

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Vinod Kambl (India's controversial cricketer) "I don't see any competition between me and Saurav (Ganguly)."

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 11th, 10th, 14th. 2. How many athletes from Bangladesh went to Atlanta this year? Two, Three, Four. 3. The top seed of this year's US Open is Sampras, Agassi, Muster. 4. Pakistani pacer Waqar Younis has signed for Glamorgan, Surrey, Kent. 5. Cricket umpire Steve Bucknor is from Kenya, Zimbabwe, West Indies.

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

Inter defender in trouble

UDINE, ITALY, Sept 12: Italian magistrates on Wednesday ordered video footage of Inter's opening Serie A match against Udinese to be seized after a lawyer took legal action against an Inter player whose tackle broke an opponent's leg, reports Reuter.

Magistrates said the seizure was a formality after Udinese lawyer Roberto Cianci filed a formal complaint against defender Salvatore Fresi for a tackle on Udinese midfielder Giovanni Stroppa last Saturday.

Stroppa, a former Italian international, has been ruled out for at least 40 days after the seventh-minute foul. Fresi escaped with a booking for the straight-legged tackle.

Cianci said on Tuesday that his legal action against Fresi was a private initiative but added that he had spoken to Udinese officials about it and they had not objected.

Ten Udinese fans meanwhile threatened their own legal action against Fresi, saying they had bought season tickets purely to watch Stroppa and now felt cheated.

"I want to raise the problem as a matter of principle. We will try and resolve once, and for all whether behaviour of a criminal nature on the pitch can be punished by the ordinary magistrates," Cianci was quoted as saying.

Newspapers quoted Inter president Massimo Moratti on Wednesday as saying the legal action was "in many ways absurd and urging Cianci to tone down his rhetoric.

Udinese's German international striker Oliver Bierhoff was also critical of legal action and told reporters, the issue would be best settled by Fresi receiving a long ban.

Sammer's second in a row BONN, Sept 12: Matthias Sammer was voted Germany's footballer-of-the-year for the second year running in a poll of sports journalists published on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

Lankans take the reins

COLOMBO, Sept 12: Leg spinner Paul Strang missed a hat-trick by the narrowest of margins when he took three wickets in four balls, but Zimbabwe were in trouble at 105 for six at stumps on the second day of the first Test against Sri Lanka Thursday, report agencies.

Left arm pacer man Chaminda Vass snapped up three wickets for 45 off 15 overs, and Kumara Dharmasena and Muttiah Muralitharan chipped in with a wicket apiece for 23 and 19 runs respectively, to break the back of Zimbabwe's reply to Sri Lanka first innings score of 349.

Only Guy Whittall (39 from 125 balls in 150 minutes with 4 fours) and Craig Wishart (31 not out) made any impression on the Sri Lankan bowlers.

Vass and Dharmasena shared a 74 run stand, continuing from the overnight 290 or 7, before Strang bowled his deadly spell.

First he bowled Vass for 34 off the last ball of an over in the first ball of his next over, he knocked back Muralitharan's off-stump for a duck and was on a hat-trick.

Last man Jayantha Silva managed to play down the next ball, but in the following delivery, nudged the ball straight back to the bowler, to give Strang his fifth wicket of the innings for 106 runs off 34.3 overs.

Dharmasena was left stranded without partners on 42, which included four boundaries.

The Zimbabwe innings started off disastrously with Grant Flower caught behind by Romesh Kaluwitharana off Vass for a duck.

Skipper Alistair Campbell soon followed, caught by Mahanama at slip for 12 off Vass again.

Andy Flower fared no better, caught by Ranatunga off Dharmasena for two. When Mark Dekker was adjudged leg before wicket off Vass for 10, Zimbabwe were tottering at 45 for four.

The middle-order pair of skipper Arjuna Ranatunga (75) and Romesh Kaluwitharana (71) later lifted Sri Lanka from an insecure 128 for 5 to 271 before parting company after Zimbabwe took the second new ball.

Both batsmen got out within the space of four deliveries off Strak's fourth spell with the new ball.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the close of the second day's play in the first Test between Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe at the R Premadasa Stadium on Thursday:

Table with columns: Sri Lanka: First Innings, M. Mahanama, G. Flower, J. Silva, etc. with runs and wickets.

Fall of wickets: 1-4: 2-4: 3-53: 4-105: 5-128: 6-271: 7-272: 8-345: 9-349

Table with columns: Bowling, O, M, R, W. Includes players like G. Flower, D. Silva, etc.

ZIMBABWE: First Innings. G. Flower, D. Silva, M. Muralitharan, etc.

Table with columns: Bowling, O, M, R, W. Includes players like G. Flower, D. Silva, etc.

Fall of wickets: 1-0: 2-15: 3-21: 4-45: 5-103: 6-105. To bat: P. Strang, H. Strak, A. Whittall.

Table with columns: Bowling, O, M, R, W. Includes players like G. Flower, D. Silva, etc.

VAAS... 3 for 45

Man United take stock

LONDON, Sept 12: Manchester United can bounce back from their Champions Cup loss to Juventus by jumping four places to the top of the English Premier League on Saturday, reports AP.

With the four clubs above, United not in action until Sunday or Monday, Alex Ferguson's team can surpass them all to regain the spot it held for the last two months of last season when they won their third title in four years.

To do that, United must score a home victory over Nottingham Forest, who have won only one of their first five games. And, after the disappointment of Wednesday's 1-0 Champions Cup loss to the defending titlist Italians, Ferguson just needs to remind his players of their last Premier League performance, a stunning 4-0 victory at Leeds on Saturday.

That win, which lifted Ferguson's unbeaten team to nine points from two wins and three ties, showed United at their best, tearing the Leeds defense apart with flat breaks from the back. Eric Cantona even had his first penalty miss as a United player but later scored one of the four goals.

Despite the loss in Turin, United gave their fans some good news with the announcement that their five young stars, England internationals Gary and Phil Neville and David Beckham plus Nicky Butt and Paul Scholes, all had signed new contracts keeping them at Old Trafford until 2001.

A United victory over Forest probably won't keep Ferguson's team in first place for long. The leadership could change hands three times in three days and any one of six teams can wind up top come Monday night.

The current leaders, Sheffield Wednesday (12 points from five games), doesn't play until Monday, when they visit eighth-place Arsenal. But second place Chelsea (11 point) host fourth place Villa (10) Sunday when Liverpool, who are third with 11 points, goes to lowly Leicester.

Even Newcastle, who have climbed to sixth and have nine points, can go top if they beat next-to-last Blackburn by five or six goals and all the other results go in their favour.

At the other end of the standings, things look pretty grim for Coventry, Blackburn and Southampton, even after only five of the 38 league games. Coventry and Blackburn have one point each after a tie and four losses while the Saints have two.

Coventry, who have former Manchester United manager Ron Atkinson in charge, can repair some of the damage by beating erratic Leeds at home. But Leeds will want to start life under new manager George Graham with a win. Graham took over at Elland Road Tuesday after Leeds fired Howard Wilkinson Monday.

Blackburn will be facing former star striker Alan Shearer for the first time. The England captain, who scored more than 100 goals for Rovers in four seasons, moved to Newcastle in a world record 15 million pound (dhs 23.35 million) transfer just before the season started.

Southampton, now managed by Graeme Souness, host a strangely lacklustre Tottenham team which has won only one of its five games and is 14th of the 20 teams.

Of the other strugglers, West Ham, who are third from last with five points, host Wimbledon, who have one more point but are four places higher.

Everton, who are 16th with five points, have a home game against free-scoring Middlesbrough, who now have Danish forward Mikkel Beck to go alongside Brazilians Juninho, Emerson and Branco and Italian striker Fabrizio Ravanelli. Boro ties with Manchester United as top scorer with 12 goals.

Derby and Sunderland, who have settled into mid-standings after promotion from division one, meet Saturday with identical records of one win, three ties and one loss.

Division one leaders Barnsley, who have started the season with five wins in a row, hopes to make it six when they host Queens Park Rangers, one of the teams relegated last season from the Premier League.

Barnsley hold a two-point lead over another demoted team, Bolton, which hosts improving Bournemouth.

Scottish champions Rangers, who tumbled 3-0 at Switzerland's Grasshoppers in a Champions Cup game Wednesday, hope to bounce back with a home victory over Hearts Saturday and maintain their 100 per cent start to the domestic campaign.

Rangers, with 12 points from four games, bid to stay two points clear of second place Celtic, who go to next-to-last Dundee United.

Photo: The Daily Star.

Rush leaves Graham happy

LONDON, Sept 12: Ian Rush has given new Leeds boss George Graham a boost by agreeing to stay at Elland Road, reports AP.

The 34-year-old Wales striker, signed on a free transfer from Liverpool in the summer by Howard Wilkinson, had a get-out clause in his contract enabling him to leave the club if Wilkinson lost his job.

Wilkinson's sacking on Monday therefore left a question mark over Rush's future at the Yorkshire club.

But Rush, whose long-term aim is to manage Wales, is convinced he can gain as much valuable experience under Graham as he could from Wilkinson.

"I know I came here to play for Howard and to learn from him, but now I am convinced I can learn from George too," said Rush.

"I was sad to lose Howard Wilkinson but we all know football is a cruel world.

"George Graham's record is second to none and I just hope he can turn things round here."

Masum, Shimul join Mohammedans

Two local footballers - defender Masum of Youngmen's Club Fakirerpool and goalkeeper Shimul of Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society, left the capital for Bangkok yesterday afternoon to join Mohammedan Sporting Club who are scheduled to take on South Korean side Hyndai Club in their Asian Cup Winners Cup second round first leg encounter, in Seoul tomorrow.

Masum, a left back, will replace Mohammedan's injured defender Ruhul Amin who was injured while playing against Gass Electricity on Wednesday while Shimul is expected to stand before the post as national keeper Ponir was also hurt during the same match which Mohammedans won 4-1.

The booters were due to meet the main team which is scheduled to come to Bangkok from Laos on their way to South Korea.

A few Mohammedan officials also went to Bangkok yesterday along with the booters.

Brothers remain chess masters

Sports Reporter Brothers Union Club retained the top slot in the second division chess league after defeating Mitra Chess Club 4-0 in their eighth round clash at the NSC chess room yesterday.

With yesterday's win, the Gopibagh boys raised their tally to 24.5 points from eight matches which keeps them two points ahead of Kamapur SK & SK who recorded a 3-4-5 win against Uttara Daba Sangha in this round.

Sonal Bank Sports Club, who had to settle for a 2-2 draw with Jatrabari Kriya Chakra yesterday, are in the third position with 22 points.

The ninth round of the league will begin today at 3 pm at the same venue.

Orient women's handball begins

Sports Reporter The Orient Bread 11th national women's handball championship, organised by the Bangladesh Handball Federation and sponsored by Orient Bread Company, will begin in the capital this afternoon.

Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad, will inaugurate the five-day championship at the National Indoor Stadium at 4 pm.

Fifteen teams, including defending champions Ansars and runners-up BJMC, will take part in the meet.

Russel Smriti soccer from Sept 17

The Sheikh Russel Smriti Kishore football tournament, jointly organised by the National Shisu Kishore Parishad and Dhaka Metropolitan Kishore Football Organising Parishad, will begin here on September 17, reports UNB.

Twelve teams split into four groups will initially compete on the round robin league basis.

State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader will inaugurate the juvenile soccer meet at the Dhaka Outer Stadium.

Secretary of Health, Population and Environment of Bangladesh Awami League Dr Mustafa Jalal Mouliddin will be present as special guest.

Jessore judo closes tomorrow

Sports Reporter The closing ceremony of the three-week long judo training camp, organised by Jessore District Sports Association in co-operation with Bangladesh Judo and Karate Federation, will be held at 5 pm tomorrow at the Jessore Gymnasium.

Maj Gen M Anwar Hossain, BF, the president of Bangladesh Judo and Karate Federation, will attend the programme as chief guest.

JU geologists amerce archaeologists

Sports Reporter Department of the Geological Sciences thrashed a strong Archaeology outfit 2-1 in their inter-department football tournament at the Jahangirnagar ground yesterday.

The geologists, playing in their tourist-opener in front of a belligerent supporters, went all out from the word go, and were eventually paid off as early as 14th minute into the game.

Rajib drew the first blood for the winners while midfielder Pallab made it 2-0 in the 22nd minute to consolidate the lead. However, the archaeologists pulled back one after the lemon break.

FBI finds new culprit

WASHINGTON, Sept 12: Federal investigators are focusing on a single suspect and possible accomplices in the deadly Olympic bombing who have no connection with the Richard Jewell, the security guard headlined as an early suspect, CBS News said on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation had no comment on the report, which did not name the new suspect.



Paolo Maldini of the AC Milan tries to stymie Sergio Conceicao of the Porto during their European Champions League match in Milan on Sept 11. Porto jolted the Italian giants with a 3-2 victory. -AFP/UNB photo

Porto maul mighty Milan

LONDON, Sept 12: European Cup favourites AC Milan stumbled to a 3-2 defeat at home to Porto in their opening Champions' League match on Wednesday while compatriots and defending champions Juventus beat Manchester United 1-0, reports Reuter.

Milan chasing a record-equalling sixth European Cup, twice took the lead through Marco Simone and Liberian George Weah, but the Portuguese champions hit back with three second half goals, the last two from substitute Jardel inside the final 15 minutes.

In Turin, Marcello Lippi's Juventus dominated their match against the English league and cup double winners and were unlucky not to win by a wider margin.

Croatian Alen Boksic, one of several players drafted into the side in the four months since Juve beat Ajax Amsterdam in last season's final, scored the decisive goal after 34 minutes.

Ajax shrugged off their dismal early-season league form to beat Auxerre 1-0 in France, while 1986 European champions Steaua Bucharest crashed 4-0 at Atletico Madrid, making their first appearance in Europe's top club competition for 20 years.

On a night in which goals flowed freely, Norway's Rosenborg beat Scandinavian neighbours Gothenburg 3-2 and Swiss side Grasshopper Zurich conquered Glasgow Rangers 3-0, equalling at the first attempt their goal tally from their six Champions' League games last season.

Milan's home defeat, however, was the shock result of the night.

With three European Cup titles to their name in the last decade, Milan are widely expected to usurp Juventus as champions - just as they did in the Italian domestic league last season.

Dutchmen Edgar Odavids and Michael Reiziger have joined them from Ajax since then, as has French international Christian Dugarry, and last month's European draw in Geneva placed them in the relatively easy Group D.

All appeared to be going to plan in the Sans Iro Stadium when Marco Simone put the Italians ahead in the first quarter of an hour, a lead they defended until halftime.

Artur equalised shortly after the break before world player-of-the-year George Weah scored Milan's second - a goal which proved to be the turning point of the match.

As Weah spun away to celebrate he snared a ring on his finger. Elation turned to agony as his hand swathed in a bandage and bleeding profusely.

It was the first time that Milan, five times champions in the past, has lost a European Cup match in Italy since 1979 when the victorious opponents were also Porto.

Wednesday's defeat had much to do with the absence through injury of veteran defender Franco Baresi, whose steady presence has long been the rock that has brought Milan title after title.

It also followed the injury to Weah, who was taken to hospital immediately.

A club spokesman for the world player-of-the-year Liberian said Weah went to hospital because the ring could not be removed and would have to be cut off his finger.

In his absence, Porto, the 1987 European Cup champions, stiffened their resolve.

David replaced the Liberian but Milan were shaken and allowed Brazilian Jardel, who had come on as a substitute with less than half an hour remaining, to haul the visitors level at 2-2 with a 75th-minute header.

The Finnish striker looped the ball into the top corner of the Auxerre net with barely three minutes gone. That proved enough for the 1995 champions, who dominated their Group A game without adding to their lead.

It was the first away goal of the season in any competition for Ajax, four times champions of Europe.

Argentine Juan Eduardo Esnaider and Diego Simeone were on song in Madrid, where Atletico demolished Romanian champions Steaua in Group B.

Esnaider, whose last goal in Europe set Real Zaragoza on their way to victory against Arsenal in the 1995 Cup Winners' Cup final, scored the first two goals in their 4-0 rout.

With Steaua reduced to 10 men after Marius Baciu was sent off early in the match, Simeone bagged the last two.

The pitch at the Vicente Calderon ground - which was laid just two days ago after the old grass had suffered an invasion of worms - survived the game well despite heavy rain in Madrid in the hours before the match.

Rangers' humiliating defeat in Zurich, added to United's slipshod performance at Juventus meant that once again the British were left licking their wounds after visits to the continent.

Bookies still banking on Milan magic

LONDON, Sept 12: AC Milan remain favourites to lift a record-equalling sixth European Cup despite losing 3-2 at home to Porto in their opening Champions' League match on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

British bookmakers Ladbrokes quoted the Italian champions at 2/1, compared with 11/8 before Wednesday's match, with defending European champions Juventus 3/1 and Manchester United 4/1 following their 1-0 win over Manchester United.

United, chasing their first European Cup since 1968, were pushed out to 6/1 from 5/1, while 1995 champions Ajax were quoted at 5/1 after beating Auxerre 1-0 in France.

Porto came in to 10/1 from 25/1 following their success in Italy, joining Atletico Madrid and Borussia Dortmund, who both won their opening matches.

Glasgow Rangers slipped to 28/1 from 20/1 after their 3-0 defeat at Grasshopper Zurich.

Auxerre, in their first-ever European Cup campaign, stood at 40/1.

Asian soccer

YOKOHAMA, Japan, Sept 12: Result of the first leg between Yokohama Marinos of Japan and Johor Football Club of Malaysia in the East Asian Club zone second round of the Asian Cup championship today, reports AFP.

Yokohama Marinos 2 (bisconti 42, Ueno 52), Johor FC 0.

fitness royale

with rani padamsee

Thighs: Leg Curl

Tightens, tones, and shapes the back thigh muscle (biceps femoris, or hamstrings).

Stance: With a dumbbell placed between your feet, lie in a prone position on the floor or a flat exercise bench. Extend your legs straight out behind you and lean on your elbows for support or on your hands. I personally prefer to rest on my elbows.

Movement: Bending at the knees and flexing your back thigh muscles as hard as possible, raise your lower legs until they are perpendicular to the floor. Keeping the pressure on your back thigh muscles, return to start position and repeat the movement until you have completed your set. Without resting, proceed to the other exercise.

Alert: Be aware of the temptation to swing the dumbbell up and down. Keep your movements deliberate by constantly flexing your working back thigh muscles. If you squeeze your ankles together, you will accomplish two things at once:

the dumbbell will remain stable as you work, and you will achieve a greater flex for your back thigh muscles.

GYM Workout: You may perform this exercise on any gym leg-curl machine. Breathe normal. Must remember to start with light weight first. Increase weight as you progress.

It is a very affective exercise with least amount of effort or pressure. In fact it's extremely relaxing.

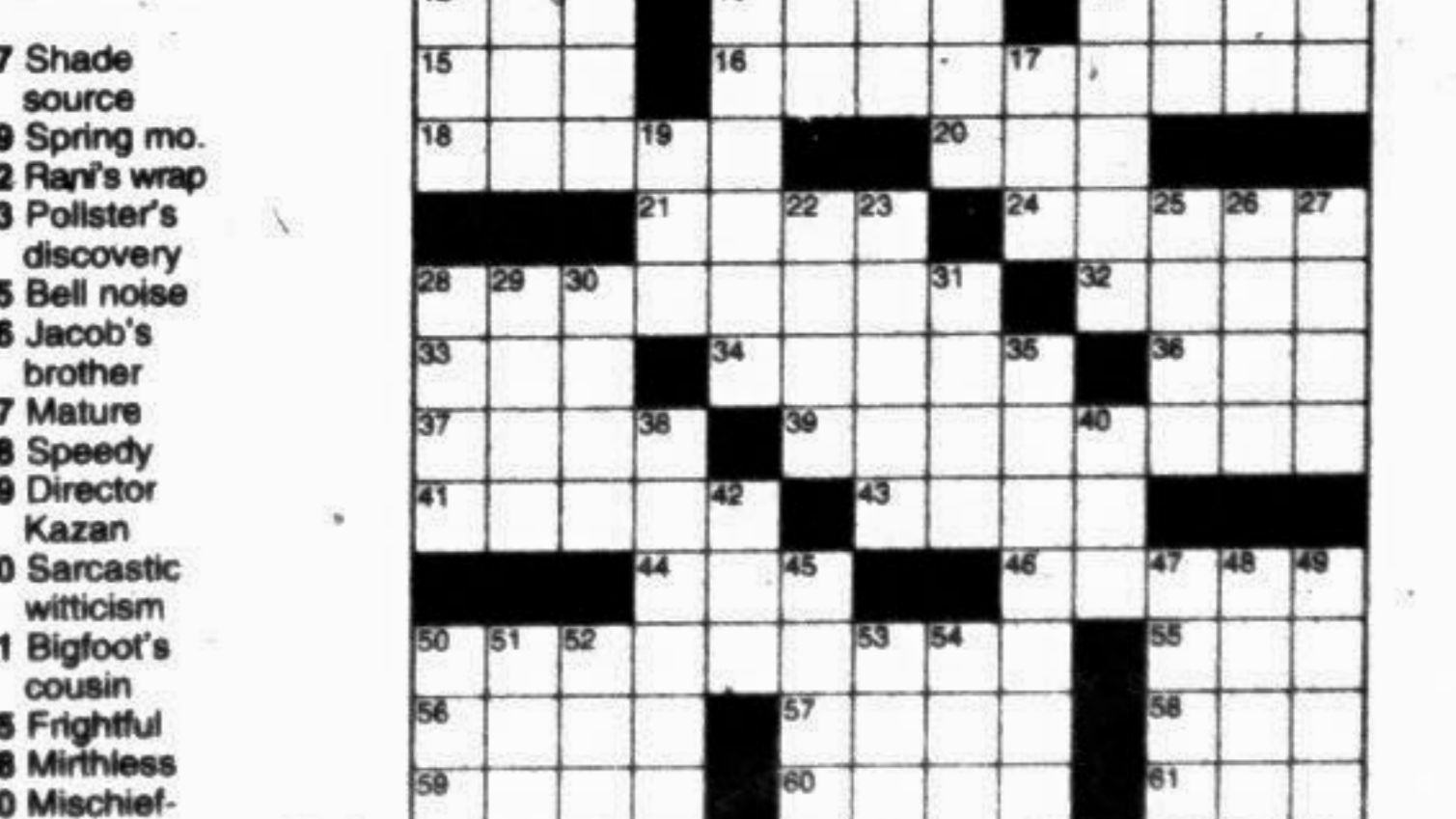
Model: Lemon of Bengal School of ShotoKan.

Photo: The Daily Star.



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 Rudiments 41 Forbidden 42 Like 43 Carpe 44 Dr. Frankenstein's 8 Cupola 12 Light (Sp.) 13 Keep 14 River to the Caspian 15 Gentle 16 "16 Tons" 18 Backpack 20 Polar 21 Norman 21 Norman 24 Scansion 28 28-day period 32 Actress 33 G. 34 neighbor 34 Cornered 35 Entry on 36 agenda 37 Letter 38 Feature of "The 39



CRYPTOQUIP Q O S I S Q F Y C A B T G R P I Z O Y I F M Z S G L S M F Y G A A P G E T G R ? P Z P B G T R O Z E C Y L

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AT AN ASTROLOGER'S CONVENTION EVERYONE CONSTANTLY USES SIGN LANGUAGE.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: C equals L

The Cryptoquip 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.