

# Column One

**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

1 How many Tests has Wasim Akram played to capture 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: .....

Class: ..... Roll No. ....

School Address: .....

Phone: (if any): .....

## SPORTS TALK



### Harold 'Dickie' Bird

(Longest-serving Test umpire)  
"It will be good to go out at Lord's. It will be something special. It's been my second home and is probably the best cricket ground in the world. You can have the Olympics, the Wimbledon or anything but I don't think there is anything to compete with Lord's on Test match day. I think the Lord's Test is something very, very special in the sporting calendar."  
About choosing Lord's to retire from Test cricket.

### Leeds want Brolin back

LEEDS, England, Oct 5: Leeds manager George Graham is refusing to take 'no' for an answer as he attempts to lure Tomas Brolin back to Elland Road, reports AFP.  
The Swedish international's agent Lars Pettersen has said that 26-year-old Brolin would prefer to stay in Switzerland where his month-long loan spell at FC Zurich officially ended last weekend.  
But Graham said he refuses to give up the chase.  
"I still want Tomas to return, meet me over here and resume his career with us. We are short of players and I need him here," he said on Friday.  
"The invitation is still open. If it fails I will have to leave things with the lawyers because this is a very rare situation," he added.  
If the 4.25 million pounds striker continues to stay away then Leeds may deny him the chance of playing for another club by refusing to release his international clearance papers.  
Brolin has already been docked around a reported 75,000 pounds in wages after failing to return for pre-season training during the reign of Graham's predecessor Howard Wilkinson.

### Yeltsin seeks Kohl's help

MOSCOW, Oct 5: President Boris Yeltsin asked German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on Friday to back Russia's bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games, the presidential press office said, reports Reuters.  
The press service said Yeltsin made his request in a telephone conversation with the German Chancellor, whom he views as a personal friend.  
The two men also discussed bilateral issues and Yeltsin's state of health. The Russian President has been in hospital since September 13 and is due to undergo a heart operation in the next months.



SC Freiburg defender Thomas Rath (R) goes for a hard tackle against VFB Stuttgart forward Fredi Bobic during their Bundesliga match in Stuttgart on Oct 4. Stuttgart won 4-2. —AFP/UNB photo

## L'Equipe's guarded optimism

PARIS, Oct 5: The French sports daily L'Equipe which created the European Cup in 1955, gave a cautious welcome to the expansion of the Champions League announced on Thursday, reports Reuters.  
"Here we are then... contemplating a Champions League that belies its name, because a 'non-champion' can win it," L'Equipe said in an editorial on Friday.

It added that the new Champions League format officially announced by European soccer's governing body UEFA on Thursday would drastically change attitudes towards finishing second in a major league championships.

But it said such a change was inevitable in the modern financial climate in sport, perhaps even an 'obligatory stage on the way to a takeover of absolute power by the big clubs and the feeding milk-cows that are the television channels.'

L'Equipe said despite its ex-

pansion the new league, by using the same number of dates in the season, did not disrupt domestic competitions and was fair by including all the continent's champion clubs, even if not all at the same time.

"Since we have to live in our times, welcome to this big baby which already turns our heady eye to second place in our championship with a completely new and excited perspective."

UEFA have increased the Champions League from 16 to 24 teams from next season, to be played in six groups of four teams, with the six group winners and the two best runners-up progressing to a knock-out stage.

At present teams play in four groups of four with two sides from each group qualifying for the quarter-finals.

UEFA, who dumped champions, from smaller nations out of the European Cup two years ago, said the decision to change the format meant all domestic champions would have a chance to qualify for the Champions League.

The European Cup was launched with eight clubs in 1955 and, though it quickly grew bigger, it only took on a dramatically different aspect with the introduction of the Champions League in an eight-team format in 1992.

In introducing a second participant from each country, the European Cup is in fact years behind its South American equivalent, the Copa Libertadores.

First played in 1960, the Copa swelled in 1966 to include runners-up on the instigation of the Uruguayan club Penarol. The Uruguayans were looking to ensure they took part every year: Easy in a small First Division in which the two big fish, Penarol and Nacional — like Rangers and Celtic in Scotland — almost always finished first and second.

Nowadays, countries have various ways of entering teams into the Copa Libertadores, as league runners-up, winners of a play off round or winners of two separate domestic championships.

## Star TV, ESPN join forces in Asia

HONG KONG, Oct 5: News Corp's Star TV said Friday it formed a joint venture with ESPN, the sports network, to offer sports programming in Asia, reports AP.

Each company will hold a 50-per cent stake in the joint venture.

Under the agreement, ESPN Asia and Star Sports will retain their separate identities, but team up to offer sports broadcasts to all territories in Asia, with the exception of Japan, Australia and New Zealand where the two parties already have pre-existing ventures.

The value of the partnership was not disclosed.

ESPN is majority owned by Capital Cities/ABC Inc., which is a unit of Walt Disney Co.

## VFB Stuttgart retain top spot

BONN, Oct 5: Two goals from Brazilian striker Giovane Elber enabled VFB Stuttgart to stay top of the Bundesliga despite being reduced to 10 men for much of their 4-2 win over Freiburg on Friday, reports Reuters.

Second placed Bayer Leverkusen kept up the pressure with a 4-1 demolition of Hansa Rostock but champions Borussia Dortmund went down 1-0 away to promoted Bochum.

The league leaders' win gave them 22 points from nine games, a point ahead of Leverkusen, and assured them of retaining top spot over the weekend regardless of the result of third-placed Bayern Munich's match with Hamburg today.

Stuttgart were reduced to 10 men in the 29th minute when Dutch libero Frank Verlaet was sent off or a challenge on compatriot Harry Decheiver with the score at 1-1.

The early season pace-setters, inspired by the return of playmaker Krasimir Balakov after injury, refused to be discouraged.

Thomas Schneider put them ahead in the 39th minute but Decheiver equalised for Freiburg in the 52nd.

Balakov set up Elber's first in the 64th minute and the striker added a second four minutes later to secure the points for Joachim Loew's side.

Leverkusen went behind to an early goal from Rostock but a double from Paulo Sergio put them on the road to victory.

A spectacular goal from defender Thomas Waldoch gave Bochum their first victory over their wealthy local rivals since 1982.

The defeat leaves Dortmund in 14th place six points behind the leaders.

## Piola passes away



VERCELLI, Italy, Oct 5: Silvio Piola, the oldest World Cup winning player and one of the greatest forwards in Italian soccer history, has died after a long illness, his family said on Friday. He was 83, reports Reuters.

Piola played for Italy 34 times, scored 30 goals and was a member of Italy's victorious World Cup squad in France in 1938. His last international call up came in 1952 against England.

Ray Spiller of the British based Association of Football Statisticians said on Friday, "Our records indicate that Piola was the oldest surviving player to have played in a World Cup winning team."

Jimmy Brown who played for the United States in 1930 was the previous oldest World Cup player before he died a couple of years ago, but of course he never played in the World Cup final.

At club level, Piola represented Fort Vercelli, Lazio and Juventus and was top scorer in the Italian league in 1936-37 and 1942-43.

Piola still holds the record for the number of goals scored by a single player in a Serie A match — six without penalties against Fiorentina in 1933.

During his professional career, he scored 395 goals.

## NBA now in China

BEIJING, Oct 5: A new Chinese basketball league, styled on the United States' National Basketball Association (NBA), staged its first draw Friday to assign teams to players, most of whom are Americans, reports AFP.

The show is our priority... that's why we brought all the American players and coaches," said Andy Jay, chief operating officer of the Chinese National Basketball Alliance, which will start league matches November 2.



Pakistani batsman Shahid Khan Afridi (L) acknowledges the crowd's applause after scoring the fastest one-day century, while an overjoyed fan invades the field to greet the man of the moment in Nairobi, Kenya on Oct 4. —AFP/UNB photo

## Diego's relative arrested

BUENOS AIRES, Oct 5: Former Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona and his manager Guillermo Coppola may be questioned by a Argentine judge after relatives of both were arrested on drug possession charges in dawn raids on Friday, reports Reuters.

"If necessary I will summon Maradona and Coppola," judge Hernan Bernasconi told reporters, after a Buenos Aires police (Cinco) squad arrested Maradona's brother-in-law Gabriel Sposato, Coppola's cousin Claudio Coppola and two others.

The judge said he had serious evidence that three of those held "were implicated in drug peddling... which carries prison terms of four to 15 years."

"I don't want to talk about anyone's relatives and I want to make it clear that nobody is being charged with any crime just because of the fact they have a more or less famous surname," said Bernasconi.

The arrests came just a week after Argentine magazine Noticias reported in a cover story that Maradona, 35, who admits he is addicted to drugs, has burnt out his brain's frontal lobes by cocaine sniffing and is in danger of dropping dead.

Claiming to have had access to a brain scan and medical

tests, Noticias diagnosed "cell death in the frontal lobe with loss of blood circulation" and said Maradona "cannot control his aggression, or detect people standing behind him."

## Gunners aim at Ziege

BONN, Oct 5: English Premier League club Arsenal are considering signing Bayern Munich's German international fullback Christian Ziege, the soccer magazine Kicker reported on Friday, reports Reuters.

Ziege was quoted as saying Arsenal's move was "very interesting."

The magazine said new Arsenal coach Arsene Wenger had made an initial enquiry about the 24-year-old player who has also been linked with a string of top European clubs including Juventus and Barcelona.

Ziege, who has 25 international caps, under contract until mid-1998 and a term of that contract is that Bayern will receive a fixed fee of 10 million marks (6.53 million dollars) for any transfer before that time. Kicker said.

If Ziege did sign for Arsenal he would be renewing links between London and Munich following his teammate Juergen Klinsmann's one-season spell with Tottenham in 1994-95.

The captain of the 1986 World Cup winning team, who played for Buenos Aires team Boca Juniors since last year but whose future there is uncertain, made the headlines again in August when he was treated at a Swiss drug rehabilitation centre.

He became enraged after getting stuck in an elevator and smashed up furniture at a Spanish hotel.

Maradona is at the centre of allegations by local weightlifter Sergio Parodi, who says Maradona's urine sample was switched with another player's in a post-match drugs test last August. Maradona's test was clean but the other player, who had no drugs history, tested positive and has been suspended.

Maradona is also suing a handful of former colleagues and acquaintances for comments made to British journalist Jimmy Burns in his unauthorised biography, "the hand of God."

Once the most expensive player in the world, Maradona's career has since been ridden with scandal.

In 1994 he was temporarily banned from international matches after failing a dope test at the World Cup finals in the United States. In a stressful moment a few months earlier, he opened fire with an air rifle on Argentine reporters.

## Jones wears IBF belt

NEW YORK, Oct 5: Roy Jones Jr called by many the best pound-for-pound fighter in the world, impressively kept his IBF super middleweight title Friday, stopping a game but thoroughly out-classed Bryant Brannon in the second round, reports Reuters.

Jones, 27, retained his International Boxing Federation crown after dropping Brannon twice in the second round before referee Ron Lipton, who moments before the end had ignored Jones' gesture to stop Brannon's beating, waved off the bout at 2:23 of the round with Brannon on the canvas at Madison Square Garden.

"Lipton should have stopped the fight when I told him after the first knockout in the second round," said Jones, 32-0, who had also put Brannon down in the opening round of the scheduled 12-round fight.

Brannon, now 16-1, went

down early in the second round from a combination ending with a left hook. The final knockdown came after a flurry of blows ended with a right hand.

"I tried to speed it up a little bit, I didn't want to hurt him, I just wanted to hit him enough to get him down," said Jones.

Earlier, undefeated Ike Quatley of Ghana retained his World Boxing Association welterweight title with a 12-round majority decision victory over American challenger Oba Carr.

Judge Luis Riera of Puerto Rico scored it 116-109, judge Jose Laurino of Uruguay 117-107, and judge Gonzalo Riveras of Venezuela had it 112-112.

It was a bruising bout between two hard punchers with Quatley (33-0) landing most punches. Carr (39-2) was cut under his right eye and his left eye was nearly shut.

Brannon, the IBF's top ranked challenger, proved to be just another in a lineup of out-classed foes who have failed to give Jones a real challenge. Jones has not gone past the sixth round. Before his last bout, the supremely confident Jones played in a minor league professional basketball game in the afternoon before stopping Canadian Eric Lucas in the 11th round.

This time, just an hour before the opening bell, Jones sat in the middle of the ring and took part in a question and an-

swer session with journalists and fans.

Brannon, 29, who served five years in prison for robbery and survived six gunshot wounds, at least was as long as he was standing.

Proceeds from the fight, after deductions for expenses, went to three New York City charities, promoter's said.

## Marbella Open results

MARBELLA, Spain, Oct 5: Spaniards Felix Mantilla, the No 2 seed, and Alex Corretja, seeded fourth, advanced to the semifinals of the 300,000 dollar Marbella Open Friday, reports AP.

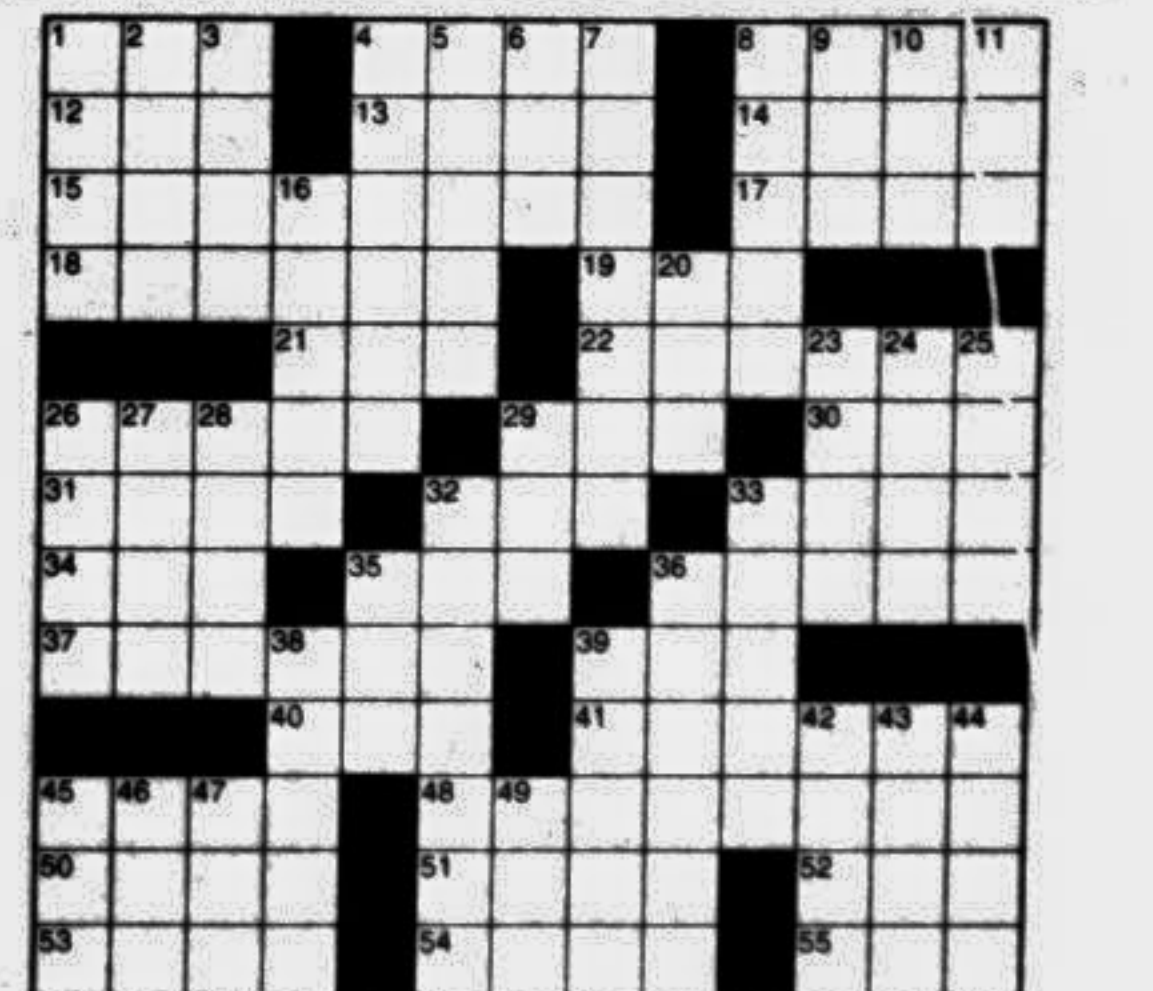
Mantilla survived a 2-hour, 14-minute match against Christian Ruud of Norway, winning 6-6, 7-6 (7-2), 6-3.

Corretja defeated Marcelo Filippini of Uruguay, the surprise of the tournament, 7-5, 6-1.

Marc Kevin Goellner, of Germany, ranked 73rd in the world, beat Spain's Fernando Vicente 7-5, 6-1, and will face Mantilla in the semifinals Saturday.  
In the other semifinals, Corretja will play Bernd Karbacher of Germany. Karbacher defeated Marcos Gortiz of Spain 6-3, 2-6, 6-4.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS:  
1 "Pup" petson's ar  
2 produc er  
3 George  
4 Gangs ter-  
5 portray al  
6 Seclur led  
7 valley  
8 Equur  
12 Victory  
13 Vicinity  
14 Part  
15 Thank s-  
16 Giving, e.g.  
17 Sartre's  
18 lack?  
19 Tran-  
20 quizze  
21 Verily  
22 E or N W  
23 Expre is  
24 Rucim en-  
25 Paddy  
26 Paclck  
27 parent  
28 Former  
29 First  
30 Daugh ter  
31 Meclle y  
32 Broke's  
33 advice  
34 Verifie ble  
35 Pals  
36 Bre-wary  
37 produc t  
38 Kasperv's  
39 specifi city  
37 Inult  
38 Actress  
39 MacGraw  
40 Fat farm  
41 Slogan  
42 "Mono-  
43 poly"  
44 corner  
45 Justice  
46 Marshall  
47 When  
48 you're  
49 this...  
50 you're  
51 at this  
52 Un-  
53 partner-  
54 "A Man  
55 for All  
56 Whitney  
57 writer  
58 Regimen  
59 Bottom  
60 Swap  
61 GAP  
62 LISA  
63 AMI  
64 SPOTLIGHT  
65 BON  
66 TOMMY  
67 TALKS  
68 EXALTB  
69 CARD  
70 DUEL  
71 EGGS  
72 AGED  
73 URM  
74 HAI  
75 PODS  
76 MAD  
77 STYX  
78 LUMPS  
79 TIT  
80 GRIFFIN  
81 PLANTS  
82 LAG  
83 TAILLIGHT  
84 ICH  
85 ANNA  
86 NORA  
87 PEY  
88 LACY  
89 STUB  
line  
16 DeeJay's  
17 million  
20 — Kippur  
23 Show  
24 chutzpah  
25 Flightless  
26 Aussie  
27 Dwell  
28 Dwell  
29 Prize-  
30 fighter  
31 Riddick  
32 Cry of  
33 woe  
34 Founder  
35 Expected  
36 Swollen  
37 Addams-  
38 es' hired  
39 hand  
40 Rock  
41 band's  
42 need  
43 Red  
44 Bordeaux  
45 Bon  
46 At  
47 Entertain  
48 Imple-  
49 ment  
50 Took the  
51 A train  
52 Pals  
53 together  
54 Derrick's  
55 boom  
56 Bustle  
57 Poorly  
58 3-22  
59 "Bail"



CRYPTOQUIP  
HBAE DTORYLHYO ROQGWZ  
TLQGLDYZ, "IQG EBQGWZ  
EYV JBTH A ETJI"

Yesterday's Cryptquip: FOR THEIR SUPERB PERFORMANCE, TREE SURGEONS CLAIM TO LIKE TO TAKE A BOUGH.

Today's Cryptquip clue: I equals W  
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.



Helena Sukova of Czech Republic plays a forehand return against Spaniard Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario in the quarter-final match of the Leipzig Open in Germany on Oct 4. Sukova won 6-3, 7-6. —AFP/UNB photo

## Sukova sends Sanchez packing

LEIPZIG, Germany, Oct 5: Unseeded Helena Sukova scored an upset victory over second seed Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario on Friday, beating the Spaniard 6-3, 7-6 in the Leipzig tournament quarterfinals, reports Reuters.

The Czech now faces a semifinal match with Iva Majoli of Croatia, who scrapped through 6-7, 7-6, 7-6 against America's Lindsay Davenport in Friday's other quarterfinal.

But the main draw for the home crowd will be the other semifinal, an all-German duel between Anke Huber and world number one Steffi Graf.

"Of course Steffi is the favorite," said Huber, the fourth seed. "But that doesn't mean the outcome of the game is a foregone conclusion. I think I have a good chance of winning."

Sanchez seemed to have difficulty concentrating on her game while Sukova produced excellent serves and volleys to secure her straight-sets win.

Davenport and Majoli battled for two hours in a titanic tussle for the remaining semifinal berth, with the Croat holding her nerve to clinch the match with a 7-3 victory in the final set tiebreak.