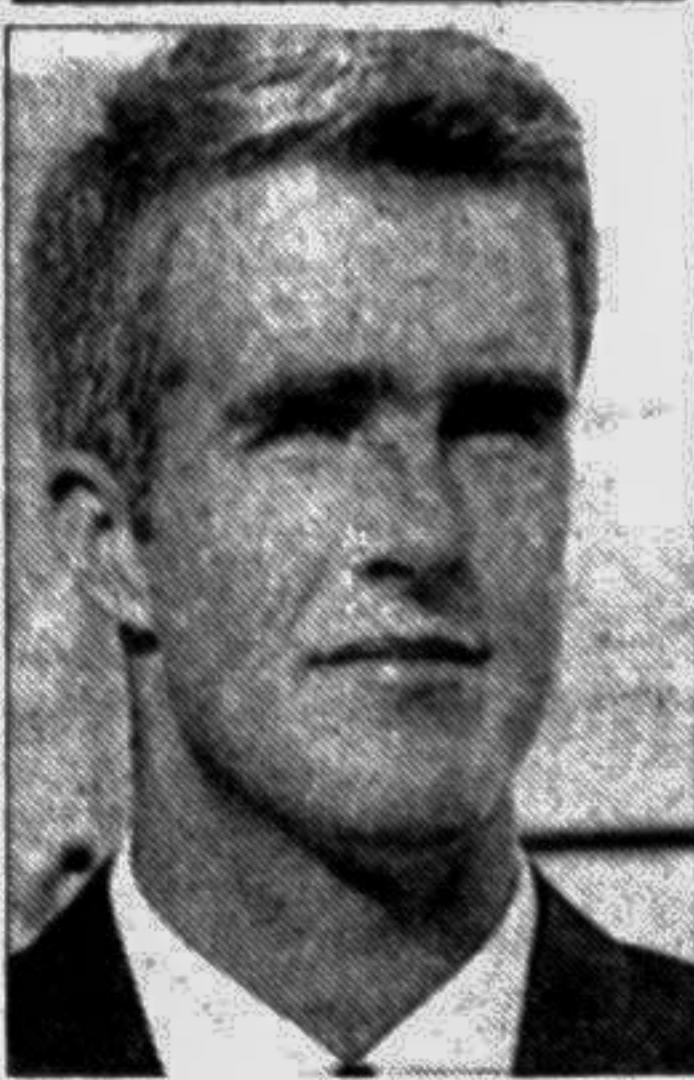


Column One SPORTS TALK



Todd Martin

(American tennis player) "I think he's done a great job of playing tennis and I don't think anybody should let the colour of his skin overshadow what he's done on the tennis court."

(Said of compatriot Maliva Washington only black pro in men's circuit, after his Wimbledon semifinals defeat at the hands of Maliva)

SPORTS WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

ANNOUNCEMENT

Now Taka 1000/-!!! Hey Kids! Take a look at this. WHIZZ KID will have one winner drawn from all the correct entries each week. The lucky winner will be awarded prize bond worth Tk 1000/- Wow!

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-45

Tick the Correct Answers

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. July 12, 1996)

- 1. Andre Agassi won his only Wimbledon in... 2. The highest scorer of Euro 96 was... 3. The 1997 ICC Trophy will be held in... 4. The present football coach of the Czech Republic is... 5. The first SAF Games was held in...

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

Eriksson & Liatti set pace on Rally of Argentina

555 Subaru World Rally Team drivers, Kenneth Eriksson and Piero Liatti, set a fast pace on the Rally of Argentina on July 4 to finish the opening leg and first 13 Special Stages in 2nd and 3rd positions respectively, says a press release.

Asia-Pacific champion, Kenneth Eriksson, came into his own towards the close of the day, setting enviable stage times to close the gap to only 26 seconds to championship and overnight rally leader, Tommi Makinen (Mitsubishi).

"We have had a completely trouble-free day," commented the Swede, "and will rally be going for it tomorrow — but at a safe and sensible speed. Mentally I have a great attitude and I am so happy with the Subaru Impreza 355 because"

Teammate, Piero Liatti, continues to be a major threat to all the World Championship contenders and was delighted with his overnight position ahead of twice World Champion, Carlos Sainz. "This rally is very very quick — we were tapping 205 kph on some of the closing stages. We are setting a similar pace to Kenneth. So I am looking forward to a good battle tomorrow," said the Italian.

Unlike his teammates, current World Rally Champion, Colin McRae, got caught out on the blistering quick stages, and was forced into an early retirement after a dramatic crash on Stage 6. Both McRae and co-driver Derek Ringer were unharmed but unable to continue after breaking the camshaft drive belt in the engine.

BCCB boys keep the pace

Sports Reporter

BRIEF SCORES

1. BANGLADESH: 186/6 in 45 overs (Akram 40, Rokon 37, Faruque 22, Barret 2/22) 2. UNITED STATES: 154 in 42.5 overs (Lewis 30, Samuels 28, Barret 26, Shanto 3/38, Sajal 3/33)

The Bangladesh national team, now in the United States on a month-long tour to two ICC associate member countries, revealed themselves in their first major trial of strength with a convincing 32-run win over their American counterparts in Washington DC on Saturday.

Bangladesh, tuned up with four wins and a defeat in their previous limited-over exhibition matches against different local selections in New York and Washington, appearing in their first match against the national team of the United States emerged out as a cohesive force for a very significant victory.

According to a faxed message received here last evening, Bangladesh, after winning the toss and electing to use the wicket, scored a fighting 186 for six in their share of 5 overs.

The tourists innings which faltered early was built around a potential match-winning 60-run stand for the fifth wicket between skipper Akram Khan and young Al-Shahriar Rokon. After a jumpy start with Bangladesh limping on 46/4 in 15.4 overs, the two, a blend of experience and youthful exuberance, combined together to guide the rocking boat to a handsome 144 before Rokon, while making his first overseas appearance as a national team member, clipped in with a gritty 37.

The portly Akram Khan, who after the departure of Rokon, stuck around for a while, scored highest 40 in the Bangladesh total before becoming the lone victim of US twacker Samuels. But, for Bangladesh, it was a disastrous start on an artificial turf when star opener Athar Ali Khan returned for a duck. One down, Rupom shortly followed him after scoring only nine and when Shahriar Hossain Biddiut, the most consistent performer so far with the willow, departed for 15 Bangladesh were slipped into the trouble with 31/3 in 7.3 overs. Former national skipper Faruque Ahmed then scored a sedate 22 but the real tempo was provided by Akram and Rokon. In reply, United States

could muster only 154 before being bundled out in 42.5 overs in the face of some fiery bowling from Hasibul Hossain Shanto and Sajal Chowdhury who eventually shared six wickets among them. The two young new-ball bowlers of Bangladesh, bowling with venom, ripped through the US top and lower order to evaporate the hosts' hopes of any fightback.

Shanto, the tall right-arm seamer who set the standard claiming the first US wicket of Jagharo (7), fittingly ended his fiery spell by removing the last opponent but to finish with 3/38 in his 7.5 overs.

On the other hand, a diminutive Sajal, the relatively economic among the two, gave only 33 runs for his three scalps. Besides, slow left-arm Enamul Huq Moni, who in a spectacular rearguard action had earlier scored a useful unbeaten 16, did one better with the cherry claiming one wicket in his eight overs which yielded only 17 runs.

Among the US willow-wielders, Lewis top scored with 30 following Samuels, who had 28 against his name. While Barret, responsible for Bangladesh's early collapse with two quick removals, hammered a rapid fire 26 before Shanto ended his ambitious chase.



Action from yesterday's sixth schools kabaddi tournament match between Rifles Public School and Maniknagar Model High School at the court adjacent to the Dhaka Stadium. — Star photo

fitness royale with rani padamsee Models: Farzana, Baby, Lopa and Poppy — students of Bengal School of Shotokan. Photo: Mustafa Ameen.

ARE you overweight? Only you can decide exactly what your ideal weight should be. This chart will provide guide to the weight range you should be aiming for. Remember that a large framed person will weigh considerably more than a smaller framed person of the same height. However, don't be too quick to attach a 'big build' label to yourself — the best test of whether or not you are overweight is honesty and on objective eye.

and stomach muscles. Also point and flex your feet. Breathe in as you extend and breathe out as you tuck in.

DO YOU NEED TO DIET? TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL SLIMMING. Consult your doctor before starting a diet, particularly if you are very overweight, or suffer from heart disease or high blood pressure. Remember that the more gradual your weight loss, the more likely you are to stay slim.

GAUGING YOUR FRAME

Table with columns for Women's height/weight ranges (Small, Medium, Large frames) and Men's chest/height/weight ranges (Small, Medium, Large frames).

Table with columns for Women's height/weight ranges (Small, Medium, Large frames) and Men's height/weight ranges (Small, Medium, Large frames).

Position yourself as shown in picture. If you have back problem, rest on elbows or you can even lie down. As you can see, advance students are wearing ankle weights. Now lift alternate leg up and down to the count of five. Then do both legs together. It is a very good exercise for firming, toning and strengthening your leg



BFF back to life

Sports Reporter

Mayor of Dhaka, Mohamad Hanif, the new president of the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF), made a prompt visit to the country's highest football office on Friday, on the second day following his appointment, predictably to acquaint himself in the new and relatively unwanted post.

"I'm a fan of cricket. My involvement with cricket is more than football," said Mayor Hanif to the press corps at the BFF's office but promptly added, he was happy with his additional job.

"I was not craving for the post. But you see the decision has been made," said Hanif adding he would do everything possible to uplift the dwindling standard of the most popular sporting event in the country.

But the inspirational Awami League leader, architect of many a political movement against the outgoing BNP government, is yet to announce the full committee of the BFF. "I will not station till July 12. I hope the full committee will be announced after that," said Hanif while talking to the journalists in the tidy president's room of the BFF which was vacated for long time since the resignation of former president Oli Ahmed, a BNP MP, in 1994.

Hanif, who is not a familiar figure in the sports arena, however, expressed his firm stand to keep the football out of political pollution.

I will not allow those vested quarter to cripple the arena. I will pick only those competent persons suitable for the respective posts," vowed the new boss of the BFF. With Hanif's visit, the otherwise deadly serene at the BFF office came to life yesterday. Officials of BFF and DMFA including some rare faces were seen crowding the man at the helm.

Besides, the Football Players' Welfare Association headed by its general secretary Shaiful Islam Manik also paid a courtesy visit to Hanif. The players had also presented a football, signed by the national booters, to the new football chief.

Fickleness of FIFA

PARIS, July 7: World football's governing body (FIFA) are considering scrapping the golden goal rule after it flopped badly at last month's European Championships in England, reports AFP.

FIFA technical director Walter Gagg on Sunday condemned the ruling for encouraging defensive play before adding, "We have found something which is good for women's and amateur football is not necessarily good for professionals."

The ruling was used for the first time in professional international football during Euro'96 with the aim of making more attacking play.

Instead of playing out the whole 30 minutes of extra time following a draw, the 'golden goal' rule meant the first goal scored in the extra half hour would win the match. Though Oliver Berhoff scored a golden goal for Germany to win the European Championship, that was the first time such a goal was scored in five periods of extra time.

Barca ditch Koepke

BONN, July 7: Germany goalkeeper Andreas Koepke was left without a club when Barcelona pulled out of a transfer deal on Friday, less than a week after helping his country win the European Championship, reports Reuters.

Barcelona, in a surprise announcement, said they had signed Portuguese goalkeeper Vitor Baia from Porto Ate on Thursday night.

The news came two weeks after Koepke's agent Karl Ortelge claimed the 34-year-old goalkeeper and the Spanish club had agreed terms for a two-year contract.

But Ortelge said that Koepke would not sign for VfB Stuttgart, the club he turned down when he believed he was going to Spain.

Koepke, seeking to leave relegated Eintracht Frankfurt, had been in talks with VfB Stuttgart before receiving an offer from Barcelona during the European Championship in England.

He denied Stuttgart's claim that he had agreed terms with them but, just as the German soccer federation (DFB) announced on Friday that Koepke would be free to go to Barcelona, the Spanish club said they had signed Baia instead.

VfB Stuttgart president Gerhard Mayer-Vorfelder said he still wanted Koepke but Ortelge said it was "1,000 per cent" out the question that Andreas Koepke will ever play for VfB Stuttgart in his career.

He said Koepke, who passed a fitness test in Barcelona on Wednesday, had already received offers from several other clubs.

Koepke was left in a similar situation to Brazil's Taffarel who was unemployed for six months after helping his country win the 1994 World Cup. Taffarel kept fit by playing centre-forward for an Italian church team as he could not find a club and now plays for Belo Horizonte side Atletico Mineiro.

Stop wastage in sports: Quader

By Al-Amin and Hasan Masood

The following is the second part of the tete-a-tete The Daily Star had with Obaidul Quader, the State Minister for Youth, Sports and Culture, and also the chairman of the National Sports Council. The first part of the excerpts appeared on this page yesterday.

Daily Star: The National Sports Council has over the years earned the dubious reputation of being a corrupt organization. Public money has been embezzled by unscrupulous officials, appointments were made without the consent of the concerned authorities. Are you aware of these?

Obaidul Quader: I have already pointed out some disorders in the NSC. Inquiry committees have been set up to find out the culprits, but I need more time to observe closely before taking any decision in this regard. There may have been irregularities during the term of the BNP government. I would rather not comment on that at this moment.

DS: The Bangladesh Krira Shikya Pratishthan (BKSP) in Savar is an institution for training our sportsmen. But the institution has not admitted students for the last two years. Are you aware of the situation?

DS: Yes, I know that. I have been to the BKSP to acquire first-hand information of the problems. I don't understand why the previous government turned a cold shoulder on an institution which should have been a breeding ground for our budding talents. We have skills, but what is still missing is long-term training for them. I believe the BKSP should be the centre of all our efforts for reaching the ultimate goal — to flourish at the international level. We have Bimal, Karar Mizan, and others, but due to the absence of Sports Science department in the country, an essential ingredient of modern sports, they have failed to turn into a champion force. I will create a department on Sports Science soon.

DS: But you require a huge investment for this. Besides, most of the development budget albeit of a very insignificant amount is spent for infrastructure and other services rather than for training. In this context do you have any plan for an increased fund exclusively for the BKSP?

DS: I don't think the way others have been thinking. I believe we do not need additional funds if we can stop those unnecessary and unproductive expenditures, purpose-

lessly drained out in the form of foreign trips and administrative overheads, etc.

DS: Although there was hardly any need of sending a team to the Atlanta Olympics, four athletes accompanied by an enormously bloated contingent of eight officials are going to the USA for a honeymoon

In the SAF Games. We don't lack qualities. But what we lack is discipline. Nothing is going on in a disciplined manner. Corruption and nepotism is a common everywhere in the world. But in an underdeveloped country like Bangladesh, it has trapped our sports in a deadly spider's web.

DS: There are 28 sports federations in the country but only a few games are popularly played. Why do we need the other federations or the sports which apparently have no future?

DS: It's a good question. Yes, we have plenty of federations and the outcome is zero. I will find out the games which are really important and promote those instead of maintaining a number of sports. This is absolutely a wastage of public money.

DS: Bimal Chandra Tarafder was the fastest man in the sixth SAF Games in Dhaka. The previous government promised to send him abroad for advance training. But the commitment has not been kept in the last four years. Are you going to look into the matter?

DS: Yes, I am aware of this. This is very sad that we failed to provide what Bimal needed. I can assure you that Bimal will be looked after properly from now on so that he can earn even better results in the future.

DS: Finally, about cricket. The 1997 ICC trophy is at our doorsteps. We do not as yet have a cricket stadium. The previous government decided to construct a cricket stadium in the capital somewhere near Maghbazar. Will you carry out the decision?

DS: Yes, I have already talked with the BCCB officials regarding the cricket stadium. I know about the plot. I will talk to the Prime Minister about the stadium. I think we will be able to begin the construction. Besides, I want to inform you that we are trying to hold a four-nation cricket tournament in the country this year involving three test playing nations — India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, as part of our celebration of silver jubilee.

As we departed the secretariat office of the minister, we were convinced that Obaidul Quader was full of optimism. One cannot help but be impressed with his rationale with regard to relevant matters. The state minister quoted Bill Clinton and we join him to say: "This is our time. Let us embrace it."

drive. Do you have any plans to stop such nonsense acts at the cost of public expense? DS: I'm share your views. But at the same time I have little alternative but to respect the decision taken by the caretaker government. At the same time I will ensure that no such unproductive trips take place during my tenure.

DS: It's very appreciable that you took personal interest in holding the football leagues this year. But the clubs have taken an undemocratic decision of keeping seven of the booters enlisted with them last year.

DS: Ethically I agree with you. But you have to see the interest of football. This is a special case. I will request local football lovers to oversee the matter only for this year. Inshallah. This will not happen again.

DS: There are other problems in football. The main issue is that everything is running on an amateur basis. Will you take measures to introduce professionalism in local football? DS: Well, the way you see it. I don't. The basic problem is we have not earned any laurels in international football. We have not yet won a football gold

Security scare in Atlanta

ATLANTA, July 7: An Olympic Games security officer was shot in the chest by a stray bullet and two guards narrowly escaped injury when a stolen car ploughed through a security checkpoint, Games officials said on Friday, reports Reuters.

The two separate incidents, on the eve of the arrival of the first athletes, put Atlanta's elaborate Olympic security system on red alert just days after two mysterious packages prompted a bomb scare.

A spokesman for the Georgia State Olympic Law Enforcement Command (SOLEC) said, Thomas Bentley, standing guard at an entrance to the Olympic village, received a minor gunshot wound while standing post overnight on Thursday.

The investigation indicates that the incident was the result of a random shot fired into the air which caused the glancing wound," he said.

News reports said the bullet had been fired from an AK-47 semi-automatic rifle, a favourite with guerilla groups, but police did not confirm this.

Police earlier thought the injury had been caused by fireworks left off during Independence Day celebrations.

In a separate incident, police said two men driving a stolen car crashed into a tent early on Friday at a checkpoint

near the equestrian venue at Conyers east of Atlanta. Two guards escaped being hit by leaping over a barbed-wire fence, a spokesman said.

The 'operation cleansing' on

ATLANTA, Georgia, July 7: International Olympic Committee officials gave final approval to the Atlanta Olympic drug testing laboratory here, two weeks before the opening of the centennial Games, reports AFP.

The facility will feature new technology aimed at detecting smaller traces of drugs and drug usage over a longer time span than prior tests.

The Atlanta facility will be operated in conjunction with labs at Los Angeles and Cologne, Germany.

Three high resolution mass spectrometers, valued at 450,000 dollars but leased by Olympic organisers, are being used to detect steroids in a competitor's system for up to three months, Atlanta lab directors said.

Of 9,367 competitors from the 1992 Barcelona Games, five tested positive for banned substances.

John Cantwell, chief medical officer for the Atlanta Games, said he expects 12 to 15 positives from among the 10,700 competitors here.

One man in the car was arrested and a search was mounted for a second who fled the scene. The incident did not seem to be directly related to the equestrian venue, he said.

There was a major security alert on Monday after two suspicious packages were found near the Atlanta athletes' village during a ceremony in the complex attended by senior state, city and Olympic officials.

The scare turned out to be a false alarm, but anti-nuclear protesters said it highlighted the potential risk of attack on an ageing nuclear reactor in the middle of the village which becomes home from Saturday to athletes from 197 teams.

Security has been a top concern at the Olympics since 11 Israeli athletes were killed at the 1972 Games in Munich by members of the Black September group who captured them in the Olympic village.

The security set-up in Atlanta will include 8,500 troops, mostly from the US National Guard, and 2,500 federal agents from the FBI and other agencies, in addition to thousands of Georgia state and local police.

The July 19-August 4 Olympics will be the biggest Games ever with just more than 10,000 athletes taking part.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer. Includes crossword puzzle grid and solutions for across and down words.