

Olympic Update

Because you play to win...



Column One

Sports
WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-49

Tick the Correct Answers

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. August 9, 1996)

1. Double Olympic gold medalist Marie-Jose Perec is

| | | |
|--------|----------|----------|
| French | American | Japanese |
|--------|----------|----------|
2. The electronic timing devices were first introduced in

| | | |
|-------|-----------|-----------|
| Tokyo | Stockholm | Barcelona |
|-------|-----------|-----------|
3. Which country leads the opening ceremony march past in every Olympic Games?

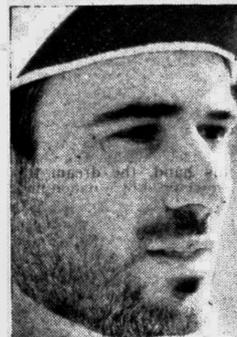
| | | |
|--------|---------|---------|
| Russia | Austria | Germany |
|--------|---------|---------|
4. The number of golds US swimmer Mark Spitz won in the 1972 Olympics were

| | | |
|-------|------|-------|
| Eight | Five | Seven |
|-------|------|-------|
5. Cricket was a gold medal sport in 1900 Olympics. Who won the gold?

| | | |
|---------------|-----------|-------------|
| Great Britain | Australia | West Indies |
|---------------|-----------|-------------|

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

SPORTS TALK



Andre Agassi

US tennis player
 "To me this is the greatest accomplishment I've ever had in the sport. Winning a Grand Slam is the biggest thing you can achieve in tennis, but the Olympics is the biggest thing you can do in all sports."
 After winning the men's singles gold in Olympic tennis.

Danish Nat'l TT at Rajshahi

Sports Reporter
 The Danish 21st national table tennis championships '96, organised by the Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation in co-operation with Rajshahi District Sports Association, will be held at the Rajshahi gymnasium from August 8 to 14.
 Danish Condensed Milk Bangladesh Limited, an enterprise of Parlex Group, will sponsor the week-long meet with Taka one lakh.
 A total of 222 participants including 102 women will take part in the meet in the following 12 events: men's, women's and boys' team; men's, women's, boys' and girls' singles; men's, women's, boys' and girls' and mixed doubles. Syed Yusuf Hossain and Kazi Moinuzzaman Pila, president and general secretary of BTTF, briefed the journalists yesterday on various points regarding the forthcoming championships.

Athenians get ready to party

ATHENS, Aug 5: Greece will throw a big party on Tuesday to welcome home its Olympic medalists from Atlanta with bands and fireworks at Athens' Panathenean Stadium, site of the first modern Olympics a century ago, officials said today, reports Reuters.
 The eight Greek medal winners will be taken in military jeeps from the airport to Athens' main entrance, where Mayor Dimitris Avramopoulos will award them the city's gold medal in a ceremony expected to be attended by thousands of Athenians.
 The athletes will then lead the crowd on foot to the Panathenean Stadium, where they will be greeted by Prime Minister Costas Simitis and other government ministers.
 Athens' landmark monument, the Acropolis, and other famous ancient sites will be lit up to honour the Olympic winners.



Josia Thugwane, the first ever coloured South African to win an Olympic gold, proudly holds the national flag after clinching the marathon with a timing of 2:12:36 at the Olympic Stadium in Atlanta on August 4.

USA rolls up fittingly

ATLANTA, Aug 5: What began with a loud roar and Muhammad Ali lighting the cauldron ended 16 days and 271 gold medals later with a moment of silence and a flickering flame, reports AP.
 The Centennial Olympic Games closed Sunday with a poignant moment in the men's marathon and the host United States accepting the last of the cherished golden discs.
 The US women's basketball team captured the final gold with a 111-87 victory over Brazil about an hour before the closing ceremony began, taking the Americans' winning tally to 44 gold and 101 total.
 The Russians were a distant second with 26 gold and 63 total while the Germans finished third with 20 gold and 65 total.
 The gold medal count was the most for the US team since the 45 it won in 1968 in Mexico City, when it totalled 107 medals and beat the old Soviet Union in the count for the last time.
 The golds were six more than the Americans won four years ago in Barcelona. But the total fell short of 1992, when the US team's 108 medals finished behind the Unified Team of former Soviet republics' 112.
 As athletes, officials and

media pundits began their final assessments of the Games of the 26th Olympiad, praise came for the level of competition while criticism focused on organisation and commercialisation.
 International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch refrained from issuing his usual closing declaration of the greatest games ever, this time calling the Atlanta Olympics the "most exceptional".
 Still, he said, earlier in the day "We are very happy with these Games and very happy with the organizing committee."
 If the closing ceremony



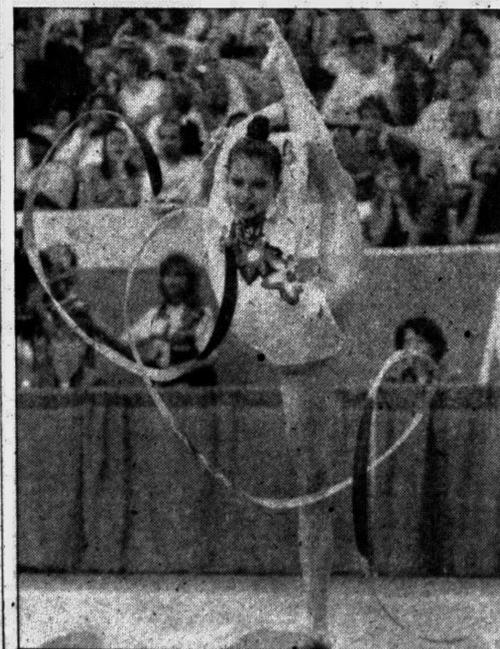
didn't do it for some, the final day of competition should have.
 It began with the marathon and Josia Thugwane, a coal mine worker who became South Africa's first black gold medalist.
 Hungary closed with a pair of gold in canoeing and Kayaking, Gyorgy Kolonics and Csaba Horvath taking the men's double canoe 500 metres and Rita Koban winning the women's single kayak 500.
 Martin Doktor of the Czech Republic won the men's single canoe 500, with Antonio Rossio of Italy winning the men's single kayak 500 and Kay Bluhm and Torsten Gutsche of Germany claiming the men's double kayak.
 In the final women's event, Agneta Andersson and Susanne Gunnarsson of Sweden won the kayak double.
 Germany also won gold in equestrian's individual show jumping with Ulrich Kirchoff, aboard Jus de Pommes.
 Yekaterina Serbryanskaya won rhythmic gymnastics individual all-around title, giving Ukraine its ninth gold of the games.
 Then it all was over 17 days of drama and glory punctuated by tears of joy and sadness. In four years, it all happens again in Sydney Australia.

Sino status quo intact

ATLANTA, Aug 5 (AFP): China emerged from the Atlanta Olympics as the most powerful Asian sporting tiger — and with its reputation intact — even though it suffered several disappointments.
 Rivals South Korea and Japan both fell far short of their medal targets, but Hong Kong and Thailand got their first gold medals and even the Philippines discovered a new sporting hero.
 Wu Shaoyu, head of the Chinese National Olympic Committee, said "We have achieved our target. The fact that China maintained the same level as the last time is a kind of progress."
 China won 16 gold, 22 silver and 12 bronze medals, four bronze fewer than the 1992 Barcelona Games. They stood

fourth overall behind in the 44 golds for the United States 26 for Russia and 20 for Germany.
 The Chinese delegation complained bitterly about conditions in the Athletes Village. But Wu claimed China had performed well to maintain its leading position in the second tier of nations with Italy, Australia and Cuba.
 He pointed out that Russia and Germany collected fewer gold medals than last time.
 China's wonder swimmers managed only one gold through Lei Jingyi in the women's 100-metre freestyle a far cry from the four titles in Barcelona.
 After stealing 12 of the 16 titles at the 1994 World Championships the Chinese women created a major scandal at the Asian Games later

that year when seven swimmers including two world champions tested positive for muscle building drugs.
 South Korea was very disappointed by its seven golds, short of their target of 10 and down from 12 at Barcelona. "We sincerely regret that we could not achieve our goal," said Li Sang Gin, deputy head of the South Korean delegation.
 South Korea's chief de mission, Shin Pak-je highlighted failures in women's handball, shooting, field hockey and archery.
 Japan, Asia's former sporting superpower, were also embarrassed after getting only three golds, all in the judo.
 Teruji Kokage, director of training of the Japanese Olympic Committee, blamed the lack of financial support from the government for Japan's decline in sport.
 "Before the Sydney Games, we need to finish the construction of a national training centre," Kokage said.
 The rare good news came from Yumiko Shige and Alicia Kinoshita who won Japan's first Olympic yachting medal, a silver in the 470 class.
 Kazakhstan finished just behind Japan with three golds, four silvers and four bronzes. They triumphed in modern pentathlon Greco-Roman wrestling (57kg), boxing (81kg).
 Kazakhstan and the other former Soviet Central Asian republics are now fully established in the Asian Olympic region having made their debut at the 1994 Asian Games in Hiroshima.
 North Korea, who won four golds at the Barcelona Games, returned to international sport after three years of self-imposed isolation as the last nation to sign up for the Centennial Games.
 Kye Sun Hi a tiny 16-year-old beat two-time world champion Ryoko Tamura in the women's judo bantamweight final to end the Japanese's winning streak at 84 matches.
 Kim Il retained the 48-kilo wrestling gold and a weightlifting silver in the 70kg went to Kim Myong Nnam.
 Featherweight boxer Kamsing Somluck gave Thailand their first Olympic gold medal on the final day of the Games.



Russian gymnast Lanina Batyrchina handles the ribbon deftly to win the Olympic rhythmic gymnastics silver in Atlanta on August 4.

ATLANTA SNIPPETS

ATLANTA, Aug 5 (AP): No last-place finisher in a marathon ever has been greeted more royally. And no one likely has finished quite so last.
 The band played a fanfare Sunday as A Baser Wasiqi of Afghanistan entered Olympic Stadium nearly 4 1/2 hours after he began the event Sunday morning.
 He finished 111th out of 111 who completed the race. No. 110 was about 1 1/2 hours ahead of him.
 "He walked quite a bit of the way, but he did jog across the finish line," said Jennifer Jordan, communications coordinator for the marathon venue.
 The stadium was closed long before Wasiqi finished as crews prepared for Sunday night's closing ceremony. But the marathon volunteers were adamant that Wasiqi would get to finish in the stadium.
 "It's what the Olympic spirit is all about," Jordan said.
 Stadium officials agreed to let Wasiqi in.
 "They had rolled some matting on the tunnel and they had to pull that up," Jordan said "and there was a tarp that had been laid over the track and that had to be pulled up."
 One of the sector coordinators ran to the band, which was practicing for the closing ceremony and asked them to play something.
 Two other workers ripped some tape off the finish line and held it so Wasiqi could break it as it ran through.
 "It was one of the neatest experiences we've had," Jordan said, "because this is what the Olympics is all about — the spirit of competition."
 Jordan had no idea what Wasiqi thought of it all. By the time he finished, there was no one around who spoke his language.

Shahidul made DMFA chief
 Sports Reporter
 Shahidul Islam Chowdhury, additional IG of Police, has been made president of the Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA). He will replace M Azizul Haq, who resigned a week ago.
 The appointment was made surprisingly by the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) instead of the National Sports Council (NSC), which had over the years done the honours.
 Although the move is yet to be confirmed by the NSC, the apex body of local sports, it has nevertheless established BFF's supremacy over DMFA for the first time since its revival way back in 1991.

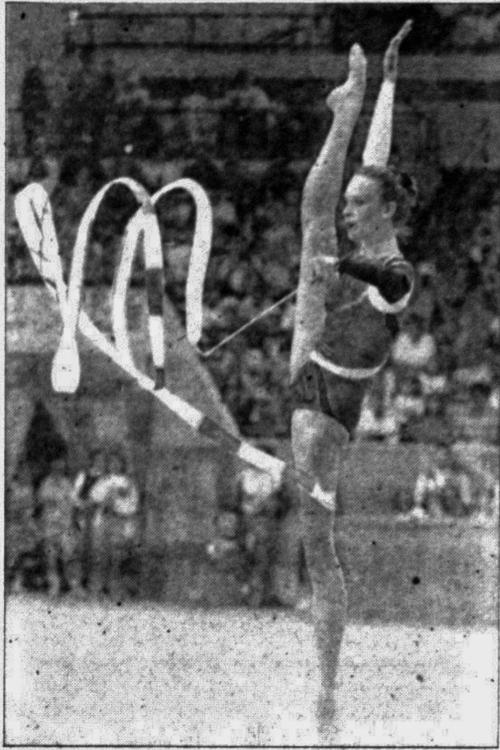
Chelsea stun Ajax
 NOTTINGHAM, Aug 5: English premier league side Chelsea, fielding a new look line-up of international stars, upstaged Dutch champions Ajax 2-0 on Sunday to win the pre-season Umbro Cup tournament, reports Reuters.
 Chelsea netted two early goals, brilliantly laid on by their 4.9-million-pound (7.56-million dollars) Italian signing, Roberto Di Matteo, and clinically finished by captain Dennis Wise and Romanian Dan Petrescu.
 Chelsea's other big close-season signing from Italy, Gianluca Vialli, missed a chance to score on his debut when he came on as a substitute in the second half.
 Mark Hughes sent the 31-year-old former Juventus striker clear in the 60th minute, but Vialli shot straight at Ajax goalkeeper Edwin van Der Sar.
 English champions Manchester United, beaten 2-1 by Ajax on Saturday, snatched victory, and third place in the event, from the jaws of defeat against Nottingham Forest with three goals in the last 10 minutes.

Athletics' gainers & losers

ATLANTA, Aug 5: More memorable than Carl Lewis' last hurrah or Donovan Bailey's record dash or Marie-Jose Perec's double, one image will always be linked to athletics at the Atlanta Games: the infield scoreboard that read 19:32, report agencies.
 The timer flashed that unbelievable number as Michael Johnson raced across the finish line to win the 200 metres and have an astounding 0.34 seconds off his own world record.
 Even the normally unflap-

at an Olympics highlighted 10 days of drama, intrigue and disappointment at Olympic Stadium.
 Carl Lewis barely made the long jump final, qualifying on his last attempt, then won his fourth straight long jump gold medal in the final the following night.
 He then began a contentious campaign to join the 400-metre relay team and get a chance for a record 10th Olympiad gold medal. His campaign failed, and so did the relay team — finishing behind

Christie, the defending champion, was disqualified for two false starts and refused to leave the track.
 Perec of France matched Johnson's feat, becoming the second woman to sweep the 200 and 400 metres in an Olympics, and Russia's Svetlana Masterkova claimed gold in the women's 800 and 1,500.
 Merlene Ottey, the ultimate Olympic bridesmaid, won three more medals — silver in the women's 100 and 200, and a bronze with the Jamaican 400 relay team. She now has seven medals in five Olympics — none gold.
 African nations made history. Venuste Niyongabo of Burundi won the 5,000 for the war-ravaged country's first Olympic gold.
 Josia Thugwane became a giant in his homeland when he won the marathon for the first gold by a black South African.



'Ukraine gymnast Ekaterina Serbryanskaya excels during the final of the Olympic rhythmic gymnastics at the University of Georgia on August 4.

pable Johnson was awed. The man with the golden shoes opened his mouth wide and roared in disbelief, triumphantly raising his arms.
 Johnson's historic golden double — he became the first man to win the 200 and 400

High jumper Stefka Kostadinova of Bulgaria capped a glorious career with the only medal she still lacked — Olympic gold. She achieved it setting an Olympic record of 2.05 metres (6 feet, 8.75 inches).
 There were some big disappointments, as well. Injuries forced Jackie Joyner Kersee to abandon her bid for a third straight heptathlon gold. But the American star came back and earned bronze in the long time.
 Sergei Bubka, the only man to win five world titles and who has set 35 pole vault records since 1984, withdrew injured from his event without jumping. Linford Christie, 1992 Olympic 100 metres champion reached the final again but was disqualified for two false starts. Hassiba Boulmerka of Algeria, who won the women's 1,500 in Barcelona was eliminated after falling in the semifinals.

But fellow Algerian Noureddine Morceli, the greatest middle distance runner in the world for the last six years, made up for his country's disappointment with his first Olympic gold in the 1,500 metres.
 Several athletes attempted a golden double but fell far short of Johnson's success.
 Ireland's Sonia O'Sullivan, a favourite in the women's 1,500 and 5,000, was weakened by illness and failed to reach the final in either. Maria Mutolan of Mozambique, considered a double gold possibility in the 800 and 1,500 settled for one medal — a bronze in the 800.

CENTENNIAL GAMES CHIPS

HUSTLERS ON THE MAKE
 ATLANTA, Aug 5 (Agencies): A new group joined the hustlers on Atlanta's streets on Sunday — Olympic security guards and volunteers selling their uniforms before the Games had even ended.

General Mills Inc said.
 General Mills, Wheaties' corporate parent, said in a statement late Sunday that each of the champions from the Atlanta Olympic Games would get their own box.

Josiah Thugwane will be treated to the "mother of all parties" when he returns home, the premier of Mpumalanga Province, Mathews Phosa, said on Sunday.

About a dozen security guards contracted for the Olympics and volunteers ranging from drivers to ushers tried to sell their uniforms and straw pitch helmets shortly before the closing ceremony.
 They set up at a junction of Atlanta's central Peachtree Street that is packed with tourists and fans, and stalls selling T-shirts, caps and other Olympic paraphernalia.
 They asked up to 200 for helmets and uniforms. Some were successful in selling them for as much as 100, onlookers said.
 International Olympic officials have complained about the "commercial clutter" in Atlanta's streets, which have been turned into a vast, overcrowded outside market during the Games.

The five are: Johnson, Van Dyken, first woman to win four gold medals in one Olympics.
 Tom Dolan, winner of the 400-metre individual medley; Decathlon champion Dan O'Brien; The members of the winning women's gymnastics team.

Phosa said in a statement that the win by the coal miner, from the mining town of Witbank in Mpumalanga, around 100 kms (65 miles) east of Johannesburg, was "a source of pride for us as a province."
 "Mr Thugwane, our hero and ambassador in the province, will be treated to a mother of all parties, and will also be booked to a resort of his choice for a well deserved rest on his return," Phosa said.
 He said Thugwane was a "dedicated and able gladiator of our time" and his victory was "indeed heartening."
 "He did it for all of us as a country and we will always be proud of him and his achievements," Phosa said.

THE WHEATIES CEREAL BOXES
 Five Olympic champions — including sprinter Michael

THE MOTHER OF ALL PARTIES
 South Africa's Olympic marathon gold medal winner

ROK NOT SO IMPRESSED
 South Korea, hosts in 1988, said Sunday that the Atlanta Games fell short of what they achieved in Seoul eight years ago.

Shin Pak-je, the South Korean chief de mission, said, "Although ACOG has made extraordinary efforts, they lagged behind the Seoul Games in many areas."

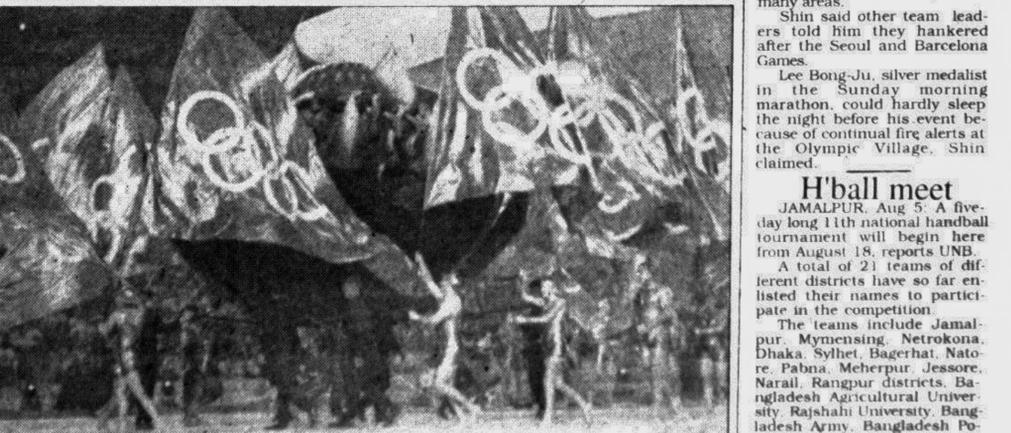
Shin said other team leaders told him they hankered after the Seoul and Barcelona Games.

Lee Bong-Ju, silver medalist in the Sunday morning marathon, could hardly sleep the night before his event because of continual fire alerts at the Olympic Village, Shin claimed.

H'ball meet
 JAMALPUR, Aug 5: A five-day long 11th national handball tournament will begin here from August 18, reports UNB.

A total of 21 teams of different districts have so far enlisted their names to participate in the competition.

The teams include Jamalpur, Mymensingh, Netrokona, Dhaka, Sylhet, Bagerhat, Natore, Pabna, Meherpur, Jessore, Narail, Rangpur districts, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Rajshahi University, Bangladesh Army, Bangladesh Police, Bangladesh Rifles, Bangladesh Navy, Bangladesh Air Force and Sylhet Shahjalal Science and Technology University.



The Centennial Olympics in Atlanta concluded amid fanfare at the Olympic Stadium on August 4.