

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-72
Tick the Correct Answers
Competition closes 8 pm, June 27, '97

- 1 How many countries will participate in the sixth Asia Cup cricket?

Four	Six	Three
21	26	23
- 2 The number of associate members in the International Cricket Council are

21	26	23
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- 3 Who has scored a double hat-trick in the Green Delta First Division hockey league?

Sadek	Kamal	Slam
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- 4 The Bangladesh vice-captain in the 6th Asia Cup is

Munhajul	Aminul	Saiful
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- 5 The new French Open champion is

Bruguera	Kuerten	Chang
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Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

SPORTS TALK



Martina Hingis
(Swiss tennis star)
"Me, pressure? No. I just go on court and play my best."

World youth soccer Argentina in last eight

KUALA LUMPUR, June 26: Argentina were back on track to defend their World youth football title today after demolishing England 2-1 to enter the quarterfinals, reports AFP.

The Argentines, determined to avenge their stunning 4-3 defeat by Australia in the league, took their revenge on unbeaten England at Johor Baru.

They took charge from the start as Roman Riguelme converted a penalty in the ninth minute and star midfielder Pablo Aimar increased the margin in the 26th.

Crossing over with a 2-0 deficit, England hit back immediately after resumption when James Carragher pulled one back in the 48th minute.

Argentina, who were on the defensive in the second half, then foiled a desperate bid by England to gain the equaliser.

Argentina's win set up an explosive quarterfinal clash against favourites Brazil at Kuching on Sunday. The match will be a repeat of the 1995 World youth final at Qatar which Argentina won 2-0.

"I am very proud of my boys," said Argentine coach Jose Pekerman. "They were a bit down after losing to Australia but fought back splendidly against England.

"We knew England would be very tough opponents and they proved us right, but we were stronger than them, this is a very good win."

Pekerman said he was not worried about facing Brazil, who have notched up a staggering 25 goals in their four matches so far.

"I am not afraid of them. We beat them at Qatar two years ago and again in the South American Championships this year.

"They (Brazil) have been playing well here, but I think we too are reaching our peak."

Argentina's win came an hour after their nemesis Australia were knocked out of the tournament with a 1-0 defeat against Japan.

Ban on top Russian ref

MOSCOW, June 26: Nikolai Levnikov, Russia's top-ranking referee, has been banned from the all domestic games this season for not awarding a penalty kick in Russia's Cup crucial semifinal, reports AFP.

"It was Levnikov's second serious mistake since April, and according to our code he is suspended for the rest of season," Viktor Lushin, of the All-Russian Referring Association, said today.



National cricketers seem trying to regain their energy after an exhaustive training session under coach Gordon Greenidge at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. Bangladesh team is expected to leave for Colombo on July 6 to take part in the sixth Asia Cup. — Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Dilkusha's dominant show

Sports Reporter

At the Mirpur Outer Stadium, Mahfuz blasted a hat-trick as MS PCC handed Surjo Shikha Sangsad a 1-3 defeat.

Mahfuz scored all the three goals for the winners in the 25th, 31st and 53rd minutes while Khalid pulled one back for Surjo Shikha in the 47th minute.

A late first half strike by Dinesh guided Kalindi Krira Chakra to a solitary goal victory over Azimpur Kishore Sangha in one of the two matches played at the Mirpur Outer Stadium.

The other engagement between Labagh Krira Chakra and Dhaka Mahanagari Jubo Proshikhan Kendra ended in a goalless draw.

At the Jagannath University ground, Abdul Hadi Lane handed Shoukhin Club a solitary goal defeat.

Rana netted the all-important goal in the 42nd minute.

In the other match, Eastern Football Club and Avijatrik Club split points with a 4-4 draw.

In a high-scoring encounter, Ali Hossain and Shaheen scored two goals each, for Eastern FC. On the other hand,

Taizul struck twice while Rubel and Sumon scored one apiece for the Avijatrik.

At the Dhupkhola ground, Sutrapur Sporting Club recorded a 3-1 win over Aganagar PMS.

The winners led the first half by 2-0.

Shameem, Moin and Liton scored one each for the winners while Solaiman reduced the margin for Aganagar.

The other match between Railway Blues and Islampur Utaran Sangha ended in a goalless draw.

At the Rajuk ground, KR Boys Club handed Azimpur Kishore Sangha a 0-3 defeat. Zia, Imran and Sujon netted one goal apiece for the winners.

In the next match, Sheikh Russel Krira Chakra beat Painadi Agragati also by three goals to nil.

Mahmud struck twice in the 17th and 55th minutes while Sajjad added the other two in the 29th minute.

In the day's remaining encounter, Rising Star registered a solitary goal victory over Surjo Sena Sporting Club.

An act of profanity!

BOMBAY, June 26: Police in the west Indian city of Bombay have charged United States-based Pepsi Foods Ltd with insulting the Indian flag, newspapers reported today, reports AFP.

The Asian Age newspaper said Pepsi had released an advertisement in city newspapers during a recent international cricket tournament which substituted a cricket ball for the wheel in the centre of the Indian flag.

The company had put up billboards in the city which similarly "dishonoured" the national flag during the Independence Cup.

Pepsi Foods Ltd has been charged under the prevention of insults to national honour act, 1971, which makes it illegal to "use any national symbol including the national flag in a public place, or in print or painting, in a manner which is disrespectful, objectionable or brings into contempt the national symbol."

Pepsi Foods Ltd sponsored the Independence Cup, which brought together India, New Zealand, Pakistan and Sri Lanka to celebrate the 50th year of India's independence.

Johnson, Percec bite the dust

PARIS, June 26: Michael Johnson crashed to his first 400 metres defeat for eight years when he came back from injury to race at the Paris Grand Prix on Wednesday, report agencies.

The world and Olympic champion, who pulled a hamstring in his 150-metre show-down with Canadian Donovan Bailey on June 1, had not lost in 56 races over the distance since 1989.

Fellow American Antonio Pettigrew won the race in a time of 44.86 seconds in damp weather at the Charley Stadium with Davis Kamoga of Uganda second in 45.19.

Johnson, who won both the 200 and 400 titles at the Atlanta Games last year, could only finish fifth in 45.76 after storming into an early lead which he held, until the runners hit the final straight.

The American left the stadium immediately after the race without talking to reporters.

Frustrated at being beaten shabbily, Johnson also pulled out of Sunday's meet at Sheffield and was at home in Dallas Thursday instead of preparing for events in Europe.

The champion runner had been due to hold a news conference at Heathrow airport Thursday in advance of the meet at Sheffield.

"I can confirm that Michael Johnson has pulled out of the Sheffield meet and out of the news conference," said Jayne Pearce, spokeswoman for the British Athletic Federation. She added that the American star's agent, Brad Hunt, would be at the news conference to explain Johnson's current condition.

The runner also is slated to run at Lausanne, Switzerland, next Wednesday but that now looks unlikely.

However, his trainer Clyde Hart said, "We didn't know where we were in conditioning, speed was not a factor as he is usually out in front after 200, but when you lay off for a month from running and almost two from your last 400, it shows."

Hart said he and Johnson had to review their plans and see whether they would continue on the European circuit or go home.

Bailey put young American pretenders Maurice Green and Tim Montgomery firmly in their place with a commanding victory in the 100 metres.

The Canadian world and Olympic champion made light of the drizzle and coolish conditions to win in 10.07 seconds.

"The weather isn't good but I always like to come to Paris and win the 100," Bailey said.

Green and Montgomery finished first and second at the US national championships two weeks ago with impressive times of 9.90 and 9.92 respectively, sounding a warning to Bailey ahead of the World Championships in Athens in August.

Montgomery was second in 10.12 with fellow Americans Brian Lewis (10.19) and Green (10.23) third and fourth.

Namibia's Frankie Fredericks, second to Johnson and Bailey respectively in the Olympic 100 and 200 metres, took the 200 easily with Trinidad's Ato Boldon — the fastest man this year over 100 — way back in sixth place in 20.75.

Local favourite Marie-Jose Percec, the women's 200 and 400 metres Olympic champion disappointed her fans by coming in a poor seventh in the shorter sprint.

'Bradman's walk to glory' unveiled

MUMBAI, June 26: A portrait of Australian cricket legend, Sir Don Bradman, was unveiled at the Wankhede Stadium by former India skipper and Mumbai Cricket Association's (MCA) vice-president Ajit Wadekar here yesterday, reports PTI.

The 4-ft by 3-ft colour painting shows the all-time great batsman walking out of the pavilion with bat in hand and is titled "Bradman's walk to glory." It was painted by renowned British artist Colin Joseph Dudley and costs Australian dollars 20,000.

The painting of the former Australian captain, who ended his career four runs short of averaging 100 runs per innings in Test cricket, was the third to be unveiled in the cricketing world.

Two earlier paintings of the cricketing knight had been displayed at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) on May 28 and at the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) in London on June 20.

Bolivia reach Copa final

LA PAZ, Bolivia, June 26 (AFP): Copa America semifinal result here Wednesday: Bolivia 3 (Sanchez 26, Castillo 43, Moreno 75); Mexico 1 (Ramirez 4) (ht: 2-1)

Bolivia face Brazil-Peru winners in Sunday's final.

Sports goods worth Tk 4.5 crore donated

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader yesterday informed the Jatiya Sangsad that sports goods worth Taka 4,49,75,014 were distributed free of cost from the National Sports Council and sports directorate in the fiscal 1996-97 year, reports BSS.

Replying to a question from BNP lawmaker M Shahidul Islam (Jhenidah), the State Minister said of the total sports goods worth taka 3,04,75,014 were distributed by the National Sports Council (NSC) and taka 1,45 crore by the sports directorate.

Replying to another query from Awami League legislator Mirza Azam (Jamalpur) the State Minister told that taka 8,97,938 was spent for participating in the International Cricket Council (ICC) Trophy matches in Malaysia by the national cricket team.

Rain the spoiler

OXFORD, England, June 26: Rain has washed out play for the second successive day of the three-day tour match between British Universities and Australia at the Parks today, reports Reuter.

Azhar's day of reckoning?

NEW DELHI, June 26: Out-of-favour Indian batsman Mohammad Azharuddin will hear this weekend whether his international career has been dramatically revived or dealt another major blow, reports AFP.

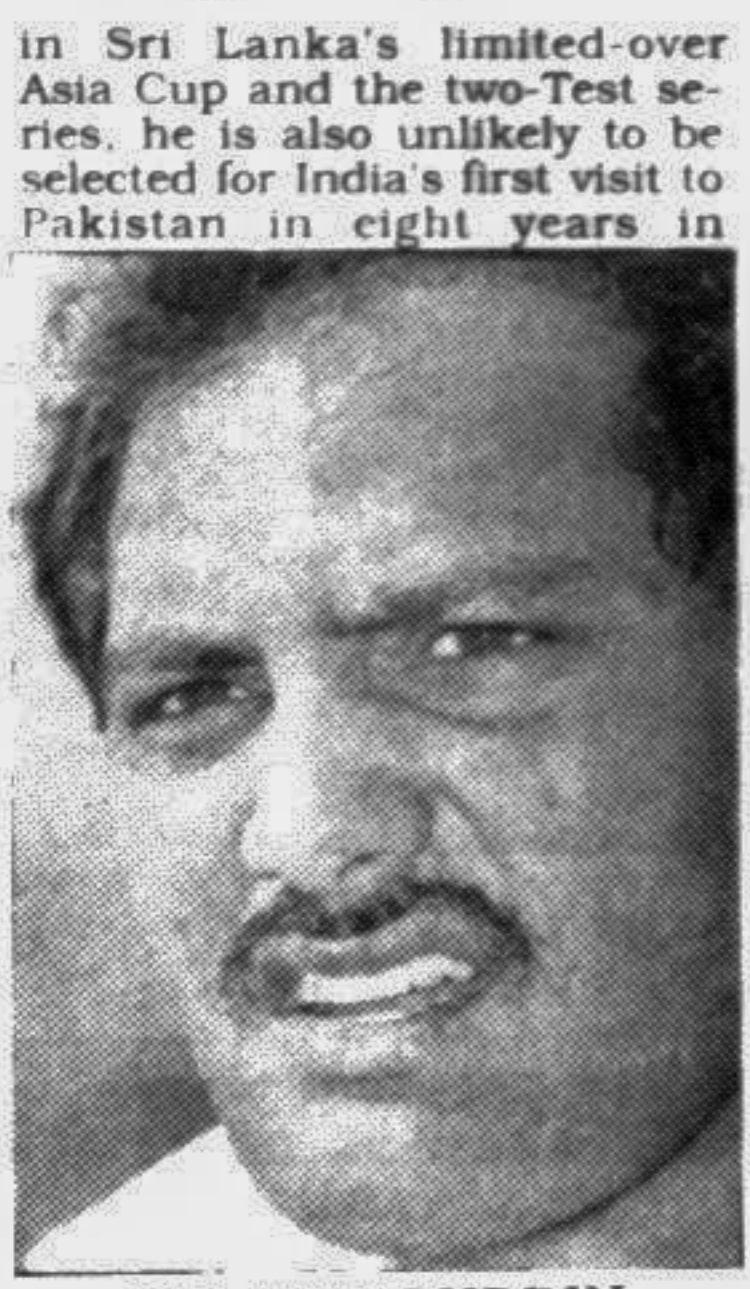
Azharuddin, India's former captain, is hoping for a recall for next month's tour to Sri Lanka after his shock omission from the Independence Cup in May.

Another snub, however, from the selectors who meet on Saturday could spark the beginning of the end for the 34-year-old veteran.

The signs do not look good. Tendulkar offered Azharuddin, axed as captain of the side after the World Cup last year, a compliment with a sting in its tail when he said: "He is a great batsman who can come back into the team by making runs."

But, with no domestic cricket May and July, Azharuddin has had no chance to impress on that score.

If his younger rivals shine



MD AZHARUDDIN
September for another one-day series. Azharuddin, a stylish, wristy right-hander, admitted he was shocked at being

in Sri Lanka's limited-over Asia Cup and the two-Test series, he is also unlikely to be selected for India's first visit to Pakistan in eight years in.

Two centuries at home against South Africa in 1986 — one a high-speed classic on a deadly slow wicket — and one in Cape Town in the return series were not enough to silence critics who argued his newly-adapted tactic of trying to score boundaries off every ball was suicidally flawed.

That approach backfired in the West Indies this season when his topscore of 40 paved the way to his being dropped.

dropped for the Independence Cup but said: "I am not retiring yet... I will be back."

But Azharuddin, whose Test career began 12 years ago with three consecutive centuries against England, became saucy news items on the front pages in India in recent times, not for his batting skills but for his romance.

His highly-publicised affair with former Miss India and film star Sangeeta Bijlani last year and his divorce from his wife Naureen has not been forgiven in many circles. More importantly, however, his batting approach has also come under scrutiny.

Kiwi passion Terry's concern

ALBANY, New Zealand, June 26: Terry Venables' Australia are expected to take an easy step closer to qualifying for the 1998 World Cup finals when they play sporting arch-rivals New Zealand, reports AFP.

Venables' team of European-based professionals are hot favourites in the Oceania second round qualifier to be played over two legs, with the first match on Saturday.

Australia's soccer has made huge progress in the past decade. But the sport remains largely amateur in New Zealand. The match is not being shown live by New Zealand television but is in Australia.

The Australians fly in today with Venables saying they are anxious to play.

"I don't think either side will need gearing up by the time Saturday comes around," he said. "We've been waiting for this. We're raring to go. I think both teams are."

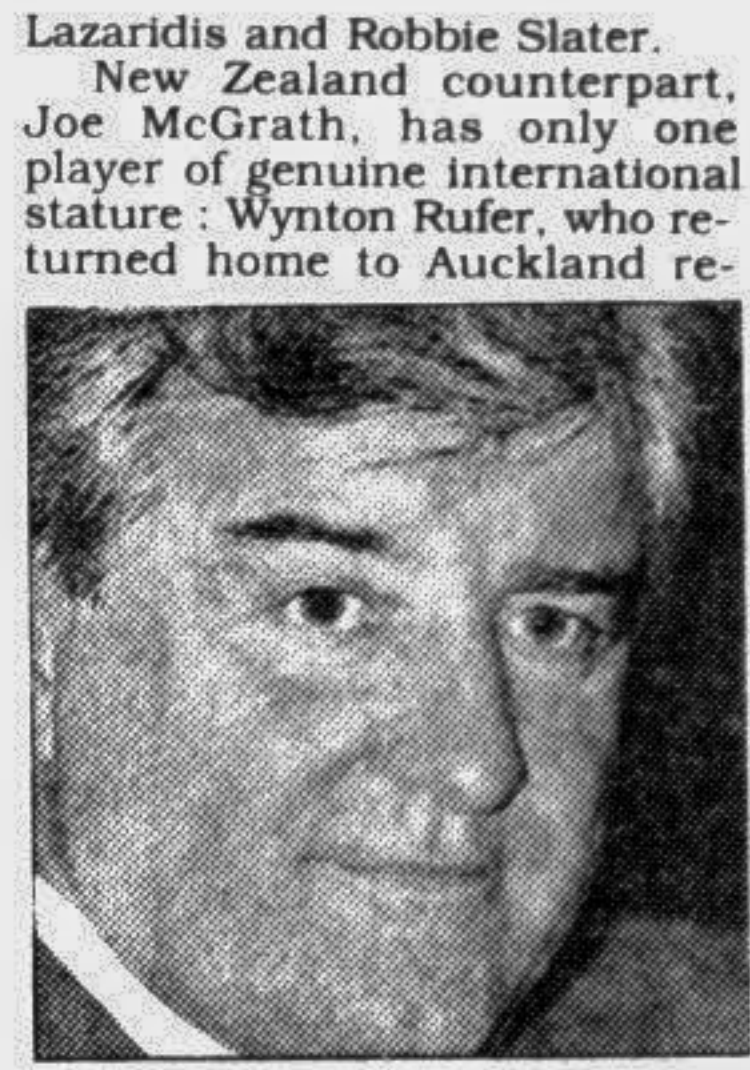
Venables has the luxury of being able to call on French-based Ned Zelic, Glasgow Rangers defender Craig Moore and Tony Vidmar, Aurelio Vidmar from Spain's Tenerife and English Premier league players Mark Bosnich, Stan Lazaridis and Robbie Slater.

New Zealand counterpart, Joe McGrath, has only one player of genuine international stature: Wynton Rufer, who returned home to Auckland recently after a 16-year overseas career which included two German titles with Werder Bremen.

But as Venables said: "Their strength will be their passion to want to win this game."

Venables singled out 34-year-old Rufer, a veteran of the only New Zealand side to reach the finals in 1982, and striker Vaughan Coveny, who plays with south Melbourne in Australia's national league.

"Everyone knows Rufer's record in games of this nature," he said.



TERRY VENABLES
cently after a 16-year overseas career which included two German titles with Werder Bremen. But as Venables said: "Their strength will be their passion to want to win this game."

He said. "He's had plenty of plaits around Europe. He's an excellent player and he's still scoring goals."

"We know there's a big job to do."

McGrath has had to rest his players for two days. "Some of the players are nursing slight knocks and are a little leg-weary," McGrath said.

He admitted there was a definite "you look" about the likely starting line-up, "probably too young."

"At least the Australians won't know anything about us. Having an almost fully fit squad means we have the nice problem of having to make some (selection) decisions."

Australia and New Zealand are each other's oldest international foes, the first game back in 1922 which New Zealand won 3-1.

The two have battled out six World Cup qualifying campaigns.

Although Australia has a superior record, both countries have reached the finals just once, Australia in 1974 in Germany and New Zealand in 1982 in Spain.

Australia have lost only once in six World Cup visits across the Tasman. They 2-0 in Auckland after winning comfortably in Sydney.

On the other hand, the Aussies have own way from home just once, a 1-0 victory during the last campaign in 1993.



An AFP file photo taken on June 4 shows a new style Nike athletic shoe which has an 'Air' logo on it that resembles the Arabic for Allah. The logo has offended many Muslims.

Women's open TT results

Bangladesh Biman and Ansars moved into the team event final of the Women's open table tennis tournament winning their respective semifinals at Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex yesterday, reports UNB.

Biman outplayed Narail by 3-0 sets while Ansars defeated Patuakhali by 3-1 on their way to the final.

In the women's singles event, Rumi, Saleha and Ratna of Biman and Lita of Narail advanced to the semis, winning their respective quarterfinals at the same venue.

Rumi beat Joshna of Ansars by 21-17, 23-21. Saleha beat Boni of Narail 21-17, 21-14. Ratna outplayed Roni of Narail 21-13, 21-17 while Lita edged past Shabana of Ansars by 21-18, 18-21 and 21-18.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Green Delta First Division Hockey League
(Venue: Hockey Stadium)
Farashganj SC vs Azad SC (2:15 pm).
Ajax SC vs Sadharan Bima KS (4 pm).
Multidrive 16th National Youth Volleyball Championship.
(Venue: Indoor Stadium Mirpur)
Naogaon vs Rajbari (8 am).
Jessore vs Rangpur (9 am).
Pabna vs Chittagong (9 am).
Narail vs Jhenidah (5:15 pm).
Naogaon vs Gaibandha (5:15 pm).
Gazipur vs Comilla (7 pm).
Narayanganj vs Rajshahi (7 pm).



An airborne Jaime Moreno of Bolivia follows through after sending the ball past a hapless Mexican keeper Adolfo Rios to score the third goal for his country during their Copa America semifinal clash in La Paz, Bolivia on June 25. The home side won 3-1. — AFP/UNB photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS: 1 Journey segment; 4 Goya; 8 Manage; 12 "What Kind of Fool..."; 13 "for All Seasons"; 14 Really eager; 15 Amplifier of a sort; 17 Director of PBS; 18 Carefree; 19 Leading; 20 One might crack under the strain; 22 Dance lesson; 24 "Bus Stop" playwright; 25 It'll help you get in; 29 - glance; 30 lobster; 31 Complete; 32 U. of Texas athlete; 34 Mickey's boss?; 35 Wamonger; 36 Diamonds

DOWN: 1 Work-shop; 2 Grounded bird; 3 He was washed up; 4 Sibling; 5 Uncontrollable; 6 Discard; 7 Jillian or Reinking; 8 Islamic ruler; 9 Finished; 10 Cushion contents?; 11 Tend texts; 12 Tend tears; 16 Chantilly; 19 Doctors' due; 20 Centrifuge insert; 21 Aware of; 22 Usurer; 23 Crier's milieu; 25 Taking one's time; 26 Rounds of applause; 27 Anger; 28 New Jersey team; 29 Jersey; 30 Biggers hero; 33 Inner-city area; 34 Accompanying locales; 37 Additionally; 38 Earthy sediment; 39 Whodunit; 40 Two peas in a pod; 42 Intimidate; 43 Honest politician; 44 Reuben bread; 45 Fresh

Solution time: 26 mins.

Yesterday's answer

CRYPTOQUIP
I H H N I L I W Z F I S H E Z N
Y U G E Z O Y E R F F G O U S R L G Y Z :
"H Z W N Z Z E !"
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IS IT TRUE HE WAS SO RICH WHEN HE CASHED A CHECK THE BANK BOUNCED?
Today's Cryptoquip clue: H equals G
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.