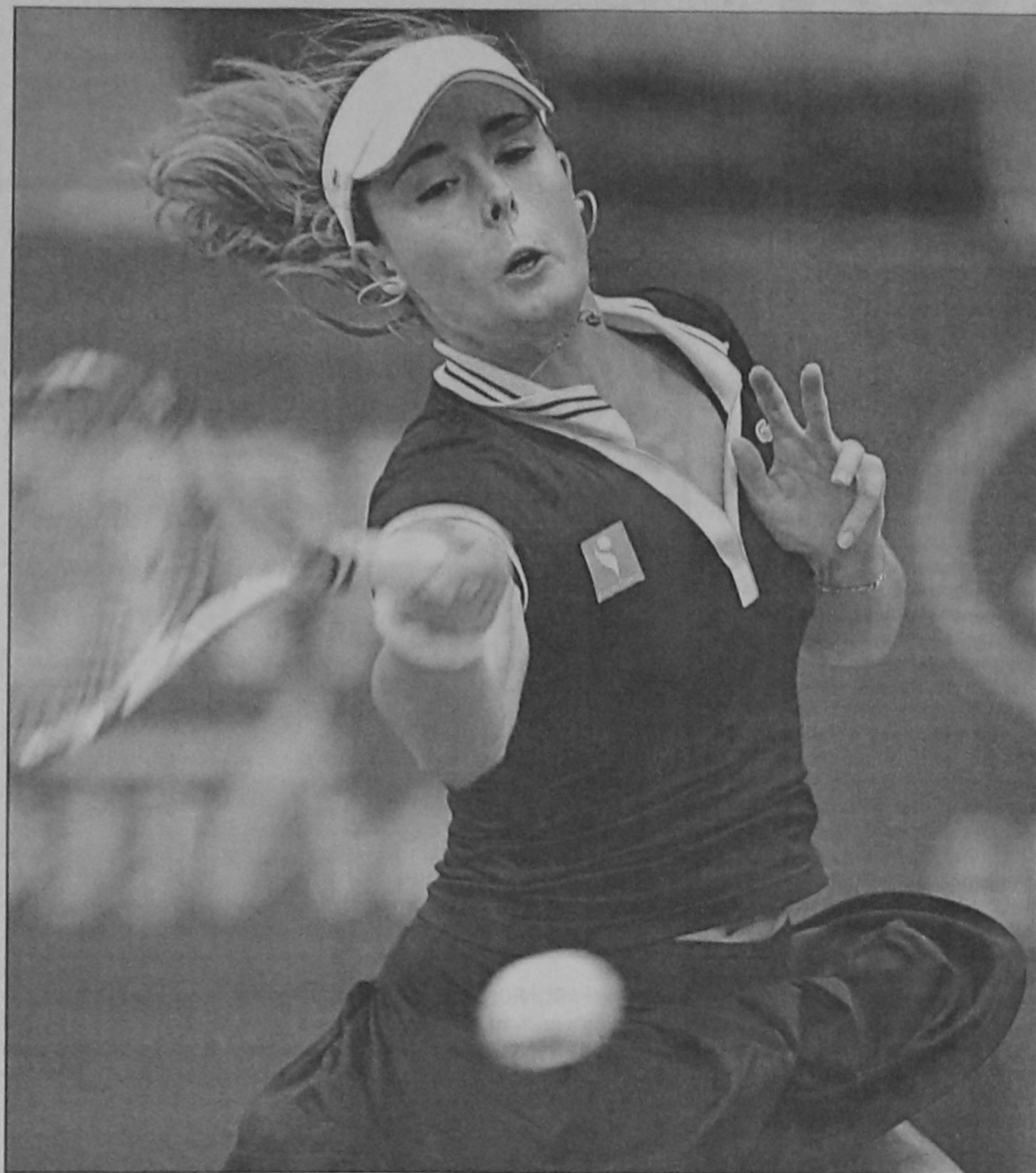


C'WEALTH YOUTH GAMES Bangladesh leave on Thursday

SPORTS REPORTER An 11-member Bangladesh contingent will leave Dhaka on Thursday for Indian city Pune to take part in the 3rd Commonwealth Youth Games.

Canada ban the captain

CRICINFO, undated Zubin Surkari has been handed a two-game suspension and fined by the Canadian Cricket Association for conduct and behaviour-related charges.



Alize Cornet of France plays a forehand against compatriot Amelie Mauresmo in the first round of the Kremlin Cup in Moscow yesterday. She was beaten 6-7, 6-3, 6-4.

Ramos sticking with Spurs

Football AFP, London Juande Ramos insisted he has no intention of quitting after Tottenham hit a new low with a dismal 1-0 defeat against Hull at White Hart Lane.

rooted to the bottom of the table. Ramos's predecessor Martin Jol lost his job for less but the Spanish coach is confident he can turn the tide.

Pavlyuchenko limped off in the first half with an ankle injury which will undergo a scan this week.

Rajib 3rd Niger Short who emerged champion with 9.5 points. Local GM Surya Shekhar Ganguly finished runner-up for the silver medal with nine points.

Among other Bangladeshi contestants, GM Ziaur Rahman finished 14th with eight points, GM Niaz Mursheed bagged 46th place (7 points), FM Syed Mahfuzur Rahman Emon 80th, Debaraj Chatterjee 81st, FM Taibur Rahman 86th, Mohammed Javed 105th, FM Mehdi Hassan Parag 119th and FM Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar 126th.

Three new faces "We picked up Nayeem [Islam] because our regular middle-order batsman Rokibul Hasan's injury is yet to heal," he said.

Rafiqul refuted the allegations that he had given too many players international debuts during their eleven-month tenure. "It's not true because there were some players who were on and off while we were forced to change sometimes due to injury. We never thought about junior or senior rather our main concentration was on the performance and there is no exception this time also," he defended.

Hughes wants more investment

Football AFP, Manchester Mark Hughes insisted that Manchester City will need to add more players to their squad in January if they are to challenge for a Champions League spot after Dirk Kuyt's injury-time strike sealed a 3-2 win for Liverpool.

that he still needs time to reshape his squad. Hughes said: "People have to be realistic because we are only a few games into the Premier League season and once again we will be frustrated by the international break this week."

Afghanistan on course

AFP, Dar Es Salaam Afghanistan's push towards a place at the 2011 World Cup continued on Sunday when they thrashed Jersey by 124 runs to make it two wins in two matches in the World Cricket League Division Four.

Roma keep sent off in the seven matches -- only Udinese-Torino ended with a full set of 22 players on the pitch.

Udinese are joint top with Lazio, who were held 1-1 at home by Lecce on Saturday, and Inter, 2-1 winners over Bologna on Saturday, after the northerners won 2-0.

Nigerian group

FROM PAGE 20 "Once that is sorted, we'll fine-tune our offer. "We're prepared to look at other options if our bid for Newcastle is not successful. I've been approached by several top Premier League club offering us opportunities to buy their clubs."

Black Caps' lone

FROM PAGE 17 informed BCB curator Shafiqul Alam Belal yesterday. "Another spell of rain in the night however may totally jeopardise the match," he added.

Borussia sack

FROM PAGE 20 Taking over on an interim basis will be Moenchengladbach sports director Christian Ziege, while the search goes on for a successor.

Ehsanul, Sajjad age group selectors

SPORTS REPORTER The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has appointed Ehsanul Haque and Sajjad Ahmed as the age group team selectors.

WTA's top 10

- AFP, Paris Jelena Jankovic of Serbia was confirmed as regaining the world No.1 ranking on Monday following her win in the WTA tournament at Stuttgart on Sunday.

MSC face Mukti

FROM PAGE 17 players of defending champions Abahani from making long travels just before the trip to Malaysia.

The match will be held on October 10 at 4.30pm at the BNS before the Arambagh-Brothers match at 6.30pm.

Tickets at AB

FROM PAGE 17 stadium on each day of the match. For the second Test, which will begin on October 25 at Mirpur, will be sold at AB Bank branches in Dhaka from October 22 and will also be available at ticket booths of the SBNS on each day of the Test.

3-1 predicts

FROM PAGE 17 four days, first allowing the hosts to pile up 455 in the first innings before being bowled out for 314 in reply.

BCB's EGM

FROM PAGE 17 reducing the size of the executive committee from the existing 31 to 25 members. The councillors will elect 22 directors: 12 of them will come from Dhaka clubs, ten from divisional and district sports associations while the National Sports Council (NSC) will nominate one director.

'Either Krejza or White'

CRICINFO, Hyderabad

Left with minimal spin resources after Bryce McGain was ruled out of the tour, Ricky Ponting has said either Jason Krejza or Cameron White will play in the first Test against India in Bangalore. Both are yet to play a Test, and though Krejza gave away 199 runs from 31 wicketless overs against the Board President's XI, Ponting saw it as a "learning curve" for the off-spinner.

against India A and New Zealand A. In 2004-05, Jason Gillespie, Glenn McGrath and Michael Kasprowitz shared 42 wickets in Australia's conquest of the final frontier and Ponting felt the fast bowlers would need to step up on this tour as well.

Ponting was satisfied with the performance of Brett Lee, Stuart Clark and Mitchell Johnson in Hyderabad. "Brett Lee is probably a little bit underdone. He got lots of overs here and improved. Stuart Clark is very reliable. Mitchell [Johnson] was the pick of our fast bowlers," he said.

every other player in the world." Ponting, who averages 12.28 from eight Tests played in India, said he owed his team some runs in India.

"I am back from an injury; it's always a little hard to get going. To spend some quality time in both innings has been good. I was sort of disappointed to get out in the first innings. I could have got a bit more time under my belt."

Beau can fight back

CRICINFO, undated

Beau Casson has not given up hope of adding to his one Test cap despite being overlooked for Cameron White as the late spin call-up for Australia's squad in India. Casson made his debut in the West Indies but the selectors preferred Bryce McGain, Jason Krejza and White for the India trip.

However, the selectors were keen to have a right-arm leg-spinner and an off-spinner in India, so while White joins the squad in Bangalore as a replacement for the injured McGain, Casson will be playing Sheffield Shield cricket against Western Australia in Perth.

"I would love to be in India but it wasn't meant to be," he said. "[The selectors] have decided to go with a combination they think will be successful over there."

could help out with the ball," Hussey said.

"But watching him work out in Darwin against Bangladesh and seeing some of the results against India A in India, he seems like he's really improved his bowling and is getting a lot more confidence with it. That's got to be a good sign for our team."

Sourav sounds a caution

FROM PAGE 17 in 2001 and earned a credible 1-1 draw Down Under two years later. The left-hander, 36, was regarded by the Indian media as a controversial selection for the first two Tests of the upcoming series after being ignored for a domestic trial match last month.

by India's second string over the four days, first allowing the hosts to pile up 455 in the first innings before being bowled out for 314 in reply.

Sub-par Real

FROM PAGE 20 Eliseu Pereira dos Santos scored the first of his brace in the opening minute and then goals either side of the interval from Nabil Baha and Duda Valente firmly placed Malaga in the driving seat.

Ganguly, however, dismissed any talk of retirement and welcomed the pressure to perform in the series, for himself and the other seniors in the side like Rahul Dravid, Sachin Tendulkar and Venkatesh Laxman.

The tourists' biggest worry was their spin options after 36-year-old Bryce McGain returned home with a shoulder injury and rookie off-spinner Jason Krejza proved inadequate to the task.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer. A grid with clues for words like 'Puncturing tools', 'Swathe', 'Attorneys' earnings', etc.

CRYPTOQUIP. A word search puzzle with letters A-Z and clues like 'AW Q ZFABZ KFQIB ZBHAZBZ', etc.