

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Richie Richardson

(Former West Indies cricket captain)

Walsh has been a great support to me and I've enjoyed playing with him. He's a very humble giant, rather, I should say humble lion. He is somebody who has never let me down.

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

That the magnificent Melbourne Cricket Ground is the biggest stadium in which international Cricket is played among the Test playing nations. In a packed house situation, it is a breath to king sight with throbbing sounds, an array of colours and glittering lights.

It is situated in Flinders Park with a wind band of railway tracks running tangentially to the three-tier stadium. Across the track is the National Tennis Centre where each January the Australian Open is played, coinciding with the World Series Cricket.

Now, we have our own Mindless Park where the Dhaka Stadium is located. Umpteen roads run all around it. Over on its South West is the Hockey Stadium.

No one can say in which month what will happen. But, if football is played there this September, chances are cricket may be played there come September next year.

Sports

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

WIN
TK, 2000/-
PRIZE BOND
EVERY FORTNIGHT

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-54

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes: 8 pm
October 11, 1996

- How many Tests has Wasim Akram played to capture 300 wkts?
80 70 60
- The man-of-the-series in the Sahara Cup was
Kumble Mushtaq Srinath
- The final round of the Meril U-16 national football championship will be held in
Natore Bogra Pabna
- The new Indian cricket coach is
Madan Lal Arun Lal Gavaskar
- The captain of Bangladesh hockey team is
Harun Sadeq Alamgir

Name:

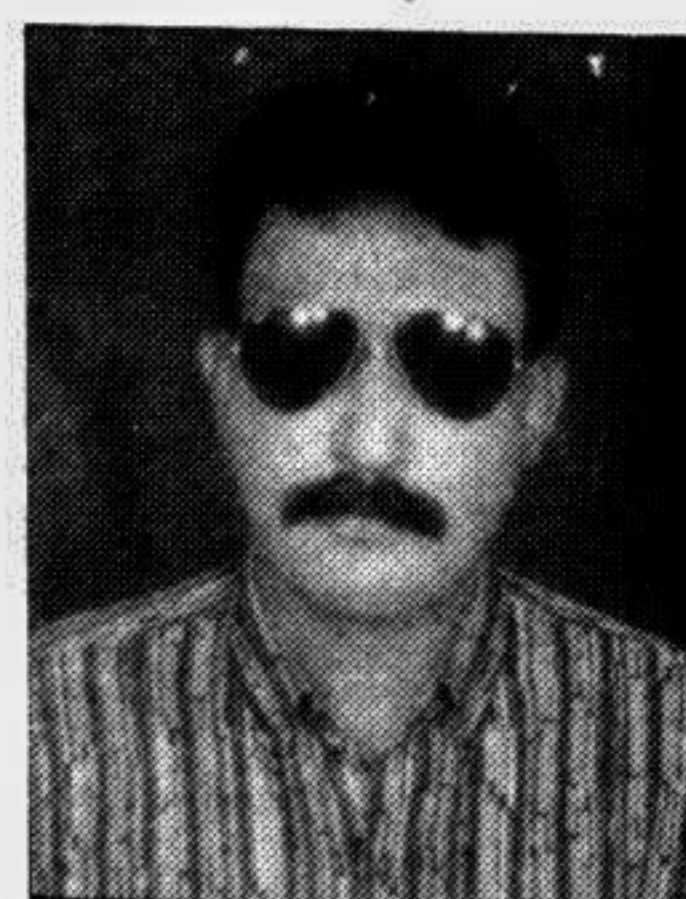
Class: Roll No.

School Address:

Phone: (If any):

Shaheen new BU TT chief

Sports Reporter



Brothers Union Club, one of the leading clubs in the local sports arena, has appointed noted industrialist and social worker Abdul Alim Shaheen as their new chairman of the table tennis sub-committee.

Brothers Union is one of the ten teams participating in the AB Bank Senior Division table tennis league which began in the capital last Saturday.

Meril U-16 national football

Bikash & Biplob's hattricks

Sports Reporter

Bandarban district moved into the zonal semi-final of the Meril under-16 national football championship with a 4-2 win over Khagrachhari in the opening day of the Bandarban zonal qualifiers at the local stadium yesterday.

Nazmul Anis Barua, Swapan and Palash scored one goal each for the home side while Chaila Marma and Ushatan Marma reduced the margin for

AB Bank TT

Sports Reporter

Armanitola Jubo Sangha, Biman, Wari Club, Brothers Union Club and Inter Sports recorded their second successive wins in the AB Bank Senior Division Table Tennis League at the wooden floor gymnasium yesterday.

On the second day of the ten-team elite league, introduced for the first time, Armanitola tamed Ajax Sporting Club 3-0. Biman ousted Swamibagh Boys 3-0. Brothers outplayed Swamibagh TTS 3-0. Inter Sports beat Armanitola Juniors 3-2 while Wari Club defeated Wari Juniors 3-0.

Khagrachhari. The winners will meet Comilla in the zonal semi-final tomorrow at the same venue.

Bandarban apart, six other districts — Nilphamari, Barguna, Natore, Faridpur, Brahmanbaria and Dhaka — also won their respective zonal matches yesterday.

At Kurigram, Nilphamari trounced Thakurgaon 4-0. Dipak scored twice while Ilyas and Faruque added one each to the winners' account. Nilphamari will meet Comilla in their next match tomorrow.

Away in Bhola, striker Bikash Saha of Brguna scored a hat-trick as his side ousted Patuakhali 4-3. Enamul Haque Rajib scored the other goal for the winners. On the other hand, Nurul Islam scored twice and Sheikh Russell the other for Patuakhali. Barguna will face hosts Bhola tomorrow in their next outing.

At Jhenidah, Natore moved into the next round with a 3-1 victory over Bogra. Monoj, Raihan and Yakub netted one each for the winners while Alamgir reduced the margin for Bogra. In the next round, Natore are scheduled to play against Jhenidah tomorrow.

The match between Faridpur and Chuadanga, held in

Chuadanga, ended in a 1-1 draw but Faridpur survived with a 4-1 win in the tie breaker. The winners are billed to meet Narail in their next match tomorrow.

At Brahmanbaria, the host side recorded a solitary goal victory over Sylhet. Striker Sheikh Kamal scored the all important match winner in the 33rd minute.

In the day's remaining outing at Tangail, Dhaka outplayed Sherpur 4-1. Dhaka's Biplob scored a hat-trick while Shamim netted the other goal. On the other hand, Abul Bashir reduced the margin for Sherpur. Dhaka will face Mymensingh in their next engagement at the same venue tomorrow.

Olympic course

A 10-day Olympic solidarity course for gymnastics coaches concluded here yesterday at the NSC conference room, reports UNB.

Twenty-three coaches took part in the course, jointly organised by the Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC). BOA president Lt General Mohammad Mahbubur Rahman distributed certificates among the participants.

MSC-Boys meet today

Sports Reporter

Title aspirants Mohammed Sporting Club will take on Bangladesh Boys Club at 6pm today as the Danish Premier Division football league resumes at the Dhaka Stadium after a five-day break, owing to the visit by the Hyundai Tigers who played MSC in the return leg of the Asian Cup Winners' Cup.

Mohammedans, who have won six of their seven league matches so far against a single draw, have a slim two-point lead over their arch rivals Abahani at present. They have earned 19 points while Abahani, who won five matches and drew two out of their seven outings, have 17 points. Powerful Muktiyoddha Sangsad are in the third place with 14 points also from seven matches.

After today's match, Mohammedans will have only one match left to complete their first phase. The Black and Whites will meet Abahani in their last outing of the first leg on October 6. On the other hand, Abahani, inbetween, will face Muktiyoddha Sangsad in their next match on October 4.

WC hockey qualifiers

Ireland-7

Bangladesh-0

Sports Reporter

After a pompous start against Italy last Sunday, Bangladesh went out with a whimper against favourites Ireland going down 0-7 in a 9th World Cup hockey qualifier at Cagliari, Italy on Monday.

The powerful Irish team were leading by four goals at the break. Bangladesh will meet Kenya tomorrow in a Group B match of the 14-nation meet.

Chess Olympiad

Russia keeps the lead

YEREVAN, Sept 30: Garri Kasparov defeated his Israeli opponent on Sunday to help keep Russia in the lead of the World Chess Olympiad with only two more rounds to go, reports AP.

Russia took a 2.5-1.5 victory over Israel, whose team is made up of former Soviet Grand Masters. Kasparov, the world's top-ranked player, beat Illya Spirin for his fourth victory at the 14-round Olympiad.

Ukraine defeated Uzbekistan 3-1 to take sole possession of second place after 12 rounds. Vasily Ivanchuk, of the Ukrainian team earned his fifth win by defeating Sergei Zagrebelsky from Uzbekistan. Russia had 33.5 points to Ukraine's 30.5. The United States was in a close third with 30 points.

In the women's competition, Georgia stayed in first place with a 2-1 win over Israel. Russia and China moved up to share second place.

Journalists made to jive

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Sports Journalists Association (BSJA) marked their first appearance in any of domestic competitive sports with a crushing 0-3 sets defeat at the hands of Punjab Parashad in one of the six AB Bank first Division Table Tennis League matches at the NSC wooden-floor gymnasium yesterday.

In a lop-sided affair, the experience of Masud Ahmed Rumi, the youthful exuberance of Shafiqul and the monumental presence of Shameem did little to help BSJA's cause who failed to win a single game against their professional opponents.

Shafiqul suffered a 21-13, 21-9 point defeat against Prince. Masud Ahmed, who offered some sort of resistance, bowed to Swapan 20-22, 16-21 and left-handed Shameem collapsed against Kajal 13-21, 13-21.

Meanwhile, in the other matches on the inaugural day Synthia, Dhaka Mariners, Bangladesh Bank, Uttara Club and Biman Juniors posted an identical 3-0 win over Monsur Sporting, Mohammedpur Boys, Angels, Combined Sporting and Young Pegasus respectively.

Schools chess

Sports Reporter

Eighteen boys were leading the 11th schools chess championship table at the end of round three at the NSC chess room yesterday.

On the third day of the nine-round Swiss League competition, Firoze Ahmed, Ruhul Islam, Syed Ibrahim Hussain, Mohammad Javed, Sabir Ahmed, Mokaddesar Rahman, Omar Faruque, Kazi Shafuddin Ahmed, Zakaria Mahmud, Rownak Ehsan Sajib, Shahidul Islam, Sanveer Hasan, Nasif Ahmed, Ezaz Hossain, Abdul Halim, Nayeem Arefin, Saiful Islam and Faisal Mahmud recorded their third successive victories and remained atop the standings with full three points.

The fourth round will begin today at the same venue at 3pm.

Chinese soccer

BEIJING, Sept 30: League leader, Dalian Wanda drew with hosts, Beijing Guoan on Sunday to retain their place at the top of the Chinese professional soccer league, the Xinhua news agency said, reports Reuter.



Volatile Argentine soccer superstar cheering up his team Boca Juniors from the stand during a match against River Plate in Buenos Aires on September 29. — AFP/UNB photo

Maradona muddling along

BUENOS AIRES, Sept 30: Hounded by reports of brain damage due to drug abuse and that he switched a urine test sample, Diego Maradona on Sunday announced he likely will never play in Argentina again, reports AP.

"I regret to say this, but almost certainly I will no longer play soccer in Argentina. My mind has been made up 60 per cent. I will decide on the rest in the Netherlands and Spain," Maradona said during a brief press conference.

The 1986 hero of Argentina's World Cup title had returned to his native country Saturday from Spain and Switzerland, where he underwent treatment in August for his drug dependency.

He said he intended to return to Europe Sunday night, but gave no details.

Maradona, who will be 36 on Oct. 30, said Spanish First Division club Rayo Vallecano is interested in him, but did not elaborate.

He is still under contract to Boca Juniors, but has not played since leaving the team in mid-August and entering drug rehabilitation.

Maradona's announcement comes amid reports that he is responsible for a supposed switching of urine samples after a game between Boca Juniors and Deportivo Espanol last month.

"I have hired a battalion of lawyers" to respond to the accusation, Maradona said.

A federal judge is investigating allegations that the test was positive and that local soccer authorities changed it to protect Maradona.

Maradona was scheduled to appear before the judge Monday.

"I had planned to remain in Europe but decided to return to Buenos Aires to see the faces of these cowards," Maradona said, referring to the accusations.

The weekly magazine Noticias reported Sunday that Maradona may have suffered irreversible brain damage due to his drug use, affecting his play and behaviour.

Maradona, considered one of the most gifted players in the history of the game, has had countless problems in the past, including two suspensions for positive drug tests.

On March 17, 1991, while playing for Napoli of the Italian

Serie A, he tested positive for cocaine after an Italian League match with Bari. The league suspended him for 15 months on April 6, 1991.

Grobelaar's good debut

HARARE, Sept 30: Bruce Grobelaar made a winning start to his new career as coach of Zimbabwe on Sunday as his team beat Tanzania 1-0 in an international friendly in Harare, reports Reuter.

A third minute goal from captain Claudius Zviripayi decided the match, a diving header from the first corner of the game.

Grobelaar included himself in the starting line-up but his first decision as coach was to substitute himself after 58 minutes and take up a place on the bench along with co-coach Meshack Marino.

"I enjoyed the experience. It wasn't bad going for the first player-coach in Africa," he said afterwards.

Asked if he had aspirations of coaching in England, he answered with an emphatic "no."

Juve steal Milan's show

ROME, Sept 30: Juventus went to the top of the Italian First Division with a stirring 1-0 victory over Fiorentina which put AC Milan's 3-0 triumph against Perugia in the shade, reports Reuter.

Michele Padovano, making his first start of the season, scored the winner after eight minutes, jumping above his marker to head home Angelo di Livio's cross from close range.

It was a win well-deserved for the European Cup holders, who were again inspired by the silky skills of striker Alen Boksic, before the Croatian was sent off in injury time for a second bookable offence.

Boksic, who was shown a red card for elbowing Portugal's Rui Costa in the face in injury time, now faces an automatic one match suspension.

Juventus now have 10 points from four matches, one ahead of old enemy Milan, who earlier had briefly led the table.

Despite taking the lead in the opening minute through Slovenian George Weah's fourth goal in four matches, Milan owed their victory to individual skill rather than teamwork.

Until Croat Zvonimir Boban was sent-off in the 67th minute for his second bookable offence, Perugia's midfield dominated the champions, apparently content to sit on their advantage.

Down to 10-men, Weah, with his second, then Roberto Baggio, with a curling free-kick, stemmed Perugia's fighting

spirit.

A second-half, substitute after starting his second match on the bench, Baggio's goal earned an ovation — and a vote of confidence from Milan's vice-president Adriano Galliani.

"Roby shouldn't worry," he said. "(Ruud) Gullit and (Marco) Van Basten both tasted the sub's bench at Milan."

Igor Protti, signed from Bari in the summer, opened the scoring in the 26th minute with his first goal for Lazio.

Italy's Pierluigi Casiraghi added a second in the 61st before Dino Baggio pulled a goal back leaving Lazio to survive a tense finale for their first win of the season.

Parma dropped to fourth, level on points with four others — Bologna, Roma, Udinese and Napoli, with a 1-0 win at Sampdoria was the Neapolitan's first away success in almost a year.

Following a goalmouth scramble, looked like giving all three-points to Roy Hodgson's side.

Instead, they now lie third on eight points.

Parma, leaders at the start of the day, followed up midweek elimination from the UEFA cup with their first defeat of the season, 2-1 to a resurgent Lazio at Rome's Olympic Stadium.

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Italy's Pierluigi Casiraghi added a second in the 61st before Dino Baggio pulled a goal back leaving Lazio to survive a tense finale for their first win of the season.

H'ball camp from Oct 5

Sports Reporter

The residential training camp of Bangladesh national men's and women's handball team in preparation for the first South Asian handball championships, will start from October 5, says a press release.

The tournaments will begin in the Indian city of Jaipur from December 24.

Players, selected for the men's and women's teams, have been instructed to report to the Bangladesh Handball Federation by 12 noon of October 5.



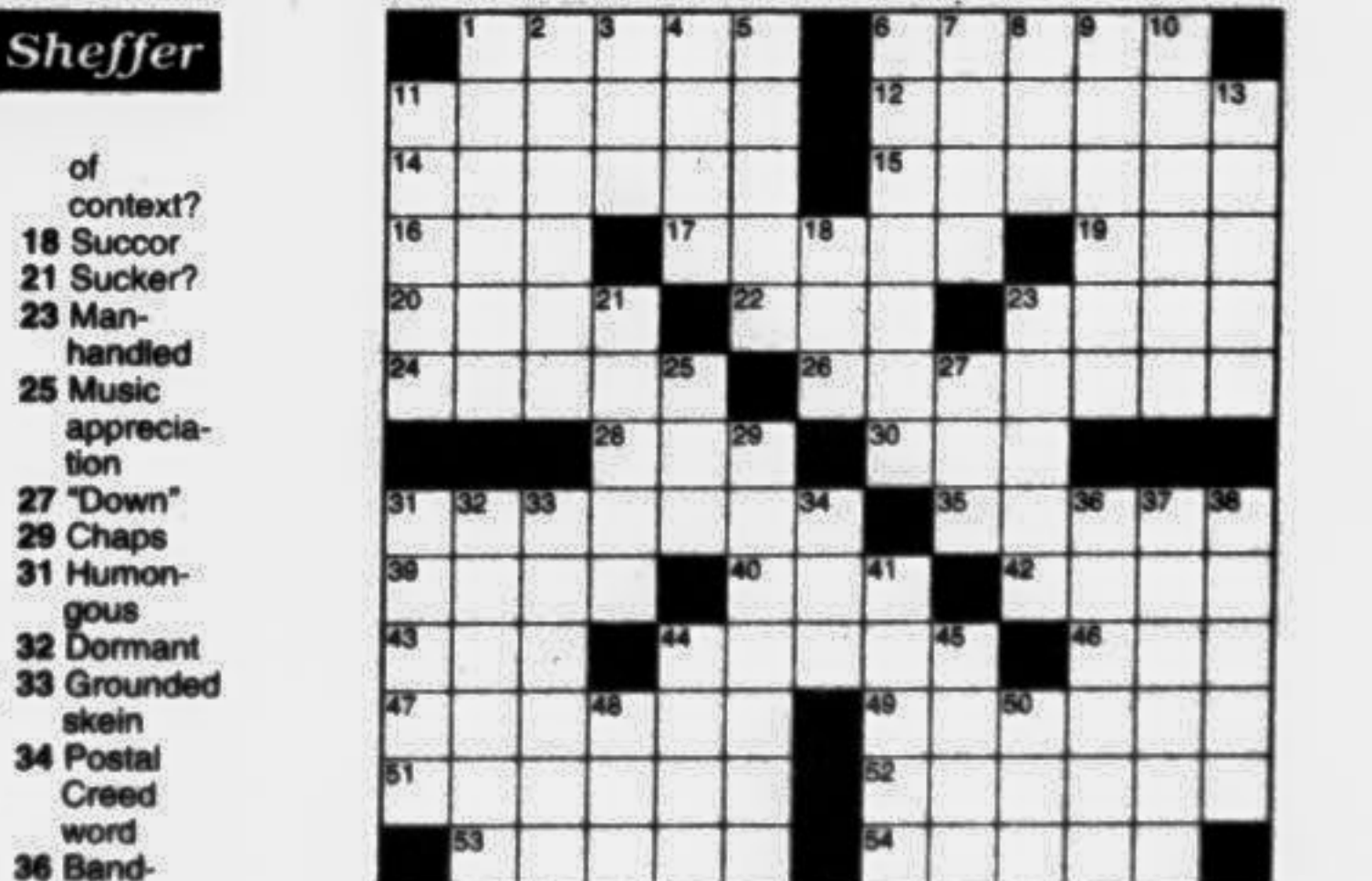
ROBERTO BAGGIO

Milan's arch-rivals Inter, held 1-1 at Atalanta, missed the chance to stay level with Juventus by conceding Felipe Inzaghi's equaliser five minutes from time.

Until Inzaghi's late blow, French international Youri Djorkaeff's 44th minute strike,

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Informative symbol
 - 6 Ecstasy
 - 11 A-go-go
 - 12 In need of oil, maybe
 - 14 Astronomers' Muse
 - 15 Moss Hart autobiography
 - 16 Felonious flight
 - 17 Roast beef accessory
 - 20 Khan et al.
 - 21 Dead heat
 - 22 Soccer legend
 - 24 "Beau—"
 - 26 Frightful
 - 28 St. Louis athlete
 - 30 Deviate
 - 31 First man in space
 - 36 Gov. Bush's territory
 - 38 Vidi
 - 40 "Wayday"
- DOWN**
- 1 Sale site
 - 2 Andean pack
 - 3 Thither
 - 4 Bluehouse
 - 6 Core
 - 7 Linus' sister
 - 8 Follow: suffix
 - 9 Threw rocks at
 - 10 Doddering
 - 11 Detention camp
 - 13 Taken out
 - 18 Succor
 - 21 Sucker?
 - 23 Man-handled
 - 25 Music appreciation
 - 27 "Down"
 - 29 Chaps
 - 31 Humorous
 - 32 Dormant
 - 33 Grounded skain
 - 34 Postal Creed word
 - 36 Band-leader
 - 37 Birdhouse
 - 38 Memberships
 - 41 Missile shelters
 - 44 Dance lesson
 - 45 History
 - 48 Milwaukee product
 - 50 Place to fly down to



CRYPTOQUIP

R G R T M F U V J C S R W B
L G G D S I C M N R B V I U T C;
R D I A D M W E L F M E M
A M M G N I J G F M V

Yesterday's Cryptogram: REALLY APT DEFINITION OF PROPAGANDA: A SOCIALLY CORRECT GOOSE.

Today's Cryptogram clue: F equals D.

The Cryptogram is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals Q, it will equal Q throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.