

## Sport

## Column One

## SPORTS TALK



Boris Becker

(German tennis superstar)  
"You've been a rival, a friend, somebody who has shared the spotlight with me for a long time — truly the best ambassador I've ever seen for tennis."

Paying his tributes to Stefan Edberg after winning the Queen's Club tournament.

## Sports

## WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

## Sports WHIZZ KID competition-42

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

(Competition closes: 8 p.m.

June 21, 1996)

1. The winner of the women's high jump gold in 24th national athletics is	Kalpana	Mitali	Rahma
2. The girls' champion in the school batminton tournament '96 is	Ramana	Lucky	Ankhi
3. Md Zauz Rahman has won the national chess title	6 times	2 times	3 times
4. Kafelnikov won the 1996 French Open tennis title by winning the final against	Sampars	Muster	Stich
5. West Germany won the first of their football World Cups in	1934	1954	1964

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

## TODAY'S EURO '96 FIXTURES

## France vs Bulgaria

Group B  
Venue: St. James' Park  
Time: 9:30 pm

## Romania vs Spain

Group B  
Venue: Elland Road  
Time: 9:30 pm

## Scotland vs Switzerland

Group A  
Venue: Villa Park  
Time: 12:30 am

## Netherlands vs England

Group A  
Venue: Wembley  
Time: 12:30 am

Note: All times are Bangladeshi Standard Time.

## BAF aquatic

## Sports Reporter

Two more swimming events of the Bangladesh Air Force annual aquatic meet were finalised at the BN central swimming pool yesterday.

On the third day of the six-day tourney, Adil of Base Matur Rahman lifted both the golds in 200 metres breaststroke and 400 metres individual medley.

BAF Base Bashar and Base Zahirul Haque won their respective water polo matches yesterday.

In the first match, Base Bashar beat Base Matur Rahman 4-2 while Base Zahirul defeated Base Pahar Kanthapur by six goals to nil.

## Refs go down to history!

LONDON, June 17: UEFA's 'Get tough' orders to referees has turned Euro '96 into a red-card record-breaker and the first phase is only two-thirds through, reports AFP.

Russian Yuri Kovtun's dismissal against Germany was the fourth of the tournament, beating the three-man totals of 1976 and 1984.

Until 1996, only seven players had been dismissed in the entire history of the European finals.

German coach Berti Vogts has already complained about the rash of yellow cards flashed by the referees.

## Holmes wins last bout

BAY ST. LOUIS, Mississippi, June 17: Larry Holmes, world heavyweight boxing champion for more than seven years, knocked out Anthony Wills in the eighth round here Sunday in what he says will be his final fight, reports AFP.

## BCCB's squad for N America

## Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) has announced a 22-member national squad for the forthcoming USA and Canada tour.

The team, comprising 15 players and five officials, is expected to leave for New York on June 24 to play a series of exhibition limited overs matches against different selections in their nearly month-long tour, a maiden trip to North America by any national cricket side.

Portly Akram Khan, skipper of the national team since 1994, will lead the side in the tour to two ICC associate member countries as part of Bangladesh's preparation for the next ACC and ICC Trophies.

The team, a blend of experienced and youth, includes five rookies who are making their first overseas tour. They are young opener Shahriar Hossain Bidyut, right-arm seamer Sajal Chowdhury, a gangling Al Shahriar Rokon, a workman-like Khaled Mahmud Sujon and all-rounder Ziaur Rashid Rupom.

On the other hand, the only notable new inclusion among the old warriors is former national skipper Faruque Ahmed. The scapegoat of the disastrous Kenya tour in the last ICC Trophy in 1993, Faruque's return to the national side after a long hibernation is just reward for his recent prolific form.

Athar Ali Khan, the tall national opener will act as deputy to Akram Khan. This added burden wrested on the long-serving right-handed bat is due to the absence of Aminul Islam Bulbul, who missed the bus because of his involvement in the minor English county cricket.

With Minhalzul Abedin Nannu, the most experienced cricketer in the squad, forming a quartet of specialist batsmen, the team also includes equal number of seamers and two orthodox left-arm spinners, a perennial trend that the selectors dare not violate.

The two spinners are Mohammed Rafiqul and Enamul Haq Moni while Khaled Masud Pilot is the lone wicketkeeper in the final fifteen.

Although the selection of the players somewhat impressed the cricket fraternity of the country, the inclusion of five officials surprised as many.

Gazi Ashraf Hossain Lipu, the former national skipper who was supposed to be the manager of team, was named coach. Although Reza-e-Karim, secretary, selection committee, admitted that Lipu will look after the selection and technical aspects, the question is why deprive him as 'cricket manager'. Besides, Reza-e-Karim's inclusion as tour manager has raised many an eyebrow. One wonders how the

team, a blend of experienced and youth, includes five rookies who are making their first overseas tour. They are young opener Shahriar Hossain Bidyut, right-arm seamer Sajal Chowdhury, a gangling Al Shahriar Rokon, a workman-like Khaled Mahmud Sujon and all-rounder Ziaur Rashid Rupom.

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## Croatia cremate champs

SHEFFIELD, June 17: Enigmatic Croatia turned on the magic in the last half an hour to beat champions Denmark 3-0 at Hillsborough on Sunday and become the first team to reach the quarterfinals of Euro '96, reports Reuter.

After an hour of almost stumping boredom with little inspiration from either team, Croatia emerged from their shell to take control.

They won with two goals from Davor Suker — one from the penalty spot and the second a stunning lob over Danish goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel — another off a well-taken close-range effort from Zvonimir Boban.

In the end they ran rings around the fading Danes, who now face an uphill task to reach the last eight.

Croatia, with a haul of six points from their first two matches, meet Portugal in their final Group D game on Wednesday and cannot finish lower than second in the standings even if they lose.

The match seemed to take an age to come to life and even after Suker gave Croatia the lead from the spot after 54 minutes, they appeared content to pass the ball around.

**They even strung together 27 passes at one stage after**

National junior wrestling from July 22

Sports Reporter

The sixth national junior and 12th national junior wrestling championships, organised by Bangladesh Amateur Wrestling Federation (BAWF), will be held in the capital from July 22 to 24 next, says a press release.

All the affiliated DSA and other organisations have been requested to send their entries to the BAWF office latest by July 15. The weight — in of all the participants will be held on July 22 at 8 am.

they realised that Denmark were unlikely to offer any real sustained threat. The nearest Denmark did come to scoring was when Brian Laudrup hit Drazen Ladic's left-hand post from only a metre out.

A minute later Croatia swept forward in numbers, with Suker providing the final pass to Boban, who acrobatically twisted and fired home the goal that killed off the Danes.

Prof Dr Mohammad Shahjahan, vice-chancellor of BUET, witnessed the final as chief guest and distributed prizes among the winners.

The third goal just minutes before the end was the first real conclusive proof that Croa-

tia's much-hyped image as the dark-horses of their tournament could well be justified.

Schmeichel, as often does for Manchester United when they are in trouble, came up to the Danish attack for a corner, but when the ball failed to make the box and was cleared, he had a desperate dash to return to his goal.

As Schmeichel raced back, the ball was played out to Aljosa Asanovic on the right. He swept a 50-metre pass diagonally across the pitch to Suker, who controlled it brilliantly before advancing on goal and lobbing Schmeichel, who had actually made it back but came out to narrow the angle.

It was one of the outstanding goals of the tournament and came just minutes after Boban had tried to lob Schmeichel from just inside Denmark's half when he had spotted the Danish keeper outside his penalty area.

Although neither team impressed in the opening stages, Denmark continued to look stale and in the end were punished for only playing with Brian Laudrup as an isolated attacker.

Denmark's day was summed up when Henrik Larsen standing less than six metres out, hit the roof of the stand with an attempted volley and substitute Mikkell Bech blasted the ball over the bar from a few metres out.

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