

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-74

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes 8 pm, July 25, '97

1 Who lifted the Wimbledon ladies' singles crown this year?

Majoli

Hings

Vicario

2 How many times has Sampras won the Wimbledon?

Two

Three

Four

3 Which nation clinched the Copa America title?

Brazil

Peru

Bolivia

4 Who became champions in the World Youth Soccer Cup?

Ghana

Colombia

Argentina

5 Who won this year's Green Delta First Division hockey league title?

Mohammedan

Abahani

Usha

Name .....

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

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

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SPORTS TALK

# Fakirerpool make their mark

**Sports Reporter**

Fakirerpool Youngmen's Club romped home with a 5-1 thrashing of Dhaka Wanderers while Dhanmondi Club squeezed past Victoria SC with a 2-1 tie-break win as the Rupali Insurance 14th Federation Cup football tournament kicked off at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

The impressive victory for the Fakirerpool boys, who lost seven of their key booters in this year's inter-club players' transfer, was a triumph of youthful exuberance in the second match of the day, which marked the opening of the domestic football season.

After a goal-drought inaugural match between Dhanmondi Club and Victoria Sporting Club, Fakirerpool lived up to more than expectation to roll up a hapless Dhaka Wanderers.

Mintu broke the evening's duck in the 30th minute and striker Jalal added the second at the stroke of the short-whistle to lay foundation of a facile victory for the Premier Division outfit. Jalal then struck

his second goal in the 76th minute to give the enterprising youthful bunch an unassailable 3-0 lead.

On the other hand, Dhaka Wanderers, one of the promotion in the First Division this year, pulled one goal back in the 81st minute through their substitute. But the brief composure of the once reputed outfit lost in disarray when their defender Shaheen shot into his own net to earn the dubious reputation of becoming the first player of the season with a suicidal goal.

Moni, the tall Fakirerpool play-maker, then sealed a heavy defeat on the Motijheel outfit with left-foot grounder one minute from the final whistle.

In a striking contrast on an eventful first day, which also got a huge ceremonial kick, Dhanmondi custodian Mazharul Islam Titu returned as the hero of his side's 2-1 tie-break win against Victoria.

After a barren 90-minutes of play, the flamboyant goalee with four successive saves during the regulation five spot-kicks drew the difference of the two teams. Dhanmondi will take on Fakirerpool on Thursday with the winners moving into the eight-team second round.

The inaugural day, apart from the two matches, however, was turned into yet another mind-boggling exhibition due to the high-flying organisers of the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF). With the inauguration already delayed by thirty minutes, the BFF general secretary Harun-ur Rashid, MP, who visibly got hot under the collar in absence of the electronic media, reluctantly declared the meet open at around 4.25 pm.

Referee Badruddin, who officiated the inaugural match, also played a wayward role by ignoring repeated calls from the in-filled sound system that one minute silence would be observed before the kick-off to pay tribute to Gafur Balooch, a former national player and coach who died last month. A deaf and dumb Badruddin, however, after making a fool of himself, amended his blunder afterwards. A one-minute silence was observed at the beginning of the second half of the match.

## Bryan alive & kicking

LONDON, July 20: Middlebrough manager Bryan Robson has vowed to carry on playing as he leads his team's bid for a quick return to the English Premiership, reports AFP.

Robson, the former Manchester United and England skipper, pulled on his boots for the first time in seven months on Saturday. He came on in the 63rd minute of Middlesbrough's 1-1 draw in a friendly match at Hartlepool making his first appearance since the club's defeat at Arsenal on New Year's Day.

"I can still do a job in the First Division and I intend to play this season," he told the Sunday Sun newspaper.

"The pace is not as fast as the Premiership. We suffered a lot through injuries in September and November last year and we will need a strong squad of players available."

## Abdul Gani Sarder cricket

AB Sporting and New Cricket Club moved into the final of first-ever Abdul Gani Sarder memorial cricket tournament, says a press release.

ABS defeated MKDA Sports by 36 runs in the first semifinal played last Thursday at New Cricket Club's ground in Mohammadpur.

Man-of-the-match Mohammed Murad enjoyed an all-round show contributing an unbeaten 36 and claiming a wicket.

Two days later the host club recorded a nine-run victory over GSG Sports to ensure their berth.

The final will be staged this Friday.

# Super servers' showdown

**LOS ANGELES, July 20:** Four of the biggest servers on the ATP Tour will bring plenty of firepower to the 328,000-dollar Los Angeles Open starting here on Monday, led by third-seeded Australian Mark Philippoussis, reports AFP.

Philippoussis, the 20-year-old whose serve was clocked at an record 143 mph in Scottsdale, Arizona, in March, will be looking for his fourth title of 1997.

If he has to rein in his big serve to get it, so be it.

"I don't like people to think I've just got a serve," Philippoussis said. "I proved that point by winning a claycourt tournament this year."

He admits that he sometimes feels the pressure from fans who want to see him unleash a big serve, but has learned not to succumb.

"I've got to not get carried away with it and not do anything stupid to please the crowd," he said. "I prefer to serve the ball 100 mph and win matches than serve 140 and lose matches."

Philippoussis will take on Brazilian Roberto Jabali in the first round at the Los Angeles Tennis Centre.

The field also boasts the third fastest server in 1996 Wimbledon champion Richard Krajcek, the fourth fastest in Croatian Goran Ivanisevic and the fifth fastest in Sweden's Thomas Enqvist.

Ivanisevic, the top seed, will meet South African Neville Godwin in the opening round.

**Navy aquatic**

CHITTAGONG, July 20: The annual swimming and water polo championship of the Bangladesh Navy begins at the area sports complex swimming pool at the BNS Issa Khan here tomorrow, reports BSS.

About 100 swimmers will take part in the four-day meet.



Hamburg's Dirk Weetendorf rises to head the ball home during a cup match against Turkish side Samsunspor in Hamburg on July 19. Hamburg won 3-1. — AFP/UNB photo

## Pilot, Salahuddin injured

Bangladesh cricket team wicketkeeper Khaled Masood Pilot was again injured during a net practice in Colombo yesterday, reports UNB.

Pilot, who earlier lost two teeth, received a back injury at the Moors Club ground in the Sri Lankan capital.

Off-spinner Sheikh Salahuddin also hurt his forefinger in the nets, team manager Gazi Ashraf Hossain Lipu told BCB over telephone.

Their condition is not serious and both will be able to play in the next match against Sri Lanka on Tuesday," Lipu said.

## Martina ready for US mission

STANFORD, California, July 20: World number one and Wimbledon champion Martina Hingis launches her United States Open campaign when she heads the field for the 4,50,000-dollar WTA Tour hardcourt tournament here this week, reports AFP.

Hingis became the second-youngest Wimbledon women's singles champion in history on July 5, when she defeated Jana Novotna in three sets earlier this month.

Since then the 16-year-old has led Switzerland to a 5-0 whitewash of Argentina in the Fed Cup and she now begins her preparations for the final Grand Slam of the year — the hardcourt US Open which starts in New York on August 25.

Hingis has won 44 of 45 tournament matches this year, claiming two of the three Grand Slams so far with victories in Australia and Wimbledon.

Her only failure came in the French Open final.

The top four seeds in the tournament have first-round byes, world number three Monica Seles is the second seed, followed by South African Amanda Coetzer, ranked sixth in the world, and American Lindsay Davenport, the world number six, is seeded fourth.

Fifth-seeded Mary Pierce of France will face Anne Kremer of Luxembourg in the first round and is seeded to meet Hingis in the quarterfinals.

Conchita Martinez of Spain, the sixth seed, faces Catalina Cristea in the opening round, looking toward a meeting with Seles in the quarters.

## Salgaokar clinch Federation Cup

**Sports Reporter**

Salgaokar Club lifted the Federation Cup with a 3-2 win over East Bengal in the final at the Salt Lake Stadium in Calcutta, according to Star Sports monitored here last night.

Bruno Kutino scored both the goals for the Goa outfit while Nigerian Samuel Mo Lo pulled one back for the Calcutta giants.

## Sosa set to go home

MONTEVIDEO, July 20: Ruben Sosa is set to return to Uruguayan side Nacional after almost a decade playing in Europe, reports AFP.

The 31-year-old Uruguayan international striker has agreed the terms of a move back to club where he first rose to prominence, Nacional officials announced on Saturday.

Sosa made his name playing in both Spain and Italy, most notably at Inter Milan. However, last season he was powerless to help Spanish side Logrones escape relegation to the Second Division.

## Ferdinand's Newcastle days numbered?

LONDON, July 20: England striker Les Ferdinand has admitted that his future with English Premiership club Newcastle is in doubt, reports AFP.

Ferdinand, who is being linked with both Tottenham and Everton, appeared to think he had played one of his last matches for Newcastle when he threw his shirt into the crowd after his side's 3-2 win in a pre-season clash against Birmingham.

Ferdinand, 30, who has a price tag of around six million pounds sterling, is quoted in the Sunday newspaper news of the world as saying: "Newcastle chairman Sir John Hall said I wasn't going anywhere and the first thing I thought when I heard that was I was on my way."

"There's no point in saying whether I want to stay or go because my opinion doesn't count. When the man at the top says something like that it usually means you're about to be sold."

"I'm in limbo. I know a lot of fans won't be happy if I go. And if I end up somewhere else I'm sure questions will be asked. But those questions are for someone else to answer."

## Ince mad at Man United

LONDON, July 20: Liverpool's latest recruit Paul Ince is ready to make his old club Manchester United regret their decision not to resign him from Inter Milan, reports AFP.

Ince, 29, who has been signed for 4.2 million pounds by Manchester United's arch-rivals Liverpool, said: "I am proud of my days at Old Trafford, but with all due respect to United I thought Liverpool should have won the title last season. They let themselves down in the last few games."

"Manchester United had first option on me if I returned, but I never heard from them."

"There's nothing I can do about them not contacting me. I had six fantastic years at Old Trafford."

"I'm hoping to prove as successful for them as I did under Alex Ferguson. In all my discussions with Liverpool they showed how keen they were to have me."

"They won me over with that determination to take me to Anfield — now I'm determined not to let them down."

Ince will arrive in England on Monday and is expected to make his debut against Bristol City in a friendly fixture at Ashton Gate on Wednesday.



Action from the Federation Cup opening match between Victoria and Dhanmondi Club at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday. Dhanmondi won 2-1 in extra-time after 90 minutes produced no goals. — Star photo

# Chang, Korda enter final

**WASHINGTON, July 20:** Michael Chang started off strongly, romping to a 6-2 victory in the first set, but he faltered in the second, before beating Brett Steven 7-4 in the tiebreaker in the semifinals at the 675,000 dollars Legg Mason Classic on Saturday, reports Reuter.

In the other match, second-seed Petr Korda of the Czech Republic beat David Wheaton 6-2, 6-3.

Top-seed Chang was down 1-4 to a revitalised 11th seeded Steven in the second set. But Chang rallied to run off three games to tie the set and made Steven work hard to hold service and gain a tie-breaker.

Chang ran to a 3-0 lead and held his service until finishing the match off with an overhead smash.

"Things have continued to get better for me this week and may be I have those tough early matches to thank for it. Being pounced was good for me. I had to hit a lot of balls and that's always good when you're making the transition to hardcourts from grass."

Chang improved to 27-3 this season on hardcourts, and leads all current Tour players with 306 victories.

Chang has beaten Korda in five of their seven career matches, including all three on hardcourts, and took their most recent meeting last year at Key

Biscayne.

Korda, who won here in 1992, reached his second final of the year. He lost the other last month in Halle to Yevgeny Kafelnikov.

Wheaton, ranked 232nd, saved three break points in each of his first two service games but Korda broke through on his seventh opportunity with a forehand winner to take a 3-1 lead.



MICHAEL CHANG

Korda broke him again with a backhand crosscourt shot in the final game of the first set.

Wheaton's only break point came in the seventh game of the

second set but Korda followed a deep return with a winner at the net to save the point and head to lead 4-3.

Korda won the first three points of the next game and broke Wheaton on his third chance with a forehand winner from the baseline. Korda then held in five points to take the match in 80 minutes, jumping in the air with joy.

"I had some emotion because it was the first time I had beaten him in three matches," Korda said. "It's always sweet the first time."

Korda said he did not have the energy to jump after a quarter-final with in severe heat, but felt better against Wheaton.

"I was much stronger," Korda said. "I saved some energy and did not lose a lot. David likes to play quick points. He plays serve and volley. It depended on how I returned. I came in quickly and got off to a good start."

Wheaton returned to the Tour last week after missing six months with an injured right heel. He wants a US Open wildcard berth but knows he must improve to get it.

Korda, a former top-10 player, will be ranked in the top 20 next week for the first time since Feb. 6, 1995. He is coming back from groin operations in October 1995 and June 1996.

Part of Korda's health problems, Friday stemmed from skipping meals because he didn't like the tournament cuisine.

# Bad back Seles' undoing

**MAHWAH, New Jersey, July 20:** Hampered by back pain, Monica Seles retired from Saturday's semi final match against Chandra Rubin in the A and P Tennis Classic, reports AP.

Seles, the top seed and the third-ranked player in the world, won the first set 6-3 and the players were on serve with Rubin leading 3-2 when Seles decided she couldn't continue in the exhibition event.

"I was just in pain really from the beginning," Seles said. "I got some treatment beforehand and some cream on the back and also some pills, but it didn't really help much. It was just a matter of, did I want to keep playing through this pain or not, and knowing that I have a tournament next week, I just feel it's safer to stop then get it even worse."

Although she was leading when she retired, Seles said pain in her back, which athletic trainer Glen DePino called a "back spasm," was bothering her on every point.

"Each time I would try to hit a shot, it was hurting and obviously I'm using my back so

much," Seles said. "And it just tightened up on me and I couldn't even bend down. That's why I felt it was bugging me a lot on the serve and it was not worth it."

Seles started feeling the pain during her three-set victory over Mirjana Lucin on Friday night. That match was delayed



MONICA SELES

2 1/2 hours by rain and then lasted 1 hour, 39 minutes as Seles had to come back from 4-2 in the second set to win 6-4, 7-5, 6-0.

On Saturday, Seles first asked for the trainer during the changeover break with Rubin leading 3-2 in the first set. The trainer massaged her lower back during the next two changeovers and Seles was able to play through the pain to win the first set, getting a service break in the eighth game by putting away a forehand volley at the net.

Seles said she still intends to play in the Bank of the West Classic next week at Stanford, Calif.

**Caniggia France bound**

BUENOS AIRES, July 20: Argentine international striker Claudio Caniggia, in dispute with Boca Juniors, said Saturday that he is negotiating to join French First Division club Marseille, reports AFP.

"I can confirm I've been involved in negotiations, but nothing has been decided yet," Caniggia said.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Potential peacock  
4 Owned by that chap  
7 Ballet bend  
8 City-issued bonds, for short  
10 Straight length  
11 Visualization  
13 Talk show star  
15 Ram's m'am  
17 Use frugally  
18 Afternoon affair  
19 Witnesses  
20 "— also serve..."  
21 On reserve  
23 Candy  
25 Skirt length  
26 Climb, in a way  
27 Past  
28 1865

**DOWN**

2 Caron portrayals  
3 River to Lake Ontario  
4 Indulge insurance  
5 Foolish  
6 Token  
7 Owen's hookup  
8 Gold-finger  
9 Reach away  
10 The boiling point  
11 "We—"  
12 Winter forecast  
14 Admiring customers  
15 Deposit  
19 Tackle moguls  
20 Pin number?  
21 Stingy  
22 Wreaths  
23 Drive  
24 Sometimes they're in a circle  
25 Buddy  
26 Poly-gonal bounds  
28 Habitue's order  
29 Designer  
30 Bowler  
31 Mistrust  
32 Thickness  
34 Ancient Peruvian  
35 Apprehend

**Solution time: 22 mins.**

**CHIM DEE SKIM**  
**LODI ARE POGO**  
**AWOL MILLINER**  
**MILLION ORATE**  
**CAPIN FLA**  
**USA ARE PIO**  
**MILERS JULE**  
**SHADE MILARD**  
**MILLIGAN LIEU**  
**OKIELECK ADEN**  
**GEES LEO VALE**

CRYPTOQUIP

WTOUY EAUL JBADB  
TGHQ JOYDCYO CVYRE  
AL BAE WQH OGEH  
AL RYTDY

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF, BY CHANCE, YOU TORE A SCARF IN HALF, YOU'D PRODUCE A BANDANA SPLIT.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: R equals P

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.