

Column One

Sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-40

Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes: 8 p.m. June 7, 1996. 1. Grand Master Gata Katsky is... 2. Indian batting genius Sachin Tendulkar once played county cricket for... 3. Who won 100m women's hurdles in the 24th national athletics championship?... 4. In the 14th Nirmala schools cricket championship final Scholastica beat Nasrabad Govt High by... 5. In the 1996 Euro football championship, Bulgaria will be coached by...

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

SPORTS TALK



Thomas Muster (Austrian clay-court specialist) "People say money doesn't make you happy, but I have to say that without money there is not much you can buy. I don't care about clothes but as a boy I had nice dreams and it was good that I could fulfill those dreams."

Northants' tail delays debacle

LONDON, June 2: Tony Penberthy and David Ripley staged a brave rear-guard action on Saturday to deny county champions Warwickshire an innings victory over Northamptonshire with a day to spare, reports Reuter. The pair came together after a spectacular collapse had reduced Northants to 89 for seven, still needing 44 to make Warwickshire bat again. They batted through 23 overs to steer their side to 148 for seven at the close, giving Northants a fragile 15-run lead. Warwickshire opener Andy Moles' marathon innings had ended in the fourth over of the morning when Curtly Ambrose, who finished with five for 62, had him caught in the gully for 164. Warwickshire, 118 for five at one stage on Friday, eventually reached 447 all out. Former England opener Tim Robinson rolled back the years to produce a remarkable turn-around of Nottinghamshire's match against Durham. Robinson, 37, hit an unbeaten 125, his 60th first-class century, after Nottinghamshire had been forced to follow on 186 behind. He shared an unbroken opening stand of 211 with Paul Pollard.

Swedes swamp Belarus

STOCKHOLM, June 2: Sweden started their campaign for the 1998 World Cup in style on Saturday, hammering Belarus 5-1 in a Group Four qualifier, reports Reuter. The Swedes, semifinalists in the 1996 World Cup, dominated from the start and took a 19th minute lead through a Kenneth Andersson penalty after Martin Dehlin had been pulled down. Eleven minutes later Dahlin added a second, sweeping the ball past goalkeeper Andrei Satsunkevich from the right-hand side of the box. Jonas Thern hit the bar five minutes before the interval but the Swedes had to content themselves with a 2-0 halftime lead. After 62 minutes Andersson scored his second of the match and Sweden's third, pouncing on a loose ball after a goalmouth scramble. Belarus pulled one back through Valentin Belkevich with a quarter of an hour to play but Sweden bagged another two through Patrik Andersson and substitute Henrik Larsson before the final whistle.

BD vs Malaysia today



Bangladesh will meet Malaysia today in their third match of the junior Asia Cup in hockey. Earlier, in their opening match Bangladesh stunned India 2-1 and followed it up with a resounding 7-1 win against the hosts. A win in Monday's match will confirm Bangladesh's semi-final berth in the prestigious 10-nation competition, also a qualifying meet for the world junior hockey. Bangladesh now dominate the Pool A securing full four points from two matches. Centre forward Rafiqul Islam Kamal, a player of Dhaka Usha KC, scored seven goals with hat-trick in two matches - two against India and five against Singapore. Bangladesh's maiden victory over India in any international hockey championship was registered when the juniors humbled their counterparts from the neighbouring country of awe inspiring tradition by the odd goal in three last Wednesday. Striker Rafiqul Islam Kamal scored both the goals to make perhaps his most savoury

memory out of a historic win in the annals of Bangladesh hockey in international perspective. Never before Bangladesh sportsmen or women could cause ripples of admiring amazement at the outset of any international tournament. The few and far between adrenalin-pumping sports incidents in twenty-five year old history its have so far been built mostly on the bubbles of unexamined, unbridled and self-deceiving patriotism and at times propaganda. Gothia Cup hoax is one example that readily flashes in our mind's eye. But the victory achieved by coach Pratap Shankar Hazra's boys last Wednesday have the ring of a real thing immune to the vicissitudes of public commendation or condemnation bound to follow in the days to come because of success or failure vis-a-vis popular expectations built along the lines of a memorable Wednesday's exploits. Unlike other disciplines of sport, football describing the swiftest allusion in a negative way here, hockey despite some basic constraints at the infrastructural level, has shown an encouraging trait towards improvement in standard. There are few things today's hockey simply cannot do without. Astro-turf, a very expensive, constantly care-hungry surface is one such thing. It is to the apothecosis of the passion and determination of the players and some officials that the crippling reality of not having more than one astro-turf surface has been overcome to some content. Our players hone their skills on sub-standard strips, strips that in some seasons of the year wear the look of grazing ground for the cattle. We all know about the efforts and economics of another astro-turf to be operational soon. We want more, we want our hockey to soar. A victory against Malaysia today will take us very much near to our goal.

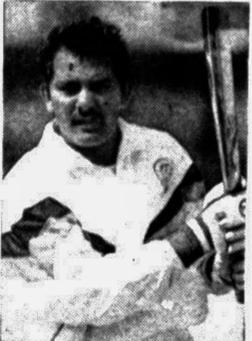
School girls h'ball

Holders Vigarunnisa Noon School registered a facile 14-2 goals victory over Holy Cross School in the 7th school girls handball tournament at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex today (Sunday). The winners led the first half 9-0.

Azhar vents his anger



LEICESTERSHIRE, England, June 2: Mohammed Azharuddin hit a brilliant century to put India in a comfortable position on the first day of the three-day match against Leicestershire, report agencies. The Indian captain has had a frustrating week with the loss of the one-day series and the sudden retirement of opening batsman Navrot Sidhu, and he took it all out in a merciless display on the Leicestershire attack, plundering six sixes in a swashbuckling century on Saturday. He also hit 10 fours in his 111 not out, India declaring at 305 for three. Leicestershire replied with 38 without loss in the final hour of the opening day of the three-day match. Azharuddin's second 50, following a 50-minute break



MD AZHARUDDIN for Inat, took only 27 balls and included five sixes and two fours. Two of his sixes went out of the ground, with the ball lost on both occasions. The bowlers who bore the brunt of Azharuddin's blitz were spinners Matthew Brimston and Adrian Pierson, left-

arm spinner Brimston being treated with particular disdain. Azharuddin reached his century with his sixth six which bounded on the pavilion roof of its way out of the ground. His first 50, off 59 balls, was positively pedestrian in contrast with the fireworks that followed. Vikram Rathore and Rahul Dravid also contributed elegant half-centuries while Sanjay Manjrekar made a neat 40. Azharuddin's second sizeable score of the tour means all of India's top order go into next week's first Test against England at Edgbaston full on runs.

Japan book top slot in women's v'ball

OSAKA, Japan, June 2: Japan breezed past Taiwan in three sets on the final day today to finish top of the eight-team women's volleyball final qualifying round for the Atlanta Olympic Games, reports AFP. Japan, the Netherlands and Ukraine booked the last tickets for Atlanta when they notched up their fifth wins on Saturday to secure a position in the top three places.

Friendly soccer

BASLE, Switzerland, June 2: Two goals from Pavel Kuka gave the Czech Republic a 2-1 win over Switzerland on Saturday in a final friendly for both teams before the European championship in England, reports Reuter. Kuka, who plays in Germany for Kaiserslautern, hit the winner just six minutes from time after giving the Czechs the lead in the 23rd minute. Marco Grassi scored for Switzerland after 33 minutes. Switzerland play England in the opening match of Euro '96 at Wembley next Saturday. The Czechs take on Germany in Manchester the following day.

Japan book top slot in women's v'ball

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Jacquet goes joyriding



STUTTGART, June 2: A spectacular diving header from defender Laurent Blanc gave France a 1-0 victory over Euro '96 favourites Germany on Saturday, extending their unbeaten run under coach Aime Jacquet to 22 games, reports Reuter. Blanc, who signed for Barcelona from Zuercher last month, connected with Ayouri Djorkaeff free-kick in the sixth minute to send the ball past Andreas Koepke in the German goal. Bert Vogts' side, deprived of influential central defender Juergen Kohler because of a thigh injury, stepped up German attack after the interval but could show only patches of the form which has made them the hot tip for the European Championships. Borussia Dortmund midfielder Andy Moeller came closest to bringing the Germans level, hitting the crossbar with a vicious long-range shot in the 58th minute. Blanc's goal came after good work down the right wing by Christian Karembeu who was eventually brought down by German full-back Christian Ziege. Djorkaeff sent in a perfectly-weighted cross from the

resultant free-kick and the 30-year-old sweeper provided a deadly finish from close range. The game was the last big test for both sides before they head for England and Germany who must now rely on Tuesday's match with Liechtenstein to give them a pre-tournament boost. The last time the Germans

Romania beat Moldova

BUCHAREST, June 2: Barcelona midfielder Gheorghe Popescu scored twice in three minutes on Saturday as Romania cruised to a 3-1 win over Moldova in their final warm-up match before the European Championships in England, reports Reuter. The Romanians had the game won by halftime after hitting Moldova with three goals in 11 minutes. Dan Petrescu headed them ahead in the 28th minute. Popescu rubbed salt into the wound with strikes in the 37th and 40th minutes. Only defender Gheorghe Mihali and striker Florin Raduciu played the full 90 minutes as Romania Coach Anghel Iordanescu experimented with his line-up.

lost to the French on home soil was a 3-1 defeat in a 1954 friendly in Hanover. "We're very proud and happy to have won tonight, especially against a country which is always competitive and which has won so many trophies," Jacquet said. "But I think we also had a bit of luck this time." The former Bordeaux coach added, "What matters is how we perform in England." Vogts said his side had been unlucky not to secure a draw. "Despite the defeat, we won't change things around because we have a good team here," he said. Germany's second-half improvement was largely due to the introduction of Bayern Munich's Mario Basler, who replaced Thomas Haessler at the interval. The midfielder, who joined Bayern from Werder Bremen last month, provided a string of high-class crosses from the right wing but captain Jurgen Klinsmann and his strike partner Fredi Bobic failed to convert the chances. Vogts said the squad's two other out strikers, Oliver Bierhoff and Stefan Kunz, would get their chance in the match with Liechtenstein to stake their claim for a Euro '96 starting place.



CREATIVE CAMPAIGN: Candidates for the forthcoming parliamentary elections have taken to horse carts and proposed to use small aircrafts as part of their campaign to woo voters. Supporters of Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Awami League candidate, organised a match between national booters and a local outfit at Motijheel on Sunday. What next. —Ster photo



International Master Reefat-bin-Sattar (L) ponders his next move during his ninth round engagement against Hanif at the NSC chess room yesterday. —Star photo

Jr Asia Cup hockey India trounce Singapore

SINGAPORE, June 2: Displaying excellent teamwork and playing a high calibre game, India trounced hosts Singapore 9-0 to take their points tally to four in the third junior Asia Cup hockey tournament here today, reports PTI. At half time India led Singapore 4-0. In its third outing in the Pool A matches, India played a vastly improved game with well coordinated moves to make most of the weak defence of the rival team. The first goal this afternoon was scored by inside-left Yoginder Rawat who hit a skillful field goal, shooting it past the goalkeeper. A minute later inside-right Alinder Pal Singh increased the lead for visitors with a successful conversion of a penalty corner. Star performer Brojan Singh kept up with brilliant stickwork to strike the third goal in the 23rd minutes. He had another successful hit nine minutes later when he shot a goal following a penalty stroke. Indian boys were in a ram-paging mood as Yoginder Rawat hit the fifth goal for his team with only a minute through the second half of play. Skipper Hazrat Qureshi scored the sixth goal in the 39th minute. The seventh goal in the 45th minute came off Sarbjit Singh who struck again a few minutes later flicking the ball from the right corner to take India's score to 8-0. The young lad completed the hat-trick when he broke into the rival's defence to score yet another goal in 61st minute. A penalty corner awarded to India in the 46th minute saw a melee at the goal mouth. The umpire called for another penalty corner for India which saw the ball being hit high and missing the target completely. India now take on Malaysia in their next outing on Tuesday.

FIFA hopes against hope



SEOUL, June 2: South Korea's soccer chief Chung Mong-Joon today dismissed concerns that disputes with Japan would bedevil the joint staging of the 2002 World Cup finals, reports AFP. "Now is not the opportune time to make such remarks," Chung said of the possibility of the difficulties forcing either Japan or South Korea to withdraw from co-hosting. Sepp Blatter, secretary general of the international football federation (FIFA) warned in Zurich that the co-hosting could still be derailed. Blatter said success depended on political guarantees from the bitter Asian rivals on security and freedom of travel. "Co-hosting must work but I am not yet sure it will. I believe it will but I do not know," Blatter said. But Chung said a FIFA working group would submit a report on co-hosting by the end of the year, and that FIFA would start contacts with Seoul and Tokyo within a month. Chung and his entourage received a hero's welcome at Seoul - Gimpo Airport on their return from Zurich where FIFA shocked everyone by announcing the two country finals. There have been jubilant

weekend celebrations in South Korea with flag-waving citizens flocking to massive outdoor concerts and dancing contests in the streets. Television stations telecast fireworks and other celebratory programme. In Japan, the 15 designated host cities called off their events. The fever subsided Sunday as concern focused on a possible new battle over who will

leading Seoul newspaper. But The Korea Herald, in anticipation of a new battle, the finals said: "Round two begins." Seoul's other dailies front-paged a telephone conversation Saturday between South Korean president Kim Young-Sam and Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, who pledged close cooperation to make the 2002 event "the most successful in history." But for some South Koreans lingering bitterness over Japan's occupation of the Korean peninsula from 1910 until 1945 prevailed, with one 15-year-old school girl telling The Korea Times FIFA's decision was "abhorred." Others told the newspaper it was a victory against Japan, which entered the competition two years earlier than South Korea. Sports and government officials have called for North Korea's participation in the World Cup, which they said would help the two hostile Koreas ease their decades long hostility. The co-host decision diminished the chances for the two Koreas to share the finals, and Blatter rejected suggestions that North Korea become involved. But Chung refused to rule out playing some matches in North Korea as a goodwill gesture.



SEPP BLATTER stage-key events of the 2002 World Cup, an opportunity for South Korea and Japan to open a new chapter in relations," read a front-page headline by The Long-Ang libo, a

S Africa win WC qualifier



BLANTYRE, June 2: A first-half goal from midfielder Eric Tinkler gave African champions South Africa a 1-0 away win over Malawi in their World Cup Africa Zone first round match in Blantyre on Saturday, reports agencies. Tinkler, who joins Cagliari in Italy's Serie A next season, capitalised on shoddy defensive play by the home team to score from a tight angle after 20 minutes. The African Nations' Cup winners would have won comfortably had it not been for woeful finishing by English-based striker Phil Masinga, who missed two gilt-edged opportunities. The Leeds United forward also had a second-half goal disallowed. Shaun Bertlett and doctor Khumalo missed good chances for South Africa, to the frustration of coach Clive Barker. "It was good to win away at the start of the World Cup campaign but frankly I was disappointed with our performance," he said. "We could have won by a lot more and made the second leg a mere formality." Malawi had just two shots on target in front of a quiet 7,000-strong crowd in the Chichester Stadium.

But coach Reuben Malolo said his youthful team could still reverse the scoreline in the second leg in Johannesburg in two weeks time.

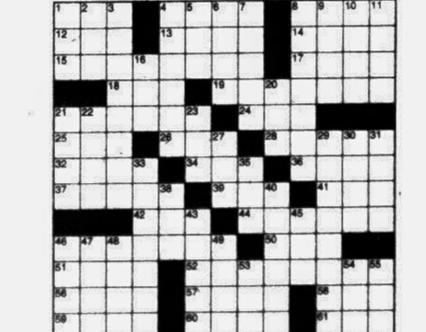
Kluivert keen to play in England

LONDON, June 2: Talented Dutch teenager Patrick Kluivert could be tempted to join an English Premiership club next season - if he is made an attractive offer, reports AFP. The 19-year-old Ajax striker said he would be interested in playing for Manchester United, Liverpool or Newcastle. And he said the abuse he has received from rival fans after being found guilty of causing death by reckless driving after a crash in Amsterdam last September would be a contribution factor. Kluivert, who received a suspended three-month prison sentence, 240 hours community service and an 18-month driving ban, told the daily mail: "If this whole thing does not stop, it might be a reason to leave Holland quicker than I was planning to do. A player can only take so much."

Meanwhile, lightweights Namibia caused the first shock of the World Cup qualifiers with a 2-0 victory over Mozambique. Edward Hoeseb opened the scoring after 25 minutes as the independence Stadium in Windhoek and the man who replaced him, Johannes Ortmann, added a second with time ticking away. Midfielder Paul Boonstander created the opening goal by pulling the Mozambiquean defence to one side before side footing the ball into the path of the unmarked Hoeseb. Namibia, who prepared for the preliminary-round tie in Germany, struck again after 88 minutes as Ortmann slammed the ball past goalkeeper and captain Rui Alves. Portuguese-based professional Antonio "Paulo" Alves converted two penalty kicks to give Angola an impressive 2-0 victory over Uganda at Naki-vubu Stadium in Kampala. A 25,000 crowd saw Fred Tamale, Idi Batambuze and Fred Hibeze create numerous chances for the Ugandan cranes before Alves opened the scoring after 35 minutes. Angola, reduced to 10 men when Joaquin Quinzinho was sent off, added a second in the 60th minute after Sula Tenyu handled the ball inside the penalty area.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 Oklahoma city 4 Greek vowels 8 Coaster 12 Bart, to Marge 13 Sal 14 Actress Turner 15 Previously 17 Demonic doings 18 Listening device 19 Previously 21 Nasal qualities 24 "A mouse!" 25 Bran source 26 Noah 28 "The Ballet Class" artist 32 Painter Mondrian 34 Lyricist Kahn 36 Classroom fixture 37 Watchword 38 "Humbly" 41 Numerical prefix 42 Arrogant



CRYPTOQUIP QNPTAQDAPEAPG SVWALH INPI IPTAQ DCPSA WVQICH VZZ QNVEA: "PCC'Q ONPCA INPI AGLQ ONPCA" Yesterday's Cryptogram: HALLOWEEN TRICK-OR-TREAT CATCHPHRASE: "ACTIONS SPOOK LOUDER THAN WORDS." Today's Cryptogram clue: C equals L. 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.