

Column One

Sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

WIN TK. 2000/- PRIZE BOND EVERY FORTNIGHT

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-51

Tick the Correct Answers

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. August 30, 1996)

Table with 5 questions and multiple choice options regarding cricket, football, and sports events.

Name: _____

Class: _____ Roll No: _____

School Address: _____

Phone: (if any) _____

SPORTS TALK



Mohammad Azharuddin (Former Indian cricket captain)

Sachin is like my younger brother. I really admire the way he carries himself. He has a very good cricketing brain. I hope he carries on and on.

Dinajpur DSA nat'l youth kabaddi champs

DINAJPUR, Aug 24: Hosts Dinajpur DSA lifted the title of the 6th national youth kabaddi championship beating Panchagar DSA by 22-12 points in the final at the local stadium today, reports UNB.

The winners earned two creditable wins in the match. Dinajpur DSA had reached the final eliminating Kurigram DSA while Panchagar DSA booked a seat for the final out-plying Narail DSA in the semifinals played at the same venue today.

State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Satish Chandra Roy witnessed the final as chief guest and distributed prizes among the winners.

Vogts sticks with Euro '96 veterans

BONN, Aug 24: Trainer Bertl Vogts kept faith with his entire European Championship winning squad for Germany's first match since their title victory, a friendly in Poland.

Vogts picked no new players for the squad for the September 4 game in Zabrze. Instead on Friday he nominated all 23 Euro '96 veterans including Bremen's Jens Todt, called up before the final by special UEFA dispensation, reports Reuter.

He will, however, have to do without the Dortmund trio of libero Matthias Sammer, midfielder Steffen Freund and defender Rene Schneider, who were all formally nominated despite being injured.

This squad is currently the basis of my planning for the 1998 World Cup," Vogts said. "We'll have to see which other players produce good league performance to play themselves into the squad."

SQUAD Goalkeepers: Oliver Kahn, Andreas Kepke, Oliver Reck. Defenders: Markus Babel, Thomas Helmer, Juergen Kohler, Stefan Reuter, Matthias Sammer, Rene Schneider. Midfielders: Mario Basler, Marco Bode, Dieter Elts, Steffen Freund, Thomas Haessler, Andreas Moeller, Mehmet Scholl, Thomas Simeg, Jens Todt, Christian Ziege. Forwards: Oliver Bierhoff, Fredi Robic, Juergen Klinsmann, Stefan Kuntz.



Iqbal (black shorts) follows his shot into the Laos Electricity net marking the second of Mohammedans' eight goals yesterday at the Dhaka Stadium. —Star photo

Laos net ruffled eight times MSC's electrifying display

Sports Reporter

Mohammedan Sporting Club celebrated their maiden appearance in the Asian Cup Winners' Cup football championship in style when the local giants, powered by a brilliant hatrick from striker Alfaz Ahmed, dumped Laos Electricity Club 8-0 in their first leg match at the flood-lit Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Alfaz scored four goals, two apiece in each half, as Mohammedans relieved memories of a similar wide-margin victory at the very ground in a preliminary round Asian Club championship match against Radiant Club of Maldives in 1993.

The dark and dapper Mohammedan striker opened the account with a 11th minute header and then celebrated his second goal in the 42nd minute with a thunderous right-footer from the edge of the box to enable the Federation and DMFA Cup champions a 3-0 lead at the breather.

In between, Iqbal Ahmed, the new signing of the black and whites this year, blasted home the second with a fierce left-footer in the 20th minute before Mohammedans punched in five more in the eventful second session to complete the visitors rout.

The visitors' misery was compounded in the second session when their defender Kongmany, in a desperate attempt to clear a crispy minus from magical Shabbir, shot into his own net, leaving his side 4-0 down shortly after the breather.

There was, however, a short respite for the beleaguered Electricity Club when ironically the four floodlight towers

entire National Stadium, have almost confirmed their passage into the next round. If everything goes by the script, Mohammedans will play their second round match against Hwangyang of South Korea in an away match on September 14.

For the Electricity team, it was a horrific day in terms of conceding goals. The runners-up team of Laos league, in their maiden appearance at this level tried to enthrall the 20,000 strong audience with their short passes. But what they lacked was a proficient stalwart to materialise the chances that came their way in the match.

It could have been a different story had not their striker Souvannho, left only to beat a hapless Mohammedans custodian Ponir, spoiled the simple sifter only in the fifth minute of the proceedings.

Laos Electricity, despite conceding the eight goals, played their own game which to a great extent was very much positive. However, at the end of the day, their only consolation was that they did not concede any yellow against Mohammedans' three.

Yellow card: Mansur Ali, Ruhul Amin and Arman (Mohammedan SC).

TEAMS MOHAMMEDAN SC: Ponir (Minar), Mansur Ali, Jewel Rana, Kaiser Hamid (Ranjana), Iqbal Hossain, Manik, Arman, Sabbir, Ranjan (Biplab) and Al-faz.

ELECTRICITY CLUB: Sot-sy Vongphamany, Kathathony, Konymany, Som Sack Keodala, Bountik Soukhilath (Chanha-nom), Chakkavane Chanha-lath, Souvamo, Phongmalay, Khamsay (Vieng-keo), Bourmy and Bounlanh Bounsokevanh.

Referee: SK Ghosh (India).

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MSC, Brothers' ultimatum

Sports Reporter

Mohammedan Sporting Club and Brothers Union Club have threatened to boycott the on-going Danish Premier Division football league if the punitive measures taken against them by the league committee were not lifted before their league clash on August 27.

This was announced by both the club officials in a joint press conference at the Mohammedan Club premises yesterday afternoon, a day after the league committee decision to penalise both by one point each and fined Taka one lakh apiece for their reluctance to play on Tuesday night's trouble-torn match which left one person dead and nearly fifteen injured.

In protest against the decision Khaled Masud, who read out the written statement, criticised the verdict unjustified, unfair, and it's contrary to the league by-laws.

The clubs claimed the incident happened at the Dhaka Stadium last Tuesday, was nothing but the outcome of the injudiciousness of the organisers. They observed that the ground was totally unplayable and the league committee could have easily avoided the sad incident had they inspected the ground earlier and acted accordingly by postponing the match.

In defence of their statement, both the club officials referred to an interview German coach Otto Pfister, published in a vernacular daily, in which he opined the ground as unfit for any match. Claiming themselves as innocent, the officials argued if they were the culprits, then why on earth had the authorities declared the match valid.

According to the clubs, the sections of the by-laws quoted by the league committee did not exist. There is no such by-law which permits them to reduce one point from any team's account.

The clubs also pointed to the dilly-dallying of the league disciplinary committee in submitting their reports.

While censuring the parting chairman of the league committee, SA Sultan, they claimed that the verdict against them was nothing but a personal vengeance of him.

Finally the two clubs informed that they were going to appeal against the verdict. If the punishment is not withheld, they will not take part in the Premier league this season anymore.

Acting secretary general Tanveer Haider and treasurer Anwarul Haque Helal spoke on behalf of Mohammedans while vice president Abu Hasan Babla and joint secretary Niaz Ahmed Khan represented Brothers Union.

The MSC secretary revealed that they had also decided to boycott the yesterday's match against Laos Electricity but had changed their mind after getting the assurance from state minister for youth and sports.

Meril Div I football The Meril First Division football league in Pabna, organised by the Pabna District Sports Association, will begin at the local stadium from August 30.

State Minister for Youth and Sports, Obaidul Quader, will inaugurate the 13-team league, sponsored by Square Toiletries Limited.

Pabna Athletics Club will take on Shaheed Gama Smriti Samity in the opening match.

China dreams Dream Team BEIJING, Aug 24: Buoyed by its men's basketball team's best ever showing at the Olympic Games, China is looking to form its own 'Dream Team' of the future by drafting in top US talent from the NBA, reports AFP.

Proceeds from the match will go to the Gamini Dissanayake Foundation, said Sirima Dissanayake, widow of the slain leader, Gamini was the chairman of the Asian Cricket Conference, which trains poor students.

BRIEF SCORE WORLD XI: 102-0 (M Waugh 39 n.o. S Tendulkar 56 n.o) off 21.4 overs.

TEAMS WORLD XI: Mohammad Azharuddin (captain), India; Andy Flower (Zimbabwe), Mark Waugh (Australia), Sachin Tendulkar (India), Steve Waugh (Australia), Ian Healy (Australia), Abdul Qadir (Pakistan), Javagal Srinath (India), Heath Streak (Zimbabwe), G McGrath (Australia) and Kenneth Benjamin (West Indies).

SRI LANKA: Arjuna Ranatunga (captain), Sanath Jayasuriya, Ramesh Kaluwitharana, Asanka Gurusinha, Aravinda de Silva, Hashan Tillekaratne, Roshan Mahanama, Kumar Dharmasena, Chaminda Vaas, Pramodya Wickremasinghe and Ravindra Pushpakumara.

Doc gives Diego a clean bill of health GENEVA, Aug 24: Argentina's Diego Maradona has kicked a long-time drug habit after a 10-day cure in a Swiss mountain clinic, his doctor reported on Friday, reports Reuter.

In a statement released through authorities in Berne canton, psychiatrist Harutyun Arto Van said Maradona's treatment ended successfully on Thursday evening and his soccer career would now continue.

Maradona, 35, flew into Switzerland on August 13, two days after abruptly quitting his club Boca Juniors and announcing that he wanted to quit taking drugs once and for all for the sake of his two daughters.

Once considered the world's finest player, Maradona's turbulent career has included two suspensions for drug abuse. He was once arrested in Argentina for possession of cocaine.

Van and colleagues at the Bellelay Psychiatric Clinic last week outlined a 10-day treatment programme to end Maradona's psychological need for cocaine.

The treatment was in three stages: the first of which involved administering a drug by intravenous drip that boosted Maradona's natural defences.

The second stage involved sessions with psychiatrists to reduce his "emotional overburdening". Van said Maradona was not a drug addict but simply cracked "at fatal moments" under the burden of his worldwide fame.

The third stage, which Van said on Friday had been successfully completed this week, consisted of trying to neutralise his obsession with consuming drugs.

It was not clear whether Maradona had left Switzerland, Berne officials said that Van, a Turkish-born psychiatrist who is a professor at Berne University and directs the Bellelay Clinic, and deputy Giovanni Spano were both abroad.



Tanveer Haider (C), acting general secretary of Mohammedan Sporting Club, speaking to the press during a joint press conference of Mohammedan SC and Brothers Union Club yesterday to protest the punitive measures against them by the league committee. Anwarul Haque Helal (R), the treasurer of MSC and BU vice-president Abu Hasan Babla (L) were also present on the occasion. —Star photo

Healy fails to be fair

COLOMBO, Aug 24: Australia's stand-in captain Ian Healy almost ruined his team's peace mission in Sri Lanka by failing to attend an official function on Friday night, reports agencies.

Healy, deputising for the injured Mark Taylor in the four nation Singer Cup starting here on Monday, preferred to work out in the hotel gymnasium while officials gathered for a press briefing called by the sponsors.

Healy's absence was conspicuous at the function, attended by the managers and captains of the rival teams from India, Zimbabwe and hosts Sri Lanka.

"Healy is in the gym," Australian manager Cam Battersby told reporters at the briefing. "But I am here to answer any questions you may have for him or the Australian team."

The manager's pleadings failed to appease reporters and officials from the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka.

"I thought the Australians were here to make friends," an official said. "I doubt if Healy did himself a favour there."

The Australians are keen to mend strained relations with their hosts after Sri Lanka's acrimonious tour "Down Under" last year and Australia's refusal to play their World Cup match here in March for security reasons.

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Of the graceful gritty-goer

NEW YORK, Aug 24: The US Open begin on Monday and that means in a little more than two weeks Steffi Graf will be hoisting her 21st career Grand Slam singles trophy before an appreciative crowd at the National Tennis Centre, reports Reuter.

Sure twice champion Monica Seles, 1994 winner Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario and even homegrown American rising star Lindsay Davenport are legitimate contenders.

But Graf, winner of the last six Grand Slams she has entered, is again the prohibitive favourite to claim her fifth US Open crown in an inexorable march toward the all-time record for major singles titles.

There may not be another tennis player in the world — male or female — who can match Graf for mental toughness.

Her ability to play through nagging injuries and tune-out personal problems and other distractions over the course of a two-week major is legendary. And those qualities are never more obvious than at New York's Grand Slam, where the commotion is constant.

Worse news for other title hopefuls in that with all her success and nothing left to prove, Graf still wants to win.

"The fun and the excitement and the motivation is still there," Graf said this week. "I just need to get a racket in my hand and get on the court and play tennis, that is all that I need to motivate myself. It's so much fun to be out there and try to play great tennis."

A US Open victory for the German star would mark the fifth time Graf has claimed at least three of the four Grand Slam titles in one year. This year she passed retired legends Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert, who each own 18, and is fast closing on Margaret Court's record of 24.

Seles, who shares Graf's number one ranking, and Sanchez each have plenty of incentive to win and both come in with the all-important experience of having previously won the toughest of the four majors.

Seles made a triumphant return to the Open last year by reaching the final of her first Grand Slam event following the long layoff after her 1993 Hamburg slapping.

In Graf's absence Seles won her fourth Australian Open this year, but disappointment at the French and a shocking second-round defeat at Wimbledon has left her hungry for another taste of Grand Slam glory.

"When I lost Wimbledon, that was really hard," admitted Seles, the 1991 and 1992 US Open champion.

"That Seles can win the Open is undeniable. But a shoulder injury that will require surgery and causes pain when the left-

hander serves means she will need a little luck to go with her punishing groundstrokes.

"I feel in prepared. I played pretty good tennis in Canada," said Seles of her recent hard-court title in Montreal. "But I felt good going into Wimbledon and I did terrible, you never know."

Sanchez, like Graf, seems to thrive in the New York chaos, and her unbridled tenacity and will to win always make the second-ranked Spaniard a threat.

Steffi Graf

Chen stuns Susanto

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 24: Indonesia's Lidya Wijaya defeated Malaysia's P. Kantharuban 15-6, 15-4 in the men's singles quarterfinal of the 180,000 dollars Malaysian Open badminton tournament Friday night, reports AP.

In another men's single match, world junior champion Chen Gang of China showed his prowess when he disposed of Indonesian title hope Hermanawan Susanto 15-9, 15-7.

Ong Ewe Hock of Malaysia remained on course for his first major title when he defeated China's Hu Zhi Lan in the quarterfinal.

Ewe Hock, who represented Malaysia in the recent Olympic Games, won 15-2, 15-10 and will meet another Chinese player Chen Gang in the semifinal Saturday.

Gabbi digs own grave

CARLSBAD, California, Aug 24: Japan's Kimiko Date used efficient ground strokes and took advantage of poor serving by Argentina's Gabriela Sabatini for a 6-4, 6-1 quarterfinal victory in the Toshiba Tennis Classic, reports AP.

Date will face defending champion, Conchita Martinez of Spain in the semifinals Saturday. Martinez, seeded second, advanced Thursday in straight sets over Nathalie Tauziat of France.

In Friday's other quarterfinals, top-seeded Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario of Spain played her usual steady baseline game to defeat Slovakia's Katarina Studenikova 6-3, 6-3, and third-seeded Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic edged France's Sandrine Testud 2-6, 7-6 (7-4), 6-3.

Steffi Graf

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer. Includes crossword puzzle grid and word list.

CRYPTOQUIP. UVQ TNCGMIUZZSQ FVCNU. FUCNJ KZUQN KCMHQ. WCK UNJ B WCSHG. BTTCNBIV. Yesterday's Cryptquip: SO OFTEN MY WHIMISICAL GEOMETRY TEACHER WILL GO OFF ON A TANGENT. Today's Cryptquip clue: T equals P. The Cryptquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it 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.