

Sport

Column One

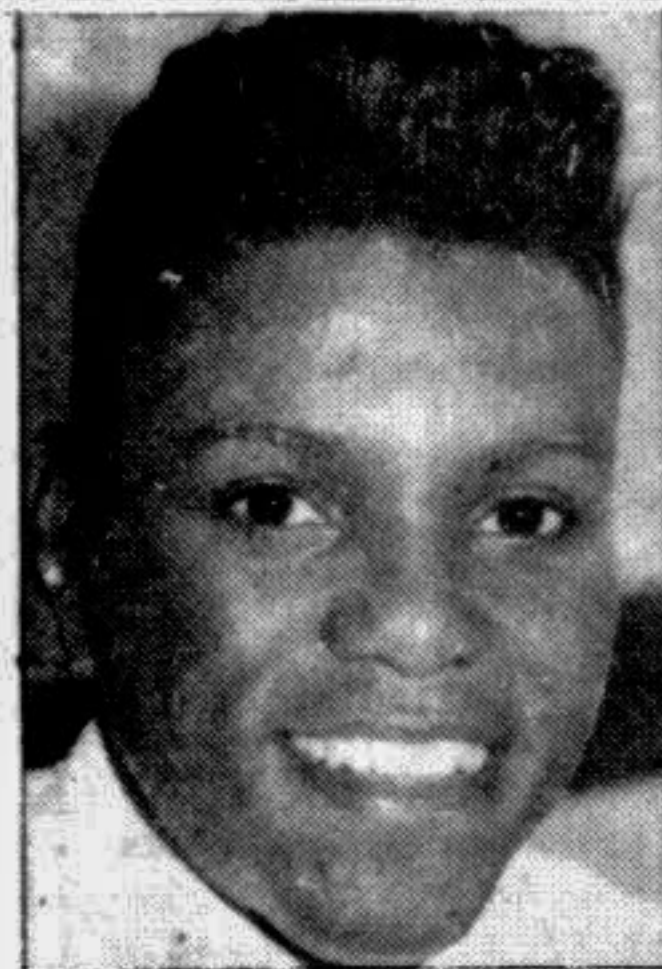
DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT the Barcelona Olympic Committee in 1992 ordered 600,000 bowls shaped out of coconut shells from Kerala, India.

There is no doubt that coconut shells are hygienic alternatives to harmful plastic containers.

SPORTS TALK



Carl Lewis

(US athletic great) "When I run like Carl Lewis - relaxed, smooth and easy - I can run races that seem effortless to me and to those watching."

(Commenting on his own sprinting abilities in his early days.)

Sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN (The rules are published every Saturday.)

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-16

Tick the Correct Answer

Table with 5 questions about sports events and athletes, including Maradona, Andre Agassi, and the 1998 World Cup.

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

Danes join 2004 Games' race

COPENHAGEN, Dec 5: Denmark's Olympic Committee said on Monday it had formally applied for government support for a bid for Copenhagen to host the 2004 Summer Olympic Games.

We have submitted a proposal to the government for Copenhagen to be host city for the 2004 Olympics and understand we will hear in 10 days.

He said any bid would also have to receive the backing of Copenhagen city council. Several cities are already expressed an interest in hosting the Games including Rome, Cape Town, Seville, Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, Istanbul and Lille.



German football coach Otto Pfister (L), who is preparing the Bangladesh national team for the forthcoming SAF Games to be held in Madras from December 18-28, making a point to the press at the conference room of the Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) yesterday.

BFF's guarded optimism

Sports Reporter

Hopes are very high but in a guarded way. Bangladesh, who have kept on failing in regional football competitions since its birth, will once again campaign for a gold in the forthcoming seventh South Asian Federation Games to be held in the Indian city of Madras from December 18.

This was not actually the verses of the Bangladeshi officials yesterday at the conference room of BOA during press-briefing on the prospects of Bangladesh in the biggest sporting event of the sub-continent but one could read between their lines.

In a very humble way, German coach Otto Pfister, who has taken over the responsibility of Bangladesh football team from October 11, said that when he came to Bangladesh he had only the poor results of Bangladesh in the sixth SAF Games held in Dhaka.

very happy with their discipline and conduct. They are doing exactly the way I want things to be done," said a seemingly content Pfister.

The camp started with 39 footballers at Mirpur Stadium from which 24 are now in training. Pfister will finalise his 20-man list within the next three days.

Beside the coach, A K M Ferdous Islam, the manager of the team, and Sheikh Akmal Hossain, the general secretary of Bangladesh Football Federation, were also present at the briefing.

general secretary informed that Taka 35.5 lakh has been spent for the preparation of the team.

"We have done our part or whatever we could possibly do for the booters. The whole nation is looking to us. Now it is their (footballers) turn to prove something," Akmal said.

Bangladesh will play their first round against Maldives and Nepal and they have a very good chance of reaching the semifinals," hoped the BFF general secretary.

The following are the 24 booters from among which the final selection of 20 footballers will be made this week: Mohammad Ponnir, Arifur Rahman Pannu, Dulal Hossain Dhanu, Sohail Munnah, Monem Munnah (captain), Mamun Hossain Joarder, Masood Rana, Jewel Rana, Sohail Reza, Nurul Haque Manik, Mohammad Azim, Hasan Al Mamun, Mohammad Arman, Sahidul Alam Ranjan, Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib, Rakib Hossain, Jahangir Hossain, Mozammel Haque Biplab, Zakir Hossain Shaheen, Nazrul Islam, Muraad Ahmed Milan, Ruhul Amin, Mizanur Rahman and Arif Hossain Moon.

'98 World Cup draw in doubt

PARIS, Dec 5: FIFA said on Monday it was concerned that France's spreading transport strike could affect the draw for the 1998 World Cup qualifiers in Paris on December 12 but local organisers insisted the event would go ahead as scheduled, reports Reuter.

FIFA spokesman Keith Cooper said: "We're concerned. It would be foolish not to be concerned. But the local organising committee know their own backyard better than we do and they tell us they can cope with the situation."

Asked if FIFA had contingency plans to switch the draw or change the date, Cooper said: "All sensible organisations have contingency plans for what might go wrong. But today our plans are to stage the draw in Paris on December 12."

FIFA delegations are arriving in the French capital from Wednesday for meetings in advance of the draw which is being staged at the Louvre in the presence of French President Jacques Chirac.

A record 172 countries have entered the World Cup and the draw for the qualifying competition will be televised live round the globe.

Cooper said FIFA was worried that the transport strike could make it difficult for delegations to get through the traffic jams snarling the city and to their meetings as well as to the draw itself.

Today's fixtures

- Bijoy Dibosh cricket tournament: Mohammedan SC vs Kalabagan KC (2nd day at Dhaka Stadium); Victoria SC vs Agrani Bank (First quarterfinal at DCS); Shahid Smriti Cricket Tournament: City Club vs Gopibaghi FA (City Club Ground)

Diego wallows in defeat

BUENOS AIRES, Dec 5: Diego Maradona passed found full back Carlos McAllister who headed home then Maradona converted a 44th minute penalty to make it 3-2 at half-time.

Capria scored in the 47th and 60th minutes to make it 5-2. Boca's Sergio Martinez pulled on back in the 77th minute but Lopez's second goal for Racing made it 6-3 and when Boca striker Dario Scott scored in the 91st minute he did not even bother to celebrate.

The whole team felt terrible," said Maradona after the game. "We knew intimately that we were losing our chance to win the championship. But we will keep the faith," he said after confessing he had just gone through a crying session with his daughters.

Argentina's superstar played commandingly until he ran out of steam in the second half. He had gone into the game without attending a single training session all last week.

On Wednesday, coach Silvio Marzolini said Maradona had not appeared because he had flu. But it did not keep the midfielder from playing some hours later in a friendly match in heavy rain.

"Boca doesn't train like a team which aspires to the championship," said Argentina's largest circulation Daily Clarin. "The coach never knows the team's lineup until the last minute and cannot count on his key players."

Javier Mazzoni gave independent, struggling in 13th place in the Argentine league, an ideal start by heading them into the lead after just 50 seconds.

Flamengo never got their attack going and striker Romario, playing his first game after a two-week lay-off through injury, was totally isolated up front and barely touched the ball.

Dhanmondi defeat Boys

Sports Reporter

Dhanmondi Club defeated Bangladesh Boys Club by three wickets in the inaugural match of the Shahid Smriti cricket tournament at the City Club ground in Mirpur yesterday.

Put into bat first, the Boys were able to occupy the crease for 41-2 overs out of the allotted 45 before being bowled out for 175 runs. Chanchal scored the highest 35 runs followed by the 29 contributed by Mr Extras.

Hasan and Tanvirul took three wickets each for Dhanmondi while Pappu, Pika and Biplob picked up a wicket each.

In reply, Dhanmondi lost seven of their batsmen before sailing home scoring 176 runs in 43.5 overs. Shahid Naqi scored an entertaining 53 off 56 balls inclusive of four boundaries and one of the many overboundaries of the day.

Late order Biplob also played a vital knock toward the end of the innings, missing his half century by just a run. He remained unbeaten.

For Bangladesh Boys, Mamun, Chanchal and Shumit picked up two wickets apiece.

The victory take Dhanmondi into the quarterfinal stage of the tourney where they will meet Surjo Tarun on December 10. The tournament has been organised by the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) to commemorate the Victory Day and comprises of the ten First Division outfits from the city.

American Cup golf Friday

Sports Reporter

The American Cup '95 golf tournament will be held on Friday at 6:30 am at the Kurmitola Golf Club, says a press release.

Some 200 golfers including a good number of ladies will participate in the day-long meet.

Chief of Army Staff and president of the club Lt General ASM Nasim will attend the prize-giving ceremony as the chief guest. US Ambassador David Merrill will be the special guest on the occasion.

Nagpur Stadium culprits arrested

NAGPUR, India, Dec 5: The architect and builder of a stadium which collapsed during an India-New Zealand one-day international here last month, killing 12 people, have been arrested along with two cricket officials, reports AFP.

Architect A D Godse and contractor S S Warnekar were produced in a court in this western city on Monday along with Prabhakar Rao Munde, president of the local Vidarbha Cricket Association, and VCA secretary Gopalrao Kelkar.

The four were arrested Monday on various charges including failure to apply for proper certificates from the authorities, negligence leading to death and use of sub-standard building materials, police said.

They were released on bail following their appearance in a magistrate's court here.

Flamengo falter

BUENOS AIRES, Dec 5: Defending champions Independiente of Argentina put themselves in a good position to retain their title after beating Brazil's Flamengo 2-0 in the first-leg of the South American Super Cup final on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

The Argentines played with none of the spark of last year's team, following the sales of Argentine international striker Sebastian Rumbert and Colombia's Albeiro Usuriga, but were still far too strong for an uninspiring Flamengo.

Javier Mazzoni gave independent, struggling in 13th place in the Argentine league, an ideal start by heading them into the lead after just 50 seconds.

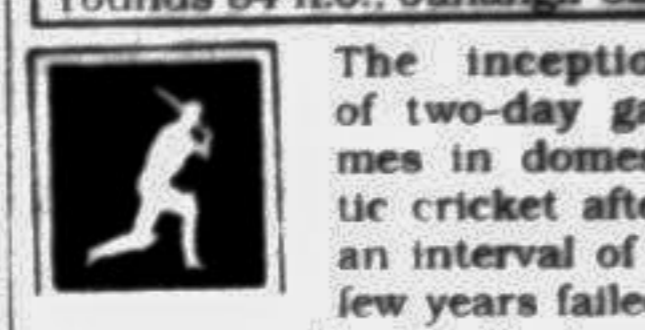
Flamengo never got their attack going and striker Romario, playing his first game after a two-week lay-off through injury, was totally isolated up front and barely touched the ball.

Mohammedans make merry

Sports Reporter

BRIEF SCORES

KALABAGAN KC: 146 in 46.3 overs (Sayeed 30, Nobel 24, Mahmud 5/17, Shanto 4/48) MOHAMMEDAN SC: 124/2 in 44 overs (Nadeem Younus 84 n.o., Jahangir 32)



The inception of two-day games in domestic cricket after an interval of a few years failed to motivate the local batsmen to adjust to the new conditions when 12 wickets fell like nine pins in the inaugural match of the Bijoy Dibosh cricket tournament between Mohammedan

for duck. He then returned one-down Atiar Rahman (10) and skipper Faruque Ahmed (4) in successive overs reducing Kalabagan to a precarious 37 for three in 12.5 overs.

With the addition of only nine runs to the total Kalabagan suffered yet another blow when the other opener Nurul Abedin Nobel departed for a patient 24 off 40 deliveries, edging a simple catch behind the stumps off Khaled Mahmud Sujon.

After the loss of four quick wickets Pakistani Shaheed Sayeed and discarded national middle-order bat Mahabubur Rahman Selim offered some sort of resistance

caught the Kalabagan tall in his spinning web.

Mahmud, who virtually pinned down the Bagan batsmen in his 12.3 overs, gave only 17 runs for his five scalps.

In reply, Mohammedans, facing a rather simple target, made heavy weather of their task when they lost their make-shift opener Mustadir Litu (o) with only six runs on the board.

But Nadeem Younus and Jahangir Alam, who played confidently throughout the day, took Mohammedans close to victory sharing 104 runs for the second wicket.

During his 150 minute stay at the crease Nadeem clubbed more than a dozen hits to the rope in his 145 ball unconquered knock while an out-of-form Jahangir, who enjoyed his place down the batting order chipped in with a sedate 109-ball 32.



The vibrant Pakistan duo of Mohammedan Sporting Club Nadeem Younus (L) and Shahed Mahmud leg-spinner Mahmud finished with a five wicket and Nadeem was 16 runs short of his century on completion of the first day's play of the Bijoy Dibosh cricket tournament between Mohammedans and Kalabagan at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. Mohammedans needed only 23 runs today to win the match.

Adams named in S Africa WC team

Sports Reporter

DURBAN, Dec 5: Spinning prodigy Paul Adams was named on Tuesday in South Africa's provisional 20-man squad for the World Cup in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka next February and March, reports Reuter.

Adams, 20, came to the fore only in the last few weeks when he was picked to play his third first-class game against England for South Africa A in Kimberley and responded by taking nine wickets with his unorthodox brand of leftarm wrist spin.

Coach Bob Woolmer stressed though that Adams was not definitely going to be in the final squad of 14 which will be named after South Africa's last one-day international against England on January 21.

"This is only a squad of 20 which we had to name now, so things can change. We haven't had the chance to see Adams bowl in a one-day competition yet, but you have to remember that in Pakistan the ball, does turn and anyway, he's certainly not the worst bowler in the world," Woolmer said.

Adam is one of four spinners included in the 20 but there is no place for left-arm spinner Clive Eksteen, who is being blamed in some quarters for not being able to bowl out England in the second innings of the second test which ended as a draw in Johannesburg on Monday.

Eksteen and swing bowler Meyrick Pringle are the only two players from the 11 in the Johannesburg test not to be included in the squad.

Apart from Adams, other new faces are all-rounders Jacques Kallis - named in South Africa's 13 for the third Test in Durban - and Lance Klusener, left-arm spinner Nicky Boje and wicketkeeper Steve Palfraan.

Convener of selectors Peter Pollock said fast bowlers Fanie de Villiers and Brett Schultz were not considered because of injury but could still get into the squad if they proved their fitness.

Squad: Hansie Cronje (captain), Andrew Hudson, Gary Kirsten, Daryll Cullinan, Jonty Rhodes, Brian McMillan, Dave Richardson, Shaun Pollock, Craig Matthews, Allan Donald, Paul Adams, Pat Symcox, Derek Crookes, Nicky Boje, Steve Palfraan, Lance Klusener, Adrian Kuiper, Richard Snell, Jacques Kallis, Rudi Steyn.

Big bait for Bowe

Sports Reporter

LONDON, Dec 5: Former undisputed world heavyweight champion Riddick Bowe will be guaranteed six million pounds sterling (9.2 million dollars) to fight Lennox Lewis in March or April next year, reports Reuter.

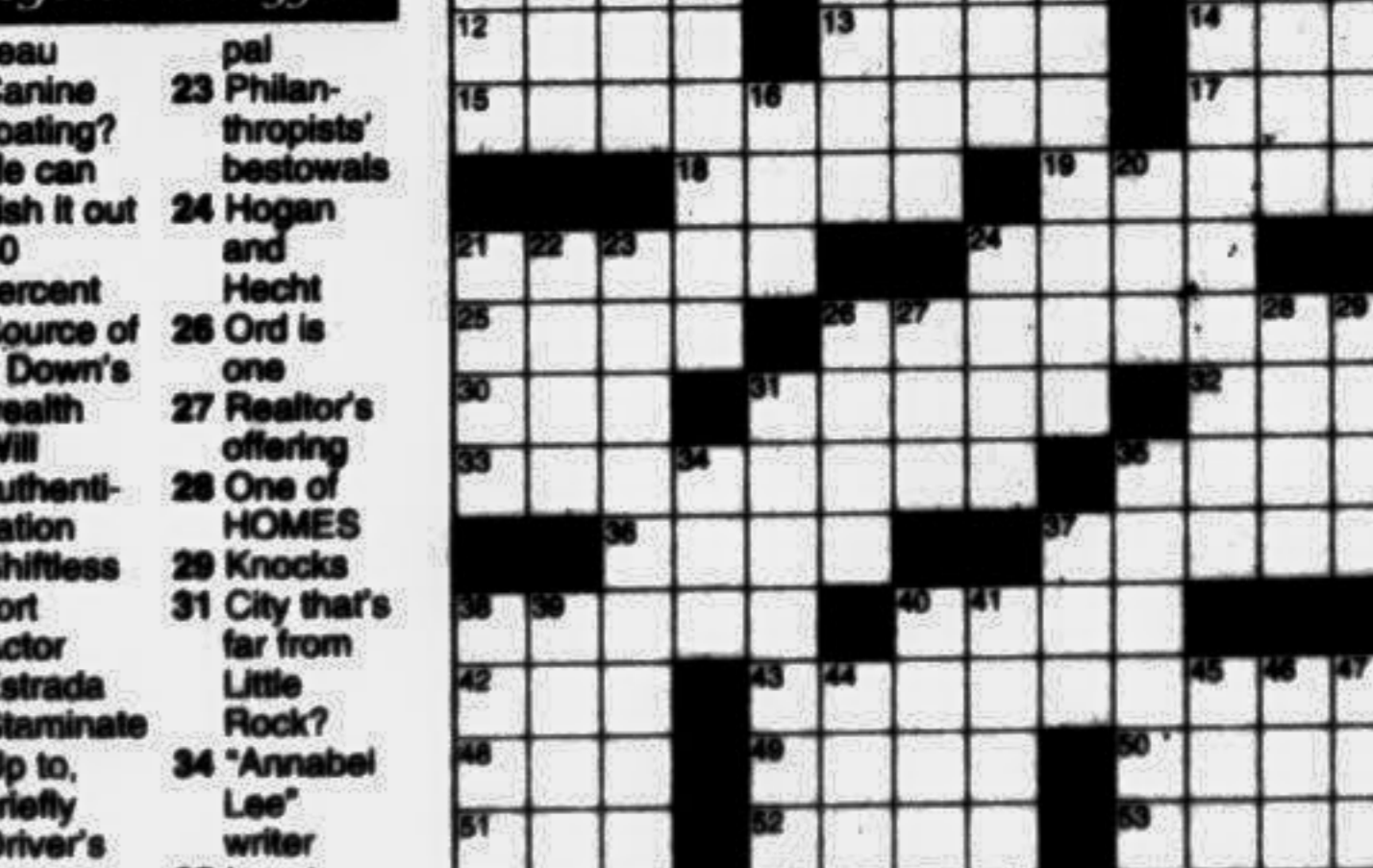
Panos Eliades, the London businessman who promotes Lewis, plans to make that offer to Rock Newman, the American's manager, Nov 3 in another attempt to get the 1988 Olympic rivals together after three years of trying.

"I'm still waiting for Newman to tell me what Bowe should receive for fighting Lewis," said Eliades on Wednesday.

"This fight will be good for the sport and we are all geared up for it. It depends if they want the fight or not. I'm ready to guarantee Bowe six million pounds."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Senator Gam 5 Pork cut 9 Rep's rival 12 Unimprovable place 13 Locks 14 - pro nobis 15 Artist or Ninja Turtle 17 Zoro 18 Anger 19 Chap 21 Paragon 24 Worm, often 25 Pedestal occupant 26 Actress Louise 30 Break a Commandment 31 'April Love' singer 32 George's brother 33 Harbor cities 34 Wild the seasons 36 Race-track tipster 37 Beckons on a beeper 38 Sales pitch 40 'Star Trek' villain 42 Court 43 Lucia di Lammermoor 46 Abby's sis 48 Piccadilly figure 50 Poeviah 51 Cobb's name-sakes 52 Lines 53 Option for Harriet DOWN 1 Clempitt patriarch 2 Commotion 3 Barbie's 4 Canine coating? 5 He can dish it out 6 Hogan 7 Source of 1 Down's wealth 8 Will authentication 9 Shiftless sort 10 Actor Estrada Rock? 11 Staminator 16 Up to, briefly 20 Driver's req 21 Not even come close 22 Garfield's Solution time: 24 mins.



CRYPTOQUIP R I M L E H T V L D U S O R U D L I D T I S O U H Z D L M L Z E U O O L S V T D U Z T L S O L V ? Yesterday's Cryptiquip: NAME A PARTY GAME WHICH COWS CAN PLAY TOGETHER: MOOSICAL CHAIRS. Today's Cryptiquip clue: Z equals R The Cryptiquip 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.