

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-75

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes at 8 pm, August 8, '97

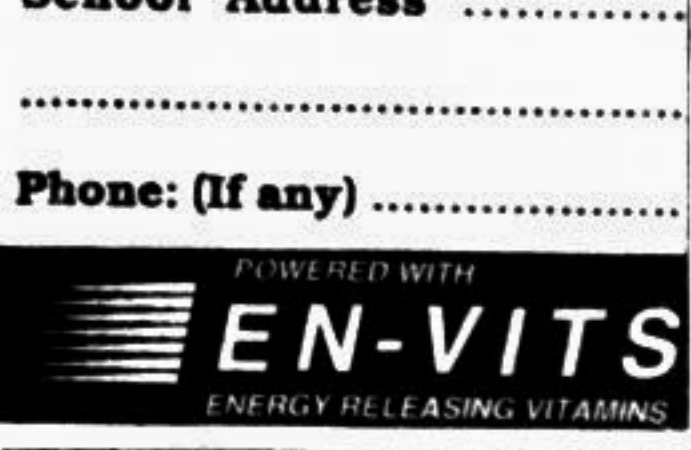
1. Who is the soccer coach of AC Milan?  
Sacchi Capello Tabares
2. Who lifted the Legg Mason Classic tennis title this year?  
Korda Chang Wheaton
3. Which is the new club of Roberto Baggio?  
Bologna Atletico Vicenza
4. Who won the Ali Sports 7th schools kabaddi title?  
Millat Rifles Nawabpur
5. Who 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



Martina Hingis

World No. 1 tennis player Martina Hingis is going to come back again, for sure it's not going to be the same Steffi as she was before.

On the former top-ranked player who is recovering from a knee operation.

Div II b'ball from Sept 3

The metropolis Second Division basketball league will begin on September 3 at the Dhanmondi basketball gymnasium, reports UNB.

Teams have been asked to send in their entries by August 25 at the Federation office with the affiliation fee of Tk 200 each.

A two-day transfer will begin on August 27. Transfer fee will be Tk 30.

Martial arts tourney ends

The three-day martial arts competition, organised by Bangladesh Martial Arts Confederation, concluded at the National Sports Council gymnasium yesterday, reports UNB.

Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak witnessed some events and later distributed prizes.

Eighteen events of different weight categories in wushu, taekwondo Do, kung fu, jujitsu, kyokushinkai and weapons were performed by 300 competitors from 25 teams.

Barisal soccer

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Aug 6: Seventh Armed Police Battalion recorded a 2-1 victory over Udayane Club in a First Division football league encounter at the local stadium on Tuesday.

Shafayet Hossain scored both the goals for the winners while Nirab pulled one back for Udayane Club.

Local Abahani Krira Chakra will take on Evergreen Club today at the same venue.

Huber abases Kournikova

MANHATTAN BEACH, California, Aug 6: Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario of Spain beat Naoko Sawamatsu of Japan 6-2, 7-6 in the first round of the Acura Classic as temperatures reached 40 degrees Celsius at Manhattan County Club, reports AP.

Sixth-seeded Anke Huber of Germany, playing in cool evening breezes, routed wild card Anna Kournikova 6-0, 6-1 in 41 minutes.

In the last match of the night, local favourite Venues Williams was to play qualifier Ann Grossman.

Kournikova, watched by friend Sergei Federov of the Detroit Red Wings and Wayne Gretzky of the New York Rangers, self-destructed in her first tournament since Wimbledon, where she beat Huber in three sets en route to the semifinals.



Sri Lankan superbatsman Sanath Jayasuriya (C) being consoled by Indians Rajesh Chauhan (R) and Navjot Sidhu after Jayasuriya was dismissed 35 runs shy of Brian Lara's Test-best 375 in Colombo yesterday.

—AFP/UNB photo

SL score highest Test total

Sanath so close yet so far

COLOMBO, Aug 6: Sri Lanka's batting soared to dizzy heights today as they piled up Test cricket's highest total of 952 for six in the drawn, first Test against India, reports AFP.

Opener Sanath Jayasuriya missed West Indian Brian Lara's individual record of 375 by 35 runs when he was dismissed by off-spinner Rajesh Chauhan for 340 in the fourth over of the final day.

Aravinda de Silva made 126 to become the sixth centurion in the high scoring match, while captain Arjuna Ranatunga (86) and debutant Mahela Jayawardena (66) prolonged the misery of the battered Indians.

Just 14 wickets fell over five days on the dead wicket at the Premadasa Stadium, which provided no respite for the bowlers. India had made 537 for eight declared in their first innings.

Sri Lanka, the current one-day champions, lowered a 59-year-old record held by England, who made 903 for seven declared against Australia at the Oval in 1938.

Some 32,000 home fans turned up after organisers threw open the gates as Jayasuriya began the final day on 326, needing another 50 to overtake Lara's record against England at Antigua last year.

The 28-year-old left-hander hit boundaries with his first three scoring strokes to reach 338 and then took two singles to reach 340.

But the second-wicket pair of Roshan Mahanama and Jayasuriya, who had batted for two days, fell at the same score of 615 after adding a world record stand of 576 for any wicket.

Mahanama (225) was given out leg before by Sri Lankan umpire K T Francis off Anil Kumble in the day's third over.

In the next over, Jayasuriya edged Chauhan to Saurav Ganguly at silly point, ending a marathon knock that lasted 79 minutes and included 36 boundaries and two sixes.

Jayasuriya wept openly on his way back to the pavilion, applauded by both the Indian fielders and Sri Lankan teammates as the crowd watched in stunned silence.

Jayasuriya became the fourth-highest scorer in Test cricket behind two West Indians, Lara (375) and Gary Sobers (365 not out), and Len Hutton of England (364).

De Silva and Ranatunga, the most experienced Sri Lankan batsmen, provided a treat for their fans with a run-a-ball stand of 175 for the fourth wicket.

After Ranatunga was run out, young Jayawardena put on 131 for the fifth wicket with De Silva, who reached his 12th Test century in 62 matches midway through the last session.

Drummond's date with defeat!

ATHENS, Aug 6: American 200 metres champion Jon Drummond came within a shoe width of a premature exit from the World Championships today when he lost his balance in the final metres of his first round heat, reports Reuters.

In what appeared at first to be premature victory celebrations Drummond shot his right arm high in the air while well clear of the field.

At the same time he slowed and was lucky to finish in third place and win a place in the second round.

Drummond explained he had tilted off-balance and thrown out his right arm to avoid stepping out of lane and incurring automatic disqualification.

"I twisted my torso and held up my arm to keep balance," Drummond said. "I looked up at the scoreboard and was worried that I would see a DNF (did not finish) or DQ (disqualified)."

"When it said Q (qualified) I said Lord, thanks. I owe you one."

Namibia's 1993 world champion Frank Fredericks, who has been hampered by a knee injury to his right knee, complained about the hard track after finishing second in his heat.

"This injury has been with me all season and this hard track has made it worse," he said.

MSC off to S Korea

Sports Reporter

A 17-member football team of Mohammedan Sporting Club left for Seoul yesterday to meet South Korean champions Pohang Steelers Football Club in their opening two-tier first round Asian Club Championship clash to be held in Pohang on August 9.

It was learnt that the team went to Bangkok without having any visa as the South Korean Embassy in Dhaka did not provide them with any. According to a Mohammedan Club press release last night, the team will get entry visa on its arrival at the Seoul Airport.

The second leg match will be held in Dhaka at the Mirpur Stadium on August 16.

This is the second trip for the black and whites to South Korea. Last year they went to Seoul to meet Hyundai Club in the second round of the same tourney after eliminating Laos Electricity in the first round.

SQUAD

Mohammad Ponir (captain), Nizam, Mansoor, Munna, Nazrul, Ruhul Amin, Askar Babu, Arman, Joy, Ranjan, Sabbir, Alfaz, Manik and Faisal, Abul Hossain (coach), Sayed Hasan Kanan (asst coach) and Aminul Islam Babu (manager).

Meanwhile, Abahani Krira Chakra will also engage themselves in a two-tier Asian Cup Winners' Cup first round clash against Old Benedictines of Sri Lanka this month with both the matches to be played at the Mirpur Stadium in Dhaka on August 23 and 25.

According to the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) calendar, the first match was scheduled for Colombo on August 23 followed by the second in Dhaka on August 30. But following a request from Sri Lankan federation AFC rescheduled the first-leg match also for Dhaka.

(In our yesterday's report it was inadvertently mentioned that Mohammedans were to take off for North instead of South Korea.)

BCB course

Sports Reporter

A fortnight long umpires' training course will begin at the players' lounge of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) from August 16.

The authorities, in a bid to provide advanced training at the grass-roots level, have instructed the District Sports Associations to provide the names of two umpires by August 10.

The BCB has also requested the Premier and First Division outfits to give the names of at least two players to attend the short-course, so that the players can acquire the pros and cons of the game.

The four-hour sessions will begin at 4:30 pm everyday.

Chandrika greets Arjuna's men

COLOMBO, Aug 6: Sri Lankan President Chandrika Kumaratunga today joined thousands of cricket fans at the Premadasa Stadium as the national side set a world record for the highest Test score amassing 952 runs, reports AFP.

Kumaratunga congratulated Arjuna Ranatunga and his men as they punished India to shatter the 59-year-old record held by England who scored 903 runs for seven wickets declared against Australia at the Oval in 1938.

The President brushed aside security concerns to go to the stadium as the scoreboard ticked away amid constant cheering, singing and dancing by 32,000 fans.

"It is all the fault of the crowd," said a mercantile executive at the ground. "We put too much pressure on Sanath and that is why he got out. They shouldn't have made it an open house."

The organisers had allowed free entrance today after little more than 100 people turned up to watch as Indian embarked on their first innings.

There were many who believed Jayasuriya could produce a repeat performance.

"He doesn't have to worry too much," said an Indian journalist. "Indians are here to play another Test so Jayasuriya can have another bash at them and shatter Lara's record."

Despite Jayasuriya's disappointment, the team went on to set a new record.

"This match will be recorded as a match played for records rather than a result," said a Sri Lankan journalist as it became evident that the game was headed for a draw.

Work in government and private sector companies came to a standstill today as employees watched television or listened to ball-by-ball commentaries on the radio as Sri Lanka approached the world record.

Orion nat'l bridge from Aug 8

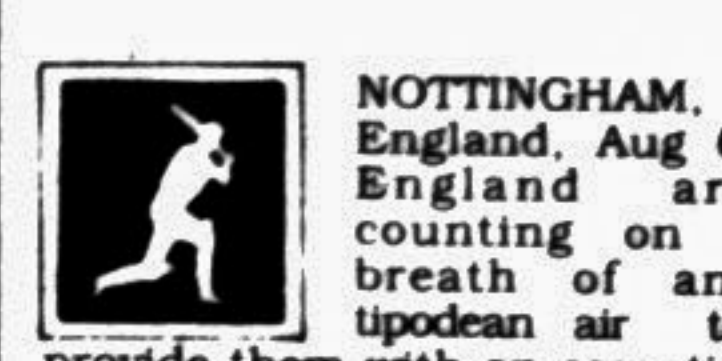
Sports Reporter

The Orion national bridge championship will be held in the city from August 8 to 17, says a press release.

The championship is open to teams from home and abroad. The local teams will have to pay Taka 400 per team as entry fees. Visiting sides will be provided with modest accommodation and Taka 1,000 as travel allowance.

Interested teams have been requested to contact the following persons for further details: Nazmul Hasan (899557, 418796, 407075), Shujaud Din Ahmed (408150), Walid Huq (869397, 860502) and Azizur Rahman (934191).

Trent Bridge Test begins today Onus on Hollioake boys



MARK TAYLOR

NOTTINGHAM, England, Aug 6: England are counting on a tip-top air to provide them with an essential shot in the fifth Test against Australia starting on Thursday, reports Reuters.

The Hollioake brothers, both from Melbourne but both strongly and devotedly English, have been called in to rescue the struggling home side who must win the final two Tests to prevent Australia retaining the Ashes.

As English cricket considers proposals put forward this week to improve its long-term prospects, the national team is hoping the Hollioakes can supply the missing ingredient to help England meet their short-term target.

Failure to win at Trent Bridge will mean that Australia, two-one up with two matches to play, retain the Ashes, as they have done since 1989.

A victory would leave the series hanging in the balance for the final Test at the Oval later this month.

It may smack of a desperation measure, but the two brothers both seem certain to start. Adams, the Surrey captain, and 19-year-old Ben Stanger in the one-day international series earlier in the season, when England achieved what has since turned out to have been a misleading 3-0 whitewash.

The psychological high of that success carried them through to a first Test triumph at Edgbaston, even without the Hollioakes, who have been summoned after demoralising drubbings in the third and fourth matches of the six-Test series.

England were beaten by 268 runs at Old Trafford and by an innings and 61 runs at Headingley, only once passing 200 runs in any of their four innings.

Doubts exist about the true Test-match quality of the brothers, but the same doubts apply to the men they have replaced, opener Mark Butcher and all-rounder Mark Ealham.

What the newcomers do have is the undimmed enthusiasm of youngsters yet to suffer the sort of defeats handed out to their seniors over the past six weeks.

Ben Hollioake's vibrant 98 in the recent Benson and Hedges Cup final at Lord's to follow his 63 there in the one-day international confirmed that he does not lack big-match temperament either.

Paceman Andy Caddick, born and bred in New Zealand, will return to the side after being dropped for Mike Smith and there may have to be another change in the attack.

Darren Gough, who has taken 16 wickets in the series, says he is struggling to over-

come a knee injury, and Devon Malcolm has been placed on stand-by.

With heavy rain forecast for much of the country, England, as usual, will keep their options open until the morning of the match on a pitch traditionally favourable to batsmen.

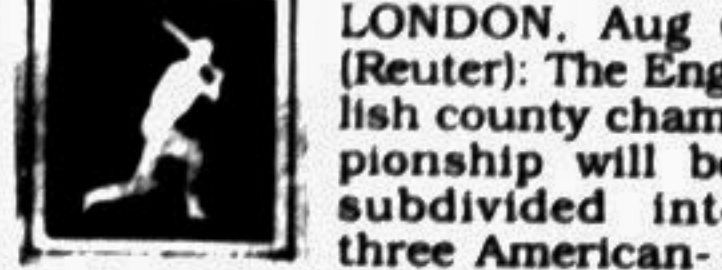
Australia, having strengthened a formidable team even further by bringing in gifted young stroke-player Ricky Ponting for Michael Bevan in the last Test see no reason to make any further changes.

TEAMS

ENGLAND (from): Michael Atherton (captain), Alec Stewart, John Crawley, Nasser Hussain, Graham Thorpe, Adam Hobbins, Ben Hollioake, Robert Croft, Darren Gough, Andy Caddick, Dean Headley, Devon Malcolm, Phil Tufnell.

AUSTRALIA: Mark Taylor (captain), Matthew Elliott, Greg Blewett, Mark Waugh, Steve Waugh, Ricky Ponting, Ian Healy, Shane Warne, Paul Reifel, Jason Gillespie, Glenn McGrath.

England eying new era



MARK TAYLOR

LONDON, Aug 6: (Reuters) The English county championship will be subdivided into three American-style "conferences" if wide-ranging reforms unveiled by the English Cricket Board (ECB) on Tuesday are approved next month.

Among numerous measures designed to improve both the state of the English domestic game and the Test side's lack of success, the ECB have decided the traditional 18-county structure will be one of the first things to go.

They are proposing three divisions of six counties, based on this season's results and regional factors, with each team playing all the sides in the other two conferences.

With two play-off matches for each county at the end of the season to decide every place, using extra prize money as an incentive, the ECB are hoping they will simultaneously reduce the number of "dead" end-of-season games and increase interest.

There is also a complete

overhaul of one-day cricket, with the 50 overs Benson and Hedges Cup disappearing after next season and the 40-over Sunday League undergoing radical changes in 1999.

Instead of the current 40-over slog, a new two-division 50-over national league will be introduced, with counties encouraged to schedule more midweek and floodlit matches.

The 32-page plan, entitled "raising the standard", also seeks to improve the quality of second XI and club cricket but critics, including Wisden Editor Matthew Engel, point out that first-class players will be required to play even more one-day cricket than they do now.

ECB chairman Lord McClaurin, who has threatened to resign if the proposals are not accepted by the various constituent bodies on September 15, and his chief executive Tim Lamb remain more concerned with raising cricket's profile.

"If we're not careful, we're in danger of having a minority spectator sport," said Lamb. "There's no doubt it is in danger of losing its appeal."

Overseas players face an un-

certain future, with only one per cent county allowed and the ECB keen to limit the numbers playing in the top leagues around the country.

Touring teams may also find many of their traditional matches against county sides disappear, to be replaced by regional opposition. This could happen as early as 1998, depending on discussions with South Africa and Sri Lanka.

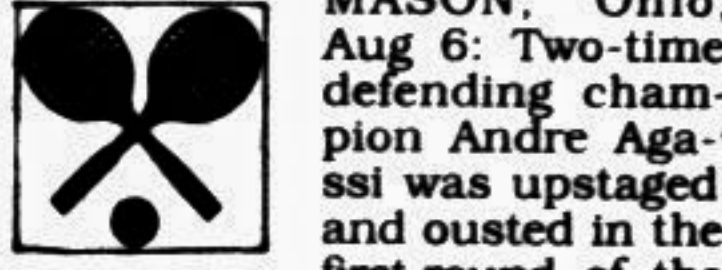
The proposed changes mean that this year's county championship will be the last of the traditional variety since it was first formally organised in 1890.

It has occupied a fixed place in the British sporting summer, apart from the war years, ever since, despite increasingly pitiful attendances and doubts about its quality.

Former Australian wicket-keeper Rodney Marsh famously dismissed the majority of English county bowlers as "pie throwers" and demands for "rapid reform" have grown more strident by the year.

Eighty nine per cent of members polled said there was a need to raise standards.

Kuerten kicks Agassi out



GUSTAVO KUERTEN

MASON, Ohio, Aug 6: Two-time defending champion Andre Agassi was upstaged and ousted in the first round of the 2.3 million dollars ATP Championship by a 20-year-old Agassi wannabe.

Gustavo Kuerten, who this week became the first Brazilian to crack the ATP Tour's top 10, needed only 46 minutes Tuesday night to beat Agassi 6-3, 6-1, his third first-round loss in as many tournaments, reports AP.

"It was easier than I expected," said Kuerten, whose only tournament win has been the French Open. "I think I had control of the match, and I was playing pretty good."

Agassi, a former world No 1, has struggled all year. He aggravated an old wrist injury in April and didn't play the next two months. Since returning to

the tour, he has failed to win a match.

"I'm not picking up the ball as quickly," he said. "I feel like a different player. I don't have a good sense for the match. Kuerten has no idea what my game can feel like when I'm on."

With the 27-year-old Agassi conservatively dressed in black and white, Kuerten seemed all the more a flashback to the Agassi of old. He wore blue trunks and shoes, a yellow shirt and a yellow headband to hold his shoulder-length hair.

At 6-foot-3 and 81 kg, he looks gangly, but Agassi couldn't handle his 190 kph serve, nor could he reach Kuerten's deftly placed cross-court returns.

Kuerten broke Agassi's serve twice in each set. Game 6, the only one Agassi held in the second set, was a desperate attempt to save face. Agassi served two aces.

Three seeded players lost Tuesday: No 8 Thomas Enqvist of Sweden, No 11 Mark Philippoussis of Australia and No 13 Petr Korda of the Czech Republic. Korda was a second-round match, the others were in the first round.

Vince Spadea beat Enqvist 6-7, 6-3, 6-3; Sjeng Schalken of the Netherlands defeated Philippoussis 7-6, 6-3; and Jan Siemerink of the Netherlands eliminated Korda 7-5, 1-6, 6-1.

Two other seeds advanced to the second round, No 4 Alex Corretja of Spain, who beat Jonathan Stark 7-6, 6-4, and No 14 Albert Costa of Spain, who held off two match points to beat Jim Courier 4-6, 7-6, 6-3.

Costa, who is ranked 17th in the world, won the final four points of the 10th game of the second set to hold serve and then reeled off the final four points of the tiebreaker to set up his victory over the world's former No 1.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS
- 1 I love, 41 They're responsible for museum holdings
- 2 To Livy, 42 Centrifuge
- 3 Handle clumsily, 43 Worker's due
- 4 Employee, 44 Centrifuge
- 5 No —, 45 Centrifuge
- 6 Table, 46 Majestic
- 7 Hotel, 47 Amah's
- 8 Address, 48 Amah's
- 9 Competent, 49 Amah's
- 10 Lotion, 50 Amah's
- 11 Additive, 51 AAA job
- 12 Not choose, 52 Meter
- 13 To die, 53 Instrument
- 14 Joe Foss, 54 Cunt
- 15 Ter movie, 55 Cunt
- 16 Alley cat, 56 Freeway
- 17 E.g. of A.D. 59, 57 Flat
- 18 Foul, 58 Flat
- 19 Riddle, 59 Flat
- 20 Hearty, 60 Flat
- 21 Laugh, 61 Flat
- 22 Western, 62 Flat
- 23 Theban's place, 63 Flat
- 24 Unyielding, 64 Flat
- 25 Ingredient, 65 Flat
- 26 In long, 66 Flat
- 27 Ice tea, 67 Flat
- 28 Palette, 68 Flat
- 29 Assortment, 69 Flat
- 30 Fish, 70 Flat
- 31 Piece of, 71 Flat
- 32 Firetruck, 72 Flat

- DOWN
- 1 Reaction, 12 Annual
- 2 Yoric, 13 Indubitably
- 3 Beer, 14 Greek cons
- 4 Making, 15 Sicut
- 5 Need, 16 lover, often
- 6 Stench, 17 Satyr's
- 7 Penit, 18 counterpart
- 8 Into the, 19 James
- 9 Greek letter, 20 sunset
- 10 Vers opera, 21 Teeny bit
- 11 Mistake, 22 Neighbor-
- 12 Lindbergh, 23 hood
- 13 Morse, 24 morse
- 14 Time's first, 25 31 0
- 15 Rushmore, 26 Pinch
- 16 Mistorture, 27 Actress
- 17 East, 28 MacGraw
- 18 40 A long, 29 way off
- 19 42 Sout man, 30 Trademark
- 20 43 Pleased, 31 symbol
- 21 44 Bullets, 32 Track
- 22 45 Circuits, 33 Calendar
- 23 46 One, 34 network
- 24 47 Sticky stuff, 35 Spider-
- 25 48 Man's, 36 crime-
- 26 49 stopper, 37

CRYPTOQUIP

B A E C S C Z C E E B O C Z O

P D Z A G P O D M P D G Q A E G M I Q S

J I P C Q Q I A C J C Z A C B A I

Saturday's Cryptiquip: CAN'T SOMEONE FINALLY WRITE A CRITICAL HISTORY OF WATCHES ON TIME?

Today's Cryptiquip clue: P equals C

The Cryptiquip 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.