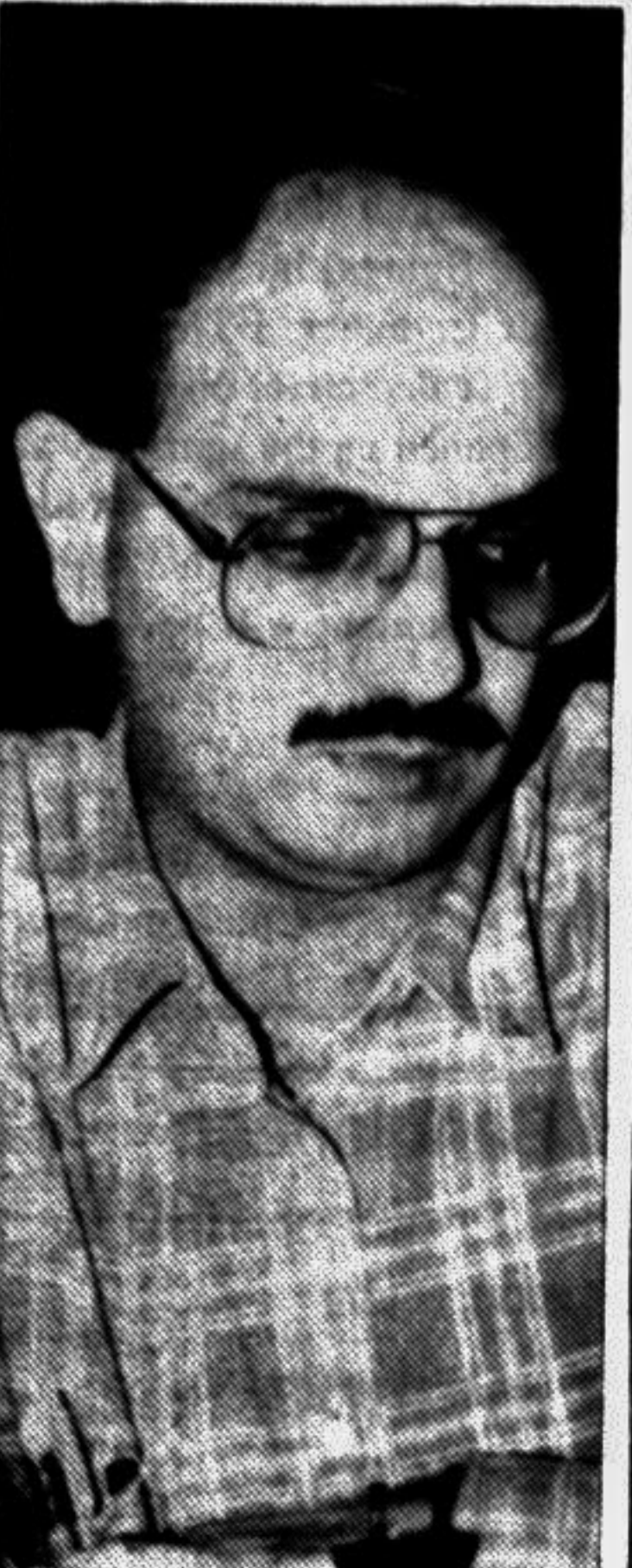


Column One

SPORTS TALK



Pravin Thipsay
(Indian chess player)
The pressure is off now and I hope to continue through the next few years with greater determination.
After becoming a Grand Master.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-79
Tick the Correct Answers
Competition closes at 8 pm, Oct 3, '97

1	Who are the defending European soccer champions?	Borussia	Inter	Barcelona
2	How many countries will take part in the World Youth Cup cricket?	13	14	15
3	How many titles has Pete Sampras won this year to date?	4	5	6
4	Which nation finished third in the SAFF Championship?	Sri Lanka	Pakistan	Nepal
5	For which team will cricketer Nannu play next season?	AKC	MSC	Biman

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

EN-VITS
ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

Biman U-14 Cup from today

Sports Reporter

Eight matches will be decided on the inaugural day as the qualifying rounds of the Biman under-14 national football championship begins simultaneously in eight different zonal venues across the country this afternoon.

On the opening day of the eight-day qualifying round, Munshiganj will meet Chandpur at the Narayanganj Stadium while Rajbari face Tangail in Manikganj. Away in Jessore, Kushtia take on Narail while in Barisal, Khulna is scheduled to face Patuakhali. In Joypurhat Rajshahi face Sirajganj while Rangpur will meet Panchagarh in Nilphamari. In the other two zonal matches, Feni is against Khagrachhari at the Majdi Stadium while Jamalpur tackle Kishoreganj in Mymensingh.

A total of 59 teams including 58 districts will be split into eight zones for the knockout phase. The winners will then join the defending champions Dhaka and hosts Cox's Bazar in the final round.

A press conference was held at the conference room of Bangladesh Football Federation on the occasion yesterday with Shah Alam Chowdhury, the chairman of the tournament, in the chair. Tournament secretary Golam Rabbani Helal, BFF joint secretary Badal Roy and Anwar Hossain Khan, the representative of Biman, were also present.

An estimated budget of Tk 11,43,000 has been chalked out for the tournament. Biman will provide seven lakh taka.

The following are the participants of the qualifying rounds according to their zones:

Narayanganj: Munshiganj, Chandpur, Narshingdi, Shariyapur, Sunamganj, Gazipur and Narayanganj.

Manikganj: Rajbari, Tangail, Gopalganj, Madaripur, Faridpur, BKSP and Manikganj.

Jessore: Jhenidah, Magura, Narail, Kushtia, Chuadanga, Satkhira and Jessore.

Barisal: Khulna, Bagerhat, Pirojpur, Jhalakathi, Barguna, Patuakhali and Barisal.

Joypurhat: Bogra, Rajshahi, Natore, Nawabganj, Naogaon, Pabna, Sirajganj and Joypurhat.

Nilphamari: Rangpur, Gaibandha, Kurigram, Dinajpur, Thakurgaon, Panchagarh and Nilphamari.

Noakhali: Lakshmipur, Feni, Khagrachhari, Bandarban, Rangamati, Brahmanbaria, Comilla and Noakhali.

Mymensingh: Sylhet, Moulavibazar, Habiganj, Netrokona, Kishoreganj, Sherpur, Jamalpur and Mymensingh.

Anwar Hossain Khan (2nd from right) of Biman speaking at a press conference yesterday prior to the start of the Biman under-14 national football championship qualifying rounds. Shah Alam Chowdhury (2nd from left) and Golam Rabbani Helal (L), the chairman and secretary of the tournament, were also present.



Anwar Hossain Khan (2nd from right) of Biman speaking at a press conference yesterday prior to the start of the Biman under-14 national football championship qualifying rounds. Shah Alam Chowdhury (2nd from left) and Golam Rabbani Helal (L), the chairman and secretary of the tournament, were also present.

Abahani won't go to Beijing

Sports Reporter

Federation Cup champions Abahani Krira Chakra yesterday expressed their reluctance to play their second round away leg match of the Asian Cup Winners' Cup against Beijing Guoan.

The popular Dhammondi outfit, who were scheduled to leave for the Chinese capital tomorrow, in a letter to the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) last night attributed non-availability of funds as the main reason behind cancellation of the trip.

Earlier, both BFF, the governing body of local football, and country's ruling sports authority National Sports Council (NSC) had promised Abahani to provide with necessary financial assistance for the tour.

Abahani, who went down fighting by a lone goal against the professional Chinese team in their home match at the Mirpur Stadium on Thursday, were scheduled to play the away match on October 4 in Beijing.

Meanwhile, a cancellation of Abahani's trip to China means the BFF would have to pay a minimum penalty of US \$5,000 dollars to the Asian Football Confederation (AFC).



The Bangladesh Ansars who emerged champions in the Biman 23rd national gymnastics championships yesterday.

Ansars emerge champions

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Ansars made a clean sweep in the two-day Biman 23rd national gymnastics championships which concluded at the NSC gymnasium yesterday.

Ansars clinched eight out of a total ten golds to prove their supremacy in the tourney. Besides they also captured seven out of ten silvers. Jessore finished second with two golds and a silver while Meherpur who collected two silvers and a bronze emerged third. Dinajpur finished fourth with two bronzes.

Nazrul Islam of Ansars and Sharmin Sultana of Jessore emerged individual champions in the men's and women's group securing two golds each.

Following are results at a glance:

Men

Parallel bar: Nazrul Islam (Ansars)

Pommel horse: A K M Akhtuzzaman (Ansars)

Roman rings: Nazrul Islam (Ansars)

Long horse: Mamun Al Firozi (Ansars)

Horizontal bar: Dulal Gomez (Ansars)

Women

Side horse: Sharmin Sultana (Jessore)

Balance beam: Marjina Chowdhury (Ansars)

Uneven bar: Jannatul Ferdous (Ansars)

Floor: Sharmin Sultana (Jessore)

FINAL MEDALS TABLE

Teams	G	S	B
Ansars	8	7	5
Jessore	2	1	5
Meherpur	-	2	1
Dinajpur	-	-	2

Milan in a shambles

ROME, Sept 30: AC Milan's worst start to a season since World War Two has driven club president Silvio Berlusconi to tears and raised questions about the wisdom of importing a host of expensive foreign players, reports Reuters.

Sunday's 1-0 home defeat to Vicenza left the five-time European champions fifth from bottom of Serie A with just two points from four matches.

Not since the 1938-39 campaign, when they picked up a single point in the same period, has the club started so badly.

Their legion of foreign players - seemingly unable to understand one another, let alone read each other's footballing minds - have yet to gel.

And an additional pinch of bad luck has left Berlusconi, whose money helped build the most successful club side of the past decade, in despair.

"What do you want? To show my tears on live television?" he asked after Sunday's match as he fought off cameramen and reporters at the San Siro stadium.

Berlusconi has said openly he feels there are too many foreign players, both at Milan and in Serie A in general.

Hours before the game the eloquent television magnate launched a remarkable appeal which sounded as if it had been lifted from the small ads pages of a provincial newspaper.

"We are looking for champions who play with their heart and not just skill," he said. "We will give precedence to Italians where possible."

Milan appear to be suffering from soccer's equivalent of ethnic conflict.

Of the 15 players coach Fabio Capello has used in league matches so far, only five are Italian.

The others are a highly-gifted but disparate mixture of Brazilians, Dutchmen, Frenchmen, a German, a Yugoslav, a Croat, a Liberian and a Swede.

Like the Biblical Tower of Babel, where thousands of different languages brought only chaos and misunderstanding, Milan appear destined to struggle.

And to make matters worse, arch-rivals Inter are riding high at the top of Serie A with four straight victories and 10 points more than their neighbours.

"Inter 12 Milan 2" read the front page headline in La Gazzetta dello Sport on Monday. "Milan in free fall."

"Milan, it's a nightmare" crowed Turin paper Tuttosport above a snap-shot of Capello with his face buried in his hands.

"Take full responsibility," said Capello, who was hailed as a returning hero when he arrived from Real Madrid in the close season for his second spell at the San Siro.

Milan can rightly claim they have not had the luck during the opening month of the championship.

A dubious injury-time penalty decision denied them victory against Lazio in their first home match and Brazilian

Rehearsal for real thing

LONDON, Sept 30 (AP): Ten days before Italy hosts England in a World Cup qualifying decider comes "England vs Italy" in the Champions League.

Seven members of the England squad for the Oct 11 showdown in Rome line up for Manchester United at Old Trafford on Wednesday against four Juventus players expected to be on the Italian team. It would have been seven vs six but two of the Juve stars are sidelined.

Wednesday's game before a sellout 55,000 crowd has several star players from other countries. Juve has Zinedine Zidane and Didier Deschamps of France and Uruguayans Paolo Montero and Daniel Fonseca, while United has Welsh forward Ryan Giggs, Irish midfielder Roy Keane and Norwegian Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and Ronny Johnsen.

But the fans and English and Italian players in the game will create a World Cup atmosphere 10 days before the real thing in Rome, where England need just a tie to make it to the finals and leave Italy needing a playoff.

On Wednesday, Gary and Philip Neville and Gary Pallister will be in United's defence, Nicky Butt and David Beckham are in midfield and Paul Scholes and Teddy Sheringham will be in the strikeforce.

Lining up against them will be Italy's No 1 goalkeeper, Angelo Peruzzi, defender Ciro Ferrara and forwards Filippo Inzaghi and Alessandro Del Piero.

Angelo Di Livio misses the game through suspension and fellow midfielder Antonio Conte is injured.

The two clubs are well matched in terms of current form.

Although United come off a 1-0 loss at Leeds, they are second in the Premier League and scored an impressive 3-0 win at Slovakia's Kosice in the opening round of Champions Cup group games.

Juve are unbeaten in eight games this season, though they needed an injury time equaliser by Inzaghi to salvage a 1-1 tie at Sampdoria on Saturday. Marcello Lippi's team also made a great start to the Champions campaign, scoring a 5-1 victory over Dutch club Feyenoord in Turin.

After the results in the opening round, the group winners likely will come from either United or Juve and only the team that finishes first automatically advances to the last eight.

"We're obviously going there to win, since second place doesn't guarantee advancing. We know it's a tough stadium to win at, but we're ready," said Del Piero, who pairs with Inzaghi to form a young, swift strikeforce in front of Zidane and Deschamps.

Now without their own French star, the retired Eric Cantona, United look to Giggs and England midfielders Beckham and Scholes to create the chances, with Keane probing from deep.

Along with defending titlists Borussia Dortmund, other powerhouse clubs in the 24-team championship, which includes eight other former champions, include Spanish giants Real Madrid and Barcelona and German titlists, Bayern Munich.

Dortmund follow up their 1-0 win at Turkey's Galatasaray with a home game against Sparta Prague in Group A. The Turks go to Italian runners-up Parma.

Under new coach Nevio Scala, Dortmund have struggled this season and were jeered off the field by 54,000 fans after a 3-2 loss at home to modest 1860 Munich Saturday.

Barcelona bid to make up for their 3-2 loss at Newcastle by beating PSV Eindhoven at home in Group C. The Dutch champions were stung by a 3-1 loss at home to Dynamo Kiev, who this time welcome Newcastle, whose Colombian striker Faustino Asprilla scored three times against Barcelona.

Louis van Gaal's Barcelona have not dropped a point in their four league games and the Dutch coach knows all about PSV.

Real Madrid, who still hold the record of six Champions Cup titles, began with a 4-1 crushing of Norway's Rosenborg and now visit FC Porto, the 1987 titlists, in group D without their experienced Germany goalkeeper, Bodo Illgner. Rosenborg host Greek champions Olympiakos, who edged Porto 1-0 two weeks ago.

Bayern Munich follow up their 2-0 win over Turkey's Beşiktaş with a visit to IFK Goteborg, which began with a 3-2 loss at Paris Saint Germain. Bayern squandered a chance of going top of the Bundesliga Friday when they were surprisingly held 1-1 at home by Schalke.

In the weakest of the six groups standings, leaders Sporting Lisbon, who downed Monaco 3-0 in their opening game, visit Belgium's Liers, while the French champions host Germany's Bayer Leverkusen.

Bebeto back at Deportivo

LA CORUNA, Sept 30: Brazilian striker Beбето has rejoined Deportivo Coruna, the Spanish club's president Augusto Cesar Lendoiro said on Monday, reports Reuters.

Lendoiro told a news conference in La Coruna that Beбето had signed a two-year contract and he had received a fax from Brazilian club Vitoria confirming the move.

No financial details were released.

The 33-year-old star of the 1994 World Cup had been involved in a long and acrimonious transfer wrangle between Deportivo and Vitoria.

Bebeto spent four seasons with Deportivo before moving back to Brazil in 1996 to play for Flamengo.

Vitoria signed him in January, after a brief return to Spain with Sevilla during the middle of last season, and initially turned down Deportivo's offers.

However the striker was injured in a game four weeks ago and has since refused to return to Vitoria.

Last Tuesday the Brazilian club suspended the player's wages and accused him of indiscipline.

2nd Division hockey

Sports Reporter

Forward Rubel struck thrice as Cantonion Sporting Club thrashed Dikusha Sporting Club 5-1 in the Green Delta Second Division hockey league at the National Hockey Stadium yesterday.

In a one-sided affair, Rubel opened his side's account as early as in the second minute and added two more in the 48th and 56th. Besides, Jashim and Asheque scored one goal each for the winners.

On the other hand, Shabab pulled one back for Dikusha in the 42nd minute.

Earlier in the day's first match, Uttara Hockey Club recorded a 2-1 victory over East and Green Club.

Munna and Nahid scored one apiece for the Uttara side while Hilton Sardar reduced the margin.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Barnak Samaj vs Agrani Bank SC (2.30 pm)

Tejgaon Agragami vs Shantinagar Club (4 pm).

রূপালী ব্যাংক লিঃ
মনি বাজার শাখা, রাজশাহী
টেন্ডার নোটিশ

নিম্নলিখিত মালামাল যেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে ভিত্তিতে বিক্রয় করার জন্য নিম্নোক্ত শর্তাবলী অনুযায়ী ক্রেতাদের কাছ থেকে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক্রমিক ক্রম	কম্প্রাইজের নাম ও ঠিকানা	মাসের বিবরণ
১	পদ্মা সিলক লিঃ	৬৭ পাউন্ড সিলক সুতা ও
২	পট নং-৬-৮ শিল্প নারী, বিলিক, সপুনা, রাজশাহী।	১৪৩০ গজ সিলক স্ক্রোল ও পলিয়েস্টার।

শর্তাবলী :-
১। দরপত্রের সাথে রূপালী ব্যাংক লিঃ, মনি বাজার শাখা, রাজশাহীর অনুকূলে গৃহীত যে কোন তফসিলী বাণিজ্যিক ব্যাংক থেকে ক্রেতাকৃত ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার মারফত আর্নেস্ট মনি দরপত্রে উল্লিখিত টাকার ৫% হারে জমা দিতে হবে। অন্যথায় টেন্ডার বিবেচিত হবে না।
২। উল্লিখিত মালামাল শাখায় রক্ষিত আছে এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট শাখা ব্যবস্থাপকের সাথে যোগাযোগ করে পরিদর্শন করা যাবে।
৩। সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র ১৫-১০-৯৭ইং তারিখ বেলা ৩টা পর্যন্ত রূপালী ব্যাংক লিঃ আঞ্চলিক কার্যালয়, মনিবাজার, কাজীহাট, রাজশাহীতে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বাস্তবে জমা/দাখিল করতে হবে। এ দিনই বেলা ৩.৩০ টার সময় দরপত্র দাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র খোলা হবে।
৪। দরপত্র গৃহীত হওয়ার পর দরপত্র দাতাকে সম্পূর্ণ মূল্য পরিশোধ করে ১৫ দিনের মধ্যে মালামাল খালাস করতে হবে। অন্যথায় আর্নেস্ট মনি বাজেয়াপ্ত করা হবে।
৫। টেন্ডার কমিটি কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকেই যে কোন টেন্ডার গ্রহণ অথবা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।
৬। অকৃতকার্য দরপত্র দাতাগণকে আর্নেস্ট আদি সময়মত ফেরত দেয়া হবে।
৭। উল্লিখিত পণ্যের বিবরণ ব্যাংকের রেকর্ড অনুযায়ী দেয়া হ'ল। এ ব্যাপারে ব্যাংকের কোন দায় দায়িত্ব নাই। টেন্ডার দাতাগণকে টেন্ডার দাখিলের পূর্বেই পণ্যের পরিমাণ, ভলুম, মান ও ওজন সম্পর্কে নিশ্চিত হয়ে টেন্ডার-এ অংশ গ্রহণ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। এ ব্যাপারে দরপত্র দাতাগণের কোন অভিযোগ বা আপত্তি ব্যাংক কর্তৃক গৃহীত হবে না।

(আব্দুর রাব্বি)
ব্যবস্থাপক



English football legend Bobby Charlton (2nd from left) and British Prime Minister Tony Blair hold the replica of Jules Rimet trophy during a reception arranged by the organisers of England's bid to host the 2006 World Cup.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	37 Has potential	DOWN	12 Qty.
1 Surgery device	38 Wet wiggler	1 Autocrat	18 Pacify
6 In the public eye	40 Impale	2 Traditional tales	21 AP counter-part
12 Portuguese island group	42 Run the veneer	3 The little mermaid	23 Confess, with "up"
13 Pass	44 Sheltered	4 Chaps	24 "The Lady" - Tramp
14 Docking	46 Old Dead	5 David, e.g.	25 It might fly on occasion
15 99 of the 101 Dalmatians	50 Throng	6 Hat	28 Cap
16 Genealogy chart	52 "But"	7 The definite invites	29 Arcane
17 Back	54 Yama-guchi's equipment	8 Greco-Roman surface	30 Misdemeanor break
18 Muscles, for short	55 Creator of "Tot wings"	9 Polyantha's quality	31 Hogen?
19 Actress Lupino	56 Still	10 Previously owned	32 Catcher's place?
20 Gravity imperfection	57 They ain't a dime	11 Antitoxins	34 Dream Team logo
22 Jerry's pursuer	Solution time: 24 mins.	30 Burdened	41 Initiated
24 - Had a Hammer		42 Dizzle	43 "Diana" singer
27 Prop for Sherlock		44 For fear	45 Detestable
29 Ingenu		46 Responsible's foe	48 Bookish
32 "Fiddler on the Roof" song		49 T's band	51 Grabbed a bit
35 Bohemian		52 Yesterdays' answer	53 Expert
36 Resort town of New Mexico			

CRYPTOQUIP
H J C Q A M C C Y V F B
N H M V K C C Y M C M V A
J C G M C S V A G W H F N A
F M V H J Q S C K W A N B
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DON'T RELY ON BANANAS: THEY BECOME SCARED AND THEY SIMPLY SPLIT.
Today's Cryptoquip clue: N equals M
The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals Q, it will equal Q throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues for locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.