



The winners of the women's .177 match air rifles event (From left): Shahana Parveen, gold; Ferdousi Parveen, silver and Farzana Hossain, bronze. — Star photo

BDR, Police win in handball

Sports Reporter
Favourites Bangladesh Rifles, Bangladesh Police and Pabna DSA won their inaugural matches of the fifth Bangladesh Games men's handball at the Outer Stadium handball court yesterday.
In the day's first match national champions Bangladesh Rifles trounced Jamalpur DSA 54-08 after leading the first half 28-2.
Pabna DSA beat Rajshahi DSA 26-20 in the second match, having led the first half 13-8.
Bangladesh Police recorded a massive one-sided 67-9 goals victory over Dinajpur DSA after leading by 31-3 goals at the break.

Games badminton

Sports Reporter
Bangladesh Ansars and Bangladesh Biman moved into the semifinals of the men's doubles badminton championship of the fifth Bangladesh Games at the wooden-floor gym yesterday.
Ansars pair Suman and Amir registered a 15-8, 15-3 victory against Shakil and Khurshid of the airline team.
Hashem and Rana of Ansars then ensured a place for their side in the last four with 15-6, 15-1 victory against inexperienced Aloke and Rathindranath of Khulna.

Kusumwardhani in World GP women's semifinals

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 19: Indonesia's Sarwendah Kusumwardhani defeated Tang Jihong of China 11-7, 3-11, 11-1 in the women's singles semifinals of the \$1.25,000 World Badminton Grand Prix Saturday, reports AP.
In men's doubles Par Gunnar Jonsson and Peter Axelsson of Sweden placed fifth when they got a walkover from Denmark's Henrik Svareer and Jan Paulsen.
The finals will be played Sunday.

Seeds sail easy

Sports Reporter
All the seeded players won their respective matches of the men's singles competition of the fifth Bangladesh Games tennis championship at the Ramna tennis complex yesterday.
Top seed Shibu Lal outplayed Fahim Ahsan; second seed Maroof beat Arefin; third seed Ifra Lal beat Moshir Rahman and fourth seed Faisal beat Omar in some of yesterday's matches.

Wari's thrilling win

Sports Reporter
A brilliant bowling spell by the Agrani Bank skipper Jogesh went in vain as Wari Club beat the bankers by a one wicket margin in the only match of the 1992-93 Milnars First Division cricket league at the Mirpur Pallabi ground yesterday.
Jogesh took six wickets conceding only 17 runs from his full quota of nine overs and was about to guide his team to a thrilling victory. But a timely resistance by Raju, the middle order Wari batsman who scored an invaluable 59, thwarted the bankers' hopes and helped Wari record their fifth consecutive victory in this year's league.
Wari skipper Didar won the toss and asked his counterpart Jogesh to make first use of the strip.
Agrani Bank mustered 146 runs in 41.2 overs, Azam top-scoring with 34.
Atiq chipped in with 26 and Kaiser made 18 while Sundries contributed a healthy 27 to the total.
Arif with three wickets for 21 was the pick of the Wari bowlers while Zia took three for 28. Timir and Ashim got a wicket apiece.
Chasing a somewhat modest total Wari Club, one of the three demotees from the Navana Premier league last year, lost four wickets in quick succession and were in due straits at 33 after 11 overs.
Jogesh did the damage by claiming the first four wickets.
Then a partnership of 57 runs in the fifth wicket between skipper Didar and Raju and another 37-run stand between Raju and Tarek revived Wari hopes.
Jogesh brought himself back into attack and immediately had Raju caught by Kaiser for 59. Raju hit eight boundaries and faced 88 deliveries in his match saving knock.
Jogesh also sent Tarek back to the pavilion for 11.
Wari lost another three wickets but Timir and Arif remained unbeaten on seven and nought respectively as they cruised past the bankers total, making 149 for nine wickets in 40.1 overs.
Al-Amrin and Azam took a wicket apiece for Agrani Bank.
There will be no match of the Milnars league today.
Evergreen Club will play Dhanmondi Club in tomorrow's fixture at the same venue.

Moni pilots Biman

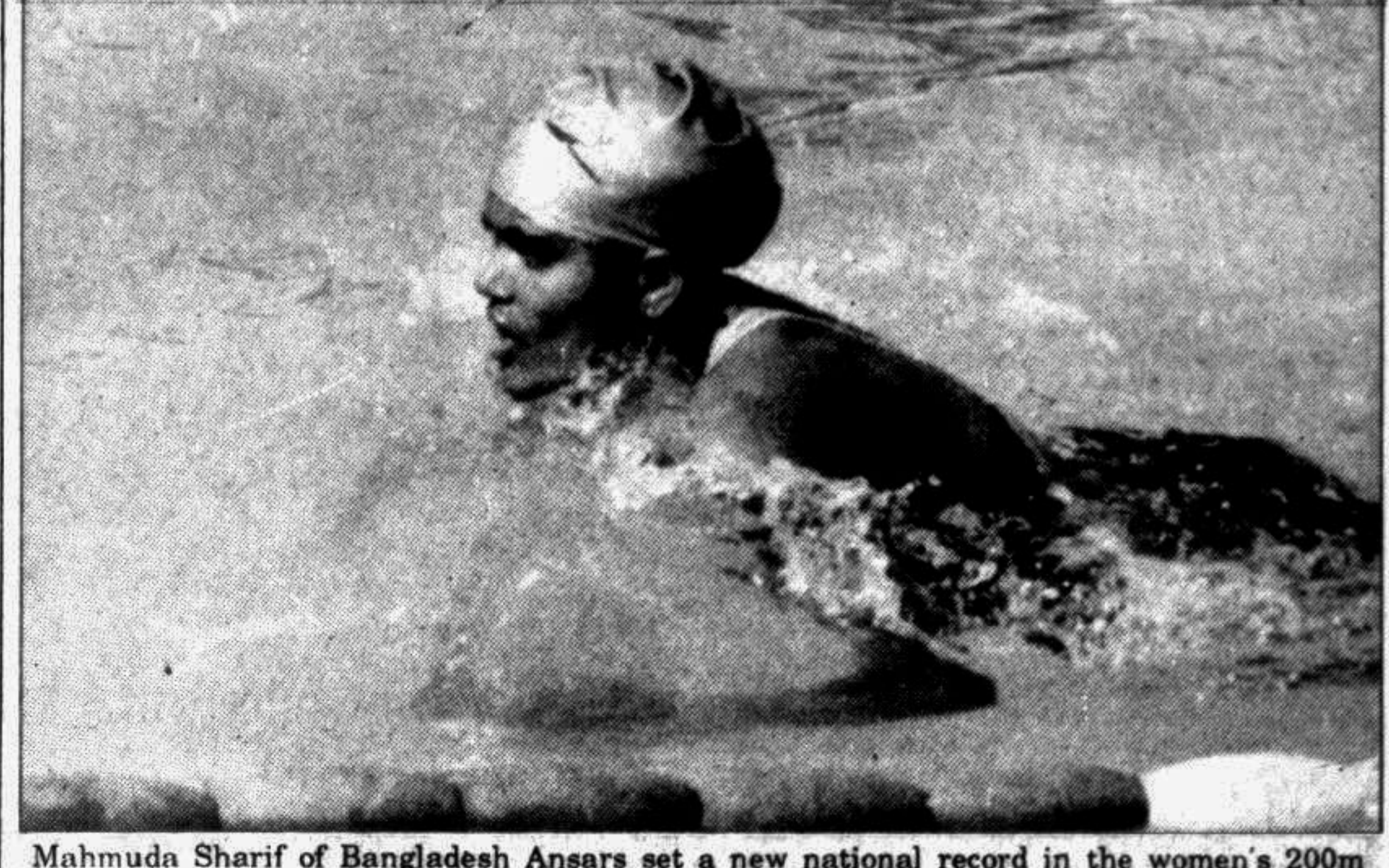
Sports Reporter
An unbeaten half-century by skipper Enamul Huq Moni powered Bangladesh Biman to the final of the newly-introduced Shaheed Jewel Mushtaq cricket tournament when they registered a convincing six-wicket victory over Surjo Tarun Club at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.
Biman will take on the victors of today's semifinal between Victoria Sporting Club and Kalabagan Krira Charkira in the two-day final starting on December 22.
Sent into bat, Surjo Tarun were all out for a paltry 126 in 44.1 overs, Javed Omar, Belim Golla top-scoring with 30 with the help of four boundaries.
Rodrigo, Surjo Tarun's Sri Lanka recruit, made 26 while extras contributed another 26 runs.
Off-spinner Rupam, who captained Gulsan Youth last season, claimed three wickets conceding 14 runs for Biman.
Azhar took two wickets for 21 while Babul, Khokon and Moni captured a wicket apiece.
In reply, Biman lost their first three wickets for 34 in 7.5 overs. But a good partnership between former skipper Shahinawaz Shahed Shanu and Moni took the score to 97 when Shanu was trapped lbw by Shohab.
Then Moni, pairing with Khokon, guided his team to victory making 128 for four wickets in 24.3 overs.
Moni scored an unbeaten 50 off 58 deliveries, an innings that included three hits to the fence and a over-boundary.
Veteran Ahmed Iqbal Bachchu and Shanu made 21 runs each.
Subrata Talha and Shohab bagged one wicket each for Surjo Tarun.

V-DAY CRICKET

Meanwhile, the 1992 Victory Day cricket tournament begins today with holders Abahari Krira Chakra playing the Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club in the first two-day semifinal at the Dhaka Stadium this morning.
The tournament was earlier scheduled to start yesterday.
Last year's runners-up Mohammedan Sporting Club with play Brothers Union Club in the second two-day semifinal on December 22 and 23 at the same venue.
The date of the final of the tourney is yet to be announced.

Marseille beat PSG

PARIS, Dec 19: Marseille won 1-0 at Paris St Germain on Friday to maintain their hopes of a repeat French Championship success, reports Reuter.
The solitary goal came in the 22nd minute through a header by Croatian Alen Boksic.
It was only the second home defeat this season for the Paris club and lifted Marseille to third place, one point behind leaders Nantes with a game in hand.
Richardson has a minor back strain but said he would be fit for the second Test against Australia, starting at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Boxing Day.
The first Test in Brisbane earlier this month was drawn.



Mahmuda Sharif of Bangladesh Ansars set a new national record in the women's 200m breaststroke at the Dhanmondi Women's Complex yesterday with a time of 3 mins and 23.12 seconds, 0.33 seconds inside the previous mark. — Star photo

Sohail spoils Border's return

BRISBANE, Dec 19: Australian cricket captain Allan Border's hopes of a promising return from injury were dashed by Pakistan on the first day of a four-day tour match Saturday, reports AP.
Border had made only 22 for Queensland state when he was caught by Aamir Sohail, who ignored a fractured bone in his left hand to hold the stinging pull shot.
Queensland was all out for 260 and Pakistan survived 10 overs in fading light to be 37-0 at stumps at the Gabba.
Border, who was sidelined for two weeks with a hamstring injury, had gone into the match saying he wanted a big score.
He started impressively by cracking four boundaries for spinner Mushtaq Ahmad but his stay ended after 35 balls when part time bowler Shahid Saeed got him with his first delivery.
Border was dejected as he left the field but Shahid proved it was no fluke when he had Dirk Wellham lbw for 16 just four balls later.
Shahid's sudden breakthrough and the baffling spin of Mushtaq Ahmad pegged Queensland after opener Matt Hayden and Trevor Bardsby had blazed away before lunch.
Bardsby became Mushtaq's first victim after making 53. Hayden pushed his claims for an Australian Test spot with a sound 79, including 12 fours.
Pakistan made four changes to their team that crashed to defeat in Thursday's one-day match against the West Indies in Sydney with skipper Javed Miandad and his deputy Ramez Raja among those rested.
But Wasim Akram, leading Pakistan for the first time, handled his attack well despite the early onslaught that saw Queensland race to 110-1 at lunch.
Mushtaq captured the best bowling figures with 70-4 from 18.5 overs, among his victims Queensland skipper Ian Healy. Queensland 1st Innings 260 (Matt Hayden 79, Trevor Bardsby 53; Mushtaq Ahmad 70-4); Pakistan 37-0 at stumps.
SCOREBOARD
Scorecard at the close of the opening day of the four-day cricket match between Pakistan and Queensland here today.
QUEENSLAND 1st Innings: Hayden c Rashid b Rehman 79
Mushtaq c Rashid b Akram 53
Gogging c Rashid b Akram 6
Law c Rashid b Rehman 21
Border c Sohail b Shahid 22
Wellham lbw b Shahid 16
Storey not out 29
Healy b Mushtaq 19
McDermott c Sohail b Mushtaq 9
Kasprowicz c Anwar b Akram 2
Rowell b Mushtaq 4
Extras: (lb3, nb1) 4
Total: 260
Fall of wickets: 1-89; 2-127; 3-153; 4-176; 5-196; 6-201; 7-233; 8-243; 9-251.
Bowling: O M R W
Akram 19 4 45 2
Aaqib 10 4 38 0
Rehman 15 4 60 2
Naved 5 1 15 0
Mushtaq 18.5 2 70 4
Sohail 4 1 13 0
Shahid 4 0 16 2
Overs: 75.5
PAKISTAN 1st Innings: Aamir Sohail not out 25
Shahid Saad not out 12
Extras 30
Total (no wkt) 37
Bowling: O M R W
McDermott 4 1 19 0
Rowell 5 1 17 0
Kasprowicz 1 0 1 0
Overs: 10.

Arsenal boss to bank on youngsters

LONDON, Dec 19: Arsenal manager George Graham is set to axe High-bury's big-name stars and call in his youngsters to halt the club's worst losing streak in 15 years, reports Reuter.
After including youngsters Ray Parlour and Mark Flatts in his squad for today's Premier League home match against Middlesbrough, Graham delivered a stark warning to Arsenal's established first-term players.
"I've never been afraid of bringing in the kids. I will do whatever is right for the club," Graham said on Friday.
Arsenal, the pre-season champion favourites, are languishing in eighth place, 10 points off the pace after a dismal run of four successive defeats.
"I'm not going to create a situation, which I inherited, where a lot of named players are not performing," Graham said.
"I brought the kids in then and I will not be afraid to bring the kids in again."
Former Arsenal favourites Charlie Nicholas and Graham Rix were among those who suffered when Graham shook things up in 1986-87 after Arsenal blew a seven-point lead at the top by going 10 games without a win.
Graham said he is set to keep faith with striker Ian Wright, who is due to appear before a Football Association disciplinary commission next month on charges that he punched Tottenham's David Howls in last Saturday's North London Derby.
"A lot has been said on the subject, and I do not want to say any more. But it's up to Ian to put it right on the pitch," Graham said.
In another Premier League match, Manchester United plan a debut for teenager Keith Gillespie in today's clash at Chelsea.
The 17-year-old is likely to replace winger Ryan Giggs, suffering from ankle ligament damage.
Keegan agrees to sign Viscaal
NEWCASTLE, England, Dec 19: Newcastle manager Kevin Keegan agreed a 700,000 pounds sterling (1.1 million dollar) fee on Friday for Dutch striker Eric Viscaal, reports Reuter.
Keegan hopes to complete the signing from Belgian club Ghent today.
Newcastle head the English First Division, 12 points clear after 16 wins from 20 games.
Viscaal was the Dutch side which beat Turkey 3-1 in a World Cup qualifier.

Mechelen turn to market for help

BRUSSELS, Dec 19: Belgian First Division soccer team Mechelen are to launch a bond on the financial markets next Monday in the hope of raising up to 100 million Belgian franc (three million dollars), reports AP.
The financially troubled club are the first in the country to turn to the markets for support.

Italian soccer says no to racism

ROME, Dec 19: Aron Winter, a black soccer player from the Netherlands, received a rude welcome when he joined the Italian league this year, reports AP.
"Winter raus," German for "Winter get out," was scrawled on the walls of the offices of his team — Lazio of Rome, Villa Borghese park and other areas of the Italian capital. A few days later, the team president was mailed a swastika.
In a year in which racial intolerance and ethnic tensions are sweeping Europe, Winter and other black players in Italy have been the targets of taunts from the stands, where groups of skinheads, known in Italy as "naziisti," wave Nazi banners. They also sing anti-Jewish songs and make the stiff-armed fascist salute.
Racism in European stadiums seems mainly an Italian problem, according to an informal survey by Associated Press editors. But it is particularly worrisome in Italy, with the world's premier league whose games are televised around the world.
Right-wing hooligans were a big problem in soccer matches in Germany until last year, but they transferred their violence from the stadiums to asylums housing immigrants.
After swastikas began appearing in Spanish stadiums a year ago, Valencia's Dutch coach, Guus Hiddink, had them banned from his stadium. Some other teams followed suit, but the Nazi symbols are still seen.
In Italy recently, soccer fans burned a flag with the Star of David in Rome's Olympic stadium and followers of Juventus of Turin taunted fans from their arch-rival, Fiorentina, with anti-Semitic slogans. Two youths were arrested after that game for throwing firebombs at Juventus fans.
After complaints by Jewish and immigrant rights groups, and such prominent players as AC Milan's Dutch international Ruud Gullit, the Italian government took action this week.
It drew up legislation that would allow courts to consider racial hatred and aggravating circumstances in a violent act, permitting judges to increase the sentence by half. The proposed law also would allow authorities to ban skinheads from soccer stadiums and disband neo-Nazi groups.
The law would create a new offense — incitement to ethnic violence, punishable by up to six years in prison.
The measures, announced Tuesday night, followed an extraordinary "No to Racism Day" in stadiums before league games last Sunday, when players entered the field carrying 15-metre banners emblazoned with "No To Racism."
"My little experience shows something very simple, that the battle against racism is that of many against a few," Winter wrote in a column in Italy's leading sports daily, La Gazzetta dello Sport.
"If the many decide to take the field there won't be a battle, the racist few will be swept away."
Italy's soccer stadiums have been used for years as show-cases for political statements, by leftist youths in the 1970s and the far right in the 1990s.
"They are sick exhibitionists," said Italian Jewish leader Tullia Zevi of those who hold up Nazi flags. "Media attention is like vitamin B for them."
Initially, Winter's signing with Lazio initially caused a barrage of anti-Semitic slogans by hate-mongers who mistakenly thought he was Jewish.
The Suriname-born Gullit, who has led campaigns against apartheid in South Africa, said team owners, including his employer, media tycoon Silvio Berlusconi, should simply put their players off the field if an incident occurs during a match.
"I am dreaming of Berlusconi taking the mike and telling fans: 'Stop with the insults, otherwise we stop the game right now.' I would be very proud of such a gesture, but I am aware there are many financial interests related to soccer," Gullit said.
One dissenting voice to a proposed law banning the fascist salute during soccer games came from the granddaughter of dictator Benito Mussolini.
"I think it is an absolute pretext to try to link the violence in the soccer stadiums to one specific ideology," Alessandra Mussolini, a neo-fascist legislator, told the Italian news agency ANSA.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Mexican dish
5 Duffer's goal
8 Stimulus to action
12 On — (equal to)
13 Numero —
14 Languish
15 Sum for minor expenses
17 Gerant's wife
18 Fall bloomers
19 Broad neckties
21 Lab animal
22 Secular
23 When Hector was a —
26 Novel
28 He wrote "The Merry Widow"
31 Fetid
33 Angler's need
35 Kill a dragon?
36 English sand hills
38 Unit of energy
40 Before
41 Outrigger canoe
43 Babylonian god
45 European weasels
47 Deep cuts
51 Emerald Isle
52 Revolving fireworks
54 Encircle
55 Night before
56 Perry's creator
57 Carry
58 One of the Coles
59 Blushing
60 Bark cloth
2 Sacred bull of Egypt
3 "I — Get Started With You"
4 Abalone, in Britain
5 One making a play on words
6 Actress Sue — Langdon
7 Regal
8 Distinct kind
9 Card game
10 Smallest whole number
11 Cincinnati team
16 Algerian seaport
20 Actor Mineo
23 Group of seals
24 Rubber tree
25 Locate precisely
27 Sorrow
29 Swiss river
30 Bread choice
32 Unsettled
34 TV program starring Jack Webb
37 Topper
39 Chew on
42 Winter resort
44 Member of the wedding
45 Spanish muralist
46 Music group
48 Long lunch?
49 Slippery ones
50 Weaver's reed
53 The yellow bugle

DOWN
1 Bark cloth
Solution time: 21 mins.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER
COTE FRO POKE
OLAN LID IVES
PIPELINE PENT
TOE INK GENOA
PEG CAD
PARIS PARROTS
ATOP AAR EBON
REDEEMS FAIRY
ORT RIM
STERN MAR BOA
HUNG PIPEBOMB
ANNA ANI ARAB
DEAN LED TARA

CRYPTOQUIP

1-29
RM G J C B G J F P X U P O C F P U
R J P Z E N P R M R Z F J M
O Q J B J R M R Z N P Q X U

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHY DOES OUR CANTANKEROUS FRIEND ALWAYS RISE AT THE CRANK OF DAWN?

Today's Cryptoquip clue: R equals M

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to