Zia held

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh International Master (IM) Ziaur Rahman lost point once again when Dimitri Reinderman of the Netherlands held him to a draw in their crucial ninth round clash of the Goodricke International Open Chess Tournament at the Gorky Sadan in Kolkata yesterday.

After the draw, Zia was left with a hard task of collecting a minimum of one and a half points from his last two games to get his second Grand Masters norm. He is now sharing the crowded second spot along with six others with six points each. Five players -- Andrei Kharlov, Joseph Gallagher, Sandipan Chanda, Ehsan Ghaem Maghami and Maxim Sorokin -are at the top spot with 6.5 points each.

Another Bangladeshi IM Abdulla Al-Rakib also drew his ninth round fixture with Javant S Gokhale of India on the day to raise his tally to 4 points.

ITF jr tennis

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A total of 14 quarterfinal - four boys' singles, four girls' singles, four boys' doubles and two girls' doubles - matches of the ITF Junior (U-18) Tennis Championships were held at the Rajshahi Tennis Complex yesterday.

The results are as follows: In the boys' singles - Timu Stephan of Canada defeated Rohan Gazzar of India 7-5, 6-3, 1:u Hue Tung of Hong Kong beat Hung Jong Suk of Korea 6-2, 6-1; Hishi Wang Chang of Taipei beat Ninank Mishra of India 6-1, 6-1

and Yung Bum Seo of Korea defeated his fellow countryman Seang Kim 6-4, 7-5. The winners moved into semifinals. In the girls' singles - Pichaya of Thailand defeated Cheng Hing of

Taipe 6-3, 6-1; Megha Vakaria of India defeated Ciel Ki Cheng of Korea 6-2, 4-6, 6-1; Eumi Zung of Korea beat Rebeka Daniel of England 6-1, 6-3 and Saniya Mirza of India defeated Maya Roza 6-1, 6-1. The winners moved to semifinals.

In the girl's doubles - Tau Sao Yang and Chen Hi couple of Taipe defeated Kartika Hikim of India and Joel Ford of Australia 7-5, 6-3; Rebeka of England and Reddy of India defeated Piasaya of Thailand and Jesika of Australia pair 6-1,

In the boys' doubles - Indian pair Sunil Kumar and Vinod defeated Bangladeshi pair Amol and Alamgir 6-4, 6-3; Eu Chek Wall and Eu Hi Tung of Hong Kong defeated Chow Ken Hiesh and Wang Keng 6-2, 6-2; Agasti Putu of Indonesia and Alna Bani of Oman beat Arun of India and John Sefeky of USA couple 6-1, 6-7, 6-3 and Indian pair Korea Rostagir and Rashi Behl couple defeated Bimon of India and Damir of Kazakstan 7-5, 7-5.

Magura cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Surjamukhi Club moved into the final of the Continental Courier Cricket tournament beating Skyheart Cricket Club by four wickets in the second semifinal at the Magura Stadium yesterday.

Winning the toss, Skyheart batted first and scored 87 for all in 24 overs.

In reply, Surjamukhi made 90 for six in 22 overs.

Tickets go

FROM PAGE 13

somewhere," he said flipping furiously through a Korean language newspaper before locating FIFA's website on the sports page.

But Lee Shin-woong, a 35-yearold accountant in Seoul said he will be content to watch the games on television. "TV will be good enough for me, I can't afford to buy a ticket," he said.

Seoul will host the opening Cup match on May 31, 2002, when reigning champions France will take on an opponent to be selected in a draw this December in South Korea. Yokohama in Japan will host the final match.

South Korea is building 10 stadiums to host the event, including a 64,000-seat facility in Seoul that will be Asia's largest football-only

stadium. South Korea and Japan not only fought an intense bidding war for the right to be sole host, they have recently clashed over Japan's intention to write the name "Japan" before "Korea" on ticket applications written in

Japanese. The official title of the event is "2002 FIFA World Cup Ko-

rea/Japan". South Korea has been to the World Cup finals five times while Japan made its finals debut in France in 1998.

The latest FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking of national teams places Japan 40th and South Korea 41st.

The two sides will show off World Cup venues in May when they warm up for the World Cup by co-hosting the FIFA Confed-

erations Cup. The May 30-June 10 event includes the hosts plus Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, France and Mexico.



Bayern Munich's Brazilian international Giovane Elber (L) tries to get the ball in the Champions League match against Spartak Moscow.

Champions' League

Bayern owe Elber one

Football

REUTERS, Munich

Brazilian Elber struck a late goal to give Bayern Munich a 1-0 win over Spartak Moscow on

Tuesday which stretched their lead in Group C of the Champions League.

Elber headed home from close range 11 minutes from time for the 1999 Champions League finalists who now have seven points from three games in the second phase, three more than secondplaced Arsenal.

Bayern were on top from the start with Stefan Effenberg and Mehmet Scholl running the midfield but they looked clumsy in front of goal until Elber broke the

Elber and Scholl had wasted the ball to safety.

opportunities before Elber's shot from the edge of the box bounced off the bar in the 32nd minute in what was Bayern's best chance before the break.

Spartak threatened the Bayern goal first in the 37th minute with a Germany goalkeeper Oliver Kahn.

area by Brazilian striker Robson flew just wide. The second half followed the same pattern with Elber again

shot from the edge of the penalty

Bayern's most dangerous player. In the 74th minute he collected a fine pass from substitute Carsten Jancker and tried to flick the ball past Spartak goalkeeper Alexander Filimonov. He managed to punch

Spartak, now bottom of the group with three points, had not played a competitive match since losing 3-0 to Olympique Lyon in their previous Champions League Relving on counter-attacks, game on December 5.

But they fought bravely and spectacular overhead kick from Filimonov had a great game, de-Uzbekistan international Jafar nying Bayern with a string of bril-Irismetov which almost surprised liant saves until Elber's header from a Scholl cross left him Four minutes later an angled stranded.

> Bayern will now visit Spartak in their next group match on February 21 and three points from that game would almost certainly guarantee the Munich club a place in the last eight.

The German champions will be without libero Jens Jeremies. He will be suspended after collecting his third yellow card of the competition on Tuesday.

Lendl, Rose into Hall of Fame

Tennis

AP, Undated

Ivan Lendl, who has preserved his privacy since retiring in 1994, will return to the tennis spotlight this summer for induction into the Hall of Fame.

"It's the ultimate honour in the game," said Lendl, who won eight Grand Slam titles and was ranked No. 1 for 157 consecutive weeks in the 1980s. "To be going in this year is exciting, and I'm looking forward to the ceremony."

Lendl and Mervyn Rose, an Australian star from the 1950s, will be inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport, Rhode Island, on July 14. Their elections were announced Tues-

Lendl, bothered by a bad back, restricts his tennis these days to practice with his children. Four of his five kids, all 10 and younger, play the New England tournament circuit.

"They're still very young, so I don't have to do much moving." said Lendl, 40. "I don't play because No. 1, my back hurts, and day No. 2. I can't hit the ball the way I would like. It's too frustrating, and I feel there's no need to put myself through it.'

Lendl said he wouldn't be interested in playing on the senior

would my back," he said.

reached eight consecutive US Open finals, winning in 1985-86-87. He won the French Open three times, the Australian Open twice and 86 other singles titles.

Lendl had a 10-0 record in Davis Cup matches, including doubles, and led Czechoslovakia to its only title in 1980.

"Every kid when they're starting, they have their dreams," he said. "It was a dream of mine as a kid to be the best player in Czechoslovakia and the best in the world. I was fortunate enough that my dream came true."

Rajshahi cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Baikali Sangha recorded a sevenrun win over Diganta Proshery Sangha in the Rajshahi Premier Division Cricket League match at the local district stadium yester-

Winning the toss, Baikali decided to bat first and collected 179 runs losing seven wickets in the stipulated 50 overs.

In reply, Diganta were shot out for 172 in 42.5 overs.

In rivalries with Jimmy Con-"I would not, and neither nors and John McEnroe, Lendl more than held his own, but he Born in Czechoslovakia, Lendl never won Wimbledon. He was became a US citizen in 1992. He runner-up twice and lost in the semifinals five times in his sport's biggest event.

"Obviously, I would have liked to have won Wimbledon," he said. "There's no secret about it.

Now living in Goshen. Connecticut.. Lendl devotes his time to family and golf, which doesn't bother his back. He enjoys watching an occasional tennis match on TV and was impressed by the quality of play in Andre Agassi's semifinal victory over Pat Rafter at the Australian Open last month.

The skill of the players on the men's tour has changed a lot in the past few years, Lendl said.

"The power of the game, the strength, the talent, the athleticism they have has improved. They have more shots and are not afraid to go for their shots. The progress of the game is going in huge leaps. They're better athletes with better training and better coaching. I'm impressed with how great they are."

Rose was a member of Australia's 1951 and '52 Davis Cup champions and won the 1954 Australian and 1958 French titles. He also won four doubles Grand Slam title.

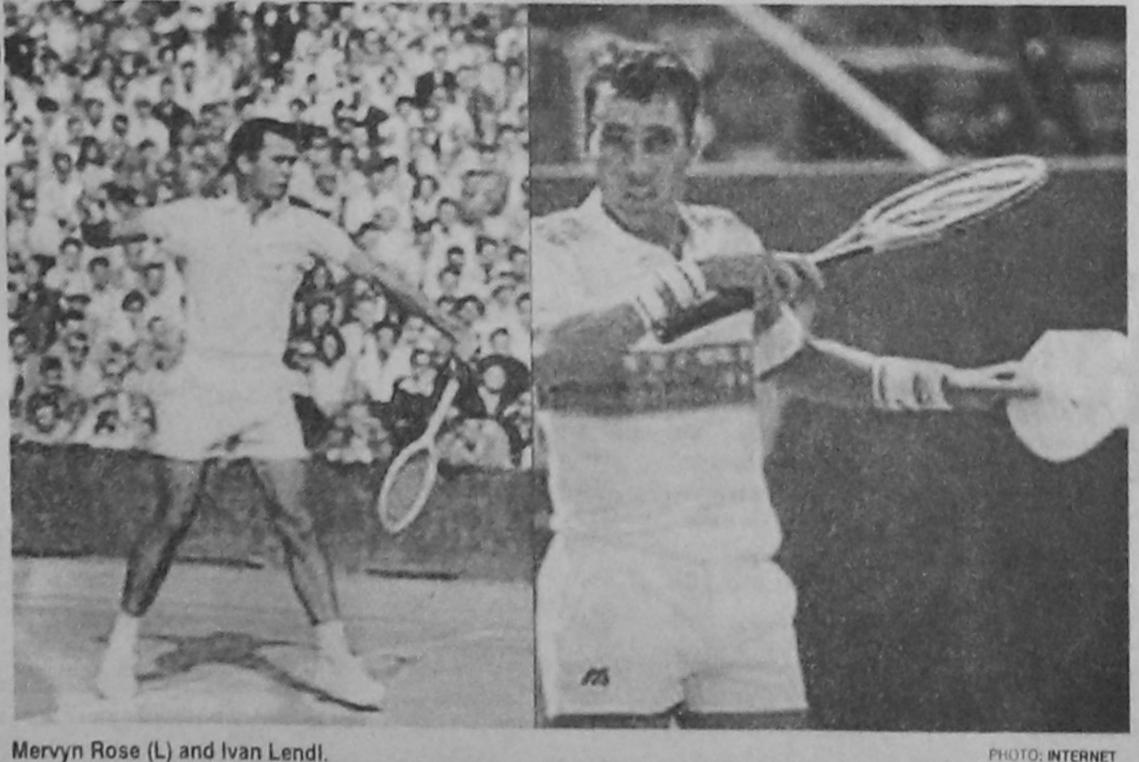


PHOTO: INTERNET

New seedings for 2003 WC

INTERNET, Johannesburg

SPORT

Australia and South Africa could meet in the next World Cup final after a revised seeding system to be used at the in South Africa in 2003 was approved by the ICC.

The seedings are based on the percentage of wins each country has achieved in their one-day international matches since the end of the last World Cup and, although matches up until September 2001 will be included, current holders Australia and host nation South Africa are unlikely to be moved from first and second place respectively.

The system would set up a repeat of 1999's infamous tied semifinal between the two archrivals, a game which many claimed pitted the best two sides in the tournament.

"The reason for this cut-off date is that it is our intention to announce the programme of matches in October 2001," Al Bacher, executive director of the 2003 World Cup, said in a statement on Tuesday.

The top-seeded team will be placed in one group, alongside the fourth, fifth, eighth, ninth, 12th seed will play the third, sixth. sevbefore the second phase of the tournament.

Toronto in July.

South Africa (64.58) would be final qualifying nation.

of this series. The Australians are a good side. So are we. So it will be a hard fought series. As far as revenge is concerned we have defeated them twice during their last two visits to India.

Q: Starting from your debut at the Lords Test, is this probably the toughest series that you are having

A: No, not at all. At the international arena, every series, each game is tough. This series has become a topic of discussion because of the consistency of the Australians. They are coming here after winning 15 Tests in a row. But that does not change our targets. We have to perform and win. So this series is no different from any other series as far as the toughness of the job is concerned.

'Home" advantage?

lot of points at the conditioning camp. All that I can say is that we will play according to our strengths. Q: As a captain you have al-

ways wanted pitches where the ball bounces and comes to the bat. However, as far as this series is concerned, you are talking about playing on turners. Why? A: Simply because, we do not

have any other options. Overnight, we cannot start playing Australia on wickets which are quick. That would then harm the team. The best way however, is to prepare hard wickets in the domestic tournaments. It will then help to produce technically correct batsmen and good bowlers.

Q: Which aspects of the game would you work on at the conditioning camp.

A: We have to work on a lot of things. We have to improve our close catching. We have to see that we are able to utilise all the chances that we have. However more than anything else, the emphasis definitely will be on fitness. It is not only for the Australian

Q: Shane Warne, was not all that successful in 1998. So will he get the respect that he gets from the other sides?

international season ahead of us.

A: You always have to respect Warne. He is a great bowler, the world's best leg spinner. You have to respect his experience and tal-

your regular openers do not have. Will this affect them especially when they play a bowler like Glen McGrath.

Q: Where is the real strength of the Australian side?

depend on what aspect? A: It will depend on our bat-

England's final warm-up

Cricket

REUTERS, Matara

England get their final dress rehearsal for the Test series against Sri Lanka in a four-day game against a Board President's team

starting on Thursday. The match in the southern coastal town of Matara continues England's build-up to the inaugural Test series, which begins in the nearby city of Galle on February 22, and follows a convincing 165run win over another board team in Colombo. "The England selectors have

some interesting decisions to make ahead of the Galle Test," Graeme Hick and Michael

arm spinner Ashley Giles also But a cautious Hussain said he was still looking to tie up a few

and 13th seeds, while the second enth, 10th, 11th and 14th seeds

Although winning percentages, which exclude matches which end without a result, may change before September, the current records of the competing nations would group Australia (80 per cent) with Pakistan (55.1), England (55), West Indies (37.2), Zimbabwe (25.45) and two qualifying nations, who will fight for their right to compete during the ICC Trophy in

grouped with Sri Lanka (61.36), India (47.17), New Zealand (38.89), ·Bangladesh (0), Kenya (0) and the

Saurav fully

FROM PAGE 13

Q: How to plan to utilise the

A: We will definitely discuss a

series but because we have a long

Q: Experience is one thing that

A: Both Ramesh and Shivsundar Das have shown their potentials. I am confident that they will handle all the pressures very well.

A: Steve's side is strong in every department of the game. Be it bowling, fielding or batting. They are a complete side. That has been the main cause of their success. Q: The fate of this series will

ting. If the batsmen can get runs consistently, the series will not be very easy for the Australians.

scrappy at times, the spin bowlers

need to get a few more overs in

and a few of the batsmen need to

work to do," he said.

spend more time in the middle," said Hussain. Opener Michael Atherton, Graham Thorpe and Alec Stewart are yet to find their touch among

the batsmen. With the exception of opener Marcus Trescothick, who was rested for the game in Colombo,

England played a virtual Test side. Trescothick is the only England batsman to score a century on the tour so far, making exactly 100 said skipper Nasser Hussain after before retiring in the opening twovirtually all his key players found day game against a Colts XI in

Vaughan hit half-centuries as they look to play anyone who had not vied for the number six spot while yet had a chance on the tour, fast bowler Darren Gough and left- , raising the prospects of seeing fast-bowler Matthew Hoggard and impressed, taking four wickets off-spinner Jason Brown.

Bandara and Muthumudalige

Colombo.

"We are just going in the right Pushpakumara -- who will press direction. We've still got a lot of their claims to stand in for bowler Muttiah Muralitharan, who is

"The fielding has been a bit recovering from a groin strain. Among the batsmen, Tillekeratne Dilshan, who made a century against England in Co-

lombo, and former Test player

Hashan Tillekeratne will bid for a

recall to the national side.

TEAMS

ENGLAND (from): Nasser Hussain (captain), Michael Atherton, Marcus Trescothick, Graham Thorpe, Alec Stewart, Graeme Hick, Michael Vaughan, Craig White, Ashley Giles, Robert Croft, Andrew Caddick, Darren Gough, Matthew Hoggard, Jason Brown.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S XI Hussain said England would (from): Tillekeratne Dilshan (captain), Avishka Gunawardene, Ruwin Peiris, Hashan Tillekeratne, Sunendra Kumar, Jeevantha Kulathunga, Muthumudalige Pushpakumara, Niroshan Bandarati-In the Sri Lankan camp, all lake, Malinga Bandara, Ruchira eyes will be on three spinners -- Perera, Dinusha Fernando, Pra-Niroshan Bandaratilake, Malinga sanna Jayawardene, Chamara Silva, Nisal Randika.



Bangladesh Tennis Federation president Alamgir Farouque Chowdhury addressing a press conference organised in connection with the 15th Bangladesh International Junior Tennis Championships at the federation office at Ramna in the city yesterday. The championships begin at the National Tennis Complex in Ramna on February 17.

Coe blasts Christie

Athletics

British middle distance legend Sebastian Coe has attacked sprinter Linford Christie, questioning the former Olympic champion's credentials as a role

model to young athletes. Writing in the Daily Telegraph newspaper, Coe, himself a double Olympic champion in the 1980s, blasted Christie for recently describing British athletics as "cor-

Christie, whose two-year suspension for a positive drug test ended Wednesday, said an interview he would not want his children to enter the sport.

But in a hard-hitting retort

Coe, who competed in the same British team as Christie for six years, claims Christie should take a long hard look at himself before criticising officialdom. "(Christie) would be welladvised to do some soul-searching

as he returns today from a twoyear suspension after testing positive for nandrolone," said Coe.

39 Render

41 Gen-

immobile

darmes

millinery

44 Massage

morals

50 Doctor's

55 Skirmish

astic

59 Judicial

aways

Solution time: 25 mins.

60 Hide-

57 Al Hirsch-

46 Man of

CROSSWORD

12 Thorough- 43 Cameron

16 It'll bring 56 Enthusi-

ACROSS

4 First

13 Skin

14 Pianist

15 Little

Gilels

louse

you down

to earth

18 Boston

20 Chart

21 Beach

float

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lines

32 Poi base

33 Lumber-

34 Type of

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36 Go at a

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28 Like

medanism

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format

1 Gun the

engine

8 Ray type

opening

"Christic's place as our greatest sprinter is unquestioned...but there has been controversy on the ing on a role model."

Coe continued: "Christie's captaincy of the British team was marked by continual conflict with

about the order of baton changes in the sprint relay. "I sat in one team meeting when he made himself deliberately unintelligible to all but those who had a passing knowledge of jive and, if officialdom was to

iour and then making him team captain to buy some peace." Coe was sharply critical of Christie's behaviour at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta when the reigning champion was disquali-

blame for anything, it was to turn

a blind eye to his boorish behav-

fied for two false starts. "(Christie) gracelessly paraded Vento to play himself before an Olympic final having false-started twice. In doing so, he seriously affected the chances of fellow competitors before being asked to leave the

"Christie says in his interview:

'The sport is so corrupt now

stadium.

By Eugene Sheffer

protector

22 Broadway

dud

23 Collee-

break

time

25 Indolent

a trip

base

30 Harvest

31 Trevi toss

capital

illusion

solution

38 Sahara

40 Caustic

42 Total

47 Mop

48 Hawaiian

island

49 Supplicate

50 Average

52 Plagiarize

51 Past

54 B&B

terminus

29 Wheel-

27 Sulk

4 Seeks a 26 Flagstaff's

5 Feathery 28 Prepare

37 Bivalve 61 Purchase 19 Car-

DOWN

1 Tele-

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specialty

3 Just say

higher

court

acces-

6 Blunder

8 Directive

9 Aussie

58 "Eurekal" 10 - for tat 35 Venezue-

11 Milwaukee

17 XXXIV

product

trebled

BETROTHAL 53 Gambling

sory

7 Jeté

2 Salan's

of the Acme First Division Cricket League yesterday. team coaches, most notably high At Satkhira Stadium, Ganamuprofile and disfiguring arguments khi defeated Rasulpur Juba Chakra by eight wickets. Sent into bat, Rasulpur made

Satkhira cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, SATKHIRA

Ganamukhi Sangha and Ariance

Club won their respective matches

131 for nine in 30 overs. In reply, Ganamukhi scored 133 for two in 24.2 overs. At Satkhira Government College Ground, Ariance beat Sultan-

pur Club by 68 runs.

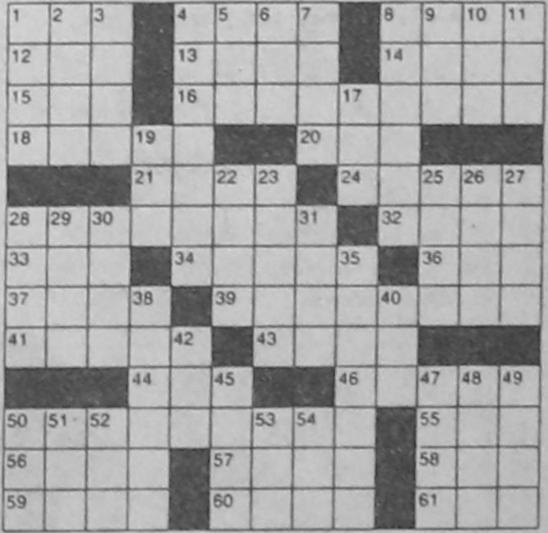
cided to bat and scored 253 for seven in 45 overs. In reply. Sultanpur collected

185 runs for six in 45 overs.

Winning the toss, Ariance de-

Hingis

REUTERS, Doha Venezuelan wild card entry Maria Vento booked a second round match against world number one Martina Hingis by overcoming German Barbara Rittner 7-6, 6-7.



CRYPTOQUIP

DMYNMYQT. PMLP RYZ'H IQYALAJR

EYYPTYPND Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I WONDER WHETHER PEOPLE WHO ARE AFRAID OF ANIMALS SOMETIMES FEEL PET-RIFIED.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals A

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

wouldn't want my child to do it. Well, I hope my children do take up the sport. And I only hope they look long and hard before decid- 6-3 in the 170,000 dollars Qatar Open yesterday.