Hasina opens

Pioneer soccer

Hasina yesterday inaugurated

the pioneer football league at

casion, she expressed the hope that the pioneer league would be

The Prime Minister an

President and general secre-

nounced a donation of Taka ten

tary of Bangladesh Football

Federation Mohammad Hanif

and Harunur Rashid, MP, also

sented with a crest and a blazer

groups in five zones will take

part in the meet organised by Bangladesh Football Federa-

KC drew goalless with Gazipur

Eleven in an exhibition match.

Young Cricketers

Div III champs

Sports Reporter

BRIEF SCORES

YOUNG CRICKETERS: 208 all out in 43.4 overs (Sumon

84. Badsha 22; Feroz 3/42.

PRAGATI SEBA SANGHA:

149 for nine in 45 overs

(Sezan 39, Tutul 27; Romen

Danish Third Division cricket

league title as unbeaten cham-

pions defeating Pragati Seba

Sangha by 59 runs in the last

match of the four-team Super

league on the eastern strip of

the Dhanmondi Cricket Sta-

Young Cricketers rattled up a

commanding total of 204 be-

fore being all out in 43.4 overs.

The unassailable lead of Young

Cricketers was built around a

dazzling 84 by their opener

Sumon, who clubbed five fours

and a sixer in his 98-ball vigil

In reply, the Pragati boys

could only muster 149 for nine

before exhausting their share of

45 overs. Romen, with four for

only 19 runs in his eight

miserly overs, was the wrecker-

in-chief among the Young

Pragati line-up with vengeance,

was ably supported by Regan

who finished with two for 14 in

ant 39 fought a lone battle for

eters and Pragati earned pro-

motion to the Second Division

Bangladesh to

tour Lanka

without Rafique

Sports Reporter

tain to miss the Bangladesh bus

to the forthcoming sixth Asia

tional slow left-armer and a

very useful long-handled bat

has been advised by the team

physio Dr. Jawad to take a long

break in a bid to allow his rup-

Cup due to injury.

Mohammad Rafique is cer-

It was learnt that the na-

One-down Tutul with a defi-

Earlier, both Young Crick-

Romen, who tore apart the

Cricketers' bowlers.

his four overs.

Pragati.

next year.

Electing to use the wicket,

Young Cricketrs lifted the

Igbal 2/38)

4/19, Regan 2/16)

dium vesterday.

at the crease.

The Prime Minister was pre-

In all 75 teams split into ten

On the inaugural day, Russel

able to find new talents.

lakh for the league.

by the organisers.

spoke.

the Rajuk ground, reports BSS.

Prime Minister Sheikh

Speaking briefly on the oc-

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-71

✓ Tick the Correct Answers Competition closes 8 pm, June 13, '97

lifted

the

1 Who

	Independence Cup cricket title?		
	Pakistan	Sri Lanka	India
2	Who won the European Cup football title?		
	Borussia	Bayern	Juventus
3	How many fours did Saeed Anwar clout in his record one-day innings of 194?		

4 Who was adjudged man-ofthe-series Independence Cup? De Silva Jayasuriya Who became champion in the 23rd national chess

tourney? Name

School Address

.......

Class Roll No.

Phone: (If any)



Steffi Graf

(German tennis superstar) "It's fust the state I'm in at the moment. I don't seem to have any confidence when I go out there. I don't seem to find the patience and belief in my shots. You train in the morning and play all of your shots. Then you go out and it's just so differ-

After the defending champion lost to South African Amanda Coetzer in the French Open quarterfinals.

Hockey WC draw held

BANGALORE, June 8: India have been placed in a tough pool which includes Olympic champions and hosts, the Netherlands, and Germany in the men's World Cup hockey championship to be held at Utrecht, from May 21 to June 1 next year, according to information received from the International Hockey Federation (FIH), reports PTI.

The World Cup grouping were finalised at the FIH executive board meeting in Berlin, Germany on Friday. The placings are based on the rankings of the 1996 Olympic Games, the 1997 World Cup qualifying rounds and the 1996 Champions' Trophy competitions.

India, who finished fifth at the 1994 World Cup in Sydney. Australia, also have to contend with Korea, New Zealand and Canada, all of whom came through the qualifying rounds held in Kuala Lumpur in March

Holders Pakistan have been clubbed with Australia, and 1996 Olympic silver medalists

The groupings for the women's World Cup, which will be held concurrently with the men's competition in Utrecht, will be finalised after the qualifying rounds which are scheduled for August 1 to 12 in Harare, Zimbabwe.

Groupings

Pool A: The Netherlands, Germany, India, Korea, New

Zealand and Canada. Pool B: Pakistan, Australia, England, Spain, Poland and Malaysia.

BAF swimming, water-polo on

The five-day annual interbase swimming and water-polo championship of Bangladesh Air Force got underway at the National Swimming Pool at

Mirpur yesterday, reports BSS. Three swimming events were finalised on the opening day. Tayeb Ali of Base Matiur Rahman finished first in 100m freestyle, teammate sergeant Rashed became first in 100m breaststroke and their base measured the distance first in 4x100 metre individual medley relay.

Earlier, Air commodore Khusrul Alam inaugurated the



general secretary Harun-ur-Rashid, MP, during the inaugural ceremony of the Pioneer - Star photo football league at Rajuk ground yesterday afternoon.

Dhaka to stage 2nd SAARC h'ball tourney

Bangladesh will host the second SAARC men's and women's handball championship in January next, reports UNB. Five SAARC nations - In-

dia, Pakistan, Nepal, the Maldives and host Bangladesh are likely to participate in the second edition.

Bangladesh finished runners-up in the women's group and placed third in the men's group in the first tournament held in the Indian city of Joy-

Wings Air Cargo Limited, which sponsored the women's handball league recently, will bear the entire expenditure of training the Bangladesh team for tourney.

President of Bangladesh Handball Federation (BHF) Col (retd) M A Hamid disclosed this at a blazer awarding ceremony of the federation to five handball personalities at Gulshan Club yesterday.

Duplicate bridge

Monthly pair duplicate bridge competition of Officers' Club will be held today at 6.30 pm at the club, reports BSS.

DMFLC won't back down



politan Football League Committee (DMFLC) is likely to stick to its guns by keeping doors open for the foreign players to

take part in the local fixtures. The league committee is reluctant to bring in any change in its bylaws to bar foreign players participating in the Senior Division football league despite being persuaded by the State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader to abolish its open-door provision, said a senior person in DMFLC on Thursday.

While talking to The Daily Star, DMFLC president Abdur Rahim said that they had already passed the bylaws and there were hardly any scope to amend that.

'We have increased the number of foreign booters from three to four in a meeting early this year. Now, we cannot change that all of a sudden," Rahim said.

"Every club has the right to pick the line-up on its own and some of the title-aspirant clubs have already drawn up plans to hire foreign booters to make up their weak zones, which is, needless to say, very crucial for their championship campaign.

Hasan Masood

The Dhaka Metro- Now if we try to change the bylaws, they may not agree," DM-FLC president said.

When talked, Bangladesh Football Federation general secretary Harun-ur-Rashid, MP, also echoed Rahim's no-

"We haven't yet received any instructions or anything formal of sorts from the National Sports Council (NSC) to bar foreign booters in the league. If anything comes up, we will consider it then."

The DMFLC, however, is considering to change the format of the league if Bangladesh hosts the eighth SAF Games. "If Dhaka becomes the venue

of the SAF Games, we shall have to finish the league before November to form the national team. In that case there would be a super league after the first phase instead of the return leg." Rahim added. The eighth SAF Games was

supposed to be held in Nepal. But the Himalayan Country refused to be the hosts citing monetary crisis. On the same ground, India has also refused to hold the regional meet. Country's sporting fraternity, however, was taken aback when Bangladesh expressed its willingness to host the meet.

Meeting of the giants England defeat, make changes.



LYON, France. search for World revenge against Brazil in the Tournoi de

France here on Sunday evening in a match between two of the giants of world football, reports

This will be the first meeting of two of the sports' most powerful nations since Brazil won 3-2 on penalties after a 0-0 draw in the 1994 World Cup final in the

Brazil, likely to be unchanged from the 1-1 draw

against France in Lyon on The freekick by Roberto Carlos from fully 35 yards which curled in-off the post to beat a hapless Fabien Barthez will surely be the overriding image of this friendly tournament in

months to come. For Brazil this tournament is an important feature of their World Cup preparation. It is their first official competition since the 1995 Copa America, and it will be a forerunner to the 1997 Copa, the South American championship, in

2-0 World Cup win in Poland

last Saturday, an inspired 2-0

victory over Italy in Nantes on

Wednesday, England withstood

a tremendous physical assault

from the French to steal the

winner after keeper Fabien

Barthez's only mistake of the

thez failed to hold on to a low,

hard cross from Teddy Sher-

ingham, who had replaced Ian

Wright only five minutes

Shearer, who cracked it into the

empty net for his 11th goal in

his last 11 internationals and

the 16th of his international

win in France for 48 years, sent

France to only their second de-

feat in 36 matches under coach

Aime Jacquet and extended

England's winning run to six

Jacquet said afterwards:

The fans must be patient. This

was a very tough game, but we

are still evolving. But it is very

frustrating to lose to a goal like

said: "If we come back for the

World Cup next year then we're

going to have to play in games

like that. We had good chances

in the first half, in the second

England coach Glenn Hoddle

It gave England their first

The ball squirmed free to

Shearer pounced after Bar-

match.

earlier.

that."

France, June 8:

England's impre-

Bolivia which kicks off in mid-

Coach Mario Zagallo's said lost 4-2 against Norway in a friendly on May 30, their first loss in 31 matches, and will not want another defeat to tarnish their reputation.

But Zagallo said Brazil would concentrate on their own game against Italy. "I don't worry about the opponents. We will play our own game. However after 10 minutes I will do what I always do and adapt my tactics."

And he did not dwell on Italy's poor display against England as a reason for confidence. "I think Brazil will play much better against us," he

added. Keeper Taffarel has missed two training sessions with an injury to his left ankle and Romario is also doubtful with a groin problem. Edmundo

stands by to replace Romario. Those two apart, Zagallo is likely to keep the same team with Ronaldo in attack and a three-man midfield of Giovanni, Leonardo and Dunga in front of a five-strong defence. Italy, tired physically and with dented morale after their

Shearer breaks French hearts

they came at us, and we played

deeper but with Alan Shearer in

the team you always have a

ALAN SHEARER

France, playing with an ex-

perimental attacking forma-

tion of Christophe Dugarry and

Nicolas Ouedec, had three great

chances to score after the inter-

headed just over the bar twice in

two minutes before Pierre

Laigle unleashed a fierce left-

foot volley from 18 metres. Eng-

land goalkeeper David Seaman

Dugarry volleyed and then

However Roberto Di Matteo and Demetrio Albertini are over their knee and groin problems respectively and are set to play in a three-man midfield with Dino Baggio. Star left-back Paolo Mal-

dini, recovered from his right thigh injury, should start at left back in place of Antonio Benar-And coach Cesar Maldini

confirmed: "We are tired." But he nevertheless relished the challenge.

"We going to have to deal with Ronaldo and that's a good test for a team. We must try to cancel out their two wide players Cafu and Carlos like the French did. But there are many other things we need to do as Brazil, after all, the world Meanwhile, Brazil's Cafu,

Dunga, and Mauro Silva, and Italian defenders Fabio Cannavaro and Alessandro Nesta are all on one yellow card and another foot wrong would put them out of their final matches. Brazil meet England on

Tuesday and Italy play hosts France the following day, both

did well to punch clear.

RAFIQUE tured right ankle enough time to get cured. Rafique, called up in the se-

lection trial for the Asia Cup, scheduled to be held in the Sri Lankan capital of Colombo next month, attended the camp for only two days before being voluntarily ruled himself out ankle injury.

preferably in abroad. The Bangladesh Cricket

Board (BCB), however, has already taken necessary steps to provide treatment for Rafique in India.

We are trying to sent him (Rafique) possibly in India for a better treatment as soon as possible", said the BCB secretary Tanjeeb Ahsan Saad to the press yesterday.

Juventus rope in Inzaghi

TURIN, Italy, June 8: Italian champions Juventus have signed Serie A top goalscorer Filippo Inzaghi from Atalanta, ANSA news agency reported on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

It said the deal, which also involved Parma as holders of the papers of the Italian squad member who played a season for them before being parked with Atalanta, was agreed in Milan and had been confirmed by a Juventus spokesman. The report could not be independently verified.

Italian newspapers had reported that Inzaghi could be heading for Atletico Madrid, who had reportedly made a hefty offer for Inzaghi. He made his Serie A debut in 1995 for Parma against Atalanta.

Ajax kids stun Mariners

Dhaka Mariner Young's Club suffered a setback in their chase for the coveted Green Delta Insurance First Division

hockey league title when an spirited Ajax Sports Club held them to a one-all draw at the National Hockey Stadium yesterday. But, for Ajax, who were lead-

ing the match by a lone goal at the breather, things could have been even sweeter had not the youngsters from the Elephant Road lost their composure in the second session.

Buoyed by the presence of a hosts of fresh and promising kids, Ajax enjoyed a better ter-ritorial dominance over their more illustrious opponents and duly took the lead in the 24th minute through their centreforward Prince.

The nimble striker broke the evening's duck when, latching on to a long ball from medio Shuvro, banged the Mariners board, much to the disbelief of a strong-band of Arambagh supporters.

But the slender lead did not last long as Mariners bounced Sports Reporter

back nine minutes into the serond half when Rubel shot the ball home from close after a powerful Musa right-side cross came by his way slipping through the hedges of Ajax defenders.

The disappointing draw, Mariner's first after eight consecutive wins, left the hot favourites slipped to the second position behind league leaders Usha Krira Chakra, Abahani and defending champions Mohammedans. The three team are now leading the table with a possible 27 points each from nine outings.

While for Ajax, who stumbled early conceding a draw in their inaugural match against Farashganj, the priceless one point to their earlier collection of 24 from nine matches enabled them stay in the race. They are now holding the third position behind Mariners.

The upset engagement, however, was, by any standard, an absorbing battle with forays

and counter forays. Ajax, who appeared like a cohesive force against the individual brilliance of Mariners, mostly relied on their quick counter attacks to upset the Mariners' applecart. And with Rana playing like a spring chicken in the middle, Ajax not only successfully defended an otherwise ineffective Mariners attack but also came close to scoring twice within the span of

first ten minutes. But Rana's reverse hit was brilliantly thwarted by Mariners custodian Don, who then went on to foil another at-

tempt from Mukti. The star-studded Mariners. however, had their share of chances in the first 35 minutes. But the lady luck seemed favouring the Ajax when a goal-bound blazing drive off Isa Miah ricocheted off the cross-

FARASHGANJ WIN Meanwhile, in the other match of the day, Farashganj Sporting Club recorded an impressive 4-1 win over Bangla-

desh Sporting Club. The first half was locked in a

1-1 draw. Indian Parvinder, Singh struck twice while his compatriot Tajender and Waize scored one goal apiece for the winners.

For the vanquished Farid scored the lone goal in the 17th minute.



Action from yesterday's Green Delta Insurance First Division league encounter between Mariners and Ajax at the Hockey Stadium. The game ended in a 1-1 draw. - Star photo

Morocco, Nigeria make it second straight time.



LONDON, June 8: Nigeria and Morocco became the first countries to clinch berths in next year's World Cup finals, both earning

victories Saturday to begin the final road to France '98. Sunday Olise, Emmanuel Amunike and Wilson Oruma each scored for Nigeria in a 3-0 victory over Kenya while

Khalid Raghib's 77th-minute tally lifted Morocco past Ghana Defending champions Brazil and host France automatically qualify for the 32-nation tour-

nament, which starts on June 10, 1998. Nigeria (4-1-0), who won last year's Olympic soccer tournament, lead Africa Group One with 13 points, followed by

Kenya (2-1-2) with seven and Guinea (2-0-2) with six. Morocco improved to 4-1-0 and seven points in Group Five, seven points ahead of Ghana (1-

3-1) with one game remaining. In other games Saturday Belgium drew into a virtual tie for the Netherlands atop European Group Seven with a 6-0 victory over San Marino; Ukraine staved atop European Group Nine by holding Germany to a 0-0 draw; Portugal moved right behind them with a 2-0 victory over Albania; Macedonia beat Iceland 1-0 but closed only within five points back of Romania in European Group Eight; and Georgia beat Moldova 2-0 in European Group

In a lone Oceania Zone match, New Zealand recovered from their loss to Papua New Guinea with a 1-0 victory at

Nigeria 3, Kenya 0 At Lagos, Nigeria, Olise scored in the 12th minute, Amunike in the 42nd and

Cup of Nations over a political in the World Cup finals for the

38 Hudson

Kilmer

42 Composer

Khacha-

43 Caledonia

turian

48 Labyrinth

bender

50 One of the

Greats

51 Pub

53 Yarn

DOWN

52 Legume

holder

1 Clear the

Solution time: 24 mins.

TWOBYFOUR ART

Geller

49 Spoon-

41 Actor

ACROSS

5 Central

8 Com-

12 Incite

13 Berlin's

"What'll

14 "Groovy,

15 Fine

17 Pigeon

18 Golfer's

19 "Bean"

24 Use a

31 Packs

21 Sublease

25 Pinnacle

teaspoon

30 Card-table

32 Sticky stuff

phobe's

furniture?

36 100: prefix

37 Bert or

Rosa

33 Arachno-

26 Reprimand A D Z

35 Unfinished AMY

palaver

concern

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

2 Sitcom

3 Freudian

concept

4 Automatic

5 Sebastian

distance

Coe's

7 Petula

Clark hit

9 Crucifix

16 Suitable

BARALLATENT 44 --

20 Painter's

medium

10 Implement

Morocco 1, Ghana 0

At Casablanca, Morocco, Raghib, a 61st-minute substitute for Salaheddine Bassir, scored 11 minutes after Ghana defender Arham Emmanual was shown a red card, qualifying Morocco for an African record fourth World Cup finals and sending a crowd of 85,000 into delirium.

Morocco previously qualified for the 1970, 1986 and 1994

finals. Ukraine O. Germany O

In Kiev, Germany threatened a few times in the first five minutes, but then settled back as Ukranie went on the offensive, bolstered by a crowd of some 60,000 at Olympic Sta-

dium. Led by forwards Andriy Shevchenko and Serhiy Rebrov, Ukraine poked at the German side throughout the first half but was unable to convert on several opportunities. The draw kept Ukraine atop the group with 14 points in eight games to 12 for Germany in six.

Portugal 2, Albania 0 In Oporto, Portugal, Joao Pinto scored in the 15th minute on a spectacular header off a cross from Dani Carvalho and Luis Figo added the second on a volley from outside the area in the 70th minute.

their defence and employed spoiling tactics in midfield to disrupt Portugal's renowned flowing play. Portugal Improved to 3-3-1 and 12 points, same as Ger-

many but having played one

The gutsy Albanese packed

more game. Belgium 6, San Marino 0 At Brussels, Belgium, 18year-old Emile Mpenza scored twice in only his fourth international match and Lonenzo Staelens added another pair,

giving Belgium an easy victory. Belgium and the Netherlands both have 15 points from six games, but the Dutch have the edge on goal difference. The lowland neighbours meet Sept 6 in Rotterdam, Netherlands. with the winners likely claiming the automatic berth from

21 Alger's

scale

23 Carson's

quickly

29 Pantheon

figures

wrapper?

serving

Francis

38 Connie

40 Visibility

41 Empty

45 Altar con-

47 Sandra

or Ruby

hindrance

34 Actor

37 Butter

26 Robs

27 Lab

successor

story line 22 Grand-

response 24 Go

6 McKinley's assistant?

First Lady 28 Niche

8 Agreement 31 Jet forth

11 Otherwise 35 Bread

RITES SPA 39 Examina-

the group.

Macedonia 1, Iceland 0 In Skopje, Macedonia, Djordji Hristov scored in the

58th minute to move Macedonia

into second place behind

Romania. Macedonia have 13

points in seven games to 18 for Romania in six. Iceland have two draws in five games. Georgia 2, Moldova 0 At Batumi, Georgia, Shota Arveladze scored in the 27th minute and Georgy Kinkladze added a penalty early in the second half to give Georgia their

first points in four games. Moldova have lost all five of their games. New Zealand 1, Fiji 0 At Ba, Fiji, Chris Jackson converted a penalty with nine minutes remaining to give New Zealand the victory. There were

few chances at either end until Vaughan Coveny was brought down by Romulo Kaibau in the 82nd minute.

Bugner keeps

GOLD COAST, Australia, June 8: Veteran Joe Bugner retained his Pan Asian Boxing Association heavyweight title on Tuesday night with a seventh-round knockout of Fijian champion Waisiki Ligaloa, reports AP.

The 47-year-old former British, Commonwealth and European champion stopped his shorter opponent 1:33 into the seventh round with a right to the jaw which sent Ligaloa sprawling. Bugner, currently ranked

11th by the World Boxing Association, twice went the distance with Muhammad Ali in Ali's prime. Australian-based Bugner

improved his record to 65-13-1 - compiled since he turned pro Ligaloa, 30, is a journeyman

with a 14-10-1 professional record who now has lost all five times he has fought outside of

Bugner said he struggled early in the fight.

CRYPTOQUIP

MZX SJMYZXDO' PGWZM MDJVK Y F V V X R F P X F M S F V V Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AN APPROPRIATE ALIAS FOR AN ARABIAN SHEEP THIEF IS ALL BAA BAA.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: V equals I

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.

nied each time by some inspired ssive run of vic-Oruma in the 82nd. tories continued This match, between the two play from Barthez, who until after aggravating the nagging The victory put the 1994 on Saturday when losing Euros '96 semifinalists. his late mistake had an outstanding match. African Cup champs, who withskipper Alan Shearer scored started out as a scrappy battle Dr. Jawad, when contacted, drew from last year's African but finished on a high note after five minutes from time for a 1-0 confirmed the news. Besides, he He denied Ian Wright what win over France in a flercelysome vastly-improved second had also advised the southpaw appeared to be a certain goal half play from both sides, espedispute with host South Africa contested Tournoi de France to have a long-term treatment, when he pushed his close range match, reports Reuter. cially the French who carried rather than defend their title. shot over the bar after 41 minthe game to their opponents. Following a highly efficient

England also had four good

scoring chances, but were de-

utes and then made two excel-

lent saves from two Shearer

headers after 34 and 66 min-

utes. Then a minute after Sher-

ingham came on in the 80th

minute, Barthez denied him

The match improved after a

The referee was at the centre

with another good diving save.

poor start when Moroccan ref-

eree Said Belgola seemed about

of a bizarre incident in the 13th

minute when he booked Eng-

land midfielder David Beckham

for refusing to be stretchered off

when he preferred to hobble off

the field for treatment after a

fierce tackle from Patrick

yellow card, it was enough to

keep Beckham out of England's

next match against world

champions Brazil in Paris on

from the French side that drew

1-1 with Brazil on Tuesday

while Hoddle made six changes

from the side that beat Italy,

restoring Paul Gascoigne to the

starting line-up for his 50th

The victory keeps England

in first place in the four-team

tournament after their win over

Jacquet made eight changes

Despite the absurdity of the

Vieiri.

Tuesday.

Italy.

to lose control of the game.