

Sport

Column One

Sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-56

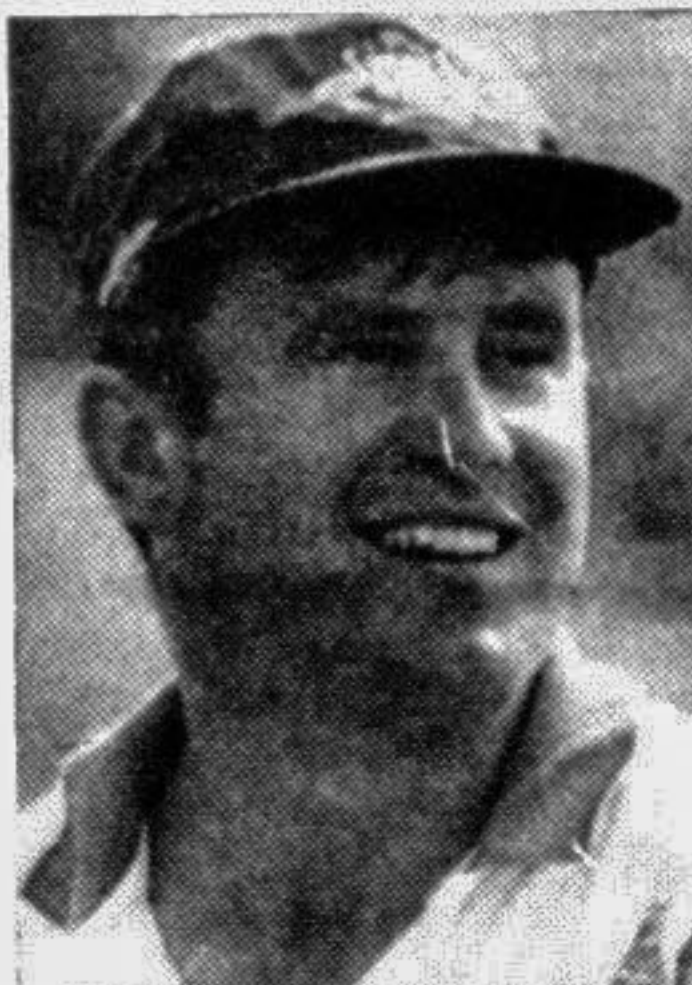
✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes : 8 pm November 8, 1996

Table with 5 questions about sports trivia. Question 1: How many one-day hundreds has Gary Kirsten scored? Question 2: How many sixes did Wasim Akram hit to create a world record? Question 3: Whose mark did Hasan Raza eclipse to become the youngest Test cricketer? Question 4: For how many years Gordon Greenidge has been appointed as the Bangladesh cricket coach? Question 5: Who won this year's Meril under-19 national soccer title?

Form fields for Name, Class, Roll No., School Address, Phone (if any).

SPORTS TALK



Mark Taylor "As a captain I don't rate bowlers over the years. I rate them as they are performing at the moment."

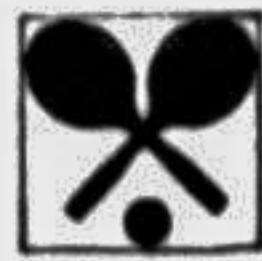
Age-group swimming

Sports Reporter The national age-group swimming championship begins at the National Swimming Complex in Mirpur today.

Eves' h'ball from Nov 22

Sports Reporter The Green Delta Insurance Inter-college women's tournament under the auspices of the Bangladesh Handball Federation (BHF) will begin in the capital November 22.

Boris antics sink Sampras



STUTTGART, Germany, Oct 28: No-one was more surprised than Boris Becker by his victory over world number one Pete Sampras in the Stuttgart Open final on Sunday.

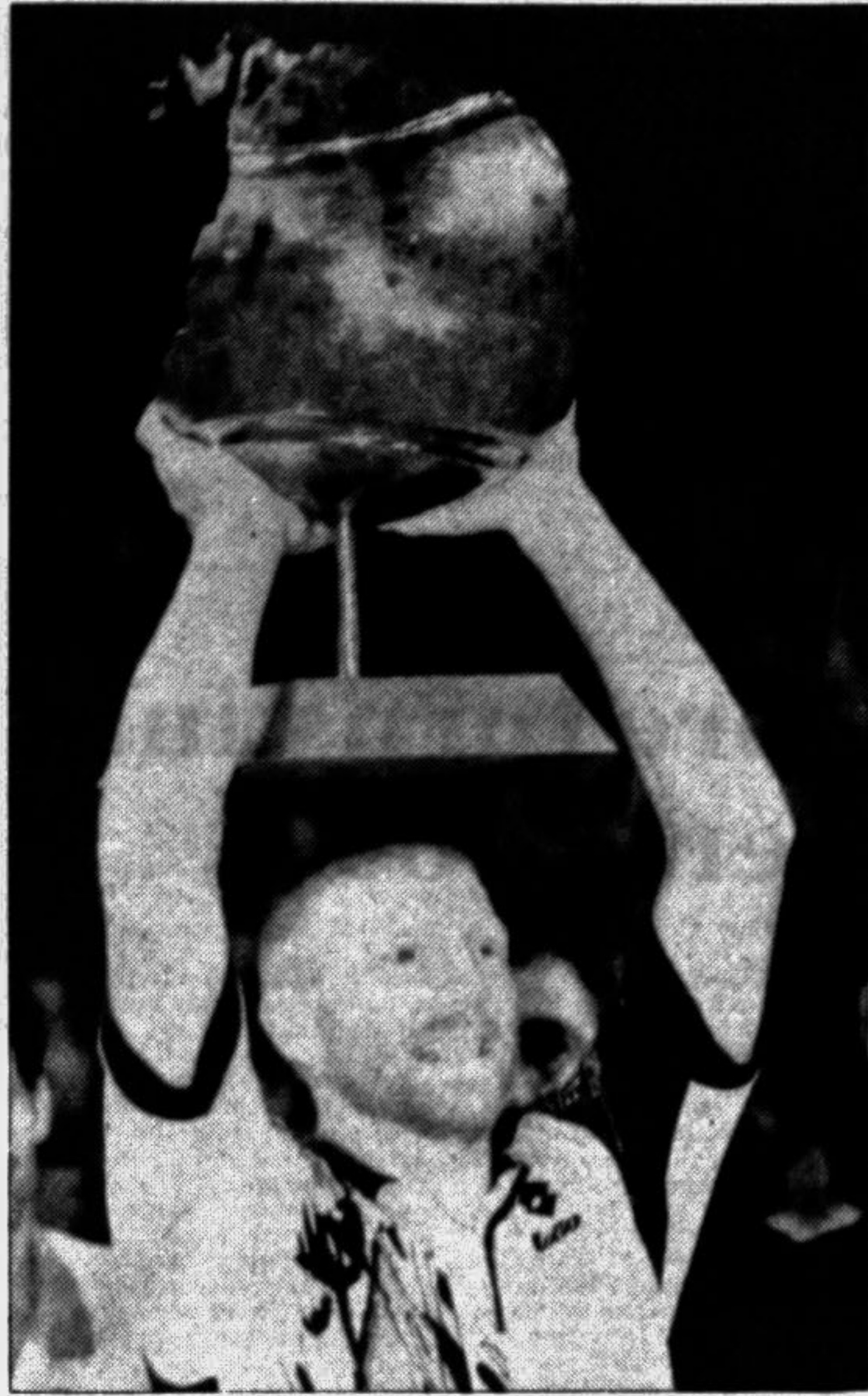
He delighted his fanatical home fans by coming from behind to end Sampras's 21-match unbeaten run with a 3-6, 6-3, 3-6, and 6-4 victory, reports Reuter.

Becker, whose Wimbledon campaign this year was derailed by a wrist injury, said, "I am surprising myself every day. Three months ago I was in plaster and now I am beating the top players in the world." "Don't ask me how I've done it."

This is like a dream. I hope I don't wake up tomorrow... this is one of my best victories ever. It is one of the highlights of my career. This kind of thing doesn't happen every week and it is even greater because of that.

had the better touch and rhythm in the third which he also clinched with an ace. But Becker is never more dangerous than when under pressure.

He forced the match into a out the next game. Becker then had the psychological edge. At times he dived across the court as acrobatically as he did in his younger days. Becker made the most important break



A beaming Boris Becker holds the trophy aloft after winning the Eurocard Open final in Stuttgart on Sunday. The gritty German defeated his nemesis American Pete Sampras.

deciding set when he broke Sampras's serve to lead 5-3 in the fourth when his opponent netted a volley and then served

Kang's ordeal cut short

Sports Reporter

The appeal committee of the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has rescheduled the commencement of the one-month ban on Mohammedans South Korean coach Mann Young Kang.

According to the revised decision, the ban on Kang, who was earlier declared persona non grata by the disciplinary sub-committee for one-month from the start of the second leg of the Danish Premier football league on November 8, will now be barred for only a week from the date of resumption of the league.

The appeal committee, who met at the BFF office last evening following protests by both Mohammedan and Abahani against the disciplinary committee decision taken on Oct 16, decided the ban to be effective from the date when the decision was taken.

This means, the punitive measure taken against Kang will expire on November 15, a week after the commencement of the second leg of the double-leg Premier league.

Earlier, the disciplinary committee had imposed the ban on Kang for violating rules by summoning his boys out of the field following a controversial decision of the referee which caused five minutes disruption during the crucial Mohammedan-Abahani match.

Besides, Abahani manager Dewan Shaful Arefin Tutul was fined Taka 25,000 for swooping on referee ASM Monzur Azad while arguing the decision.

BFF's act of wisdom

Sports Reporter

The technical committee of Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has drawn up a plan to provide a three-month training to the selected 220 booters from recently-concluded national under-16 championship.

The committee, who had earlier sent representatives to seven different zones during the month-long meet as part of their talent spotting programme, in a meeting last night, decided to groom the selected booters in seven districts where the first phase matches of the championship were held.

The committee also asked for 20 lakh taka from the BFF in this regard. "We are expecting to start the training by the second week of December, said former national player Khurshid Babul, a member of the committee, after the meeting at the BFF office last night.

He further added that they had asked for twenty lakh taka from the BFF to impart the training which he claimed would be a stepping stone for their plan in organising a national league, a dream yet realised by the governing body of local football.

"Apart from providing training through our local coaches in seven zonal venues, we are also planning to arrange home and away matches between them so that we can reach our ultimate goal to go for national league," said a confident Babul.

Replying to a query Babul said, the authorities concerned must come forward with necessary financial assistance for such a noble cause.

"This is the only way to improve our dwindling football," quipped Babul.

SAF torch survives a scare

Sports Reporter

The National Sports Council in a meeting yesterday has decided to renovate the SAF torch at the Dhaka Stadium instead of dismantling it.

The governing body of local sports had earlier planned to destroy the torch, erected during the sixth South Asian Federation Games in 1993, following the death of a football fan, who fell from the terrace of steel structure located at the northern end of the big bowl.

In the meeting, the authorities concerned, considering the beauty of the torch and its utility in future games, came up with the idea that it could be financially feasible to keep the structure.

Besides, they have decided to separate the structure from the gallery for safety measure.

Battle for the last berth

STUTTGART, Germany, Oct 28: Boris Becker's win in the Eurocard Open brought him a big step closer to clinching a berth in the year-ending ATP Tour World Championships, reports AFP.

Six players, including Andre Agassi, are still fighting for three open spots at the tournament, in which the top eight players based on computer ratings points qualify.

ATP officials are billing the race, one of the most heated ever, as the "Road to Hannover," the German city hosting the Nov 19-24 championship.

Agassi plans to play the point-rich Paris Open, which begins Monday, then fly home. Becker gained more than 500 points Sunday by winning the Eurocard Open, a big jump when his top competitors have about 2,200 total computer points.

European soccer scene

MILAN, Oct 28: Inter Milan joined European champions Juventus at the top of the Serie A on Sunday, after Roy Hodgson's men swept to a 3-1 victory over title rivals Parma here, reports agencies.

Trouble was meanwhile brewing for AC Milan coach Oscar Tabarez after the Italian champions slumped to their third defeat of the season, losing 1-0 to Fiorentina after being reduced to 10 men.

The latest setback came as a newspaper report linked embattled national coach Arrigo Sacchi with a return to Milan after their worst start to a season since Silvio Berlusconi took over the club in 1986.

Juventus stay top of the Serie A only because they have scored 10 goals this season to Inter's nine.

The victory was a blessing for Hodgson, who has been under pressure after a series of disappointing performances — despite the good results.

Unfashionable Vicenza moved into third slot with a 2-0 win over Cagliari, while Milan dropped down to fourth after their defeat.

Both sides finished with 10 men on the pitch, with AC Milan having Stefano Eranio sent off just before the break for a foul on Massimo Orlando, while Fiorentina had Aldo Firiccano dismissed soon after substitute Anselmo Robbiati's 83rd minute winner.

Robbiati, snapped up a close range rebound after Milan goalkeeper Sebastiano Rossi failed to hold a shot from Fiorentina's Belgo Brazilian Oliveira.

Sampdoria, who had David Baller dismissed after 40 minutes drew 1-1 with Reggiana after skipper Roberto Mancini had opened the scoring and Bologna took a 1-0 lead over Napoli but promptly let in three goals before going down 3-2.

Perugia moved up to fifth place after a 2-1 win over Udinese, who were without suspended German ace Oliver Bierhoff and finished with only nine men on the field, while Roma's neighbours Lazio were less fortunate on Saturday night, going down 2-1 to lowly Atalanta.

Striker Robbie Fowler scored twice inside four minutes as Liverpool beat Derby 2-1 on Sunday to go third in the Premier league.

Liverpool, who have won the English championship a record 18 times are now a point behind Arsenal, who lead the table on goal difference from Newcastle.

They also have a game in hand on their rivals after torrential rain washed out last weekend's Merseyside derby against Everton.

Spain Deportivo La Coruna moved up to third spot, just behind Real Madrid on goal difference with Sunday's 1-0 win at home to Real Sociedad. Brazilian star Donato scored the only goal after 20 minutes with a piledrive from 30 yards.

Athletic Bilbao scored the biggest win of the week as they hammered hapless Logrones 6-0 to push Luis Fernandez's men up to eighth.

Juén Guerrero hit a hattrick against a side which was only just recovering from an 8-0 humiliation in Barcelona.

France Monaco crushed Lille 4-1 away and Auxerre, who travel to Grasshopper Zurich in the European Champions' League on Wednesday, thrashed 10-man Lyon 7-0 at home to throw the First Division title race wide open.

Netherlands Leaders PSV Eindhoven followed up last weekend's 7-2 destruction of Feyenoord with an 8-0 victory over Roda JC Kerkrade.

Ajax recorded their first away win of the campaign, coming from behind to beat Vitesse Arnhem 4-1 on Sunday. The defending champions go fourth.

Scotland Paul Gascoigne delivered a personal message to England manager Glenn Hoddle with a stunning second-half hattrick as Rangers beat Motherwell 5-0 to stay top of the table.

Celtic stayed two points behind Rangers by winning 4-0 away to Hibernian.

Portugal Porto climbed to the top of the table with a 5-0 away win at Espinho while previous leaders Benfica went down 1-0 at Sporting, who move into second place.

Sacchi & Milan to be reunited?



MILAN, Oct 28: Italy's embattled national coach Arrigo Sacchi is set to return to AC Milan in place of Uruguayan Oscar Tabarez at the end of the season, the Corriere dello Sport claimed on Sunday, reports AFP.

Sacchi is expected to be a prime target for the country's future football chief Luciano Nizzola, when he takes over from Antonio Matarrese in December.

Italy's humiliating first round exit from the European Championships, the unconvincing wins over Moldova and Georgia in World Cup qualifiers and a hostile press and public have made it almost impossible for Sacchi to stay.

However, the problem until now has been Sacchi's cast-iron contract with the federation (FIGC), which keeps him in the job until after the 1998-World Cup finals.

But the Corriere claimed on Sunday that Milan, unhappy with new coach Tabarez and apparently willing to drop him when the Uruguayan's contract expires next June, are ready to take Sacchi back.



ARRIGO SACCHI

without having to pay a fortune in severance pay, while Milan would get back a coach who is still admired by the Italian champions and their president Silvio Berlusconi.

The only sticking point is when the axe will descend on Sacchi. Milan are unlikely to part with Tabarez after barely three months, but Nizzola would rather have Sacchi's replacement already doing the job before they face England at Wembley next February.



Switzerland's Marc Rosset stoops to make a difficult return during his first round match against Spaniard Alex Corretja in the Paris Indoor Open yesterday.

Liu stamps Sino class



NIMES, France, Oct 28: Liu Guoliang won the World Cup title at the expense of Sweden's Jan-Ove Waldner here on Sunday to add this coveted title and the 35,000-dollar winners' cheque to his Olympic gold, reports AFP.

The 20-year-old Liu beat European champion Waldner 21-14, 21-10, 19-21, 21-17 to show there is still a gulf in class between European and Asian players.

China hold all three major titles as world number one Kong Linghui won the World Championship on home soil in Tianjin last year.

Waldner had a nervous start to the match from 5-5 in the first game, he made error after error unusual as consistency is one of his major assets.

He seemed to have trouble with Liu's array of serves which often served visibly after leaving his bat.

Liu managed to impose himself on the game and from a 12-10 lead Liu raced to an 18-11 advantage before clinching the first set 21-14.

Liu, the world number three,

played wisely in the second by not changing winning tactics. His arrays of services plus his blistering forehand attack had Waldner in disarray — Waldner rarely trails 18-6 — before Liu went on to win 21-10 for a 2-0 lead.

Just the day before Waldner had Belarus' Vladimir Samsonov continually confused by the variation of spin on his serve. But Liu seemed unfazed by it and had Waldner on the ropes by his strength of shot and quickness about the court.

The 2,000-strong capacity crowd at the Le Parnasse venue were treated to a continued exhibition of right-handed penhold attacking in the third game as Liu motored to a 13-7 lead.

Waldner came back in a late flurry to trail 14-13, when he seemed to gain motivation from the realisation he was facing not just defeat, but a thrashing from World Championship runner-up Liu.

Just when it looked as though Liu's complete self-belief was being tested, he responded admirably to lead 17-13 and put Waldner under yet more pressure.

Once again the pendulum

swung, this time Waldner's way as he put together a series of winners to clinch the third set 21-19 when Liu, often forced into error, hit a forehand way past the table.

Liu raised his first in the air and shouted out loud after a mere 2-0 lead in the fourth paragraph in a release of tension following his narrow defeat in the earlier set.

But Waldner's rallying play was a mere interlude to Liu's re-assertion of his authority in the fourth set.

For the fourth time Liu reached 10 first as he led 10-7 and 13-10 and kept his nose in front till a forehand winner from the receive of service on championship point put Waldner out of his misery.

Meanwhile Belarus' 20-year-old Vladimir Samsonov beat Belgium's 1994 Olympic champion Jean-Michel Saive 23-21, 17-13, 21-13, 21-13 in the earlier third place play-off.

The former European junior champion, who won the European Masters last month added to his already flourishing reputation to earn a bronze medal.

Once again the pendulum

Delving into Davis Cup dilemma

STUTTGART, Germany, Oct 28: Boris Becker's former coach Ion Tiriac said on Sunday the annual Davis Cup team competition should be played once every four years, reports Reuter.

"A day should come sooner or later when the Davis Cup is run once every four years, two years after the Olympic Games. It would then really have a world champion of nations," the Romanian tennis official and former players said.

"I would prefer it on one surface possibly in a 10-day or two-week period."

Tiriac organises major tournaments and Davis Cup ties. Last week Australian Open champion Becker, Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi called for the Davis Cup to be played less often because of the stress on players. The two Americans suggested it should be played every two years.

On Sunday, Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) chief Mark Miles said the Davis Cup was becoming a headache.

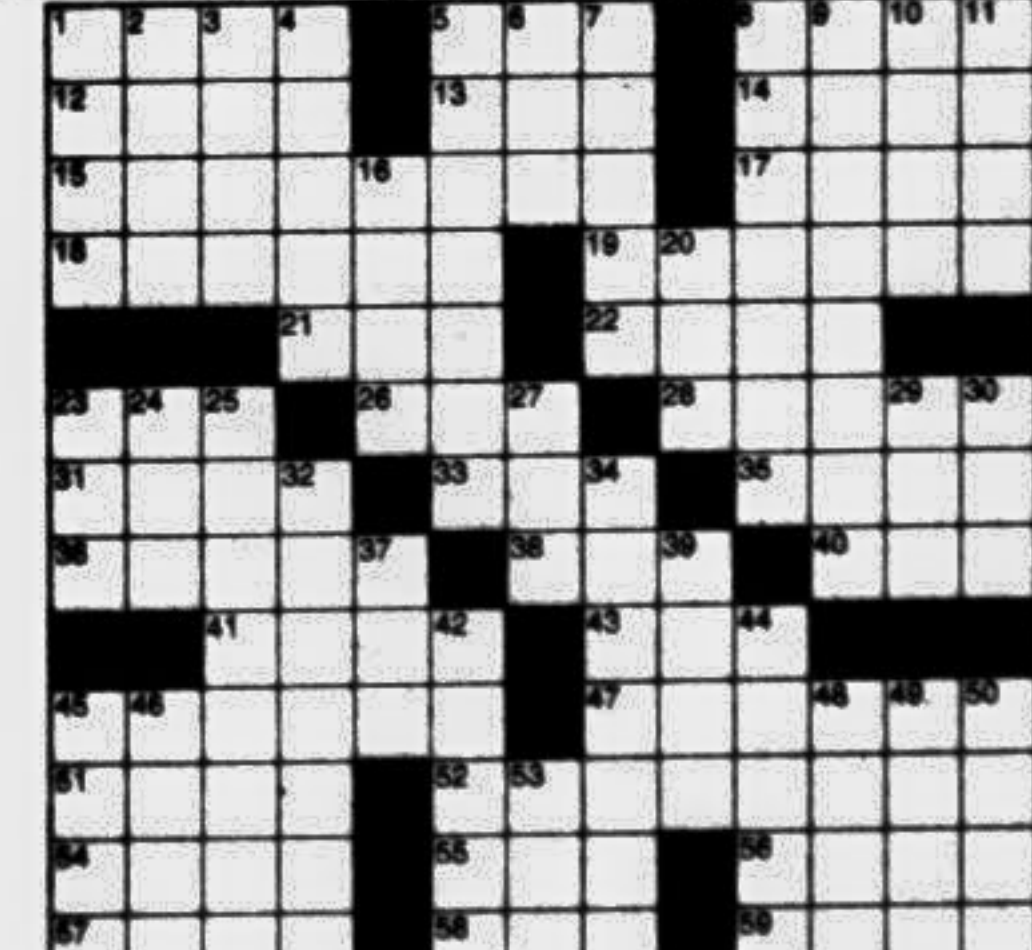
"It is clear that the Davis Cup is the most difficult aspect of men's professional tennis to schedule," Miles said. "There is unanimity among the players that this is a problem to be addressed."

At present the competition is held over four rounds in February, April, September and November/December.

Neither Sampras nor Agassi played a role in US ties this year. The champions failed to make it to the semifinals after crashing out to the Czech Republic.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1. A good church 2. Observance 3. Twin 4. Potential 5. Syrup 6. Some-where 7. There 8. Melody 9. Louisiana 10. Zadora's 11. Lindstrom 12. Near-black 13. Enthra- 14. Shwartz 15. Swartz 16. Lay down 17. Part of 18. Miroslav 19. Merit 20. Part of a Latin I trio 21. U.K. flyers 22. Fishing boat equip- 23. Mr. Ralph 24. Geology 25. Scepter 26. Garbage 27. Divine Comedy 28. Occupant 29. Harsh treatment 30. Exam type 31. Occupation 32. Confronts 33. He may be over 34. Melody 35. Erstwhile 36. Turkish ruler 37. They're just beastly 38. Zealots 39. Bard's 40. Waterway 41. Sandberg 42. Baseball 43. Pedestal 44. Postpone 45. See 33 46. Across 47. Took a 48. California city 49. Capri, e.g. 50. Laugh-a-minute 51. More- 52. Facility 53. Over



CRYPTOQUIP ECUV ABHETUW QTHUV C UWEBHFUH PBVUQWBH UV HFEBW EF PBAFH. Yesterday's Cryptquip: IT'S REALLY WEIRD, HE KNEW, UNLIKELY, THOUGH TRUE: THERE'S AN OLD GNU! Today's Cryptquip clue: A equals C. 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.

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority Tender Notice. Sealed tenders in the Authority's approved tender form are invited from enlisted firms under BSCIC sub-contracting for supply of 16 hole & 20 hole gmt-bolts for use of the Dredging Unit. 1. Tender No: Purchase-57/96 dated 15.10.96. 2. Earnest money: 2% of the total amount quoted in the tender should be deposited as earnest money (refundable) with the tender in the form of Pay Order, Call Deposit, Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in favour of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority. 3. Price of tender: Tk 100/- (one hundred) only (non-refundable). 4. Tender to be had at: Accounts Department, BIWTA, 8th floor, BIWTA Building 141-143 Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka. 5. Place, date & time of submitting tender: Purchase & Stores Department, BIWTA Zonal Office, 8th floor, BIWTA Building, Dhaka on 3-11-96, at 11 am. 6. Date & time of opening tender: 3.11.96 at 11.15 PM (before the tenders present, if any). No tender will be sold on the date of opening tender. No tender will be received after the prescribed time. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason. PR 135/96. Director, Purchase & Stores Division.