

StanChart school chess starts today

Sports Reporter

The Second Standard Chartered Bank School chess tournament 2000 begins at the NSC chess room from Sunday.

Around 200 students including seven from neighbouring India will take part in the nine-round Swiss League competition, organised by the Chess Federation. The mega school level event offers 20,000 taka cash awards.

A press conference in connection with the tournament was held at the NSC conference room yesterday. BCF general secretary, Syed Sajjadul Ahmed, Setu Vekateshwaran, the Chief Executive of Standard Chartered Bank, Bangladesh, and tournament committee chairman Saleh Chowdhury were present on the occasion.

The federation has estimated a budget of Taka one lakh for the tournament. Sajjadul revealed.

"Similar tournaments will also be arranged in Chittagong and Sylhet next month," he added.

Cricket coaching

Sports Reporter

A long-term cricket coaching for the youngsters gets underway at the Dharmadil Indoor cricket centre adjacent to Abahani Krira Chakra tomorrow.

Bangladesh Cricket Coaching (BCC) will impart training to the interested cricketers. Willing participants have been asked to contact Halim Babu and Khokon at the venue from 9 am to 12 noon.

U-14 cricketers named

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) yesterday announced a 14-member national team that will take part in the Under-17 Asia Cup Cricket Championship, to be held in Pakistan July 15.

Nafis Iqbal, who scored a century for Chittagong in the National League, will lead Bangladesh in the first of its kind meet that will also feature India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan.

The young right-hander is a nephew of former national captain Akram Khan and plays for Wari Club in the Dhaka League.

The final fourteen are: Nafis Iqbal (captain), Nasiruddin Faruq, Shariful Alam, Asraf, Shariful Islam, Ali Arman Rajon, Kuntal Canda, Anwar Hossain (wicketkeeper), Prosenjit Bosh, Monjurul Islam, Sahul Islam, Mahabubul Alam, Sharif and Talha Jubair.

Stand-by: Ishfaq Javed, Saif Hasan, Gazi Salahuddin and Sazidur Rahman.

U-15 cricketers off to Malaysia

Sports Reporter

A 16-member Bangladesh team left for the capital for Malaysia yesterday to take part in the inaugural Asian Cricket Council Under-15 Cricket tournament, starting in Kuala Lumpur today.

The seven-nation tournament, to be played on round robin league format in the first, also involves India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, Thailand and hosts Malaysia begins in Kuala Lumpur today.

TEAMS

Kamrul Hasan Imron (captain), Kazi Hasibul Haque, Nafis Ahmed, Mahabubul Islam, Mahmudullah Riad, Arafat Sunny, Alamgir Rana, Golam Rahman, Anwar Hossain, Rubaiyat Haque, Arif Hossain, Safa Al-Zabir, Tayebur Rahman and Ibrahim Sagar.

Officials: Alam Chowdhury (manager) and Alok Cakravarty (coach).

Under-16 booters returning today

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh under-16 football team, which won the Group Four qualifying round of Asian Youth (U-16) Championship in Jamshedpur on June 26 returns home in the morning today.

In the four-team qualifiers, Bangladesh beat Sri Lanka and hosts India by an identical 1-0 margin and drew with Pakistan 2-2 to finish atop the table with seven points.

With the success, Bangladesh have qualified for the ten-team final round, which begins in Vietnam next September.

The team is expected to reach Zia International Airport from Calcutta at 10 am.

Obscene cricket!

HUDDERSFIELD, England, June 29: A full cricket team was caught red handed, or possibly red-faced, playing a naked midnight game in the Scholes Cricket Club near Huddersfield in northern England, reports AFP.

The cries of joy from the players, aged between 20 and 40, woke up people in neighbouring houses, who, after watching the match, called the police.

A West Yorkshire police spokesman said: "A member of the public reported naked men apparently playing cricket. An officer spoke to the men, who were suitably advised regarding their conduct."

No arrests were made after the incident, which apparently was a celebration of the club's victory in a league.

Rivaldo rescues Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, June 29: Brazil salvaged a 1-1 draw with Uruguay in their South African World Cup qualifier on Wednesday thanks to an 85th minute penalty scored by Rivaldo, reports Reuters.

The Brazilian captain saved his team from their first ever home defeat in a World Cup qualifier when he fired home from the spot after substitute Guilherme had been pulled down.

The penalty ended 79 minutes of agony for Brazil, who fell behind to a Dario Silva goal in the sixth minute in front of a hostile 70,000-strong home crowd.

Brazil dominated most of the second half but were repeatedly denied by Uruguay goalkeeper Fabian Carini who made a string of fine saves, each seemingly more miraculous than the previous one.

The result left Brazil with eight points from four games and Uruguay 10.

Silva's early strike brought back ghosts from the past for Brazil, who suffered their most famous defeat almost exactly 50 years ago against the same opponents in the same stadium. On that occasion, Uruguay's 2-1 win in the decisive match of the 1950 World Cup silenced a 200,000 crowd and left Brazil in a state of near mourning.

Silva, based with Spanish side Malaga, was gifted his goal thanks to a blunder by veteran Aldair. The AS Roma defender slipped while trying to control the ball on his chest, allowing Silva to steal the ball and finish by placing his shot wide of Dida.

The Brazilian crowd quickly got on the backs of their team, in particular Aldair who was jeered every time he touched the ball and greeted with chants of "Aldair, leave the pitch" after another miscue in the 16th minute.

Uruguay coach Daniel Passarella gave his Brazilian counterpart Wanderley Luxemburgo a tactical lesson in the first half. Brazil's players appeared unsure of their position and role on the pitch and frequently passed the ball straight to their

opponents.

Brazil had lost their previous match at the famous stadium, when they were beaten 1-0 in a friendly by an Argentina team coached by Passarella in 1998.

The Brazilians became nervous as the first half went on and full-back Roberto Carlos was also involved in several off-the-ball elbowing and pushing incidents.

Half time was greeted with



another resounding jeer and when coach Luxemburgo decided to bring on Alex and Guilherme for Ronaldinho Gauchinho and Saviro after the break, the crowd chanted "idiot, idiot."

But Brazil took control in the second half, laying siege to the Uruguay goal and forcing over a dozen corners.

Carini made diving saves at the feet of Franca and Alex and in the 55th minute a Roberto Carlos free kick was deflected wide by a defender's toes. From the corner which followed, Uruguay cleared the ball off the line with Brazil claiming handball.

Carini made another flying

save to turn away a long-range drive by Vampeta and further miraculous reflex saves at point blank range to deny Rivaldo and Emerson Ferreira, saving the latter with his knees.

Rivaldo's goal saved Brazil a point but did not prevent them from getting another chorus of jeers as they left the field.

VENEZUELA BEAT BOLIVIA

In Maracaibo, underdogs Venezuela earned their first points — and scored their first goals — in the World Cup qualifiers with a resounding 4-2 victory over Bolivia.

Bolivia, who have only one point from four matches, started the game brightly with Erwin Sanchez's free kicks threatening the Venezuela goal several times.

But Venezuela, whose last world cup qualifying win was against Ecuador seven years ago, forced their way into the game and took the lead when Miguel Vitari scored from close range in the 23rd minute.

Venezuela increased their lead in the 39th minute when striker Ruben Moran forced in a cross by Edson Tortolero.

Bolivia's attacking options increased when Jaime Moreno came on for Joaquin Botero at halftime. Five minutes after coming on the US-based striker received the ball on the right and scored with a shot which went in off the crossbar.

Bolivia equalised in the 59th minute when Julio Cesar Baldivieso forced in a shot after a goalmouth scramble.

But two minutes later, Venezuela were gifted a third goal when goalkeeper Carlos Fernandez threw the ball straight to Moran. His shot was parried by Fernandez, only for Giovanni Savarese to slide in the rebound.

Moran was then sent off for not moving back at a free kick, but in the 69th minute the ever-troublesome Gabriel Urdaneta won a penalty and Edson Tortolero scored from the spot.

Bolivia were also reduced to 10 men when Luis Cristaldo was sent off for elbowing Urdaneta.

WICB finds Lara clean

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, June 29: The West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) has dismissed allegations by a South African businessman that former West Indies captain Brian Lara bet on matches seven years ago, reports Reuters.

After reviewing allegations that Lara bet and supplied information to a bookmaker during a 1993 triangular tournament in South Africa, the WICB issued a statement saying it was satisfied the stories were false.

"In the light of evidence in possession of the WICB, which directly contradicts these allegations, the WICB is satisfied that Lara is innocent of any wrongdoing in this matter," the WICB statement said. "The WICB said a key piece of evidence that led to their conclusion was an affidavit in which the South African bookmaker who was alleged to have placed Lara's bets and received information from him denied that this occurred."

"We are satisfied that no further action by the Board is warranted and our conclusions will be submitted to the International Cricket Council (ICC)," the statement said.

"We commend Lara for the dignity and composure that he has shown in the face of these allegations and media scrutiny. The WICB will continue to give him and the rest of the West Indies team our fullest support," the WICB said.

Earlier this month Lara, who is due to play against England in the second Test at Lord's which starts today, dismissed the allegations as rubbish. He told Britain's Mail on Sunday newspaper that he was "saddened and angry" over the claims.

Mark shines for New Zealand A

LONDON, June 29: Mark Richardson struck the first century of the tour to give New Zealand A a good platform in their four-day clash against Sussex at Hove on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Opener Richardson compiled a painstaking unbeaten 110 and shared a second-wicket stand of 176 in 82 overs with Jarrod Englefield (90) as the Kiwis reached 238 for two at stumps.

The left-handed Richardson completed his century, with nine fours off 270 balls, after the tourists chose to bat on a good pitch.

Richardson strengthened his position as the Kiwis' leading run-scorer in first-class cricket on the tour with a chanceless knock.

The 29-year-old from Otago took 173 deliveries in reaching his half-century and advanced to his 100 from a further 97 balls.

He and Englefield displayed commendable application and Englefield looked set for his century when he fell leg before to Robin Martin-Jenkins.

Medium-pace Martin-Jenkins, one of only two capped players in Sussex's side, trapped Englefield as he played back attempting to guide the ball down the leg side.

New Zealand A, bidding for their first four-day win of the tour following draws against Lancashire and the West Indies, suffered an early shock by losing James Marshall to Jason Levy for only seven.

Marshall was dismissed in painful fashion as acting captain Levy claimed an LBW decision after yanking the opener with one that struck him on the front foot.

Hadlee made Kiwi selection convenor

WELLINGTON, June 29 (Internet report): New Zealand Cricket has named former fast bowler Sir Richard Hadlee as convenor of its new local national selection panel.

Hadlee is joined by current national coach David Trist, former convenor Ross Dykes and Brian McKechnie.

Auckland's Rick Pickard was the only member of the previous panel not retained.

NZC operations manager John Reid previously stressed that he would like more experienced ex-Test players on the national selection panel and in Hadlee and McKechnie, he has achieved that.

Hadlee remains an icon in Kiwi cricket circles, while McKechnie, who played 14 one-day internationals for his country, is remembered as the man who in 1981 faced Australian Trevor Chappell's infamous underarm delivery in a one-day at the MCG.

For Hadlee, it is his first major role with New Zealand Cricket since he retired 10 years ago. He ended his 86-Test career with 431 wickets to be one of the most prolific wicket-takers of all time.

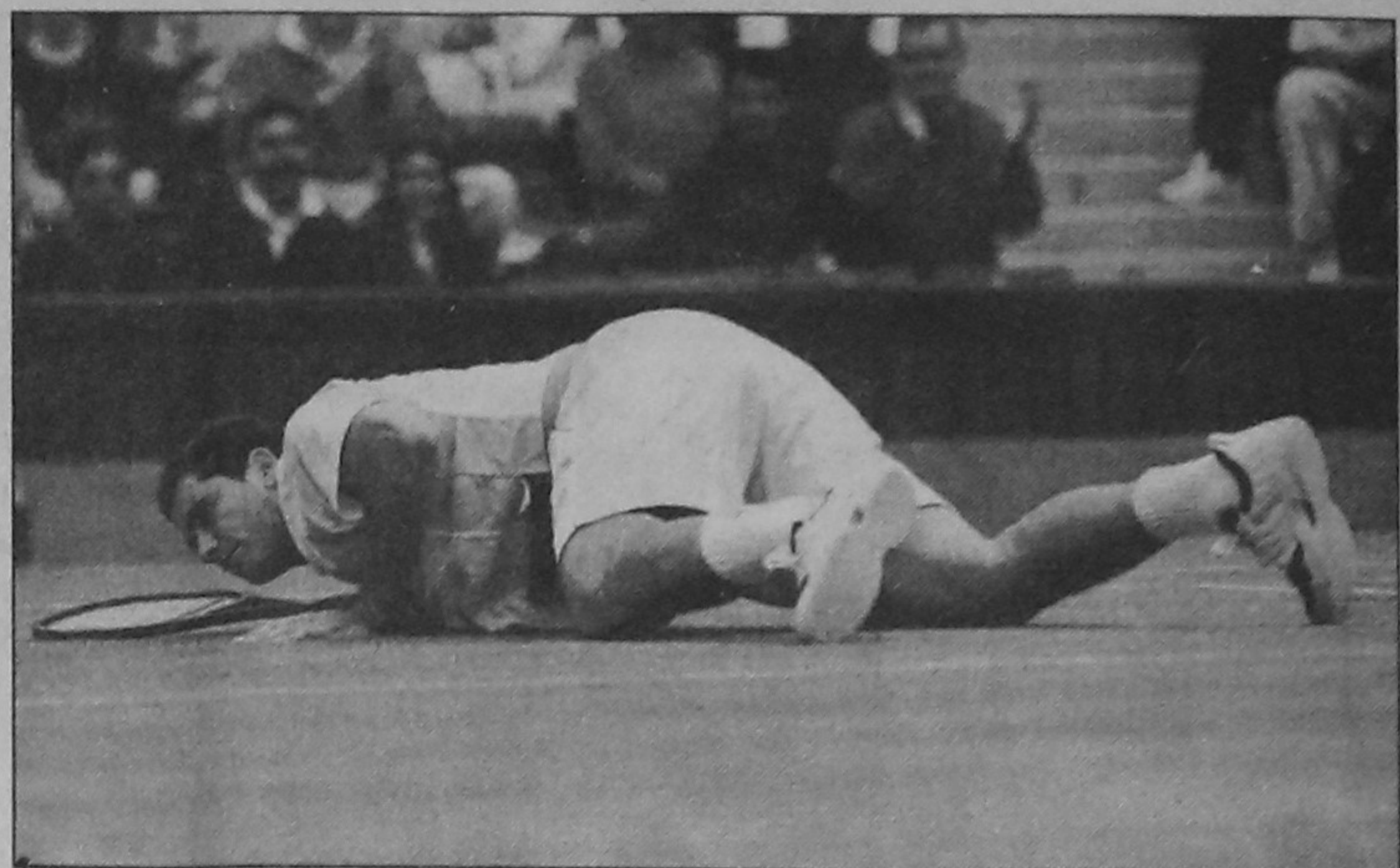
Inter-varsity hockey

Sports Reporter

Hosts Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) will take on Chittagong University in the opening match as the Inter-University Hockey Championship begins at the BUET ground today.

Only three teams which also includes Rajshahi University are taking part in the championship.

Professor Nooruddin Ahmed, the Vice-chancellor of BUET, will inaugurate the meet at 4 pm.



FAILS AND FALLS: American superstar Pete Sampras in on the ground after failing to reach for a return against Karol Kucera of Slovakia during their Wimbledon second round engagement on June 28.

—AFP photo

Krajicek, Martinez stumble



LONDON, June 29: Former champions Richard Krajicek and Conchita Martinez were knocked out

in the second round at Wimbledon on Wednesday while world number two Magnus Norman was battered into submission by a complete unknown, reports Reuters.

Norman's defeat by Belgian qualifier Olivier Rochus was the biggest shock of the tournament as the third seed was outplayed by the 19-year-old over five sets, going down 6-1 in the fifth.

The Swede, playing his 55th match of the year, was so dispirited by the penultimate game of his 6-4, 2-6, 6-4, 6-7, 6-1 defeat that he asked a ball girl to play a rally for him.

Seven men's seeds have now fallen in the first three days of the championships — six of them in the top half of the draw which means defending champion Pete Sampras has only one seed, Thomas Enqvist of Sweden, between him and the final.

Sampras, going for a record 13th Grand Slam title, beat Slovakia's Karol Kucera 7-6, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 in falling light on Centre Court after having his left ankle strapped heavily in the third set.

The 28-year-old American was taken to hospital after the match where his inflamed foot was given a scan. His injury will be "re-evaluated" on Thursday morning, Organisers said.

Martina Navratilova, away from the All-England Club for five years since her retirement, returned to partner Mariaan de

Swardt to a 6-3, 6-7, 6-3 victory over Amanda Hopmans and Lubomira Bacheva in the first round of the women's doubles.

The nine-time singles champion played as though she had never been away as she took her first step towards a record-equalling 20th Wimbledon title, aged 43.

Krajicek, champion in 1996, was beaten by Wayne Ferreira 5-7, 6-3, 6-3, 7-6 after the South African pumped himself up by swearing at the umpire after an overrule cost him the first set.

"I get very frustrated," said Ferreira whose verbal assault on the umpire, after he overruled a serve on set point, could be heard clearly by television viewers.

"I always seem to feel that the umpire does nothing until it gets extremely close — it always seems in my case, always seems to happen at that stage."

Krajicek, 11th seed and the only man to beat Sampras here in the past seven years, struggled with his serve — his major weapon — from the moment he hit back-to-back double faults in the first game and rarely looked like winning.

Fourth seed Martinez, who beat Martina Navratilova in her farewell Wimbledon singles final in 1994, was thrashed 6-4, 6-1 by Canadian Sonya Jeyaseelan, ranked 79 in the world.

Only nine women's seeds remain, one of them world number one Martina Hingis who eased past Jing-Qian Yi of China 6-4, 6-1.

The 24-year-old Jeyaseelan outplayed Martinez who looked sluggish, committing uncharacteristic errors especially in the second set when her opponent

rushed to a 5-0 lead.

"It's almost too hard to believe," said the Canadian. "It's Wimbledon and she's coming off the final of the French Open ... it hasn't sunk in yet."

Jeyaseelan, just 1.57 metres tall, has never progressed beyond the second round of a Grand Slam tournament before.

Former men's finalist Cedric Pioline, seeded sixth and ranked 231 places above unknown Belarussian Vladimir Voltchkov, lost 6-3, 6-3, 2-6, 3-6, 6-4 to the qualifier.

Enqvist won a place in the third round by beating Spaniard Francisco Clavet 7-6, 7-6, 7-5.

The Williams sisters were both on court, but not for very long as they swept into the third round in superlative form.

Fifth seed Venus demolished world number 20 Ai Sugiyama 6-1, 6-4 in 65 minutes on court one, about twice the time it took eighth seed Serena to pummel Wimbledon debutante Yvette Basting into submission, 6-1, 6-0.

Venus used a combination of brute force and razor-sharp reflexes to beat Sugiyama. Serves of up to 120 mph left Sugiyama cowering on the baseline while William's returns were equally ferocious, flying for winners from every angle. The 18-year-old Serena, now fully recovered from a knee injury in April, was also in majestic form and amazed even herself with the quality of her serves.

"In my first few matches I don't want to stay out there too long," Serena said. In the first round she had allowed Asa Carlsson of Sweden just five games.



Members of the under-15 cricket team pose for a photograph at the Zia International Airport just before their departure for Malaysia yesterday. The team will take part in the June 30-July 9 ACC Tournament in Kuala Lumpur.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	37 Wimbledon arena	4 Sleepy Hollow milque-toast	22 Cease 23 Fury "Star Wars" beast
1 Stadium shout	40 Albacore	5 Jennifer — Hewitt	25 Christmas melody
4 Reluctant one	41 Con	6 Rushmore face	26 Hawaiian volcano
8 Moist	42 Indian city	7 Chaps	27 Duel tool
12 Actress	46 Hammer-head	8 Half-mask	28 Ohio team
13 Post-bout garb	47 First (Abbr.)	9 Pinnacle	30 Lady Macbeth's problem
14 October stone	48 Away	10 Lion's pride?	33 Hagiolist's place
15 Yale home	49 Gaelic	11 Asset	34 Ice-cream holder
17 Options list	50 Daintiness	16 Sex researcher	36 Judy Sheindlin, e.g.
18 Cattle	51 Tummys	19 Big — (last-food choices)	37 Superbug
19 Cake makers' shortcuts	DOWN	20 Physical suffering	38 Lollapalooza
20 Apply wallpaper	1 Skedaddle	21 Wile E.'s supplier	39 Salt Lake squad
22 Rowan Atkinson role	2 Polished off		40 Doppel-ganger
24 Rue the	3 Detective		42 Without delay
25 Rookie			43 Historic period
29 "Little Teapot"			44 Boston nickname
30 One's performances			45 "Monly Python" opener

Solution time: 28 mins.

Yesterdays answer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15			16					17		
		18					19			
20	21					22	23			
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41							42	43		44
46							47			48
49							50			51

CRYPTOQUIP

T A X E U - V W E U U Z G
T E L R B T U Z R E B M A E V
R L Z A A F B E W Z B F A M
C B F M C C A X Z X T U G B Z
Yesterday's Cryptquip: THE PLAYFUL
PODIATRIST DISPLAYED AN UNCOMMONLY
ARCH SENSE OF HUMOR.
Today's Cryptquip Clue: T equals A

The Cryptquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals Q, it will equal Q throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

WIMBLEDON NOTEBOOK

LONDON, June 29 (AFP): Wimbledon diary on Thursday: One of the stars at this year's Wimbledon stays very much in the background and certainly doesn't even hold a racket.

"Oscar" is an integral part of the broadcast centre, however, keeping television coverage running smoothly.

Standing for 'on-site central

SIGN HERE, BABY

Australian heart-throb Mark Philippoussis has had a few unusual requests in the past but one he got here beat the lot.

Philippoussis was stunned when a female fan of the big-server handed over her six-month-old baby daughter and asked him to sign the child's body suit.

Delighted mum Charlotte

"I was amazed when he did so without turning a hair."

BACK IN THE DOG HOUSE

Former Wimbledon champion Ann Jones is keeping her dog on a tight lead here after an embarrassing incident when she was refereeing the DFS Classic event in Birmingham.

The former British number one, working here as a television commentator, looked on aghast when her six-year-old Labrador, a breed famous for its good behaviour — wandered on to centre court and interrupted the singles final.