Lloyd and coach Malcolm Marshall last week met WICB president Pat Rousseaau, chief executive officer Steve Camacho, chairman of selectors Mike Findlay and the head of the board's cricket committee, Jackie Hendricks, to discuss the South African tour.

Lara said: "I think we have learned from our mistakes. Our ball possession was much better than Pakistan which eventually led us to victory," said Indian coach Vasudevan Bhaskaran.

"We have already lost the series, but I think if we keep on playing like we did today, we could certainly narrow the gap of Pakistan lead," he added.

Pakistan coach Shahzad Sheikh blamed a bumpy turf of Lala Ayub Hockey Stadium for his team's defeat.

The remaining two Test matches will be played at Rawalpindi on Feb 22 and at Lahore on February 24.

They've got world-class players in their team and on their home tracks and (with) the home crowds I'm sure we are going to have a terrific series with a good standard of cricket and (it will be) probably very close," Bernard said.

But he forecast victory for Australia in both the four-Test and seven-match one day series.

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is sacked but then reinstated by the WICB before the South African tour after a disagreement with the players' union over tour contracts.

Lara said earlier this month after his side had been thrashed 6-1 by the South Africans in the one-day series which followed tests: "My captaincy is something that is up to the West Indies board to decide but I am happy to serve West Indian cricket in whatever capacity."

Australian tour manager Steve Bernard said in Bridgetown on Friday that his team would not underestimate West Indies despite the defeats in South Africa.

The selectors will meet next week to recommend a captain to the West Indies board, which will then meet at its headquarters in St John to ratify the recommendation on 28 February, the Antigua Sun said.

"It will be very interesting to see if the selectors will recommend him after all that has gone on," it quoted a senior official as saying.

"West Indies cricket needs to be rebuilt and if we were to continue with Lara at the helm the sores would get worse. There is no way that the board will retain Lara as captain for the series against Australia," the official said.

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is sacked but then reinstated by the WICB before the South African tour after a disagreement with the players' union over tour contracts.

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