

Column One  
SPORTS TALK



Sanath Jayasuriya

(Explosive Sri Lankan opening batsman)  
"Though I had opened for my country in 20-odd matches in the past I was confident enough in this role only after my 112 in Adelaide. The team feels that I have a role to play. And I indeed feel obliged to do so."

On his brilliant success rate as an opener.

**Sports WHIZZ KID**  
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

**Sports WHIZZ KID**  
competition-36  
Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. May 10, 1996)

1. The 2002 World Cup football will be held in	South Korea	Japan	Not yet decided
2. If FIDE is for chess, FINA is for	Billiards	Snooker	Swimming
3. Tennis star Jennifer Capriati is	Swedish	American	Dutch
4. The fastest one day hundred by Sri Lankan Sanath Jayasuriya is	46 balls	47 balls	48 balls
5. The man-of-the-series in Pepsi Cup was	Colman	Kirsten	Sydney

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

Sanjay's solo for BKSP

Sports Reporter

A brilliant all-round performance by Sanjay Kumar steered Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP) to the quarter-finals of the Nirman School cricket Dhaka zonal qualifying rounds when he handed Segunbagicha High School a crushing nine-wicket defeat in the group G final at the Residential Model School ground yesterday.

In a reduced 20-over-a-side affair, Sanjay captured three wickets in the morning for only eight runs as Segunbagicha, put into bat, were bundled out for 55 in 16.1 overs. Sanjay, was helped by his team-mates Raj and Saikat who took two wickets each conceding five and 12 runs respectively.

In reply, BKSP took only 10 overs to win, losing one wicket with opener Sanjay remaining unbeaten on 36.

The day's other match, the group A final, between Govt Laboratory School and Radiant International School, was postponed due to the unplayable condition of the pitch at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium. The match will be rescheduled after Eid-ul-Azha.

Nothing official on Friday

Sports Reporter

Both the Office cricket league matches were postponed yesterday as umpires declared the grounds unplayable caused due to overnight shower.

The new schedule of the matches Biman vs Aquamarine and Partex group vs Eastern Bank — will be announced by BCCB after the Eid vacation.

Czech Republic look sharp

PRAGUE, Apr 26: The Czech Republic tuned up for June's European championship finals in England with an impressive 2-0 win over Ireland on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

Martin Frydek and Pavel Kuka scored in a six minute spell midway through the second half to ensure victory for the Czechs in a match played in sporadic rain in front of a crowd of only 6,000.

The Czechs attacked throughout and Kuka of German First Division Kaiserslautern was denied a goal in the 36th minute, only by the quick reactions of Irish goalkeeper Shane Givne who got a hand to the shot.

Victory Milan's priority



ROME, Apr 26: For AC Milan, it's simple: Beat Fiorentina, claim the Italian League title.

Holding a seven-point lead with Wednesday's game left, Milan have virtually sewn up their fourth championship in five years and can make it official by winning in Sunday's 32nd round, regardless of what second place Juventus does at AS Roma, reports AP.

If and when Milan clinch the title, coach Fabio Capello is to announce whether he will return for next season or, as widely reported, jump to Spanish club Real Madrid.

It would be fitting if the Red-and-Black wrapped things up against visiting Fiorentina, the club that raised the strongest challenge much of the year.

When Argentine star Gabriel Batistuta was scoring at a prolific pace, the Florentines moved into second place and were one point behind Milan at the season's midpoint.

But the striker is currently mired in a slump that has seen him tally just twice in his last seven Serie A matches as Fiorentina dropped to third place. After playing in Argentina's 3-1 win over Bolivia Wednesday (and scoring once), Batistuta won't be on the field at San Siro Stadium.

Neither will his partner Francesco Balzano or veteran defender Michele Serena, both out injured.

Milan are completely healthy for just about the first time this season. Its top for-

wards — Golden Ball winners George Weah of Liberia and Roberto Baggio plus Montenegro playmaker Dejan Savicevic — will start against the suspect Fiorentina defense.

Savicevic, troubled all year by a series of leg injuries, scored twice in Yugoslavia's 3-1 win over the Faeroe Islands Wednesday, the nation's first official game in 4 1/2 years.

Milan's perennially stingy defense is again Italy's best, having allowed 18 goals through 30 games. Despite that success, Milan are looking to replace unheralded goalkeeper Sebastiano Rossi.

The successor could be Argentina's Francesco Toldo, who's a backup for the Italian national side.

Toldo has said he'll go to whichever team offers more money.

Juventus play fifth-place Roma at Olympic Stadium, the site of their Champions League final clash with Ajax Amsterdam May 22.

Since even a win Sunday would not necessarily keep alive 'chances for a repeat league title, Juve are not likely to risk key players.

A cause for concern is Italian international goalkeeper Angelo Peruzzi's strained right hamstring, the same injury that kept him out of Juve's final eight league games and the Italian Cup final last season. His status is in doubt for the Ajax encounter, as well as June's European Championships.

Michelangelo Rampulla,

alternately shaky and magnificent as a backup, will start between the posts Sunday.

In addition, regulars Fabrizio Ravanelli and Alessandro Tacchinardi and Sergio Porri on defence won't be in the starting lineup.

Roma want a win to help their UEFA Cup qualification chances, but may have to do without as many as four key foreigners who were with national teams this week: Brazilian defender Adair, Swedish midfielder Jonas Thern, and forwards Abel Balbo of Argentina and Daniel Fonseca of Uruguay.

Another important match in the UEFA hunt sees Vicenza, ninth of 18 clubs, host fourth-place AC Parma.

Parma's key forwards, Gianfranco Zola and Bulgarian Golden Ball winner Hristo Stoichkov, are out, replaced by Alessandro Meli and Ferdinando Piro, the 18-year old called up from Parma's junior team who scored his first career goal last round.

Vicenza sweeper Giovanni Lopez is hurt and won't dress for the game.

At the other end of the standings, 14th-place Piacenza get to play last place Padova, who are already assured of relegation to Serie B.

If Piacenza win both Torino (17th) and Cremonese (16th) — who face off at Turin Sunday — will be demoted.

Other games: Aialanta-Lazio; Bari-Udinese; Cagliari-Internazionale; and Napoli-Sampdoria.

Magpies' miracle mission

LONDON, Apr 26: Away form, which has troubled Newcastle United in particular, looms as the crucial factor in the nail-biting final games of the English Premier league race, reports Reuter.

Newcastle, who have lost their last three away games and not won away since early February, visit Leeds United on Monday as they bid to stay in the hunt for their first title in 69 years.

By then, they could be six points behind leaders Manchester United — who are at home to Nottingham Forest on Sunday — and unable to afford dropping any more points.

Forest may emerge as chief arbiters in the outcome of the championship. They are the home side when Newcastle play their game in hand next Thursday.

Newcastle are not at home again until the final day of the season against Tottenham on Sunday, May 5, when Manchester United travel to the northeast to play Middlesbrough.

Goals, like points, are at a premium with both Newcastle and Manchester United winning their last games 1-0. United are just two goals better off should both teams end up with the same number of points.

Newcastle midfielder Robert Lee commented: "The tension is unbelievable... the fans have to be patient. If we don't score for the first hour of a game they shouldn't panic because that works against the players."

His team will be hoping Faustino Asprilla can maintain the form that saw him score against a tight defence in Colombia's 1-0 home win over Paraguay in a World Cup qualifier in midweek.

Newcastle's main problem, however, has been conceding goals late in a game. They lost at both Liverpool and Blackburn after going in front near the end.

Lee said Newcastle's emphasis on all-out attack and entertaining football left them exposed at the back.

"But at this stage entertainment is not vital," he said. "Winning is everything and we need to win all of our remaining matches to have any chance of the championship."

Euro '96 balls kicked off

LONDON, Apr 26: Match balls to be used at the European Championship finals in June were unveiled on Thursday — not in a stadium but at a light-hearted penalty shootout in London's trendy Covent Garden shopping district, reports Reuter.

England internationals Teddy Sheringham and Neil Ruddock, Scottish international John Collins and former Scotland cap Steve Archibald all took turns in blasting the new balls at a radar gun to see whether they could break the 140 km per hour record for a football.

Nicky summerbee of Manchester City set that mark recently. But the closest anyone went to matching it on the specially laid astroturf carpet was a shot of Ruddock's measured at 119 km/h.

The ball, similar in design to the one used at the World Cup in the United States two years ago, is made of five different layered materials with an innovative foam layer under the surface which the manufacturers claim will help players' control.

Collins, who played in the Scottish team beaten 2-0 by Denmark on Wednesday, said the ball felt slightly softer than other balls. "It feels as though you can get some extra grip on it," he said.

Sheringham, who narrowly missed scoring in England's 0-0 draw with Croatia on Wednesday, said: "It feels like a nice ball, if we had played with it last night, who knows, I might have scored."

The design on the ball incorporates coloured graphics with three blue lions and a red rose symbolising England's history.

The ball has been tested in trial matches throughout Europe over the last two years.

Leeds have lost their last four games and won only once in the last 11 including defeat in the League Cup final. But their performance in the undesired 1-0 loss to Manchester United in their last match was much improved.

Newcastle hope 28-goal striker Les Ferdinand and Lee will be fit after their withdrawal through injury from England's Wimbledon friendly against Croatia in Midweek.

United's victory, with a late goal by midfielder Roy Keane, was much needed after Southampton, battling to avoid relegation, ended their unbeaten run of 18 matches last days earlier.

Ryan Giggs, the consolation goal at the dell, but it is to be the ball of the Year Eric Cantona that United will be looking for inspiration again.

United owe their position at the top to Cantona, who scored in six successive league games starting with the crucial 1-0 away victory over Newcastle at the beginning of March.

Full-back Philip Neville has overcome an ankle problem which forced him out of contention for England's European Championship warm-up.

The relegation picture could look a lot clearer after the matches on Saturday when Southampton, five places from bottom but only out of the bottom three on goal difference, visit basement club Bolton Wanderers.

Queen's Park Rangers, who are four points behind the trio of Southampton, Coventry and Manchester City, are at home to fellow London side West Ham.

City and Coventry are both away to fourth-placed Aston Villa and Wimbledon respectively.

Sunderland, top of Division One, have already secured a berth in the Premier league next season by ensuring their finish in the top two.

Derby County and Crystal Palace, who clash on Sunday, are vying for the other automatic promotion berth. The teams finishing in their top six place will play off for one more promotion place.

A TRIBUTE  
Kardar — charismatic cricketer

By Tawfiq Aziz Khan

ABDUL Hafiz Kardar, popularly known as Abdul Hafiz among his English friends and Kardar among the cricketing buffs in the subcontinent, died in his sleep at Lahore on April 21 at the age of 72. Thus, the cold hands of death have removed one of the most powerful and successful cricket leaders of Pakistan — nay, of the subcontinent.

Young Abdul Hafiz was selected to represent India against England in the summer of 1946 as left-hand middle order batsman and a slow left-arm bowler. In today's context he could be a useful player for any team. He played three Tests against England and

Ali, Khan Mohammad, Amir Elahi, Nazir Mohammad and others who formed the nucleus of the Pakistan cricket team. They would occasionally play unofficial Test matches against the West Indies and the MCC whenever the occasion afforded.

One such match was played in 1951 at Karachi against the Nigel Howard-led MCC, which was on a tour of India. I still remember our sitting room filled with elderly cricket lovers clustering around my father and almost hiding the tall radio set from view eagerly listening to the running commentary. Pakistan was on the verge of victory as Maqsood Ahmad slowly walked on to the matting wicket, took his guard and notched up the required runs for victory. Pakistan won the unofficial 'Test' by four wickets. India proposed MCC seconded and Pakistan became the 7th permanent member of Imperial Cricket Conference.

istan team in India. The Statesman printed the thumbnail sketches of the Pakistan cricketers along with their individual pictures. It was a great gift for all of us because prior to that we had very little idea about the appearances of the cricketers. I made it a point to slip it from the paper and paste it on the wall behind the radio so that all of us may have a view of the player while listening to the commentary.

Fortunately for us, all the five Test matches were covered ball-by-ball in English by All India Radio.

Pakistan were beaten comprehensively by India in their first official Test match at Delhi. This was India's first win since 1932 when it became a member of the ICC. The second Test at Lucknow proved the superiority of Pakistan. Kardar led his team to their first ever Test victory, the architect being Nazir Mo-

Nasirul Ghami, Haseeb Ahsan, Khalid Ibadullah and Khalid Hasan.

On the three tours that Kardar led the Pakistan team, India 1952-53, England 1954 and the West Indies 1957-58, the Pakistanis under his clever leadership won at least one Test against those countries.

At home in 1956 Pakistan defeated Australia handsomely at Karachi in their first outing and in 1956-57 home series Pakistan defeated New Zealand. This was an unique achievement for Pakistan under Kardar, beating five other countries at least once in the first series which till today has not been achieved by any other country.

Pakistan did not play against South Africa because there was no diplomatic ties between the two countries.

A highly sophisticated and educated person, Kardar wrote books on the tours. First, he wrote 'Test Status On Trial' after the tour of India in 1953, the second one 'Cricket on the Crossroads' after the tour of England in 1954 and 'Green Shadows' after the tour of the West Indies in 1958.

Kardar became the Chairman of the selection committee in 1959 when the West Indies paid a return visit to Pakistan. The second test was played in Dhaka. I remember Musa Bhai (A B M Musa, former news editor of the then Pakistan Observer) and I went to the Teigaon airport in a brand new van of the paper to receive Kardar and lodge him at Hotel Shalbagh. On the way back from the airport, Kardar pulled out a book from his bag and presented it to me. It was a copy of the 'Green Shadows', which till today is one of my proud possessions.

Any tribute to Kardar is incomplete without a reference to the historic Oval victory in 1954. It was Pakistan's first full tour of England. Although the first match against Worcestershire was played in bright sunshine the summer gained notoriety for its wetness as the season progressed. The first Test at Lord's was almost a washout. The second Test at Nottingham was a nightmare for Pakistan. The third at Manchester was a close call for Pakistan — saved by rain. But the fourth at the Oval, a rain-interrupted test, is historic. Pakistan pulled off a thrilling victory over England, the first by any country against the home side on their maiden tour. The achievement is still there to be surpassed.

The Wisden Book of Test Captains eulogises Kardar thus: "Kardar's contribution lay most in what his stature did towards welding the players into a fine team capable of holding their own in any condition."

Kardar was one of the four subcontinental players who represented two countries in Tests. Others are: Amir Elahi (India & Pakistan), Gul Mohammad (India & Pakistan), and Nawab of Pataudi Sr. (England and India). Kardar's name will always be remembered with reverence in the annals of cricket.

A H KARDAR

stayed back to study at the Oxford University. He received his degree and the 'blue' and returned to his new country — Pakistan.

In those days Pakistan was trying to build its own cricket team. There were lots of talents around like the great Fazal Mahmud, selected to represent India against Don Bradman's team in Australia but could not make it due to the partition of India. Maqsood, Imtiaz Ahmad, Munawar

Govt Commerce lift Ctg college cricket title

CHITTAGONG, Apr 26: Government Commerce College won the Seraj Memorial Inter-College cricket competition beating Chittagong Public School and College by 85 runs at the Dampara Police line ground here today.

Commerce College batted first and scored a massive 210 for nine wickets in the stipulated 40 overs. In reply, Public School and college were bundled out for 125 in 37.4 overs.

Masud of Commerce College scored 51 off 67 balls while Arif made 43 and Sadat 30.

Jainal of Public College got three wickets for 47 runs and Shibly took two wickets for 25 runs.

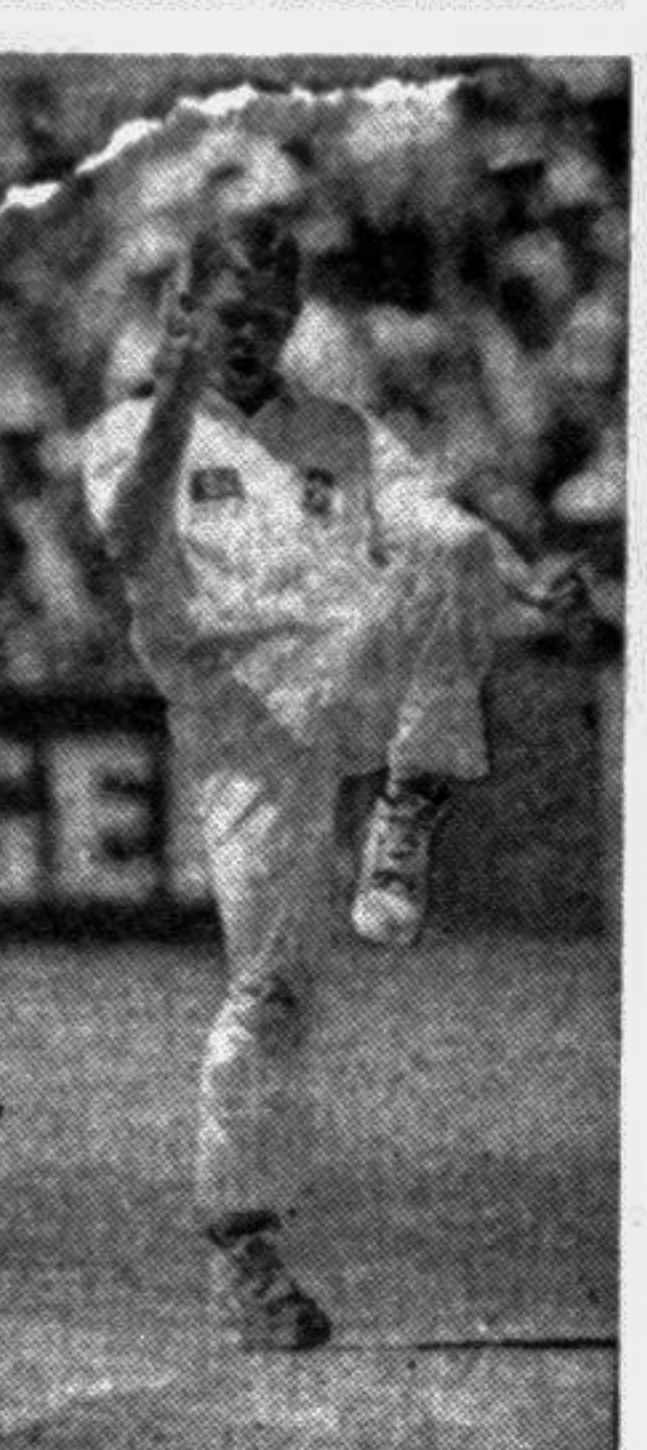
Adil of Public College knocked an unbeaten 43.

Munna of Commerce College got four wickets for 22 runs while Masud captured three wickets for 28 runs and Arif claimed two wickets for 18 runs.

Professor Rafiqul Islam Chowdhury, Vice Chancellor, Chittagong University, distributed prizes among the winners.

Shaun storm!

LONDON, Apr 26: South Africa's Shaun Pollock made an



SHAUN POLLOCK

explosive start to his new role as Warwickshire's overseas player with four wickets in four balls on his debut on Friday, reports Reuter.

Pollock struck in his fourth over against Leicestershire in the 50-overs Benson and Hedges Cup at Edgbaston, dismissing Gregor MacMillan, James Whitaker, Phil Robinson and Darren Maddy with successive deliveries.

Pollock had earlier claimed the first wicket of Vince Wells and had figures of five for one as Leicestershire crashed to nine for five after seven overs.

Pollock's effort made him the first man in the competition's 24-year-history to take four wickets in four balls, even if the dismissal of MacMillan was slightly controversial.

The opener was given out caught by Dermot Reeve at first slip when the ball appeared to strike him on the elbow, but there was no doubt at all about Pollock's other three victims.

Whitaker was bowled by one that beat him for pace. Robinson was caught off bat and pad at short leg and Maddy edged to slip.

Pollock went on to capture another wicket which gave him fantastic figures of six for 21 from 10 overs, five of them maidens.

Testing times for Perkins

SYDNEY, Apr 26: World champion and Barcelona gold medalist Kieren Perkins has comfortably qualified for Saturday's 1500 metres freestyle final at the Australian swimming championships — his last chance to earn a place in the Olympic Games team for Atlanta, reports Reuter.

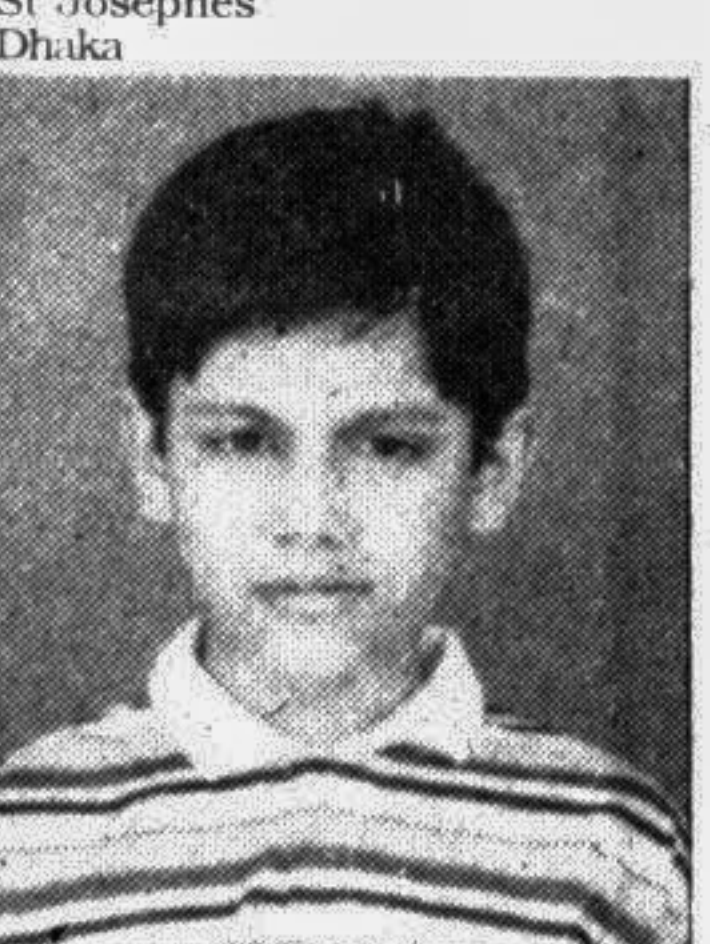
Perkins, 22, who failed to qualify in the 400 metres freestyle earlier in the week, won his heat at the Olympic selection trials at Homebush in a time three seconds faster than fierce rival Glen Housman.

Perkins, the world record holder in the 400m and 1500m freestyle, clocked a time of 15 minutes 26.4 seconds.

The Queenslander must finish in the top two in Saturday's 30-lap final to make the Atlanta team.

WHIZZ KID-34 WINNERS

1 Faisal Islam  
St Josephs  
Dhaka



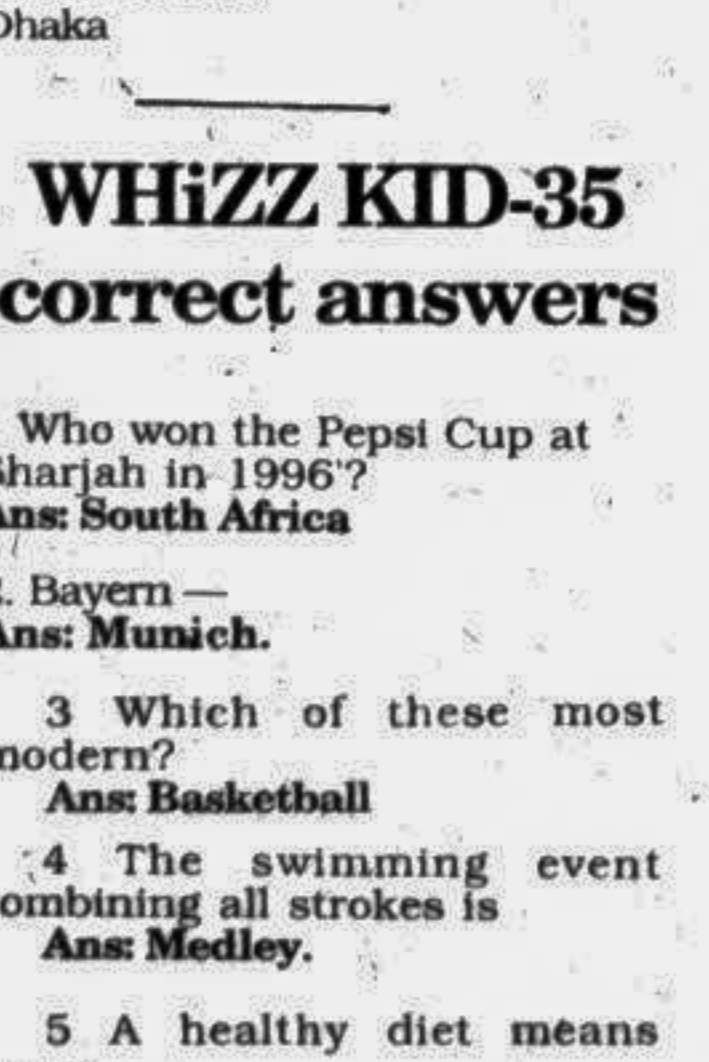
2 Md Shihabuddin  
Dhanmondi Govt Boys High  
School Dhaka



3 Quazi Sifat Bushra  
Agrani School Dhaka



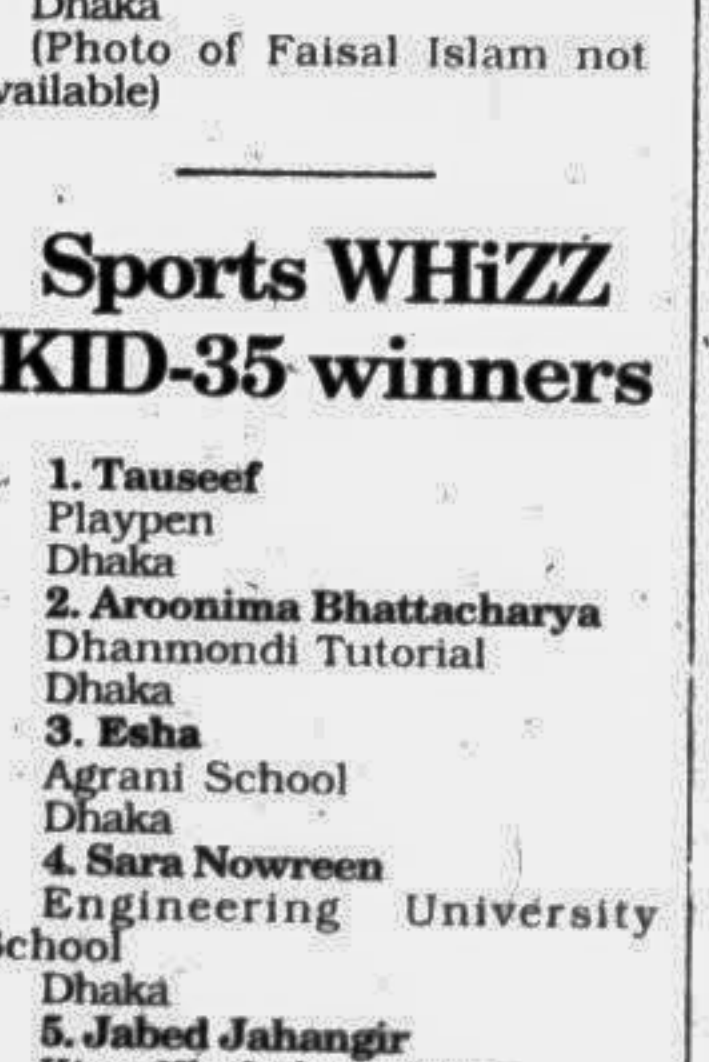
4 Razin Mustafiz Omi  
South Breeze  
Dhaka



5 Arunabha Bhattacharya  
Dhanmondi Tutorial  
Dhaka  
(Photo of Faisal Islam not available)



5 Arunabha Bhattacharya  
Dhanmondi Tutorial  
Dhaka  
(Photo of Faisal Islam not available)



5 Arunabha Bhattacharya  
Dhanmondi Tutorial  
Dhaka  
(Photo of Faisal Islam not available)

WHIZZ KID-35 correct answers

1 Who won the Pepsi Cup at Sharjah in 1996?  
Ans: South Africa

2 Bayern —  
Ans: Munich.

3 Which of these most modern?  
Ans: Basketball

4 The swimming event combining all strokes is  
Ans: Medley.

5 A healthy diet means more  
Ans: Cereals

Sports WHIZZ KID-35 winners

1. Tauseef  
Playpen  
Dhaka

2. Aronima Bhattacharya  
Dhanmondi Tutorial  
Dhaka

3. Baba  
Agrani School  
Dhaka

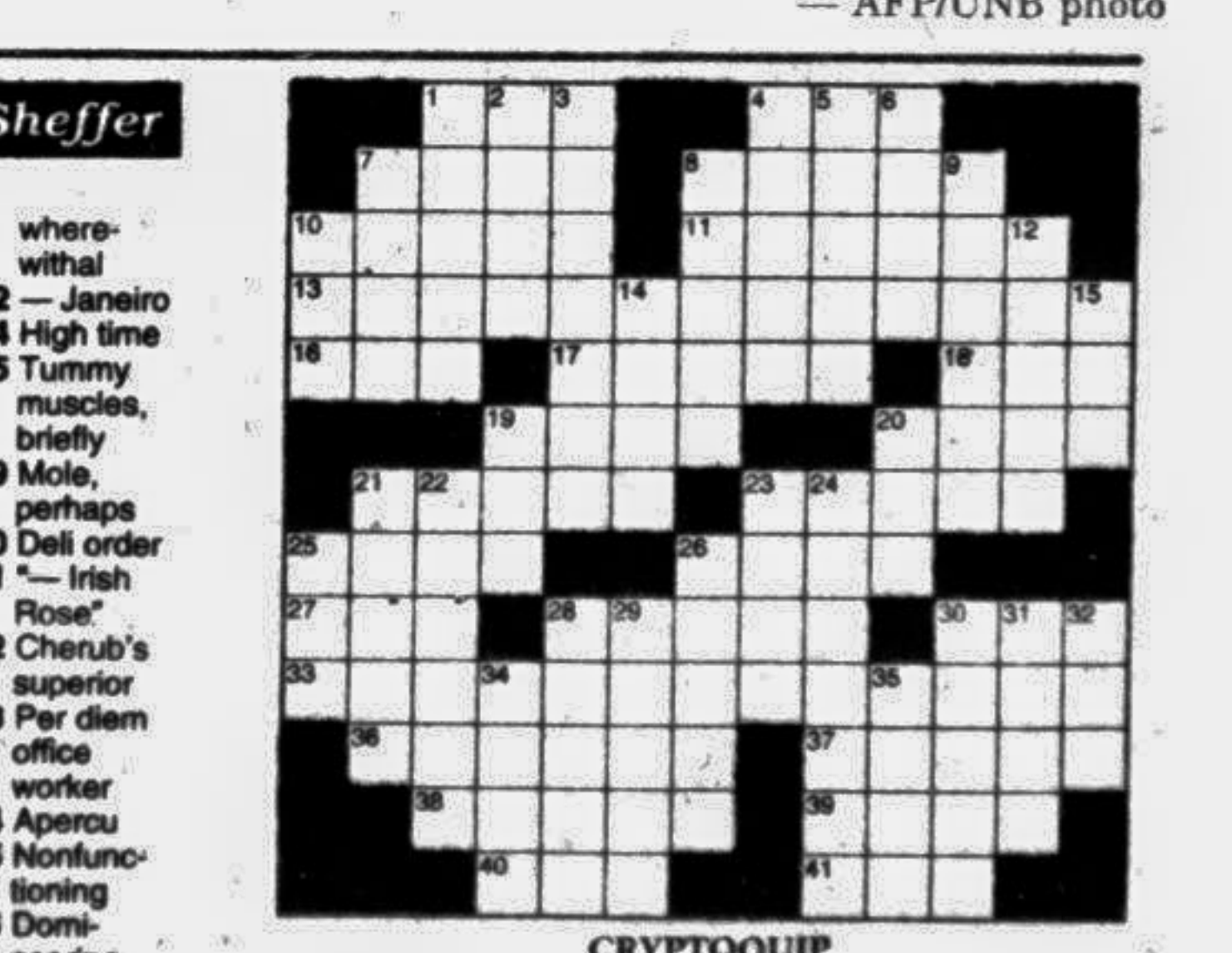
4. Sara Nowreen  
Engineering University  
School  
Dhaka

5. Javed Jahangir  
King Khaled Institute  
Dhaka

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS  
1 Weapon of terrorism  
4 Dallas sch.  
7 Cheshire countenance  
8 Feeds the hogs  
10 Change, often  
11 Trojan slain by Achilles  
13 Miss Muffet's problem?  
16 Bk. after Ezra  
17 It's from the heart  
18 Go after an apple, maybe  
19 Name for a Dalmatian  
20 Foundations  
21 Skiers' mecca  
23 Sonnet's wiggle?  
25 Act the robot

DOWN  
26 Predilection  
27 Evergreen  
28 Times of prosperity  
30 Shade material  
33 See 13  
36 ESPN broadcasts  
37 Resounding disks  
38 Sweetheart  
39 Command to Fido  
40 Barbie's beau  
41 Take a whack at  
1 Heep of trouble?  
2 Galvanizing  
3 Fit  
4 Caught some Zs  
5 Coffee flavor  
6 Involved with  
7 Quayle's successor  
8 Conclude  
9 Wept  
10 Has the where-withal  
12 — Janeiro  
14 High time  
15 Tummy muscles, briefly  
19 Mole  
20 Deli order  
21 — Irish Rose  
22 Cherub's superior  
23 Per diem  
24 Apercus  
25 Nonfunctioning  
26 Doin' near  
28 Carried  
29 Many times  
30 Jane and Peter's dad  
31 Desire  
32 Ar  
34 Castle  
35 Active one



CRYPTOQUIP  
FZ YJMY DQVEYJ QVA  
ZFLQFEZ MZ'A XVQN  
UCPMZV DCQ NCL ZC  
ACF'AMP XCLA NLFZV.  
Yesterday's Cryptogram: FURRY FELINE THAT SHOWED UP ON ELECTION DAY WAS A POLL CAT.  
Today's Cryptogram clue: Y equals C  
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.