

Column One

Sports

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

WIN
TK. 2000/-
PRIZE BOND
EVERY FORTNIGHT

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-52

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

(Competition closes : 8 pm
September 13, 1996)

1	Pakistan batsman Salim Malik's century in The Oval Test was his
2	How many athletes from Bangladesh went to Atlanta this year
3	The top seed of this year's US Open is
4	Pakistani pacer Waqar Younis has signed for English county
5	Cricket umpire Steve Bucknor is from Kenya Zimbabwe West Indies

Name: _____

Class: _____ Roll No. _____

School Address: _____

Phone: (if any): _____

SPORTS TALK



Eric Cantona

(French footballer)
"Does the bird in a cage sing
sweetly as the bird who is free?"

(Commenting on freedom to move)

Malaysia maul Philippines

SINGAPORE, Sept 5: Malaysian soccer fans found a new hero on Wednesday in K Sanbagamaran, dubbed "samba man" by the local media, who netted a hat-trick as his side beat the Philippines 7-0 to take the lead in group B of the Tiger Cup, reports Reuter.

Arch-rivals Singapore, playing minnows Brunei, threatened a goal rout with two scored in the opening four minutes but had to settle for a 3-0 win with the final goal from the evergreen Fandi Ahmad.

Malaysia now lead Singapore with more goals scored.

Thailand, double SEA Games champions, are in third place but have a game in hand.

Sanbagamaran, a crucial link in coach Wan Jamal Hassan's plans to rebuild the depleted Malaysian side after a match-fixing scandal, first scored in the 36th minute.

He followed that up with goals in the 61st minute and in the final seconds of the match.

GP Italy begins Sept 8



LONDON, Sept 5: The John Player Gold Leaf F1 Racing Team, led by three times world champion, Jon Jones, headed to Italy to participate in the Grand Prix of Italy due to be held on September 8, 1996.

He is aiming to spoil the party for Guido Cappellini who is planning to yet score another victory. But the ultimate bet is on Guido Cappellini, but this has only served to inspire Jon Jones and teammate Paul Blackburn, says a press release.

A feature of the 1996 season has been the success of a number of relative newcomers to the Formula One ranks. Notable among them is John Player Gold Leaf driver Paul Blackburn, in his first season in Formula One.

Guido Cappellini leads the championship with a maximum 120 points and looks certain to retain his title. Only 43 points separate the next 7 drivers which will ensure some highly competitive racing over the remaining 4 Grand Prix.

The Grand Prix of Italy starts on Sunday 8, 1996 with the qualifying session on Saturday September 7.



Mohammedans' Alfaz (C) faces a human barrier created by Arambagh booters during their Danish Premier Division football league encounter at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. Mohammedans won the match 2-1.

— Star photo

Manik makes MSC smile

Sports Reporter

Mohammedan striker, deprived of his side of a possible lead when he blasted the ball miles over the cross-piece from an advantageous position.

The dark and dapper Mohammedan stalwart then went on to spoil another chance in the 21st minute, sending a Shabbir cross from the right wide out of the mark.

Mohammedans, who turned out as a spirited side under the tutelage of South Korean coach Main Young Kang, kept up their good work in the second session with midfielder Arman playing the pivotal role in every attack.

And Manik, who was flying high with two goals already under his belt, almost got the third to complete a unique treble in the 66th minute. But his sure sitter into an empty net past Tony was miraculously saved by defender Faisal from goaline.

Arman, who on that occasion fed Manik with a delicate touch of the ball, also got a chance to extend the lead early in the second half. But his scorching left-footer from outside the box was brilliantly saved by a diving Arambagh custodian.

On the other hand, Arambagh, a mediocre team who finished fifth last year, after a not-so-impressive campaign in the

TODAY'S MATCHES

Danish Premier Division football league

(Venue: Dhaka Stadium)
Brothers Union vs Bangladesh Boys Club (4pm)
Farashganj SC vs East End Club (6pm)

Danish First Division football league

(Venue: Mirpur Stadium)
PWD SC vs BRTC SC (4:30 pm)
Police AC vs Mirpur Chalantika SC (6:30 pm)

Referee: R Alam.

Seldon's favourable four

a six-inch (15 cm) advantage in reach.

By frustration, Seldon, who will receive a guaranteed 5 million dollars to fight Tyson, said he meant that when Tyson sees that his opponent is not going to just stand there and let him bulldoze him and his opponent is going to come back at him he changes his character. He loses something."

Implied in that statement is Seldon saying Tyson, working a Saturday shift for at least 15 million dollars, loses heart against a determined opponent. And Seldon also implied that his job will help take away Tyson's heart.

"When I'm in that ring you're not going to get away from it. There's no way to avoid it," Seldon said.

The likable Seldon, whose record is replete with fighters who would have to improve exponentially to become tomcats, is very aware of what ringsiders say about him: great build, good jab, China chin.

The only fighters Seldon has

implied in that statement is Seldon saying Tyson, working a Saturday shift for at least 15 million dollars, loses heart against a determined opponent. And Seldon also implied that his job will help take away Tyson's heart.

"With yesterday's win, Dhanmondi raised their tally to six points from five matches while Wari, who suffered their second league defeat yesterday, have five points from as many outings.

Bangladesh take on Nepal today

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh will take on minnows Nepal in their inaugural Pepsi ACC Trophy group league opener at the RMC ground in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur today.

In the 12-nation meet, a qualifying tourney for the next Asia Cup, Bangladesh, who have been placed in one group along with Nepal, Fiji, Brunei, Japan and Hong Kong, are favourites for the lone slot from the non-Test playing countries.

The Asia Cup which also includes Sri Lanka, Pakistan and India is scheduled to begin in Sri Lanka next year.

Bangladesh are a recognised force among the Asian associate members and the regular visitors in the Asia Cup including the last one held in Sarjah in 1994. But for Nepal it is going to be their maiden appearance in high-profile cricketing meet along with Japan.

Bangladesh, who are expecting a tough fight in the semi-final stages, will play their next group league match against Fiji on September 7 before meeting Brunei on the following day.

The strong Bangladesh team will meet Japan on September 10 and will play their last group league match against Hong Kong on September 11.

Meanwhile, as far as the opponent strength is concerned, the group league matches are anything but a limbering-up session for Bangladesh.

The BCCB's '96 calendar

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) has announced the calendar for the forthcoming domestic season, scheduled to start shortly after the on-going Premier football league.

The inter-club cricketers transfer for the year 1996 will be held from September 22 to 24 and the Damal Summer tournament, season's curtain-raiser, rechristened as Damal Memorial Cricket tournament at an executive committee meeting at the newly appointed ad hoc body early this month, will commence from October 10.

On the other hand, the Premier Division cricket league involving 12 teams, which will be 50-over-a-side match in the first phase and an 80-over affair in the second phase — super league and relegation league — will start from November 1. The First Division league will also start simultaneously.

Dhanmondi drub Wari

Sports Reporter

Dhanmondi Club registered their first victory in the Danish First Division football league when they outplayed Wari Club 4-1 at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday afternoon.

Striker Towhid scored twice in the 26th and 48th minute while Tutul and Moon added one each to the Dhanmondi account in the 28th and 53rd minute respectively. For Wari, Bazlu pulled back one in the 70th minute.

With yesterday's win, Dhanmondi raised their tally to six points from five matches while Wari, who suffered their second league defeat yesterday, have five points from as many outings.

Barisal SOCCER

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Sept 5: Mehendiganj thana football team beat Agalpura thana football team by 5-0 goals in the Barisal inter-thana football tournament '96 held here at the local stadium today afternoon.

Babul, Kamal, Siraj, Palash and Leo of Mehendiganj thana team netted one goal each.

Tomorrow's play: Muladi thana football team versus Barisal thana football team.

Quirot plans to quit

From Staff Correspondent

JAEAN (Spain), Sept 5: Cuban veteran runner Anaftelina Quirot, 800m world champion and silver medalist in Atlanta, announced here Wednesday she will retire from competition after next year's World Championships in Athens, reports AFP.

The Japanese style has not been so strict. We will draw up our measures later," said the committee's press chief, Yasuo Ohta, a month after the Atlanta Games closed, tarnished by the bomb blast which killed two and injured 112.

"We have realised again that terrorism could happen at the Olympics," Asata Hara, director of security at the committee, said earlier. He said it was "considerably difficult" to prevent an incident in a public place like the Centennial Olympic Park.

Quirot, who are generally recognised as world class defeated him — Riddick Bowe, who knocked Seldon down three times in the first round, and Oliver McCall, who stopped him in the ninth round.

Seldon also lost to the wily former champion Tony Tubbs on a unanimous 10-round decision in 1992.

"Things change," said Seldon, who won the vacant World Boxing Association title by slicing up Tony Tucker's face with a jab.

Seldon's co-manager Rocco Depersia said the fighter has had a bad right arm the past couple of years that forced him to rely almost solely on his

Kanu dates with destiny



MILAN, Sept 5: Nigerian striker Nwankwo Kanu whose soccer career is under threat because of a heart problem, said on Wednesday he had not given up hope, reports Reuter.

"My sporting career is not finished. I will go to the best specialists in the world in order to play again," the 20-year-old Inter Milan player told reporters after a second series of tests confirmed the diagnosis.

"For me, at the moment, I cannot imagine giving up soccer," he said. "I'll fight to the end before giving up."

Cardiologists said on Monday that tests had shown that the Nigerian had a valvular insufficiency and said that in

their opinion he could not play again.

Italian newspapers praised Inter for taking a stance that may have saved Kanu's life, but they criticised his Dutch former club Ajax for failing to notice the condition before he transferred to Milan during the summer.

"Ajax shame," said Gazzetta Dello Sport, quoting leading cardiologist Bruno Caru as saying that he found it hard to believe that the club had not gone through since his problem was diagnosed.

But Inter president Massimo Moratti told Italian television on Wednesday that he believed Ajax were too big a club to have deliberately misled the Italian fans.

Milan's Dutch defender Michael Reiziger, himself signed from Ajax over the

summer, said Dutch clubs had a very different approach to Italian clubs over medical tests.

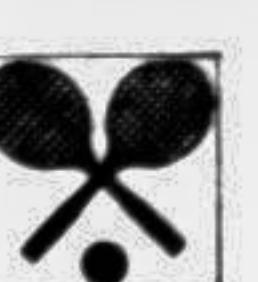
"It is the player who takes responsibility for his physical condition, not the club," he explained. "I had various tests but nothing like the ones I had when I came here."

Kanu, who twice won the European Cup with Ajax and whose skills helped Nigeria to win the Olympic soccer gold medal in Atlanta, said it was hard to describe the nightmare he had gone through since his problem was diagnosed.

"The only hope that those who support me — the media, the fans — will understand is that if I don't want to appear in public it's because before I say anything I want to have a clear picture of my future," the player explained.

Milan's Dutch defender Michael Reiziger, himself signed from Ajax over the

Hingis humbles Novotna



NEW YORK, Sept 5: Living up to the name that has marked her promise and been her burden, Martina Hingis danced into the US Open semifinals at age 15 with an all-court attack against Jana Novotna, report agencies.

Next up is that other Martina's old nemesis, Steffi Graf.

Hingis, named after Navratilova and guided toward a tennis career since birth, beat the No. 7 Novotna 7-6 (7-1), 6-4 to become the youngest Open semifinalist since Jennifer Capriati in 1991.

Two days after knocking out No. 3 Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, Hingis put on an even more spectacular show of versatility tennis by taking apart Novotna from the baseline and the net.

"I've played so many matches. I wanted to do better. I wanted to be a better player," Hingis said of her net attack.

Hingis, who became the youngest champion at Wimbledon when she won women's doubles with Helena Sukova this summer, is still going at the Open for three titles — singles, doubles and mixed doubles.

Why is Hingis playing so much?

"I have a lot of fun playing doubles, and I have great partners, so why not?" Hingis replied.

She had to get this one over quickly, she said, because she had a mixed doubles semifinal match to play with partner Christy van Rensburg. That match was scheduled "not before 5 pm" on Court 16. She would be

late, her tardiness excused, because her singles match ended at 5:41 pm.

After a 1 1/2-hour rest, Hingis joined van Rensburg, but they were beaten by the No. 4 team, Manon Bollegraf and Nick Leach, 5-7, 6-4, 7-6.

Again, the net-charging Novotna, the No. 16 Hingis did everything, slugging winners from the baseline, dropping cut, deft volleys, whacking overheads from the net and service line.

All those talents were on display during two brilliant sweeps — a 10-point surge from the first-set tiebreaker to love-40 in the second set's opening break, and an 11-point streak near the end of the second set that virtually clinched