

Sport

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

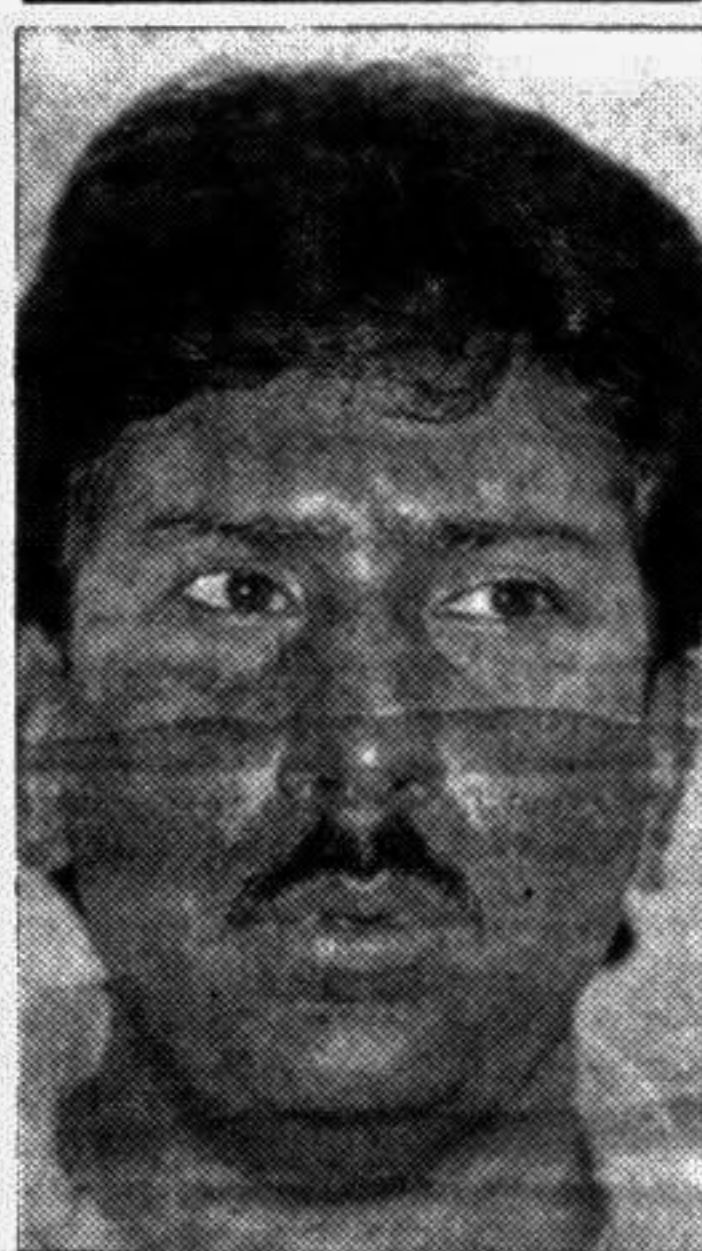
(The Professor does)

THAT, despite its undisputed world-wide popularity and supremacy, one nation that long resisted football's appeal was the United States. Well, they had a wrong beginning. They changed the name of the game to "soccer" before mastering the art of playing it.

For sometime, soccer was played, mostly among immigrants, but it was not until the 1970s that a national professional league gained some popularity. The North American Soccer League (NASL), founded in 1968, brought Brazilian star Pele to the United States, and by 1980 the league had 24 teams. The NASL suffered financially, and in 1984 it went out of business. However, the league left a legacy of growing American involvement in the sport at youth level. By the 1990s, soccer was recognised as the fastest growing college and high school sport in the United States. The Soccer Industry Council of America estimated that by 1994 there were more than 13 million boys and girls under the age of 18 who played soccer.

Soccer Industry Council? Hmm not a bad idea. BSIC. Bangladesh Soccer Industry Council.

SPORTS TALK



Salim Malik

(Pakistani cricketer)
"The crowd is not enough. Just few guys."
(On the attendance for the India-Pakistan Sahara Cup series in Canada) a broadcaster

Sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

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 Palatodi

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:

Class: Roll No.

School Address:

Phone: (if any):

J-League results

TOKYO, Oct 31: Japanese soccer team Kashima Antlers retained top place in the J-League on Wednesday after beating Jubilo Iwata 4-3 on penalties, reports Reuter.

Brazilian striker Mazinho scored twice for Kashima Antlers to carry the match into extra-time, but with the score still locked at 2-2 after the two 15-minute periods the match was decided from the penalty spot.

In another match, Brazilian striker Evalir Aparecido Paulino hammered a hat-trick of goals to guide Yokohama Flügels to a 3-1 victory against Avispa Fukuoka.

Kashima Antlers and Yokohama Flügels both have 60 points, but Kashima maintain their league lead on goal differences.

Nagoya Grampus Eight slipped to their place after losing 1-0 to Verdy Kawasaki.

Model: Shoma and Lemon of Bengal School of Shotokan.

— Star photo



Jubilant members of the American International School who clinched the top position in the 16th national age group championship at the Mirpur Swimming Complex yesterday.

National age-group meet ends

Jewel rules the pool

Sports Reporter



Jewel Ahmed of the Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protishtan (BKSP) emerged out as the highest individual gold winner in the national age-group swimming championships, concluded at the Mirpur National Swimming Pool yesterday.

On the final day of the three-day meet, Jewel, the boy from 13-14 age-group who won seven golds in the previous two days, added two more olive crown.

In the day's events, Jewel won his first gold in 200m butterfly (2:42.27 sec) while his second gold came from the 100m freestyle (1:02.17) with a new record.

Abdul Hamid Ripon (18-20 age-group) of Biman stood second to Jewel with seven golds while his teammate Niamul Haque finished with six gold.

Ripon, won gold in 1500m freestyle and 200m individual midley while Niamul grabbed gold in 50m freestyle yesterday.

In girls group, two foreigners — Nawmi Cookson (15-17) and Monique Aves (13-14) — shared the honour of the highest gold hunt with five gold each.

Nawmi, who had four gold to

her account in the first two days, made it five yesterday with a new record in 800m freestyle (12:14.32) while Monique, who also had four earlier, notched up gold in 100m breaststroke.

A total of five records were tumbled yesterday which took the new record tally to 25.

Monirul Islam of Kushtia DSA, Kamala of Ansars and Rosni Pool of American International School set the other three new records of the day.

Monirul set the record in the 100m breaststroke (13-14 age-group) 1:19.53 while Kamala, the girl under 10 years, did it in 100m freestyle (1:24.79). On the other hand, Rosni (13-14) set record in 100m freestyle.

A total of 87 events were held in the three-day meet out of which American International School took 25 gold to stay atop. BKSP and Biman emerged out second and third with 20 and 17 gold respectively. Ansars earned the fourth place with 13 gold.

Chief of the Naval Staff, Rear Admiral Mohammad Nurul Islam, the president of Bangladesh Swimming Federation, distributed prizes among the winners after the competi-

FINAL MEDALS TABLE

Team	G	S	B
American Int'l School	25	12	9
BKSP	20	11	8
Biman	17	11	8
Ansars	13	10	14
Kushtia DSA	5	5	13
Rajshahi Edn Board	3	4	9
Nawabganj DSA	2	7	3
Kishoreganj DSA	2	8	0
Pabna DSA	0	2	3
Rajshahi DSA	0	2	1
Mosarrat Swimming Centre	0	2	1
WSA	0	1	2
Dolphin SC	0	1	2
Barhambaria DSA	0	1	0
Chandpur DSA	0	0	3
Tangail DSA	0	0	2
Barisal DSA	0	0	1

Jamalpur meet

JAMALPUR, Oct 31: The under-16 athletics competition for boys and girls was held at the Ruknai High School ground at Melandaha thana here on Monday, reports UNB.

A total of 121 competitors from five organisations participated in six boys' events and four girls' events in the competition organised by district sports association.

WINNERS' PODIUM

Events	Age-group	Name	Team	Time
1500m freestyle	15-17 (boys)	Moris Ogaek	AIS	20:26.25
800m Freestyle	15-17 (girls)	Nawmi Cookson	AIS	12:14.32*
200m butterfly	13-14 (boys)	Jewel Ahmed	BKSP	2:42.27
200m butterfly	13-14 (girls)	Rosni Pool	AIS	3:45.12
50m freestyle	11-12 (boys)	Niamul Haque	Biman	0:31.24
50m freestyle	11-12 (girls)	Kendra Clemer	AIS	0:36.68
400m freestyle	18-20 (boys)	A Hamid Ripon	Biman	4:44.37
200m backstroke	15-17 (boys)	Moris Ogaek	AIS	2:42.75
200m backstroke	15-17 (girls)	Seema Rani	AIS	3:16.93
100m breaststroke	13-14 (girls)	Monique Aves	AIS	1:35.29
100m breaststroke	13-14 (boys)	Monirul Islam	Kushtia DSA	1:19.53*
100m freestyle	10 (boys)	Motiar Rahman	Biman	1:22.73
100m freestyle	10 (girls)	Kamala	Ansars	1:24.79*
200m indl medley	18-20 (boys)	A Hamid Ripon	Biman	2:32.14
100m butterfly	15-17 (boys)	Abdur Rahman	BKSP	1:06.20
100m butterfly	15-17 (girls)	Meeta Som	Ansars	1:30.36
100m freestyle	13-14 (boys)	Jewel Ahmed	BKSP	1:02.17*
100m freestyle	13-14 (girls)	Rosni Pool	AIS	1:16.46*

Note: * indicates new record.

fitness royale

with rani padamsee

Flexibility:

Stretching your body first thing in the morning is a wonderful way of starting your day. But stretching at night, just before bed might be the best idea of all. Good things can come from a little night time flexing. Slow, gentle stretching helps move the mind away from worrisome thoughts and onto calming natural body processes.

Without getting too metaphysical, use some yoga stretching postures to release pent up stress so you can get the kind of deep, restful sleep your body needs. Stress has a way of catching up at a day's end. When you die down and try to relax, all the anxiety and noise of the day come back to haunt you. The stretches will encourage

you to breathe merrfully and release tension. All this stretching and flexing a breathing counter acts that response calms the nervous system. It signals to your mind and body its time to relax.

Benefits:

* Fully stretches the body, from neck to the feet especially the lower spine area and the muscles of the shoulders, upper arms, back and legs.

* Tones the hip joints and the nerves and ligaments of the legs, and makes them more flexible.

* Improves and slims the waistline and tightens the abdomen.

* Massages and invigorates the abdominal organs particularly the kidneys, spleen, stom-

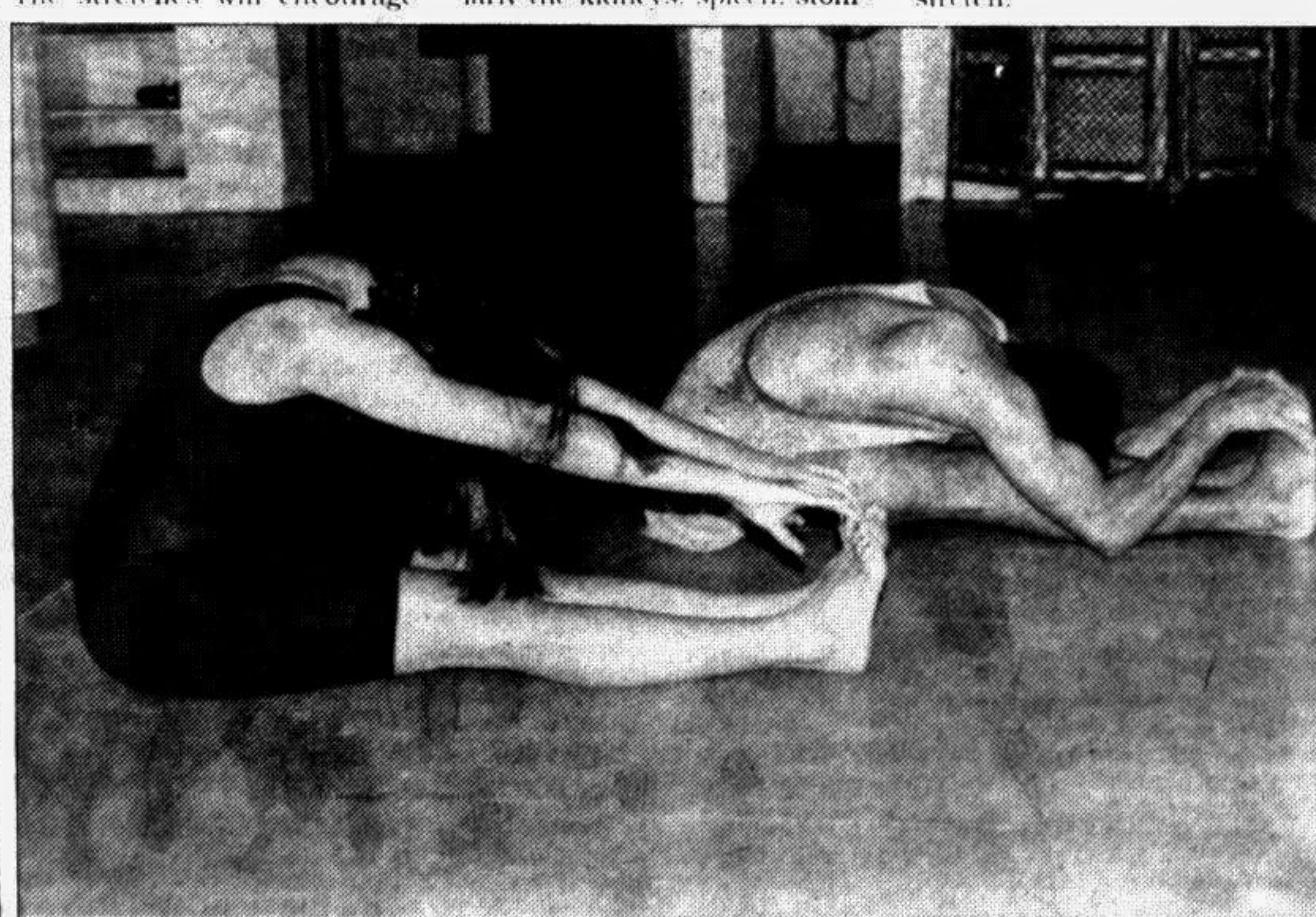
ach and liver.

* Helps relieve and cure digestive disorders.

* Decreases injury level during workouts.

* Leaves you feeling lithe, limber and lighter on your feet.

Initially stretch arms above your head and try to touch your toes without overstraining your back. Do it gently. Once comfortable with this position proceed to the next. Grab your toes, pull your stomach in touch your chest to your thighs. Lower your elbows to the floor & face in between your legs. Concentrate on the exhalation, keep pulling gently but firmly & feel your legs and spine release gradually. Hold for 20 slow counts. Breathe & relax into it. Rest & repeat the head to knee full stretch.



Model: Shoma and Lemon of Bengal School of Shotokan.

— Star photo

Sohail dropped
Pakistan face
Zimbabwe
today

QUETTA, Pakistan, Oct 31: Pakistan selectors dropped Aamir Sohail on Wednesday for the second one-day international against Zimbabwe in Lahore, reports Reuter.

He lost his place despite playing a leading role with former captain Salim Malik in helping Pakistan secure a three-wicket win and a 1-0 lead in the three-day series.

Sohail hit four fours and a six in his innings of 55 and a combined with Malik in a 53-run fourth wicket stand.

The selectors picked 18-year-old Lahore fast bowler Abdul Razzak in place of Sohail for Friday's match.

Fast bowler Waqar Younis, rested for the first game in the series, has not returned to the squad.

Team (from): Wasim Akram (captain), Saeed Anwar, Shahid Afridi, Ijaz Ahmad, Salim Malik, Hasan Raza, Azam Khan, Moin Khan, Azhar Mahmood, Saqlain Mustaq, Shahid Nazir, Abdul Razzak.

Ansar-VDP School
clinch kishore
kabaddi title

Ansar and VDP High School clinched the maiden title of Metropolitan Kishore Kabaddi competition beating Shaheed Nabi High School by 91-75 points at the Outer Stadium court yesterday, reports UNB.

In the final, Ansar and VDP boys earned seven creditable points against Shaheed Nabi's four, and comfortable dominated the first half by 55-31 points.

The winners displayed good team works to snatch their first ever title in the juvenile kabaddi meet while the losing side were completely based on some skillful players, specially Iftekarul Islam, in the 30-minute battle.

Bhasantek High School were adjudged the best disciplined team in the 12-team metropolis under-16 kabaddi meet, organised by the Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation.

State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader witnessed the day's final as chief guest and later distributed prizes.

Ansar and VDP High School: Mazharul, Shahidul, Habibullah, Ariful, Nayeem, Rustam, Delwar, Abdur Rahman, Sultan and Selim.

Shaheed Nabi High School: Iftekarul, Pavel, Ariful, Mahboob, Mizan, Hassan Mahmood, Sikder Mahmood, Ramzan, Joyanal and Rajen.

Referee: Golam Faroque; Umpires: Z Alam and Jahangir Alam Chowdhury.

Dhaka kabaddi
league from Nov 8

Dilkusha Sporting Club will take on Arunadya Jobo Sangha in the inaugural match of the Dhaka Kabaddi league '96 on November 8 at the kabaddi court of the Outer Stadium, reports UNB.

Jurain Janata Club will play Bangladesh Bank in the other opening day's fixture at the same venue.

A total of 12 teams, split into four groups, will take part on league basis matches. Top two teams from each of the group will qualify for the quarter finals.

The participating teams are: Group A: Imarat Nirman SC, Azad Sporting Club and Anirban Sangsad.

Group B: Sonali Bank Club, Jatrabari Faroque Smriti Sangsad and Victoria SC.

Group C: Dilkusha SC, Arunadya Jobo Sangha and Sreejoni Sangsad.

Group D: Jurain Janata Club, Maniknagar Kabaddi club and Bangladesh Bank Club.

No room for
boxing

LONDON, Oct 31: British doctors are taking their campaign to box boxing to the cinema with the release of a 60-second film that highlights the dangers to the brain from persistent heavy punching, reports Reuter.

The doctors' main professional body, the British Medical Association (BMA), launched the film on Wednesday. It will show in around 100 cinemas around Britain over the next two months.

The black and white film has a boxing commentary over what seems to be a close-up in silhouette of a game of conkers — a game played by British children with horse chestnuts suspended from string. The aim is to smash the opponent's conker.

Foreman on
a mission

TOKYO, Oct 31: George Foreman, who fights Crawford Grimsley this weekend, is intent on raising the profile of the World Boxing Union, an obscure organisation the former champion thinks will serve boxing well, reports AP.

"For me, this is not about winning and losing. It's about how you play the game," Foreman said Wednesday. "After this fight, you'll all have heard of the WBU."

The 47-year-old preacher is upset with what he says is the flawed ranking system of the major sanctioning bodies — the WBC, WBA, IBF, and WBO. Those groups don't necessarily match top ranked fighters for title bouts.

An austerity indeed!

Sports Reporter

When Obaidul Quader assumed the office of country's sports supremo, the state minister declared that he would put a tab on unnecessary expenses practiced during the tenure of his predecessors.

But, since July, within the span of four months, a tightwad Obaidul Quader, who is also the chairman of the National Sports Council (NSC), disbursed a hefty amount of nearly Taka one crore 72 lakhs to different sports bodies for various purposes.

Of the grants provided from the fund of NSC, soccer sector received the highest amount for accommodating training and promotional facilities as well overseas tours.

But at the same time Quader, who had earlier promised not to allow any overseas tours for those sports with little credentials seemed to be oblivious of his commitment while granting financial assistance kho kho, bridge, judo and karate.

Kho kho, an alien sporting event for the buffs, received Taka 40000 to feature in the Asian kho kho championship, held in India last month. With this assistance Quader not only patronised the game, but also paved the way for a new name to join in the already flattered list of 28 federations enjoying annual grants from the NSC.

Besides, a nine-member bridge team received Taka two lakhs to manage a trip to Greece for an international sort of meet after being deprived of long time.

However, the most eye-soring revelation is that the NSC has provided a bulk amount for nothing but judo and karate to promote two separate international meet.

An eight-member

Bangladesh judo team will attend the forthcoming Asian judo championship in Vietnam while our karate team is expected to pit in the world karate championship, to be held in Sand City, South Africa.

But as far as our school-boy performance is concerned, even in the SAF level, the decision of sending our judo team to more competitive meet has taken country's sports fraternity aback.

None comes to argue with the notion that financial assistance is a must for the betterment of our sports, but it is obvious, if we are really sincere to our obligation for the cause of the country, priorities must be fixed first.

GRANT AT A GLANCE

Event	Purpose	Amount
Football	Donation to 20 Senior Division Dhaka outfits (3 lakh apiece)	Tk 60,00,000
	20 outfits in Khulna (Tk 25 thousand apiece)	Tk 5,00,000
	14 outfits in Rajshahi (25 thousand apiece)	Tk 3,50,000
	For U-19 team which took part in the recently-concluded 30th Asia Cup football championship	Tk 18,00,000
Cricket	For U-16 coaching	Tk 15,00,000
	Grant for the 22 Senior Division Dhaka outfits (50 thousand apiece)	Tk 11,00,000
Athletics	Islamic Women's Solidarity Games, Islamabad	Tk 12,00,000
Chess	32nd Chess Olympiad, Yereva	Tk 6,75,000
	Asian sub-junior championship	Tk 28,000
	30th Asian chess (Rani Hamid took part)	Tk 30,000
Karate	World Karate championship (from Nov 3-13) in San City, South Africa	Tk 3,00,000
Judo	Asian judo championship (Nov 8-11) Ho Chi Min City, Vietnam	Tk 5,40,000
Handball	To impart coaching for U-14 team	Tk 1,25,000
	To accommodate national teams training for the forth coming Asian handball championship in Jaipur, India	Tk 1,00,000
Bridge	To take part in the Bridge Olympiad (Oct 25-30) in Greece	Tk 2,00,000
Basketball	To attend coaches programme abroad	Tk 13,000
Kho Kho	To accommodate the member of the alien sports to feature in the Asian Kho Kho championship in India	Tk 40,000
Special Olympics	For disabled (Nov 8-13) in Shanghai, China	Tk 5,70,000



Mita Shome of Ansars on her way to clinch the gold in the 100m butterfly event in 15-17 age-group.

— Star photo

Seles OK with shoulder

CHICAGO, Oct 31: Top seed Monica Seles showed no ill effects of a sore shoulder or a month-long lay off in defeating

Elena Likhovtseva 6-2, 6-1 in the second round of the 450,000 dollars Ameritech Cup tennis tournament Wednesday, reports Reuter.

Seles, who shares the world number one ranking with Steffi Graf, needed just 49 minutes to oust the 21-year-old Russian.

"She hit the ball very hard, and there were situations when I didn't think she'd get the ball and she did," Likhovtseva said.

Bothered by a slight tear in her left shoulder since winning the Australian Open in January, she began a new therapy programme in mid-September after leading the United States to the Fed Cup title. The Chicago event was her first test.

"It felt really good," Seles said of her shoulder. "The last couple of weeks I've been doing a lot of exercises. I haven't played in a tournament for four weeks, so I'm pretty fresh."

Seles also seemed very strong. Likhovtseva held serve at love in the fourth game of the first set to tie it 2-2, but Seles won the next four games, keeping Likhovtseva on the run with her blistering cross-court shots.

Seles overpowered Likhovtseva in the second set,

allowing only one point in the last three games. If this match was any indication, the 22-year-old, who won the Chicago event in 1993, can forget about surgery at least for now.

"I have a tear," Seles said. "Eventually, I'll have to have surgery. But with the new ranking system next year, I don't think it's a good idea to have a long lay-off."

An operation to repair her shoulder would sideline her at least 12 weeks, she said.

Seles next faces Irina Spirlea of Romania, who upset sixth seed Mary Joe Fernandez 6-1, 6-2 in the second round.

In the day's other upset, Meredith McGrath, playing in her first event since Wimbledon, ousted fourth seed

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Iva Majoli, 6-3, 6-2.