

Sport

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT there has been competitions in taking snuff or "nashshee" as it is known in Bangladesh. Of course, we have had great snuffers, but we will never know if there was a potential champ among them, mainly because the sport(?) is longer practised. Snuff taking was at one time a serious undertaking of a world championship sport in Germany. The current world record stands at 53.02 seconds for snorting down an ounce of specified snuff. The sport is fairly dangerous for obvious reasons. Mishaps during competitions were common. Ruptures were not unknown, along with lost dentures, spectacles and the odd glass eye.

These unusual findings have got me started thinking whether we could give origin to a new sports competition. Now, let's see what do we really do well? Making "jhal mooree", buying tickets of a big football game, travelling by rickshaw, canal crossing via "shakose"? Actually, with a bit of guts competitions of any sort can be started. All we need is some imagination.

SPORTS TALK



Aldous Huxley (British author)

"Like every other instrument man has invented, sport can be used for good and evil purposes. Used badly it can encourage personal vanity and group vanity, greedy desire for victory and even hatred for rivals, an intolerant esprit de corps and contempt for people who are beyond an arbitrarily selected pale."

From "Ends & Means."

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN The rules are published every Saturday.

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-5. Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. Sept 22, 1995)

- 1. The highest Test innings score is by Sobers Lara Hamit
2. The ruling body of world hockey is FIH WHF IFFI
3. The first Bangladesh to cross the English Channel was Brijen Das/Abdul Malek/ Mosharrat
4. The next soccer World Cup will be held in Brazil Japan France
5. The current world chess champion is Karpov Kasparov Anand

Name: Class: Roll No: School Address: Phone: (if any)

US spikers clinch world GP title

SHANGHAI, Sept 17: The United States beat Brazil in a five-game thriller to win the Women's World Volleyball Grand Prix final here on Sunday, reports AFP.

The American spikers took a flying start winning the first two sets 15-9, 15-10 with powerful smashes and strong blocking, the official Xinhua news agency reported.

The Brazilians fought back aggressively to level things up taking the next two sets 15-4, 15-5.

Aussie, ROK in Champions' Trophy hockey final

MAR DEL PLATA, Argentina, Sept 17: Jacqueline Pereira scored with one minute remaining to lift Australia to a 2-1 victory over Argentina on Saturday, sending them to a meeting with South Korea in the title match in the women's Champions Trophy, reports AP.

Renita Fareel's disputed goal in the 48th minute drew Argentina even, after Karina Massota gave the Australian's the lead in 24th. The victory kept Australia's record unblemished (5-0-0) in the six nation event, and sets up a Sunday rematch of Australia's 4-2 victory on Wednesday.

Islanders capitalise on Akram's absence SL set up stronghold



DE SILVA... 78 n.o



MURALIDHARAN... 5 for 68

third day of the second cricket Test against Pakistan on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The pair shared an unbroken partnership of 150, a Sri Lankan third-wicket record against Pakistan, to frustrate the home bowlers, who went wicketless in the last two sessions of play.

At stumps Hathurusinghe was on 67 after 311 minutes with 10 fours. De Silva's 78 in 264 minutes included nine fours off 224 balls with Sri Lanka on 174 for two in their second innings.

Opener Hathurusinghe, who made 53 in the first Test at Peshawar which the tourists lost by an innings and 40 runs, was joined by Aravinda when two wickets had gone down with only 24 runs on the board as Sri Lanka faced a first innings deficit of 110 runs.

Pakistan were all out for 333, adding 39 runs to their overnight total of 294 for eight within 50 minutes of the start of play.

Off-spinner Muttiah Muralidharan, with five for 68, was the most successful bowler for Sri Lanka, who made 223 in the first innings.

Pakistan were hand-capped by the absence of start fast bowler Wasim

Akram who sprained his left shoulder and was ruled out of the game for two weeks.

The two Sri Lankan batsmen made most of Wasim's absence and treated a weakened Pakistan attack with disdain on their way to a partnership that broke the previous best of 85 between Siddah Wettimuny and Roy Dias in the 1985-1986 season.

In the process Hathurusinghe and De Silva also attained personal milestones. De Silva completed his 3,000 runs in his 49th Test when on 35 and Hathurusinghe got to his 1,000 runs in his 20th Test on 40.

Earlier, Asanka Gurusinha, playing his 35th Test, also accomplished his 2,000 runs when on five before falling leg before to Aaqub Javed for 12.

Paceman Mohammad Akram gave Pakistan an early break at 11 by having Roshan Mahamana adjudged leg before the wicket.

There was no further success for the home side as Hathurusinghe and Aravinda grew in confidence and Pakistan skipper Rameez Raja switched his bowlers in a bid to break the stand.

SCOREBOARD

Score board at the close of

Table with columns O, M, R, W for Sri Lanka and Pakistan batting and bowling figures.

MURALIDHARAN... 5 for 68 the third day's play in the second Test between Pakist-

an and Sri Lanka were on Sunday.

SRI LANKA: 1st innings 223 (Hashan Tillekeratne 115; Aaqub Javed 3/34. Saqlain Mushtaq 3/74).

PAKISTAN: 1st innings Anwar c De Silva b Muralidharan 54



HATHURUSINGHE... 67 n.o

Table with columns O, M, R, W for Sri Lanka and Pakistan batting and bowling figures.

Steffi meets her father at last

BONN, Sept 17: World Number One Steffi Graf visited her father Peter in Mannheim prison last week, his lawyer Peter Slania told the Mannheimer Morgen newspaper, reports AFP.



Steffi Graf

August for allegedly evading tax on his daughter's earnings.

Graf, 26, broke down in tears at the US Open press conference after she was questioned about her father's predicament.

Graf senior, 57, is alleged to have only paid 10 million Deutschmarks (seven million dollars) since 1983 on his daughter's earnings of 177.4 million Deutschmarks (126 million dollars).

His daughter has now taken charge of her own business affairs.

The way they cheer up

BERLIN, Sept 17 (AP): When Dortmund lost to Juventus, they grimaced.

When Freiburg and Kaiserslautern fell to Slavia Prague and Slovan Bratislava, they shook their heads.

When Bayern Munich was beaten at home by Lokomotiv Moscow, it was too much.

This past week's series of losses in European Cup play, three of them at home, has sparked an avalanche of self-criticism, blaming everything from lack of discipline among the young to overpaid professionals.

"Euro Cup disgrace! Soccer - Will we soon be reduced to dwarves?" blared the front-page headline in the Bild, Germany's largest-circulation daily.

The four losses in six games, some to clubs in relatively soccer minnow nations, was extremely distressing to a country that has won three World Cups and 12 European cup titles.

In Bild, no fewer than 11 prominent and respected soccer voices berated the current state of German soc-

cer, including national team coach Berti Vogts.

Former Moenchengladbach great Guenter, Netzer said today's players were products of an "alluent youth," living among too many distractions to spend their time growing up learning the basic ball-handling skills.

And they've abandoned the alleged German strengths - fighting spirit, will-power and discipline.

"If we start playing 'Brazilian' soccer, then we'll soon be second rank," Vogts warned.

"We lack creativity - internationally, respect for us is gone," said Juergen Grabowski, a member of Germany's 1974 World Cup champions.

Kaiserslautern fell 2-1 at Slovan Bratislava; and Freiburg dropped a similar 2-1 decision at home to Slavia Prague in the UEFA Cup.

Italy's Juventus outclassed Dortmund 3-1 in the Champions Cup.

But the loss that stunned German fans most was Bayern Munich's 1-0 loss on Tuesday to Lokomotiv Moscow. The star-studded club that the

press had dubbed "The Dream Team" is 6-0-0 in the Bundesliga.

Afterwards, Bayern's management said the team wasn't used to rough-and-tough international play, while the players called the Russian victory lucky.

"Sad, that excuses are sought. When Bayern complains they aren't internationally tough, that's laughable - they've got 10 or 11 national team players," said Stefan Effenberg, Moenchengladbach's star midfielder.

Moenchengladbach managed to salvage some German pride by winning 3-0 Thursday in the Cup Winners Cup against Sileks, a club from a small Macedonian town that did little to heal the earlier wounds.

Werder Bremen also won a UEFA Cup match against Glenavon Belfast 2-0, but it wasn't enough to still the critics.

"The national team reflects German football. And that's where I see too many run-down, overpaid average players," said coach Max Merkel.



World's clay court maestro Thomas Muster of Austria makes a forehand return during his semifinal engagement against Hungarian Sandor Noszaly at the Romanian Open in Bucharest on Sept 16. The world number three outplayed Noszaly 6-2, 6-2.

Muster richer by \$189,000

BUCHAREST, Sept 17: Top-seed and French open champion Thomas Muster beat Austrian compatriot Gilbert Schaller in straight sets 6-3, 6-4 to win the Romanian Open here Sunday, reports AFP.

The World Number three needed just over one hour for the straight sets clay court victory and a pay day of 189,000 dollars.

In the semifinals Muster ended the giant-killing run of Hungarian qualifier Sandor Noszaly while sixth-seeded Schaller beat Norway's Christian Ruud 6-3, 7-6 (7/5).

Donald the wrecker-in-chief County title Warwick's

LONDON, Sept 17: Warwickshire retained the English County Championship when they crushed Kent by an innings and 105 runs at Canterbury on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Kent, able to field only nine batsmen because of injuries, failed to delay Warwickshire's victory charge and folded for 124.

The furious pace of fast bowler South African Allan Donald was rewarded with four for 43 as Warwickshire sensed the kill.

Donald took 89 first-class wickets during the campaign, his best tally in eight seasons with Warwickshire. But he did not figure in last year's trophy hatrick, when West Indian Brian Lara was Warwickshire's foreign player.

The South African, whose heavy Test schedule may prevent him from reappearing for the county, was in an emotional state after Warwickshire clinched their sixth crown in three seasons.

He said: "The rest of the players were saying thanks for what I have done when we left the field. It was very emotional anyway and it made it even more difficult to



DONALD... 4 for 43

Donald the wrecker-in-chief County title Warwick's

stop the tears flowing. "It is one of the best moments of my career and it means an awful lot to have won the championship with such a wonderful team, who are so enthusiastic in every thing they do."

Warwickshire captain

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Atletico still alone atop

MADRID, Sept 17: Striker Kiko Narvaez was sent off but Atletico Madrid stayed top of the Spanish League on Saturday with an impressive 2-0 victory at fellow pace-setters Athletic Bilbao, reports Reuter.

Rajuvanted Atletico now have a maximum nine points from three matches, three ahead of Bilbao, Espanol and Compostela on six.

Atletico have rarely done well in the intimidating San Mames Stadium but this time they took the sting out of the young Bilbao side with confident and composed possession football.

Argentine powerhouse Diego Simeone and elegant Spanish international play-

maker Jose Caminero controlled the midfield, carving out several good chances for forwards Kiko and Luboslav Penev.

Bilbao seemed overawed by the occasion, and created only one clear chance in the entire match.

The Basque "lions" relied far too heavily on their young striking partnership of Julen Guerrero and Joseba Etxeberria, who were closely shepherded by the more experienced Roberto Solozabal and Tomas Renones.

Atletico went ahead in the 16th minute, the tall Kiko heading in a near-post corner that goalkeeper Juan Valencia should have claimed.

Yugoslav Milanko Pantic should have put the visitors further ahead on the half-hour, but sent his shot

straight at Valencia.

Bilbao's solitary chance came when Guerrero centred for Etxeberria, but he headed over with the goal at his mercy.

Twenty minutes into a dull second half, Atletico sealed the points. Defender Geli Roura finished a flowing move with a hard shot which Valencia could only parry to a grateful Penev, who converted with his usual simplicity.

Minutes later, Atletico were reduced to 10 when Kiko was ordered off for a late tackle from behind on Guerrero.

But Bilbao, to the frustration of a capacity 46,000 crowd, failed to take advantage of their numerical superiority.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 "Pow!" 5 Hacienda 9 Obey the coxswain 12 Tennis star Mandikova 13 Cupid's specialty 14 - Wan Kenobi 15 Noted W.W.II journalist 17 Swindle 18 Tease 19 Un-adorned 21 Dorothy's auntie 22 Trophy winner 24 "Private Benjamin" star 27 Extinct New Zealand 28 Mountaineer's tool 31 Tango quorum 32 Mornings: abbr. 33 Bud's partner 34 Oscar Madison type 36 Devilkin 37 Rose of diamond fame 38 Theatrical presentation 40 - Manchu 41 Major auto exporter 43 Monkeys' container? 47 Actress MacGraw 48 TV serviceman 51 Under the weather 52 Androcles' ally 53 - duck 54 Soap ingredient of yore 55 Shak's Q. 56 Adam's grandson

Crossword grid with numbers 1-30 and letters in some cells.

CRYPTOQUIP KOYAV FN MIYWM TAIKM- AY, UMJYUM'W LAGG YODEAY TIW LJOGVODE I KFGG LFFKM Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DESSERT OF CHOICE DOWN AT THE COURTHOUSE RESTAURANT WAS TORT. Today's Cryptoquip clue: U equals C 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 locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.