City

World chess finals from May 10

SPORTS DESK

The final countdown to the World Chess Championship match has begun. On May 10, holder Viswanathan Anand, aged 42, will begin his title defence against 43 year old veteran Boris Gelfand in a 12-game finale.

Gelfand, ranked 22nd in the world, earned his place in the title match by winning the 2011 Candidates tournament, defeating Alexander Grischuck in the final. Fourth ranked Anand, meanwhile, has been an impressive champion since winning the title for the second time in the FIDE World Championship Tournament in 2007 (1 1/2 points ahead of then champion Vladimir Kramnik and Gelfand). He successfully defeated specially selected challengers Kramnik (6 1/2 - 4 1/2) in 2008 and Veselin

The match is expected to be close, with leading commentators on the game including former world champions Gary Kasparov, Anatoly Karpov and Kramnik, declining to predict a winner. Anand holds a 9-5 head to head lead over his upcoming opponent with 27 draws.

Topalov $(6\frac{1}{2} - 5\frac{1}{2})$ in 2010.

Nasir in Asia XI

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh all-rounder Nasir Hossain will play a T20 exhibition match between Asia XI and Rest of the World XI to be held in Toronto on May 12.

Cricket Canada have arrange the match to raise funds for the development of the sport in the country and they confirmed Nasir for the Asia XI for the amount of 5000 Canadian dollars.

"Yes, Cricket Canada confirmed my selection for Asia XI. Most probably I will fly for Canada on May 7. I'm really delighted with this offer," said Nasir.

Richie never liked helmet

ANI, Barbados

Former West Indies batsman Richie Richardson has said he was never comfortable batting with a helmet, and he modified his maroon hat to make it more easy to wear. Richardson played during

an era when helmets became ubiquitous, but he chose not to wear one, and it was a choice made not out of bravado, but for more practical reasons. "As a youngster growing

up, we didn't have access to helmets. So, I never really got used to helmets," the Sydney Morning Herald quoted Richardson, as saying.

"Even when I tried to use it, I was very, very uncomfortable. I felt comfortable without it. When I wore a helmet, I felt like I was in a phone booth. I didn't feel comfortable. So, I thought 'let me take my chances'," he added.

England

FROM PAGE 16 Randiv b Swann Mathews c Strauss b Finn P Jayawardene b Swann Herath c Anderson b Patel Lakmal not out Extras: (b-4, lb-6, w-2) Total: (All out in 118.5 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-23, 2-64, 3-104, 4-125, 5-215, 6-215, 7-238, 8-242, 9-251

Cook not out

106 24 Bresnan 18 ENGLAND: Second innings Strauss b Dilshan

Trott Ibw b Herath Pietersen not out Extras: (lb-1) Total: (For 2 wkts in 19.4 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-31 37 Herath 16

draw two-match series 1-1.

Result: England win by eight wickets and Man-of-the-match: Kevin Pietersen.



Teammates converge to congratulate England spinner Graeme Swann (R), who has just dismissed Sri Lanka captain Mahela Jayawardene, during the final day of the second and final Test at the P Sara Oval in Colombo yesterday.

RCB's winning start There was a lull after that as Zaheer and

PTI, Bangalore



AB de Villiers and Muttiah Muralidaran starred with the bat and ball respectively as Royal Challengers Bangalore posted a 20-run victory

over Delhi Daredevils to start their campaign in the fifth edition of Indian Premier League on a winning note on Saturday.

Chasing 158 for victory, the Daredevils were restricted to 137 for seven by last year's runners-up who were served well by Muralidaran's three for 25, after de Villiers set it up with a blazing 64 off 42 balls.

De Villiers hit six fours and two sixes in an innings that gave Bangalore the platform.

The start of Daredevils' innings was nothing less than eventful at the Chinnaswamy Stadium.

Delhi were off to a flyer with Aaron Finch (25 off 24) hitting Zaheer Khan for three boundaries through the off-side in the very first over before skipper Virender Sehwag offered a simple catch to Cheteshwar Pujara at covers off an innocuous Zaheer delivery.

Naman Ojha (33 off 26) lofted R Vinay Muralidaran 3-25) Kumar for a huge six over deep square-leg that went 79 metres, to accumulate 10 runs from the second over.

Vinay pulled things back with some tight bowling, which saw Bangalore concede no more than eight runs.

Ojha broke the shackles by flaying Zaheer past point for a much-needed boundary and then clobbered the pacer over the mid-on fielder for another four.

The run-rate slipped again after the introduction of spinners, with skipper Daniel Vettori and Muralidaran bowling well in tandem.

It didn't take Muralidaran long to provide the hosts a breakthrough as Ojha was caught at slip by Virat Kohli.

Two overs later, the Sri Lankan legend struck again, having Finch trapped in front of the wicket.

Irfan Pathan (24 off 155) made a last-ditch attempt to turn the tide in favour of Delhi, but his effort was not enough.

SCORES IN BRIEF

RCB: 157 for 8 in 20 overs (De Villiers 64 not out, McDonald 30, Vinay 18, Agarwal 16; Bracewell 3-32, Morkel 2-30) DD: 137 for 7 in 20 overs (Ojha 33, Finch 25,

Pathan 24, Venugopal 18, Nagar 16; Result: Royal Challengers Bangalore won by

Man-of-the-match: AB de Villiers.

Strauss feels upbeat

Ashraf undaunted by pay delay

tain turned BCB director was

also hopeful that the tri-party

agreement will be signed

needed to finalise the agree-

ment with the franchises. It's

taking time as new stake-

holders have become

involved with the franchises

after the bidding took place.

We are working according to

our legal experts' advice and

we want to lay a good founda-

tion for the tournament,"

"As a tournament it was a

huge success and we firmly

believe it is here to stay," he

explained Gazi Ashraf.

"Two more weeks may be

within the next two weeks.

Cricket

REUTERS/AFP, Colombo

Captain Andrew Strauss felt Saturday's eightwicket win over Sri Lanka in the second and final Test had given his team the boost needed to perform well in England in the summer.

The victory meant England drew the series 1-1 and retained their hold as the world's topranked Test team.

"It's nice we won this Test match and it's nice we are heading into the English summer with a little bit of confidence and I am absolutely certain we are going to play well in England," said Strauss. "Having lost four Test matches in a row you

are not thinking of No. 1 in the world, you are thinking about making sure we win the next one," he told reporters. "We all know that number one ranking has

never been in the forefront of our minds. If you do focus on it too much you take your eves off the ball.

"We worked exceptionally hard and huge credit to Andy Flower [head coach] and Graham Gooch [batting coach] in particular. They've been constantly doing everything they could to help us.

"For a while we have been looking good in the nets and it's a case of taking that into the

middle which is always easier said than done. "I saw a kind of steely determination on

everyone's part to make sure we finished the winter on a high and it was fantastic we were able to do that." The captain picked out paceman James

Anderson, chief wicket-taker Graeme Swann and Kevin Pietersen, whose first innings century put England in command. "It is demoralising for the opposition team to see KP in full flight," he said. "It was an

outstanding innings and obviously gave us

the impetus and momentum to go on and win the game. "Anderson was outstanding on an unresponsive wicket, Swann proved his worth once again and Pietersen showed everyone why he is

such a special talent," the skipper said. Sri Lanka captain Mahela Jayawardene said: "We were playing against a strong team and even though they were in trouble, I

thought KP came and changed the game. "We knew England would come hard at us because good players and good teams always step up to the plate."

Jayawardene paid rich tribute to Swann, saying he was one of the best spinners he had faced.

"We knew going into the series that Anderson and Swann would be the main threats because they can bowl well in any conditions," he said.

added.

Gazi Ashraf also informed

that they have already

received the first instalment

of the agreed amount of 44.33

million US dollars from

Game On as well as the bank

guarantee of the second

instalment. He said that each

subsequent instalment will

be more than the last and that

they will receive approxi-

mately Tk 114 crore as the last

not true that Game On bor-

rowed money from BCB to

He also stressed that it's

installment

run the show.

to progress

SPORTS REPORTER

Five district teams moved into the second round of the 32nd inter-district cricket championship yesterday, though two of those completely banked on luck to progress.

Dhaka, Dinajpur and Khulna played raincurtailed games but won their respective encounters but Naogaon and Cox's Bazar won tosses to win games as mentioned in the by-laws. Naogaon can consider themselves extremely lucky as their opponents were the mighty Rajshahi; Chandpur were the opponent of Cox's Bazar in Noakhali.

Away in Jessore, the hosts suffered a 13-run defeat at the hands of Khulna in a 20overs-a-side game. Batting first, Khulna made 105 for nine with Al Imran making 25 runs. Syed Rasel took four wickets for Jessore, who were then bowled out for 92 runs in 19 overs. Masum Khan took four wickets for Khulna. At the BKSP, Dhaka (123-9 in 20 overs) beat Narayanganj (102-8 in 20 overs) by 21 runs after this game too was reduced due to heavy rain.

In far-flung Thakurgaon, Dinajpur (69 all out in 18.2 overs) beat Rangpur (55 all out in 12.5 overs) by 14 runs in a low-scoring thriller.

But rain did have the last say in five games over the last two days in the competition with matches in Sariatpur, Chittagong and Madaripur being called off.

Different ways Chennai win big PTI, Visakhapatnam the 16th over before clobber-



p r oduced a fine allperformance to help defending champions Chennai Super Kings register their first win in the tournament, defeating Deccan Chargers by 74 runs in their Indian Premier League (IPL) match

here on Saturday. Jadeja first hit a quickfire 29ball 48 and then scalped five wickets for 16 to take home the man-of-the-match award.West Indian Dwayne Bravo also starred for Chennai, scoring an unbeaten 18-ball 43 towards the end to propel Chennai to an imposing 193 for six, the highest in this edition of the IPL, at the ACA-VDCACricketStadium.

Chasing a stiff target, Deccan failed to build any substantial partnerships and kept losing wickets at regular intervals. Apart from Jadeja, Shadab Jakati (2/14) and Doug Bollinger (2/20) also chipped in with two wickets apiece.

Bollinger sealed the deal in CSK's favour by dismissing Ankit Sharma (15) off the first ball of the eighteenth over to skittle out Deccan for 119.

Earlier, sent in to bat, Chennai were in for an early shock as left-arm spinner Ankit cleaned up Murali Vijay (2) with a peach of a delivery off only the fifth ball of the innings.

But Jadeja took the fight to the opposition and clobbered Ankit for a boundary and two sixes to pick up 18 runs in the 14th over. The lefthander then struck Christian for two consecutive fours in

onlike

Woody

Allen

23 Shell out

penser

24 \$ dis-

25 Dems.

rivals

26 Illustra-

tions

coolers

28 Drench

31 Rm.

32 Lassie

33 NYSE

debut

bristles

building

welcome

42 Wahine's

43 Big name

in mail

order

37 Nary a

soul

ing Sudhindra for a massive six straight over the bowler's head in the next over.

For Deccan, Dale Steyn impressed with figures of two for 25.

SCORES IN BRIEF CHENNAI SUPER KINGS:

193 for 6 in 20 overs (Jadeja 48, Bravo 43 not out, du Plessis 39; Steyn 2-25)

DECCAN CHARGERS: 119 all out in 17.1 overs (White 23, Dhawan 21; Jadeja 5-16, Bollinger 2-20, Jakati 2-14) Result: Chennai win by 74

runs.

Local

SPORTS REPORTER

Wari Club were held to a goalless draw by Beanibazar Sporting Club in the Premier Bank Bangladesh Championship League at the Cox's Bazar Stadium vesterday.

Both teams created a number of chances but failed to take advantage of them due to poor finishing. Wari Club are in second position with 13 points from nine matches while Beanibazar have 11 points from same number of matches and are in fourth position.

Div-II football

East End Club and Bashabo Tarun Sangha drew 0-0 in their Destiny Dhaka Metropolis 2nd Division Football League at the Birshrestra Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

Rain spoils U-16 cricket final

Dhaka South and hosts Rajshahi were declared joint champions after rain ruined the final of the Standard Chartered Bank Young Tigers National Under-16 cricket competition at the Shaheed Kamruzzaman Stadium yesterday.

The match was stopped after Rajshahi reached 85 for two in 36 overs after deciding to bat first. Nazmul Hossain was unbeaten on 51 with Hedayet Hossain who was not out at the other end on 21 runs.

Mohammad Saifuddin of Chittagong was declared the player of the tournament for scoring 446 runs (highest runs) and taking 22 wickets while Rangpur's Sanjit Saha was the highest wicket-taker with 37 wickets from four games.

Rajshahi DC Mohammad Abdul Mannan was the chief guest and handed over the trophy to the participating teams.

Five-star Scholastica girls

FROM PAGE 16

time," he added.

FROM PAGE 16

Ashraf.

soon. ECB [England and

Wales Cricket Board] is con-

cerned about the issue, so we

informed them all the details.

What I can say is that the

situation was not as bad as

portrayed in one English

newspaper," explained Gazi

in the franchises and we

believe that they will not do

anything which hinders their

reputation. We believe they

will pay the amount to the

players in due course of

The former national cap-

"We have full confidence

the sport to a height and this fact itself is very commendable. "Our team's success is because of the enthusiasm of the players. We don't even have a proper handball court in our school premises but still we find our place there and take our players to practice at the handball ground so that we have the proper flow of the game the whole year round," said coach Nazmun Nahar, and a former national player. "It is the

interest and dedication of the players that makes victory

possible for us." Apart from practicing regularly, Scholastica also has a method of playing and eventually winning. "We have the strongest defence among all and I believe it's our defence that makes winning possible for us. We have been known as the 'defensive champions' for a long while now as we have a proper balance of falling back and going forward to score,' said Nafisa who takes care of the defence line.

Unlike the champions however Sunnydale only had a fortnight of training before the tournament, as told by "It's because of our teamwork that we have reached the

final even though today [Saturday] we could not coordinate well enough to defeat our opponents. We practice about two weeks prior to the tournaments, maybe more practice the whole year round can resolve such issues," she said. Proper practice has been pointed out as the chief reason

leading to victories and such conclusions among these youngsters. One of the many probable reasons behind the same schools clinching the titles years after years and the others falling out from the group stages is the amount of practice the teams are going through, which also includes other aspects like a proper ground for training and provisions to carry on the sport from the schools.

There is also the pressure of studies on many of these players but there are incentives to play handball these days as teams are sent abroad to play and there is support from the federation.

Nat'l Junior TT ends

SPORTS REPORTER

Palash of Bagerhat and Rahima of Rangpur emerged champions in the AB Bank 1st National Junior Table Tennis Competition that concluded in Dinajpur yesterday. Palash defeated Zobayer of Bagerhat in 4-3 sets in the final while Rahima beat Snigdha of Rangpur in 4-0 sets to claim their respective titles. Javed-Himel pair won the boys' doubles title. District Commissioner Jamal Uddin Ahmed distributed prizes among the winners after the event.

Windies 158-2

AFP, Bridgetown

West Indies reached 158 for two at tea on the first day of the first Test against Australia on Saturday. Earlier, the hosts won the toss and chose to bat at the Kensington Oval.

Opener Kraigg Brathwaite was unbeaten on 53 and Darren Bravo, who joined him after the wickets of Adrian Barath and Kirk Edwards, was batting on 14.

39 Personal **ACROSS** 1 Sort question? sponge 4 Part of 41 T, in 3 Inept **UCLA** Morse one 7 Rice, on a 4 "Livin' la code 45 Handles Mexican

menu 12 Army rank 48 Toy (Abbr.) shooter 13 Raw rock 52 Rowing 14 007 need **53** Eyeportrayer Roger

16 Zodiac sign 18 Small 56 Practical salamander **19** 14-Across,

letters

cheer **22** Long. crosser 23 Long story 27 Lamb's dam 29 Hostage

taker

income

Bobbsey

Twin

e.g.

20 Bronx

31 Spry 34 Neat 35 Per — 37 A 38 Trudge

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer 21 Chamele-2 Bath

Vida 47 Meadow 5 Soothsayer 6 Partitions

that

may be

7 Eastern

bigwig

8 Sinbad's

(Var.)

bird

9 Aussie

10 Boston

rink

hopper

legend

11 Buddhist

sect

mil. org.

"deviated"

related 15 Debtor's 54 Tokyo's old name 55 Storefront sign abbr.

> joke 57 Caustic solution 58 Fire residue DOWN

17 Campus 1 Less friendly

Solution time: 25 mins. AGOTURMOIL TALENT DEL V Y E A R D E P T H

DAME

44 Coarse 45 Break (a

habit) 46 — gin fizz 48 Police officer 49 Spring mo. 50 Bake sale PARAGUAY TAW 51 Wrestling

victory

12 15 17 character 25 | 26 29 30 32 33 36 43 44 42 39 30 Alias abbr. 45 49 36 Botanical 40 Monopoly

CRYPTOQUIP

TAOBROF QAUUAST

NML

MUGAS, AZPG BM

TLXXMTA TQRHN FZTUSMXMBT

PGMMTA UM LTA TOZRQ HZRQ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FEELING HUNGRY PAST ITS BEDTIME, THE BIRD OF PREY SET OUT

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals O

LOOKING FOR A MIDNIGHT SNAKE.