



Renowned referee Mansur Azad (R), who retired from the job on Monday, was accorded a farewell by Bangladesh Football Federation before the beginning of the Federation Cup final at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

## Rating chess

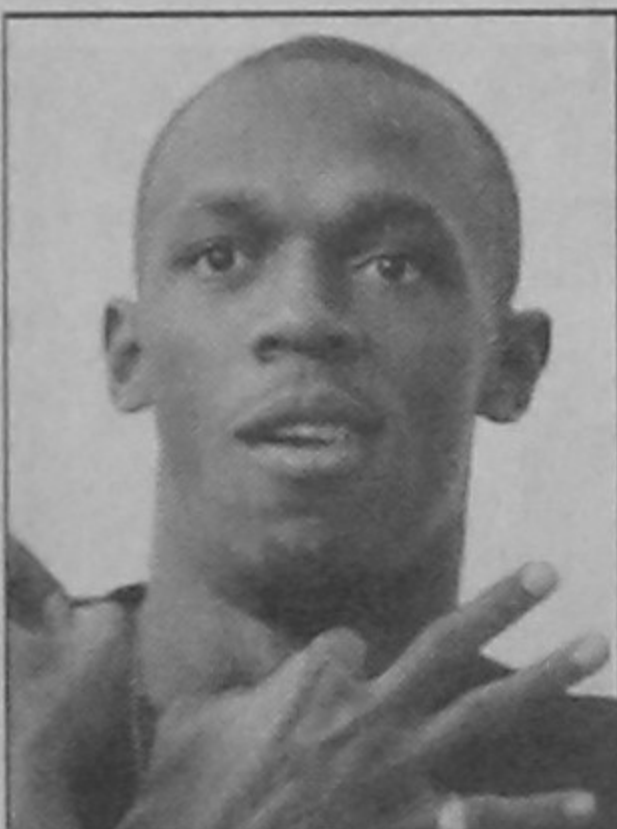
SPORTS REPORTER

Four players shared the lead with seven points each at the end of the eighth round of Pexatech Open International Rating Chess Tournament at the Chess Federation hall room yesterday. They are FM Mahfuzur Rahman of Destiny, Shafiz Ahmed of Barisal, Abdur Rauf and Saiful Islam Chowdhury of Sylhet. Four players were sharing the second position with six and a half points.



## Did U Know?

Juan Manuel Fangio is the oldest racer in the history of F1 racing to have won the championship. He was 46 years old when he won in the year 1957.



## Usain Bolt

(Jamaican sprint superstar)  
"It was a good game, I really enjoyed it. These are the things I like to do, it's fun. I am always in for charity."  
After the charity cricket match in Kingston on Sunday.

## Sarwan wants to play

### Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

West Indies batsman Ramnaresh Sarwan is keen to get back into the international fold, now that the impasse between the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) and the West Indies Players' Association (WIPA) seems to be coming to an end.

Sarwan, who along with several other prominent names like Chris Gayle and Shivnarine Chanderpaul had boycotted the Bangladesh series at home over pay and contractual disputes, and were overlooked for the subsequent ICC Champions Trophy in South Africa. While they were walloped in the Test and ODI series at home under Floyd Reifer's captaincy, a first-round exit followed in the Champions Trophy.

"For us to get an opportunity to go on the field again is really great," Sarwan told the Jamaica Gleaner. "We miss representing the region. It felt a little bit strange seeing the West Indies playing both against Bangladesh and in

the Champions Trophy and I wasn't there. But we made a decision as a group and had to stand by that decision.

"We are very pleased to know that the WICB and WIPA have come to an agreement and are working at a final solution. We hope that things continue and there will be an amicable solution for everyone, so that what happened will never happen again."

Sarwan, 29, who took part in Chris Gayle's Pro 15/15 celebrity charity match at St Ann Bauxite Oval, teaming up with star athlete Usain Bolt, was also pleasantly surprised with the huge support despite the trying circumstances.

"It shows that they still love us and want to see us succeed, no matter what," Sarwan said. "To represent the West Indies and six million people around the Caribbean is always an honour and to come here and get the response we have been getting despite the circumstances is really a good feeling."

West Indies' next assignment is in Australia beginning late November, where they will play three Tests, five ODIs and two Twenty20 internationals.

## Youzhny's solid start

### Tennis

AFP, Moscow

Home favourite and third-seed Mikhail Youzhny cruised into the ATP Kremlin Cup second round with a straight-set win over Horacio Zeballos of Argentina here on Monday.

The 27-year-old Russian, 30th in the ATP rankings, came through his first ever meeting with Zeballos 6-1, 7-6.

Youzhny started confidently producing three breaks in the opening set which he took in 26 minutes.

In the second set Zeballos, ranked 54th in the world, broke early to clinch a 3-1 lead but Youzhny broke back in the sixth to level at 3-3.

In the tiebreak Youzhny's greater accuracy prevailed as he won the set and the match in one hour 26 minutes.

"In the first set I was confident and fresh, while he (Zeballos) made too many mistakes," Youzhny said.

"I took seven consecutive

games but then lost my concentration for a while and lost a serve, while he was serving and returning much better. But it was my only mistake in the match and I managed to win the tiebreak."

Fifth seed Pablo Cuevas of Uruguay, 52nd in the ATP rankings, also advanced into the second round beating Yen-Hsun Lu of Chinese Taipei 6-4, 6-2.

In the WTA section local favourite and fifth seed Nadia Petrova ousted unheralded 17-year-old compatriot Yana Buchina, who is 949th in the world, 6-2, 6-0 in their first ever meeting.

Monte Carlo resident Petrova, 27, looked in command from the start breaking wild card Buchina's serve twice in the opening set after 31 minutes on court.

In the second set Petrova underlined her domination on the hard courts of Moscow's Olympic indoor stadium breaking her opponent for a 48-minute win.

"The match was so short and she (Buchina) was so nervous

that she wasn't going her way," said Petrova, who finished runner-up here in 2006.

"For me the event's opening match is usually uneasy and I also committed too many own mistakes today. I need to keep myself concentrated throughout the match to gain success here."

In the second round Petrova will face unseeded Ukraine's Alona Bondarenko, who saw off 2006 champion Anna Chakvetadze of Russia, in straight sets 6-4, 6-3 in one hour 17 minutes.

## Zimbabwe

FROM PAGE 17

Matches of the series will be played on the 3rd and 5th of November at the Divisional Stadium. Zimbabwe touring Bangladesh on the back of a 4-1 ODI series win at home against Kenya. They will be looking to bring that form here as to exact revenge on Bangladesh, to whom they lost at home 1-4 in an ODI series in Harare.

## Delhi end with a win

CRICINFO, undated



The spate of low scores at the Feroz Shah Kotla continued on Monday with the Cape Cobras collapsing in their chase of 115 to lose by 30 runs,

in the bargain posting the tournament's lowest total. The good news for them, though, was that they finished second in League B and will play their semifinal against Trinidad and Tobago in Hyderabad, avoiding the dodgy Kotla pitch. There was good news for Delhi Daredevils, too -- they were already out of the tournament but ended on a high and gave their fans something to cheer.

With the pitch behaving as expected -- the ball coming on slowly and the bounce uneven -- bowlers from both teams stuck to a plan similar to that adopted by other teams here. While pace helped Cobras restrict Delhi's batsmen, the home team relied on their spinners to turn the tide and pick up the big wickets -- Herschelle Gibbs, JP Duminy and Justin Ontong. Gautam Gambhir, aware of the tricky pitch, opted to open the bowling with Tillakaratne Dilshan and the turn was evident in his second delivery as he trapped Gibbs in front to one that shot in

from outside off. Duminy, charged with the responsibility of guiding the innings after Henry Davids' departure, was castled by Amit Mishra to one that kept extremely low, and Ontong was bowled through the gate, deceived by Dilshan's flight.

Strangely enough, though, the flow of each innings was altered by run-outs that prevented a par score on this track. Dinesh Karthik's attacking 23 was ended by an all-too-familiar blunder by his partner Owais Shah, while Henry Davids' dismissal off a direct hit from Pradeep Sangwan at short third man -- after putting on an aggressive 27 with Duminy -- proved decisive in getting Delhi back in the game.

Meanwhile, Dirk Nannes went about his job with typical efficiency, having uprooted Andrew Puttick's off stump in his second over, he delivered immediately on return for his second spell. Ryan Canning was bowled while attempting a pull and Claude Henderson failed to dig one out of the blockhole. At 78 for 8, there was only one result possible and Yogesh Nagar made swift work of the tail.

Delhi's score was boosted by Shah, who made amends for Karthik's dismissal with some aggression at the death. He broke a 10-over boundary drought with a

six over long-on off Ontong, and helped snatch 35 off the last four overs to give his bowlers something of a target.

Karthik had launched a counter-attack after Rory Kleinveldt -- who kept a tight line and offered little width -- had reined in Delhi by dismissing the openers. After seeing off three overs amid the pressure of a declining run-rate, he stepped up to dispatch Kleinveldt for three consecutive fours. Each delivery varied in length but Karthik adapted brilliantly; a short one was pulled over midwicket, a good-length delivery was driven on the up and a slower ball bowled full was clattered over extra cover. His dismissal pegged back Delhi further, but Shah's surge towards the end of the innings took them to what turned out to be a match-winning total.

While the Hyderabad semifinal between T&T and Cobras promises to be a high-scoring one, the two Australian teams, Victoria and New South Wales, will be wary of what is likely to be on offer in Delhi, with the pitch spoiling a game designed for bighits.

### SCORES IN BRIEF

Delhi Daredevils 114 for 6 (Shah 39 not out, Karthik 23; Ontong 2-8) beat Cape Cobras 84 (Nannes 3-19) by 30 runs.

## Mayor Cup in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

First Mayor Cup football will begin in Sylhet on Friday. The Sylhet city corporation (SCC) mayor Badar Uddin Ahmed Kamran announced it at a press conference at the city corporation building yesterday afternoon.

Twenty-eight teams including 27 from each of the city wards are taking part in the knockout tournament, arranged for the first time in Sylhet. The other teams would be in the name of city corporation officers and employees. The mayor and other officials failed to give satisfactory answers about forming a team in the name of officials and employees.

The authority this time failed to manage any sponsor for the football tournament. A budget of Taka 15 lakh has been targeted for the tournament, the press conference was told.

The SCC last year successfully organised the first mayor cup Cricket tournament with ward level teams from the city corporation. The inaugural and final matches would be held under floodlight. Ward # 5 and City Corporation employees 'XI' will play the inaugural match.

## Maruful

FROM PAGE 17

Confrontation with others, rather he is focused on the upcoming Bangladesh League, the biggest competition Mohammedan have yet to conquer.

"It was a preparatory tournament and the real challenge is ahead of us as our main target is to clinch the professional league title and our preparation has already started through the Federation Cup," said Maruf, who earlier declared that he would love to see all three titles of the season under their belt.

"After winning the Federation Cup, we have proved that we are the best not only on paper," said Mohammedan captain Arman Aziz, who was also Mohammedan's stand-in captain last season.

Arman said that they would rectify the mistakes that they in the final in the upcoming Bangladesh League, which gets underway from October 25.

The midfielder also thinks the success in the Federation Cup would inspire them for playing better football in the Bangladesh League.

On the other hand, Abahani coach Amalesh Sen also thinks they should have won the match in regulation time, but the failure of the forwards let them down.

Amalesh feels luck was not with them in the tiebreaker though they had prepared well for the shootout.

Abahani manager Satyajit Das Rupu said that the match was an entertaining one, but they went down because of failure of the strikers.

"Except for the first seven minutes, we dominated the match, but our players squandered a lot of chances, and a certain penalty was ignored in the first half," said a gloomy Rupu.

Abahani's Ghanaian defender Samad Yousuf was named man of the final while Mohammedan's defender Ariful Islam was adjudged the most valuable player of the tournament.

Nigerian striker Alamu Bukola Olalekan grabbed a cash-award of Tk 25,000 for becoming the highest scorer with eight goals while newcomers Beanibazar SC bagged the fair player trophy.

## Ponting for ODI points

### Cricket

AFP, Sydney

Australia captain Ricky Ponting called for a rethink of one-day cricket to end meaningless dead rubbers as he left for a seven-game series in India.

Ponting said a points system was needed to give all one-dayers "significant meaning," citing Australia's lop-sided 6-1 win against England last month.

"The way that one-day cricket is played at the moment with one-off series like this -- until there is a... points system in place then it might get to the same sort of situation as it did in the UK," he said late on Monday.

"We were 4-0 up after four games and all of a sudden there is talk of teams rotating players in and out and doing all sorts of things."

"So the important thing I think is we make sure that every game of 50-over cricket has some significant meaning."

With one-day cricket under growing threat from Twenty20, fast bowler Mitchell Johnson backed the 50-over format and said he hoped it "doesn't die."

"Test cricket is number one for me but then it's followed by 50-over cricket," he said. "I prefer 50-over cricket [over Twenty20]. I hope it doesn't die, because I love the game."

Australia embark on the series, starting on Sunday in Vadodara, with an undecided batting line-up after Michael Clarke delayed his departure to deal with recurring back problems.

## Abahani, Gazi Tank in final

FROM PAGE 17

boundary in the next over meant there wasn't any more twists.

Earlier, Mohammedan had posted what seemed to be a defendable total of 164 in their twenty overs for the loss of four wickets, thanks to a rollicking knock of 47 off 26 deliveries from the tournament's top-scorer Tamim

## Biplob, Carin

FROM PAGE 17

7-6. He took the third set 6-4 to end a riveting contest.

Rustum however contented himself with a doubles crown as he teamed up with Malaysia's Duzbionjit Singh to take the doubles' crown beating Indian pair of Malhotra Raghav and Mehrotra Rajiv 7-6, 6-2.

Hong Kong's Ka Man Carin won the girls' singles final beating Shambhavi Dixit of India 4-6, 6-4, 6-1. She also won the doubles title pairing with her compatriot Ching Chan to beat Shambhavi and Moulika Ram of India 6-3, 6-3.

## Mohammedan

FROM PAGE 17

Mohammedan spent a lot this year in their quest to win the prestigious B. League (now Bangladesh League) that has remained the sole property of Abahani since its inception in 2006.

Although their super striker Emily was not up to his best against his former club in the final, Mohammedan still enjoyed the better share of the match with their Nigerian striker Alamu Bukola producing a scintillating performance.

The tall attacker was certainly a class apart with his wonderful sway, imaginative passes and with uncanny ability to outfox the opponent defense.

Mohammedan won a cash prize of Taka five lakh with the glittering trophy while Mohammedan defender Ariful Islam was named the most valuable player of the tournament.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Abad Ali Sarker witnessed the final and gave away prizes.

Iqbal, a patient-yet-sensible fifty from other opener Shamsur Rahman and a late flurry from Mahmudullah who remained not out on 27 facing just 11 deliveries to make give the crowd rich entertainment. Mohammedan skipper Mohammad Ashraful provided valuable contribution with 19 off 18 deliveries before falling victim of a superb run-out from his Abahani counterpart. Abahani pacer Moktar Ali was the best bowler on show with figures of 1 for 28, while veteran left-arm spinner Mohammad Rafique got two wickets for 36.

The second semifinal at the same venue was a cakewalk for power-house Gazi Tank who romped past tournament's surprise package Khelaghar Samaj Kalyan Samity by 8 wickets sparing 3.4 overs. Gazi Tank Mithun Ali turned in a man-of-the-match performance as he scored the bulk of runs (69) chasing a small target of 96. Alok Kapali continued his excellent form with the ball as he grabbed three more wickets in this match. Gazi Tank will fight with Abahani today in the final under the lights while Khelaghar will take on with Mohammedan for the third spot earlier at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

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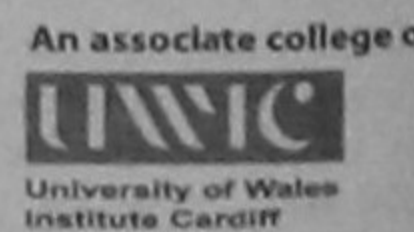
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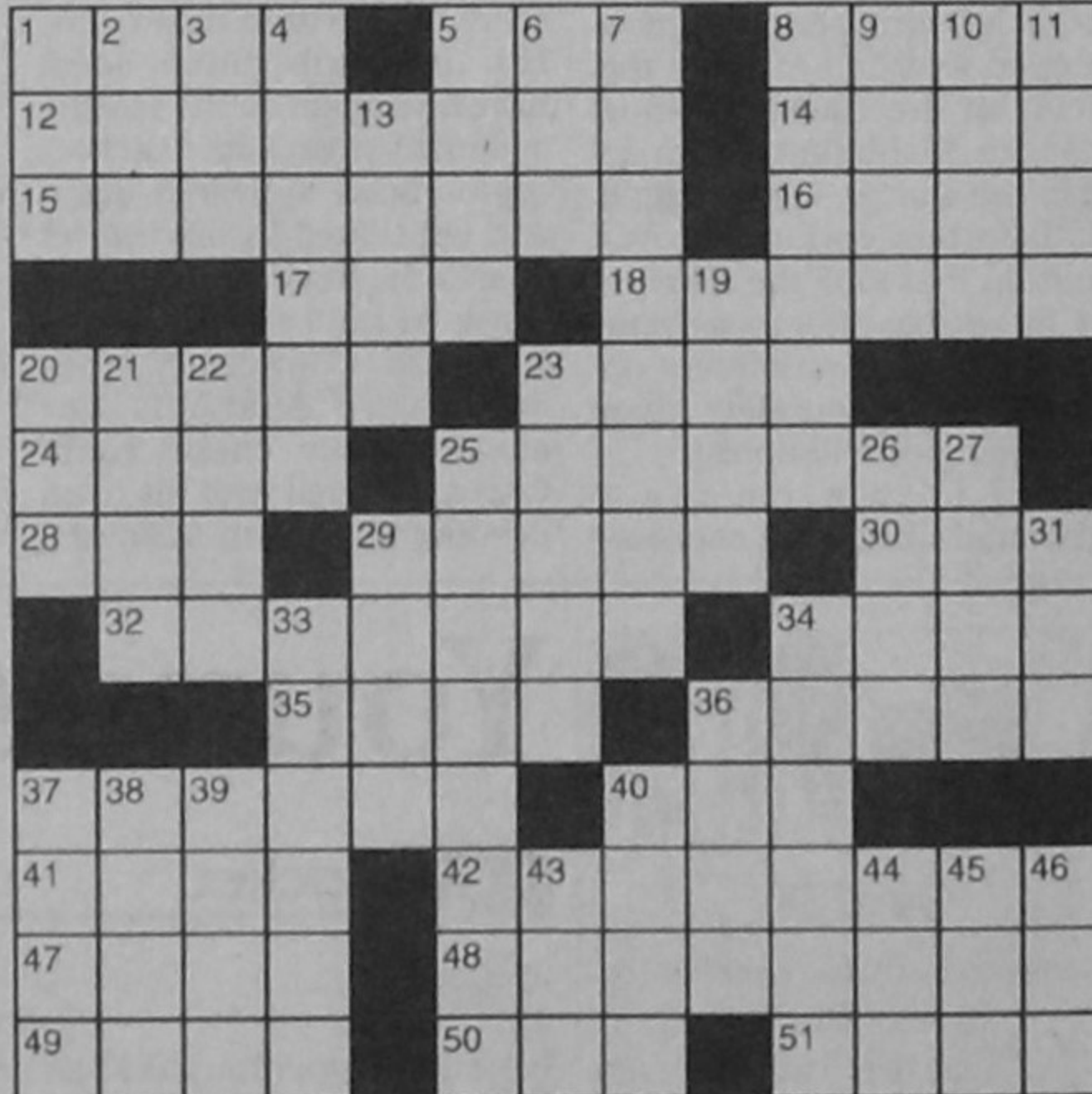
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## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 37 Preserve to protect
- 1 Ali — from
- 5 Spanish article decay
- 8 Sur-rounded by
- 12 Plentiful
- 14 Paddock papa
- 15 Morning-after woe
- 16 PC picture
- 17 Meadow
- 18 The same amount
- 20 Peptic problem
- 23 One-time Yugoslav leader
- 24 Twosome
- 25 Exceed a limit
- 28 Hot tub
- 29 Get more magazines
- 30 Rotation duration
- 32 Hollow quick bread
- 34 Stupor
- 35 Falsifier
- 36 GSN telecasts
- DOWN**
- 1 Scrooge's cry
- 2 Lawyers' org.
- 3 Chignon
- 4 Fisher-man
- 5 Outflow from
- 6 Indivisible
- 7 Sieve
- 8 "I, Robot" author
- 9 Isinglass
- 10 Press
- 11 Say it isn't so
- 13 Active person
- 19 Pack cargo
- 20 Boom times
- 21 Arctic European
- 22 "Arrivederci"
- 23 Piano man?
- 25 Made quite a few changes
- 26 Cheese choice
- 27 Demolish
- 29 Anger
- 31 "Of course"
- 33 Emphasize
- 34 John Lennon's last home
- 36 Swallow hard
- 37 Prior nights
- 38 Sail support
- 39 Highland hillside
- 40 Astrigent
- 41 Mentalist Geller
- 44 Sports-caster Scully
- 45 A billion years
- 46 Genetic substance

Solution time: 24 mins.



### CRYPTOQUIP

B P V X O A M I R H V S X Y  
I Y X U X Y X O B I I B Y X K A S X  
U X W B K X H B Y A M M Z W M J P X  
O X H R O X O J I M Z B W R Z Z R X P V R Y A

**Saturday's Cryptoquip: ARE GHOSTS REAL OR ONLY IMAGINARY? THAT IS THE TOPIC OF MY FRIENDS' SPIRITED DISCUSSION.**

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals T