SPORTS TALK



Shahbaz Ahmed (Pakistan hockey super

had a feeling and a fear that had I gone on the tour and had the results not been favourable, the PHF (Pakistan Hockey Federation) would have accused me of conspiring and working against the interest of the national team.

After deciding to skip this month's Pakistan's European

Sports WHiZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHiZZ KID competition-42

√ Tick the Correct Answers (Competition closes: 8 p.m.

	Jui	ne 21, 199	6)
I.	The winner of the women's high jump gold in 24th national athletics is		
P	Kalpana	Nilufar	Rahima
2.	The girls' champion in the school batminton tournament '96 is		
	Rubana	Lucky	Ankhi
3.	IM Ziaur Rahman has won the national chess title		

6 times 2 times 3 times Kafelnikov won the 1996 French Open tennis title by winning the

final against Muster 5. West Germany won the first of their football World Cups in 1934 1954

Class Roll No

a policial victor in the case of Phone: (if any)

Cricket eamp

Name:

Sports Reporter

All the cricketers except captain Akram Khan have joined the national camp for the forthcoming tour of America and Canada yesterday. Akram, who missed the

first day's practice of the week-long camp due to his father's death anniversary, is expected to join the others before the selection committee declares the final squad today.

Experienced all-rounder Minhazul Abedin Nannu joined the camp but did not take part in the practice session conducted by national coach Sayed Altaf Hossain.

Mahboob retains job

Sport Reporter Syed Mahboob Hossain, general secretary of the Bangladesh Billiards and Snooker Federation, has retained his



job as secretary of the Asian Billiards and Snooker Federation (ABSF) for another twoyears. The election was held in China during the Annual General Meeting of the ABSF on Friday, says a press release. A Board member of ABSF, Mahboob had earlier been elected its general secretary in

In the annual general meeting, participated by delegates from 15 countries, Ali Asghar Valika of Pakistan was elected president while WY Chin of Malaysia became executive vice president of the ABSF.

TODAY'S EURO '96 **FIXTURES**

Russia vs Germany Group C Venue: Old Trafford Time: 8:00 pm Croatia vs Denmark Group D Venue: Hillsborough Time: 11:00 pm Note: All times are Bangladesh Standard Time.

Czechs dent Italian ego

slipped in the act of shooting

when unmarked inside the

drawn level after stealing pos-

session deep inside their own

Maldini's mixed

moment

ian captain Paolo Maldini is to

return home for 24 hours after

his wife gave birth to a son.

Kristian, on Friday, reports

mix this up with today's defeat," Maldini said after the

Italians' 2-1 Euro'96 loss to

in Group C against Germany on

away from Sampdoria by Parma

in recent weeks for a fistful of

lira, cleverly fed Diego Fuser

on the right and tucked away

the return ball like a seasoned

He also scored as a substi-

tute against Belgium last

month but, while Sacchi's at-

tacking options are becoming

impressive. Apolloni's dis-

missal put immediate strain on

another Sparta-Prague man Be-

jbl to take advantage, volleying

confidently into the corner di-

rect from Kukas cross for his

was to switch captain Paolo

Maldini into the middle and

Sacchi brazens odds out

"There is still time and

hopefully we are going to cor-

rect the errors we made

against the Czechs," he said.

"I'm quite sure we can beat

missing today, having flown

home briefly to see his wife

particularly Fabrizio Ravanelli

ARRIGO SACCHI

have been questioned, but in

both their games so far his

side have suffered for conced-

ing goals inside the first 20

Alessandro Costacurta ad-

mitted the first Czech goal by

Pavel Nedved had been the re-

sult of defensive miscalcula-

tion, Ironic considering the

backline was the one area of

the Italian team left untouched

by Sacchi from the opening

though, will necessitate a

change for the German game,

Luigi Apolloni's red card,

minutes.

match.

Sacchi's attacking choices,

Captain Paolo Maldini was

Sacchi's tactical response

first goal at the highest level.

It took only six minutes for

Italy play their final game

the Czech Republic.

Wednesday.

international

his defence.

Germany.

and new-born son.

"I'm very happy but let's not

LIVERPOOL. June 15: Ital-

By then Italy had at least

Enrico Chiesa, tempted



Republic put a serious dent in Italy's Euro '96 eventful 2-1 victory which completely transformed the situation in Group C. reports

Coach Arrigo Sacchi's game plan disappeared out of the window when defender Luigi Apolloni was sent off for receiving two yellow cards and the Czechs took maximum advantage with first-half goals from Pavel Nedved and Radek

Italy has the better of the second half, even with 10 men, and could have snatched a draw in injury time when Pierluigi Casiraghi blazed a great chance over the bar.

They will now have to rely on German and Russian help to reach the last eight.

If the Czechs beat Russia in their final group match next Wednesday, Italy could find themselves requiring a win over Germany, the same night to avoid an early flight home.

Parma's Apolloni is the third player to be sent off at a strewn-tournament and will be forced to sit out the crucial final group game against the Germany

Czech supporters, subdued last weekend after watching their men beaten 2-0 by Germany in Manchester, greeted the result as if they had won the tournament

Several Czech players hurled their shirts into the crowd, fully aware they had caused by far the biggest upset of Euro '96, so far. From the opening com-

ments it was clear Itlay's night would not be the straightforward exercise Sacchi seemed to envisage when he named a team showing five changes to the one which beat Russia 2-1 three days earlier.

Czech threats to expose Itlay's offside trap were borne

group stages, despite their 2-1

defeat by the Czech Republic

to beat Germany in their final

match on Wednesday to stay in

the tournament, but Sacchi is

refusing to accept his team

Saturday, "We have been play-

ing a high standard of football

and I'm still convinced we had

an excellent second half

scored in injury time I'm sure

your questions would have

been different. But we learned

nominated the Germans as the

most likely winners, yet now

has to convince his players

they are beatable if Italy's am-

bitions are not to wither on

When you've won you're good,

when you lose you're not," said

When we're expected to win

we lose and vice versa. But we

can't just hope to beat the

Germans, we have to be con-

Germany on Sunday will haul

Italy out of the hole they have

dug, and although Sacchi hap-

pily obliged waiting autograph-

hunters at the training ground.

he knows the vultures are

attack against Germany, did-

his best to sound confident

after a longer-than-normal

Kostadinov's

fate in the

balance

NEWCASTLE, June 15:

Italian training session.

James Park on Tuesday.

of the examination are."

being originally advertised as open to the media. Only local

children and their parents

were allowed into the session

When asked when the ses-

sion was changed from being

open to the media - as in-

formed by the official Euro '96

media office at Newcastle -- to

closed, a guard said: "This

morning — they are making all

their arrangements on the

day.

on a grass school playing field.

win over Romania.

Casiraghi, likely to return in

starting to circle.

Only a Russian win against

"There's a simple rule.

"We're a strange nation.

"If Pierluigi Casiraghi had

Sacchi has persistently

against the Czechs.

a lot last night.

the vine.

vinced.

Reuter.

"Italy do not deserve to go

said Sacchi on

have performed below par.

The Italians may now have

on Friday, reports Reuter.

ALSAGER, Eng-

land, June 15:

Coach Arrigo

Sacchi insists

Italy are too good

to bow out of

Euro '96 in the

out after just four minutes when Karel Poborsky curled a of Roma defender Amedeo Carboni. left-foot cross between the It appeared to steady the

central defenders and Slavia ship and Sacchi also opted to Prague teammate Nedved finsend on Casiraghi in place of ished expertly from eight methe grey-haired Fabrizio Ravaneli early in the second half as the Czech showed signs of Nedved had not previously hit the target in his handful of relaxing their group on an ininternational appearances but could have doubled his tally in triguing game. But a flying Maldini was fust the 23rd minute when he

off target with a shot from close range and Castraghi, the hero against Russia with two well-taken goals, could not repeat the trick a second time, firing wastefully over in the final seconds with only Petr Kouha to beat.

The only sombre note for the Czechs was a last-minute yellow card for captain Miroslav Kadlec, his second of the tournament which will rule him out of the Russian game.

It was the most important goal I've ever scored," admitted Bejbl. The mood is bril-Coach Dusan*Uhrin said: "It

was very difficult to get the players motivated after the first game, not just tactically but psychologically as well. "But they concentrated at the right moments. I didn't

believe we had won it until

after the final whistle." TEAMS

ITALY: 1-Angelo Peruzzi, 8-Roberto Mussi, 3-Paolo Maldini. 2-Luigi Apolloni, 5-Alessandro Costacurta, 17 Diego Fuser, 10-Demetrio Albertini, 11-Dino Baggio (4-Amedeo Carboni 39). Roberto Donandoni. 20-Fabrizio Ravanelli (18-Pierluigi Casiraghi 57). 19-Enrioc Chiesa (21-Gianfranci Zola 77).

CZECH REPUBLIC: 1-Petr Kouba, 15-Michal Hornak, 5-Miroslav Kaldec, 3-Jan Suchoparek, 2-Radoslav Latal (6-Vaclav Nemecek 87). 7-Jiri Nemec. 13-Radek Bejbl. 4-Pavel Nedved. 14-Patrik Berger (17-Vladimir Smicer (64), 9-Pavel Kuka, 8-Karel Poborsky.

Referee: Antonio Lopez Ni-

Up front, Gianfranco Zola

and Casiraghi will surely start.

but Sacchi, who has a contract

until the 1998 World Cup.

must weigh up the pros and

cons of employing Alessandro

the likely sensations of the

tournament, as played only 45

disappointing minutes so far

and some feel he is mentally

tired at the end of a searching

hints that Sacchi is losing pa-

tience with the Juventus

prodigy. Asked this week if he

still thought Del Piero could

make an impact, Sacchi re-sponded coolly: "Yes... I hope

Football to go

ahead at Old

Trafford

ropean Championship match

between Germany and Russia

will go ahead at Manchester's

Old Trafford Stadium on Sun-

day despite the bomb blast in

the City Centre today, reports

emergency meeting with UEFA

and the English FA after the

David Meek said: "They- con-

sidered the implications for

tomorrow's match. But so far.

there is no indication of any

cials said some of the events

associated with the Champi-

onship, including a free pop

concert planned tonight.

would probably be cancelled.

But Manchester City offi-

Euro '96 organisers held an

Tournament spokesman

LONDON, June 15: The Eu-

There have certainly been

domestic season.

he thinks so too."

Reuter.

explosion.

postponement.

Del Piero, hailed as one of

del Piero just behind them.

Fernando Couto (C) of Portugal awaits for an obvious celebration from his teammates Paul Souza (L) and Joes Tavers (R) after scoring the all-important goal of his side's 1-0 win over Turkey during their European Championship match in Nottingham on Friday. - AFP/UNB photo

MOSCOW, June 15: Veteran Russian Grand Master Anatoly Karpov and young challenger Gata Kamsky drew the fifth of their 20 games in the World Chess Championship on Friday and Karpov kept his one-point lead; reports Reuter.

The 45-year-old Karpov and Kamsky, 22, who defected from the Soviet Union to the United States in 1988, agreed to the draw after a quick game of 23 moves, Itar-Tass news agency said.

The score is 3-2 for Karpov The world chess federation (FIDE) title match is being played in Elista, capital of the semi-autonomous Russian Kalmyk republic, between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea.

The winner needs 10.5 points - one point for a victory and half for a draw. If they are level after 40 days and 20 games, the match will continue until one of them wins another game.

Victory for either contestant will be tainted by the fact that would number one Garri Kasparov is not challenging because of a split with FIDE. The next game will start on Sunday.

BAF aquatic

Sports Reporter

Base Matiur Rahman dominated the pool on the opening day of six-day annual swimming and water-polo champtonships of Bangladesh Air Force at the BN central swimming pool, Banani yesterday, says an ISPR press re-Base Matiur Rahman, a tra-

ditional force in the annals of the meet, clinched all the five golds decided on the day. Flight Lt, Haroon, who cap-

tured the first gold by winning the 200m back stroke, set the standard for his teammates Tayeb, Md. Adil and Sgt. Rashid to complete a happy harvest

Tayeb won the 200m freestyle, Adil captured the 100 breast stroke while Rashid took the 100m butterfly. Besides, Base Matiur Rahman had also claimed the 4x100m medley relay to establish their supreme command on the inaugural day.

Meanwhile, in the waterpolo competition, Base Bashar handed Base Zahurul Haque a 5-2, defeat while Air Headquarter Unit trounced Base Pahar Kanchanpur 11-0. Earlier, Air Commodore M

Manjur Khan, Air officer Commanding, BAF Base Bashar, inaugurated the meet in the morning.

It's party time at Czech camp

PRESTON, June 15: Czech coach Dusan Uhrin cancelled a scheduled training session and gave his players a day off today after their unexpected 2-1 Euro '96 victory over Itlay on Friday, reports Reuter. The team celebrated into

the early hours at their hotel, sampling some of the Czech beer specially brought over for

They have a leisure day until 11 tonight," said a relaxed Uhrin. Italy's defeat threw Group C

wide open, but Uhrin said it was not a complete surprise to him. "I expected the (Czech) team to play much better than against Germany. Italy played just as they did against Russia. It depends on the other team what they allow ftaly to do." The win brought increased

attention to the Czechs - radio and television crews queued to interview Uhrin today and an enterprising local menswear shop owner arrived to measure the coach for a free suit. Uhrin said he was not afraid

the team would lose their concentration for the erunch game against Russia at Anfield on Wednesday. "There is too much at stake," he said. He has to make at least the

one change in the line-up against Russia as captain and sweeper Miroslav Kadlec will be suspended after receiving a second yellow card.

Karpov, Kamsky Turks thrown out of track split point and in the 79th minute Couto



NOTTINGHAM England, June 15: A superbly ta-Abdullah Ercan ken goal by central defender Fernando Couto. succeeding whe-

failed, gave Portugal a 1-0 win over Turkey in their European Championship Group D match on Friday, reports Reuter. Couto's 66th minute goal which knocked the gallant

re his team's forwards had

Turks out of the competition, came after a succession of misses by his colleagues up Portugal never reached the heights of their first game

against Denmark when they enthralled the watching world with their quick passing game But they still showed plenty of skill and deserved their win which, after Sunday's draw with Denmark, gives them an

the quarterfinals from Group Portugal's biggest problem was again in the last third of the field where their final

excellent chance of reaching

passes went astray and their shooting was off-target. It took a defender to break the deadlock. Paulo Sousa's shot from outside the penalty area rebounded off a defender to Couto who hit the ball first time on the volley into the

Couto also made two crucial interceptions at the back as Turkey pressed for a late equalizer. One timely intervention prevented Hakan Bukur from having a clear run on goal

corner of the net.

blocked a goalbound shot by "We will have to look at the

fact that it was a defender who scored the goal," said coach Antonio Oliveira: Sporting Lisbon striker Sa

Pinto produced the most stunning miss in the 32nd minute. He contrived to shoot wide from six metres with goalkeeper Rustu Recber already beaten.

A truly Turkish tragedy NOTTINGHAM. June 15:

Turkey striker Ertugrul Saglam flew home to Istanbul just a few hours before Friday's Euro 96 match against Portugal after hearing that his sister had died, reports Reuter.

She had a baby 10 days ago. Coach Fatin Terim had not been expected to pick Ertugrul in the starting line-up for the Group D game. A spokesman for the

Trukish squad said: "It is bad news for everybody in our squad and we will have to lift ourselves to get over such a bad shock. Our feelings are very much with Ertugrul and his family at this sad time." Sa Pinto was set up superbly

by playmaker Rui Costa, who slipped between two defenders and pulled the ball back across the goal. Just before halftime Portu-

gal threw away another excellent chance when Antoino Folha's cross found central

defender Helder at the far post but he could not connect properly with the cross.

Although Portugal created the best chances. Turkey, as against Croatia, had slightly the better of the first half. Backed by a noisy contin-

gent of fans, who disconcertingly jeered constantly when Portugal had possession, they lought hard for every ball and hustled the Portuguese out of their stride for long spells. The recall of veteran midfielder, Oguz Cetin, the most

capped player in Turkey's history with over 50 appearances, gave them more reativity than in their previous game when they failed to muster a single shot on target. Sergen Yacin tested Portugal goalkeeper Vitor Baia with two long-range shots, while

and striking partner Saffet Sancakli both hooked shots across the goalmouth from good shooting positions. Portugal took command in the second half, inspired yet

top markesman Hakan Sukur

again by the deft skills of Rei Costa. Rustu was lorced to make saves from Joan Pinto and An-

tonio Folha before the Turkish defence finally gave way in the 66th minute. Substitute striker Jorge Cadete wasted two more

chances for a second goal, heading over from close range from Figo's cross from the right and then failing to control the ball after a clever flick by Rui Costa had left him with a clear run at goal.

Russia rebuke refs' role



PRESTON. June 15: Russia have protested in UEFA over the standard of refereeing at Euro '96. reports Reuter.

Coach Oleg Romantsev said on Friday that if referees were not up to scratch they should be "suspended or replaced." Romantsev produced a long

list of critical refereeing decisions in Major tournaments which, he said, had gone against Russian teams "since 1958 when Russia took the field in the World Cup." "We are dejected with the

low level of refereeing. If the referees are not skillful enough, they should be suspended or replaced." Speaking at a rare media conference. Vyacheslav

Koloskov, president of the Russian Football Federation, said he had made an official protest to UEFA over the refereeing. "We have drawn UEFA's at-

37 Top of the

39 "So that's

it, eh?"

41 Doorway

48 Breakfast

order

50 Sunday

51 Gossip

52 Piscine

be high

55 Wear down

1 Urge on

33 Pop choice ORRES ARESELIL
34 Trapezist's STYX VEX SEXV

2 News-

DOWN

32 Goff goal BACHEPIP

18 Break off 53 Contempt-

21 Yon wench 54 They might

40 Brat

45 Top

tention to the fact that refer CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

4 Talon

13 High-

1 Sch. grp.

8 Somber

12 Umbrella

calorie

14 Stromboli

15 Brunch

17 Chalce-

spillover

19 Additionally

22 He would

crack at

moment

26 "M'Liss"

author

29 Shoot in a

30 Fabrication

33 Pop choice ORR

insurance MINIO I

31 Erstwhile

35 Once-

divided

land: abbr.

outgoing

ees are an important component of the spirit of fair play that UEFA wants to see. The Russian squad's other

continuing grievance is over the visas they claim were denied to 200 of their supporters by the British embassy in Moscow.

EURO '96 **STANDINGS** LONDON, June 15 (AFP):

Group C standings after Czech Republic-Italy match here on Friday (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, pts): Germany 1 1 0 0 2 0 3 2 1 0 1 3 3 3 Italy Czech

2 1 0 1 2 3 3 Republic 1 0 0 1 1 2 0 Russia June 9 - Denmark 1 (B. Laudrup 21) Portugal 1 (Sa Pinto 53)

June 11 — Turkey 0 Croatia 1 (Vlaovic 86)

23 Tactic

wall piece

25 Calendar

quota

loosely

27 State with

28 Actress

32 Veggie in

food

35 Prized

36 Summer-

38 Mason's

successor

the seven

44 Sharp-

45 Branch

Chinese

of drudgery

certainty

26 Drape

competitor 24 Bathroom

week's

3 Help a

hood

4 Nativity

scene

setup

5 Limber

6 Don't just

9 Took off

climber

16 Finishes

20 Formerly

marathon

sit there

8 Postal non- 29 Discor-

11 Nth degree, 33 Sampling

June 14 — Czech Republic 2 (Nedved 5. Bejbl 35) Italy 1 (Chiesa 18)

"It is disrespectful and unfriendly, to put it mildly," said Koloskov

The gloom in the Russian camp was deepened by the news that Yevgeny Bushmanov will miss the rest of the tournament.

The Cska Moscow defender injured a knee in the 2-1 Group C defeat by Italy on Tuesday. Romantsev had included

cause of injuries and Yuri Nikiforov's one-match suspen-Nikiforov will return against Germany at Old Trafford on Sunday and Romantsev is con-

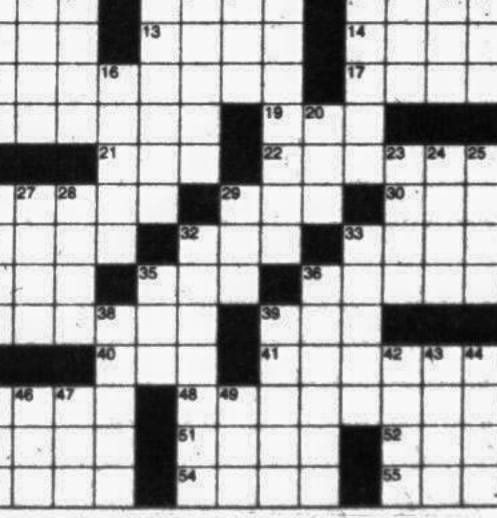
the relatively inexperienced

Bushmanov in his line-up be-

templating other changes. He would not be drawn on whether Chelsea goalkeeper Dmitry Kharin would replace

Stansilav Cherchesov. The Russians again showed the assembled media a video which, they claim, made it

clear that Pier Luigi Casiraghi was offside before he scored Italy's winning goal.



CRYPTOQUIP

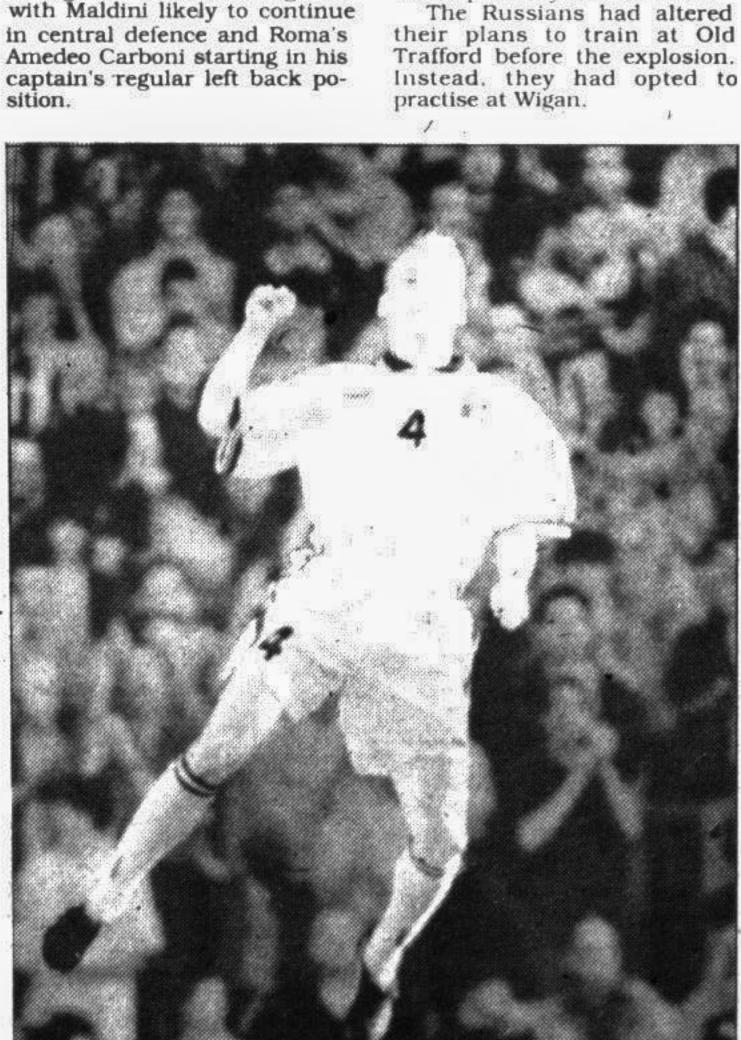
MX TSEFLIZWZUQ, HJATH SLZEF-ZU LFWITKLTUIW XJK IJ AKLM XJKL TOOFTZIF.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEAT FARMER, WAN-DERING IN HIS FIELDS LAST WEEK, CAME ACROSS sighted cat A STALKER. Today's Cryptoquip clue: X equals Y

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it 47 Greek H 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.



An aesthetic Pavel Nedved of the Czech Republic celebrates after scoring the match decider against giants Italy, who suffered a stunning 2-1 defeat in their European Championships Group C match at Liverpool on Friday.



- AFP/UNB photo