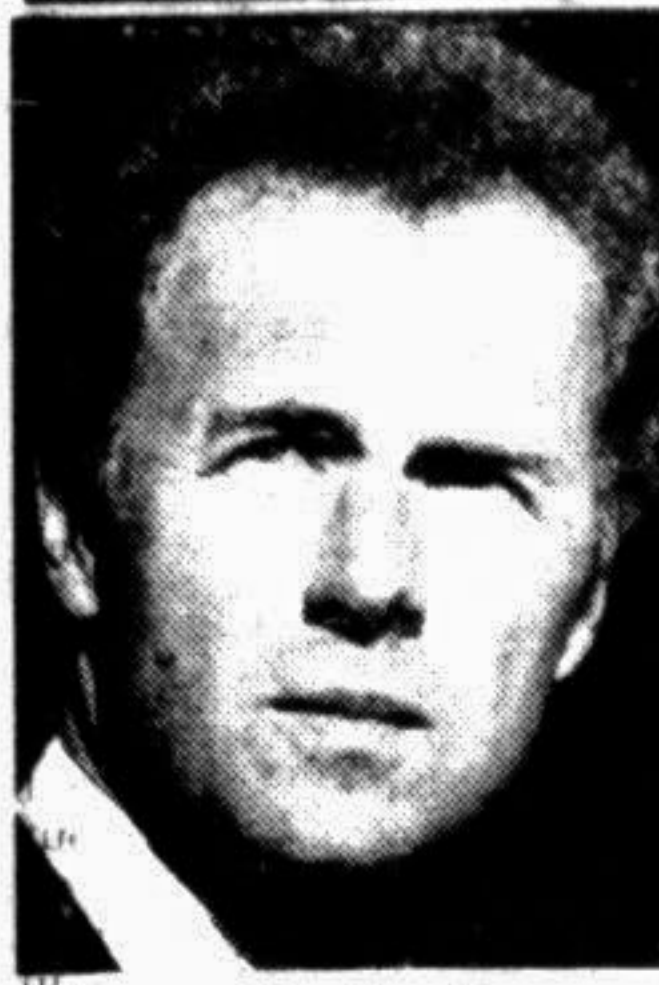


Sport

Column One SPORTS TALK



Franz Beckenbauer (German soccer legend) "Soccer lives by its simplicity and its easy rules that most people can understand. If you make things more complicated the fans understand less and less."

Sports WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN

Rules: 1. The Sports WHIZZ KID Competition is a property of The Daily Star. 2. The Competition is open only to school-going children. 3. Participants should send only Sports WHIZZ KID Competition Form printed in The Daily Star. No photo copies or any other duplication of the form shall be accepted. 4. Entries should be posted or hand-delivered to Sports WHIZZ KID competition, The Daily Star, House No. 11, Road No. 3, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka 1205. 5. No other contact should be made with The Daily Star regarding the matter. 6. Results shall be published in The Daily Star the following Saturday after closing. 7. The first five correct entries drawn shall be declared as the Sports WHIZZ KIDS of the week. Sports WHIZZ KIDS shall collect from The Daily Star prize books worth Tk. 200 on presenting an identification letter from their respective Heads of the school. 8. The decision of The Daily Star management shall be final and binding regarding any matter with respect to the Sport WHIZZ KID competition. 9. Winners should submit p/p photographs by Thursday after results. 10. Prizes should collect their prizes from the sports section of The Daily Star on first Friday after results between 8-10 p.m.

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-19 Tick the Correct Answer

Table with 5 questions and multiple choice options for the Sports Whizz Kid competition.

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

WHIZZ KID-18 winners

- 1. Prianka Tanni Govt PN School Rajshahi
2. Shouro Das Gupta Royal Academy Dhaka
3. Nirjhar Tahmidur Rouf PDB High School Ghorasal
4. Summy Akhtar AK High School Dhaka
5. Shomit Ashfaqul Haq University Laboratory School Dhaka

Please collect your prizes from The Daily Star sports desk on Friday (Dec 29) between 8-10 pm.

TODAY'S FIXTURES Premier Division cricket

- Brothers Union vs GMCC (DS)
First Division cricket league: Sadharan Bima KS vs Khe-laghar SKS (DCS)
Acme Second Division cricket league: Shantinagar 'A' vs Azad Boys Club (DCS)
Spread Eagles vs PWD SC (MOS)
Rupali Bank vs Lalbagh USC (DCG)

India incuse Bangladesh

MADRAS, Dec 22: Hosts India handed a humiliating 7-0 defeat on Bangladesh in their round robin hockey encounter of the seventh SAF Games at the newly-built Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium on Friday.

Although a defeat for Bangladesh was always on the cards against the nine-time Olympic gold medal winners but such humiliation was not expected. Besides, after the narrow margin defeat (1-0) at the hands of the mighty Indians in the Hiroshima Asiad last year, the defeat was a severe blow for the soaring spirit of our hockey players.

From Al-Amin Bari after the match. The general secretary of the Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF), while elaborating, added "Our goalkeeper offered a bizarre display against the penalty corners of the opponents. The midfield



lacked motivation and the players in the upfront ran throughout the match list-

lessly." When asked about the next match against Sri Lanka, who lost to India 2-0. Bari said "It would be a very tough match." On the other hand coach Protap Shankar Hazra, who succeeded Ehtesam — the most successful coach with an enviable show in the Hiroshima Asiad — with his arrogant and self complacent voice tried to defend the humiliation when a journalist wanted an explanation for the debacle.

"I think you have little knowledge about the Indian strength," said Protap and tried to add something like a teacher to a student before another journalist stopped him from making further advise. Such words, relating more to rubbish than reason, from the mercurial hockey player of the yesteryears are an insult to our sportsmen and anything but an excuse for the embarrassment.

7th SAF Games snippets

MADRAS, Dec 22: With the seventh SAF Games halfway through and Bangladesh yet to win a gold in the regional meet, the officials of surprisingly big contingent continuing to grow day by day.

And here at the port city of Madras all roads for our officials tend to lead to the famous Appollo Heart Institute for conditioning their health. Besides, some of them were so engrossed fetching Indian garments, engined in a race to buy as much as they could everyday.

When asked to an official after the 100-metre sprint where had he been, with a broad smile the readymade reply was "was engaged with some more serious business."

But what caught the local journalists by surprise was the presence of full family of an official on the third day of the meet at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium. When inquired said, "They are here at their own expense." But the question is how much can an official afford with an income of Tk 6000 per month.

On the other hand some male and female in the name of observes and technical delegates are flocking in the south Indian city, who were hardly seen before in the sports arena of the country.

"If this is the standard of our football than I don't see any reason to compete in the SAF Games," said an athlete

official after the Maldives and Bangladesh football match at the Nehru Stadium on Thursday.

But possibly the self complacent official who has huge moustache, had forgotten the bizarre show of our athletes on the same day where in most of the events they had finished last.

PAK, SL PRISONED The Pakistan hockey team was denied by the organisers to enjoy a Hindi Move while the Sri Lankan athletes were kept under constant vigil by the security personnels round the clock.

"A majority of the Pakistan athletes wanted to witness the Indian films like 'Rangeela' or 'Dilwale, Dui-hania le Jayeng' and enjoy the city sight-seeing," quoted an Indian English language daily The Hindu on Friday.

The newspaper further added that most of the Pakistani hockey players had bought the tickets to see those films. Meanwhile, among the other participating nations Bangladesh athletes are fortunate enough to roam around the city.

ONUS ON MUNNA

There is an irony in footballer's Munna's life. The captain of the Bangladesh football team, who was deprived of celebrating his wife Shuravi's birthday for the last couple of years, will engage

in a very crucial match against Nepal on Saturday, the day Shuravi was born.

"I'm very much upset for not attending Suravi's birthday once again. But I do not want to keep it in my mind now," said Munna. It will be more justifiable for him to concentrate into the game rather than personal sad saga.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

- Football: Bangladesh vs Nepal (5:30 pm); India vs Sri Lanka (7:30)
Hockey: Bangladesh vs Pakistan (3:30 pm)
Athletics: Javelin throw (Women) final at 9 am, 200-m sprint
Long jump: (M) Final 3 pm, 1560 m (m) final 5 pm, 4x100 relay (W) final 9:30 pm, 1000m (W) final 4 pm and 4x100m (m) final at 3:45 pm
Swimming: 400 m individual relay (3:30 pm), 100m backstroke (3:30 pm), 400m freestyle (4:10 pm), 4x100m freestyle relay (4:30 pm)
Tennis: Men's singles and doubles, women's singles and doubles and mixed doubles final (from 3:30 pm to 1 pm)
Volleyball: Sri Lanka vs Pakistan (1 pm) Bangladesh vs Nepal
Weightlifting: 84 kg weight category (2 pm), and 70 kg weight (4:30 pm)
Shooting: Standard rifle prone, standard pistol and air rifle (women)
Boxing: Preliminary round (5 pm to 7 pm)

What an irony!

BUENOS AIRES, Dec 22: Soccer star Diego Maradona has joined a government campaign against drug abuse by young people, reports AP. Drugs "are around the corner and kids try to grab them." Maradona told reporters after a meeting with President Carlos Menem.

"I'll tell kids about my own experience. Among those kids are my (two) daughters and I don't want them to fall into such a serious trap," he said.

Maradona was arrested in 1991 for drug possession and distribution. A judge sentenced him to court-supervised treatment.

The campaign called "Sun Without Drugs" is sponsored by the Anti-Drug Secretariat of the presidency.

Div I cricket

Sports Reporter Bangladesh Boys Club recorded a narrow one-wicket win over Surjo Tarun Club in the inaugural match of the First Division cricket league at the City Club ground, Mirpur yesterday.

Chasing 172 to win in 45 overs, the Gopibagh outfit prevailed in the 43rd over with an unbeaten 58-run ninth wicket partnership between Kamrul Islam (36 not out) and Pavel (25 not out).

Earlier, put in to bat, Surjo Tarun were restricted to 171 for nine in 45 overs by the Boys fielders. Dear (49) and Dofin (44) were the leading Surjo Tarun scorers.

Boys new ball bowler Shahidur Rahman Sayeed earned four wickets conceding 34 run in nine overs.

BRIEF SCORES

SURJO TARUN CLUB: 171 for 9 in 45 overs (Dear 49, Dofin 44, Sayeed 4/34)
BANGLADESH BOYS CLUB: 172 for 9 in 42.2 overs (Kamrul 36 not out, Pavel 25 not out, Joydev 2/23)

Acme div II cricket

Sports Reporter

Udayachal Club, Kalindi Krira Chakra and DOHS Cricket Club won their respective Acme Second Division cricket league matches on Friday at the different city venues.

Udayachal defeated Young Pegasas 'A' by four wickets at the Mirpur Outer Stadium while Kalindi beat Shantinagar 'B' by 94 runs at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium. In the day's other tie at the Dhanmondi Club ground, DOHS recorded a 4-wicket victory over Orient Sporting Club.

Pabna cricket

PABNA, Dec 22: PYC (White) beat Nimtala Cricket Club by 53 runs in the Bhorer Kagoj First Division cricket league at the Government Edward College ground here today, reports UNB.

Batting first, PYC (White) were all out for 186 in 44 overs. Asim scored 48, Kishore 42 and Tutul 35 runs. Jamil of Nimtala CC took three for 30.

In reply, Nimtala CC were dismissed for 133 with Sanjoy scoring 45 and Tuhin 43 runs. Ronny, Asim, Tutul and Kishore of PYC (White) bagged two wickets each.

Rai's heart at PSG

SAO PAULO, Brazil, Dec 22: Former Brazil captain Rai is to extend his contract with Paris Saint Germain for two years after his current deal runs out in June, reports AFP.

Speaking during a Christmas break back in Brazil, the midfielder said he believed it was "best for my career to continue playing in Europe."

Murdoch's venture

SYDNEY, Dec 22: Rupert Murdoch's News Corp Ltd has intensified efforts to add the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games to its global sports television line-up by forming an alliance with the Sydney Games organisers to snare European TV rights, Australia's leading financial daily said today, reports Reuter.

"The innovative deal involves a bid by a news-led consortium for European rights to both the Sydney Games and the Winter 2002 Games in Salt Lake City in the US" the Australian Financial Review said.

"The move is seen by media observers as an aggressive attempt by news to wrest control of Olympics coverage from the powerful European Broadcasting Union, which represents national broadcasters across Europe," it said.

Farewell to an Irish idol



DUBLIN, Dec 22: Jack Charlton quit as Ireland manager on Thursday — just eight days after his side failed to win a place in next year's European Championship finals, reports Reuter.

brilliant years," said Charlton. "I have enjoyed every minute... but everything must come to an end." Charlton, a member of England's 1966 World Cup-winning team, said his years in charge of the Irish national side had been the happiest of his life.



An AFP file photo shows Republic of Ireland's celebrated coach Jack Charlton during his team's World Cup '94 second round match against Holland. Charlton announced his resignation on Dec 21 after a decade of service for his country.

Ireland reached the World Cup quarter finals in 1990, qualified for the finals again the 1994 and also qualified for the 1988 European Championships.

They lost only 17 games of the 93 played while Charlton was at the helm.

The last of those defeats was by the Netherlands in a European Championship play-off at Anfield on December 13.

Charlton made it clear afterwards that he would make no immediate decision on his futures.

But pressure mounted on him. With dates for Ireland's World Cup qualifiers due to be finalised next month it was widely understood that a majority of FAI officials were anxious to install as new man by then.

Kilcoyne said on Thursday that the FAI would immediately begin their search for a new manager.

A day of disappointment

From Al-Amin

MADRAS, Dec 22: Disappointment was the driving force for Bangladeshi athletes in the seventh SAF Games on the third day of the meet here on Thursday and our aspiring footballers were the last to join the dismal bandwagon late in the day when they were forced to settle for a goalless draw with the lowly Maldivians in their opening game at the Nehru Stadium.

The outcome of the encounter revived the living nightmare of Bangladesh's bizarre show in the sixth SAF Games, held two years back in Dhaka, when our booters produced the same result at the same stage and, incidentally, against the same opponents — a stepping stone for our eventual fate of placing sixth out of six teams.

The presence of illustrious German coach Otto Pfister, who has been grooming the national outfit for four months now, full-throated cheers from a hundred or so Bangladeshi youths studying in Madras and yet another attractive display by the players all went down the drain as the strikers failed to find the net in the 90 minutes of high-voltage drama.

In a very enterprising encounter the welcome revelation for Pfister's boys was that they produced a rhythmic brand of soccer against the fast improving islanders. After getting off to a snail-paced start, midfielders Arman and Zakir, who featured in Pfister's selection for the first time, brought life to the game with some threatening moves down the middle.

The first half was a seesaw affair with Bangladesh missing a golden opportunity when a spectacularly executed Rakib corner went astray as the fall defender Jewel Rana spoiled an easy sitter with a hurriedly taken

shot in the 25th minute. In the second half, however, Bangladesh asserted their complete dominance with a series of well-planned attacks, only to be let down by star striker Mizan and his colleagues upfront.

Pfister, commenting on the game, said, "We have witnessed a very good game of football today. Both sides have played extremely well. Particularly Maldives offered a good tactical game."

The German added, "We dominated the entire second half yet the boys had failed to translate their efforts into goals. But I'm happy for the way they had played."

On the other hand, skipper Munna expressed his disappointment saying, "I don't believe in playing well. My target is to win."

BIMOL DETHRONED

Bimol Chandra Tarafdar, who was dethroned as the fastest man in South Asia by Sri Lanka's Chintika de Souza, Thursday proved to be a very disappointing one as he collapsed on the track after finishing third with a time of 10.60 seconds .01 better than his previous mark set in the sixth SAF Games in Dhaka two years ago.

Bimol was taken to the stadium's first aid centre with a strained hamstring muscle while crossing the finish line.

"I had felt a slight pain while running. But as you have seen I was leading so I tried my utmost to defend the crown," said Bimol to the press.

Bimol, who fared badly during the heats in the morning-made a squeaky entry into the finals clocking 10.80 seconds, however, a dream start on a wonderful wintry afternoon before Chintika got the better of

never before achieved." Kilcoyne said that the people of Ireland in general owed Charlton a huge debt of gratitude for all he had done for football and the country over the past 10 years.

He has helped to expand the game into every corner of Ireland in a way which could hardly have been predicted 10 years ago.

"The success of the team under Jack has raised the morale and self-esteem of the whole nation, including the many thousands of Irish people living abroad."

Kilcoyne described Charlton as "a manager in a million."

Charlton led his adopted country to unprecedented success in his nine-year reign.

Ireland reached the World Cup quarter finals in 1990, qualified for the finals again the 1994 and also qualified for the 1988 European Championships.

They lost only 17 games of the 93 played while Charlton was at the helm.

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'98 Asiad in line of fire

BANGKOK, Dec 22: Thai sports officials, fresh from running the Southeast Asian (SEA) Games, said today they were scrambling to keep the 1998 Asian Games in Bangkok after Games officials threatened to hold them elsewhere, reports Reuter.

Somchai Prasertsiriphan, governor of the sports authority of Thailand, said in an interview that the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) was not satisfied with Thailand's preparations for the next Asian Games, and had given Bangkok until January 5 to prove it was able to run the sporting event.

He told Reuters Thai

sports officials were doing everything they could to revamp current committees and make the needed changes to show the OCA that Thailand was serious about hosting the Games.

Somchai said a visit by top OCA officials in November was positive and he did not know they were dissatisfied with the preparations until she returned from the Chiang Mai SEA Games this week.

"We got a letter from the Sheikh Ahmed Al-Sabah, the president of the Olympic Council of Asia, after we got back from Chiang Mai," Somchai said.

The letter said the OCA

would accept offers to host the Asian Games from other countries if Thailand did not submit a full progress report by Wednesday, that deadline was later extended until January 5, Somchai said.

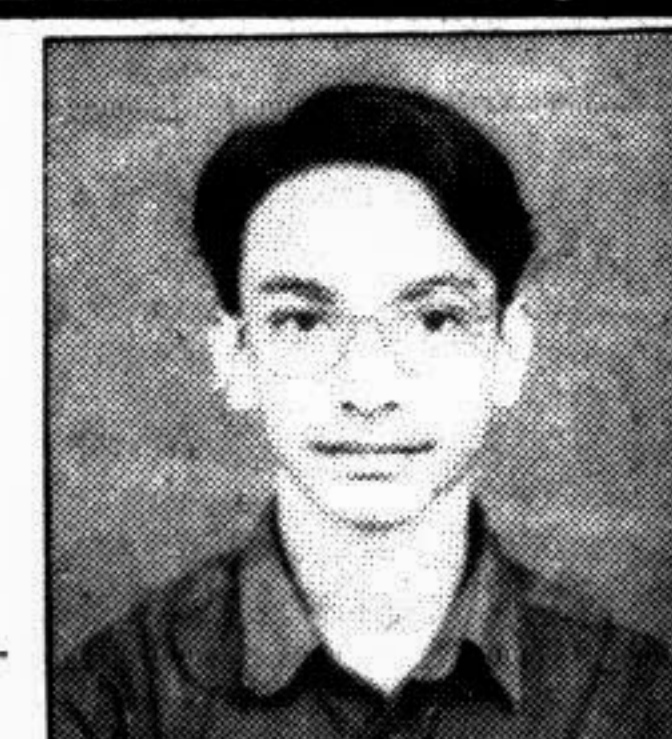
Local media reported the OCA was frustrated with the lack of information given by the Thais on their level of planning and preparation for the Games, which are held every four years.

"We have been taken for a ride and we are not going to stand anymore nonsense," Muthaleb Ahmed, managing director of the OCA, was quoted as saying in the Bangkok Post today.

WHIZZ KID-17 winners



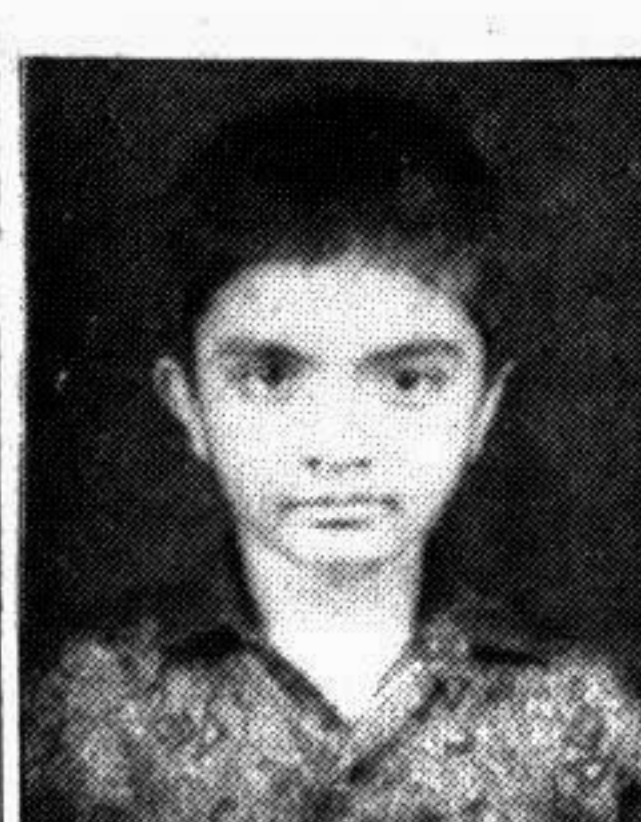
1. Dewan Shabnab Mustaree Ideal High School & College Dhaka



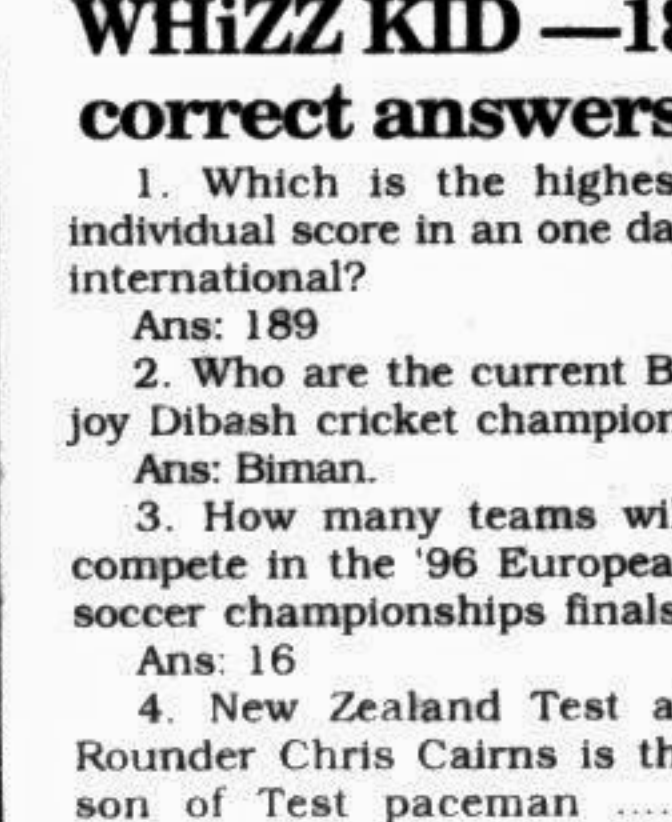
3. Nafizul Hamid Dhanmondi Boys High School



4. Ifat Marzan Holy Cross School Dhaka



2. Md Ahsan Kabir Murad Ideal High School & College Dhaka



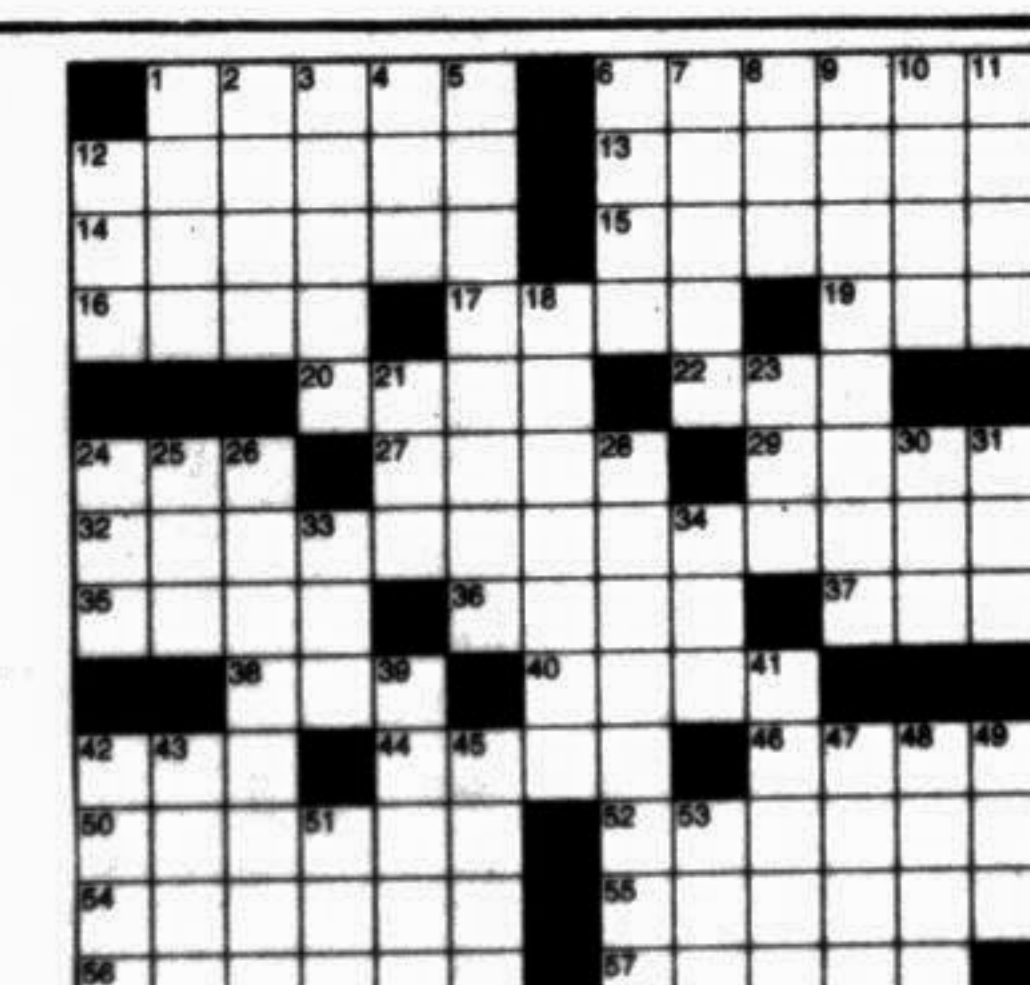
5. Mafraha Farzana Holy Cross School Dhaka

WHIZZ KID — 18 correct answers

- 1. Which is the highest individual score in an one day international? Ans: 189
2. Who are the current Bijoy Dibash cricket champion? Ans: Biman.
3. How many teams will compete in the '96 European soccer championships finals? Ans: 16
4. New Zealand Test all Rounder Chris Cairns is the son of Test paceman ..... Cairns
5. Lance
5. The 1984 Summer Olympics was held in Ans: Los Angeles

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Take the rudder 6 Rifle with wrinkles 12 Treat with carbon dioxide 13 Shed the gods 14 Emblem of victory 15 Director's directive 16 Composer Jacques 17 Shot Blue 19 Bigfoot's cousin 22 Born 27 Tasseled topper 24 "A fool and his money..." 35 Record 36 High time 37 Remnant 38 Insubstantial ideas 40 Show, e.g. 42 Rd. 44 Bridge position 46 Experimentation stations 50 Construction piece 52 Turkish inn 54 Show 55 Drink of the gods 56 Has standing 57 Avarice 11 "Casius has..." 1 Burn a bit 2 Verifiable 3 Civil War general 4 Summer on the Seine 5 Kinship 6 No chatter- box, this 7 Military survey 8 Tackle the comes- tibles! 9 Licorice liqueur 10 Portico 11 "Casius has..." 12 Priestly vestment 16 Small fish into pieces? 21 Freudian concept 23 Music apprecia- tion 24 Corpulent 25 Baseball stat. 26 Eponymous strip 28 Fair 30 X rating 31 Put together 33 Tran- quility, e.g. 34 Literary collection 39 Pound into pieces? 41 First runner-up at Pimlico 42 Mimic 43 Cheer for Zapata 46 Like fine wine 47 Johnson of "Laugh- in" 48 Abacus component 49 Crab section 51 Squid squirt 53 Mal de —



CRYPTOQUIP C D E P M J U D L L Z J Q D J L G A X L E D P Z Q A C D W D L E D M X Z W S E Q S M J U D V D J U A C G S V. Yesterday's Cryptogram: POPS WITH WIGS HAVE GOTTEN VAIN OVER THEIR HAIRS APPARENT. Today's Cryptogram clue: j equals N The Cryptogram 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.