

Sport

Boost sports WHIZZ KID
 COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-100
 Tick the Correct Answers
 Post to The Daily Star
 Win attractive prizes
 Competition closes at 8 pm,
 Aug 14, '98, and draw shortly
 afterwards


- Who won the Golden Boot in France '98?
 Suker Vieri Ronaldo
- Who won France '98?
 Croatia France Brazil
- Who was the captain of Argentina at France '98?
 Ortega Veron Simone
- What was Holland's position in France '98?
 Third Fourth Fifth
- Michael Owen plays for
 Liverpool M United Arsenal

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

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
 ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

NOTICE
 Due to some unavoidable reasons draw of the WHIZZ KID-100 competition could not be conducted yesterday. The draw will now take place on August 14. — Sports Editor

SPORTS TALK



Allan Donald
 (South African fast bowler)
 The England selectors must show more faith in his ability. Graeme Hick is truly great batsman.

Simone stays at PSG
 PARIS, Aug 7: Italian striker Marco Simone has agreed to remain with French league powerhouse Paris St Germain for another season, club president Charles Bierry announced Thursday, reports AFP.
 Bierry and Simone said they had reached an agreement for Simone to stay in Paris for the next 12 months. Former AC Milan star Simone, was outstanding for PSG last season, when the club won both the French Cup and the French League Cup.

SIX NO TRUMPS
 A K Sayeedul Huq

EAST'S AGGRESSIVE BID IS HANDSOMELY PUNISHED BY NORTH
 (Hand # 60)

| North | West | East |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| S: XXXX H: XXX D: J9XX C: AXX | S: Q10X H: KJXXX D: Q C: K10XX | S: AXXX H: X D: K8XX C: QXXX |

South (D)
 S: KJ
H: A Q 10 8 6
D: A 10 XX
C: J 9

BIDDING (North-South vulnerable)

| South | West | North | East |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 1H Pass 2D Pass Pass | Pass 2C* Pass Pass Pass | Pass Pass Pass Redouble Pass | Double Pass Double Pass |

* Artificial, showing 10-12 HCP

In a vulnerable position South opened 1H which was passed by West and North. On East's double, West showed 10-12 HCP by bidding 2C in their bidding system. East passed 2C but South showed his second suit which was passed by North. East doubled for penalty, rather an aggressive bidding. North now redoubled with 4 card Diamond support.

THE PLAY

West led his singleton Queen of Diamond, a very good move, as he was expecting to make his Heart tricks. The declarer, anxious to ruff Spades in dummy, went up with the Ace. Next he played the J of Club and went up with the Ace when West played low. At the third trick, he played a small Heart from dummy and finessed 9, West won with the J and returned a small Spade. East won with the Ace, and played the King and another Diamond. The declarer won in his hand, and played the Queen of Hearts which was not covered by West. East ruffed the Queen with his last trump, and cashed his Queen of Clubs and returned a third Club. The declarer ruffed the Club, returned to hand with his last Diamond, and continued to play the Hearts, until West covered with his King. It was ruffed in dummy. Thus he won 2 Hearts, 1 Heart ruff in dummy, 1 Club, 3 Diamonds and the King of Spade to make his doubled contract.



American Venus Williams makes a forehand return from the baseline during her match against compatriot Chanda Rubin at the Toshiba Classic in California on August 6. Venus won 6-3, 6-2. — AP/UNB photo

Arsenal-Man United Charity Shield clash tomorrow

LONDON, Aug 7: Arsenal and Manchester United, the two English clubs which have admitted taking part in talks to set up a European Super League, meet Sunday in English football's traditional season opener, the Charity Shield, reports AP.
 The Gunners and Reds issued similar worded statements that they had been involved in discussions about future European competitions while at the same time saying they were totally committed to existing league and cup programmes.
 Their admissions on Wednesday have added more fuel to speculation that a breakaway league is on its way and the subject is being debated across the nation as a new season is about to start.
 England's two clubs in this season's League, Arsenal and United would have much to gain from a lucrative Super League with its massive revenue from TV rights and sponsorship. Their absence would severely weaken domestic competitions.
 The two soccer giants are the main contenders for the Premier League title once again.
 They are rated co-favourites at 2-1 by bookmakers Ladbrokes even though 4-1 shot Chelsea has recruited World Cup stars Marcel Desailly, Brian Laudrup and Alberto Ferrer along with Italian striker Pierluigi Casiraghi. Liverpool, 7-1 contenders, have hired Germany's Sean Dundee and recalled Ireland's Steve Staunton and now has French coach Gerard Houllier at the helm alongside Roy Evans.
 Although the game at Wembley is effectively a warmup to the Premier League campaign, which starts a week later, Alex Ferguson's United has plenty to prove.
 More concerned about winning the European Champions' Cup, his team squandered a 12-point lead in the Premier

Australia hails FINA verdict

SYDNEY, Aug 7: Australian Swimming officials applauded today a decision by the sport's governing body to ban Irish triple Olympic gold medalist Michelle Smith de Bruin for four years over an adulterated drug test, reports Reuters.
 Australian Swimming president Terry Gathercole said in a statement today that he welcomed FINA's hardline approach to the issue of drugs in sport.
 "Australian Swimming is pleased that FINA has made a decision on this issue because it has been something which has been dragging on for some time," Gathercole said.
 The FINA decision is consistent with what they have stressed in the past about taking a strong stance against swimmers found guilty of using performance enhancing drugs.
 That started recently with FINA's decision to suspend four

Connors in qtrs

WELLESLEY, Massachusetts, Aug 7: Jimmy Connors continued his domination of long-time rival Guillermo Vilas Thursday to move into the quarterfinals of Sprint PCS Champions senior tennis tournament, reports AP.
 The tournament's top seed, Connors downed Vilas 6-2, 6-4 to avenge a loss to the Argentine at the tour's Delray Beach, Florida stop in February.



Dilu Khondaker of Dainik Ittefaq narrating his experience as a reporter covering France 98 at a seminar organised by the Bangladesh-France Maitry Samity at the Jatya Press Club yesterday. Tawfiq Aziz Khan (second from left), Executive Editor, The Daily Star, chaired the session. Dr. Nizamuddin Ahmed, Advisory Sports Editor, The Daily Star, who also covered the World Cup and shared his experience, accompanied by a show of slides, is seen second from right. Azam Mahmood (extreme left), Sports Editor, Jajaidin, one of the discussants, Dr. A H M Mustafizur Rahman (centre), President of the Samity, Manabjain editor Matur Rahman Chowdhury (not in the picture) took part in the lively discussion attended by a large number of participants, including journalists. —Star photo

Hingis gets going

CARLSBAD, California, Aug 7: Top-seeded Martina Hingis beat South Africa's Joannette Kruger 6-1, 6-3 on Thursday night to advance to the semifinals of the Toshiba Tennis Classic, reports AP.
 "I came into the match very confident," said Hingis, who beat Kruger 6-0, 6-0 in the Lipton Championships in March. "She's not as fast as other players, so it gives you time to get into your game."
 Hingis, the 17-year-old Swiss star preparing for her US Open title defence, reached the semifinals for the ninth time in 11 tournaments this year. She has won four tournaments this year, including the Australian Open.
 On Saturday, she will face the winner of Friday's quarterfinal match between third-seeded Venus Williams and Mary Pierce. Williams overpowered Chanda Rubin 6-3, 6-2 in a second-round match Thursday.
 Second-seeded Lindsay Davenport and eighth-seeded Nathalie Tauziat also won second-round matches to set up a quarterfinal meeting. Davenport beat Lisa Raymond 6-1, 6-4, and Tauziat defeated Amy Frazier 6-2, 3-6, 6-1.
 Davenport rolled through the first set against Raymond, but fell behind 4-2 in the second. She held serve in the seventh game en route to the victory.
 "I think that was a big game," said Davenport, coming off a three-set victory over Williams on Sunday in the final of the Bank of the West tournament. "Obviously, she was on a roll there and I was struggling."
 Williams was not pleased with her play.

IBM terminates Olympic deal after Sydney

SYDNEY, Aug 7: International Business Machines Corp has decided to end its 40-year sponsorship of the Olympics after the Sydney 2000 Games, a company executive said today, reports Reuters.
 IBM decided not to renew its long association because it could not agree on financial terms with the International Olympic Committee (IOC), Eli Primrose-Smith, vice-president of IBM's worldwide Olympic and sports sponsorship, told Reuters in a telephone call from New York.
 "It is with a great deal of sadness and regret that we make this announcement," Primrose-Smith said in response to questions posed to IBM's Australia office.
 Neither IBM nor Olympic officials would specify how much it had cost the US technology giant to sponsor the Games.
 IBM is one of the IOC's longest and most loyal partners. The company began its sponsorship at the 1960 Winter Games at Squaw Valley in the United States and is one of just 11 worldwide partners.
 It provides millions of dollars worth of technology and equipment in return for the right to use the five Olympic rings — one of the world's most recognizable logos — in its marketing.
 But IBM was criticised by the world's media after it failed to deliver prompt and accurate results at the 1996 Atlanta Games.

Laver stable

LOS ANGELES, Aug 7: Australian tennis legend Rod Laver had shown some improvement since suffering a stroke but he is not out of danger, his doctor said Thursday, reports AP.
 Dr Neil A Martin said the retired Grand Slam champion would face lengthy rehabilitation when he is moved out of intensive care at the University of California, Los Angeles Medical Center.
 "I think there's a fighting chance he'll be up and walking around. It's going to take months," said the neurosurgeon, co-director of the UCLA Stroke Center.
 Laver, who will be 60 on Sunday, suffered the stroke July 27.
 The doctor said Laver was responding to antibiotics administered for a fever and there was some improvement in his weakened right arm.
 Laver was in stable condition but "not entirely out of danger," the physician said.

Drugs worry Zeman

ROME, Aug 7: Italian football could end up like the Tour de France, riddled with drugs and the object of scandal, AS Roma coach Zdenek Zeman warned on Thursday, reports AFP.
 Zeman pointed a finger at Juventus for their ability to develop the muscles of team members — starting with Gianluca Vialli, now manager of Chelsea, and finishing with national idol Alessandro Del Piero.
 Zeman, interviewed in today's edition of L'Espresso magazine, extracts of which were released a day early, also claimed that Diego Maradona's descent into drugs could have been avoided by prompt action.
 "There hasn't yet been the explosive scandal in football," Zeman said. "But the bigger a sport is, the greater the dangers."
 "I know a lot of doctors who have moved on from cycling to football and I know many Serie A clubs who use pharmacological products. We have to make

sure the championship doesn't become like the Tour de France."
 Zeman said that he had been sent a brochure for a substance which claimed to increase performances by 50 per cent.
 "Perhaps these medicines don't cause any damage now, but who can rule out the possibility of damage being done in the years to come?" he asked.
 "And if the risk is there, then we have to intervene now and not wait until the swelling bursts open."
 The Czech coach went on: "The problem is that players are only concerned about their interests here and now, and they don't worry about their health. And club executives only want to get the most out of them, and they are not too subtle about the way they go about it."
 As for Italy's footballing officialdom, he wondered aloud: "Is it possible that these problems are not discussed within the federation?"
 The coach had hinted at drugs use last month, and saw his comments draw an angry

response from Juventus defender Ciro Ferrara, who claimed it was just Zeman's way of nailing any rumours over drugs.
 Zeman rounded on the Turin club, saying how surprised he was at the muscle development of some of its star players in recent years.
 "It's just an amazing thing that starts with Gianluca Vialli and has now reached Alessandro Del Piero," he said.
 "I've played a number of sports and I thought that certain results you could only get from bodybuilding, after years and years of a specific kind of training."
 "And I'm convinced that football is a very different kind of activity — at least my kind of football is, one that I would call positive."
 Zeman warned: "The pressure on footballers is continually increasing, and it's becoming increasingly difficult to resist the temptation of the magic pill. I might be a romantic, and I think that laps around a football field count for more than chemicals, but I'm not naive."
 "I know that many players in the Serie A, perhaps even at AS Roma, can't say 'no' to certain substances."
 Adding a historical perspective, he said: "People knew about Maradona's drug problem when Napoli bought him from Barcelona... and I would like to remind Ferrara that if others had not turned a blind eye, that if someone had taken his addiction seriously, the sad fall could have been avoided."
 "But today, business is what counts most," Zeman added. "The world of football is dominated by finance, even more than by chemists."

Del Piero takes legal action

MILAN, Aug 7 (AFP/Internet): Juventus star Alessandro Del Piero instructed his agent on Friday to start legal action against AS Roma Zdenek Zeman following thinly-veiled allegations of drug use.
 Zeman claimed in an interview that drugs were in danger of turning the Serie A into another Tour de France, adding that he was amazed at the muscle development of Del Piero and ex-Juventus star Gianluca Vialli.
 Juventus and Vialli both refused to comment on the Czech coach's claims on Friday, but Del Piero decided to counter-attack.
 His agent Claudio Pasqualin announced that he will be suing for damages, describing the accusations made in "L'Espresso" magazine as very serious, and damaging for the whole of football.
 "Claiming that great champions have become what they are by taking drugs or doping substances is not only false but also irresponsible."
 "It's sporting discipline and personal sacrifice that has been the basis of Del Piero's success," Pasqualin said.
 "If Zeman knows something different to that, then he should address himself to the football federation authorities."
 In the meantime, given the unacceptable slur on his reputation, Alessandro Del Piero has already instructed me not only to begin the inevitable legal proceedings, but once permission has been granted from the federation, to seek appropriate damages from a civil court.
 Juventus are currently at

Udine, where they are preparing for Friday night's three-way tournament of 45-minute matches with Udinese and Inter.
 A spokesman for the Turin club said there would be no



comment by either Juventus executives or players on the Zeman affair, following a meeting on Thursday night to discuss the issue.
 Vialli was meanwhile tackled on the subject as Chelsea's player-manager prepared for Friday evening's friendly against Parma at Palermo.
 But he answered the question with a terse: "I'm not going to discuss it."

Mixed bag on hooliganism

LONDON, Aug 7: The number of arrests for football hooliganism at British domestic games fell last season, official figures showed Thursday, but the incidence of more violent football-related offences rose, reports AFP.
 The figures from the hooligan unit of the National Criminal Intelligence Service (NCIS) showed arrests fell by 14.6 per cent from the previous season to 3,307 arrests in the 1997-98 season.
 With a total attendance of 24.7 million, that gave an arrest rate of 13.4 per 100,000 spectators. In the 1996-97 season that figure was 15.7.
 But despite the overall downward trend, arrests for the more violent crimes such as assault, violent disorder, assault and throwing missiles did rise significantly, from 72 to 258.
 Arrests for offensive and racist chanting also increased three fold from 19 to 33.
 Detective superintendent Bryan Drew, head of specialist intelligence at NCIS, said: "These figures show that football hooliganism at home continues to decline."
 "But we must not be complacent. I note that, once again, over half the arrests took place outside football grounds."

De la Pena woos Ronaldo

ROME, Aug 7: Lazio's new signing Ivan de la Pena called on his former Barcelona teammate Ronaldo to do today to quit Inter Milan and join him at the Rome club, reports AFP.
 Lazio paid 17 million dollars for the gifted Spanish midfielder, after beating off competition from Ronaldo's present club.
 "So for us to play together again, there's only one solution — he's got to transfer to Lazio," De la Pena said.
 "This squad has great player and he would really enjoy playing here."
 The Spaniard, who won the 1997 European Cup Winners' Cup with Ronaldo, is meanwhile convinced the Brazilian ace will overcome the stress which culminated in convulsions on the day of the World Cup final.
 "He's a strong person and I don't think he is paying the price for all the pressure on

him," De la Pena said. "Ronaldo's maturity is impressive, he's a young man who has grown up in a hurry."
 "But I don't think there's any danger of burn-out because of the responsibility he has to bear. He's a good friend and I am proud to have played with him."
 In the absence of Ronaldo at Lazio, De la Pena is putting his faith in the Chilean ace who rattled Italy in their first match at the World Cup finals, two-goal Marcelo Salas.
 "He's a bit like Ronaldo — in that both players are fast and score a lot of goals," he said. "I think Salas could become the top scorer in the Serie A getting at least 20 goals."
 He summed up: "Lazio have the potential to win the championship, this is a competitive squad," he told the Corriere Dello Sport.
 "I can't make any promises, other than the commitment to help Lazio fight on every front, right to the very end."
 Lazio, last season's Italian Cup winners but UEFA Cup fi-

Army aquatic

SAVAR, Aug 7: Jessor Area team clinched the title of the annual aquatic meet of Bangladesh Army which concluded at the BKSP swimming pool here Thursday, reports UNB.
 They collected eight gold, four silver and five bronze medals while Comilla Area finished runners-up with six gold and seven silver medals.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
 1 Con game
5 Beat it
9 Jukes
12 Arizona
13 Jaffe or Barrett
14 Khan title
15 It's a long story
16 Walker or Shedy
17 Actor Max
18 Antelope's playmate
19 Infinitesimal
20 "You Bet Your Life"
21 Raw rock
23 Tackle
25 Sullen stare
28 Hit hard
32 Resident of 56
33 Where the action is
34 Puzzle devotee
36 Fair folks
37 Lamb's dam
38 Kurosawa

DOWN
 2 Deleted
5 Black
6 City near
7 Des Moines
8 Down
10 Lean-to
11 2 Manage
12 "Baked in —"
13 4 Fast
14 Family
15 Chronicle
16 "Smoking or —"
17 One of
18 Ben Cartwright's sons
19 In a bad
20 Logic
21 Harsh
22 Region of Oceania
23 Get more issues
24 Tree-dwelling marsupial
25 Soldiers
26 Old card game
27 Barn
28 Put on the line
29 Barbie's beau
30 Remnant
31 "Kapital"
35 Metallic
39 Hoodoo
40 Reed instrument
41 Curve
43 Put on the line
45 Soother
46 Lascivious look
47 Unfavorable votes
49 Key letter

SOLUTION TIME: 27 mins.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER
 1. Con game
2. Deleted
3. City near
4. Down
5. Black
6. Lean-to
7. Manage
8. Baked in —
9. Fast
10. Family
11. Chronicle
12. Smoking or —
13. One of
14. Ben Cartwright's sons
15. In a bad
16. Logic
17. Harsh
18. Region of Oceania
19. Get more issues
20. Tree-dwelling marsupial
21. Soldiers
22. Old card game
23. Barn
24. Put on the line
25. Barbie's beau
26. Remnant
27. Kapital
28. Metallic
29. Hoodoo
30. Reed instrument
31. Curve
32. Put on the line
33. Soother
34. Lascivious look
35. Unfavorable votes
36. Key letter

CRYPTOQUIP
 VK'I HCPPE WGD OGP-
 KUPKUY YROWWPCPYI IKVZZ
 RZDREI HUUZ ZGD
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE SHAKY CAPTAIN WOULD VERY SOON TURN HIS OLD SHIP INTO A NERVOUS WRECK.
 Today's Cryptoquip clue: Z equals L
 The Cryptoquip 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.