

Column One

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 Ramsky is a	Russian	American	Swedish
2.	Indian batting genius Sachin Tendulkar once played county cricket for	Somerset	Wiltshire	Yorkshire
3.	Who won 100m women's hurdles in the 19th national athletics championship?	Priya	Shilpa	Levly
4.	In the 14th Nirmal schools cricket championship final Scholastica beat Nasirabad Govt High by	23 runs	7 wickets	8 wickets
5.	In the 1996 Euro football championship, Belgium will be coached by	Peeters	Alkman	Allen

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

SPORTS TALK



Joao Havelange
(FIFA's autocratic president)

"Co-hosting of 2002 World Cup will happen over my dead body."

(Havelange told a Brazilian newspaper, FIFA, recently, has allowed South Korea and Japan to co-host the World Cup and Havelange is still alive!)

Ondruska in SA Olympic tennis team

JOHANNESBURG, June 4: Marcus Ondruska has gained a place in South Africa's tennis squad for the Atlanta Olympic Games, the National Olympic Committee of South Africa (NOCSA) said on Monday, reports Reuter.

NOCSA had applied for a "wild card" for Ondruska because his international ranking was not high enough for direct acceptance.

McRae sets the pace

Britain's youngest and only world rally champion, Colin McRae, set a blistering pace in the Subaru Impreza 555 on the opening leg of the Acropolis Rally to finish the day 54 seconds ahead of current Championship leader, Tommi Makinen competing in Greece for the fourth time, Colin McRae made no about his intention to dominate from the outset and put his name at the top of the World Championship leaderboard, as he took an incredible 30 seconds out of his nearest rival, Carlos Sainz, on the first stage, says a press release.

Primary school for Gebreselassie started at eight in the morning and wake-up time was meant to be six. "But sometimes we woke up late and then, instead of walking to school, we had to be carried."

TODAY'S MATCHES

- Asian junior hockey: Bangladesh vs Japan (Singapore)
- National Bank Premier volleyball league (Venue: Mirpur Indoor Stadium)
 - Dhaka Green vs Power Development Board (4:15 pm)
 - Bangladesh Police vs Sonali Bank (5:45 pm)
 - Bangladesh Rifles vs Brothers Union (5:45 pm)
- National Bank First Division volleyball league (Venue: Mirpur Indoor Stadium)
 - Dilkusha SC vs Nabajagaran Sangha (3:15 pm)
 - Azad SC vs Chand Textiles (4:15 pm)
 - East End Club vs Madartek Mitali Sangha (6:30 pm)
 - Wari Club vs Nabajatak Majlish (6:30 pm)
- 7th School boys handball tournament '96 (2nd semifinal, venue: handball court)
 - Police Lines High School vs Motijheel Model High School (3 pm)
- 7th School girls handball tournament '96 (Semifinals, venue: Women's Sports Complex)
 - Vikarunnisa Noon School vs Maghbazar Balika Bidyalaya
 - Dhanmondi Govt Girls High School vs Adarsha Balika Bidyalaya

Azhar hits out at Sidhu



MD AZHARUDDIN



NAVJOT SIDHU

when he was dropped for the final one-day international against England May 26. The controversy has sparked criticism of Azharuddin from former Indian greats like Kapil Dev and Manoj Prabhakar. But after being unbeaten on 111 and 72 in his two innings of the drawn match against Leicester, Azharuddin defended himself. "I would never laugh at him I am just not like that. Anyone who knows me knows I am a

very easy person to get on with and I am very approachable." Azharuddin said Monday. "I think that too many players have not retired gracefully — Desmond Haynes, for instance, in recent times. I believe that you should take the good memories with you. Why go with bad ones? If you grumble then you bring dishonour on your country and your country is always more important than any person. "David Boon is a good example of how to retire. He stepped down in the right way, with no fuss."

Azharuddin, also criticised for his lack of communication during the past fraught week, had earlier today issued a statement to the Indian media in which he called the Sidhu affair "an unnecessary controversy". "It is only serving to detract from our primary task, which is to win the forthcoming Test series," Azharuddin continued at Leicester Monday. "I think that in order for my team to focus on this task I need to clear up matters. Navjot Singh Sidhu left for his own reasons, the manner of his leaving was unfortunate. "Both the management and I spoke with him to ask that he reconsider his decision to leave. However, he is an adult and having made his choice there was nothing further we could do to make him reconsider."

"Sidhu was informed prior to the game that he had been dropped. That decision was taken by all four members of the tour management and selection committee and the decision was taken on cricketing grounds.

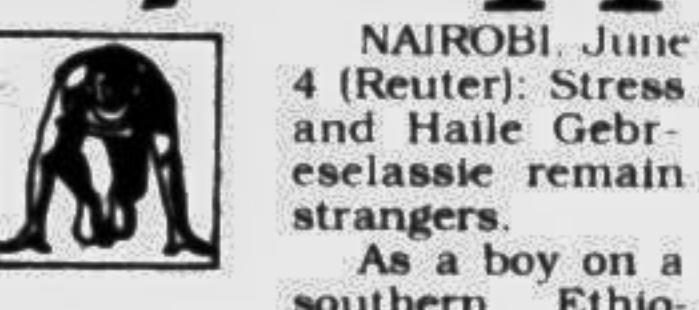
"As far as my own position is concerned I enjoy the total support and confidence of my team and management." Afternoon rain ruled out a Leicestershire run chase and extra bowling practice for the Indians on the final day of the three-day match, but Azharuddin believes his side are ready for the first Test. "We have had enough cricket, and the weather has



NAVJOT SIDHU

improved recently, despite today. Our batting is looking good and several of our bowlers are proven Test performers. We were not consistent enough in the one-day matches, but the Test series is the real reason we are here." Azharuddin continued his fine form hitting eight fours for his 68-ball half-century. On 72 he retired hurt with a sore big toe and tendinitis in his left elbow, but the injuries, he said, were minor and not a problem for Edgbaston.

Of happy-go-lucky Haile



HAILE GEBRSELASSIE

As a boy on a southern Ethiopian farm, the world 5,000 metres champion often woke up so late that he was forced to run the 10 kilometres to school. Two world titles and five world records later the little, barrel-chested Ethiopian with the explosive finishing kick still enjoys untroubled slumbers.

"Haile is very easy and very understanding," said Ethiopian head coach Wolde Meskel Kostire. "If you say sleep he will sleep."

Gebreselassie, just 23, slashed the world 5,000 record by an astounding 11 seconds on a tumultuous Zurich night last August. In addition he holds the world outdoor 10,000 metres and two-mile marks and switched serenely from the track to the boards this year to shatter the world indoor 3,000 and 5,000 records.

Now Gebreselassie has set his sights on Atlanta and Olympic gold in either the 5,000 or 10,000 metres. "It is something I look forward to and I want to win that Olympic gold," Gebreselassie said. "Any athlete worth respect always looks to an Olympic gold after other successes."

Ethiopia had hoped to enter their top medal prospect in both the 5,000 and 10,000 metres but the Olympic timetable, already extensively redrafted to accommodate American sprinters Michael Johnson and Carl Lewis, precludes a rare double.

"That is, denying Ethiopia the chances of clear gold medals," Wolde Meskel commented. "It is as if the organisers thought it would be robots and not humans running."

The benefits of high altitude, fresh fruit, cows' milk — plus plenty of rest — all played their part in turning a boy into a world champion.

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School boy's handball

Shaheed Nabi High School moved into the final of the 7th School boys' handball tournament with a convincing 17-11 goal win over Ansar and VDP High School in the first semifinal at the court of Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 8-7. They will meet the winners of the second semifinal between Bangladesh Police Lines High School and Motijheel Model High School the final on Friday at the Mirpur Indoor Stadium.

Meanwhile, in the girls section, Dhanmondi Government Girls High School finished top from Group B when they defeated Maghbazar Balika Bidyalaya by the skin of their teeth (11-10) at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex on Monday.

With this victory, the Dhanmondi girls completed their Group B engagements with full 12 points from four matches while the losers remained content with the second slot second with nine points. Both, however, qualified for the semifinals from the group.

The winners will take on Adarsha Balika Bidyalaya of Narayanganj while Maghbazar will meet defending champions Vikarunnisa Noon School in the crisscross semifinals at the same venue this evening.

In the days other first round engagements, BAF Shaheed School defeated Banani Bidya Niketan 6-3 while Holy Cross Girls School tamed Dhanmondi Tutorial 9-2.

Nat'l Bank Div I v'ball

Fire Service and Nabajagaran Sangha won their respective National Bank First Division volleyball league matches at the Mirpur Indoor Stadium, yesterday.

In the day's first engagement, Fire Service defeated East End Club 15-3, 15-8, 15-11, while Nabajagaran recorded a hard-fought 15-3, 11-15, 9-15, 15-10, 15-13 victory over Chand Textiles in a gruelling five-setter.

The other two matches of the day - Wari Club against Dilkusha SC and Azad SC against Nabajatak Majlish — were still going on till our filing of this report last night.

Bevan struck 107 and opener Michael Vaughan 67 before becoming a victim of left arm spinner Phil Tufnell who claimed four for 106 in an unbroken spell of 43 overs. Yorkshire, seemingly cruising to victory at 294 for four, stumbled to 322 all out, leaving Middlesex winners by 21 runs.

Earlier, champions Warwickshire had put their stuttering season back on track with a nine wicket victory over Northamptonshire. Northants led by 15 runs going into the final day at Northampton and their last two wickets put on only 26 more, leaving Warwickshire to ease past their victory target for the loss of Andy Moles.

Kent, who beat Sussex inside two days, are top of the table, 13 points clear of Yorkshire.



Germany's Franziska Hentchel (R) tussles with Australia's Louise Dobson for the ball during their hockey friendly in Frankfurt on June 3. The match ended 1-1. — AFP/UNB photo

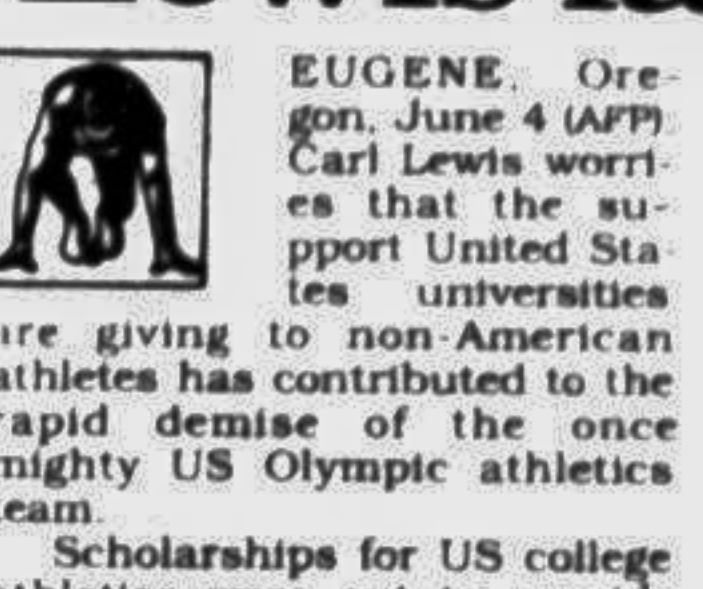
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Lewis laments the decline



CARL LEWIS

EUGENE, Ore., June 4 (AP) — Carl Lewis worries that the support United States universities are giving to non-American athletes has contributed to the rapid demise of the once mighty US Olympic athletics team.

"Scholarships for US college athletics were cut to provide more women sports opportunities. Many of those that remain are awarded to top non-US talent, in part because they are faster than their American counterparts."

"I am a big believer in open borders and open markets," Lewis said. "The opportunity for people to come should be left open. But I am concerned about the scholarships. We're giving so much scholarship money away to (non-US) athletes that we are taking away opportunities for American kids."

Lewis, speaking at the US College Athletics Championships here, said he has watched US 100m Olympians hopes diminish since his 1988 Seoul victory.

"I said we wouldn't get a medal in the year 2000 unless we did something to promote the sport. Encourage young people to stay active and involved and let them they have a future," Lewis said.

"Well boom, in 1995 Mike (Marsh) was the only (US) finalist in the World Championships. It's amazing it happened so quickly."

John McDonnell, an Irishman who ran at a US college,

Trinidad's Ato Boldon, a 100m star who has moved with his family to New York, said he considered becoming an American citizen.

But why? "One more gold medal for the United States is not going to make a big deal," Boldon said. "For Trinidad, it would be only our second ever. That's a big part of my career, to be role model for kids in Trinidad who have a lot of talent, but don't necessarily have the opportunity."

USA Track and Field estimates 1,500 non-US students compete at US schools each year, meaning up to 6,000 such athletes at any one time. John Cook, a German-born US citizen who coached George Mason University to the US college indoor crown, uses many non-US athletes.

"This has nothing to do with nationalism. The fervour of the flag has nothing to do with inter-collegiate athletics," Cook said, adding that US recruits "Think they have some kind of entitlement when you recruit them" while "The foreign kid is so happy to get anything."

Cook helped develop such runners as Somali Abdi Bile and 1996 Olympic medal contender Greg Haughton of Jamaica (400m) and Julius Achon of Uganda (1,500 m). Two-time US college 10,000m champion Katie Sworms, a 20-year-old from Brisbane, Australia, said non-US runners can help toughen American rivals and foster goodwill more than once every four years at the Olympics.

"I feel kind of embarrassed a lot of the time, being a foreigner, but what can I do?" Swords said. "If I was an American athlete, I know I would want a chance to win a national title."

"But I think it's good overall not only does it increase the competition but it builds goodwill between nations. I know that it sounds silly, but I think it's true."

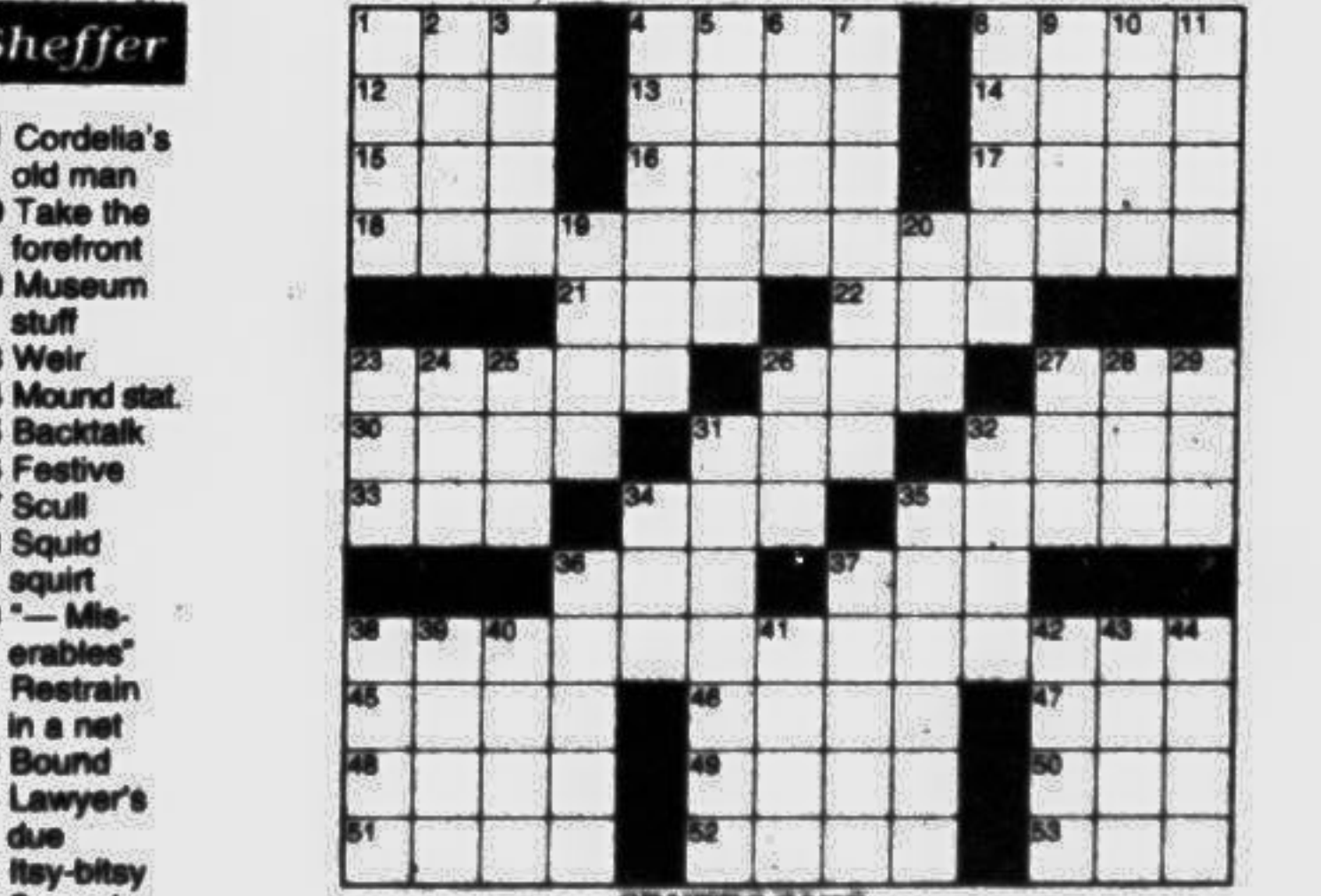
Schools badminton

Sports Reporter Raju and Shamsul were off to a flying start in the schools badminton tournament '96 which began at the Mirpur Indoor Stadium yesterday.

In the first match on the opening day, Raju, a student of Mij Miji Painadi Keramat Ali High School, handed Ayatullah of Mirpur Adarsha Bidya Niketan School a 2-15, 9-15 thrashing while Shamsul of Shahid Abu Taleb High School recorded a convincing 15-9, 15-9 points win over Mukul of Ideal School and College in the next match.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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| ACROSS | 1 Haggard heroine | 4 Winter vehicle | 8 Author below | 12 Lid for a Watergate evidence | 14 Concerning actress | 17 It's a long story | 18 Conroy Island's cyclone, e.g. | 21 Expert beret | 22 Have a go at it | 23 Put off | 26 Comprehend | 27 Tin Woodman's need | 30 Schwann | 31 Lincoln boy | 32 Dick's sister, in the prime | 33 Chart story | 34 Salute | 35 Uss in ambush | 36 Cause of insomnia | 37 Kipling hero | 38 Carnival atmosphere? | 45 Sitarist's rendition | 46 Collide with | 48 Pious structure | 49 Epochal movie, often | 50 Commotion | 51 No longer in need of a diet | 52 It's all in vain | 53 C.S.A. soldier DOWN | 54 Cordelia's old man | 19 Take the forefront | 20 Museum stuff | 23 Wear | 24 Mound stat. | 25 Backtalk | 26 Festive | 27 Scull | 28 Squid squirt | 29 "Mis-erables" movie, in a net | 31 Feestrain | 32 Bound | 34 Lawyer's due | 35 Ity-bitay song | 36 Biced song | 37 Message | 38 Gate ready to fight | 39 Knightwear | 40 Citrus hybrid | 41 Architect | 42 Admitting a draft | 43 Took the "A" train | 44 Handle |
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ADZFSUWXU FSUWKDUG
 RXUX IDUPXQ DRDM PT
 PAX OTKHIX GPDHTE
 HE D ODPDM RDWTE
 Yesterday's Cryptogram: BEFORE HE FALLS ASLEEP, NEWBORN PUPPY WANTS TO HEAR A FURRY TALE.
 Today's Cryptogram clue: W equals G
 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.