HE PARTICIPATING TEAMS

BANGABANDHU CUP SIVER JUBILET OF NOEPENDENCE FOOTBALLTO.

BANGLADE SHI FOOTBALL FEDERATIO



(Former Indian cricketer) "One should be judged by how one plays on hard and seaming tracks. This is the feature of modern international cricket



WIN TK, 2000/-PRIZE BOND **EVERY FORTNIGHT** 

Sports WHiZZ KID competition-60

Tick the Correct Answers Competition closes: 8 pm

	Jan	3, '97)	
1	Who wo Premier league tit	Division	footbal
	Mohammedan	Abahani	Muktijoddh
2	Which team won the Bijor Dibash Cup hockey title?		
	Usha /	yax Ban	gladesh Arm
3	Which country won the Champions' Trophy hockey title recently?		
	Pakistan	Holland	Germany
4	Who is the top scorer in this season's Premier Division football league?		
	Nakib "	Mizan	Alfa

Former Italian national

soccer coach Arrigo Sacchi

Fiorentina

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

now coaches

Inter Milan | AC Milan

School Address ..... \*

Phone: (If any) .....

Sirajganj

badminton SIRAJGANJ, Dec 30: A fourday Police Super Badminton

Cup '96 began here today with 12 teams participating in the tournament, reports UNB. The play started at 4 pm at the ground adjacent to the Po-

lice Super's office. The participating teams are:

Seven Star Sangsad (Red), Shiraji Smriti Sangha (1). Hitchcock (Green), Manzur Hag & partner, Ekok Sangha (Red), Raju & partner, Shiraji Smriti Sangha (2), Debabrata Sanval & partner, Clarence Gomes & partner. Seven Star Sangsad (Green). Ekok Sangha (Green) and Hitchcock (Red). In the opening day's match.

Shiraji Smriti Sangha (2), Hitchcock (Green), Ekok Sangha (Red), Shiraji Smriti Sangha (1). Clarence Gomes & partner, and Hitchcock (Red) won their respective matches.

The final of the tournament

will be held on January 2 next.

#### Dortmund coach contented

BONN, Dec 30: Borussia Dortmund trainer Ottmar Hitzfeld said on Sunday he was impressed with his injury-depleted team for finishing the first half of the Bundesliga season second to Bayern Munich. reports Reuter.

Hitzfeld told the newspaper Bild Am Sonntag the reserve players had done a tremendous job, with several key players such as Matthias Sammer side-

lined with injuries. "If we can get second place with the second string players then we must be capable of winning the championship once we are back at full strength again," Hitzfeld said. "Anything less than that would be an embarrassment."

Hitzfeld, who expects injured players Steffen Freund and Paulo Sousa back when training for the second half of the season begins on January 13. said the reserves deserved credit for the strong first half.

"They played sensational." Hitzfeld said of the reserves. "We have some truly magnificent players."

## Com On Pierce sent packing

PERTH, Austra-lia. Dec 30: Marc Rosset, struggling to overcome a painful back injury. linked with Mar-

tina Hingis on Monday to lift second-seeded Switzerland to a 2-1 victory over Romania in their opening match of the Hopman Cup team tennis championship, reports AP. Rosset needed treatment at

courtside during the 110minute match but he and Hingis downed Adrian Voinea and Irina Spirlea 3-6, 7-5, 6-3 in the decisive mixed doubles. Hingis gave the Swiss a 1-0

lead when she beat Spirlea 7-5, 6-2 in the women's singles but Rosset then gave Voinea a walkover victory in the men's singles, preferring to save his back for the doubles. The gamble paid off. Rosset suffered the back in

jury on the flight to Australia from Europe, and then had spasms during a practice session on Saturday

They just don't make airline seats big enough for me," he

It is the second year Rosset has been troubled by injury at the Hopman Cup. Last year, he punched a courtside advertising sign during the final against Croatia, broke his right hand and was forced to withdraw. That injury also kept him out of the Australian Open. Rosset said he expects to be

fit to play both singles and doubles against South Africa on

#### Julie skips tour Down Under

BRISBANE, Australia, Dec 30: French number one women's tennis player Julie Halard-Decugis withdrew Sunday from the Australian Open because of a knee injury, organisers said, reports AFP.

The 26-year-old was also forced out of the 175,000 US dollars Gold Coast Classic tournament beginning today at Hope Island, south of here. Halard-Decugis was the fourth

#### Tennis player passes away

CALCUTTA, Dec 30: Ace tennis player of yesterday and former secretary of the All India Tennis Association, Dilip Bose, died here this morning following a massive heart attack while playing golf. He was 75, reports PII.

He was playing golf at the Tollygunge Club with former soccer star. Byomkesh Bose. when on the third hole he suffered a heart attack. He was immediately rushed to a nearby nursing home where he was pronounced dead, according to Manick Goswami, the secretary of the Bengal Tennis Association.

Hingis, who is suffering from a cold, recovered from a sluggish start to down Spirlea in straight sets. The Romanian player never has won a set against the 16-year-old Swiss

in four attempts. I'm very happy about how I played today." Hingis said. "I'm really happy to be here before the summer events in Aus-

Hingis is now 5-0 in Hopman Cup singles play On Sunday, Justin Gimel-

stob and Chanda Rubin scored an upset mixed doubles victory to lift the United States to a 2-1 victory over fourth-seeded France. Rubin downed Mary Pierce

6-4, 6-1 in the opening women's singles and then teamed with late replacement Gimelstob to beat Guy Forget and Pierce 3-6. 6-3, 6-2 in the decisive doubles. Davis Cup star Forget, trou-

bled by blisters on his left hand earlier beat Gimelstob 2 6, 6 3, 6-3 in the men's singles, rallying from a set and a break

Goran Ivanisevic and Iva Majoli teamed for a 2-1 victory over Australia as Croatia rnade a winning start to their defence of the title. Ivanisevic and Majoli beat Australians Mark Philippous sis and Nicole Bradtke 7-5, 7-5 in the decisive mixed doubles.

Majoli beat Bradtke 6-4, 6-3 in the opening women's singles before Philippoussis surprised lyanisevic 6-2, 6-3 in the inen's singles to level the match.

Croatia, France, Australia and the United States are contesting Group A of the roundrobin event and Switzer and. Germany, Romania and South Africa are in Group B.

The winning team from each group will advance to the I inal. Prize money for the event. which continues through Jan 4. totals US 640,000 dollars. The winning pair will collect US 176,000 dollars.

The Hopman Cup is on e of a series of lead-up events to the Australian Open, to be played in Melbourne from Jan 13-26.



Swiss Martina Hingis (L) and Mare Rosset celebrate their victory in a mixed doubles match of the Hopman Cup in Perth on Dec 30. The pair defeated Romanians Irina Spirlea and Adrian Voinea 3-6, 7-5, 6-3. -AFP/UNB photo

## Riding thru' rough sea

HONG KONG, Dec 30(AFP): China dispelled drug suspicions in 1996 but now heads into 1997 with another addictive substance weighing heavily in the pockets of its athletes - money.

Atlanta Olympics star Wang Junxia has put running on the backburner to finish her business studies, the football authorities have capped player wages saying that fans are not getting good value, and the American NBA says someone in Chinese basketball is trying to cash in on its initials.

China has now spent two years fighting off the ignominy of the 1994 Asian Games, when 11 athletes including two world champion swimmers failed drug tests. But it went through Atlanta and all of 1996 without

a sign of trouble. Hinting that the country's self-imposed exile was now over, Wei Jizhong, secretary general of the Chinese Olympic Committee, said: "We had a new generation of swimmers in Atlanta and they performed as ex-

"By the time of the next Olympics they will be better. I hope we will soon be top of the world again in swimming, but I am not sure."

Lu Bin, one of the two tainted champions, is even back in competition after serving a twoyear ban.

Rival coaches say the lack of drugs is why China's women secured only one Olympic swimming gold - through Le Jingyi after taking 12 of the 16 titles at

the 1994 World Championships. Chinese sports leaders condemn this as jealousy and insist there is no evidence of underhand tactics.

But look around Chinese sport and the traces of growing amounts of money are everywhere.

The grip of the People's Liberation Army and other state departments on sport is being prised open. Even the official Xinhua news agency has heralded what it calls "a rising professional tide."

It took a while for market reforms to reach Chinese sport, but now the country is Asia's established sporting superpower. the surge could prove unstoppable.

The emperors and empresses of table tennis led by Kong Linghi and Deng Yaping. who won all the titles at the World Championship in 1995 and in Altanta, now have to fight off agents. Wang, Junxia, who quit MA

Junren's Army in a row over missing prize money, is getting her affairs in order so she can get her own team of runners on a sound financial footing. Her victory in the women's

5,000m and silver medal in the 10,000m in Atlanta made her

probably China's most famous sports star in international

The holder of the 10,000m and 3,000m world records has hardly run since Atlanta but she says this is because of her business studies to plan for the future.

But Wang is not foremost in the minds of most Chinese sports fans they live for football and basketball which will stadiums and draw tens of millions of TV viewers each week.

Dalian Wanda won the third year of the professional soccer championship, but moans about the quality have increased since China were beaten in the quarterfinals of the

Asian Cup this month. "Fans jammed telephone lines to TV talk shows and radio sports programmes, asking almost the same question: Why Chinese soccer looks poorer than before the launch of the professional league." Xinhua

reported. The Chinese Football Association will increase the league from 12 to 14 clubs from 1998.

But having set a target of qualifying for the 1998 World Cup finals in France, it has also imposed a salary ceiling after calling players "overpaid" and imposed a rule that players must be able to run 3,200 metres in 12 minutes to play next sea-

Football and basketball has opened the door to privatelyrun clubs and foreign players and coaches.

Basketball has also opened up to the free market with rival leagues both using cheer leaders and American style names the Beijing ducks or the Beijing lions depending on which league you follow - to lure crowds and sponsors.

The NBA is not happy a bout the Chinese new basketball alliance prominently using the CNBA initials and has filed

writs in Hong Kong and Bei jing. Spectrum, the Hong Kong firm behind the league which has brought in 38 American coaches and players, says it will not change and has demied other accusations about for eign players leaving under a cloud.



Real Madrid's Victor (L) and Mancini of Sampdoria fig.ht for the ball during a friendly match at Santiago Bernabeu Stadium in the Spanish capital on Dec 29.

- AFP/UNB photo

Pakistan tune up well

NEWCASTLE, Australia, Dec 30: Pakistan defeated the Hunter Invitation XI by 25 runs in a rain-shortened limitedovers cricket match at Newcastle Sports Ground on Monday. reports AP.

their reduced 32 overs and the Hunter XI was all out for 161 with four balls remaining.

than three hours during the Pakistan innings after which there was a spectacular 117-run partnership in just 61 minutes between Zahoor Elahi (69) and Inzamam-Ul-Haq (55) to lay the platform for victory.

to 157 in a free-hitting display before Hunter medium pacer Greg Geise chipped in with three wickets in an over.

Moin Khan was caught behind from the next ball.

four overs.

Saglain Mushtaq took 5-28. Pakistan, return to action Wednesday in a limited-overs World Series match against Australia at the Sydney Cricket

oss in the series.

(Zahoor Elahi 69, Inzamam-Ul-Haq 55; Greg Geise 5-20, Merv Hughes 2-30, Hunter Invitation XI [61 (Greg Arms 38, Shane Lee 35; Saglain Mushtaq 5-28, Mohammad Zahid 3-25

### vie for the

**Emperor Cup** 

Kawasaki booked a place in Wednesday's Emperor Cup final against Sanfrecce Hiroshima with a 3-0 semifinal win over Urawa Red Diamonds on Sunday, reports Reuter

Hiroshima reached the final for the second successive year beating Gamba Osaka 2-0 Neither finalist has won the cup before:

Verdy, twice J-League champions, were contained until the 57th minute when a 20-metre rolled into the net.

Kazuyoshi's elder brother added the second in the 70th minute and Kurihara put the result beyond doubt with a goal seven minutes from time.

Holger Osieck and fellow German midfielder Uwe Bein. who are both leaving the club. In the other semifinal at Nagai Stadium in Osaka, first-

half goals by South Korean forward Noh Jung Yoon and Brazilian midfielder Santos saw Hiroshima through.

They needed some good fortune, however, as Gamba had two second-half goals disal lowed while Dutch striker Hans Gillhaus was twice denied by the woodwork.

#### Nigeria hunt after new coach

LAGOS, Dec 30: Nigeria have contacted top British and Dutch managers to interview and appoint one as trainer of their national team, a senior sports ministry official said, reports Reuter.

We have got in touch with high-profile managers like Kevin Keegan, Howard Wilkinson. Louis van Gaal, Johan Cruyff and Albert Fafie to select one for the vacant position of manager of the "Super Eagles". Danladi Bako, assistant director in the sports ministry, said on state television on Saturday

Keegan and Van Gaal are respectively managers of English Premier league Newcastle United and Dutch champions Ajax Amsterdam. Wilkinson, Cruyff and Fasie are currently without teams.

deputy to former manager Jo Bonfrere, has been training the Eagles since October when the Dutchman quit in acrimonious circumstances. Bonfrere, alleging poor treatment and interference in

Local coach Amodu Shaibu,

his duties, said he had resigned after leading the Nigerians to the Atlanta Olympic title in Au-The Nigeria Football Association (NFA) disagreed, saying he still had one year left of his

two-year contract.

Bako said the new manager would be employed by January, adding: "We are desperate to have a new manager to work with Shaibu...but the man to fill Bonfrere's position must be able to fit into and operate within the Nigerian situation." "Our need for a high-profile

coach is because we are also a high-profile soccer playing nation. It will be disastrous and criminal if we fail to qualify for the 1998 World Cup in France for our second World Cup out-Soccer is followed with pas-

million. Il, are second in their group behind Guinea, who lead on su-

perior goal difference.

Pakistan made 186 for off

Play was held up for more

They took the score from 40

Inzamam was first to fall to a catch by Anthony Stuart on the long on boundary after hitting a six and six fours. Zahoor went three balls later to a skied shot behind square leg and

After conceding 12 runs from his first over. Geise went on to finish with 5-20 from

Pakistan have a win and a linto 1997. AC Milan might

SCORES: Pakistan 186-9

Pakistan won by 25 runs.

## Verdy, Hiroshima

TOKYO Dec 30 Verdy

drive by Brazilian playmaker Bismarck was deflected off teammate Kazuyoshi Miura and Yasutoshi Miura

it was a disappointing farewell for Urawa's manager

ing match against Lazio in

# Kafelnikov bows out

ADELAIDE. Australia. Dec 30: Number one seed and French Open champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov

of Russia was sent out of the Australian Hardcourt tennis championships by unseeded Swede Mikael Tillstrom at Memorial Drive on Monday. reports AP.

Australian Davis Cup player

Mark Woodforde downed his compatriot Richard Fromberg 6-3, 6-3 to advance to the second round. Left-hander Woodforde, 31, coming off the most lucrative season of his career, took just

61 minutes to down Fromberg.

who is recovering from a shoulder injury. Woodforde, the No. 2 seed a former winner of the event, was joined in the last 16 by No. 5 seed Alex O'Brien of the United States and No. 6 David Prinosil

the Czech-born German player. O'Brien struggled past German Marc Goellner 6-7 (5-7), 6-4, 7-6 (11-9), saving a match point along the way, and Prinosil downed Slava Dosedel of the Czech Republic 6-3, 6-2.

Renzo Furlan of Italy was the first seeded player to fall.

40 Dundee

45 Nonstick

48 History

surface

surrender

54 Hr. fraction

55 Letter line

57 Cribbage

56 Aloof

38 Symbol of DOWN

. 1 Take

41 Continent- 2 Noise from

43 Sea nymph 3 Emulate

blades to

5 Spendthrift

6 "- Blue?"

7 Movie

director

8 Catches

adjunct

dancer

39 Deprived

51 Cap

53 P.E.

52 Expert

9 Fish

10 Seep

59 Rep's rival 11 Requisite

a fan?

ACROSS

4 1955

Derby-

horse

9 Took top

honors

12 Sturdy

wood

13 Bactrian

14 Garden

15 The man

17 Noun-to-

critter?

19 Took ten

a case

24 Mayberry

contents

25 Trav

35 --- en-

scene

36 Victorious

21 He's got

18 Farm

who came

verb suffix

to dinner

Doubtfire"

Sacchi, who took Italy to the 1994 World Cup final against

Hard work and determina-

Tough task awaits Sacchi

The East Bengal team of Calcutta on their arrival at the ZIA yesterday.

MILAN. Dec 30

(Reuter): New year

is generally a time

to bring out the

old and bring in

the new. Going

happily settle for a repeat of the

take little comfort from the

present season after being

beaten in the domestic cup

dismissed from European com-

petition by Norwegians and

with their Serie A title hopes

looking more and more than

novelty for the once all-con-

quering Milan has been defeat

and disorganisation on a rare

scale while provincial soccer

clubs such as Vicenza and

Bologna impress with a frac-

league title four times in the

past five seasons and also win-

ning the European Cup three

times since 1988, Milan are

have lost five times in 14 league

matches, compared with Juven-

tus sole defeat, despite the fact

that only Vicenza have scored

The "rosso-nere" (red-blacks)

This month's European Cup

For the first time since me-

Champions' League defeat by

Norway's Rosenborg proved

that something was seriously

dia mogul Silvio Berlusconi

took over as club president.

Milan went out of the European

Cup competition before the

rigo Sacchi, who ironically rep-

resents the old rather than the

new as the architect of Milan's

success in the 1980s, faces a

tough task in the months ahead

as he seeks to rebuild the old

The new year, with the open-

Newly-appointed coach Ar-

quarterfinal stages.

After capturing the Serie A

tion of their resources.

looking lost and tired.

more goals.

The future is meanwhile full

For much of this season, the

stuff of dreams.

of uncertainty

The Italian champions can

porters last week.

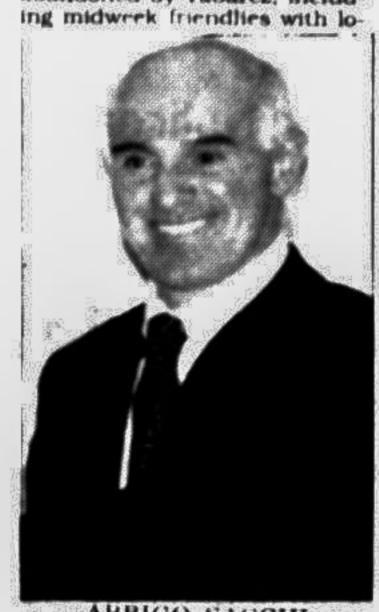
tion are the key.

Brazil, held up those players many of them coming from Milan - as an example of what a less than outstanding team can achieve with the right psychological attitude.

Many of those players left the pitch with cramp. They suffered and gave everything," he

"And, not be accident, we finished second. I would like to see Milan players leave the pitch with cramp also.

To that end Sacchi has re-introduced training methods abandoned by Tabarez, including midweek friendlies with lo-



\*ARRIGO SAUCHI\* fresh approach.

"I want to see right from the first days of 1997 a more competitive Milan," Sacchi told recal clubs, and made life much harder for the players.

A month on from the former Italian national coach's sensational return to the San Siro Stadium following the resigna-Rome on January 5. calls for a tion of courteous Uruguayan

The No 7 went down 4-6, 6-4, 6-4

to wild card entry Andrei

Cherkasov, ranked 149th in

the world, was given a wild card

after top seed Yevgeny Kafel-

nikov asked tournament orga-

nizers that his training partner

today. I play a seeded player and

it was not easy to win."

Cherkasov said. "I had to run a

public advanced with a 7-5, 1-6,

7-6 (7-4) triumph over Australia

wild card recipient Michael

Byron Black, Zimbabwe, de-

Mikael Tillstrom, Sweden,

Todd Woodbridge (4), Aus-

The tournament, which is

feated Kenneth Carlsen, Den-

defeated Yevgeny Kafelnikov

tralia, defeated Daniel Vacek,

being played on the same Re-

bound Ace courts used for the

Australian Open, continues

through Jan. 5. The Australian

Open starts Jan 13 at the Na-

tional Tennis Center in Mel-

Czech Republic, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Jiri Novak of the Czech Re-

"It was especially nice to win

Cherkasov or Russia.

be included in the draw.

lot and work hard."

BRIEF RESULTS

Tebbutt.

mark, 6-4, 6-3.

(1), Russia, 6-2, 6-2.

realism Sacchi's league record is not bad — two wins and one defeat but Milan are far from convinc-

no room for optimism.

lem is clearer.

ing on the field. Asked whether the current Milan players could emulate his 1988 title-winning team by fighting to the top after the Christmas break, Sacchi found

coach Oscar Washington

Tabarez, the scale of the prob-

Milan are seventh, eight

points adrift of leaders Juven-

tus whose form is improving.

and Sacchi publicly conceded at

the weekend that Milan are

- captain Franco Baresi an-

grily dismissed them by saying

that he never plays for second

place - but they also smack of

His works may just be a ruse

fighting for second place.

"Absolutely no," the coach told Italian newspapers. The conditions are not there, that team came after 10 years without success. This team has 10 years of success behind it." Put simply, the coach be-

lieves that his team have become stale and spoilt by their **SUCCESS** But injury has also taken its toll with Liberian striker

George Weah sidelined by an

ankle problem and also banned from Europe for six matches for headbutting an opponent. Italy defender Paolo Maldini, already wrestling with the worst season of his career, fractured a cheekbone in the last match against Parma before Christmas while former World

Cup star Roberto Baggio has fallen out with Sacchi. Other leading lights, such as 36-year-old Baresi, are already well into extra time in their ca-

"The team has a lot of problems, there is no point hiding it," said Sacchi last week. adding that it would be unfair to blame Tabarez or the athletic

training of the players. "We lack the right determination, we need to have patience, it will take time to find it," Sacchi warned.

He said several players, none named, were like shadows — "present but absent" — who made little effort. "Before I came back to Mi-

lan, I thought that I would not find any (such players), I was evidently wrong. Some new signings, with Dutchman Michael Reiziger a leading example, have made little impact and even Weah, world player-of-the-year in 1995 and with a contract to the

openly about a possible move to English Premier league club Ar-Former Gothenburg midfielder Jesper Blomgvist, who joined Milan this month to instant acclaim, has meanwhile

end of the century, has spoken

become firmly established at the club as hope for the future. He may be joined by Bayern Munich's Christian Ziede while Italian newspapers have reported that the club is chasing Ajax's Winston Bogarde and Patrick Kluivert for next sea-

"For a club to recover, there are so many factors at work," Sacchi told the Daily Gazzetta Dello Sport newspaper.

"But two are fundamental: a club and a president who have faith and a group willing to make sacrifices.

"It will be a hard year

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer 16 Scottish 20 Where taught 21 French compose 22 "Unto us London novel 27 Knock ('em) dead Almodovar 29 Actor Morales 30 Feat 32 Mephistomerchan 34 Hereditary 37 Actress/

AYHDN

Saturday's Cryptoquip: THE DUMMY WOULD ALWAYS FEAR HE'D FIND THAT HIS SNOW TIRES Today's Cryptoquip clue: A equals W

The Cryptoquip 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.

## CRYPTOQUIP TKLDYXH RLJZTSM REZDDJH YEAYMN DJ ASXHK YHO OXHK

Service' 26 Emulate sionate interest in Africa's most populous country of 100 45 Office 28 Made into HAD MELTED. lumber Nigeria, now preparing for 31 Clark's an away World Cup qualifying companion nia port game against Kenya on January 33 Journal 50 Incense