

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-75

Tick the Correct Answers

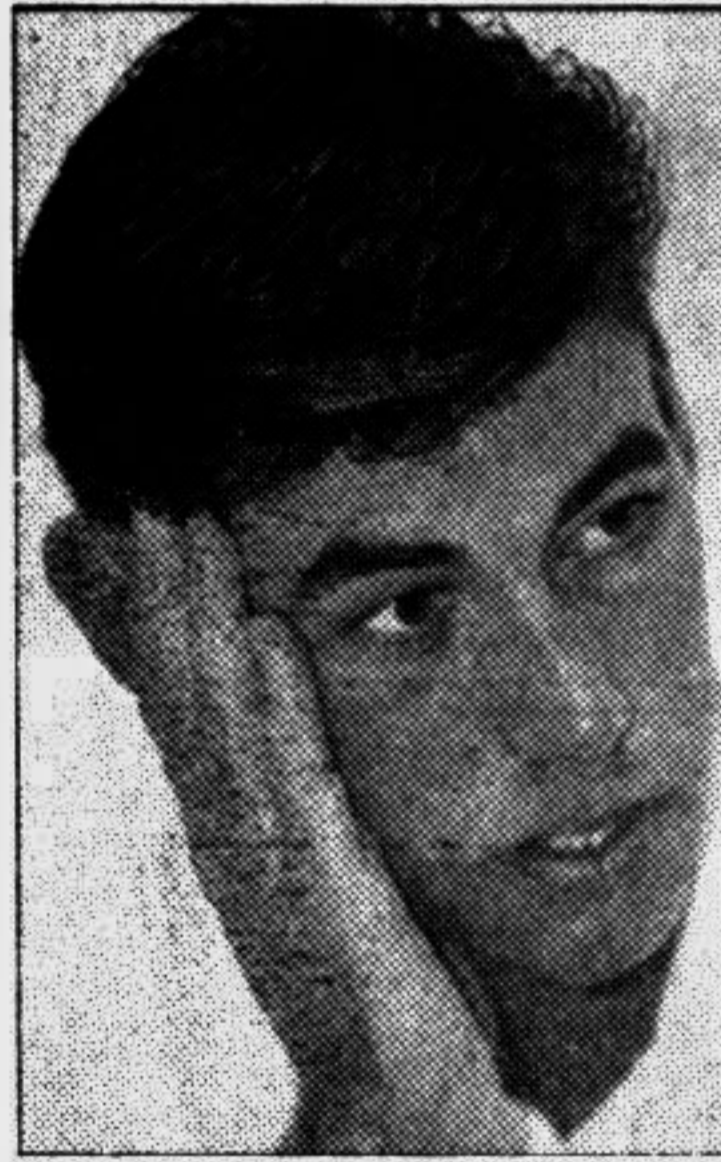
Competition closes at 8 pm, August 8, '97

- 1 Who is the soccer coach of AC Milan? Sacchi, Capello, Tabarez
- 2 Who lifted the Legg Mason Classic tennis title this year? Korda, Chang, Wheaton
- 3 Which is the new club of Roberto Baggio? Bologna, Atletico, Vicenza
- 4 Who won the Ali Sports 7th schools kabaddi title? Millat, Rifles, Nawabpur
- 5 Who scored the first hat-trick in this year's Federation Cup football? Iqbal, Al-Amin, Sohag

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



SPORTS TALK



Stephen Fleming (New Zealand cricket captain) I think captaincy has put that extra responsibility on me, and I seem to do better. It is always good to contribute with your batting, and the team is bound to gain in more ways than one. As captain, you tend to concentrate more on things like your technique, which only helps your batting.

Chehlum Sports Reporter

The chehlum of former national football coach Gafur Balooch will be held today. A milad mahfil will be organised at the Brothers Union Club premises after the Zohr prayers.

Barisal soccer From Our Correspondent

BARISAL, Aug 1: Abahani Krira Chakra beat Udayan Club by seven goals to one in the opening match of the First Division football league at the local stadium today.

Bad boys for good game

BRUSSELS, Aug 1: Three of world soccer's most temperamental ambassadors will lead a European Commission-sponsored anti-racism drive at a special tournament in Spain in October, reports Reuter.



Muktis' prolific striker Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib (L) fires the ball home to score his and his side's first goal against Abahani Krira Chakra in their 14th Federation Cup football clash at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday. Muktis won 2-0. —Star photo

Muktis topple Abahani

Sports Reporter

National striker Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib struck twice to guide Muktojodha Sangsad Krira Chakra to a comfortable 2-0 victory over Abahani Krira Chakra in a tense second round clash of the 14th Federation Cup football tournament at the floodlit Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

Serie A second to none

CHATELON, Italy, Aug 1: The English Premier League has benefited from its recent influx of foreign players but Italy's Serie A remains the best in the world, according to Juventus coach Marcello Lippi, reports Reuter.

Russians to look into fixing

MOSCOW, Aug 1: Russian soccer officials are set to meet on Monday to review allegations of match-fixing in a Premier league game last week, a senior league director said on Thursday, reports Reuter.

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Cup Winners' Cup Abahani to play both matches in Dhaka

Both the matches of the Asian Cup Winners' Cup football tournament between Abahani Krira Chakra and Old Benedictines of Sri Lanka will be held in the capital on August 23 and 25, reports UNB.

Super 8s cricket Malaysian side wins

The Malaysian selection side beat India by nine runs in the Super 8s invitational cricket tournament in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. The home-side, for which two Bangladeshi Akram Khan and Aminul Islam are featuring, scored 128 in the stipulated 14 overs with Akram not out on 17. Bulbul could collect 13 runs.

BTV please clarify

Yet again Bangladesh Television disappointed all and sundry with their dose of misinformation regarding the Super 8s cricket tournament being staged in Kuala Lumpur.

Pioneer soccer

Dilkusha Sporting Club, Swadesh Samaj Kalyan Sangha and Islampur Udayan Sangha won their respective Pioneer Super league football matches held at different venues of the city yesterday.

Ronaldo vows to pay Inter back

MILAN, Aug 1: Ronaldo has promised goals galore for Inter Milan next season when the club bid to become Italian champions for the first time in nearly a decade, reports AFP.

Amsterdam Open tennis results

AMSTERDAM, Aug 1: Uruguay's Marcelo Filippini and Czech Slava Dosedel moved smoothly into the semifinals of the 4,750,000 dollars Amsterdam Open with convincing victories on Thursday, reports Reuter.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

First Test starts today



ARJUNA RANATUNGA against his team earlier this week after their eight-wicket annihilation in the Asia Cup final at Arjuna Ranatunga's one-day champions drew lak from players and officials alike.

At a closed-door meeting on Thursday, Madan was reportedly taken to task by the angry cricketers for timing the criticism ahead of the first Test at the Premadasa Stadium.

Goran, Thomas tumble

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Celio can't play in England

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La's individual assessment of each member in a newspaper interview in which he termed many of them short of international class.

The Indians have reason to believe they can average the Asia Cup defeat in the Test matches — their last series win abroad was in Sri Lanka in 1993.

India failed to win any of their 12 Tests abroad since then, despite securing eight wins in 13 home Tests in the same period, earning them the tag of 'tigers at home but lambs abroad.'

Captain Sachin Tendulkar, looking for his first Test win away from home, plans to unleash five bowlers on a wicket that is expected to be a slow turner over the five days.

Left-arm spinner Nilesh Kulkarni of Bombay will make his debut as support bowler for recalled off-spinner Rajesh Chauhan, vice-captain Anil Kumble and seamers Venkatesh Prasad and Abey Kuruvilla.

India will once again use wicketkeeper Nayan Mongia as opener to accommodate five specialist batsmen in Navjot Sidhu, Rahul Dravid, Mohammad Azharuddin, Saurav Ganguly and Anil Kumble.

The Sri Lankans will blood young middle-order batsman Mahela Jayawardena as a replacement for the injured Hashan Tillekeratne, but will play only four regular bowlers.

Sri Lanka, which aims to become the world's Test playing nation by the turn of the century, have won just nine of their 74 matches since gaining official status in 1981.

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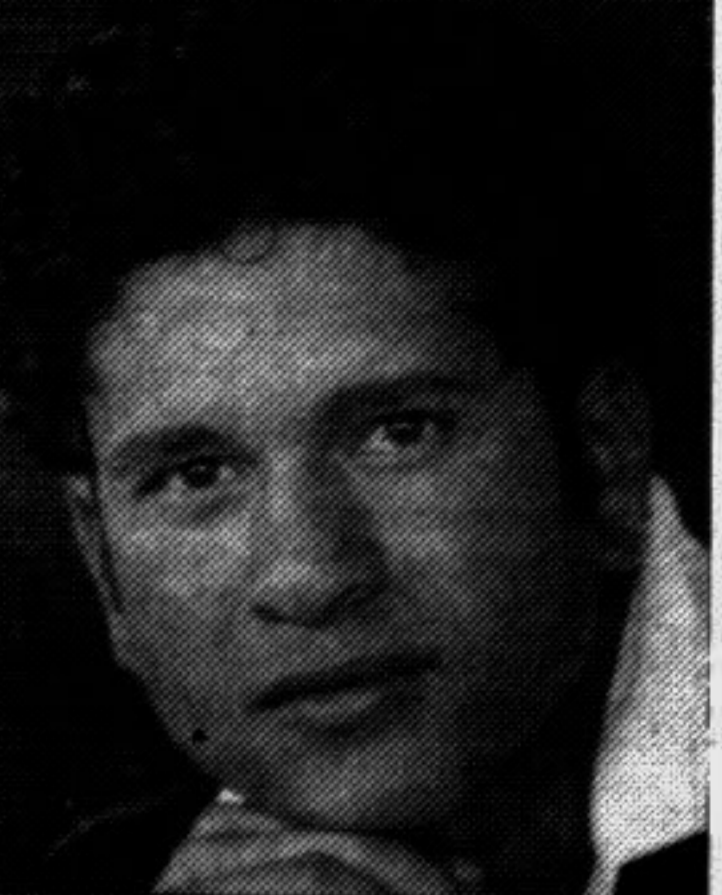
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SACHIN TENDULKAR

week, a draw would seem the likely result.

TEAMS

INDIA: Sachin Tendulkar (capt), Navjot Sidhu, Nayan Mongia, Rahul Dravid, Mohammad Azharuddin, Saurav Ganguly, Anil Kumble, Rajesh Chauhan, Nilesh Kulkarni, Abey Kuruvilla and Venkatesh Prasad.

SRI LANKA: Arjuna Ranatunga (capt), Sanath Jayasuriya, Marvan Atapattu, Aravinda de Silva, Roshan Mahanama, Mahela Jayawardena, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Chaminda Vas, Ravindra Pushpakumara, Muttiah Muralitharan, Jayantha Silva.

Umpires: Steve Randall (Australia) and KT Francis (Sri Lanka).

Goran, Thomas tumble

MONTREAL, Aug 1: Thursday was not a good day for the high seeds at the Canadian Open.

Former US college champion Chris Woodruff beat second-seeded Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia 7-6, 6-2 and Fabrice Santoro upset No. 3 Thomas Muster of Austria 6-2, 2-6, 6-4, reports AP.

Top-seeded Michael Chang did advance with a 4-6, 6-2, 6-3 victory over Alex O'Brien.

In other matches, No. 4 Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia beat defending champion Wayne Ferreira of South Africa 7-5, 6-3; No. 5 Thomas Enqvist beat fellow Swede Jonas Bjorkman, the 12th seed, 6-3, 6-2; No. 7 Mark Philippoussis of Australia downed Guillaume Raou of France 7-5, 6-3; and No. 8 Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands defeated Justin Gimelstob 6-2, 6-4.

Santoro won a challenger tournament in Newcastle, England, on Sunday, then flew overnight to Montreal in time to beat 14th-seeded Jim Courier in the first round.

The French right-hander knocked off Geoff Grant on Wednesday, then beat Muster.

Santoro, who has added to his workload by playing doubles, advanced to Friday's quarterfinals against French Open champion Gustavo Kuerten. After Courier and Muster, that's three French Open champions in one week.

"Everyone tells me Montreal is a nice city, but I haven't seen it yet," said Santoro, who is ranked 53rd in the world. "In four days, I've only played matches and slept."

"I'm trying to get the maximum rest. The time zone change is tough, but I feel okay as long as you keep winning, you rest much better."

Santoro said he entered the British tournament last week because he had lost in the early rounds of some previous tournaments and needed to get in some matches.

"I went to the challenger to gain some confidence," he said. "It's true, I won it easily, but I came to Montreal with some matches in my legs, ready to play."

Santoro has won four of six career meetings with Muster, but it was their first match on hardcourt. Muster, a clay-court specialist, has been adapting his game to faster surfaces and lost on hardcourt for the fourth time in 26 matches this year.

"I wasn't consistent enough and he played 100 per cent of his game," Muster said. "I had so many chances and didn't finish off the points."

Patience and control were the key for Chang. "I play best when I'm calm," said Chang, who saw the 15th-seeded O'Brien pushing too hard in the second set and then picked him apart with an exceptional variety of precision shots.

"I'm a thinker — on or off the court," Chang said. "If I get frustrated or angry, I won't think clearly."

"If you see a guy start to lose a bit, you have to be ready to take advantage of it. These guys don't give you a lot of opportunities and when they do, you have to capitalise on it."

Celio can't play in England

LONDON, Aug 1: Brazilian international Celio Silva's move to English champions Manchester United has been called off after the defender was refused a work permit, club manager Alex Ferguson said on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Ferguson said United, who had agreed a fee of some 3.5 million pounds (5.9 million dollars) with Brazil's Corinthians for the 29-year-old Silva, had abandoned the transfer because British officials would not give the player a permit.

Former England striker Peter Bardsley has also had to change his plans after his Newcastle club cancelled his transfer to Premier league newcomers Bolton.

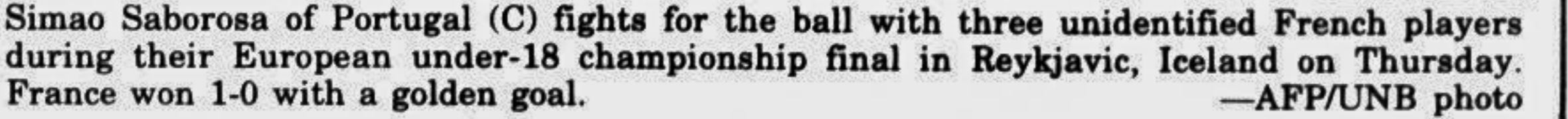
Newcastle officials said on Thursday that they had decided to keep the 36-year-old Bardsley after losing Alan Shearer to injury last weekend.

Amsterdam Open tennis results

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The 21-year-old Van Lottum, ranked 233 in the world, reached the third round at Wimbledon this year and is regarded as one of the rising stars of Dutch tennis.

A thigh-strain picked up in the second set left the Dutchman struggling though, and he finished the match with heavy strapping on his left leg.



Simao Saborosa of Portugal (C) fights for the ball with three unidentified French players during their European under-18 championship final in Reykjavik, Iceland on Thursday. France won 1-0 with a golden goal. —AFP/UNB photo