

## ITF JUNIOR TENNIS Indians, Chinese dominate

SPORTS REPORTER  
Four Chinese girls moved into the quarterfinal of the Grameenphone 24th ITF Junior Tennis Championships at the National Tennis Complex in Ramna yesterday.  
Xuansho Ou, Saisai Zheng, Xi Yang and Meng Ning Deng all won their pre-quarterfinal matches in straight sets. Apart from these four, Nadia Syrifah, Sabina Sharipova, Ratnika Batra and Trang Hyunh Phung Dai also entered the last eight.  
In the boys' section, Mohit Jayprakash beat Samir Iftekhar 6-2, 3-6, 6-1 to enter the quarterfinals along with Bowen Ouyang, Xin Gao, Haadin Bava, Phassawit Burapharitta, Ting Yu Chuang, Chieh-Fe Wang and Sai Kartik.

## NSC dissolves gymnastic federation

SPORTS REPORTER  
National Sports Council (NSC) yesterday dissolved the Bangladesh Gymnastics Federation to form a 16-member ad-hoc committee asking them to take necessary steps to hold a fresh election as soon as possible.

The NSC, the apex body of country's sports, made this circular under 20 A (B) section under the NSC 1974 (amendment) act.  
M Ahmedur Rahman Bablu has been made general secretary while president Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Mamun remained unchanged in the committee.  
The tenure of the general secretary Anisur Rahman Dipu led previous committee expired on February 22.  
Enamul Haq Khasru, Mir Nizamuddin, Hazi Manwar Hossain and Asadul Haq have been appointed as vice presidents. Azizur Rahman and Iqbal Hossain have been made joint secretaries while Shafiqur Rahman was named treasurer.

## Annual Sports

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj  
The annual sports competition of the Manikganj Government Mohila College was held at the local Shaheed Miraz-Tapan Stadium yesterday (Wednesday).  
Sumi Akter became group champion.

Deputy Commissioner GM Saleh Uddin was chief guest while former lawmaker and founding principal of the college Mozilul Islam Khan Kamal, Secretary of Bangladesh Asiatic Society and principal of the college Professor Mahfuza Khatun were the special guests.

Principal of the college Professor Anil Chandra Sarkar, Vice Principal Abul Islam Shikdar and Convener of the sports competition Professor Habibur Rahman were also present during the prize distribution function.

## Ctg-Rajshahi

FROM PAGE 17  
Delwar 2-22, Shahjada 2-32, Sanjamul 3-19).  
**RAJSHAH:** First innings 241 and second innings 404-7 dec (Reza 66, Sabbir 100\*, Shahjada 46\*; Sharif 3-69, Mehrab 2-96).  
**Result:** Match Drawn.

**KHULNA v CHITTAGONG**  
**KHULNA:** First innings 241 and second innings 268 all out (Amit 35, Sahagir 79, Rasel 32, Mamun 3-20, Elias 2-35).  
**CHITTAGONG:** First innings 308 and second innings 204-7 (Faisal 68\*, Mamun 25; Dollar 5-57).  
**Result:** Chittagong won by three wickets.

## MSC demand

FROM PAGE 17  
"I have yet to receive any notice to provide an explanation," said coach Maruf adding that Comaka and Bukola were not match fit. Maruf also stated that inattentiveness during training was also a cause for poor fitness.

## Rahmatganj

FROM PAGE 17  
Shukhtara Jubo Sangsad are just one point ahead of Rahmatganj with six points from eight matches.  
After a barren first half, Nigerian striker Onyoko Karo Felix struck his second goal in the league to give Rahmatganj a lead two minutes into the second half while Mamun doubled the margin in the 61st minute.  
Shukhtara skipper Rezaul Karim Liton struck the consolation goal in stoppage time of the second half. It was the fifth defeat for the Narayanganj outfit.



PHOTO: COURTESY  
Xi Yang of China in action against Sowjanya Bavisetti of India during their girls' singles pre-quarterfinal engagement of the Grameenphone 24th Bangladesh ITF Junior Tennis Championships at the National Tennis Complex in Ramna yesterday.

## HOCKEY WORLD CUP Germany crush Canada

AFP, New Delhi  
Defending champions Germany toyed with lowly Canada 6-0 on Wednesday to record their first win in the men's field hockey World Cup.  
Asia's number one South Korea also earned their maiden victory, a 2-1 verdict against Argentina with Nam Hyun-Woo scoring the winning penalty corner in the last minute.  
The Germans, looking to become the first team to win a hat-trick of World Cup titles, came back strongly after being held to an embarrassing 2-2 draw by the Koreans in their first Group A match.  
The reigning Olympic champions pumped in four goals in the first half, three of them with penalty corners after Benjamin Wess had put them ahead in the 3rd minute with a field goal.  
Jan-Marco Montag, Max Muller and Martin Haner fired in set-piece goals, before man-of-the-match Florian Fuchs sealed the emphatic win by striking twice in the second session.  
Germany, who won the last two World Cups in 2002 and 2006 before underlining their supremacy with a gold at the Beijing Olympics two years ago, now have four points from two matches.

The 11th-ranked Canada, who lost to New Zealand in their first match, remain without a point.  
"We analysed our first game to draw up a things-to-do list," said Germany coach Markus Weise. "I am glad some of those negatives have been ticked off."  
"We you are not playing a top side, you look to score five to six goals, and we were able to achieve that today."  
South Korea and Argentina produced a barren first half as both sides wasted scoring opportunities, including two penalty corners by the Asian team.  
Argentina took the lead in the 53rd minute through Facundo Callioni after the Koreans were reduced to 10 men following a green card to Kyung Min-Jun.  
Lee Nam Yong drew level eight minutes later and Nam Hyun-Woo slammed the last-minute winner when South Korea were awarded a penalty corner by the video umpire.  
The Asian champions have four points, while Argentina have lost both matches so far. The Netherlands and New Zealand are the two other teams in Group A, which sends two teams into the semi-finals.

## 'No room to relax'

Cricket  
CRICINFO, undated  
While Pakistan are now forced to play their home matches overseas because of that attack and frequent bombings throughout the country, the rest of the cricket world is also now more vigilant than ever to possible attacks.

After this month's IPL is set to go ahead in India, after organisers opted to take the event to South Africa last season because of lack of adequate security due to a clash with the country's general elections. This third season, though, has not been without player security fears.  
"I'm encouraged by the way that the boards I have dealt with (since) have acted regarding security," Broad said. "I was in India in October-November and they had certainly changed their attitudes regarding security not only for players but for officials also. The concern is that we don't want those attitudes to relax as that is the time when the terrorists would strike."  
"Hopefully the boards will continue to improve what we have in place now and ensure that all people involved in international cricket are safe and secure. I say that only because I don't want the terrorists to beat us."  
Broad does not know if he would ever return to Pakistan and said he would need to have all the facts regarding security, if international cricket were to return there in his time as a match official. He does, though, have sympathy for the country's plight and that of the cricket board. Ironically, the ill-fated visit was his most enjoyable one until the attack.  
"The third of the third '09 will be with me until I die," Broad told Cricinfo. "It was an unhappy day, not only for me but for the rest of the playing control team over there and the Sri Lankan team. It will be cricket's 9/11. It was a sad day for us and for Pakistan as a country because they wouldn't have wanted anything to happen to foreigners but that's the problem they have at the moment."

## Utseya's point to prove

FROM PAGE 17  
"But there is some concern in the batting department, especially with seven of our batsmen failing to get off the mark. Having acknowledged this, we will still be looking to come out on top over them."  
He added: "There is still room for improvement in terms of how we think and we need to fix our mistakes. We don't expect an easy game, and if we do our best, we will be successful."  
"We don't want to take West Indies lightly, and we will have to play out of our skin and remain focussed for Thursday and throughout the ODI's."  
New West Indies coach Ottis Gibson indicated that some of the batsmen on his side are still

low on confidence following the recent trip to Australia.  
West Indies were soundly beaten in four of five ODIs and all two T20s that they contested this homecoming.  
"The success for winning starts at practice, and we are gaining some amount of confidence from practice all the time, hence [Zimbabwe] need to be on the lookout for us on Thursday," said Gibson.  
He noted that there has been a buzz in the side, since the arrival of West Indies captain Chris Gayle.  
The talismanic opener missed Sunday's T20I on compassionate grounds to visit his ailing mother.  
"He is an inspiration to the

## Siddikur in India for Players C'ship

SPORTS REPORTER  
Bangladesh's only professional golfer, Mohammad Siddikur Rahman is set to travel to Panchkula, India to take part in the Aircel-PGTI (Professional Golf Tour of India) Players Championship from March 4-7.  
Siddikur will compete for a prize money of Rupees 40 lakh alongside top professionals like Mukesh Kumar, Gaurav Ghei and Shamim Khan.  
Formed in 2006, Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI) is the recognized official body of professional golf in India. PGTI's objective is to promote professional golf in the country as well as give players an opportunity to be involved in decision making for all aspects of the game.

## Waqar new Pak coach

CRICINFO, undated  
Waqar Younis has signed on as the new coach of the Pakistan side, in the process becoming the fourth coach of the team in three years. The former fast bowler has been in negotiations with the PCB over the last few days, but confirmed that he will now replace Intikhab Alam on a tenure that sees him through to December 2011.  
Waqar, who is based in Sydney currently, will arrive in Lahore next week to begin work, the first assignment of which will be to prepare Pakistan's defence of the World Twenty20 crown in the Caribbean in April-May. "I've signed on and agreed to the contract," Waqar told Cricinfo. "I'll be arriving in Lahore from next week to begin work."

Taylor was aiming to be there at the end but his departure, caught at deep midwicket off Shane Watson, gave Australia a sniff. In the finish, it wasn't enough to save Australia from their first defeat in their past 14 one-day internationals. They were punished for posting a below-par 275 for 8 on one of the best batting surfaces they had seen.

The visitors needed to capitalise on the enticing combination of a wonderful pitch and the absence of Vettori. On paper, their score probably looked impressive but the lowest first-innings total in the past six years and ten ODIs is 273, which Australia barely scraped past despite a blazing start that threatened a score well in excess of 300.  
Watson seemed to think the Twenty20 series was still going as he struck 14 from the opening over off Tim Southee and denied a green plastic seat in the stands with a powerful pull for six off Bond. Australia reached 50 in the sixth

# Howard has to win Asians over: Murali

Cricket  
AFP, Sydney

Sri Lankan spinning great Muttiah Muralidaran said Wednesday that former Australian prime minister John Howard faced a challenge winning over south Asian cricket nations as the new head of the sport's world body.  
Howard, 70, was named on Tuesday as Australia and New Zealand's candidate to take over the rotating International Cricket Council presidency when it becomes available in 2012.  
Muralidaran, 37, told The Sydney Morning Herald his old feud with Howard was "all finished" but said the influential cricket nations in the subcontinent might need more convincing.  
Howard angered Muralidaran and Sri Lankan cricket by publicly questioning the cricketer's unique bowling action in 2004, calling him a chucker.  
"I'm not upset or angry with him or anything. At the time, I thought it was wrong -- that was my opinion and he had his," said Muralidaran, who is Test cricket's greatest wicket-taker with 792 wickets.  
"We've got to think about the future: how is he going to handle things in cricket?" he added.  
"It won't be an easy job. He has to convince the subcontinent -- that's going to be a tough challenge for him."  
Off-spinner Muralidaran refused to tour Australia in July 2004 after the cricket-mad Howard's comments, and the politician later apologised.  
Sri Lanka said Wednesday it held no grudge against Howard over the Muralidaran episode and was willing to work with him if he was elected.  
"I think that episode with Murali is over," Sri Lanka Cricket Secretary Nishantha Ranatunga

said. "We will work with whoever is appointed." Elsewhere, the reaction to Howard's nomination was mixed.  
Cricket commentator Peter Roebuck said he had some regret that New Zealand's candidate, Sir John Anderson, was overlooked as he was "clearly the best qualified" of the two.  
But Roebuck, writing in the Herald, said the Australian's "appointment is hardly a calamity. Only the most churlish will deny Howard his experience and acumen."  
"Howard may be captivated by the bright lights of cricket but he is also familiar with the dark arts of manipulation. Better him than a hundred sweet talkers."  
Australian captain Ricky Ponting said Howard would "do a terrific job for world cricket".  
"No-one can doubt his passion for the game. It's great that someone of his standing wants the job," he told the Herald.  
Malcolm Gray, the only other Australian to have held the ICC post, said Howard's political experience would be ideal for the job.  
"What's needed is somebody independent and strong who will stand up to all the nations, all the boards -- including Australia -- and not be swayed," Gray told The Daily Telegraph.  
"Like every international forum or organisation, it is riven with politics."  
"But he's (Howard) had enormous experience as head of the biggest organisation in this country and he's obviously strong."  
Meanwhile, New Zealanders were bemused by the decision.  
"This is not a great idea that a New Zealander did not get the gig, more wonderment that someone with absolutely no cricket experience did," The New Zealand Herald said.  
"How could Cricket Australia not find someone more suited to the job than a politician?"

## Styris steals Kiwi win

FROM PAGE 17  
He showed on Sunday when he posted a Twenty20 century. He took to Bollinger early and flicked short balls comfortably off his hip behind square, and drove with supreme power through the off side. Ingram (40) began in scratchy fashion and for a while looked out-of-class, until he got a few away off the middle of the bat through the off side against Ryan Harris.

Eventually Ingram tried to lift Johnson over mid-off only to see Michael Hussey sprint back to take a wonderful catch with the flight of the ball. Bollinger was understandably elated when he cramped McCullum and drew an inside edge onto his stumps for 45 from 43 deliveries. From there, Taylor's confidence and Styris' calmness finished the job, albeit in tighter fashion than they hoped.  
Taylor was aiming to be there at the end but his departure, caught at deep midwicket off Shane Watson, gave Australia a sniff. In the finish, it wasn't enough to save Australia from their first defeat in their past 14 one-day internationals. They were punished for posting a below-par 275 for 8 on one of the best batting surfaces they had seen.

The visitors needed to capitalise on the enticing combination of a wonderful pitch and the absence of Vettori. On paper, their score probably looked impressive but the lowest first-innings total in the past six years and ten ODIs is 273, which Australia barely scraped past despite a blazing start that threatened a score well in excess of 300.

Watson seemed to think the Twenty20 series was still going as he struck 14 from the opening over off Tim Southee and denied a green plastic seat in the stands with a powerful pull for six off Bond. Australia reached 50 in the sixth

over but things slowed significantly when Watson lifted Oram to deep midwicket and was well taken by Ingram for 45 off 31 balls.  
From there, it was more a gradual climb than an all-out assault and New Zealand's seam-only attack did well to vary their tactics and pick up regular wickets. Ricky Ponting looked set to anchor the innings until on 44 he failed to adjust to Franklin's slower ball and drove to short cover, where Martin Guptill took a sharp one-handed catch.  
**SCORES IN BRIEF**  
**AUSTRALIA:** 275 for 8 (Watson 45, Ponting 44, Hussey 59, White 33, Hopes 33; Tuffey 3-58, Bond 2-50)  
**NEW ZEALAND:** 281 for 8 (McCullum 45, Ingram 40, Taylor 70, Styris 49 not out; Bollinger 2-58)  
**Result:** New Zealand won by two wickets.  
**Man-of-the-match:** Ross Taylor.



PHOTO: INTERNET  
New Zealand's Scott Styris waves to the crowd after guiding his side to a thrilling win over Australia in the first one-day international at Napier yesterday.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

- Put one's foot down?
- Level
- Boston Party
- Title
- Staffer
- Massage
- Suburban parent, maybe
- Elbow
- Exist counter-part
- Loop in lace
- Super-hero garments
- Work station
- Oodles
- Not to be tossed aside?
- Chum
- Bed cover
- Summer-time mo.
- Cast members
- As well
- Covered walkway
- Sword handles
- Passenger's payment
- Rickey flavoring
- Commotion
- Storm
- Part of a mouse, maybe
- Franc replacement
- Help in crime
- Navy rank (Abbr.)
- "Life — cabaret, ..."
- Team leader (Abbr.)
- Winged
- Pullover garment
- Union fees
- Comical Caroline
- Ending for musket or market
- Insatiable desire
- Vanity cases?
- Mooched
- Multi-purpose truck
- Under the weather
- "Hee —"
- Lotion additive
- Antitoxins
- Wasn't colorfast
- Frizzy hairstyle
- Eggs
- "Cock-a-doodle—"
- Rhythmic tribute
- Film director

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

**DOWN**

- A sib
- Excessively
- List-ending abbr.
- Small bundle
- Leaves
- TOES DIP DIED
- EITHER ERSE
- ALCAPONE BAAL
- PIP PLAQUE
- AZTEC PAIR
- LEES ALROKER
- ETA ALIEN LEA
- ALUNGER STAM
- GOOD AVEREY
- BAZAR ALATE
- EDEN ALJOLSON
- GIRD NEAPTIDE
- SITOA SIR EPEE

**CRYPTOQUIP**

XSUM HZ S PMFYPRHRL BVMM  
BGSB SNOSCL ZNIRVYLGML  
DMLB OYBGYX S ZNHVYPS  
FYBC: UYSUY DMMFG.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: UPCOMING SCI-FI TELEVISION SERIES EXPOSING THE SECRET LIVES OF FORMER SPOUSES: "THE EX FILES."  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals T