

Olympic Update

Column One

Sports

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-47

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. July 26, 1996)

1. Number of players in a basketball team is:
Eight Five Six

2. The number of jumping events in decathlon are:
Two Three One

3. The sport badminton was first originated in:
England India Iraq

4. The number of Bangladeshi athletes participating in the Atlanta Olympic Games are:
Three Seven Four

5. The present Brazilian football coach is:
Zagallo Peres Santana

Name _____

Class _____ Roll No. _____

School Address _____

Phone: (if any) _____

SPORTS TALK



Cedric D'Souza

(Indian hockey coach)

There is no guarantee in life. But one thing is that we will play our best.

About his team's prospect at the Olympic Games.

Prize-giving ceremony

Sports Reporter

The prize distribution ceremony of the National Bank Limited Premier, First and Second Division volleyball leagues, organised by Bangladesh Volleyball Federation, will be held at the conference room of National Sports Council today at 5 pm.

Oabdul Quader, State Minister for Youth and Sports, will attend the programme as chief guest while Maj Gen Mahbubur Rahman, president BVF will preside over the function.

Nat'l schools TT begins today

Sports Reporter

The Green Delta Insurance national schools table tennis championships, organised by Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation, will begin at the wooden floor gymnasium near Rajuk Bhaban this afternoon.

A total of 94 students including 22 girls from 20 schools are taking part in the five-day meet scheduled to end on July 25.

Old gun keeps all guessing

ATLANTA, July 20: Olympic supremo Juan Antonio Samaranch is determined to keep everyone guessing about whether he still plans to be in charge for the 2000 Sydney Games, reports AFP.

The Spaniard, who was 76 on Wednesday, will decide at the end of the year or early in 1997 whether to stand for re-election as president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in next year's elections.

"It will depend mainly on my health," said Samaranch on Friday.

The renowned master of sports politics added: "I can decide to run but I cannot re-elect myself. That depends on my colleagues on the IOC."

But many associates of Samaranch, a skilful but ever-controversial leader of the Olympic Movement since 1980, are confident he will stand again and that if he does, his re-election will be a formality.



FAIR LADIES ON A FAIRY-TALE SHOW: Performers display their calisthenics at the grandiose opening gala of the Centennial Olympiad that kicked off in Atlanta on July 19.

— AFP/UNB photo

Russians aiming higher

ATLANTA, July 20: Hope springs eternal. How else to explain Russian boasts they have a lock on 30 gold medals, a whopping 43-per cent hike from 1992, while simultaneously producing a laundry list of what has gone wrong since the Soviet sports machine stalled, reports AFP.

"Seventeen would be a disaster," said Valery Smirnov, referring to the number of golds Russian athletes Smirnov, referring to the number of golds Russian athletes won as part of the Unified Team at the Barcelona Olympics.

"Thirty gold medals-- from then on it depends on luck," the head of the Russian Olympic Committee predicted Friday.

He readily granted that the US team will top the medal standings, but Russia will be up there in second place, even though the Soviet Union, and Unified Team, splintered into 15 national entities.

"Take (Vitaly) Scherbo, with his six golds," Smirnov said of the Belarusian, illustrating the drain of medal contenders. And the list goes on.

The destruction of the big red machine that once dominated the Olympics can even be taken literally. Two facilities in the Cauca-

sus were wiped out by ethnic fighting. "They were new, for the top athletes," Ludmilla Maslakova, a former Soviet Olympian now a Russian sprinting coach, said wistfully.

More complaints.

The Soviets perfected a cradle-to-Olympic gold system that culled the young from their families and molded



them into champions over the next two decades in dozens of specialized schools. Funds now have to be accounted for as the Russian slouches through a depression.

"In the past, nobody was counting money. We put millions in sports schools," Smirnov said. Now, the system is not working anymore.

And the list goes on.

The destruction of the big red machine that once dominated the Olympics can even be taken literally.

Two facilities in the Cauca-

like the previous one."

And more gripes.

With the Soviet breakup, nothing was going to stop the coaches from leaving. And they have in droves. "We lost many coaches to the West," said Maslakova.

The new sports on the Olympic roster are too American and Smirnov predicted the four golds in beach volleyball, mountain bike and softball will go to the United States.

"Softball, not a single person out of 1,000 would be able to say in Russia what softball is," Smirnov said.

But he is confident that Russia will shine in athletics, swimming, gymnastics, wrestling, weightlifting, boxing, fencing, judo and sailing to meet his ambitious target.

Maybe he should not listed too much of coach Maslakova.

From seven athletics golds in Barcelona, she'll be happy with three or four gold medals" this time.

Yet she would not want to exchange the current, problematic times for the glories of her own years from 1968 to 1980 when she won two silver and a bronze in the 400 meters relay.

"I was happy in the past because I was young," she said. "Now, I am satisfied, I feel good."

Olympics: What's on today

ATLANTA, July 20 (Reuters): Timetable for the second day of Olympics competition on Sunday (all times BST):

Swimming

8.05 pm: Women's 200 metres freestyle preliminaries.

Men's 400 metres individual medley preliminaries.

Women's 100 metres breaststroke preliminaries.

Men's 4x200 metres freestyle relay preliminaries.

5.30 am (Monday): Women's 200 metres freestyle final.

Men's 400 metres individual medley final.

Women's 100 metres breaststroke final.

Men's 4x200 metres freestyle relay final.

Water polo (Preliminaries)

Group A

9 pm: Yugoslavia v Russia

10.40 pm: Germany v Hungary

1.40 am (Monday): Netherlands v Spain

Group B

1.00 am (Monday): Romania v Croatia

4.20 am (Monday): Italy v Ukraine

8.00 am: United States v Greece

Basketball

Women's preliminaries

Group A

12.30 pm (Monday): Germany v Japan (Birmingham, Alabama)

1.00 am (Monday): Norway v Brazil (Washington DC)

Group E

2.00 am (Monday): United States v Denmark (Orlando, Florida)

2.00 am (Monday): Sweden v China (Miami, Florida)

8.00 am: United States v Nigeria (Orlando, Florida)

Men's preliminaries

Group C

3.00 am (Monday): Italy v Mexico (Birmingham, Alabama)

3.30 am (Monday): Ghana v South Korea (Washington DC)

Group D

4.30 am (Monday): Hungary v Nigeria (Orlando, Florida)

Football

Women's preliminaries

Group A

7.00 pm: United States v Puerto Rico

Canada v Taiwan

4.30 am (Monday): Australia v China

Japan v Netherlands

Boxing

11.30 pm: Various weights, first round

6.00 am (Monday): Various weights, first round

3.00 am (Monday): Women's team compulsories, round four

9.00 pm: Women's road race final

Equestrian — three-day event

7.00 pm: Team dressage, first session

3.00 am (Monday): Women's team compulsories, round four

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