

Column One

Sports WHIZZ KID

WIN TK, 2000/- PRIZE BOND EVERY FORTNIGHT

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-56

Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes : 8 pm November 8, 1996

- 1 How many one-day hundreds has Gary Kirsten scored? 6 7 8
2 How many sixes did Wasim Akram hit to create a world record? 11 12 14
3 Whose mark did Hasan Raza eclipse to become the youngest Test cricketer? Tendulkar Mushtaq Mohammad Pataudi
4 For how many years Gordon Greenidge has been appointed as the Bangladesh cricket coach? 3 2 4
5 Who won this year's Meril under-19 national soccer title? Khulna Pabna Jessore

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

SPORTS TALK

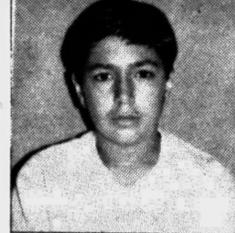


Saurav Ganguly (Indian Test cricketer) 'I am still learning. There is much to work on.'

WHIZZ KID winners



RIFFAT SAMAD - 54



KEIVAN NIKSEJEL - 52

WHIZZ KID -55 correct answers

- 1. In Test cricket, how many centuries did former West Indian opener Gordon Greenidge score? Ans: 19.
2. The only hat-trick in the first leg of the Danish Premier Division football league was scored by Ans: Mizan.
3. How many balls did Pakistani batsman Shahid Afridi face to score the fastest one-day international hundred? Ans: 37.
4. Former Bangladesh cricket captain Faruque Ahmed will play next season for Ans: Brothers Union.
5. The man-of-the-series in the quadrangular cricket meet in Kenya was Ans: Kirsten.

WHIZZ KID-55 winner

Sk Md Neyamatullah Siraj Uddin Sarkar Bidiyani-ke-ton. Remember to bring a passport size photograph and your ID card while collecting winner's prize from the Sports Desk of The Daily Star at 8 pm, Oct 30.

Draw decides championship Zia thirty grand richer



International Master Ziaur Rahman added yet another plume to his crown when he won the 13th QM Hossain International Masters chess title yesterday.

On the final day of 13-round Swiss league competition at the NSC conference room, Zia, the national champion who also won the QM Hossain trophy way back in 1992, confirmed his second title in the prestigious event after four years when he drew his 13th round clash against IM Reefat-bin Sattar to earn the much-needed half-a-point and a cheque of 30,000 Taka.

In an English opening game, Zia, playing with white pieces, shook hands with his Biman team-mate after only eight moves.

With the draw, Zia raised his tally to ten points from 13 matches (nine wins, two draws and one defeat) which kept him atop the 14-player standings with a one-point lead over IM Mahmood Lodhi of Pakistan who completed his campaign in the second spot worth 18,000 Taka.

The veteran Pakistani who won the championship twice in 1990 and 1993, also draw in the final round with local Rafiqul Islam after only six moves to take his collection to nine points.

Although the top two spots were decided easily, the next four positions had to be decided through a tie-breaker as IM Sudhakar Babu and IM Varugese Koshy of India, Reefat and national sub-junior champion Enamul Hossain Rajib completed the tournament with eight points each.

In the tie-breaker, Babu earned the third place followed by Rajib, Reefat and Koshy. All of them bagged six thousand taka each.

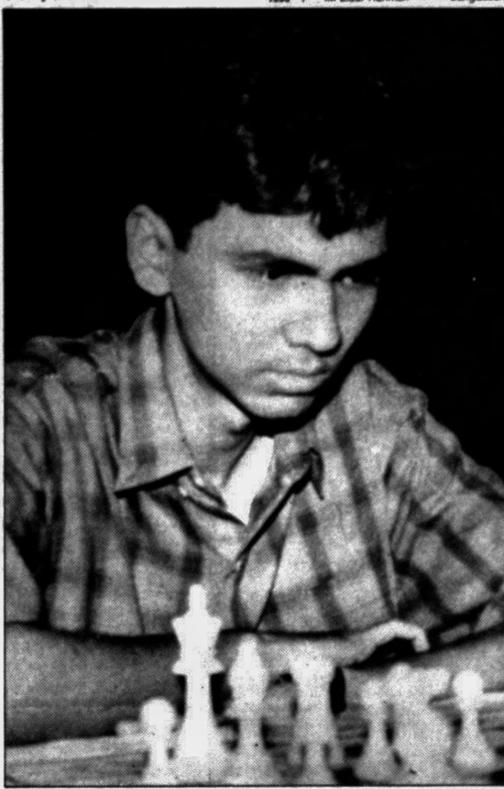
In yesterday's final round, Babu beat FIDE Master Syed Jamilur Rahman, Koshy defeated Hanif while Rajib agreed to a draw with Kayes Hasan.

Among the others, IM Neeroje Kumar Mishra of India secured the eighth spot with 7.5 points while national junior champion Abdullah Al Rajib

had to settle for the ninth place with seven points. Both pocketed 4,000 taka each. State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader distributed the prize money among the winners in a brief closing ceremony.

FINAL STANDINGS 10 points-Zia, 9-Lodhi, 8-Babu, Rajib, Reefat and Koshy, 7.5-Mishra, 7-Rakib, 6-Kayes, 5.5-Vishal Sareen, Saifuddin Lovelu, 4.5-Hanif, 3-Jamil, 1-Rafiq.

ORDER OF MERIT Table with columns: Year, Champion, Country. 1990: IM Raja Ravi Shekhar, India; 1991: IM Zeng Xiang, China; 1992: GM Naz Muneed, Bangladesh; 1993: GM Naz Muneed, Bangladesh; 1994: IM Raja Ravi Shekhar, India; 1995: GM Dibyendu Barua, India; 1996: IM Ziaur Rahman, Bangladesh; 1997: IM Mahmood Lodhi, Pakistan; 1998: IM Ziaur Rahman, Bangladesh; 1999: IM Mahmood Lodhi, Pakistan; 2000: IM Reefat bin Sattar, Bangladesh; 2001: IM RB Ramesh, India; 2002: IM Ziaur Rahman, Bangladesh.



IM ZIAUR RAHMAN ... the kingpin. - Star photo

Leonard can't stay away

BEVERLY HILLS, California, Oct 25: Certain he can return to championship form, Sugar Ray Leonard is making another comeback. And this time, as an inspiration to youngsters, he says he'll be 'fighting for the kids.'

Leonard, more than five years removed from his last bout, said Thursday he will fight Hector Camacho in February, the site and exact date still to be decided, reports AP.

'I'm pretty good at boxing, even at age 40,' Leonard said during a news conference. 'I'm a young 40. I just happen to be a grandfather. I'm very excited about my venture back into the ring.'

'Yeah, I could (win a championship). When I'm motivated, when there's a reason to do something, nothing stands in my way. It's only been five years.'

The bout will be promoted by Bernie Dillon, who recently listed possible sites as New York, Las Vegas, Atlantic City, New Jersey, and San Antonio.

Leonard hasn't fought since losing a 12-round decision to Terry Norris in New York on Feb. 9, 1991, a fight in which he took a terrific pounding.

Leonard, who has a 36-2-1 record with 25 knockouts, won an Olympic gold medal in 1976 and has been a champion as a pro in five weight classes.

Camacho, 34, is 62-3-1 following a sixth-round knockout of Heath Todd in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on Oct. 1. Camacho is a former three-time champion.

Leonard's comeback has been rumoured for several months and something he said he's contemplated since early in the year. His representative, agent Leigh Steinberg, said financial need has nothing to do with it.

'The first question in all of this is, 'Why come back?' Steinberg said. 'I spent some time making sure this is not an economic issue for him. It's not. He made 100 million dollars in his early years. He's set for life. He's in great shape, he loves fighting, and he wants to fight. He's still physically vital. I think George Foreman is an inspiration. Doctors have given him complete medical clearance.'

Leonard, who has retired three times previously, had a detached retina in 1981.

He recently started the Sugar Ray Leonard Foundation to benefit youngsters. He said the purpose was twofold: to ensure

needy children get breakfast and to keep kids off drugs.

'It (fighting again) is my way of giving back,' Leonard said. 'That's why I approached Leigh. I've experienced (drugs). I know how dangerous they are. Thank God I was able to pick myself up. Now, it's time for me to give something back.'

'We all know that kids admire athletes. I just figure the best way to reach kids is to reappear. If I can use a sport, even though I'm considered past my prime beyond, so be it.'

'For 21 years I was fighting for one person, Ray Leonard. For the rest of my career, I will be fighting for the kids.'

Leonard said he didn't know how long his comeback would last.

'I'll be going to training camp in early December,' he said. 'I've always taken one fight at a time. Right now, my focus is on Hector Camacho. I don't even think about losing. That's never been on my mind. I'm not a fatalist. I'm very optimistic.'

'I'm always in shape. I run every day. It's going to take 13, 14 weeks to get back into fighting form.'

Looking fit, Leonard said he weighs '172, 174' (78-79 kilograms) and plans on fighting at 160 pounds (72.5 kilograms).

Brenda wins a slugfest

QUEBEC CITY, Oct 25: Top-seeded defending champion Brenda Schultz-McCarthy of the Netherlands won a duel of big servers Thursday as she beat American Nicole Pietrangeli 6-4, 6-4 Thursday at the Bell Challenge tournament, reports Reuter.

'I broke her in the first set and then after not doing anything on my serve she hit four winners to break me (in the sixth game) in the second,' said Schultz-McCarthy. 'I didn't expect that.'

Schultz-McCarthy had a surprisingly easy break of serve herself in the last game for four quick points.

After breaking Arendt's serve in the fourth game of the match, the 11th-ranked Dutch woman was unable to take a game against her lefthanded opponent's serve until the final game of the match.

'I broke her in the first set and then after not doing anything on my serve she hit four winners to break me (in the sixth game) in the second,' said Schultz-McCarthy. 'I didn't expect that.'

Schultz-McCarthy had a surprisingly easy break of serve herself in the last game for four quick points.

'When you play against a game like mine, that's when the pressure comes - when you serve at 4-5 and you know you have to hold,' she said.

The 25-year-old Schultz-McCarthy, who was supposed to play doubles with Gabriela Sabatini in upcoming events in Chicago and Philadelphia, had a few thoughts on her partner's retirement announcement.

'She's a great girl,' Schultz-McCarthy said. 'She just wasn't having any fun playing any more, so it was time to quit. It was heartbreaking seeing her on the court.'

Asian youth soccer Bangladesh lose last match

Sports Reporter Bangladesh suffered a solitary goal defeat to Thailand in their last group league encounter of the 30th Asian Youth (under-19) Football Championship in Seoul yesterday.

According to a fax message received here last night, Thailand scored the match winner in the second half of the proceeding.

With the defeat Bangladesh, who were beaten by UAE 1-6, South Korea 2-5 and drew goalless with Iran, completed their campaign at the bottom of the group A table. Hosts South Korea and UAE are through to the semifinals from this group. The team will return home tomorrow.

Hockey transfers Six change sticks

Sports Reporter Six players shifted their loyalty on the fourth day of the hockey players inter-club transfer at the Bangladesh Hockey Federation yesterday.

Of those, Ziaur Rahman Chanchal, Syed Rafiqunnabi Nakib and M Sikandar Ali of Azad Sporting Club joined Usha Krira Chakra, Habibullah of Sadharan Bima KS and Shabbab Khayer of Wanderers joined Bangladesh Sporting Club while Shahenshah Ali of Bima submitted his token for Wari Club.

With yesterday's six, 57 players have so far shifted their club allegiance in the five-day transfer which ends today.

South Africa the tyrants of Test!

LONDON, Oct 25: Australians may find it hard to accept but South Africa are the world champions of Test cricket - according to a new ranking system devised by Wisden Cricketers' Almanack, the game's Bible, reports AFP.

Australia's seven wicket defeat to India in the one-off Test in Delhi last week means that South Africa have edged past them at the top of the Wisden World Championship, published in the November issue of Wisden Cricket Monthly.

'The top five teams are so close that any one of them could be champions by next April,' said Almanack editor Matthew Engel on Thursday.

South Africa are just ahead of Australia and West Indies, with India and Pakistan close behind. Sri Lanka, the official one-day champions, are sixth and England are seventh, ahead of only Zimbabwe and New Zealand.

The ranking system is simple, teams are awarded two points for winning a series (or a one-off Test) and one for drawing it. But only the most recent home series and the most recent away series count.

Engel said he hoped the championship will boost the popularity of Test cricket which he feels has suffered during the recent boom of interest in one-day internationals.

He is confident that the International Cricket Council will eventually make the championship official, adding: 'It would take very little adjustment to the present fixture list and add enormously to cricket's popularity.'

Flamengo win the war?

RIO DE JANEIRO, Oct 25: In the latest chapter of a saga that has Romario swinging back and forth between Flamengo and Spain's Valencia, the star forward now appears to be headed back to Brazil, television reports said Thursday, reports AP.

Early Thursday, reports out of Spain and Brazil said that talks had broken down and that the future of the 1994 FIFA player of the year was up in the air.

But by early evening, Brazilian television reported that a deal had been reached under which Flamengo would pay one million dollars for Romario to play with the Brazilian team until July 1997.

Romario should rejoin Flamengo next Sunday when they square off against Internacional.

S Africa storm into final

FARIDABAD, India, Oct 25: Alan Donald and Daryll Cullinan turned in star performances on Friday to steer South Africa past Australia and into the final of the Titan triangular limited over tournament, report AFP.

Donald, the pace spearhead, grabbed four wickets in eight balls to cut short Australia's innings from 212 for five to 215 all out after Mark Taylor won the toss and elected to bat.

Then Cullinan, who hit 106 against India on Wednesday, sealed the two-wicket win with

Cronje in his seventh over of consecutive balls to leave the South African on a precarious 142 for five but Cullinan and all-rounder Brian McMillan retrieved the situation by adding 42.

McMillan was run out for 21, wicketkeeper Dave Richardson and Nicky Boje following soon after, but Cullinan brought his team victory accompanied by number 10 Fanie de Villiers.

Reiffel finished with four for 35, but he was eclipsed by Donald's spell, which earned him the man-of-the-match award.

Wicketless in his first seven overs, Donald removed debutante wicket keeper Adam

Opener Mark Waugh, who made 16, edged and airy off-side drive off Brian McMillan to Richardson which made Australia 34 for one by the 10th over.

After Richardson stumped Ricky Ponting off Symcox for 17, skipper Mark Taylor (42) and Michael Bevan (12) holed out in the deep in trying to force the pace.

Left-arm Boje, who earned his first wicket in international cricket through Bevan's indiscreet shot, dealt another blow by claiming Steve Waugh caught at point for 40.

Gilchrist, who took the field less than 12 hours after flying into replace injured vice-captain Ian Healy, helped Lad add 50 off 49 balls for the sixth wicket.

Gilchrist hit 18 off 22 balls before Donald came on to skittle the tail.

Australia take on India in their next match in Cuttack on Sunday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Titan triangular one-day between Australia and South Africa. Includes batting and bowling statistics for both teams.



South African speedster Allan Donald exults after having Glenn McGrath dismissed during their Titan triangular one-dayer against Australia at Faridabad yesterday. Donald took four wickets in eight balls to become the man-of-the-match.

a gritty unbeaten 71.

The hard-earned victory, coming with two overs to spare, was South Africa's fourth in as many matches of the three-tier preliminary league, guaranteeing them a place in the day-night final in Bombay on November 6.

The Australians, who caused a late scare when Paul Reiffel claimed two wickets off consecutive balls, were left without a win from three outings despite a much-improved display, and now will battle the home side for the other spot.

Reiffel removed Jonty Rhodes (42) and skipper Hansie

Gilchrist and leg spinner Brad Hogg with the third and fourth deliveries of his eighth over.

Reiffel denied Donald a hat-trick, but was bowled off the last ball of the over. In his next over, Donald had last man Glenn McGrath caught in the covers to finish with four 31.

Earlier spinners Nicky Boje and Pat Symcox had worked through the top half of the order with two wickets each.

Australia's one batting consolation was Stuart Law, who top-scored with a fluent 52, while his partners threw away their wicket with reckless strokes after setting in.

Tips from top Americans

STUTTGART, Germany, Oct 25: Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi on Wednesday called for changes to the timing of the Davis Cup to stop the prestigious team event losing value on the crowded tennis calendar, reports Reuter.

World number one Sampras said the annual event, which has been contested for most of the century, was being 'degraded' because many top players skipped ties because they did not fit into their playing schedules - including himself.

'I have always thought it should be more like the Ryder Cup (in golf) which is played every two years,' Sampras said at the Eurocard Open. 'There is too much tennis... the Davis Cup can get lost in the shuffle.'

Agassi said the competition should be held every two years at the most.

'I have always said this. It is difficult. You need a week to prepare and a week to come down afterwards,' he said. 'I have played a lot of years and it is difficult to find the energy and time.'

Neither Sampras nor Agassi

played a role in United States' ties this year. As reigning champions, the Americans failed to make it to the semifinals after crashing out to the Czech Republic.

Sampras, the three-times Wimbledon champion, said it was not certain that he would play in next year's event.

'I will just have to look at next year... if I can fit it into my schedule then I'll play. If I can't, I won't,' Sampras said after his 6-3, 6-4 second round victory over Armenian Sargis Sargsian.

Two separate organisations currently share the running of world tennis.

Most of the tournaments are organised by the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) while the Davis Cup and the Grand Slams - Wimbledon and the French, US and Australian Opens - are run by the International Tennis Federation (ITF).

In the last five seasons the ITF has also added the lucrative Grand Slam Cup to the programme which takes the tennis season into December.

'The politics of the ITF and ATP are difficult,' Sampras said. 'The year doesn't end. It

just continues.'

The knock-out Davis Cup competition is played over three days with four singles matches and a doubles rubber.

The event dates back to 1902 when the United States took on the British Isles.

In recent years players have complained more and more that the ties in February, April, September and November, December are hard to fit into their jet-set lives.

Chittagong cricket

CHITTAGONG, Oct 25: Chittagong Mohammedan Sporting Club and Chittagong Star Club became joint champions in the six-a-side cricket competition at the Chittagong Stadium, here today, reports BSS.

Mohammedans batted first and made 53 for the loss of two wickets in the stipulated five overs.

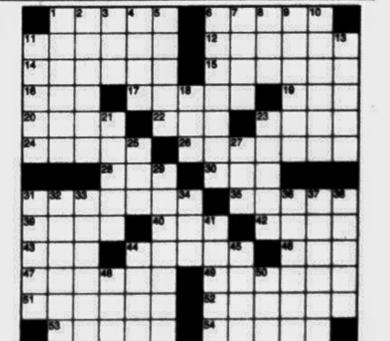
Star Club failed to start their innings because of bad light and the committee declared both the teams as joint champions.

BEXIMCO Dr. Q.M. Hussain International Masters Chess Tournament advertisement. Organized by Bangladesh Chess Federation, Sponsored by BEXIMCO Group. Includes a group photo of participants.

State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader, (sitting in the middle) with the participants of the Beximco 13th Dr QM Hussain International Masters chess tournament yesterday. - Star photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 Their walls aren't built to scale 6 Buckets 11 Pinnacle 12 Hardy intrepid 14 Imagine 15 Steep-sided valley 16 Abner's adjective 17 Comic strip Viking 19 In suit, in today's lingo 20 Persisting 22 Cap 23 Perilous substance 24 Actor Cassidy 26 Siesta covers 28 Diary 30 Pack quantity 31 Oafish decisively 35 Gold-finger? 39 Went like 40 Swab 42 Cartoonist



CRYPTOQUIP A O X T J R H X Q K J D O A Q S Y T P X T Q X H E J P X O X N E R A X T A R D E Y K N O S P K N R E R E Y S X X Yesterday's Cryptogram: LATEST FAD: COMPLETE DESIGNER GARBAGE-BAG LINE FROM PIERRE DISCARDIN. Today's Cryptogram clue: H equals C. The Cryptogram 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.