DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT for the past few days promoters have been doing extensive publicity of Formula I powerboat racing world championship.

So, as professor, I tried to get a few facts. For one thing, F1 powerboats have very few controls. The steering wheel is like that of a car; a throttle controls the speed; a trimmer controls the lift of the boat (whatever that means); and there is no brake! I don't believe this.

I know there are no breaks. you know there are no brakes; but do the ruhi-katlas know that? They would be terrified. Actually, most of Dhaka road drivers would do rather well with one of these "tunnel hulled catamarans constructed from specialised marine plywood and composite material" No breaks, wow!

But, seriously, powerboats are finely balanced crafts that are strong enough to withstand the punishment of racing over comparatively rough water at 140 mph. The boats are about 19 feet long and weighs around 860 pounds. Poor ruhi. sorry katla!



Mark Waugh

(Australia's master batsman) "I wanted to emulate Steve since he came before me. We are twins and have the same ability. I thought, if he could play for Australia, I can play too. But he got there a little before me, there are only six spots in the batting order. Obviously we can't do everything at the same time.

Admitting that he wanted to emulate twin brother Steve's achievements in cricket.



Sports WHiZZ KID competition-36 Tick the Correct Answer

| 1 | The 2002 World Cup football will be held in | | |
|----|---|----------|----------------|
| | South Korea | Japan , | Not yet decide |
| 2. | If FIDE is for chess, FINA is for | | |
| | Billiards | Snooker | Swimmin |
| 3. | Tennis star Jennifer Capriati is | | |
| | Swedish | American | Dutch |
| 4. | The fastest one-day hundred by Sri Lankan Sanath Jayasuriya off | | |
| | 17 3946 | | |

Class:.... Roll No:...

Azlan Shah Cup

A CONTRACTOR OF CONTRACTOR

Phone: (if any)

India beat Malaysia

IPOH, May 8: Holders India struck three goals in a fiveminute first-half blitz and then staved off Malaysia's spirited second-half rally to win 3-2 and carve out their first win in the seventh Sultan Azlan Shah hockey championship here today, reports PTI.

Hard-working Sarabjeet Singh (Sr) gave lethal finishing touches twice and inside-right Sabu Varkey sounded the boards with a delightful solo in between to hoist a 3-0 lead just 15 minutes into game.

But the Malaysians brought down to earth yesterday when the formidable Australia pummelled them 7-1 regrouped into the second session and struck twice through captain Nasiruddin's penalty corner conversion and another field goal by the brilliant forward

Nawawi. The young Indian side which dazzled throughout the first session with impeccable distribution and tight control over the midfield seemed to fade away against the determined rivals who attacked in waves with lightning-quick counters.



Bangladesh Amateur Basketball Federation vice-president Majjadul Anam briefing the press on the eve of the Dhumketu basketball tournament at the NSC conference room yesterday.

George jives day's tune

Sports Reporter



Tangail, Bogra Sherpur were off to flying Pepsi two overs to spare. national cricket championship

when they posted identical five-wicket wins over their respective zonal opponents at different venues across the country yesterday In a Dhaka Zonal engage-

ment at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, title aspirants Tangail outclassed Chuadanga with George returning with a fantastic bowling figures of 1.5-1-0-3. In a low-scoring affair, Tan-

gail, aided by some accurate bowling from George, Shamim, Babul and Shafique, skittled Chuadanga out for a paltry 111 in 33.5 overs. George apart, the other three chipped in with two wickets apiece.

In reply, Tangail, facing a simple task of scoring less than three runs per over, rattled up the victory 112/5 in 29.5 overs with Rafique scoring an unbeaten 28.

Away in Dinajpur in a zone a

match, Bogra brushed aside a tough challenge from Kurigram to win a curtailed 20-over-aside match with more than

Sent into bat on a damp pitch. Kurigram could muster a modest 86/9 before they exhausted their quota of 20 overs. Motahar Hossain with 23 and Sumit 21, were the only 20-plus contributors to the losers total. For Bogra Romel claimed three wickets for only 12 runs.

In reply, Bogra posted the required 87 for the loss of five wickets and with 17 balls to spare. Shuvo with a rapid-fire 21 was the top scorer for the winners.

At Comilla in a Zone C engagement, Sherpur rode on two valiant unbeaten knocks from Ashraf and Tarun to beat Rajbari by five wickets. Sherpur, who had earlier

restricted Rajbari to a modest 119, made a mess in their chase for an easy target before the two propelled them to victory in 39.4 overs.

Ashraf scored a dazzling 45 while Tarun remained unbeaten on a plucky 29. Earlier, electing to use the

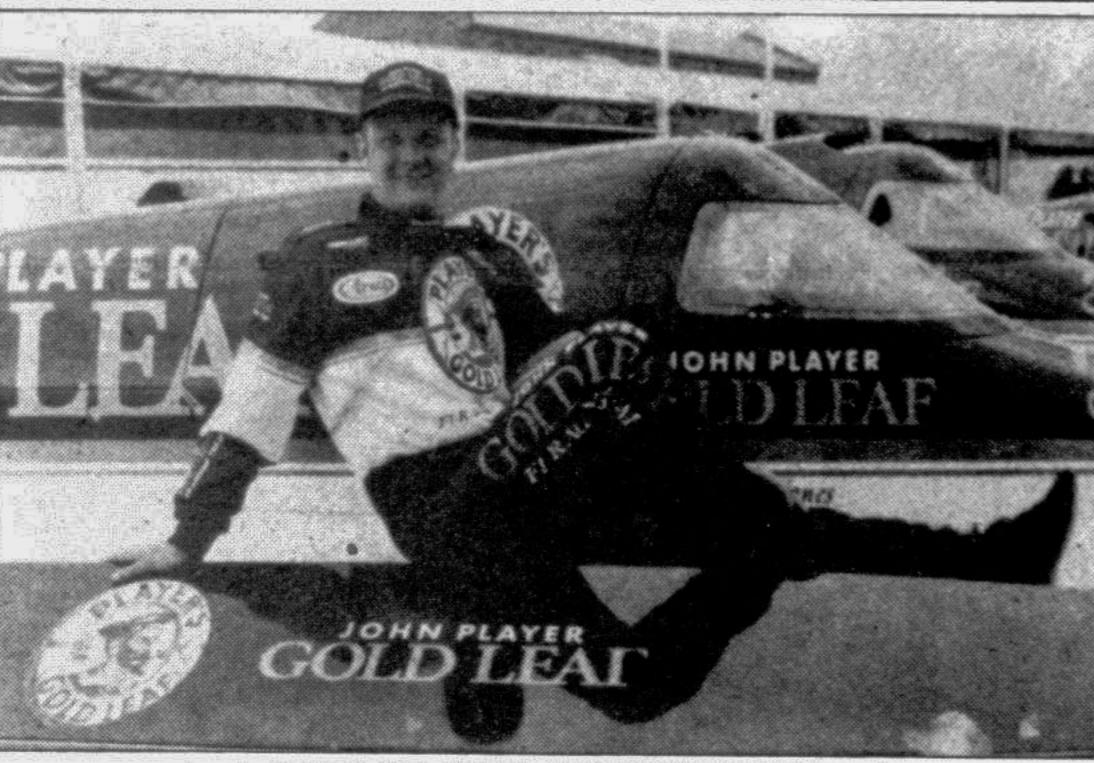
wicket in the morning, Rajbari found the going tough in the face of some controlled bowling from John, Rakib and Romel, who shared seven wickets among them.

John took three for 28 while Rakib and Romel got two wickets each. For Rajbari, Madhu scored highest 27 followed by Khokon, who remained unconquered on 23.

In Barisal, Khulna recorded a thumping seven-wicket win over Magura in a Zone E affair. With the bowlers dominating the proceeding. Magura, who went into bat in the morning. were shot out for a meagre 8 in 33.5 overs.

Milon, who spearheaded the Khulna attack, finished with three for only 14 runs. He was well-supported by Shaheen and Salahuddin, who chipped in with two wickets apiece.

in reply, the strong Khulna outfit posted the victory 82/3 in only 18 overs with their Tuhin duo scoring 26 and 20 respectively.



Jon Jones three-time Formula One powerboat world champion.

Powerboats and Jon Jones

The ten rounds of the 1996 Formula One Powerboat World Championship will see boats competing in countries throughout the world, says a press release.

In previous seasons the World Championship winners

| 1986 | Jon Jones | GB |
|------|------------------|-----|
| 1987 | Bill Seebold | USA |
| 1988 | Chris Bush | USA |
| 1989 | Jon Jones | GB |
| 1990 | John Hill | CB |
| 1991 | Jon Jones | CB |
| 1992 | Frabrizio Bocca | ITA |
| 1993 | Guido Cappellini | ITA |
| 1994 | Guido Cappellini | ITA |
| 1995 | Guido Cappellini | ITA |

Each Grand Prix weekend takes the form of qualifying sessions the day before the race, which decides the all important starting positions for the following day. On race day morning, the boats take part in a warm-up session before the actual Grand Prix start. Each event usually lasts approximately 45 minutes.

Date of Birth: Star Sign Marital status:

Superstitions: Sporting hero: Best moment: Worst moment:

Ambition:

Jon Jones Married - three children

Cardigan, South Wales, UK Began powerboat racing in Formula 4 Formula 4 world Champion Formula 4 British Champion Started Formula 1 racing Fourth in World Championship Second in World Championship American Grand Prix Champion World Champion Second in World Championship Sixth in World Championship World Champion Third in World Championship World Champion Tenth in World Championship

9 March 1957

Third in World Championship Second in World Championship Fourth in World Championship Jon has more Grand Prix wins than any other driver currently racing in Formula 1 Renato Molanari (record number of world

powerboat championship titles) Winning his first World Championship title in 1986 Accident in 1991 at Hungarian Grand Prix To remain successful in powerboat racing.

Meet the Russian torpedo

MOSCOW, May 8 (Reuter): Russian defender Yuri Nikiforov, once singled out as a future star by Pele, is starting to fulfil those high expectations just in time for the European Championship finals.

The 25-year-old Spartak Moscow powerhouse is playing some of the best football of his life and developing a knack of scoring goals as well as preventing them.

The only cloud on the horizon is a one-match suspension that rules him out of Russia's opening Group C match against Italy in Liverpool on June 11.

"Pele himself said Nikiforov would be an excellent player and we will see him star at this year's finals," an official at Russia's soccer union said, referring back to Pele's early sighting of Nikiforov almost a

decade ago. Curly-haired, tall and mus-



cular, Nikiforov usually plays as libero or sweeper. He is earning a reputation for a lethal shot and telling long ball.

One example of this was last year's goal of the season in Russia. Nikiforov robbed a

Torpedo Moscow striker of the ball and then sprinted threequarters of the length of the pitch to finish off the ensuing attack with a rasping shot. Against France's Nantes in

the quarterfinal of the European Cup, Nikiforov demonstrated his ability in the air with a powerful headed goal from a corner and then rifled home a thunderous long-range shot.

Nikiforov, born in Ukraine in 1970, began his career as a forward with Chernomorets Odessa. He soon switched to defence and in 1993 joined Spartak where he has won two league titles.

He has been in Russia's squad since 1993 and played in the side which crashed out of the 1994 World Cup finals at the group stage.

He has played 24 times for Russia and scored three goals.

Basketball tourney

Hosts Dhumketu Basketball Club will take on Giants in the opening match while Josephites will meet Rangers in the day's other match as the Dhumketu basketball tournament begins at the Dhanmondi wooden floor gymnasium this afternoon.

Professor Rashiduddin Ahmed, president of Bangladesh Amateur Basketball Federation, will inaugurate the 10-day tournament at 3:30 pm.

A total of eight teams, divided into two groups, will initially ,go through the round robin league phase of the meet arranged by Dhumketu Basket ball Club to celebrate its 10th anniversary

The parliamentary teams Group A: Angles Club.

Dhumketu Club, The Gregs and Giants Club. Group B: Hornets Club, Rangers Club, Josephites Club and Eagles Club.

BKSP, Scholastica in final

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protishthan (BKSP) will take on Scholastica in the Dhaka zone final of the 14th Nirman schools cricket championship tomorrow after both teams had easy sails in their respective semifinals in the capital yes-

BKSP, appearing in the school-level competition after six years, recorded a convincing 42-run win over Maple Leaf International School at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium while Scholastica edge past Mirpur Bangla High School by six wickets in the other engagement on the western strip of Residential Model School.

A brilliant half century by opener Sanjay Kumar Chowdhury helped BKSP to score a defendable 191 for eight in the stipulated 35 overs after they were put into bat.

In his 66-ball innings, Sanjay scored 51 runs inclusive of two over-boundaries and six fours before he was unluckily run but after staying on the crease for more than two hours.

Among others, Koton scored 27 and Kabir added 23 to the BKSP account.

Maple Leafs Rashed Iqbal captured three wickets for 31 runs while Shamim and Salman took one wicket each. In reply, middle orders let Maple Leaf down as they were bundled out for 149 in 32.2 overs with Shamim hammering highest 49 off 60 deliver-

Saikat and Kabir of BKSP grabbed two wickets apiece conceding 16 and 31 respectively while Rony and Sanjay captured one wicket each. In the day's other match.

Scholastica won the toss and invited Mirpur Bangla High School bat first. Due to some superb bowling

by Tasabbur (3/22). Nayeem (2/8), Imran (2/11) and Dipro (2/20) of Scholastica, the Mirpurians were bundled out for only 93 in 33 overs.

In reply, Scholastica reached home (94) losing four wickets with more than 16 overs to spare. Shaker (36 n.o) and Ridwan (22) were the leading scorers for the win-

Nat'l v'ball final round from May 16

Sports Reporter The final phase of the Multidrive National youth volleyball championship will be held in the capital from May 16 to 20 next, says a press release. A total of 14 districts will

participate in the competition organised by the Bangladesh Volleyball Federation and sponsored by Multidrive Limited. The teams are: Rajbari, Gazipur, Netrokona, Chittagong, Pabna, Naogaon, Dinajpur, Lalmonirhat, Gaibandha, Khulna, Jhenidah, Narail, Kushtia and hosts Dhaka.

Kerrigan expecting a baby

BOSTON, May 8: Figure skater and two-time Olympic medalist Nancy Kerrigan is pregnant, a spokeswoman for the Tour of World Figure Skating Champions said on Tuesday, reports Reuter. Kerrigan, 26, is expecting

her first child in December.

said spokeswoman Elena Doy-

le. Kerrigan married her agent. Jerry Solomon, 41, last year. Kerrigan was catapulted to fame when she was attacked six weeks before the 1994 Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway. Fellow skater Tanya Harding was later implicated

IAAF suspends Japanese athlete for doping

in the assault.

TOKYO, May 8: The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) has suspended Japan's top sprinter Yoshitaka Ito from competition for four years after he tested positive for a banned steroid, Japanese officials said today, reports Reuter.

Ito tested positive for a muscle-building substance called methyltestosterone in a drug test by the IAAF in March while he was training in the United States, officials of the Japan Amateur Athletic Federation (JAAF) said.

Sports Reporter

PAPERCHESS

his or her level maybe, will invariably have some sort of bad memory with the very first rank of the chess board. It doesn't matter if you play at Grand Master's level or at a coffee shop, your back rank will at some point of your life feel like a backache to you.

White to play and win

chess player, whatever

have heard amateurs complain so many times. "I was winning," they would say. "But his rook came in from nowhere and 'checked me and I had no squares where I could put my King."

Niaz Murshed's

It is almost like a real-life battle where you push your forces too far and too fast,

when you suddenly find that an enemy Ninja has penetrated your castle, and has assassinated your King.

in tournament chess, the back rank weakness can be utilised to win games in style. Sacrifices are very common in

such positions. Take a look at today's diagram. Black King is stuck on the back rank because of the strong g6 white pawn. Can white capitalise on this weakness? Solution: White plays 1.R-el! A total surprise. He gives away an extra rook. The point is, after 1...R-el 2.R-el Rel check 3. K-b2, black has no defence for the 4.Q-d8 mate. 3... Q-e4 will be answered by 4.Q-f7 check first and then 5.Q-f8 mate. In case of 3...R-b1 check white has 4.K-a3. after which black is lost.

Niaz Murshed is the first sub-continental Grand Master

month's finals as the best of

the runners-up after finishing

champions, beaten on penal-

ties by Brazil in the 1994

World Cup final, have a history

of slow starts that steadily gain

momentum - as in the 1994

World Cup when they lost to

Their squad, considerably

Ireland in the first round.

But the three-times world

behind group leaders Croatia.

The cup, Italy's only target

ROME. May 8 (Reuter): Italy, drawn in probably the toughest group of the European Championship, return in confident mood to the country in which 30 years ago they suf fered the greatest flasco of their soccer history.

"On our recent results, and on our past, Italy is clearly one of the big favourites along with three other teams: England because they are playing at home. Germany and the Dutch," declared coach Arrigo Sacchi recently.

The Italians are drawn in Group C, playing at Manchester United's Old Trafford stadium and Liverpool's Anfield, against the Germans, Russia and the Czech Republic - all former champions or the heirs of former winners. Italy won the title themselves in

"I think both Italy and Germany have a 50-50 chance. although at the moment the Italians are more experienced then our team," said Germany coach Berti Vogts last year. The finals are the first ma-

jor soccer tournament staged in England since the 1966 World Cup, a championship that still haunts Italians with the memory of their team's shock 1-0 defeat at Middlesbrough against rank outsiders North Korea. "England ... fatally brings back to mind the last experi-

ence at the 1966 World Cup," one magazine columnist reminded readers last month, raising the subject "by way of exorcism. The match played at Middlesburgh's now disused Ayre-

some Park on July 19, 1966

has entered soccer folklore as

the greatest upset in World



Cup history.

The only goal of the game came after 42 minutes. It was scored by Pak Doo Ik and following Italy's 2-0 win over Chile and their 1-0 loss to the Soviet Union was enough to eliminate the Italians after the first round.

The players were greeted on their return home by angry. disappointed supporters who pelted them with rotten fruit as they came through the airport arrivals lounge. Two years later Italy's for-

tunes had revived and they

won the 1968 European title in Rome beating Yugoslavia 2-0 in the replayed final after a 1-1 They had success in the World Cup when they won the 1982 championships in Madrid, but they have had no

more joy in the European tournament. Italy reached the quarterfinals in 1972, and the semifinals in 1988, but failed to qualify for the 1976, 1984 and 1992 championships and

booked their place in next

ROBERTO BAGGIO ... end of the road?

7 Cut short 31 Lumber-

10 Frivolous 32 insepa-

11 Blueprint 33 Candle

23 Odometer 40 Summon

24 Raw rock 42 Raise a

count

a draft

43 Boorish

44 Inside

45 London

50 Bud's

51 Fleur-de-

37 "Hot"

one of song

addition

17 Snack

21 Insulation

25 Praiseful

SEERSMAOCHVAN
48 Mustard
holder
JAYLENOMPALM
49 First lady?

B B W Y A M S C E N T

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

41 Charon's

cylinder?

source

56 Put in the

57 Lineman

(sheds)

54 One of the 9 Past

4 DDE's pre- 45 Destruction

7 Action-film 48 Jammed

15 "- Kapital" Maunas

sharpener 58 Lean-

16 One that's 55 Sauce

sequence

cut out for

18 History

19 Razor

22 Young

27 Tough

wood

29 Coiffure

34 Practice

35 Kind of cat

38 It'll last for

31 Full of

name-

sakes?

23 Night light?

chapter

20 Secretary's

12 Fill with

wonder

decessor 47 Scull need

39 Fast fiver 2 Cognizant verse

ingredient

5 Exchange

6 Lachry-

changed from the World Cup finalists with the introduction of young stars such as Juventus striker Alessandro del Piero. took technically more accomplished and more settled than previously. Milan's 27-year-old defender Palol Maldini, who played in the 1994 World Cup final and the only team member left from the 1988 European Championship, will follow in his father cesare's footsteps

> as Italy captain. Sacchi, who has tried out more than 70 players in his four-year rule, has made his mind up about 90 per cent of his squad with the only late newcomer likely to be Sampdoria's lethal but uncapped

> striker Enrico Chiesa "In England I will change very little. With the exception of one or two particularly exciting youngsters, the players going to the championship will be those who got us through the qualifying stages." Sacchi declared.

"But if I think any of them

are not playing well at club level, or is not in the best mental and physical shape, I will have no problem in leaving them at home." Last year's champions Ju-

ventus dominate the likely 22man squad with this year's Serie A winners Milan, and Parma, taking up many of the remaining places. Being knocked out of the

European club competitions

relatively early for Italian teams club be an important stimulus for the Milan and Parma players eager to show they are still the best, although Milan's World Cup midfielder Roberto Baggio may have no chance. "The divine ponytail" can no

longer count on a place in the team and may not even make the squad.

"He is not having one of his better years. I hope he gets back quickly but he will have to show he's in good condition. otherwise it's not in his interests to be in the team," said Sacchi after leaving him out of a recent gathering.

The main target men will be Del Piero, the sensational 21-year-old who will be in the role of attacking midfielder, and silver-haired club teammate Fabrizio Ravanelli.

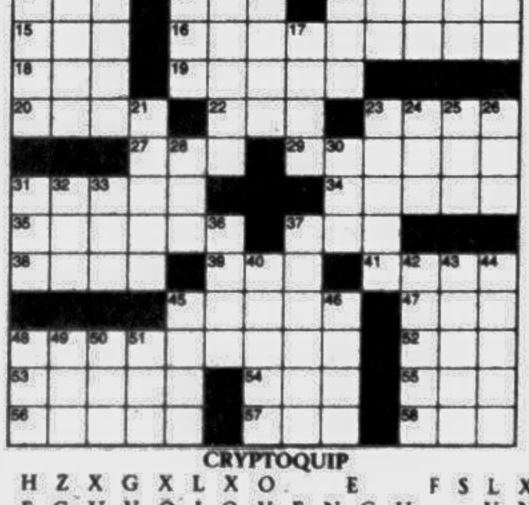
"Del Piero is a number 10 who scores beautiful goals and then in the next moment covers on the wing," said Sacchi.

Sacchi has a surfeit of forwards, with Lazio's Giuseppe Signori back in scoring form after a recent slump, his club team mate Pierluigi Casiraghi and Parma's Gianfranco Zola who scored many of the goals in the qualifying stages.

CRYPTOQUIP

NIO FSOBXGXO, ZX USEB QSG Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE MARRIED CLOCKMAKER'S RED-HOT AFFAIR WAS THE TOCK

OF THE TOWN Today's Cryptoquip clue: F equals G 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.



36 Admitting EGUVÕIQVENGU