

## Four share lead in Open chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Aminul Islam, Mehdi Hassan Parag, Mohammed Javed and Saifuddin Lavlu shared the lead in the Open FIDE Rating chess tournament with full points after the end of the fourth round games at the Chess Federation auditorium yesterday.

Aminul beat Kazi Rashed, Javed defeated FIDE Master Rezau Haque, Parag beat Mohammad Ali and Lavlu beat Khorshed Alam Debaraj Chatterjee, Shafiq Ahmed and Farhadur Imam were following the leaders closely with 3.5 points.

## Hookes' murder Lehmann to give evidence

AFP, Sydney

Australian batsman Darren Lehmann returns home from India on Friday, preparing for what may prove traumatic evidence in a court case over the death of his close mate and former Test cricketer David Hookey.

Lehmann is returning ahead of the Australian team for intensive treatment on his torn hamstring ahead of the beginning of court proceedings on November 15 in Melbourne that will force him to relive some bad memories.

He was by Hookey's side the night he died outside a Melbourne pub last January and will be the first witness to give evidence at the trial of security guard Zdravko Micevic, 21, who has previously indicated he will plead not guilty to fatally attacking Hookey.

Three days later Australia are due to play New Zealand in the first of two Tests in Brisbane.

"I'm first up so I can get to Brisbane," Lehmann told Australian Associated Press in Mumbai Tuesday ahead of the fourth and final Test against India.

"I think about it (giving evidence), but it doesn't play on my mind. It's more of a case that it's going to be a pretty bad day, but I've had plenty of those in the last while. You've got to do it and it's there for a reason. The system will make whatever decision it makes."

## A curate's egg

FROM PAGE 13

The visitors were reeling at 94-5 before Cairns salvaged them with stroke-filled 83-ball 74. He hit five sixes in his 23rd half-century.

"With a better wicket the score could have been much more higher. Yet the way Chris batted we expected the score to reach at least around 250," said Vettori.

The two teams will now return to Dhaka to play the last two one-day internationals at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Friday and Sunday.



PHOTO: STAR

Abahani's Musa Miah (C) goes on the attack against Mariner Youngs during their Club Cup hockey tournament clash at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday.

## 'Pitch error costs India'

AFP, New Delhi



AUSTRALIA IN INDIA 2004-05

Pakistan's former captain Wasim Akram said Tuesday the Indian cricket team blundered by failing to secure a tailor-made pitch at Nagpur, where they lost the third Test to Australia last Friday.



WASIM AKRAM

"The team management should have told the ground staff in advance what kind of pitch they wanted," Akram said of India's humiliating 342-run loss on a pitch

suited seam bowling.

Australia took a winning 2-0 lead in the four-match series, their first series victory in India in 35 years.

"You don't speak to the grounds-men just two days prior to the match but at least 10-15 days before it," said the legendary paceman at a press conference to announce his association with an Indian sports management firm.

"There is nothing wrong in making the most of playing at home. The coach (John Wright) should have ensured a good pitch for spinners," told Akram, the only bowler in the world to have taken more than 400 wickets both in Tests and one-day internationals.

Akram also felt India did not have enough back-up men to take on a top team like Australia.

"Irfan Pathan's absence was felt in the match. He is the best among the Indian pacemen right now but sadly there wasn't anyone who could fill in for him," he said.

Pathan was ruled out of the match because of a side strain and will also miss the last Test in Mumbai on Wednesday.

"India's pace bowlers lack consistency and fitness," said Akram. "You don't see any of them doing well on a consistent basis and that is sad because they have a lot of potential."

## Bennett backs Brian

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

New West Indies coach Bennett King has given early support to captain Brian Lara as the Australian prepares to begin his job in the Caribbean.

It is yet to be decided whether Lara, who led the side to ICC Champions Trophy glory in September, will keep the job.

But King told BBC Sport: "I've watched him perform his captaincy duties on the field and I think he's quite intuitive."

"There are decisions that will be made later in the piece but at the moment I don't see any need for change."

Describing Lara as a captain who was "instinctive" and "had a lot to offer," King revealed that he had long been a fan of the Trinidadian.

"For me Lara is probably one of the outstanding batters of the 1990s going into the 21st century," said King from his home in Queensland.

King will soon be making the trip to Antigua, which will be his base for the next three years as he seeks to improve West Indies' performance in Test matches.

In a three-week camp starting on

November 29 he will help choose a squad for a triangular one-day tournament in Australia.

King said: "My first priority is to have meetings with the selectors and get to know the players so the camp will be quite intense."

"I will have a look at the structures in place. If there are some basic things we can implement when I first get there it will help us build a strong base for the future."

He added that the Test match rankings, which place West Indies eighth out of 10 "tell a true picture" about the state of cricket in the Caribbean.

## Calvia Open chess Nasir starts with win

SPORTS REPORTER

Sheikh Nasir Ahmed defeated Spain's Diez Asonso Jesus in the first round of the Calvia Open Chess Festival in Calvia, Spain on Monday.

The FIDE Master, who represented the Bangladesh chess team in the recently concluded 36th Chess Olympiad stayed back in Spain for the 9-round Swiss League competition.

The other members of the Bangladesh team, which finished 41st in the Olympiad, returned home on Monday.

## Sangakkara fined

AFP, Karachi

The International Cricket Council (ICC) fined Sri Lanka's Kumar Sangakkara 30 per cent of his match fee on Monday for throwing his bat after being dismissed in the second innings of the second Test against Pakistan.

"Sangakkara was found violating the ICC code of conduct when he threw his bat," match referee Jeff Crowe said after the match.

Sangakkara threw his bat high in the air after edging a delivery from Navedul Hasan to wicketkeeper Kamran Akmal.

The bat landed on the crease and bounced into the wickets, knocking off the stumps.

Sangakkara had made a defiant 138 to help erase a first innings deficit of 270 runs, but his wicket sparked a middle order collapse that eventually led to Sri Lanka losing the second Test.

## BANGLADESH-NZ SCOREBOARD

FROM PAGE 13  
Rafique 10 2 28 1  
Saleh 6 0 31 0

BANGLADESH				
Atab lbw b Mills	4			
Omar c Fulton b Mills	3			
Saleh c McMillan b Mills	4			
Bashar lbw b Styris	22			
Ashraful c McCullum b Mills	2			
Manzarul c Styris b Vettori	13			
Mashud lbw b Styris	2			
Mahmud st McCullum b Vettori	14			
Rafique c Styris b Harris	11			
Baisya c Adams b Vettori	1			
Nazmul not out	1			
Extras: (nb-1, w-7)	8			
Total: (All out in 31.5 overs)	86			
Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-10, 3-23, 4-27, 5-45, 6-51, 7-68, 8-79, 9-83				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Mills	7	2	14	4
Adams	6	1	24	0
Cairns	4	2	5	0
Styris	6	3	13	2
Harris	5	0	21	1
Vettori	3.5	0	9	3

Result: New Zealand won by 138 runs and take 1-0 lead in the three-ODI series.

Man-of-the-match: Chris Cairns. Toss: New Zealand.

Umpires: Mark Benson (England) and Akhtaruddin (Bangladesh). Second match: Nov 5, Dhaka (D/N).

## Sachin may

FROM PAGE 13  
ing just 10 runs at Nagpur, as well Venkatsai Laxman who has managed just 53 runs in the series.

LIKELY TEAMS

INDIA: Rahul Dravid (captain), Virender Sehwag, Gautam Gambhir, Sachin Tendulkar, Venkatsai Laxman, Mohammad Kaif, Dinesh Karthik, Anil Kumble, Harbhajan Singh, Murali Kartik, Zaheer Khan.

AUSTRALIA: Ricky Ponting (captain), Matthew Hayden, Justin Langer, Damien Martyn, Michael Clarke, Simon Katich, Adam Gilchrist, Shane Warne, Jason Gillespie, Michael Kasprowicz, Glenn McGrath.

## Discipline

FROM PAGE 13  
have managed single Test wins in 1977, 79-80, 1981 and 1995.

Battling is still Pakistan's bane: they made heavy weather of the 137 run target they chased to win against Sri Lanka on Monday.

"It is an open secret that our openers haven't fired as yet but the positive was the way Shoaib Malik and Abdul Razzaq fought to ensure a win," said Woolmer, of Malik who finished 53 not out and Razzaq 35 not out, adding that Pakistan's strength laid in their bowling attack.

"I thought in the absence of Shoaib Akhtar, Mohammad Sami and Shabbir Ahmed in the second Test against Sri Lanka the back-up bowlers did a magnificent job. This is a plus for us."

Woolmer, who was leaving for home to celebrate his wedding anniversary on Tuesday, will join the team in India and then fly to Pakistan for a training camp before the start of the Australia tour.

Captain Inzamam-ul-Haq said confidence would be the key to doing well against the World Champions.

"If you go to Australia with a couple of victories behind you it helps you to adjust better to the Australian conditions. We are keen to go there with a win over India also," said Inzamam, who has made four tours to Australia starting with the 1992 World Cup.

## Preview

# A mixed night for Capello



AFP, Paris

Italian coaching legend Fabio Capello can see his present side Juventus capture a spot in the knockout stages of the Champions League on Wednesday by beating Bayern Munich while one of his former teams AS Roma could see their hopes extinguished.

Capello left Roma in the summer having guided them to the title during his five year spell and is threatening to work the same magic with the 'old lady' as they hold a five point lead in Serie A over the team he made his name with, AC Milan, after last weekend's matches.

However Juve's attentions will be firmly on beating Bayern and ensuring they reach the knockout stage while struggling Roma will hope the form of the 5-1 thrashing of Cagliari at the weekend will be the one they take into their home match against another German side Bayer Leverkusen.

Juventus go into the clash in Munich in far better spirits than their opponents as the Germans inconsistent form returned on Saturday going down to a 2-0 defeat by Borussia Monchengladbach having beaten leaders VfL Wolfsburg in midweek.

While Juve are virtually at full strength for the Group C clash Bayern have several injury worries as they battle to keep the vital second spot ahead of Dutch side Ajax, who look to have a relatively easy task away at pointless Israeli outfit Maccabi Tel Aviv.

Bayern presently hold a three point advantage over Ajax while Juve are yet to surrender a point or a goal

to their opposition.

Bayern will pin their hopes on Dutch international Roy Makaay, joint top-scorer in the Champions League with four goals, but the marksman is firing blanks and failed to net in October.

"Roy is in a difficult phase at the moment," admitted Magath. "He is not a machine who can score in every match."

Bayern have scored 16 goals in 11 Bundesliga matches this season and shacking Makaay seems to be the key to stopping them.

Claudio Pizarro and Makaay are set to lead the assault on the formidable Juve rearguard on Wednesday but injuries have left Magath with a major headache.

Brazilian midfielder Ze Roberto is out with concussion, Hasan Salihamidzic has groin trouble while Andreas Gorfitz has a knee complaint.

With Roque Santa Cruz and Alexander Zickler both long-term casualties and Sebastian Deisler still recovering from depression things look bleak in Munich.

If Bayern were hoping that Juventus are just coming to take a point then they will have been disabused by the Italian side's Czech master playmaker Pavel Nedved.

"We are going there to wrap up qualification and take the three points. There will be no negativity from us," said Nedved, who scored a brilliant goal for Juventus on Sunday.

While Juventus may find it a pleasant surprise to play in front of a crowd as their home matches are often underattended the Roma players may feel more at ease in taking on Bayer without having to cope with their hysterical supporters and claim their first point of the campaign.

They have been banned because of the missile thrown at flamboyant Swedish referee Anders Frisk in their Group B opener against Dynamo Kiev.

With experienced defender Christian Panucci and midfielder Daniele di Rossi suspended Roma face a tough task in overcoming a Leverkusen side that eased to a 3-1 victory in Germany a fortnight ago.

However their visitors have a less than impressive record in Italy with just one win in six trips and come in on the back of a 1-0 defeat at the weekend.

Roma though will look to temperamental star Francesco Totti and in-form striker Vincenzo Montella to get them the win that will keep their faint hopes of making the last 16 alive.

The group's other match sees a still unconvincing Real Madrid travel to the imposing and icy fortress of Dynamo Kiev with the Spaniards probably being satisfied with a draw which would take both sides on to seven points with two matches remaining.

Real's in-form striker Michael Owen will be the man the Ukrainians will have to watch out for as he bids to score in his fifth successive match for the Spaniards.

However the former Liverpool star acknowledges that having spoken to his team-mates he cannot expect an easy time.

"Some of the lads at Real went there a few years ago and say they are very different at home so I know it isn't going to be easy to score," he said.

Group D could see French champions Lyon make the last 16 if they win at home against disunited Turkish outfit Fenerbahce and Manchester United defeat Czech team Sparta Prague at Old Trafford. Lyon have to do without Brazilian

skipper Claudio Cacapa and French international striker Sylvain Wiltord because of injury.

Their problems are nothing compared to their opponents who appear to be in open civil war with coach Christoph Daum openly criticising Brazilian midfielder Alex and then the German in turn being told off by his club president.

United will be looking to their underperforming expensively assembled strikeforce to take them a giant step closer to the knockout stages against a Sparta side that were unlikely not to take all three points a fortnight ago.

Group A leaders Monaco travel to Greek side Olympiakos where victory would keep the pressure on Liverpool, who trail them by two points and whose Spanish manager Rafael Benitez makes a quick return to his homeland with a trip to Deportivo La Coruna.

## FIXTURES

Champions League fixtures on Wednesday (kick-off 19:45 GMT):

**Group A**  
Deportivo La Coruna (SPA) v Liverpool (ENG)  
Olympiakos (GRE) v Monaco (FRA)

**Group B**  
Dynamo Kiev (UKR) v Real Madrid (SPA)  
AS Roma (ITA) v Bayer Leverkusen (GER)

**Group C**  
Bayern Munich (GER) v Juventus (ITA)  
Maccabi Tel-Aviv (ISR) v Ajax (NED)

**Group D**  
Lyon (FRA) v Fenerbahce (TUR)  
Manchester United (ENG) v Sparta Prague (CZE)

# Zola receives an OBE

Football

AFP, Rome

Former Chelsea star Gianfranco Zola was made an honorary member of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for his services to football here on Monday.

British Ambassador Sir Ivor Roberts presented the 38-year-old former Italy international with the award on behalf of the Queen.

Zola spent almost seven years at Chelsea and was admired by English crowds for his skill and technique, as well as his conduct both on and off the pitch.

"Words cannot express how I feel," said the veteran striker, who is now playing for his hometown club Cagliari in Serie A, Italy's first division. "For me this is a huge honour that I dedicate to my parents and to the fans of Chelsea."

"I believe that the English public appreciated my behaviour on the pitch and my reserve off it, but I could never have imagined the Queen

would award me this way."

Zola admitted it was difficult leaving England, where he spent his most successful years.

"It was a real wrench leaving London and I only did it because I am Sardinian and I wanted to end my career on homesoil," he added.

"If it wasn't for that I would still be living there, where I spent seven unforgettable years."

Zola signed for the English Premiership club in November 1996 in a 4.5 million pound (6.47 million euro) deal.

The following year Chelsea won the FA Cup and Zola was voted the English Football Writers' Player of the Year.

Twelve months later Chelsea won the English League Cup and the European Cup Winners' Cup, in which he scored the winning goal.

Zola collected another FA Cup winners' medal in 2000 when Chelsea beat Aston Villa at Wembley.

He left Chelsea to join Cagliari for a second spell in July 2003 and helped them to promotion from Serie B.



PHOTO: AFP

Cagliari midfielder and former Chelsea star Gianfranco Zola poses for photographers after receiving the Order of the British Empire from the British Ambassador in Italy Sir Ivor Roberts during a ceremony in Rome on November 1.

# Confederations Cup Argentina-Germany pick of the draw

Football

AFP, Frankfurt

German national coach Jurgen Klinsmann played down suggestions that the hosts were favourites to progress from Group A of the 2005 Confederations Cup following the draw here on Monday.

Germany were pooled with Olympic champions Argentina, African Cup of Nations winners Tunisia and Oceania's finest Australia in Group A but Klinsmann insisted the draw was by no means easy.

"There are no easy opponents," said Klinsmann. "Australia and Tunisia are both good teams and playing against Argentina is always something special."

Germany face Argentina in Dusseldorf in a friendly match on February 9 in what will be an appetiser for this tournament.

"This competition is a warm-up for the 2006 World Cup on home soil and we want to do well," Klinsmann added.

Argentina will face Tunisia in the opening match in Cologne on June 15 with Germany facing Australia in Frankfurt later the same day.

"The Confederations Cup is a big challenge for us," explained Australia manager Frank Farina. "We can learn a lot by playing against some great teams and hopefully this is a good preparation for the 2006 World Cup."

The competition takes on extra significance for Germany, who as hosts do not have to qualify for the

World Cup finals and have a shortage of competitive action.

For the other teams it offers a welcome distraction from World Cup qualifiers and the chance to get a feel for Germany ahead of the 2006 World Cup should they manage to qualify.

In Group B, world champions and tournament favourites Brazil come up against European champions Greece. Asian champions Japan and 1999 winners Mexico.

Brazil start the competition with a mouthwatering tussle against Greece in Leipzig on June 16.

"Of course we are particularly looking forward to the duel with Brazil in Leipzig," said Greece's German coach Otto Rehhagel.

"All teams are close to one another

in terms of ability and anyone can beat anyone. We proved that in the 2004 European championships."

Meanwhile Japan, finalists in 2001, open up against Mexico on June 16 in Hannover.

Japan coach Zico can also look forward to an emotional clash against his homeland Brazil, where he is an icon, on June 22 in Cologne.

"I am very happy with our group," said Zico. "The game with Brazil is obviously something special for me. But we need to prepare for the other opponents too."

Mexico will be wary of a backlash when they face Brazil on June 19 in Hannover. Mexico shocked Brazil with a 4-3 win to lift the 1999 Confederations Cup.

## FIXTURES

THE DRAW  
Group draw for the 2005 Confederations Cup made here on Monday:

**Group A**  
Germany  
Australia  
Argentina  
Tunisia

**June 15**  
Argentina v Tunisia in Cologne  
Germany v Australia in Frankfurt

**June 18**  
Tunisia v Germany in Cologne  
Australia v Argentina in Nuremberg

**June 21**  
Australia v Tunisia in Leipzig  
Argentina v Germany in Nuremberg

**Group B**  
Brazil  
Greece  
Japan  
Mexico

**June 16**  
Japan v Mexico in Hannover  
Brazil v Greece in Leipzig

**June 19**  
Mexico v Brazil in Hannover  
Greece v Japan in Frankfurt

**June 22**  
Greece v Mexico in Frankfurt  
Japan v Brazil in Cologne

## Big clubs big on debt

AFP, Milan

Top Italian clubs AC Milan, AS Roma, Inter Milan, Juventus and Lazio piled up debts of 320 million euros last season despite pulling in 71 percent of total revenues, the *Il Sole 24 Ore* business daily said.

Inter, the deepest in the red with debts of 97 million euros, had to raise 60 million euros through a share issue to keep afloat.

Lazio's debts were 86.3 million euros, Roma's were 66.8 million euros, AC Milan's 51 million euros and Juventus, after seven years in the black, reported losses of 18.5 million euros.

Spiralling wages were mostly to blame with Lazio paying players 101 million euros last season, topping revenue of 100.7 million euros.

## Eriksson home attacked

AFP, London

England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson's three-million-pound (4.3-million-euro, 5.5-million-dollar) London home has been targeted in a series of vandal attacks, police said Tuesday.