

NZ, India go even

AFP, Wellington

New Zealand and India ended the first day of their Davis Cup rubber Friday tied 1-1.

The Asia/Oceania Zone Group I semifinal saw New Zealand number one Mark Nielsen, ranked 343, defeat India's Harsh Mankad 6-4, 6-0, 6-1.

The game was played in difficult conditions with strong winds making some returns unpredictable. Nielsen was largely unchallenged by the Indian number two, ranked 754, who found the power of the New Zealanders too much to handle.

Scholten stable

FROM PAGE 13 condition, a Royal Perth Hospital spokeswoman said.

"Her condition has improved slightly and she is stable, but still seriously ill," the spokeswoman said.

Scholten, who turned 23 the day after the crash, suffered severe head and chest injuries when Hollioake's Porsche, in which she was a passenger, slammed into a brick wall in South Perth on March 23.

The 24-year-old Australian-born all-rounder died at the scene of the crash.

About 250 people, including England Test captain Nasser Hussain and former skipper Alec Stewart, attended a funeral for Hollioake near here last week.

Pak demand

FROM PAGE 13 Pakistan says it has lost revenues in excess of \$20 million since December 2000 after India twice pulled out of matches in Pakistan because of political tension between the two nations.

Hopes of a resumption of matches between the two countries rose last week when Zia met senior Indian sports officials Suresh Kalmadi, who described the talks as "very positive".

New Zealand postponed a tour to Pakistan last year in September and West Indies insisted on playing a modified series at a neutral venue in January and February as fighting raged in neighbouring Afghanistan.

New Zealand are due to visit Pakistan for two tests and three one-day Internationals from 18 April and have agreed to take part in a triangular competition in the country along with Australia in August.

Nasser comments irk ICC RSMs appointed to police matches



REUTERS, London

The International Cricket Council (ICC) is "disappointed" over comments attributed to England captain Nasser Hussain that he was unconcerned his side had been overtaken by New Zealand in the ICC Test Championship.

New Zealand moved into fourth place in the official ICC Test Championship standings after beating England by 78 runs in the third and final Test in Auckland on Wednesday to draw the series 1-1.

"The ICC is disappointed to note media comments about the ICC Test Championship attributed to the England team captain after the Auckland Test," the game's world governing body said in a statement on Thursday.

"We don't want to get into any actual conflict over this, but we wanted to make the point that the ICC Test Championship has generated a great deal of interest in cricket right across the globe," an ICC official spokesman told this news agency.

"The role of the Championship in helping to place Test match cricket and team performances into context has been welcomed by team captains, players and followers of the

game around the world since its introduction last May."

"I'm not interested in the Test table," Hussain had told reporters on Wednesday after his side's defeat.

"I'm more interested in how we are going to beat Sri Lanka next summer and how on earth are we going to win an Ashes series."

Australia continue to head the ICC Test Championship rankings with 1.54 points following nine Test wins in 13 games.

South Africa are second on 1.50, having picked up 11 victories in 16 Tests.

Sri Lanka are third on 1.14 while New Zealand, fourth on 1.13, occupy their highest position since the table was first introduced in May 1996.

Countries are ranked by the number of points earned divided by the number of Tests played.

Each Test win earns two points with one point for a draw.

The next two series in the ICC Test Championship are the matches between West Indies and India in the Caribbean, beginning in Guyana on April 11, and Pakistan's rearranged home series to New Zealand, starting in Lahore on May 1.

Meanwhile, the ICC has appointed five regional security managers (RSMs) in a bid to protect the game from corruption, the world

governing body has announced.

Each of the managers has been assigned two international teams and will be present at all future ICC-sanctioned tours and tournaments in their region.

"These appointments are a powerful demonstration of the ICC's resolve to rid the international game from the threat of match-fixing and corruption, which have tarnished cricket's reputation around the world over the past two years," ICC chief executive Malcolm Speed said on Thursday.

"The appointment of security managers was one of the major recommendations put forward by Lord (Paul) Condon's Anti-Corruption Unit Report of April 2001 and accepted by the ICC."

The five managers, who all have a military or police background, are South African Arrie de Beer, who is assigned to South Africa and Zimbabwe, Lt Col Nuruddin Khawaja of Pakistan (Pakistan and Bangladesh), Australian John Rhodes (Australia and New Zealand), Briton Bob Smalley (England and West Indies) and India's NS Virk (India and Sri Lanka).

The appointments are effective from June 1 and each of the managers will attend an induction camp in Sri Lanka on June 10.

Hick's World Cup desire

AFP, London

Worcestershire captain Graeme Hick is preparing to end his year-long absence from the England set-up with a refreshing bid to return to the squad for the 2003 World Cup finals in South Africa.

Hick last played for England during the squad's tour of Pakistan and Sri Lanka last winter but, even at the seasoned age of 35, he feels he still has what it takes to play at international level.

"The World Cup is one of my personal goals and I am going to try to perform in the one-day games to put my name in the hat for that," Hick, speaking at Worcestershire's pre-season media day at their New Road ground, said Friday.

"I feel it is a realistic possibility. Playing in a World Cup is a huge thing to be part of," added Hick, who will be featuring in his 19th season with Worcestershire.

"If I perform in the middle for Worcestershire I will have an opportunity. I think I am still good enough."

Hick's absence this winter from the non-stop international schedule is a factor, he says which could go in his favour.

"I've still got the hunger and feel very fit. The England guys are just coming back from a long winter and I don't know how much cricket they'll have to play before their international duties are up and running again."

Davis Cup

Russia blank Sweden



AFP, Moscow

Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Marat Safin gave Russia a commanding 2-0 advantage after the opening day of their Davis Cup quarterfinal tie

against Sweden here on Friday.

The Russians are now in a strong position to win the tie and, with it, claim their first ever win over the Swedes as they head into the doubles on Saturday and the reverse singles on Sunday.

Kafelnikov defeated fellow 28-year-old Enqvist in straight sets to follow Safin's similarly comfortable

win over Australian Open champion Thomas Johansson.

Kafelnikov and Enqvist kept their serves through to force a tiebreak, which Russia's Sydney Olympic champion won 8-6 to take a 1-0 lead after 45 minutes.

Kafelnikov broke early into the second set earning a 3-1 lead. Enqvist fought tooth and nail in a desperate attempt to pull the scores level but the Russia's veteran broke again to win the second set 6-3 in 32 minutes.

Enqvist, who is currently 19th in the ATP race and four places above his Russian opponent, failed to resist Kafelnikov's accuracy and power in the deciding set losing it 6-1 in just 25 minutes.

Earlier, Safin put Russia 1-0 up beating Johansson also in straight sets.

Safin, playing confidently from the start, took advantage of Johansson's apparent awkwardness on the clay courts of Moscow's Luzhniki Sports Palace to beat Sweden's current ATP race leader 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 in 2hr 12min.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad Barrister Jamir Uddin Sircar handing over the AIUB Cup cricket tournament trophy to the North South University cricket team captain on Friday.

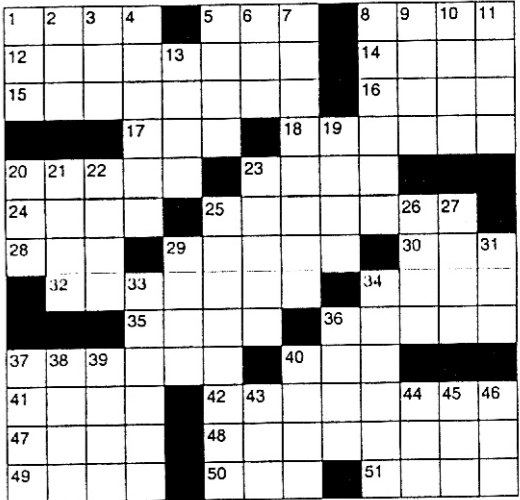
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 U2 singer 5 Moreover 8 Flavor enhancer 12 Half an arctic pair 14 Silks solo 15 Some pipes 16 Elevator 17 Corrode 18 Gardening tools 20 Core 23 Ray of light 24 Piece of work 25 Type of hen 28 Dave Barry's claim 29 Roofing material 30 Peruke 32 Intersections 34 Story 35 Horseman's lack? 36 Knight-wear 37 Life's

4 They've got something 5 'Cat on — Tin Roof" 6 San Francisco's — Hill 7 Pies and cakes 8 Deli offering 9 Saharan affair 11 Makes lace 13 "Get outta here!" 19 Glazier's sheet 20 "Please explain" 21 Grand-scale 22 Gridlock contributor 23 Panel 25 Unambiguous 26 Moved with the fishes 27 Hawaiian city 29 Dagger of cross-words 31 Eur. nation 33 Macaque type 34 Clan-related 36 "Judith" composer 37 Overly theatrical 38 Sheltered 39 Dennis Miller specialty 40 Bear in the air 43 Indivisible 44 "The Greatest" 45 Started 46 Mormons'

Solution time: 24 mins.

CHOW CAFFE JAM ALO LOLA OSLO AGO ABEL FEES DUJO PIOIL FAX DEIED CLOVE EGO COVOTIE DROVIES INAWAE ARIAS DEPARIT ASTERN LTIU USIO JAIAL PIG DIAL OUR PIERU OITIE TITO ALAIS OIBS NOIN DONT REST



CRYPTOQUIP

J T W N X N H X G M T W O W Z R F X Z J I Z X W N J O H W O S A M A N W A X E W S M W F ,

J E Z R W Z W Z R W J E I M G X ? Saturday's Cryptokuip: THE SHIP'S CREW WANTED TO PLAY POKER. UNFORTUNATELY THE CAPTAIN STOOD ON THE DECK.

Today's Cryptokuip Clue: A equals K

The Cryptokuip 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.

TV GUIDE

BTV	
3:10	News Headlines
3:15	Deshor Gaan
3:20	Shashatathya
3:45	Kheladhula
4:00	Khabar
4:10	Debate in English
5:00	News Headlines
5:05	On-line
5:30	Shukhi Poribar
6:00	Khabar
6:10	Nibedan
6:35	Programme from Chittagong station
7:00	News Headlines
7:05	A-Mori Bangla
11:30	Khabar / The News
EKUSHEY	
12:00	Ekushey Headlines
12:05	Ajker Potrikay
12:20	Mukto Khobor
12:50	Bole Chai
1:00	Ekushey Headlines
1:20	Classic Cartoons
2:00	Toyota World of Wildlife
2:30	Ei Shoptaho
3:00	Ekushey Headlines
3:05	Jatra Pala
5:30	Gillette FIFA World Cup 2002
6:00	Ekushey Headlines
6:05	Serial : Alif Laila
6:55	Ekushey Headlines
7:00	Shoptaho Ghura Deshjure
7:30	Ekushey Sangbad
8:00	Ekushey News (English)
8:05	Bangla Film : Okarma
10:00	News: Simulcast from BTV
10:30	Bangla Film : Okarma
11:00	Ekushey Late Night Shongbad

ATN BANGLA	
5:30	Islamic prog
7:00	Children : Cholo Gan Gai
7:35	Viewers opinion prog. : Motamot
8:00	ATN Bangla News
8:25	Mage serial : Mohine
9:00	Musical Prog
9:35	Magazine prog. : Tasmary
	Kechokhon
10:10	Drama serial : Abashese
10:50	Bengali feature film : Suk Sante
12:00	ATN Bangla News
6:07	Children prog. : Shapla Saluk
6:45	Viewers request firm songs prog. : Anurodher Assor
7:00	ATN Bangla Evening News
7:35	Mage serial : Mohine
8:10	Reporting prog. Ghotona Probaha
8:45	Drama Serial : Aye Logone
9:20	Musical prog. : Sreter Pata Theke
10:00	ATN Bangla News
10:35	Film Magazine : Boliwooder
	Khobor
11:15	Bengali feature film : Trash
11:30	ATN Bangla News
BBC WORLD	
6:00	BBC News
6:30	World Business Report
7:00	BBC News
7:30	Asia Today/World Business Report
8:00	BBC News

8:30	Asia Today/World Business Report
9:00	BBC News
9:30	Asia Today/World Business Report
10:00	BBC News
10:30	Talking Movies
11:00	BBC News
11:30	Simpson
12:00	BBC News
12:30	Click Online
1:00	BBC News
1:30	Correspondent
2:00	BBC News
2:30	The Rat
	Pack/The Future
	Just Happened/The Human Body
3:00	BBC News
3:30	La Stories
	Voyager : Hemingway
4:00	BBC News
4:30	The Car's The Star/Top Gear
5:00	BBC News
5:30	This Week
STAR MOVIES	
6:30	Looking for an Echo
8:30	U-571
10:30	Red Heat
12:15	Haven
2:00	Fish Called Wanda, A
3:45	Simian Line
5:30	Closer You Get, The
7:00	Diabolique
8:45	Hostile Hostages
10:30	U-571
HBO	
6:30am	History is Made at Night
8:30	Escape From Atlantis
10:30	Merlin : The

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS	
	STAR WORLD: 6:00 & 11:30 p.m. <i>Starhunter.</i> The year is 2275. Earth has more or less successfully colonised the entire solar system. But our reach has surpassed our grasp. Things are dangerous out there...it has become the Wild West of outer space. In tonight's episode, A short circuit on the Tulip releases the cryogenically asleep Colonel Bramwell, who thinks the Tulip is still his ship.
	STAR MOVIES: 7:00 p.m. <i>Diabolique.</i> The wife and mistress of a cruel school master collaborate in a carefully planned and executed attempt to murder him. The plan goes well until the body, which has been strategically dumped, disappears. The strain starts to tell on the two women as a retired police investigator who is looking into the disappearance on a whim begins to think that they know more than they are telling, and their mental state is not helped when their victim is seen, apparently alive and well by one of the pupils.
	AXN: 9:30 p.m. <i>Back to the Future.</i> Marty McFly helps out his friend Doc Brown, and ends up being taken back in time by Doc's time machine. Marty, a boy of the 80's, has to come to grips with being in the 50's and get his parents to fall in love to set straight the damage his presence has done to the events of the past.
Return	Shah Rukh Khan
12:30pm	Devdas (Dilip Kumar, Vijayantimala)
2:30	Alien Cargo
4:15	Don't Talk to Strangers
6:15	Weird Science
8:15	Friday the 13' : The Final Chapter
10:00	Small Soldiers
12:15am	Python
2:15	Over the Top
4:15	Men of Respect
STAR GOLD	
7:00am	Awaaz (Rajesh Khanna, Jaya Prada)
10:30	Bollywood News
11:00	Geet Bahar
11:30	Teesri Kasam (Raj Kapoor, Waheeda Rehman)
3:00	Bollywood News
3:30	Patthar Ke Phool (Salman Khan, Raveena Tandon)
7:00	Geet Bahar
7:30	Saturday Special : Star Ki Pasand
8:00	Water Rats

PICK OF THE DAY

Small Soldiers
On HBO at 10:00 p.m.
After military manufactured computer chips are put in a line of action figures, they end up with minds of their own and try to invade an Ohio suburb, and do battle with another line of toys that have the same chips.

9:00	3" Rock From the Sun	(Sanjay Dutt, Shilpa Shetty)
9:30	Baywatch Hawaii	
10:30	First Wave	11:30 Aaj Ki Baat
11:30	Star Hunter	12:05 Star Superhit : Jung (contd).
STAR PLUS		AXN
7:30	Chupa Rustam	
8:00	Aatma	6:30 Core Culture
9:00	Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet	7:30 Shadow Skill
9:30	Fox Kids	8:30 Space Warship Yamamoto Yoko
10:30	Family Fortunes	9:30 Lifestyle Rollerjam
11:00	AmulBest of Surabhi	10:30 Core Culture
11:30	Chalti Ka Naam Antakshairi	11:30 Reality Blast! Who Dares Wins II
12:30	Eena Meena Deeka	12:30 Ripley's Believe It Or Not!
1:00	Tu Tu Main Main	1:30 World's Most Amazing Videos II
1:30	Gharwali Uparwali	2:30 Movie: Love and A.45
2:00	Hit Filmeen Hit Sangeet	4:30 Walker's World/Beauties in Action
2:30	Kashmakash	5:30 Queen of Swords
3:00	Kundali	6:30 Relic Hunter/The Put Back
3:30	Tea Time Cinema : Bachpan (Sanjeev Kumar, Tanuja)	7:30 Space Out!
6:30	Fox Kids	8:00 The Price Is Right
7:30	Bol Baby Bol	8:30 Star Superhit : Jung

8:30	The Outer Limits
	Stream of Consciousness
9:30	Famous Directors
	Movie : Back to the Future
11:30	World's Most Amazing Videos
	Marathon I
HALLMARK	
6:00	Whiskers
8:00	Katts and Dog
8:30	Ghostwriter
9:00	Sesame Street
10:30	Scholastic Clifford
11:00	Caillou
11:00	A Mother's Gift
3:00	Murder Among Friends
5:00	Star Trek : Voyager
6:00	McLeod's Daughters
7:00	Dr. Quinn : The Heart Within
9:00	Star Trek : Voyager
10:00	Taggart : Fatal Inheritance
12:00	McLeod's Daughters
ZEE TV	
6:00	Yaadon Ke Pal
6:30	Bhakti Bhav
7:00	Yoga For Life
7:20	Jagran
7:50	Zee Gym
8:00	Tara Rum
8:30	Ramayan
9:00	Nickelodeon
10:30	Hum Paanch
11:00	Hudd Kar Di
11:30	Zee & You
12:00	Hip Hip Hurray
12:30	Khana Khazana
1:00	Jai Santoshi Ma
1:30	Rishtey The Love Stories
2:30	Weekend Cinema
3:00	Sa Re Ga Ma Pa
4:30	Raah (Romance Hum)
5:30	Top of the Tops
6:30	Nickelodeon On Zee

7:30	Devrani Jethani
8:00	Nilaam Ghar Bid Bid Boom
8:30	Zee Cine Awards - 2002
11:30	Tejaswini
ALPHA TV BANGLA	
6:00	Grohan
6:30	Mon Niye
7:00	Shayola
7:30	Surer Ei
	Jhamadhara
8:00	Bishesh Sangbad
	Data
8:30	Gaan Unltd. (Bengali)
9:05	Bharat Bhraman
9:30	Bhalo Bhasha
10:00	Ekushe Pa
10:30	Encounter
11:00	Grohan
11:30	Saregama
12:30	Chena Mukher Shari
1:00	Kapurush
1:30	Ek Akasher Niche
2:00	Pratibimba
2:30	Saptapadi
5:00	Jhara Samayer
	Upakatha
5:30	Bichitra
6:00	News In Bengali
6:30	Bhalobasa
	Mandobasa
7:00	Aatpake Bandhe
7:30	Sur Taal Bengali
8:00	Shuddhu Tomake Chai
8:30	Saregama
9:55	Sat Kahan
10:25	Abisasya
11:00	News in Bengali
11:30	Choto Chutir
	Phanke
12:00	Encounter
ZEE MUSIC	
6:30	Gurbani
7:30	Gujarati News

8:00	Daily News
8:30	Jai Ganesha
9:30	Yoga for Life
10:00	Quiz Contest
10:30	Zee Once More
11:30	Ritu Khana
	Khazaana
12:30	Deewana Hoon
	Pagal Nahin
3:30	Pakistan Show Time
4:30	Aashiana
5:00	Ek Tukdaa Chaand Ka
6:00	Chart Masala
7:00	Hip Hip Hurray
7:30	Baazi Kiski
8:30	News Bulletin
8:55	Hit Series
9:00	Shakti
12:00	Agni Chakra
ZEE CINEMA	
7:00	Tara Rum
7:30	Naag Champa
10:30	Aankh Micholi
1:30	Phoolon Ki Sej
5:15	Dadamoni
6:00	Yalgaar
9:15	Yaadein Radio
	Ceylon Ki
9:30	Weekend Cinema
10:00	Akele Him Akele Tum
1:15	Cine News
SETMAX	
6:30	Music Mantra
7:00	Chartbusters
7:30	Sant Asaram Vani
8:00	Shri Krishna
9:00	Shree Ganesh
10:00	Mahabharat
11:00	Malgudi Days
11:30	Good Morning
	Disney
12:30	The Good Home Show
1:00	Yeh Duniya Hai Rangeen