

## Reefat dealt major blow

SPORTS REPORTER

Reefat bin Sattar's aspiration to accumulate the necessary points to become a Grand Master received a huge blow when he lost his fifth round board against Grand Master Ziaur Rahman in the University of Greenwich FIDE Rating Chess Tournament yesterday.

Following two draws in his previous matches, the International Master slipped to fourth position with three points from five matches while Zia maintained the solo lead with 4.5 points.

IM Enamul Hossain Rajib beat FIDE Master Khondokar Aminul Islam and FIDE Master Mehdi Hasan Parag beat FIDE Master Abu Sufian Shakil to follow the leader with four points each.

Nazir Salehin and Rabiul Islam were jointly leading the points table in Section B securing maximum five points.

## Wari blank Dhanmondi

SPORTS REPORTER

Two second-half goals helped Wari Club register their fourth victory in the First Division Football League when they blanked bottomers Dhanmondi Club 2-0 at the Birsreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

With the outcome, the old city side raised their collection to 14 points from eleven matches while Dhanmondi remained on four points from same number of outings.

Milon put Wari ahead in the 76th minute while Ripon doubled it two minutes from the long whistle.



Grand Master Ziaur Rahman (L) and International Master Reefat bin Sattar are engaged in a cerebral warfare during their fifth round game of the FIDE Rating chess tournament at the NSC conference room yesterday.

## Vaughan puts cricket aside

AFP, London

England captain Michael Vaughan insisted any euphoria he felt about his side's one-day international win over Australia had been short-lived as he prepared for the prospect of playing two games in bomb-hit London.

As England were beating the world champions by nine wickets at Vaughan's Headingly home ground on Thursday, Londoners were coming to terms with several attacks on underground stations and an explosion on a double-decker bus that left at least 70 killed and more than 700 injured.

Now cricket's oldest rivals are set to play two more matches in the British capital over the next five days when they conclude their three-match limited-overs series with fixtures at Lord's on Sunday and The Oval on Tuesday.

And at a time when English cricket fans in particular were in danger of becoming obsessed by the forthcoming Ashes Tests, Vaughan readily admitted that runs and wickets were as nothing compared to the events in London.

"Cricket is not that important when you see those things," Vaughan insisted. "It all started early in the morning when I first arrived at the ground and saw the scenes."

"Normally we wouldn't have had the televisions on in the dressing room, but we had to keep them on because there were people that were in London that we all know."

"We haven't tried to get too involved in it, but we are trying to put things in perspective and we played a game of cricket and there are far more important things in life than cricket."

The attacks were given added poignancy coming as they did just

24 hours after many Londoners were rejoicing at the decision to award the city the 2012 Olympic Games.

"We were thrilled for London getting the Olympics just the day before and I think it's one of the best things to happen to English sport for many years," said Vaughan.

"Then we arrived at the ground to see those scenes in London and it put sport and life in general really into perspective."

And while careful not to over-stress its importance to the recovery effort, Vaughan didn't shy away from the potential wider benefits of England continuing to enjoy cricket success against Ricky Ponting's tourists.

"We hoped our victory at Headingley would go just a small

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## Tendulkar has to prove his fitness

PTI, Chennai

Sachin Tendulkar, who would be out of action for four months as he recovers from an operation to cure an elbow injury, would have to prove his fitness by playing domestic matches in order to make it to the Indian team.

According to sources in the Board of Control for Cricket in India, the selection committee members will insist on Tendulkar proving his match fitness by playing in domestic matches.

Captain Sourav Ganguly was asked by the selectors to prove his match fitness after an injury last year. In fact, Ganguly played two Elite Ranji matches for Bengal and came up with a superb century against Madhya Pradesh to help his team avoid being relegated to the Plate (Ranji) group.

The Indian team is to tour Sri Lanka for a tri-nation tournament from July 30 with West Indies as the third team.

Meanwhile, Indian coach Greg Chappell has roped in the services of an expert on 'out-of-the-box-thinking' to achieve his goal of getting back Tendulkar to his aggressive batting style.

Chappell held discussions in Bangalore with Tata Consultancy Services HR Head S Sivasubramanian during the fast bowlers camp, the sources told PTI.

## Pele scores again!

REUTERS, New York

Soccer legend Pele, who joined the New York Cosmos 30 years ago, was back in the city on Friday, not as a missionary for the world's most popular sport but presenting a documentary film of his life.

"This is the bible of Pele's life," said the still lithe 64-year-old Brazilian star, who is considered a soccer god to millions of fans worldwide.

Appropriately for a man who was an artist on the soccer field, the movie was being screened at New York's Museum of Modern Art. It's a bit different from the last time Pele was seen on the big screen, in the 1981 Hollywood movie "Escape to Victory," alongside Michael Caine and Sylvester Stallone, about a group of Allied PoWs who take on their Nazi captors.

Edson Arantes do Nascimento, or Pele, as he is simply known, was at the Manhattan museum among the Picassos, Matisse and Dalis, to introduce "Pele Eterno" (Pele Forever), which was being shown at the museum on Saturday and Sunday as part of MoMA's exhibition of Brazilian cinema.

Directed by Anibal Massaini, it tells the life of the player through the eyes of his family and former teammates. It includes historic footage, some of it 50 years old, of a few of Pele's 1,281 goals in a 22-year career, including tallies in Brazil's 1958 and 1970 World Cup final victories.

"The first goal I scored at Maracana (stadium in Rio), I was 16 and I only just saw it on film for the first time," he told Reuters in an interview in the museum's screening room.

That, he said, is what prompted him to approach Massaini to make the film, to document his achievements.

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## 'Injured' Aftab out of BD A tour

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Exciting batting talent Aftab Ahmed was dropped from the England-bound Bangladesh A team due to injury.

Teenage left-hander Mehrab Hossain Junior replaced the right-hand Test batsman in the 15-member squad which will play five three-day and four limited-overs games against different English county sides.

It is the second enforced-injury change to the squad after pacer Alamgir Kabir replaced fellow seamer Anwar Hossain Munir.

Chief selector Faruque Ahmed said that they dropped Aftab as a precautionary measure.

"He strained a muscle in the left foot while in his follow through while bowling. But it is nothing serious," he informed.

"It was not wise to send him with the A team even with a slight niggle as there is the Sri Lanka tour in September and we have a chance to tour India in October and play a

triangular one-day series at home thereafter," he continued.

When asked whether Aftab's injury would be used as an excuse by some other national players fatigued after spending two months in England, the former national captain dismissed the notion.

"Only Shahriar Nafees and Nafees Iqbal were in the squad all through the tour, so I don't think the fatigue or injury can be an issue rather I believe that it will be a very crucial series for all the players," he explained.

The composition of the second-string national side had earlier raised questions regarding the inclusion of so many Test caps considering nine of them had only returned from England with the senior team. Even some senior players didn't find any reason for including the 19-year-old Aftab in the junior selection.

Right-arm paceman Talha Jubair, who was also in the England Test squad but didn't play a single match, suffered an injury in his left ankle during practice at the BKSP but Faruque said that he was now okay to play the series.

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## Arambagh held by Wanderers

SPORTS REPORTER

Arambagh Krira Sangha was held by lowly Dhaka Wanderers Club to a goalless draw in the Premier Bank Premier Football League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The 90-minute affair ended fruitless as the slippery pitch as both sides wasted some easy chances in each half.

With the outcome Arambagh raised their tally to nine points and remained in the seventh place after eight matches while it was Wanderers', who are second from bottom, fourth draw in same number of outings.

Young striker Akbar Hossain Ridhan got an early chance to put Arambagh ahead, but his right-footer on a Murad cross flew over the crosspiece while Wanderers defender and captain Jahangir salvaged his team in the 18th minute when he cleared a Henry header from goalline.

After the breather, both teams tried with long-range attempts to break the deadlock but Arambagh custodian Shakil and his counterpart Indrajit did excellent jobs under the bar not to give their opponents the lead.

HOSTS' WINNING START

## BKSP under-16 soccer begins

SPORTS REPORTER

BKSP Green defeated Chandigarh Football Association 2-1 as the third Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protishthan (BKSP) under-16 football tournament began at the country's lone sports institute ground in Savar yesterday.

Manik put the hosts ahead in the 24th minute and Sabuj added another in the 57th minute. Gujrat Singh scored for the visiting side in the 52nd minute.

A total of eight teams are taking part in the tournament which are six divisional teams of the country, Chandigarh FA of India and hosts BKSP.

ASIAN WOMEN'S KABADDI

## Good start by Bangladesh

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh made a good start in the first Asian Women's Kabaddi Championship in Hyderabad on Friday.

Bangladesh beat South Korea 40-12 in the opening match to move into the second round.



## Did U Know?

When choosing locations for the Olympic Games, the IOC specifically gives the honour of holding the Games to a city rather than a country.

**What to WATCH**

**ESPN**  
NatWest Challenge  
England vs Australia  
Second ODI  
Live at 3:30 pm

**STAR Sports**  
Hall of Fame Tennis C'ships  
Men's Singles Final  
Live at 12:00 am (Monday)

**DAY'S EVENT**

**Premier Football League**  
Mohammedan vs Youngmen's Club  
(5:00 pm)  
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

**TALK TURKEY**



**Javed Miandad**  
(Former Pakistan cricket captain)  
"I'm disappointed. It is no use playing a cricket series when a visiting team is refusing to play in Karachi despite security assurances from the board and government."  
After England's refusal to play Test in Karachi.



Football legend Pele poses next to a poster for a documentary film titled 'Pele Forever' at New York's Museum of Modern Art on July 8.

## 'Aussies loving it'

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

Mike Hussey said Australia were relishing the challenge posed by England after years of domination over the old enemy.

Australia, gunning for a ninth straight Ashes success, have not been at their best in recent one-dayers and were thrashed by the hosts by nine wickets on Thursday.

"To be honest this is what we've been craving for so long."

"We've got a real challenge on our hands," said in-form batsman Hussey, who is not in Australia's Test squad.

"It's what we're really looking forward to and that's when the true Australian spirit and the real class will hopefully come to the fore and we'll get right into the fight."

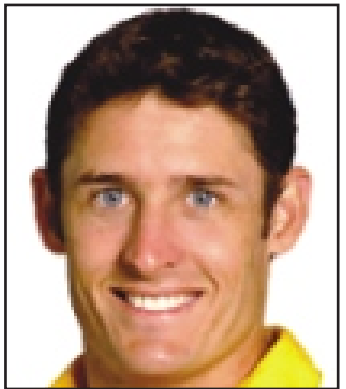
"We've got some brilliant players and I'm sure they'll rise to the challenge."

Hussey, who left his post as captain of Durham for the one-day leg of Australia's tour, has averaged

91 for his country this summer. The left-hander admitted some of his teammates were taking time to acclimatise to English conditions.

"I think we're adapting a little slower than we were hoping, but we are still adapting," he said.

"I think the rustiness should be gone by now. The guys have been playing for three and four weeks now so we should be starting to hit our straps and get closer to our best."



MIKE HUSSEY

Lancashire's Brad Hodge was preferred as the extra batsman in Australia's Ashes squad -- but Hussey has the endorsement of captain Ricky Ponting should they need a replacement batsman because of injury.

"In nearly every game on this tour he's been the man that's put his hand up and done a job for us," said Ponting.

"He's become very important to us and he's an exceptional player in any situation -- he's been in early on a couple of games and he's also been our finisher and he's great in the field."

"I wouldn't know because I'm not a selector, but I would imagine he was one of the people spoken about before the Test squad was announced anyway."

"He's here for the whole summer and if we have a couple of injuries then I'm sure his name will be near the top of the list."

Hussey, uncapped at Test level, admitted he would leap at the chance to represent his country in white clothing.

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Action from yesterday's Premier Bank Premier Division Football League clash between Arambagh and Dhaka Wanderers at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.