

Column One

Roost sports WHIZZ KID

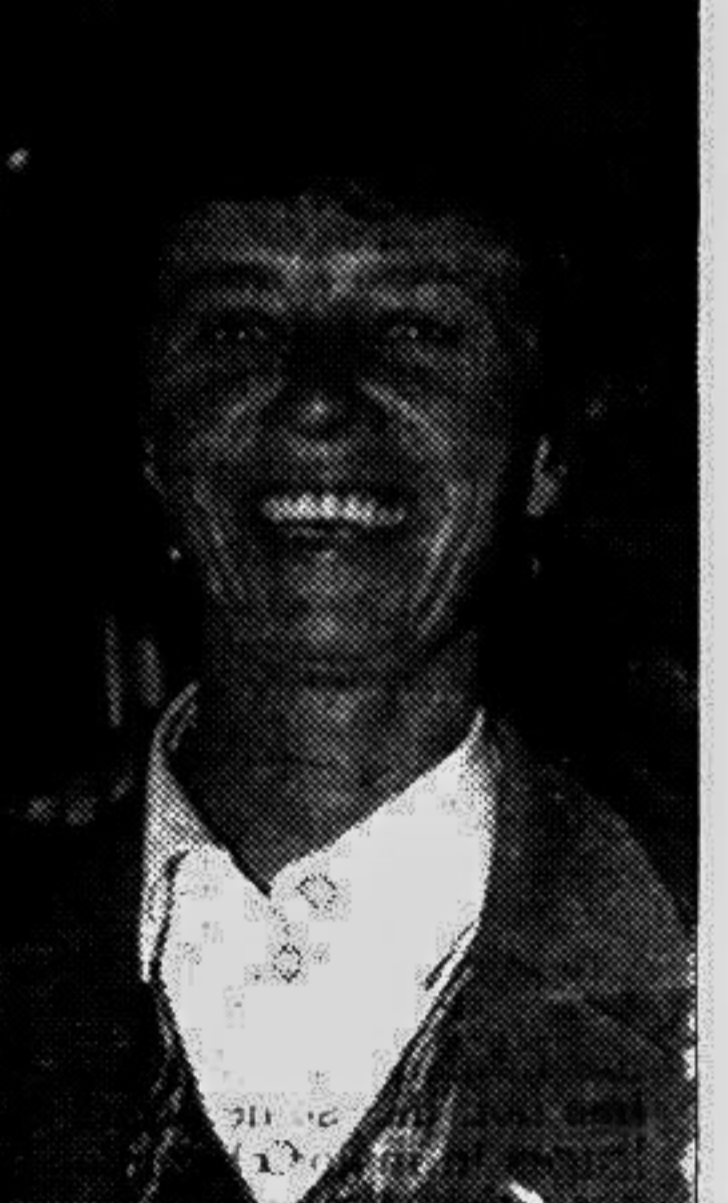
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-75

Tick the Correct Answers Competition closes at 8 pm, August 8, '97

- 1 Who is the soccer coach of AC Milan? Sacchi, Capello, Tabarez

Name ..... Class ..... Roll No. .... School Address ..... Phone: (if any) .....

SPORTS TALK



Melanie Molitor (Mother and coach of Martina Hingis) "I don't have the feeling I've stolen her childhood..."

Kanu optimistic

ROME, July 30: Nigerian forward Nwankwo Kanu was optimistic for his future in Inter Milan...

Lewis-Golota bout Oct 4

NEW YORK, July 30: Lennox Lewis has been criticised for not having the heart of a gladiator...

Holmes wins

NEW YORK, July 30: Former heavyweight champion Larry Holmes eked out a split-decision victory over unheralded Maurice Harris...

Muktis edge past Agrani



An early second half goal from striker Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib saw Muktiyoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra scrape through to the semifinals of the 14th Federation Cup football tournament...

The Muktiyoddha captain scored the all-important goal in the 58th minute with a trademark header to lead his side to their second successive win...

But apart from Nakib's match-winning goal, his second in the tourney, it was yet another dreary display by the former champions against Agrani Bank...

The mediocre Premier league outfit was rather unfortunate of being denied of what would have been a powerful volley from their substitute striker Rana...

Sports Reporter

fender Jewel Rana and Aminul, the dependable youngster under the bar. Besides, Masud Rana was the other player who lived up to his reputation in the match...

TEAMS: MUKTIYODDHA: Aminul, Hasan-al-Mamun, Jewel Rana, Rajani, Masud Rana, Gaus.



Action from the 14th Federation Cup football match between Abahani and BRTC at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday. Abahani won 3-1.

work down the left-flank before releasing a defence-slicing cross for an unmarked Nakib, who nodded the ball home from close. Eleven minutes later Masud Rana, aided by the strong breeze, almost got his first goal...

Pioneer soccer

Tejgaon Naba Taranga and Dilkusha Sporting Club won their respective matches in the Metropolitan Pioneer football league at different city venues yesterday, reports UNB.

At the Mohakhali T&T ground, the Tejgaon side defeated Golden Future Sporting Club 2-0. Hassan and Shakawat scored the goals.

Meanwhile, Dilkusha beat Kalabagan KC by two goals to one at the outer stadium. Shahidul netted both the goals for the winners in the second half after Sharifuddin had given the losers a first half lead.

Shilton's new job

LONDON, July 30: Former England international Peter Shilton joined Middlesbrough on Tuesday as a part-time goal-keeping coach...

Riedle riddle

DORTMUND, July 30: European champions Borussia Dortmund confirmed today that Karl-Heinz Riedle, who scored two goals in last season's European Cup final...

The player, who scored twice in the European Cup final, will partner Robbie Fowler in attack for a reported 20,000 pounds a week.

Only Paul Ince, bought from Inter Milan, is on higher wages at Liverpool.

Riedle's path to Liverpool was cleared despite a late challenge from Newcastle, who badly need a replacement for injured England captain Alan Shearer.

The signing of Riedle as a replacement for Stan Collymore, who went to Aston Villa, will take Liverpool's summer spending to almost 12 million pounds.

Liverpool later confirmed that Riedle was at Anfield having talks.

Thankful Zamorano

MILAN, July 30: Inter Milan's Ivan Zamorano thanked new teammate Ronaldo on Tuesday for not insisting on taking the Chilean's cherished number nine shirt...

Ronaldo, the number nine in the Brazilian national team, has already begun wearing Inter's number 10 shirt.

Zamorano said: "It's not true to say that Ronaldo has left me the number nine, the number nine was already mine."

"I've been wearing this number for 14 years and it's the number that people know and love by in Chile."

"However, I do appreciate the fact that he hasn't insisted on having it taken away from me; he's really a great young man."

The amicable arrangement over the shirt has nevertheless caused trouble for some.

Denilson Barca bound?

MADRID, July 30: Brazilian international striker Denilson looks poised to join Barcelona, according to Spanish newspaper reports today, writes Reuter.

El Mundo Deportivo, a Spanish sports daily, reported that Barcelona and Denilson's present club Sao Paulo were close to agreeing terms.

The two clubs are believed to have agreed on a price of around five billion pesetas (33.3 million dollars) for the forward.

Denilson was one of the stars of Brazil's recent Copa America triumph.

Moya moves

AMSTERDAM, July 30: Top-seeded Carlos Moya of Spain won his opening-round match at the Grolsch Open on Tuesday, ousting gregory Carraz of France 6-4, 6-4, reports AP.

No. 3 seed Alberto Berasategui of Spain was upset by Moroccan Karim Alami 6-4, 6-4.

Rana blows BRTC away



Forward Maksudul Amin Rana scored a hatrick as title aspirants Abahani Krira Chakra stormed into the semifinals of the 14th Federation Cup with a convincing 3-1 victory over Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

Rana, the speedy striker, who joined the illustrious club this year from Youngmen's Club Fakirerpool, struck all the goals to notch the third hat-trick of the tournament. Badrul Amin Munna grabbed a consolation goal for BRTC at the stroke of the final whistle.

The winners led the first half 1-0. Rana, who was instrumental in the sky blues 4-0 victory over Agrani Bank on Monday, opened his account with a sudden grounder from the left corner of the box after an exchanging a couple of passes with Jahangir in the 29th minute and doubled the margin converting a penalty in the 54th minute.

He completed the job when his cross was handled by Bank skipper Litu inside the danger area presenting Abahani their second penalty in the 79th minute. Rana stepped up to once again beat BRTC custodian Mohammad Ali.

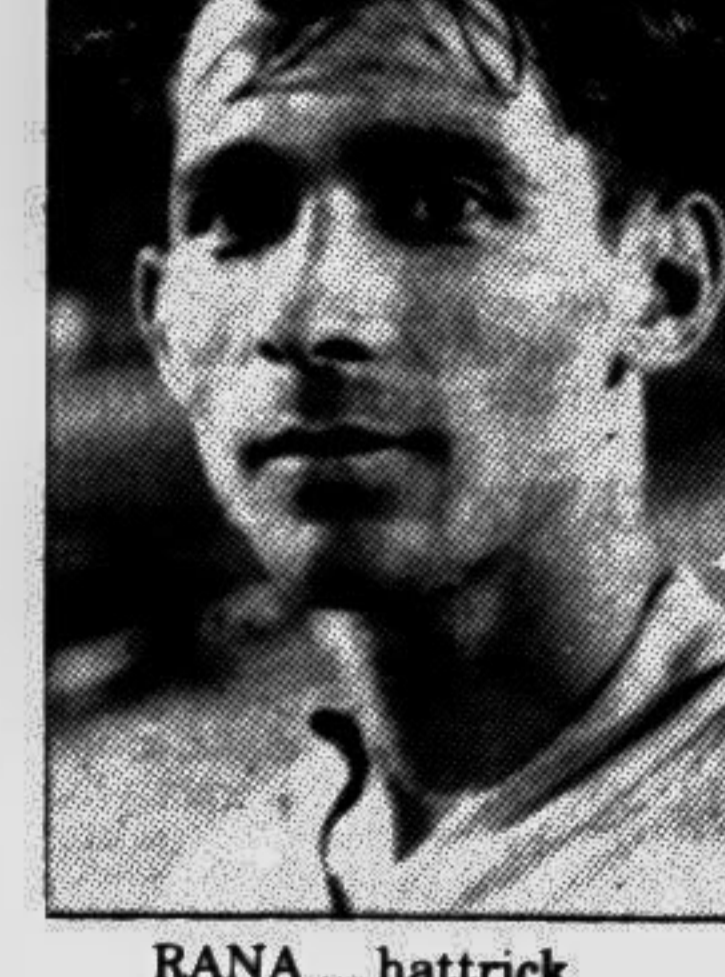
After conceding the third goal, BRTC pulled one back through a late second half rally through Munna's grounder in the 88th minute.

Although Abahani won quite easily, the margin would have been much bigger. Captain Zakir missed the net early in the first half when

Sports Reporter

his close range header hit the near post while substitute Rumi Rizvi Karim spoiled two good opportunities in the second half firstly hitting the post and then sending the ball wide.

Abahani are joined in the last four by Muktiyoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra. Both



RANA ... hatrick

having won two matches each in the four-team Group Two. However, the group winners will be decided when the two giants meet in their last match tomorrow.

Yellow cards: Mithu, Roman and Munna (BRTC)

TEAMS

ABAHANI KC: Biplab, Prodeep, Munna, Ali Mansoor, Masum, Zakir, Sentu, Sourav Raju (Tipu), Jahangir, Amin

Rana and Mizan (Rumi). BRTC: Mohammad Ali, Litu, Malek, Mithu, Nazrul, Hemayet, Basu Mitra (Uzzal), Nurul Islam, Pilumoy Barua, Masud (Roman) and Munna. Referee: Subhash Roy.

TODAY'S MATCHES

YMC Fakirerpool vs Arambagh KS (4pm) Mohammedan SC vs Brothers Union (6pm)

QM Active chess prize giving ceremony held

Bangladesh Chess Federation held a discussion on the occasion of the 100th birth anniversary of noted educationist and chess-talent Dr Quazi Motaher Hossain at the National Sports Council yesterday, reports UNB.

National Prof Abdur Razzak attended the function as chief guest while State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader was special guest.

International Women Master Rani Hamid also spoke on the occasion. Prize giving ceremony of the open active chess competition was also held at the same function.

International Master Ziaur Rahman and Abdullah-Al-Rakib emerged champion and runner up in the competition, scoring 6.5 and six points respectively. A total of 90 players took part in the two-day competition held on July 25-26.



Luxemburg side Grevenmacher's Bernard Heinz (R) and Croatian club Hajduk Split's Tomislav Erceg in chase of the ball during their UEFA Cup second-leg qualifier in Croatia on July 29. Hajduk won 2-0 to advance on 6-1 aggregate. — AP/UNB photo

Sound start for Kuerten



MONTREAL, July 30: French Open champion Gustavo Kuerten of Brazil made an impressive start at the 2.3 million dollars Canadian Open Tuesday, firing bullets past over-matched American Jonathan Stark to claim a 6-2, 6-4 victory, report agencies.

Playing his first match on hard courts since losing in the third round of the Lipton Championships in March, the sixth-seeded Kuerten broke the 70th-ranked Stark's serve in the third game of the match and took command by winning 10 of the next 13 games.

Fourth-seeded Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov, playing his first hard-court match since new year's eve, started slowly but came on strong to beat American Vince Spadea 4-6, 6-3, 7-6.

In a first-round match that paired two players who won tournaments last Sunday, France's Fabrice Santoro rallied from a 1-4 third-set deficit to oust 14th-seeded Jim Courier 7-5, 4-6, 6-4.

Santoro, ranked 50th, captured a lower-level challenger event on clay in Newcastle, England, playing two matches on Sunday to do so, while Courier triumphed at the ATP Tour event in Los Angeles.

Other seeded players winning second-round matches Tuesday included eighth seed Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands, a 7-6, 6-1 winner over South African Neville Godwin, and 11th-seeded Patrick Rafter, who beat France's Olivier Delaite 6-4, 6-1.

The key to the 20-year-old Kuerten's victory over Stark

was an endless stream of great passing shots. Kuerten was so effective that Stark was able to win only eight of 27 points when he went to the net.

"I'm confident right now," said the lanky Brazilian, whose record since the third week of June was only 1-4. "I'm feeling too good on the court, hitting

take a 5-1 third-set lead. Spadea battled back to 5-all but Kafelnikov eventually prevailed, winning on this fifth match point.

"It's very tough playing on hard courts again because the bounce is not as high as clay," said Kafelnikov, who played 11 of his last 13 events on clay. The other two were on grass.

"The ball comes much faster. I only had one day of practice but now I have a day off and I'll practice and be a lot better for my next match."

Courier, perhaps worn-out after beating 15th-ranked Krajkicek, number three Goran Ivanisevic and number eight Thomas Enqvist to win in Los Angeles, conceded that Santoro, "hung in there and played better at the end."

Courier lost a point when he gestured at the umpire after getting a warning for verbal abuse over a remark the official believed was aimed at him, but that Courier insisted was directed toward himself. The point gave Santoro a 30-love lead when he trailed 3-4 in the final set.

Santoro, who flew home to Paris Sunday after winning in England, and rushed around doing errands Monday before flying to Montreal, only practised for 30 minutes on the hard courts at Jarry Park before his match.

"I was tired and not feeling too well physically," he said, but I still thought I give it my all.

In other second round matches Swede Jonas Bjorkman beat Doug Flach of the United States 5-7, 6-3, 7-5 and American Chris Woodruff overcame Dutchman Jan Siemerink 6-7, 7-5, 7-6.

GUSTAVO KUERTEN



my best shots and serving well. The Kafelnikov-Spadea match was one of dramatic momentum swings as the American led 6-4, 3-1 only to see the Russian win the second set and

Robokids on the block



BRIGHTON, England, July 30 (Reuter): A soccer match staged between robots at a scientific conference on Tuesday drew a sharp line between what machines can achieve on an assembly line and in the realm of human activity.

The urge to create artificial life could be considered to be making some progress, but aspiring soccer stars still seem to have little to fear.

Five robots — six-cm (2.5 inch) wheeled vehicles, each costing about 4,000 dollars and resembling a big computer chip with a tiny camera on top — vied for a tennis ball into rival goals on a 70 by 90 cm (27.5 by 35.5 inch) pitch.

Three kept getting stuck against a wall, and another scored more than twice as many goals against itself than it did against its opponents.

The match at the conference on artificial life in this southern English seaside resort was

an exhibition warm-up before the official launch of a world "Robocup" next month in Japan in which 45 teams of five robots each will compete.

"This just shows how far we still have to go," said Hiroaki Kitano, senior researcher at Sony Corp in Japan, which will be fielding a team at the tournament.

Now that IBM's Deep Blue computer had defeated the world chess champion, soccer is becoming a new focus for scientists, he said.

The ultimate prize is to develop a side capable of defeating Brazil's World Cup team. But just creating a humanoid that could stand up to human competition is still at least 100 years off, he said.

"In the real world, you cannot break things down as you can in chess. Every thing moves around dynamically and things change all the time. There is missing information."

A big stumbling block is simply ensuring that a robot

would not harm its human opponents. "Robots must learn when to give up the goal," Kitano said.

A practical application could be robots which were able to fight fires and save victims.

"A robot could go in and pull out a victim, but what happens if it pulls him apart in the process?" Kitano mused. Apart from the miniature soccer players, some robots on display ranged from the freakish to the cute.

One a do-it — itself cleaner — an autonomous mobile vehicle — costs 16,000 dollars.

Chris Winter, head of the Futures Research Lab at British Telecom, which sponsored the project, said his company was looking for ways to cut down on software costs. Together with MCI (mcic.0) it spends more than 2 billion a year on software, he said.

"These people here are developing new ways of thinking about complexity. New ways for the future," he said.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 Chest protector 4 Warded poster datum 9 Pretense 12 Caviar 13 Lawrence's 45 Ms. partner 14 Postal Creed word 15 Mountain region of Spain 17 About to arrive 18 Female swan 19 One of Snow White's friends 21 It may be all wet 24 Munich miser 25 Sea eagle 26 One of the March sisters 28 Some are floppy 31 Hawkeye's portrayer 33 Scale members 36 Ice cream receptacle 36 Blackbirds

- 38 Bill 40 Without further ado 41 "How clumsy of me!" 43 "Guinness Book" info 47 Gettysburg Address 48 Dale's hubby 49 Crichton's "The — Strain" 54 A billion years 55 Dry cleaner's concern 56 Workout milieu 57 Whatever number 58 Trestle 59 Earthy prefix 1 Consellera's offering 2 Romanian president 3 Foundation 4 Shining 5 Easy chair 6 Apr. 7 Mennonite sect 8 Shut up 9 "Father Knows Best" family 10 — de main 11 Low card 16 Police alert abbr. 20 Roberts or Stoltz 21 Squad 22 Perry's creator 23 Characteristic of certain flowers 27 Understand 29 Difficulty 30 Puts the pieces together? 32 Medicinal plant 34 Treks for Captain Spaulding 37 Mermaid movie 39 Whopper 42 — Domingo 44 Computer acronym 45 Vicinity 46 High time 50 Patriotic org. 51 Mayonnaise ingredient 52 Turn blue? 53 Start of Latin I lingo

Cryptogram puzzle: O W B T N A Z I G J O I Z I I I Z V Q B T P A J H Q V S V H N G T V H V Y O J P Y W W T N S A N Q N W I Saturday's Cryptquip: AN IDIOTIC, UNREASONABLE FOOL THOUGHT THE COLD WAR WAS A SNOWBALL FIGHT. Today's Cryptquip clue: T equals M

English heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis (R) shows his WBC belt during a press conference in New York on July 29. The British will defend his crown against Pole Andrew Golota (L) in Atlantic City on Oct. 4. — AFP/UNB photo