

Sport

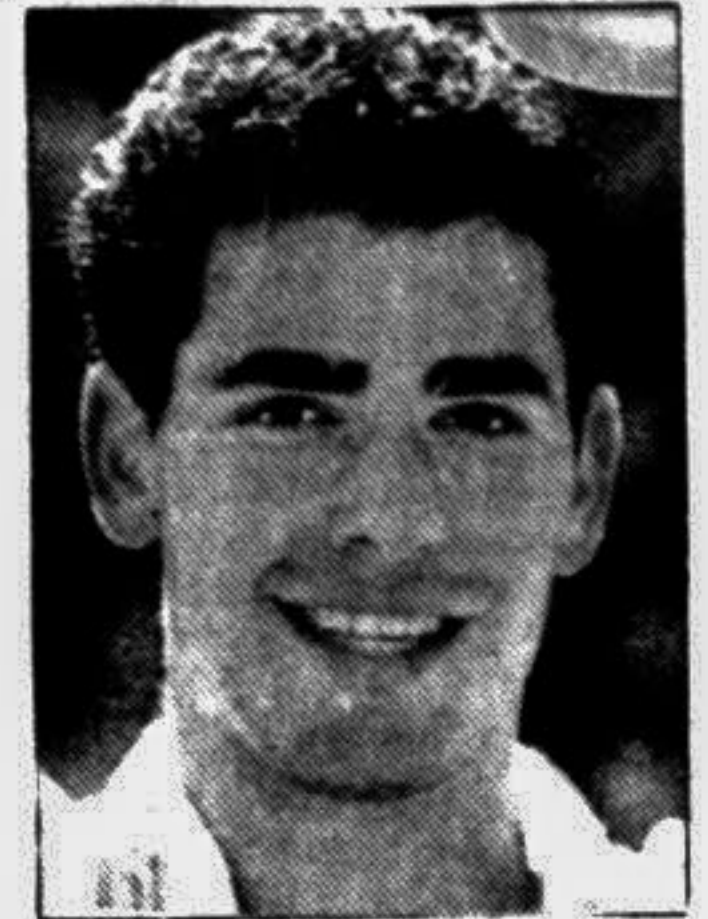
Column One DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

HAT football originated from the ancient custom among African of beheading someone and then kicking the head around. Gaelic football is believed to have its origins in the pagan custom of chopping a human head and kicking it around.

By that standard, we are extremely civilized. We have used umbrellas.

SPORTS TALK



Pete Sampras (World number one tennis player) Tam a low-key person. I like it nice and slow, nice and quiet. I move around with just a coach. I don't like four or five people travelling with me.

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

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

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

Cantona won't play in France

PARIS, Oct 3: Eric Cantona said on Wednesday he would end his playing career in England and might go into coaching if he felt he could offer something new, reports Reuter.

"I won't play again in France," Manchester United's French ace said. "I will finish playing in England and probably stay there."

"But I am still available to play for the French national team. My critics would like me to say I'm not available, but I am," Cantona said on French television.

"If it meant being creative I would like to stay in football as a trainer," he added. Cantona, who has 45 French caps, said he was worried for the future of football in his country, which will host the World Cup finals in 1998.

"It could become like Denmark or Norway when the 20 best players are abroad. People go to football to watch one or two players. Those responsible are at the top (of the game)." Half of France's national team squad play in Italy or Spain.

Cantona, who rarely gives interviews, was a guest on a television chat show where he also talked about his co-producing of a French version of the play 'Who's afraid of Virginia Wolf?' in Paris theatre. "I might take a course in acting," said Cantona, who has a small part in a film currently on general release in France.

TODAY'S MATCHES

- Danish Premier Division football league: (Venue: Dhaka Stadium) Abahani vs Mukhtijodha Sangsod KC (6pm)
Danish First Division football league: (Venue: Dhaka Stadium) Rahmatganj MFS vs Sadhan Bima KS (4pm)

East End hold Youngmen's

Promotees East End Club further consolidated their position in the ongoing Danish Premier Division football league when they held a 1-1 draw in the day's lone match at the flood-lit Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

After a barren first half, Youngmen's Club took an early second-half lead with striker Amin Khan heading home a Masum cross from the left flank. On the other hand, the Gandaria outfit levelled the match in the 76th minute when substitute forward Ratan Kumar's 30-yarder freekick from the midfield rocketed into the top corner of the far post, surprising Youngmen's baffled goalkeeper Bijan.

The draw helped East End to a great extent as they joined Agrani Bank in the seventh place of the ten-team elite league with both sides having six points from eight matches. Bangladesh Boys Club and Arambagh Krira Sangha are at the bottom of the standings with two and four points respectively.

On the other hand, Youngmen's Club remained in the sixth spot with 10 points, also from eight engagements. Yellow cards: Selim and Zahid (East End Club).

Sports Reporter TEAMS YMC FAKIRERPOOL: Bijan. Reza, Ibrahim, Mamun, Apu, Sharif, Askar Babu, Mamun Sr. (Moni), Asif, Amin Rana and Jalal (Monwar). EAST END CLUB: Tota, Badal, Palash, Haran, Santosh, Selim, Zahid (Swapan), Uzzal (Mir Arman), Kamal (Ratan), Youssoupha and Sourav Raju. Referee: Ramkrishna Ghosh.



East End custodian Tota returns an Youngmen's Club attack during last night's Premier Division football league engagement at the Dhaka Stadium. The match ended 1-1. - Star photo

VFB Stuttgart scrape thru'

BOONN, Oct 3: Bundesliga leaders VFB Stuttgart managed into the third round of the German Cup on Tuesday night, winning 3-5 on penalties after two players were sent off against Second Division Hertha Berlin, reports Reuter.

Khokon's 4 for Sirajganj

Sports Reporter A brilliant hat-trick by striker Khokon guided Sirajganj into the final of Jhenidah zonal qualifiers of the Meril under-16 national football championship when they ousted N'ganj soccer.

Jal Paribahan ride on Shyamol From Our Correspondent NARAYANGANJ, October 3: Mohsin Club recorded a 2-0 victory over Jal Paribahan Corporation in the day's lone Hangin Shipping First Division football league engagement at the local Osman Stadium today.

After a barren first half, striker Shyamol scored both the goals for the winners in the 55th and 71st minutes.

In tomorrow's match, BSEC Dockyard will face Suktra Football Club at the same venue.

Rajshahi by five goals to nil at the Jhenidah Stadium yesterday.

In an one-sided encounter, Khokon scored four out of the five goals in the 11th, 27th, 52nd and 62nd minutes while Kallol added the other in the 63rd minute. The winners will take on hosts Jhenidah in tomorrow's final at the same venue. Besides, four teams also reached their respective zonal finals yesterday.

At Brahmanbaria, the home side recorded a 3-0 win over Munshiganj. Forward Rimon scored twice in the 30th and 79th minutes while Sheikh Kamal netted once in between in the 65th minute.

In the final billed for October 6, Brahmanbaria will meet the winners of today's match between Sunamganj and Narayanganj.

Away at Bandarban, Feni moved into the zonal final after eliminating Chittagong in a tie-breaker 4-3. The scheduled 90-minute ended in a goalless draw. The winners will face hosts Bandarban in the final tomorrow at the same venue.

At Kurigram, Lalmonirhat registered a convincing 4-0 win over Panchagarh. Khorshed Alam netted twice in the 26th and 29th minutes while Nurul Islam and Titu added one each in the 31st and 39th minutes respectively.

In the final tomorrow, Lalmonirhat will meet Nilphamari at the same venue.

Olympic solidarity course ends

The Olympic Solidarity sports leadership course '96 concluded at the National Sports Council conference room yesterday, reports UNB.

Thirty sports organisers and officials from across the country took part in the six-day leadership programme. Four Bangladesh sports organisers - Akhter Hossain Khan, Shamsul Islam Khan, Faruqul Islam and Kazi Moinuzzaman Pila - got the honour of IOC national course director (NCD) and received the IOC certificate.

Jewell still a suspect

ATLANTA, Oct 3: Attorneys for US Olympic bomb suspect Richard Jewell on Tuesday denied a newspaper report that FBI interest in the ex-security guard has begun to wane.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution on Tuesday quoted Jewell's attorney, Jack Martin, as saying FBI investigators had suspended surveillance outside his 33-year-old client's home and were becoming less interested in Jewell as a suspect.

He also said the FBI was returning "most of the property" seized from Jewell during searches of his suburban Atlanta apartment, a rural cabin where he once lived and a shed in north Georgia, according to the newspaper.

Jewell was working as a security guard near Centennial Olympic Park in downtown Atlanta when a bomb exploded during a free concert on July 27, leaving two dead and wounding more than 100 people. He later became the only named suspect in the investigation but has never been charged with any crime.

Martin was unavailable for comment on the newspaper report. But Lin Wood, another Jewell attorney, responded to a Reuter query on Martin's behalf by saying the report was untrue.

"Richard Jewell remains a suspect. Nothing's changed. There has been a change from the public surveillance to what they describe in the US attorney's office, as a less obtrusive surveillance," he told Reuters in a telephone interview.

"The US attorney's office has indicated to us that it's only a change in form. They have not indicated that it has reflected a lessening in any way of interest in Mr Jewell."

Last month, Jewell's four-member legal team was allowed to see sealed FBI documents that were expected to shed light on the government's grounds for suspicion against their client.

His attorneys, who say they may use the FBI and the news media for ruining Jewell's name, also have begun making their client available for press interviews. On Tuesday, they showed no interest in allowing media interest in the case to wane.

Wood acknowledged Jewell recently turned down a new request for an FBI polygraph test. But he accused the FBI of leaking a "false report" that Federal officials offered to free Jewell from suspicion if he had passed the test.

Both the FBI and the US attorney's office in Atlanta declined to comment on the case.

Until last week, a team of FBI agents had spent more than two months following Jewell's every movement, by staking out his suburban Atlanta apartment and using several chase cars to trail him while on the road.

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Abahani-Muktis clash to survive

Sports Reporter Defending champions Abahani KC will take on Mukhtijodha Sangsod KC Chakra in a crucial Danish Premier Division football league encounter at the Dhaka Stadium this evening.

This will be a 'do or die' match for Abahani if they want to close the gap with their arch-rivals Mohammedan Sporting Club who are leading the elite league standings with 22 points from eight matches. A victory in today's match will take Abahani, who have 17 points from seven outings, to 20 points which will be still two points less than that of Mohammedans.

On the other hand, the Mukhtijodhas will also look for a win to remain in the title race. The reds have 14 points from seven matches.

For Abahani, former Myanmar national midfielder Than Toe Aung will make his debut today.

The match will start at 6pm and Bangladesh Betar will relay the encounter live from Dhaka Stadium.

Victorians bamboozle Chalantika

Sports Reporter Victoria Sporting Club kept intact their sole occupation of the top slot in the Danish First Division football league when they outplayed their nearest rivals Mirpur Chalantika Sporting Club by four goals to nil at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday afternoon. The first half ended goal-less.

After the breathe, forward Chanchal netted the first two goals in the 50th and 52nd minutes while Selim added the other two in the 59th and 65th minutes.

With the win, the Victorians earned 17 points from eight matches and maintained a four-point lead over Chalantika, who despite the defeat, are still in the second position with 13 points from 8 matches.

Sabbir, Ruhul lead the pack

Sports Reporter Sabbir Ahmed of Nabakur Institution and Ruhul Islam of Monipur High School led the 11th Bata schools chess championship table after winning their sixth successive matches at the NSC chess room yesterday.

In the day's round, Sabbir edged past Mahtabuddin Robin while Bobby tamed Feroz of Narayanganj IET. Both the winners remained atop the standings with six points from as many matches.

Besides, Yanoor Rahman Royal of Jhenidah Govt High School and Mehdi Hasan Parag of Sher-e-Bangla Nagar High School were in the second position at the end of yesterday's round with 5.5 points apiece. In the sixth round, Royal beat Sanveer while Parag defeated Faruque.

The seventh round play will start at the same venue today at 3pm.

Metro bridge league on

Sports Reporter The Metropolis bridge league 1996, organised by the Dhaka Metropolis Bridge Association, got under way last afternoon at the Bangladesh Bank Club premises at Motijheel with thirteen bridge teams participating in three groups in the preliminary league, states a press release.

The following are the results of matches in victory points (VP) after first round. (1) M Waitul Haque and partners (defending champions) 16 VP ABC 14 VP (2) MA Mannan's Team 7 VP Picvic Primrose 23 VP (3) Barnali Sangsod 17 VP Bangladesh Bank Club-A 13 VP. (4) Partizans Blue 12 VP. Aces Alpha 18 VP (5) Bangladesh Bank Club-Blue 22 VP. Picvic Purple 8 VP (6) Bridge Pair 17 VP. Partizans White 13 VP.

The preliminary league matches will be completed today.

MONTHLY PAIRS The monthly pair bridge tournament will be held at the Officers' Club tomorrow at 5.30 pm.

Khulna football

Young Muslims edge out Bankers KHULNA, Oct 3: Young Muslim Sporting Club defeated Bankers Club 3-2 in the Bull-Head Premier division football league at the Khulna Stadium today, reports BSS.

The half-time score was 1-1. In a thrill-packed match, the winners took the lead in the 14th minute through Imham. The Bankers pressed hard for an equaliser but it was not until the 35th minute that their right winger Deedar in his second attempt sent the ball home.

After the breather Young Muslim again went into the lead in the 61st minute but the Bankers equalised in the 62nd minute through Deedar.

Thereafter both the teams went all out for the match winner but luck favoured the Young Muslim when Sohag scored the third goal for his team in the 67th minute to snatch away victory.

Sahin, Dipu and Anup of Bankers were shown yellow card.

Diego in dire strait?

BUENOS AIRES, Oct 3: Boca Juniors team doctor cast doubt on a magazine story that former Argentina soccer captain Diego Maradona has burnt out his brain's frontal lobes by cocaine sniffing and is in danger of dropping dead, reports Reuter.

Dr Romero de Agostino told the Ole Sport Daily Wednesday he doubted that brain scans showed irreparable damage to the 35-year-old midfielder, who has publicly admitted a drug habit.

"I don't think that it is really like that. I never asked for Maradona to undergo a study of that sort. A nuclear magnetic resonance test, because it did not seem to me that there was any justification for doing it." Dr De Agostino's comments contrast with those of Dr Ricardo Grimson who said, "I have not ruled out the fear that Diego could suddenly die on a football pitch or walking down the street."

Dr De Agostino dismissed claims in the Noticias News weekly that Maradona's years of abuse had so physically weakened him that he could collapse and die during a match. Noticias printed the headline "Maradona's Dead Zone", superimposed over a picture of a brain scan - without saying whose it was - on its front cover Sunday. They juxtaposed it with a photo of the star with a vacant expression on his face.

Claiming to have had access to a brain scan carried out last years as well as to subsequent medical tests, Noticias wrote: "The diagnosis is final: Cell death in the frontal lobe with loss of blood circulation, he cannot control his aggression, or detect people standing behind him."

According to the magazine, "Maradona is the final stage of progressive irreparable damage." Argentina's 1986 World Cup champion has yet to reply with legal action to the story, which followed another round of outrageous behavior by the star.

After a highly-publicized trip to Switzerland for drug rehabilitation treatment in August, he suffered an attack of fury in a Spanish hotel where he smashed furniture after getting stuck in a lift.

Maradona is also at the centre of accusations by a Buenos Aires weightlifter, Sergio Parodi, that his urine sample was switched with another player's in a post-match drugs test last August. The other player was then announced to have tested positive for cocaine.

But Boca Juniors coach Carlos Bilardo defended Maradona who played for his team last season but has yet to decide whether he will do so again. Accusing Parodi of trying to take advantage of Maradona's fame, he said, "Diego's test result was negative and that's that."

Maradona says he is going to use Bilardo, along with other former colleagues and acquaintances, for comment he made to British journalist Jimmy Burns in his unauthorized biography "The hand of God."

Once the most expensive player in the world, Maradona's career has since been dogged by scandal. In 1994 he was banned from international matches for 15 months after failing a dope test at the World Cup finals in the United States.

In a stressful moment a few months earlier he had fired at reporters with an air rifle. In 1991 he was also banned for 15 months for testing positive for cocaine while playing for Napoli.

Meanwhile Juventus defender Ciro Ferrara, for seven seasons a teammate of Diego Maradona at Napoli, regrets that he and others did not do more to help Maradona kick his drug addiction.

Speaking to reporter from the Italian training camp in Florence this week, prior to Saturday's World Cup qualifier against Moldova, Ferrara said: "The problem is that Diego started on cocaine at Barcelona before he came to Napoli and we at Napoli only realised this too late in the day."

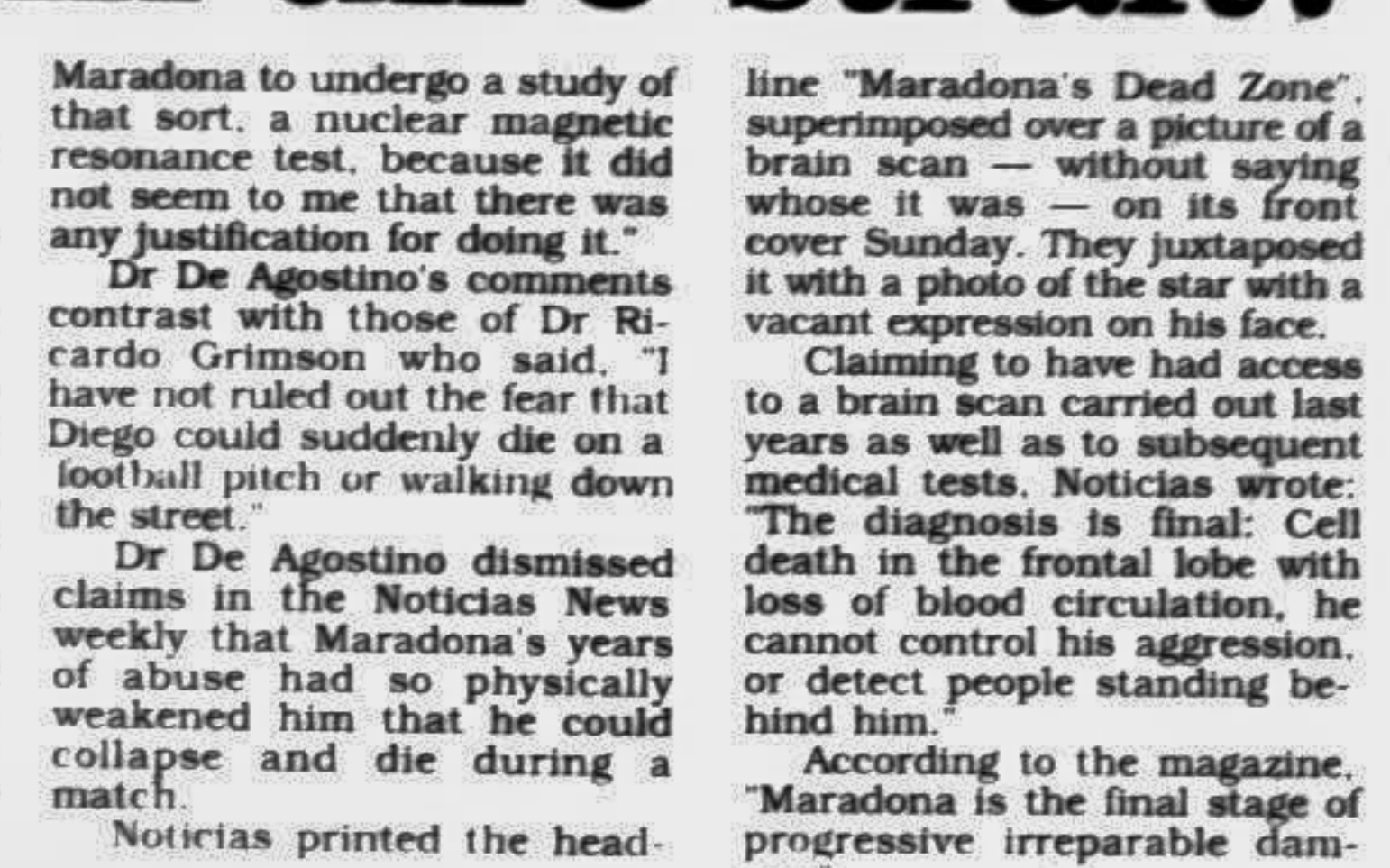
Maradona played for Barcelona from 1982-1984 before spending seven seasons at Napoli between 1984 and 1991.

"And he would respond, he'd react. He came to training and worked all the cocaine out of his system. And at the end of training we'd all go off with him and Claudia (Maradona's wife) and eat a pizza together."

"Thinking back on it now, I imagine that every pizza he ate meant a sniff of cocaine less and that we ought to have avoided him out every night."



D M Hanzala (L) and his Bridge Base partner S Robi meeting the challenge of the Partizans' pair Monu Miah (R) and Lutfar Rahman in yesterday's match of the Metropolis Bridge tourney. - Star photo



STAR'S RISE & FAIL

BUENOS AIRES, Oct 3 (Reuter): Facts and Figures in the life Diego Maradona.

1960: Born Diego Armando Maradona, October 30, Buenos Aires. Fifth of eight children of a factory worker.

1976: Makes First Division debut for Argentinos Juniors, 10 days before 16th birthday.

1977: Full international debut for Argentina.

1978: Coach Cesar Menotti omits him from World Cup finals in Argentina saying he is too young to handle pressures.

1979: Captains Argentina to victory in World Youth Cup in Japan.

1981: Wins Argentinian league title with Boca Juniors.

1982: Goes to Barcelona after World Cup finals.

1984: Joins Napoli in Italy.

1986: Scores infamous "hand of God" goal then adds brilliant second in 2-1 World Cup quarterfinal defeat of England in Mexico. Leads Argentina to 3-2 triumph over West Germany in final.

1987: Helps Napoli to their first Italian league title.

1989: Clinches UEFA Cup Winners' medal - Napoli's first triumph in Europe. Spends two months in Argentina, failing to return to start of Italian league season. Demands a transfer.

1990: Leads Napoli to their second Italian title before captaining Argentina to World Cup final in Italy, when they lose 1-0 to Germany.

1991: Fails dope test for cocaine and is investigated in connection with Naples vice ring and banned from game for 15 months. Arrested for taking cocaine shortly after return to Argentina and ordered by a judge to quit the habit under medical supervision.

1992: Refuses to return to Napoli after drugs ban and demands transfer. Joins Spanish club Sevilla.

1993: Returns to captain his country against Brazil. Quits Sevilla. Joins Argentinian club Newell's Old Boys.

1994: Sacked by Newell's for missing training. Fires air gun at reporters. Appears in Argentina's opening two World Cup matches before giving positive dope test. Banned for 15 months and fined by FIFA for taking cocktail of performance-enhancing drugs.

1995: After two unsuccessful coaching stints with lower-division Argentinian clubs, returns to playing action with Boca Juniors. Claims to have kicked his bad habits.

1996: Books into a Swiss drugs clinic to try to finally combat his cocaine addiction.

Side Abdominals: Oblique Crunch

Side Abdominals: Oblique Crunch

Develops, strengthens, and defines the side abdominal muscles (obliques) and strengthens the upper and lower abdominal muscles.

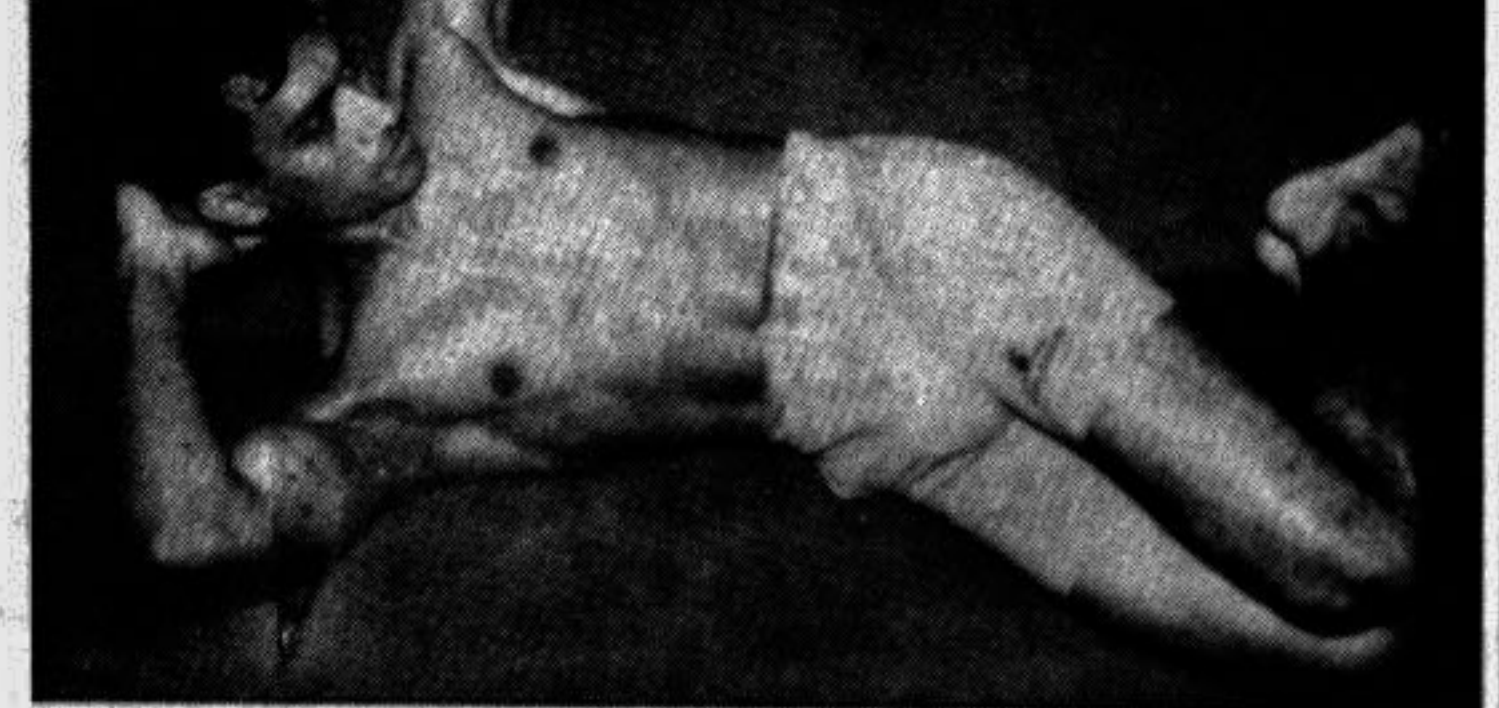
Stance: Lie flat on your back on the floor, and bend your knees. Place your feet together and let your legs fall to one side until your lower knee is touching the floor. Place your hands behind your head.

Movement: Keeping your back as flat to the ground as possible, raise just your shoulders off the floor until you are in the crunch position. Be sure to move up in a straight line and to lift from the chest and not the neck. Keeping the pressure on your working oblique muscles, return to start position and repeat the movement until you have completed your set. Repeat the set for the other side of your body. Rest zero to fifteen seconds and perform a second and third set.

fitness royale

with rani padamsee

Remember that you always do fifteen to twenty-five repetitions in each set for all abdominal exercises. Alert: It will be tempting to allow your shoulders to move to one side or the other while you are performing this exercise. Try to keep your shoulders straight and your chest facing down to the ceiling throughout the movement. Breathing: Breathe out as you lift body up & breathe in as you lower down. Model: Lemon of Begal School of Shotkan. Photo - The Daily Star



CROSSWORD By Eugene Shaffer. Includes a crossword puzzle grid and solutions for various words like 'Mickey's office', 'Service woman', 'Freeway access', etc.