

Column One DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

That the word stadium derives from the Greek station, the name for a unit of length equal to about 185m (about 607 ft), the length of courses used for footraces in ancient Greece. There were stadiums at Olympia, Delphi, Athens, Epidaurus, and other places at which athletic games were celebrated. The courses were also used for other athletic contests but apparently not for non-competitive exercise. Spectators were seated on terraces or tiers along each side and at one end, which was semicircular. The ancient stadium, modified by features derived from the Roman circus or amphitheatre, has been revived in modern indoor and outdoor structures, designed for spectator events, especially sports contests. The first large modern stadium, in Athens, was built for the first Olympic Games in 1896 and accommodates about 60,000 spectators. Nowadays, stadiums are used for a variety of events from Alisha's gyrations to Tattoo shows.

Sports WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-59 Tick the Correct Answers

Table with 5 questions about sports events and winners. Includes answers like 'Partho Bulbul Monirul' and 'Sweden USA France'.

Name, Class, Roll No., School Address, Phone (If any) fields.

SPORTS TALK



Andrew Charles Hudson (South African Test cricketer)

"I'd like to be remembered as a guy who quietly got on with the job and scored runs. I'd also like to be remembered as a team-man, a guy who was concerned about other people's performances and how the other guys in the team were doing."

Wimbledon 1996 proved up-

PAPERCHESS Niaz Murshed's. Includes a chessboard diagram and a photo of a player.

Another blow for Berti

BONN, Dec 11: Germany's squad for this weekend's difficult World Cup qualifier in Portugal was hit by another withdrawal on Tuesday when key Bayern Munich midfielder Thomas Strunz pulled out with influenza, reports Reuter. Euro '96 player Strunz missed Bayern's final league game before the winter break at the weekend and told coach Berti Vogts he would not be able to travel with the party to Lisbon for Saturday's European Group Nine clash. The late withdrawal is a blow to the European champions, who will also be missing midfielders Mehmet Scholl and Thomas Haessler, defender Thomas Helmer, reserve goalkeeper Oliver Kahn and striker Oliver Bierhoff, hero of the Euro '96 final. The party, which is due to fly to Portugal on Thursday, has been reduced to 19. The Portuguese have a special place in the history of German football. They are the only team ever to have beaten the Germans in a World Cup qualifier, winning 1-0 in Stuttgart in October 1985. The Germans have not lost to the Portuguese since and beat them 2-1 in a friendly in Porto in February. But Vogts said, "We were in good shape then. When I see how Porto have marched through the Champions League, I'm not so sure that we can travel to Bayern Munich's in-form midfielder Mario Basler, who was part of the Euro '96 squad but did not make an impact because of injury, can now expect to be given an important role in midfield. Bayer Leverkusen striker Ulf Kirsten's superb form in the first half of the season has been rewarded with a place in the squad but VfB Stuttgart's Fredi Bobic is expected to join captain Juergen Klinsmann up front. SQUAD Goalkeepers: Andreas Koepke (Marseille), Oliver Reck (Werder Bremen) Defenders: Markus Babbel (Bayern Munich), Juergen Kohler, Stefan Reuter, Matthias Sammer (all Borussia Dortmund), Christian Woerns (Bayer Leverkusen) Midfielders: Mario Basler (Bayern), Marco Bode, Dieter Eilts (both Werder Bremen), Joerg Heinrich, Andy Moeller (both Dortmund), Michael Tarnat (Karlsruhe), Dariusz Wozniak (Bochum), Christian Zeig (Bayern) Forwards: Fredi Bobic (Stuttgart), Heiko Herrlich (Dortmund), Ulf Kirsten (Leverkusen), Juergen Klinsmann (Bayern).

Boris makes his presence felt

LONDON, Dec 11 (Reuter): Boris Becker bounced back into the big time in 1996, ending the year as he had begun it, with a victory speech and a fat cheque. The 29-year-old veteran of 13 professional tennis summers won his first Grand Slam tournament for five years at the Australian Open in January and earned himself a cool 1.875 million dollars with victory in the Grand Slam Cup in December. It wasn't all roses in between, however, a pulled muscle kept the powerful German out of the French Open and an agonising wrist injury forced him to abandon Wimbledon mid-match just as he was getting into his booming stride through a favourable draw. But after several weeks out of action the three-times Wimbledon champion picked up where he left off and went on to overwhelm the big-serving Croat Goran Ivanisevic at the lucrative end-of-year Grand Slam Cup last weekend. "He was just too good. I didn't know what to do," Ivanisevic said. "He is playing his best tennis ever." Becker will be back in Melbourne next month to defend his title and he would dearly love to add to his Wimbledon haul 12 years after he became the youngest player to take the crown at the age of 17. Wimbledon 1996 proved up-

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার. মনসো ও পত সম্পদ মন্ত্রণালয়. প্রকল্প পরিচালকের কার্যালয়. ২য় ও ৩য় পত সম্পদ উন্নয়ন প্রকল্পের. ডিগ্রি: প্রকল্প, পত সম্পদ ভবন (৪র্থ তলা). কৃষি খামার সড়ক, ফার্মপেট, ঢাকা-১২১৫. ০৫-১২-৯৬ইং ২১-২১-৯৮০০বাং

Maradona Jr waiting in the wings!

NAPLES, Italy, Dec 11: Diego Armando Maradona junior, recognised by a court here as the son of the Argentine soccer star, will make his debut in a football tournament near here next Monday, reports AFP. The 10-year-old, whose mother Christiana Sinagra had an affair with Maradona during his years at Napoli, will lay in the under-12 'Christmas tournament' at Nola, some 25 kms east of here. The youngster, who will turn out in a number 10 shirt like his father, is due to play for Licola against Nola in an event bringing together local football schools.

Penev echoes Hristo's voice

SOFIA, Dec 11: Bulgaria's Lyuboslav Penev has demanded the resignation of his country's soccer chiefs and said he would boycott Saturday's World Cup qualifier against Cyprus, reports Reuter. "I will always play for Bulgaria but not while this unions management is in power," Penev said on local television, where he appeared with striker Hristo Stoichkov on Monday night. Penev who plays for Spanish First Division side Compostela, was dropped for using insulting words on local television after the European Championship in England earlier this year. However, he has been recalled to the national side for the match in Cyprus. Penev said he was disappointed with the management of the Bulgarian Football Union (BFU) who had not told him he had been dropped from the national side, leaving him to hear about it from the media. Stoichkov missed Bulgaria's first two qualifiers against Israel and Luxembourg, vowing to quit the team unless the soccer chiefs were replaced. The BFU will hold a special meeting on December 20 after accusations by some clubs of mismanagement. Penev and Stoichkov who is not playing because of injury, were called to Sofia by head coach Hristo Bonev to take part in a training camp ahead of Saturday's qualifier against Cyprus. Bonev said Ivalio Antonov from CSKA would replace Penev.



Indian Viswanathan Anand (L) moves a piece while his opponent Russian Anatoly Karpov looks on during the second day of the 'Gran Canaria '96' world chess tournament in Spain on Dec 10. — AFP/UNB photo

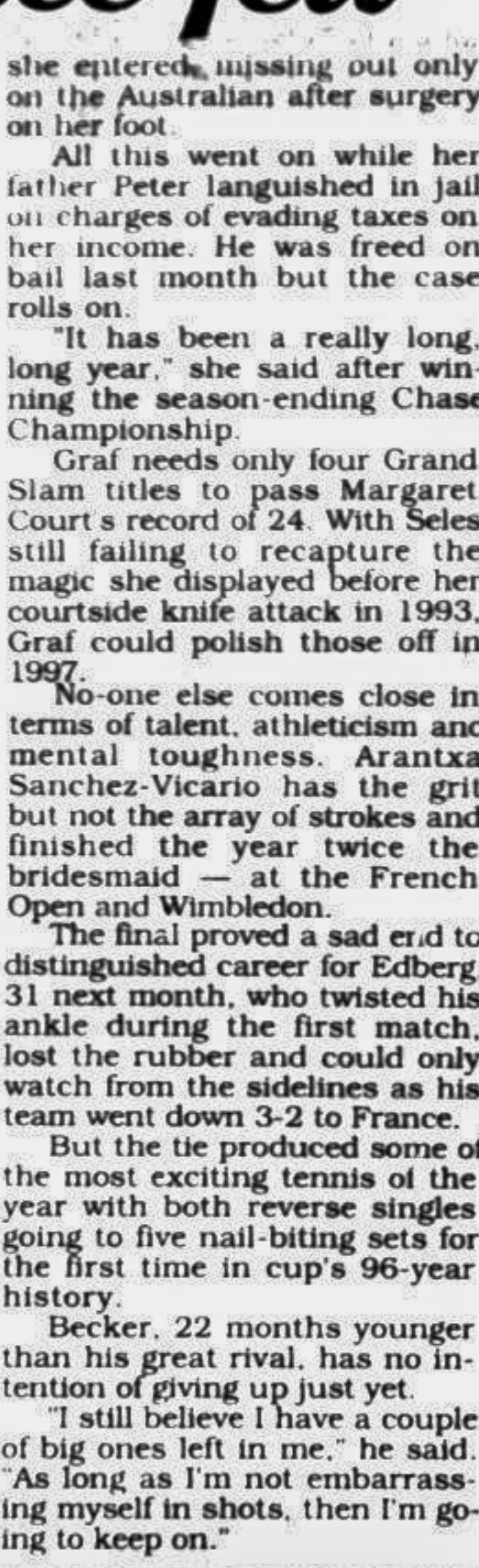
Jockeying for top job

LONDON, Dec 11: The supremacy of Europe and South America as football's twin power bases may come under attack for the first time in the search for a successor as FIFA president to Joao Havelange following his decision to retire in 1998, reports Reuter. Three potential candidates for the presidency have emerged from Europe — UEFA president Lennart Johansson, FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter and more intriguingly, Bayern Munich president and former World Cup winner Franz Beckenbauer. But Africa and Asia have also thrown up potential successors to 80-year-old Brazilian Havelange, who announced on Saturday he would step down after the World Cup finals in France, 24 years after he took the reins of power at soccer's world governing body. From the Far East comes FIFA vice-president Chung Moon-Jung, the man chiefly responsible for bringing half of the 2002 World Cup to South Korea. Chung, a leading business tycoon and member of the South Korean Parliament as well as president of the country's national soccer federation, has been an energetic advocate of his country's bid to co-host the first finals of the 21st century with neighbours Japan. He has locked horns with Havelange in the past, most notably in November last year when he aimed a stinging rebuke at his boss for visiting Nigeria at a time when the west African country was being condemned across the globe for human rights abuses. Africa's potential FIFA president is Issa Hayatou, widely respected head of the African Football Federation — less vocal than Chung but a natural power-broker and negotiator. The Cameroonian was instrumental in winning Africa an additional two berths to the 1998 finals in France when the decision was taken after the 1994 US finals to expand the competition from 24 teams to 32. Five African teams will compete in France as opposed to three in the United States. The performances of Cameroon and Nigeria in the last two World Cups and at this year's Olympic Games in Atlanta have greatly raised the profile of black African soccer around the world and some will feel the time is right for an African to rule at FIFA headquarters in Zurich. How much support Hayatou has outside Africa remains to be seen. If either Chung or Hayatou do decide to stand in what will be a straightforward one-country-one-vote ballot, they will undoubtedly face opposition from at least one of the big guns of European soccer politics. Until recently UEFA chief Johansson, often at odds with the autocratic Havelange, had been considered favourite to take over from the Brazilian. But the Swede, who said a long time back he would run for the job when Havelange stood down, has done himself no favours recently. Switzerlander Blatter is perhaps a more likely European candidate and, as FIFA's general secretary, can claim to know the ins and outs of the organisation better than his potential rivals. His current contract expires after the France finals, just when Havelange is due to go. And finally there is Beckenbauer, who would undoubtedly be the people's choice in Europe. The Kaiser's credentials are undisputed. He is the only man to have won the World Cup as both player and coach and is respected across the world for his intelligent approach to the game. At 51 he is also young enough to pilot world football well into the next century. Beckenbauer has already said he will quit as president of Bayern next year but has yet to announce what he plans to do next. "I have watched all that has happened lately very closely and have spoken to certain people at the highest levels," he said when asked recently about the job as FIFA's overlord. "But then I am in touch with them regularly on football matters." "When I leave Bayern I must be certain the next move is the right one. All I will say is I would not exclude taking over as president of FIFA."

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার. বাংলাদেশ পরিসংখ্যান ব্যুরো. কৃষি তথ্যী প্রকল্প. ৭/৪, ব্লক-এ, লালমারিয়া, ঢাকা-১২০৭। দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি. কৃষি তথ্যী প্রকল্পের তথ্যীয় প্রস্তুত মূল্য ও বিজ্ঞান প্রচারের নিমিত্তে নিম্নলিখিত প্রকল্পকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে দুইখাম বিশিষ্ট এজেন্ট/সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে দুইখাম বিশিষ্ট সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে।

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer. Includes a crossword puzzle grid and a list of clues for across and down words.

Bader Halabji (R) of Kuwait and South Korean Lee Young Jim (L) run after the ball during their Asian Cup encounter at the Al Ain Stadium, Abu Dhabi on Dec 10. Kuwait won the match 2-0. — AFP/UNB photo



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