

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Ramanathan Krishnan (Former Indian tennis player) "If you fight to win a tennis match, you know how to face the problems of life."

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-77

✓ Tick the Correct Answers Competition closes at 8 pm, Sept 5, '97

- 1 The century Saurav Ganguly hit against Sri Lanka in the second one-day match was his
- 2 Who clinched the Pilot Pen tennis title?
- 3 Who holds the 800m world record?
- 4 Who won the 12th schools chess tournament?
- 5 Who lifted the Pioneer Division soccer league title?

Name .....

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

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....



Div II chess

Sports Reporter

The Second Division chess league, organised by Bangladesh Chess Federation, will begin at the NSC tomorrow. Interested teams have been asked to enlist their names today at the BCF office from 3 to 8 pm. Tk 460 have been fixed as entry fee per club.

TODAY'S MATCHES

- Shamsuddin Spinning Mahanagari Cup Football Tournament: (Venue: Mirpur Stadium) Shantinagar Club vs East End Club (4 pm) Farashganj SC vs BRTC SC (6 pm)
- KM Moinuddin Smriti Premier Kabaddi League: BDR Seniors vs BDR Juniors (4 pm)
- Bangladesh Police Green vs Bangladesh Ansars 'A' (5 pm)
- Cute First Division handball league: Arambagh KS vs Shatirtha Club (4:30 pm)

Warwicks keep the lead

LONDON, Aug 25: Warwickshire strengthened their Sunday League title bid with an eight-run win over Worcestershire, the eighth in their last nine Sunday matches, reports Reuter. In a rain-restricted game Warwickshire made 151-8 from 25 overs and Worcester's 87-5 in 16 overs was not strong enough. Warwickshire, with 44 points from 15 games, lead Kent by two points, although Kent, who beat Somerset on Sunday, have a game in hand. Warwickshire have two games left, Kent three. Most of the rest of Sunday's programme was washed out by rain.

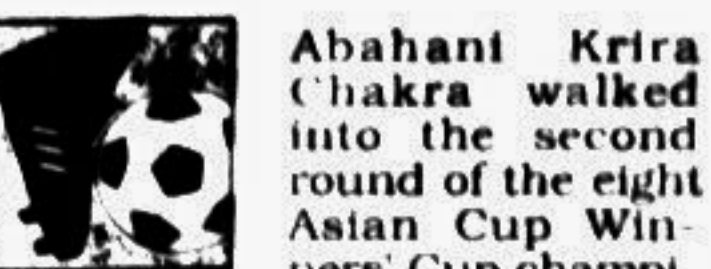
WC qualifier

Slovakia beat Czech Rep

BRATISLAVA, Aug 25: Slovakia beat the Czech Republic 2-1 in their World Cup Group Six qualifier on Sunday in the first competitive match between the two sides since the breakup of Czechoslovakia in 1993, reports Reuter. The win keeps Slovakia's hopes alive of qualifying from the group. They have 15 points from seven matches, behind Yugoslavia with 19 and group leaders Spain on 20. Both have played eight games. "If we beat the European Championship runners-up I think we can dare to hope for a win against Yugoslavia and Spain next month," said Slovak team manager Jozef Jankech. The Slovaks trailed to a 14th minutes strike from Vladimir Smicer who netted from three metres.

Abahani add three more

Sports Reporter



Abahani Kira Chakra walked into the second round of the eight Asian Cup Winners' Cup champions

on Sunday when the sky blues recorded a 3-0 win over Old Benedictines of Sri Lanka in their return leg match at the flood lit Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

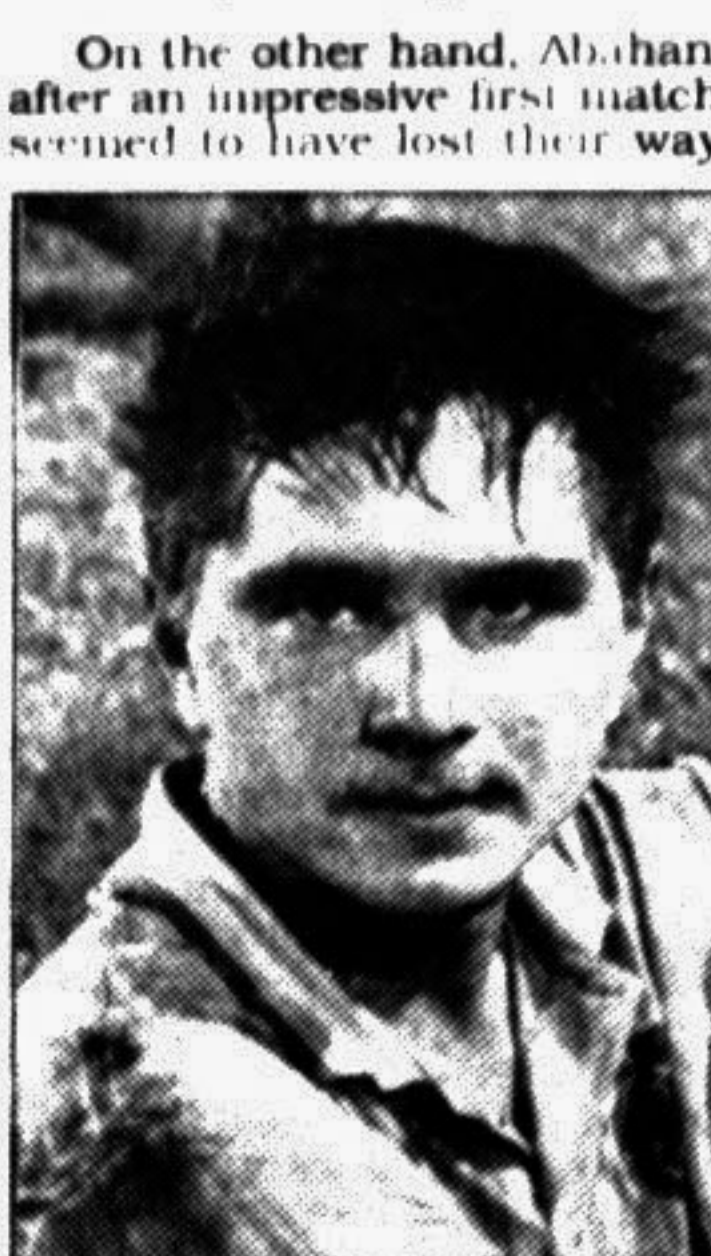
Haliulin Rifat, one of the two fresh Uzbek recruits of Abahani, scored all the goals in the first half to give the local giants an impressive 8-0 aggregate victory over the beleaguered Sri Lanka outfit, who had earlier gulped five goals against none in the first leg match at the same venue on Saturday.

Rifat, who marked his Dhaka football debut along with Matveyev Anatoly with a spectacular goal in the previous match, must owe a nervous Benedictine custodian Nassara for his rather fortuitous hat-trick in a match, which turned out to be an eye-soring battle between two unequal opponents.

The Uzbek midfielder struck the first goal from a free-kick even before the Sri Lankan Federation Cup champions could have settled in the middle. Thanks to some bizarre exhibition of goalkeeping from Nassara, who was only to blame for failing to tip the ball over the cross-piece.

An ever nervous Benedictine custodian then set the stage for yet another free-kick on the edge of the box, which Rifat did no mistake to send home with a powerful grounder in the ninth minute. To add to the misery of his side, the first possible choice of the visitors under the bar, completed a nightmarish performance when he let loose a rather innocuous 30-yarder from Rifat in the 35th minute.

But apart from the shaky presence of Nassara, who was withdrawn by his dejected coach in the second half, Old Benedictines appeared a more cohesive force than their first head-on clash with Abahani.



HALIULIN RIFAT ... hat-trick

against a defensive play adopted by Benedictines, who had hardly allowed their opponents any space to build the attacks.

Besides, the lack of consistency coupled with a casual approach had also denied Abahani a big win.

"I do not count the goals. But the approach which I emphasise most. Today my boys were simply out of touch, said a visibly dejected Constantine Cernatane, Abahani's Romanian coach.

Mahanagari Cup resumes today

Sports Reporter

The Shamsuddin Spinning Mahanagari Cup football tournament resumes at the Mirpur Stadium today.

Two Group B fixtures are billed for the day. The tournament enjoyed a three-day recess because of the Asian Cup Winners' Cup double-leg tie between Abahani and Old Benedictines of Sri Lanka.



Action from Asian Cup Winners' Cup first round second-leg match between Abahani and Old Benedictines Club of Sri Lanka at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday. —Star photo

Smith smarting under smear



SEVILLE, Spain, Aug 25: Triple Olympic gold medalist Michelle Smith finished the European Swimming Championships with two gold and two silver medals, taking her second silver Sunday on the final day in the 200-metre butterfly behind 19-year-old Spaniard Maria Pelaez, reports AP.

Smith also said she will file libel lawsuits in the next few weeks against three Irish newspapers and one British paper — and is reviewing possible suits against the Chicago Sun-Times and the French sports daily L'Equipe.

Pelaez, from nearby Malaga, clocked a European best time this season of 2 minutes 10.25 seconds, two seconds faster than her previous best.

Smith led for the first 150 metres but were down at the finish to get silver in 2:10.88. Mette Jacobsen of Denmark was third in 2:11.97.

Smith leaves her first big



MICHELLE SMITH

meet since last year's Olympics, where she won three golds and was tainted with unproven allegations that the times were drug-enhanced, with gold in the 400 individual medley and 200 freestyle, and silver in the 400

freestyle and Sunday's 200 butterfly.

The 27-year-old Irish swimmer had planned to race in five events, but pulled out of the 200 IM and 800 freestyle and lost her chance to match or surpass the record of four individual golds in the Euros set by former East German Ute Geweniger in 1981, and Hungary's Krisztina Egerszegi in 1993.

The drug controversy won't

bring libel suits against three Irish newspapers and one in Britain. She's also considering action against the Chicago Sun-Times and the French sports daily L'Equipe.

Entering these championships under the surname of her husband, Erik de Bruin, hasn't helped. De Bruin is a former Dutch shot putter and discuss thrower who just completed a four-year drug ban. It wasn't until she met Smith several years ago that she moved — from a pedestrian to elite swimmer.

She's also may have gotten on the wrong side of Dublin Sports Minister Jim McDaid. McDaid has decided not to hold a formal airport reception for her when she returns to Ireland. However, he did accept her invitation to a party Monday at the Dublin airport thrown by her sponsors — the TNT courier firm.

He said his decision was unconnected with his campaign to eliminate drugs from sports.

In the pool Sunday on the final day of the 12-day championships, Marcel Wouda of the Netherlands won the 200 individual medley to repeat his gold in the 400 IM with a winning time of 2:00.77 — the best this season in Europe. Xavier Marchand of France got silver in 2:01.08 and two-time defending champion Jani Sievinen of Finland was third in 2:02.12.

Natalia Mescheryakova of Russia, the European record-holder, won the 50 free in 25.31 with second for Germany's Sandra Voelker in who took gold in 25.43 and third for Therese Alshammar of Sweden in 25.78. Voelker the 100 free earlier, has the second best time in the world this season of 25.24.

In the men's 4x100 medley, there was gold for Russia (3:39.67) and silver for Germany (3:41.47) and bronze for Poland (3:42.20).

—AFP/UNB photo



PAY ATTENTION BOYS... cricket coach Jalal Ahmed Chowdhury (R) rendering some tips to the youth team members while Gordon Greenidge, the director of coaches, has other things on his mind during the practice session at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. —Star photo

Squad for SAFF tourney named

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Football Federation yesterday named a 20-member Bangladesh team for the forthcoming inaugural South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship to be held in Kathmandu, Nepal from September 4-13.

Bangladesh will meet Maldives in their opening Group B, which also includes India. Match of the six-nation meet on September 5.

The squad will play a warm-up match against Myanmar in Yangon on August 31 before flying to the Nepalese capital the next day. Team members are: Jewel Rana (captain), Zakir Hossain (vice-captain), Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib, Masood Rana, Rakib Hossain, Hasan-Al-Mamun, Mohammad Iqbal, Aminul Haque, Rajani Kanta Barman, Sohel Al Masum, Prodeep Kumar Poddar, Biplob Bhat-tacharjee, Maksudul Amin Rana, Shahajuddin Tipu, Jahangir Hossain, Mohammad Arman, Mohammad Alfaz, Ruhul Amin, Nurul Haque Manik and Masudur Rahman Tony.

FIXTURES

- Sept 4: Nepal vs Pakistan
- Sept 5: Bangladesh vs Maldives
- Sept 6: Sri Lanka vs Pakistan
- Sept 7: Bangladesh vs India
- Sept 8: Sri Lanka vs Nepal
- Sept 9: India vs Maldives
- Sept 10: First semifinal
- Sept 11: Second semifinal
- Sept 12: Third place play off
- Sept 13: Final

Mongia branded world's worst!

NEW DELHI, Aug 25: Indian wicketkeeper Nayan Mongia felt the full force of Indian anger over the side's latest one-day defeat to Sri Lanka here today, reports AFP.



Mongia, who ran out key batsman Mohammad Azharuddin and then scored 14 off 19 balls in the final overs when India desperately needed boundaries, was branded "probably the worst wicketkeeper-batsman in international cricket" by the Asian Age.

It said he had "once again played selfishly by not sacrificing his wicket to save the entrenched Azharuddin," adding he had then "played out dot balls... when the situation demanded a couple of lofted shots to the boundary."

India lost the final one-day to the World Cup holders in Colombo by nine runs on Sunday to lose the series 3-0. Sachin Tendulkar's side earlier drew both Tests during the tour.

Former Indian Test star Dilip Vengsarkar added in the Age that "Mongia's pathetic display in the end sounded the death knell for India."

The Hindu Daily, meanwhile, called the running-out of Azharuddin an "unpardonable mix-up."

Mongia was dropped by India in 1994, along with teammate Monoj Prabhakar, after being accused of batting out the final overs of a one-day international against the West Indies without attempting to go for his shots.

—Star photo

Bangladesh take on Kenya in opener

Sports Reporter

Eighteen out of twenty-three cricketers called up for the final selection for the national team joined the training camp which started at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Bangladesh cricketers will begin their overseas tours of Kenya and New Zealand in early October. The team will feature in a triangular one-day series along with hosts Kenya and Test-minnows Zimbabwe. The nine-day series starts in Nairobi with Bangladesh taking on Kenya in the opener on October 10. The tournament will be played on double-league basis with the top two teams moving into three-match finals, scheduled for October 18, 20 and 21.

The New Zealand tour itinerary is, however, yet to be disclosed. Meanwhile, coach Gordon Greenidge, who is very disappointed with the performances of his boys in the Asia Cup held in Colombo in April, had a busy

US OPEN PRIZE MONEY

NEW YORK, Aug 25 (AP): Prize money to be awarded at the 1997 US Open tennis championship to be held Aug. 25-Sept. 7 (1996 awards in parentheses):

Singles			
Winner	650,000	dollars	(600,000 dollars)
Runner-up	350,000	"	(300,000 "
Semifinalist	175,000	"	(150,000 "
Quarterfinalist	90,000	"	(80,000 "
Round of 16 losers	45,000	"	(45,000 "
Round of 32 losers	25,000	"	(25,000 "
Round of 64 losers	15,000	"	(15,000 "
First Round losers	10,000	"	(10,000 "
Doubles (Per Pair)			
Winners	300,000	dollars	(240,000 dollars)
Runners-up	150,000	"	(120,000 "
Semifinalists	75,000	"	(60,500 "
Quarterfinalists	32,500	"	(30,000 "
Round of 16 losers	16,000	"	(15,000 "
Round of 32 losers	10,000	"	(10,000 "
First Round losers	6,000	"	(6,000 "
Mixed Doubles			
Winners	100,000	dollars	(60,000 dollars)
Runners-up	50,000	"	(30,000 "
Semifinalists	25,000	"	(15,000 "
Quarterfinalists	12,500	"	(7,500 "
Round of 16 losers	6,000	"	(4,000 "
Round of 32 losers	3,000	"	(2,000 "
Qualifying Rounds			
Men			
Round of 32	6,000	dollars	(5,000 dollars)
Round of 64	4,000	"	(3,000 "
Round of 128	2,000	"	(2,000 "
Women			
Round of 16	6,000	dollars	(5,000 dollars)
Round of 32	4,000	"	(3,000 "
Round of 64	2,000	"	(2,000 "
Totals			
Men's and women's singles	7,180,000	dollars	(6,800,000 dollars)
Men's and women's doubles	2,420,000	"	(2,144,000 "
Mixed doubles	346,000	"	(214,000 "
Qualifying	528,000	"	(456,000 "
Doubles	40,000	"	(NA)
qualifying			
Senior events	400,000	"	(NA)
Player per diems and other fees	907,890	"	(909,890 "
Total	11,821,890	"	(10,893,890 "

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Throttle

4 Rudimentary

9 Trygve's successor

12 Start for "moron"

13 Where the action is

14 Zsa Zsa's sis

15 Clinton

17 Calendar

18 Ovine remark

19 Demolition

21 Corporate

24 Hit bottom

25 Penny profile

26 Journey segment

28 Hide away

31 "Green Mansions" girl

33 Weir

35 Land in the water

36 Nevertheless

38 Pendulum

40 "Yes, Virginia..." newspaper

41 Stereotypic oil eatery

43 Cavalry weapons prop

45 Total

47 Numerical prefix

48 Bleacherites' outcry

49 Powerful orator

54 Card-table game

55 Bring forth

56 Stick figure?

57 "—bodkins!"

58 Bowling alley

59 Abby's sis

60 Solution time: 27 min.

61 Kyoto curb-meatbund

62 Buryan

63 A place for a loser?

64 To Have and Have Not

65 Actress

66 In order

67 Card domain

68 With in

69 Prefix

70 Famed concert cellist

71 Cafe order

72 Bard's advice

73 11 Squad

74 Canyon or Urkel

75 Story of a lifetime?

76 Jason's craft

77 One of the help

78 Calendar

79 Tibetan gazelle

80 Coffee maker

81 Hornophone of 52 Down

DOWN

2 Creator

3 Buryan

6 Tubular

7 Treat

8 Captain's emblem

10 Last

11 writes?

16 Narrow-necked bottles

18 Hattus

20 Insult

21 Nonheader of Polonius' advice

22 Fraternal

23 Goof

24 Tubular

25 Nonheader of Polonius' advice

26 Prey

27 Canyon or Urkel

28 Story of a lifetime?

29 Jason's craft

30 One of the help

31 Calendar

32 Tibetan gazelle

33 Coffee maker

34 Hornophone of 52 Down

CRYPTOQUIP

P K W P R F K M N Y F E N A C

P A A W Q Y R F O X N W G A P N Y

N T F X T F W A C F X

X N E X O R M P R Y

Saturday's Cryptquip: IT'S TRUE, ALL BAD BARBECUERS MAKE SOME RIDICULOUS MIS-STEAKS.

Today's Cryptquip clue: A equals C

The Cryptquip 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.