

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

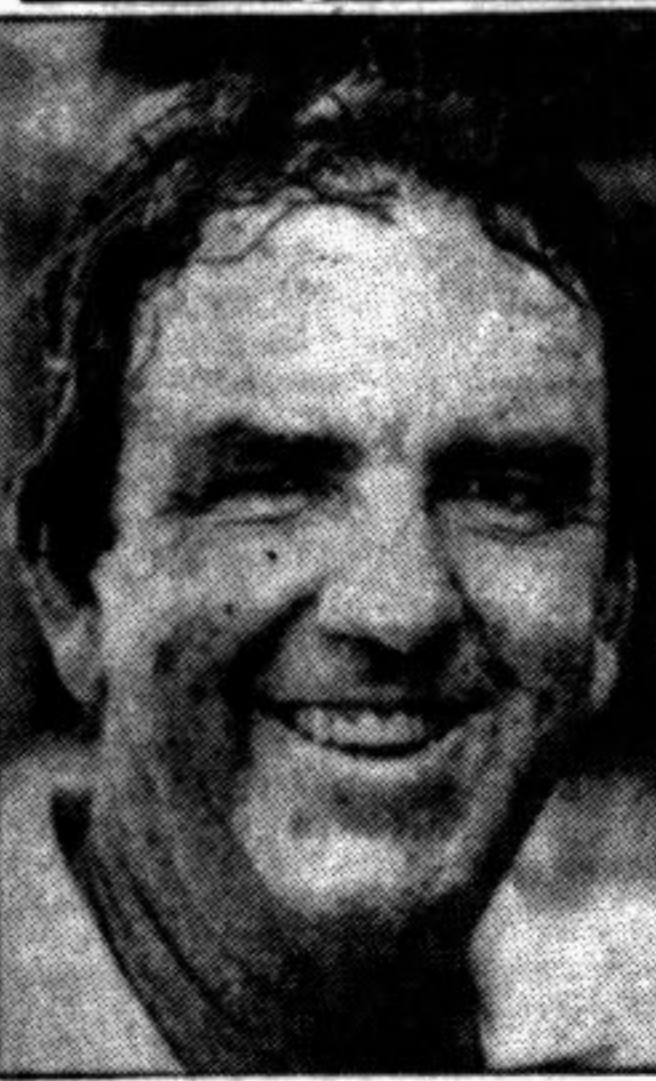
(The Professor does)

HAT the crowd from the gallery in any sport consider itself the best judge...

In one particular ball game, the crowd was surprised to see that the referee was not in his usual position in the field...

"Well you see, explained the referee," the spectators were very critical of my decisions...

SPORTS TALK



Bob Simpson (Australian national cricket coach and former Test skipper)

"We always field brilliantly. We run between wickets brilliantly. I think there is more energy in us than in any other one-day side of the world and I think that is glamour."

Sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN (The rules are published every Saturday)

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-14

Tick the Correct Answer (Competition closes: 8 p.m. Nov 24, 1995)

Table with 5 questions and multiple choice options for the sports quiz.

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

40-day ban on Edmundo

RIO DE JANEIRO, Nov 20: Flamengo striker Edmundo has been suspended from soccer for 40 days for making an obscene gesture to fans during a match, reports Reuter.

A Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) tribunal also banned Vasco da Gama midfielder Nelson for four matches for squeezing an opponent's genitals.

The ban on Edmundo, to take immediate effect, will be largely symbolic as he is expected to be out of action for the rest of the year with a broken toe.

Edmundo was brought before the tribunal after newspapers published photos of him the day after Flamengo's Brazilian Championship match with local rivals Vasco da Gama.



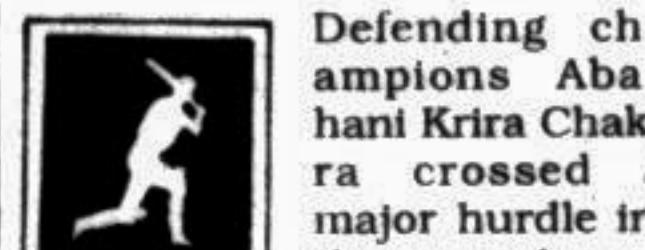
Bangladesh and Abahani skipper, middle order batsman, Akram square cuts with Brothers Union's Pakistani keeper Abid Hanif looking on during yesterday's round robin league match of the 16th Damal Summer Cricket Tournament. Abahani won by 26 runs.

Abahani outplay Brothers

Sports Reporter

BRIEF SCORES

Abahani: 244 for 6 in 50 overs (Zahoor Elahi 63, Akram 43, Moni 36, Logie 34, R Hanif 2/35, Billu 2/47) Brothers Union: 218 in 48.1 overs (Abid Hanif 71, Shovon 45, Bidduth 30, Salauddin 3/33, Prince 3/36)



Defending champions Abahani Kirra Chakra crossed a major hurdle in the second round of the 16th Damal Summer cricket tournament when they overcame a scare to post a 26-run victory over fellow favourites Brothers Union at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Abahani, buoyed by their two foreign recruits - West Indian former Test star Gus Logie and Pakistani Zahoor Elahi - for the first time this season, scored an imposing total of 244 for the loss of six

some flashes of brilliance while fielding at mid-wicket. The best fielder of the all-conquering West Indies team of the 80s, who is now 36, brought back glimpses of his hey days with a superb catch and some acrobatic fielding. He was caught at cover by Bidduth while attempting a wild flash off left-arm spinner Rashed Hanif, the younger brother of Abid.

Skipper Akram Khan, who steadied the Abahani innings putting on 66-runs for the fourth wicket with Logie, scored a sedate but useful 43 off 74 balls before Rashed Hanif had him caught a point by Sajal, leaving the scoreboard at 184 for six in 42.4 overs.

Than came the most lively part of the Abahani innings with all-rounder Enamul Huq Moni and Rahul Naimur Rashid plundering 60 runs from the last eight overs for the undefeated sixth wicket stand to propel their side to a commanding total.

Moni, who hammered two towering sixes in his 29-ball stay at the crease, remained unbeaten on 36 while Rahul scored a rapid-fire 29 off 26 deliveries.

In reply, Brothers made a rip-roaring start with Abid Hanif and an in-form Shahriar Hossain Bidduth sharing 104 runs for the first wicket in 21.4 overs.

Abid Hanif, the younger brother of Pakistani international Amir Hanif, appearing in his second successive season for Brothers Union, echoed Elahi's thunderstorm with a swashbuckling 71 off only 66 balls.

But an injudicious call by the stout Pakistani cost the wicket of Bidduth, who sacrificed his inning after scoring a polished 30. This was the beginning of the Brothers' rot.

Abid, who hammered eight sparkling hits to the fence and a massive long-on sixer off left-arm spinner Enamul Huq Moni which landed in the VIP gallery, unnecessarily ran for a cheeky single with the ball almost in the grip of a fielder at mid-off.

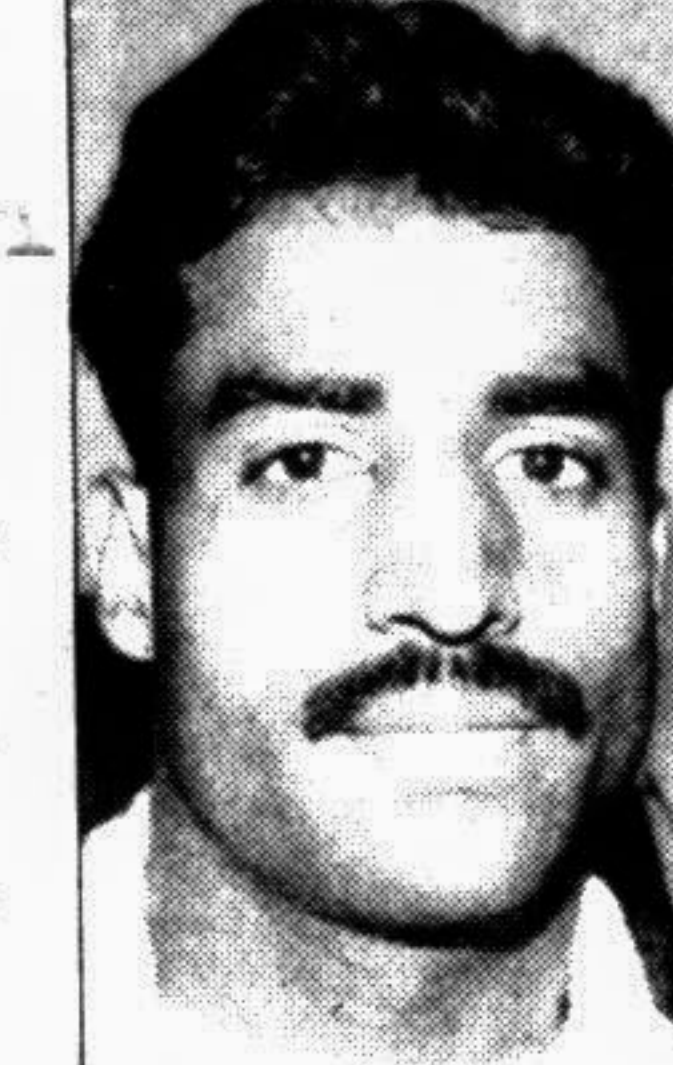
Although Bidduth, who was at the batsman end, declined to take the single which was

not there, finally came out of the crease to allow Abid to continue.

But Bidduth's harakiri hardly inspired Abid, who followed the long walk to the pavilion shortly afterwards, offering a high catch to Rahul at deep mid-wicket off spinner Sheikh Salahuddin, reducing Brothers Union to 114 for two in 22.5 overs.

The quick dismissal of two set batsmen suddenly brought Abahani into the game and with former national left-arm seamer Gomal Nawsher Prince firing with all his four cylinders in his second spell, Brothers fell from grace to a precarious 139 for five in 31.3 overs.

Prince, who conceded 23 runs in his first four overs, returning in his second spell, took the wickets of Rashed Hanif (9), Sajjad Ahmed Monsur Shipon (10) and Sanwar Hossain (1) in successive overs to put his side in the driver's seat.

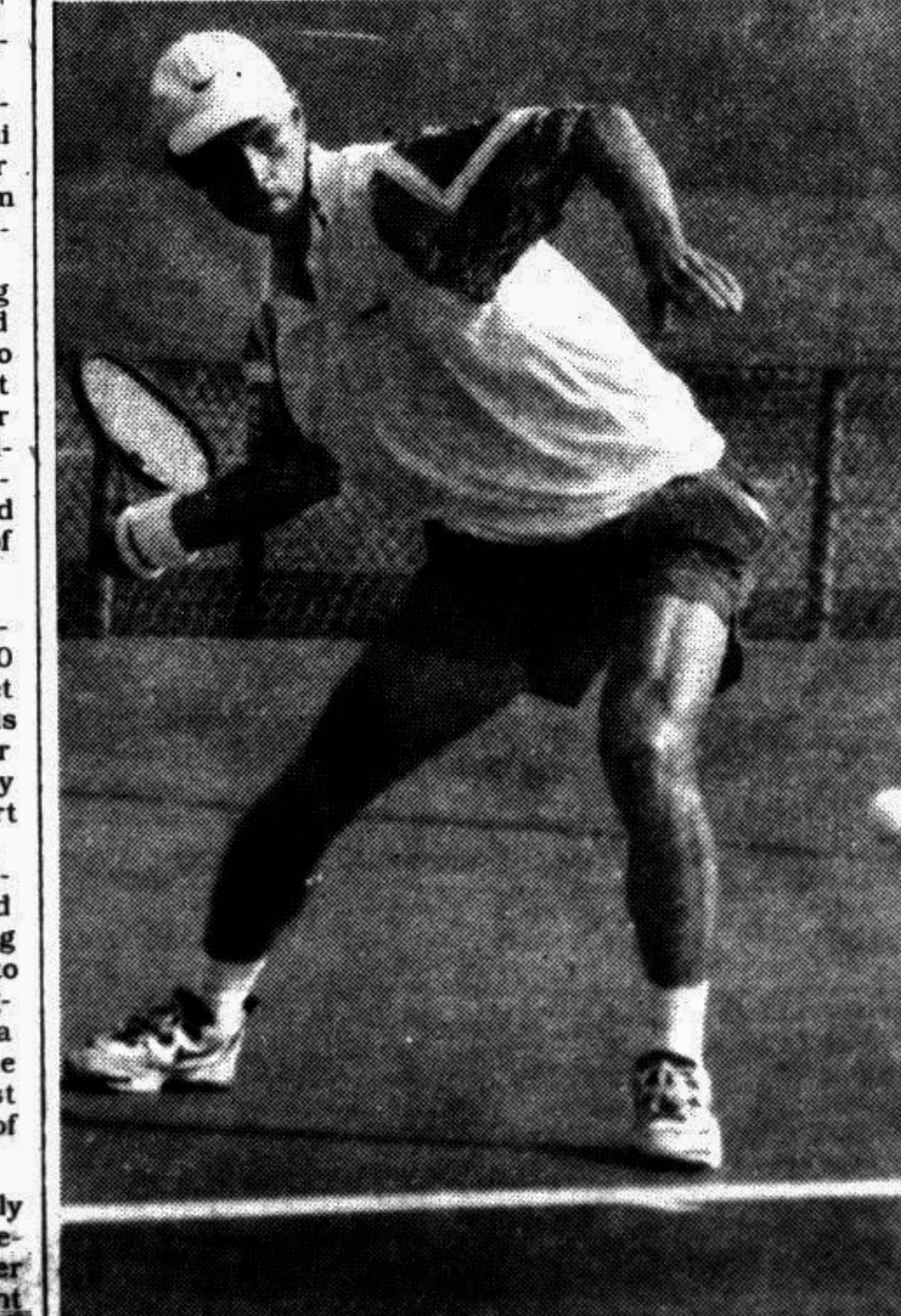


ZAHOOR ELAHI .... 63

After three quick wickets, Abahani bowlers tightened the noose around Brothers' neck with some accurate bowling.

Only Shovon, who fought a lone battle with batsman at the other end falling at regular intervals, kept up a glimmer of hope for Brothers with a 59-ball 45.

But a fragile Shovon was bowled in the first ball of the penultimate over with Brothers falling 27 runs short of the target.



Patrik Langvardt of Denmark makes a forehand return against T Srichapan of Thailand during their opening round tie of ITF Thailand Bangladesh men's Satellite circuit tennis tournament yesterday. Langvardt won the match 6-2, 6-2.

ITF masters leg on

Sports Reporter

The masters' leg of the four-leg ITF Thailand-Bangladesh men's Satellite Circuit tennis tournament got underway at the National Tennis Complex in Ramna yesterday.

The six-day event, jointly sponsored by SABINCO and Kader Synthetic Fibres Limited (KSEL) was inaugurated by the president of Bangladesh Tennis Federation (BTF) and former Industries Minister M Zahiruddin Khan. The opening ceremony was also attended by vice-president of the BTF Professor Rashiduddin Ahmed.

Twenty four players from eleven countries are taking part in this final leg of the annual event. The participants have been selected from a group of 55 who had competed in the first three stages, the first two having been held in Thailand and the third most recently in Rajshahi.

Eight first-round matches were held on the opening day. Patrik Langvardt of Denmark defeated Thanakorn Srichapan of Thailand 6-2, 6-2; Oren Motevassel of the USA defeated Narathorn Srichapan of Thailand 6-1, 6-4; another Thai-USA battle went the other way with Paradorn Srichapan defeating Sylvano Simone 7-6(7-5), 6-4; Vladimir Sever of Croatia defeated Davide Selva of Italy 7-6(7-4), 6-1; Vladimir Platenik of Slovakia defeated Bhee Witoonpanich of Thailand 6-2, 6-2; Rainer Palenti of Austria defeated Stefano Cobolli of Italy 6-4, 6-0; Jocelyn Robichaud of Canada came from a set down to beat Nebojsa Djordjevic of Yugoslavia 2-6, 6-3, 6-3; and Austrian Thomas Perchtold also came from behind to defeat Silvio Scialoja of Italy 3-6, 6-3, 7-6(9-7).

The eight seeded players of the meet all received first round byes and begin their respective campaigns today. The eight seeded according to the points they have received in the first three legs, are (in descending order) top seed Owen Casey (IRE), Robert Kokavec (CAN), Cyril Buscaglione (FRA), Davide Scala (ITA), George Boalumaer (AUT), Martin Hromec (SVK), Gabrio Castricella (ITA), and Marcus Nacke (GER).

Today's proceedings begin with Casey taking on Langvardt in court 1, Blumaer facing Motevassel in court 2 and Nacke battling Robichaud in court 4. The men's doubles will commence in the afternoon session.

GM Krasenkov, playing with black pieces, beat Sharif

MSC capture the board

Sports Reporter



Mohammedan Sporting Club added yet another feather to their cap when they clinched the First Division Chess League championship yesterday after recording their 16th straight win at the chess room of the Bangladesh Chess Federation.

Mohammedans, who returned to the Chess League after eleven years with the most powerful team in the league's history including three Grand Masters, blanked Mashgul Mahfil of Narayanganj 4-0 in their penultimate round yesterday.

This was the Third Chess League title victory for MSC who won the inaugural

Hossain Milton of Mashgul Mahfil in an English opening tie after 53 moves. GM Niaz, who was also a MSC player in 1977, won the next board against Subrata Chandra Saha. Playing with white pieces in a Sicilian defensive game, Niaz took 37 moves to beat his counterpart.

In the other two boards, Abdullah Al Rakib took only 28 moves to overcome Syed Monirul Islam in their semi Slav match while Rajib outplayed Anwar Hossain after 40 moves.

With yesterday's win, MSC earned 56 points from 16 matches which ensured their title with still one round in hand. They will play their final round against Konica Sangkritik Sangha this

Hossain Tipu. The other match between Syed Tahmidur Rahman and Moniruz-zaman ended in a draw.

In the day's other engagements, Bangladesh Ansars earned a 3.5-5 win over Genius Chess Club; BTMC beat Dhaka University 3-1; Konica SS defeated Fire Service 3-1; Sheikh Russel KC overpowered Anushilan KC 2.5-1.5; Parijat Chess Club tamed Brothers Union 4-0 and Mahakhali Pradeep Sangha beat Farashganj SC by 2.5 points to 1.5 points.

The final round of the league will be held this afternoon (3pm) at the same venue.

STANDINGS

Table showing chess league standings with columns for points and team names like Biman, Leonine CC, BTMC, etc.



First Division chess league champions Mohammedan SC (R to L): Rajib, GM Krasenkov, GM Niaz, Lokman Hossain Bhuiyan (chairman of the chess committee), Rakib and GM Anasthian.

championship in 1977. Before they played their last league in 1984, MSC also lifted the title in 1981.

In the absence of Armenian GM Ashot Anasthian, who left Dhaka for his home yesterday evening, the other two GMs of MSC Mikhail Krasenkov of Russia and Niaz Murshed - and two other Abdullah Al Rakib and Enamul Hossain Rajib didn't have too much of a bother yesterday.

GM Krasenkov, playing with black pieces, beat Sharif

afternoon only to vie for their unbeaten status in the 17-team league.

Bangladesh Biman also confirmed their runners up slot yesterday after defeating Narayanganj Chess Club by 2.5 points to 1.5 points. The victory raised their tally to 49.5 points, still 6.5 points short of MSC.

Biman's IM Reefat bin Sattar and Khandkar Kayes Hasan won their respective matches against Zinnat Ali and Mahmudur Rahman Manna of Narayanganj. Rezaul Haque was beaten by Tofazzal

TIPUS Tuesday TIPS Bend, curl, swerve

ONCE seen as something a little special, the swerving kick is now a basic football technique employed at every level of the game. It is an important facet of control to master, providing a whole range of options from merely adding safety to a crossfield pass to a devastating through ball round a defender and into the path of a team-mate.

The skill, often also called the bending or curling kick, enables you to reach parts of the pitch other kicks cannot reach, or can make it possible in circumstances where an alternative, say the chip, could be difficult or risky. It can avoid interception, take out opponents and exploit space. But it is not easy to play it precisely, especially with the outside of the foot, and because it is both curving and spinning it can be a tricky ball to receive compared to a straight kick. These factors combine to ensure that it is still a relatively rare method of passing, one usually and advisedly retained for when it can really do some damage.

Though there is almost infinite variety in the swerving pass, depending on exactly how and where you make contact with the ball, the technique divides into four

main areas: the ground ball and the lofted pass played with the inside of the foot, and the ground ball and the lofted pass played with the outside of the foot. All of them are governed by the principle that the ball swerves in the direction of the spin imparted on impact.

The starting point for learning the curved kick is the ground or low kick hit with the inside of the foot. The approach is the same as for a straight kick - the element of disguise is a great bonus in all forms of swerving kicks - but your foot actually moves across the ball from inside to outside with an outward 'rotation' of your kicking leg. You strike the ball with the forward part of the inside of your foot, in the area around the joint of your big toe with a strong brushing action, wrapping your foot round the ball. Contact is through the horizontal mid-line of the ball but to the right of centre for a right-footed kick. This will generate anticlockwise spin and swerve the ball from right to left. You should hit the ball firmly with a good follow-through to be sure of imparting sufficient spin and swerve.

The main difference for the swerving lofted kick is

the point of contact on the ball. To get height, the ball must be struck well below the mid-line, and the lower the point of contact, the higher the ball will go.

The use of the inside of the foot can provide swerve and is a fairly safe technique. Using the outside of the foot can produce more spin and more swerve, but the margin of error is far smaller and the contact has to be precise to be effective.

For the ground kick, your foot is held at a downward angle as it moves from outside to inside across the body and therefore the ball, making contact partly on the instep and partly on the outside of the foot. For a right-footed kick, you strike the ball to left of the centre of the vertical mid-line, thus imparting clockwise spin and making the ball swerve from left to right. Your non-kicking foot should be placed a few inches to the side and slightly behind the ball and the ball should be in the centre of the stance.

The further from the centre and the nearer the edge of the ball that you make contact the more the ball will spin and swerve, the steeper the angle of your foot, the quicker the ball will travel.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer and CRYPTOQUIP puzzle with grid and clues.