

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT referees in Dhaka are very much more safer than their Sicilian counterparts. During a football match in Syracuse, Sicily on 4 January 1974, the referee made the classic error of sending off a local player for a foul. This is something you just don't do in Sicily if you value your health. A fan, who took his loyalty to his team really to heart left at this juncture, returning ten minutes later with a double-barrelled hunting gun. After firing several shots in the air he pointed the gun at the referee and demanded the reinstatement of the red-carded player. The linesman were sensible and ran for their lives. The referee, whose awareness of his predicament was by this time extremely keen, agreed. Well, when a Sicilian soccer fan points a gun at you, you do agree.

The goalkeeper of the opposing side from Northern Italy was so shaken that he let in seven goals.

After the match the gun-wielding fan was not to be found. He had been carried off by his friends in a donkey cart, dead drunk.

The above is to encourage referees in Dhaka, foreign and local, that they are in a safe haven.

SPORTS TALK



Avery Brundage

(Former President, International Olympic Committee)

"The Olympic Games are the greatest social force of our time."

Sports

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN (Rules are published every Saturday.)

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-4

Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. Sept 15, 1995)

- The length of an Olympic swimming pool is  
25 metres 50 metres 75 metres
- The oldest Premier Division football club in Dhaka is  
Abahani Mohammedan Wari A.C
- The current World Cup football champions are  
Argentina Brazil Germany
- The number of Test playing cricket countries is  
7 8 9
- A game of hockey lasts for  
70 minutes 80 minutes 90 minutes

Name: .....

Class: .....

School Address: .....

Phone: (if any) .....

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Lifebuoy Premier Division football league:

Agrani Bank SC vs YMC Fakirerpool 4:30 pm (Dhaka Stadium)

Arambagh KS vs Rahmatganj MFS 6:30 pm (Dhaka Stadium)

17th national hockey championship (quarter finals):

Venue: BKSP Bangladesh Army vs Rajshahi DSA 2:30 pm Dhaka University vs Bangladesh Navy 3:45 pm

18th national basketball championship:

Venue: Dhanmondi Gymnasium Dhaka DSA vs Bangladesh Police 8 am

Brahmanbaria DSA vs Chandpur DSA 9:30 am

Bangladesh Navy vs Khulna DSA 3:30 pm

Bangladesh Rifles vs Bangladesh Air Force 5 pm

Bangladesh Army vs Habiganj DSA 6:30 pm.

Verdy hang on to top spot

TOKYO, Sept 10: Verdy Kawasaki stayed on top of the standings in the J-League's second stage on Saturday night despite losing to Shimizu S-Pulse on a penalty shootout, reports Reuter.

S-Pulse took the lead in the 15th minute when Dias drove the ball into the net with a diving header.



International Master Ziaur Rahman (R) awaits for the next move from his bespectacled opponent during the penultimate round of the international Rating Open chess meet at the NSC chess room yesterday. — Star photo

Muktis score twice only

Sports Reporter

Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra rekindled an outside chance of winning their maiden league title with a facile 2-0 victory over lowly Wari Club in the lone Lifebuoy Premier football league encounter at the floodlit Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

With this win, Muktijoddha, who were runners-up last year and who suffered a stunning 1-2 defeat at the hands of Arambagh in their previous match, raised their tally to 29 and now trail joint league leaders Mohammedan Sporting Club and defending champions Abahani Krira Chakra by four points on completion of 14 league engagements.

In an one-sided affair, Mizan and Gaus struck once apiece in each half to propel the star-studded outfit to their ninth win in the league. But the margin of victory hardly reflects the total dominance of Muktijoddha, who could have won by a more flattering figure against the Motijheel outfit, who are threatened by fears of relegation.

The gap between Muktijoddha's overwhelming performance and the score-line is highlighted by the fact that they were denied by the wood-work on three occasions. Moreover, it was painful to watch their target forwards spoil at least six sitters that eventually denied them victory by what could have been the widest margin.

Muktijoddha, who possess nine national booters in their ranks, settled into a comfortable groove from the word

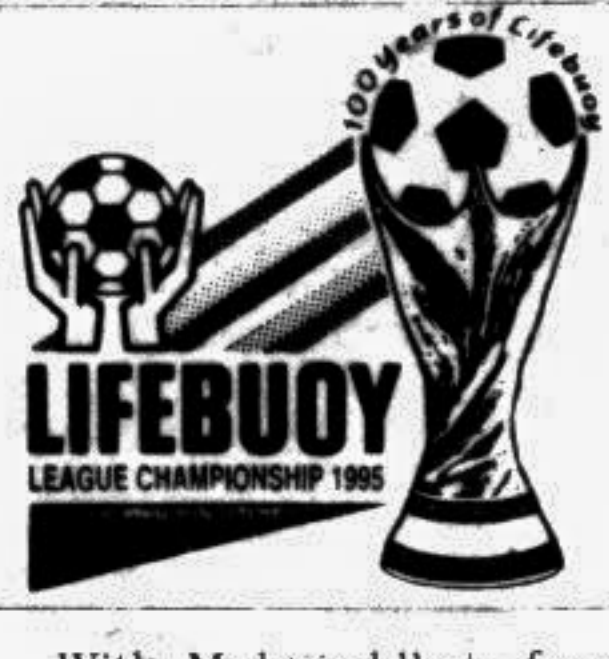
go' and opened up a shaky Wari defence in the very third minute with Mizan providing a neat cross deep inside the Wari box. But, an unmarked Rakib, who later cracked the ball against the wood-work twice, wasted an opportunity of a lead by heading straight into a Wari defender. Mizan followed the pedestrian way of medio Rakib when the lanky national striker missed the target twice midway through the first half.

After the lemon break, Muktijoddha continued their assault with waves of attacks but they had to wait till the 68th minute before Gaus, the dark and dapper winger, sealed the fate of the match with a blistering grounder through the near post.

On the other hand, a beleaguered Wari, who are almost destined to be relegated from the elite group, gave Muktijoddha a scare when their substitute Babuzzaman hammered two quick blows during the last quarter of the match. But both the attempts from the robust striker narrowly missed the mark much to the relief Pannu, who was otherwise sauntered under the bar for much of the time.

The defeat was a decisive nail in the Wari coffin as the traditional giant-slayers remain stuck to the bottom of the table with a paltry six points from 14 matches.

Yellow card: Kingshuk (Muktijoddha) and Zakir Sr (Wari Club).



With Muktijoddha's frustration mounting by the minute, Mizan quenched their goal-thirst by stabbing home the lead goal in the 33rd minute off a Gaus floater from the right.

The goal added fuel to Muktijoddha's attack and the fired-up Gulshan outfit almost got their second goal a minute later. But Rakib's powerful grounder into an open net was parried off by Wari defender Atique from the goal-line.

In the 37th minute, midfielder Titu in sheer disgust saw his brilliant free-kick rebound off the cross-piece with the Wari custodian Minar beaten fair and square. Muktijoddha's hopes of

Rajib so close yet so far

Sports Reporter

It was so close yet so far for Enamul Hossain Rajib when Nasir Ahmed of Dhaka University handed the youngster of Bobby Fischer Chess Club a shocking defeat in the penultimate round of the International Rating Open chess tournament at the NSC chess room yesterday.

Rajib, a class ten student of St Gregories and the latest sensation in the local chess arena, was only one point away for his maiden title triumph before Nasir checkmated him in only 31 moves.

The defeat now left Rajib with no other option but to win today against Hanif in the final match of the 11-round Swiss League meet.

Dhanmondi out of danger

Sports Reporter

Dhanmondi Club overcame the fears of relegation when they defeated PWD SC by the odd goal in three in the Lifebuoy First Division football league match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

In an up and down encounter Towhid and Rashed gave Dhanmondi a 2-0 lead at the breather before Mostaq pulled off one goal back for the vanquished in the 70th minute.

The outcome of last evening's match left both Dhanmondi and PWD with 16 points each on completion of their 14 league engagements.

Away at the Mirpur Stadium, Sadharan Bima and Victoria Sporting Club split points to a one-all draw to earn 21 and 16 points respectively at the end of their 14 league outings.

Barely 39 runs later, Chandika Hathurusinghe became. Saglain's first Test wicket victim after having scored only 23 when he was caught by Inzamamul Haq.

With Sri Lanka on 83 for 3, 18-year-old Mushtaq struck another blow, when Asanka Gurusinha was caught by Wasim Akram.

Shortly afterwards, Aaqib Javed increased the pressure on the tourists by trapping captain Arjuna Ranatunga lbw at 8.

The skipper's brother, Sanjeeva Ranatunga, who was slightly hurt under the helmet by an Aaqib Javed bouncer, went down lbw to

24 athletes for SAF Games

Sports Reporter

A 24-member athletics team including 11 women athletes were named by Bangladesh Amateur Athletics Federation (BAAF) on Monday to participate in the forthcoming 7th SAF Games scheduled to begin in the Indian City of Madras from December 22.

Beside the athletes, four coaches were also named by the BAAF to conduct the athletics training camp at BKSP, Savar from September 16.

The following athletes have been instructed to report to the BKSP camp on September 15:

1. Rehana Parveen,
  2. Rahima Khatun Juthie
  3. Munira Akhter
  4. Akherunnisa
  5. Nilufar Yasmeen
  6. Kalpana Biswas
  7. Lovely Begum
  8. Kaniz Fatima
  9. Lubna Ahmed
  10. Shaheen Azad
  11. Shathi Parveen
  12. Bimal Chandra Tarafder
  13. Emdadul Haque Ranjoo
  14. Mahub Alam
  15. Ilyas Hossain
  16. Bari Amin
  17. Nazrul Islam
  18. Rakibul Alam
  19. Hafizur Rahman
  20. Golam Ambia
  21. Towhidur Rahman
  22. Azhar Ali
  23. Solaiman Mojumdar
  24. Abdur Rahim Naim
- Coaches
1. Shah Alam
  2. Nazrul Islam Romy
  3. Kitab Ali
  4. AC Chakma.

Akram abases Lankans



PESHAWAR, Sept 10: Pakistan clinching a 273-run first innings lead, had Sri Lanka desperately struggling after the follow-on at the close on the third day of the first cricket Test Sunday, reports AFP.

Resuming at overnight 23 for no loss in reply to Pakistan's daunting 459 for 9 declared, Sri Lanka were all out for 186 in 62.1 overs about 20 minutes before tea break.

In their second innings, Sri Lanka had scored 86 for 2, facing the grim prospect of an innings defeat. The match will resume Monday.

Pakistani fast bowler Wasim Akram, in one of his most lethal performances, captured five wickets, with debutant Saqlain Mushtaq claiming 2 wickets, as Sri Lanka's batting line collapsed in the first innings.

Only Hashan Tillekeratne, who came in at the fall of fourth wicket when Sri Lanka were 101, was the highest scorer at 44 knock and remained unbeaten.

Opener Roshan Mahanama was the first batsman out on 29, caught by wicketkeeper Moni Khan off Pakistani speedster Waqar Younis, when only 16 runs had been added to the Sri Lanka's overnight score.

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And with the score only 36, spinner Aamir Sohail, introduced into the attack for the first time in three days, sent back Gurusinha at 10.

Hathurusinghe and Sanjeeva Ranatunga, in a superb fight back, were still at the crease when the play closed. Hathurusinghe had scored 53, his 6th fifth in Test cricket, showing superb defense along with Ranatunga who was on 17.

He completed his tally by dismissing Muttiah Muralidharan, who was caught by Mushtaq at 8.

The last Sri Lankan, Ravindra Pushpakumara, was run out at one run, with his team on 186.

Mahanama and Hathurusinghe opened the Sri Lanka second innings under nerve-wrecking pressure in the fifth over when the tourists had only 8 on the scoreboard. Javed trapped Mahanama lbw at two.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the first Test between Pakistan and Sri Lanka on Sunday.

**PAKISTAN:** First innings 459-9 declared (Inzamam-ul-Haq 95), Rameez Raja 78, Shoaib Mohammad 57, Moin Khan 51, Saad Anwar 50; Chaminda Vaas 5-99).

**SRI LANKA:** First innings (overnight 23-0)  
R Mahanama c Moin b Waqar 29  
C. Hathurusinghe c Inzamam b Saglain 23  
A Gurusinha c Akram b Saglain 24  
S. Ranatunga lbw b Akram 33  
A. Ranatunga lbw b Aaqib 38  
H. Tillekeratne not out 44  
C. Dumusinghe lbw b Akram 0  
C. Vaas b Akram 4  
P. Wickremasinghe b Akram 0  
M. Muralidharan c Saglain b Akram 8  
R. Pushpakumara run out 1  
Extras: (b-1, lb-6, nb-5) 12  
Total: 186  
Fall of wickets: 1-39; 2-76; 3-83; 4-102; 5-132; 6-134; 7-142; 8-143; 9-184.

**Bowling O M R W**  
Wasim Akram 20 3 55 5  
Waqar Younis 11 2 47 1  
Saglain Mushtaq 18 4 49 2  
Aaqib Javed 11.1 2 27 1  
Aamir Sohail 2 1 0 0

**SRI LANKA:** Second innings  
R. Mahanama lbw b Aaqib 2  
C. Hathurusinghe not out 53  
A Gurusinha c Anwar b Sohail 10  
S. Ranatunga not out 17  
Extras: (lb-2, nb-2) 4  
Total: (for two wickets) 86  
Fall of wickets: 1-8; 2-36

**Bowling O M R W**  
Waqar Younis 4 0 23 0  
Aaqib Javed 4 0 11 1  
Saglain Mushtaq 12 6 20 0  
Aamir Sohail 10 2 29 1  
Ijaz Ahmed (Jr) 1 0 1 0

AKRAM 5 for 55

Monte Carlo Grand Prix Cash bonanza for Africans



MONACO, Sept 10: Moses Kiptanui led from the front on Saturday as African athletes enjoyed a cash bonanza at the Monte Carlo Grand Prix final, reports Reuter.

The three-time world steeplechase champion won the men's overall title and total prize money of 130,000 dollars for just over eight minutes' work on a hot, sunny afternoon.

Mozambique's Maria Mutola, disqualified in the semifinals of the Gothenburg World Championships 800 metres last month, gained some compensation by winning the women's overall title.

Kiptanui needed to finish only third on Saturday to clinch the overall title following his two world records this season, unless one of his rivals set a world record.

At the end of a long, arduous season this was never likely and Kiptanui duly romped to victory in eight minutes 02.45 seconds, with his countrymen filling the next seven places in an event the Kenyans have made their own. Altogether Kenyans will take home 200,000 dollars in prize money from the steeplechase alone.

"I'm very happy with my performance," said Kiptanui. "It's been a long season so to run 8:02 is fantastic."

"Right now I'm very happy and winning the overall title is a great bonus. Now I have to go away and have a strong winter without injury."

Mutola set a year's best of

1:55-72 to confirm she is unchallenged in the world over two laps. In the prices she dragged Britain's Kelly Holmes and Frenchwoman Patricia Djate to national records with 1:56-.21 and 1:56.53 respectively.

The upset of the day came in the men's 100 metres, a non-Grand Prix event, which was expected to provide the latest instalment in the Linford Christie-Donovan Bailey serial.

Christie, the Olympic champion, headed the Canadian world champion by four wins to three this season before Saturday's race but in the even Australian Damien Marsh was the surprise winner in 10.13 seconds with Bailey second and Christie fifth.

"Unbelievable," said Marsh. "I just went out and ran as hard as I could but when I dipped I thought it would be close."

The other invitation event of the evening saw Algerian Noureddine Morceli give yet another magnificent exhibition when he won the 1,500 metres by more than four seconds from American Steve Holman in 3:28-37. He is the only person to have run faster.

"I love sport and the challenge of always trying to break the world records," said Morceli. "But I'm not a machine and it doesn't always work."

Michel Johnson, another of the world's great athletes, also looked apparently unaffected by the demands of a long, demanding season when he won the 200 metres in 19.93, the

second fastest time of the year. The world 200 and 400 metres champion admitted though that he was tired after the race and will probably have to wait until next year for the world records which seem his for the taking.

"The world record will come in time," said Johnson. "Right now I'm worn out. It's been a long year."

The women's 200 metres went predictably to Gwen Torrence in the absence of world champion Merlene Ottey through injury.

Torrence won the world 100 title and finished comfortably ahead of Ottey in the 200 final only to be disqualified for running out of lane.

"It's been a fantastic year for me even if I am a little tired right now," Torrence said. "I'm sad that Merlene Ottey wasn't there. I always like to compete against the world 5,000 record this year, won the 3,000 metres in a photo-finish with Burundi's Venuste Niyongabo."

In the field events South African Okkert Brits, who beat five-time world champions Ergei Bubka in Berlin last week, repeated one of sport's rarer feats in the Ukrainian's adopted home town.

Brits won with 5.95 metres after Bubka, who cleared 5.90 at his first attempt, failed three times at six metres.

Cuban world champions Ivan Pedrosa, still waiting to learn if his world record mark set in Sestrier is to be ratified or not, won the men's long jump with his sixth and final leap of 8.49 metres.

Hosts, Dhaka move into semis

Sports Reporter

Dhaka DSA and BKSP moved into the semifinals of 17th national hockey championship winning their respective quarterfinals Sunday at the BKSP ground, Savar.

BKSP won the day's first engagement 6-4 in tie-breaker against Faridpur DSA after their 70 scheduled minutes of close contest ended 1-1.

Shamsuzzaman of BKSP put his side ahead with a field goal in the 26th minute (1-0) while Isa Mia levelled the match for Faridpur when he converted a penalty corner in the 46th minute (1-1).

In the tie-breaker, Ishtiaque, Mahbulul, Zia, Shahidullah and Zahid scored

for the hosts, while Musa, Sharafat and Yusuf succeeded for Faridpur DSA.

The winners, BKSP will play the second semifinal on Wednesday against the winners of today's quarterfinal between Bangladesh Army and Jessore DSA.

In the other quarterfinal of the day, a magnificent hat-trick by national forward Sadek enabled Dhaka DSA to record a big win (5-1) over Bangladesh Air Force.

Sadek, who plays for Usha KC in the Dhaka First Division hockey league, scored the third hat-trick of the championship with two field goals in the 40th and 44th minute and finally by converting a penalty corner in the 65th minute.

Earlier, Kamal and Raju netted one field goal apiece in the 5th and 31st minute giving the winners a 2-0 first half lead.

Diljaj Ali scored the consolation goal for the airmen in the 60th minute.

Dhaka DSA will face the winners of today's quarterfinal between Bangladesh Navy and Dhaka University in the first semifinal also on Wednesday afternoon.

Donald boosts Warwick

LONDON, Sept 10: Allan Donald bowled Warwickshire in sight of a repeat English County Championship success at Edgbaston on Saturday, reports Reuter.

The South African's ferocious pace was rewarded with three wickets in eight balls and had Derbyshire reeling on 31 for three in their second innings, 88 behind.

An unbeaten 137 by Trevor Penney and a 168-run sixth wicket stand with his captain Dermot Reeve, who made 67, had boosted the title-holders to 387 for eight declared.

Donald blew away Kim Barnett, Steve Griffiths and Adrian Rollins in a new ball burst of 6-3-9-3.

Warwickshire have already followed up last year's unprecedented domestic treble with victory in the NatWest Trophy. Today they bid for the league crown and on Monday aim to wrap up the championship.

Challengers Middlesex had frustrating day at Uxbridge where Leicestershire reached 284 for four in reply to 338.

Middlesex's England batsman Mark Ramprakash made 158, his eighth century of the season.

Cuba, Brazil move into final round

HAMAMATSU, Japan, Sept 10: World champions Cuba outlasted Japan 3-1 sets here on Sunday to finish the qualifying round in the World Grand Prix women's volleyball series with a 10-2 win loss tally, reports AFP.

Set scores were 15-4, 16-14, 4-15, 15-6.

Brazil, the runners-up at the World Championships last year, beat Russia 3-1 (15-12, 15-13, 11-15, 15-10) for their eighth win against four losses in the round.

Cuba and Brazil will join the United States and China in Shanghai on Friday at the final stage of the two million dollar Grand Prix. The US and Chinese squads competed with South Korea and Germany in Beijing in the final phase of the qualifying round.

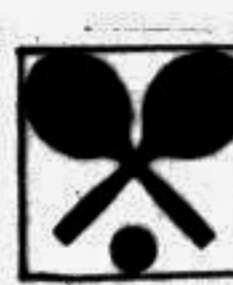
Notice

Our regular item 'crossword' could not be accommodated due to unavoidable reason. Inconvenience to our valued readers is regretted. — Sports Editor



World record holder Michael Johnson of the US on way to winning the 200m gold at the IAAF Athletics Grand Prix in Monaco on Saturday. The American sprinter supreme clocked 19.93 sec. — AFP/UNB photo

Stealing spotlight again



NEW YORK, Sept 10: Monica Seles walked away from the US Open on Saturday, feeling like a champion despite losing to Steffi Graf in a rousing three-set final, reports Reuter.

"It's been very exciting to be playing again. Just being out there feeling everything once again," Seles said after her first Grand Slam tournament in more than two years ended with a 7-6, 0-6, 6-3 defeat to the top-seeded Graf.

"From the first time I walked out here on Monday night the electricity was amazing. One reason I came back was to feel this excitement and I definitely felt it," Seles told the crowd in the post-match ceremony.

Seles had missed the last 10 majors after being stabbed in the back in Hamburg on April 30, 1993.

"What happened in Hamburg, it was an experi-

ence, but I try to put it back and then move on," the 21-year-old Seles said of the emotional trauma she suffered from the attack.

Seles finally came back last month, blitzing the field to win at the Canadian Open before sweeping into the final here without dropping a set.

After having secluded herself during her long recovery, Seles has relished the spotlight and an adoring public.

She savoured New York at Broadway shows, restaurants, trendy stores and even ventured for a walk on the sidelines of a New York Giants football game during the open fortnight.

The public's welcome was needed to soothe any fears lingering in her mind, says Seles's agent, Stephanie Tolleson.

"Monica is definitely a very confident person," she said.

"But there were always lit-

tle doubts in the back of her mind.

"It's nice to have that confirmation that she made all the right decisions."

Seles said she will now return to Florida to rest her sore left knee. The only other tournament she has penned in her calendar this year is the season finale WTA Tour Championships back in New York, November 13-19.

Seles said the novelty of her return to the fray is now off and that has changed her expectations.

"The two tournaments I played this year, I came in with a different mentality," said Seles, winner of eight Grand Slam singles titles, including seven of the last nine she has played.

"I was just really happy to be playing out there and not so much about expecting to win a tournament," she said about her win in Toronto and runner-up showing in the Open.