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DHAKA THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1998

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DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT in the late 1970s Diego Maradona had been a model for advertisements of such products as cosmetics, toothbrushes, school exercise books and a doll called 'Diegito.' Come on Barbie, let's go party! And Maradona did really party. He earned his money from football and ads, and he spent his money. He hired private jets. He lived on a diet of cocaine. Wonder if he hid them in his bottles of cosmetics. And when he moved to Barcelona, he did it in style - with 51 friends and relatives. So his money ran out. Today he is a talk show host. He also part-times as football commentator.

He needs money. Come on BFF! Let's have the Dhaka league and I assure you either Mohammedan or Abahani wil rope in Maradona. He will sign for anything. And then ATN Bangla could also sign him for hosting "Harano deener gaan."



COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-103

Tick the Correct Answers Post to The Baily Star Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm. Sept 25 '98, and draw shortly afterwards

How many nations are taking part in the 16th

C'wealth Games cricket?

Who is skippering Barbados in C'wealth Games cricket? Gibson Campbell

Where were the previous C'wealth Games held?

How many countries are taking part in the 16th Commonwealth Games?

England | Canada | Australia

In how many disciplines, Bangladesh participating in the 16th Commonwealth Games? Seven

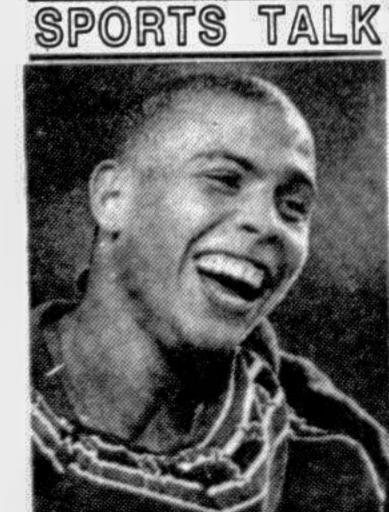
Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

EN-VITS



Ronaldo

(Football superstar) It's really moving to have won the award. It's perhaps the most important one I have ever had because it comes from the players and from a championship as difficult as the Italian

After receiving the award for being the footballer of the year (1997/98) and best foreign player at the Italian soccer os-

Azhar's men return home

MUMBAI: Sept 23: Mohammed Azharuddin-led Indian cricket team arrived here last night after their 1-4 debacle in the Sahara Cup against arch rivals Pakistan in Toronto, reports PTI.

Speaking to reporters at the airport, Azhar said "our team fielded very badly and our bowling was not that penetrative." Asked about the absence of

all-rounder Robin Singh and leg spinner Anil Kumble for Sahara Cup, he said "We had to play with whatever team was given to us and the Board's decision was final."

Meanwhile, Sachin Tendulkar was mobbed by a more than 3000 crowd which had gathered at the airport. He was escorted by the police and security men to his car and whisked

Column One Mushrooms and bullshit

Syed Ashfaqul Haque

The most success-

ful skipper in the

sorry history of

Bangladesh cri-

cket fell Tuesday

from grace, than-

ks to the spooky game of the

stripped of the captain's arm-

band but also ominously

thrown out of a team that he led

to giddy heights in Kuala

Lumpur only a year and half

ago. Had not the big man from

Chittagong waged a lone battle

against the victory-sniffing

Hollanders, Bangladesh's

dream of an International

Cricket Council (ICC) Trophy

win would have certainly gone

when chips were dreadfully

down carved a niche in the

hearts of cricket-crazy crores

across the country. His inter-

national career spans over 10

years and his four years at the

helm of the national team has

seen Bangladesh win two major

trophies - ICC and ACC, and the

While the fans may not for-

get the historic moment and the

man behind the successes, an

unscrupulous gang in the

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB)

did not find any difficulty in

disremembering the moment

to save the skin of the selectors.

the wandering boat of Board

president Saber Hossain

Chowdhury was saddled with a

new crew for the Nepal mission.

The expectation and efforts of

an all-too-eager Aminul Islam

Bulbul, the long-term deputy to

Akram, bore fruits lately when

the three-man selection com-

mittee asked him to step into

the sticky shoes of the dumped

Chittagonian. The selectors, led

by the 'Jack of all trades'

Enayet Hossain Siraj, also

chopped all-rounder Naimur

Rahman from the Nepal-bound

Bangladesh cricket hit its low-

est ebb in the Commonwealth

Games where the sporting am-

group league opponents.

FRANKFURT.

Sept 23: Six mem-

bers of the French

team that won the

World Cup and

England teenager

Michael Owen have been named

into a European All-Star selec-

tion based on the performance

this summer in France, reports

nalist provided three players

into the first 11, with England

nounced Wednesday at the end

of a three-day conference in

Frankfurt of 50 national

coaches from European coun-

win van der Sar (Netherlands);

Lilian Thuram (France), Marcel

Desailly (France). Laurent

Blanc (France), Frank de Boer

(Netherlands); Didier De-

schamps (France). Emmanuel

Petit (France), Edgar Davids (Netherlands), Zinedine Zidane

(France): Michael Owen (Eng-

bulk of the defence and the

midfield, the forward spots

went to Owen, one of the most

exciting young players in Eu-

rope, and Suker, the Croatian

star who was the top World Cup

THE SUBSTITUTES: Peter

Schmeichel (Denmark); Bixente

Lizarazu (France), Sol Cambell

(England), Fernando Hierro

(Spain), Paolo Maldini (Italy);

Ronald de Boer (Netherlands),

Robert Jarni (Croatia), David

Beckham (England), Zvonimir Boban (Croatia); Christian

Vieri (Italy). Dennis Bergkamp

guided the French team to the

title, was presented a special

conference also voted to present

an award to Miroslav Blazevic

in recognition of his World Cup

campaign at the helm of the

Croatian national team, which

he guided to a third-place fin-

by UEFA, the governing body of

European soccer, heard several

suggestions that are could be

turned into official UEFA pro-

One would be to change the

The conference, organised

UEFA achievement award.

Aime Jacuet, the coach who

The national coaches at the

scorer with six goals.

(Netherlands).

posals.

While France provided the

land), Davor Suker (Croatia).

THE ALL-STAR TEAM: Ed-

tries to review the World Cup.

and Croatia having one each.

The Netherlands, a semifi-

The All-Star team was an-

bassadors, oblivious to the

It's very true that

For the sake of a change and

maiden one-day international,

that against Kenya.

and the man.

The character he played

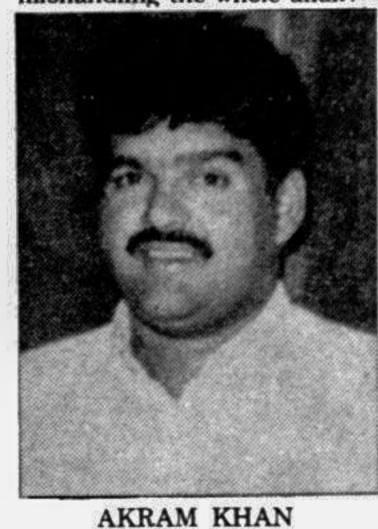
up in smoke yet again?

Akram Khan was not only

selectors.

of the national team at the hands of cellar-dwellers like Ireland and Scotland.

It is obvious that the skipper should have to face the music following the pathetic performances since the one-off ICC Trophy triumph. But the dons of our cricket Board simply cannot pass the buck to Akram. They are the main culprits who need to be put on the dock for mishandling the whole affair.



"We had included him (Akram) in the Commonwealth Games not for his performance, but to continue as a captain. Siraj came up with the lamest of excuses in front of the newsmen while announcing the 14man team. The reality was that Akram was first selected as player, as he always could have rightly been in any Bangladesh team on account of his batting performance, and then he was named the captain a week after.

And if one has to pick a consistent cricketer of the past few months among the bunch of freakishly famous flop-masters then the name which will crop up first in any body's mind is that of all-rounder Khaled Mahmud Sujon, followed by former captain Faroque Ahmed. Statistics will show Akram Khan, with his small but steady contributions, trailing behind two or three in the order of the recognised bats-

Aminul, who, in support of commitment and conviction some Board members, appeared necessary for the country's to have concentrated more on cause, abased their motherland becoming captain rather than in faraway away Kuala Lumpur. scoring runs, hardly justifies Bangladesh, the International his rating as the country's top Cricket Council Trophy chambatsman in recent months. He pions, made a mockery of their was surprisingly out of touch claim for Test status, by going throughout the ICC clash, in the down meekly to all their three tours to Kenya, New Zealand and the British Isles. Apart Barring the 'sentiment' of from some brilliant innings. the few in the Board who are which included his gutsy halfshedding crocodile's tears, it centuries in Ireland and in a hurt really terribly the afitriangular one-day series cionados, who had to swallow against India. Aminul is guilty the news of the dreadful defeats of being inconsistent along

with his predecessor. Not only that, some sources close to the Kuala Lumpur tour party revealed on condition of anonymity that the captaincy issue reflected badly on the team's performance and discipline.

But the selectors did neither look into it nor hesitate to pass contrasting judgements for the same crime. Well, it's understandable that Akram should be replaced for his performance as captain to lift the fledgling morale of the team. But how is that Akram does not get a place in the team as a player?
Considering the dubious ac-

tivities of the Board over the years, one cannot argue much about the fact that defeats in Kuala Lumpur were always on the cards for a team which was coached (?) by none other than former manager Gazi Ashrai Hossain Lipu. It is those culprits in the Board who had inducted Gazi Ashraf as coach, replacing Cuthbert Gordon Greenidge, BCB's director of coaching, citing a vague 'special circumstance. The truth was that the celebrated Caribbean hit out at the cricket administrators on very professional issues. Angry at being the victim of a hate-campaign set off by a section of BCB officials. Greenidge opted to let the countrymen know through The Daily Star about the dismal activities of the Board. He did not hesitate to reveal that the Board did nothing at all for the development of the game nationally since the ICC Trophy victory.

Everybody in the Board has got his own agenda. The president himself is accused of leading the long list of fortune hunters. Although cricket is wandering in the wilderness. the rise of the 37-year-old Board president was phenomenal. Within the span of one year a little known Saber Chowdhury has become a state minister and an influential ICC executive member, perhaps by cashing in only on the ICC Trophy victory. Cynics never cease to tell that the young politician is now gunning for another goal the mayorship of Dhaka; developing the game nationally is from his mind.

Since this is their tendency in the guise of promoting cricket, no one should expect a decent result or the growth of the game under the rule of these administrators.

In the wake of growing frustration among cricket fans, the Board members always need a scapegoat to save their thick skin. That scapegoat this time is Akram. An expert said it all: They're treating us like mushrooms. They want to keep us in the dark and feed us bullshit."

Muktis breeze into final

Sports Reporter

Midfielder Rakib Hossain struck twice as Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra cruised into the final of the Independence Day Cup football tournament of Assam with a comprehensive 3-0 win over Nagaland Police at the Naogaon Stadium in Assam, India yesterday, according to a fax re-ceived here last night.

After a barren first half, Rakib, the creative national team footballer put the Dhaka Premier League champions ahead through a brilliant solo effort in the 59th minute.

Inspired by the lead, skipper Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib then doubled the margin with his third goal of the tournament after being nicely fed by midfielder Iqbal in the 62nd minute.

Rakib sealed the Nagaland Police's fate with his second goal a minute later. The Dhaka giants could have won by more goals but poor marksmanship let them down. The best opportunity however was wasted in the dying seconds of the first when skipper Jewel Rana missed a penalty.

In tomorrow's final, Muktijoddha will take on the Border Security Force (BSF) of India at the same venue.

Muktijoddha Sangsad chairman Principal Abdul Ahad Chowdhury, who is scheduled to leave Dhaka for Assam today. will witness the final as guest of honour of the Assam Football Association.

THE SQUAD

Aminul, Hasan Al-Mamun Rajani (Moon). Masood Rana. Jewel Rana, Tito. Iqbal. Rakib. Alfaz, Zakir and Nakib.

Athletics scandal No smoke without fire

Sports Reporter The National Sports Council (NSC) is likely to dissolve the newly-elected executive committee of Bangladesh Amateur Athletics Federation (BAAF) according to clause 20/a(b) of its act if the federation fails to come up with a satisfactory explanation regarding what actually happened during the Japan

tour last July. The NSC received a written complain last month from Lovely Begum, the only female athlete in the five-member Bangladesh team, which took part in the Asian Track and Field Championships in Japan, that she was sexually harassed by the federation general secretary Golam Rasul Mollah on board the flight to Japan and by treasurer Lt Cdr Mustafizur Rahman during their stay in the land of the rising sun. On receiving Lovely's letter, the NSC formed a five-member inquiry committee, which submitted its report last week.

After assessing the report, the NSC is now quite convinced that a lot of irregularities, including indiscipline and immoral acts, took place during the week-long tour.

Following their findings, the NSC issued a riotice on BAAF general secretary on September 20 to show cause within seven days why the federation should not be disbanded.

The BAAF is due to send its report by September 27.

Nigerian soccer violence

LAGOS, Sept 23: Soldiers in the south eastern Nigerian town of Warri shot dead two people at the weekend after rioting broke out when the referee discontinued a football match, press reports said here Tuesday, reports

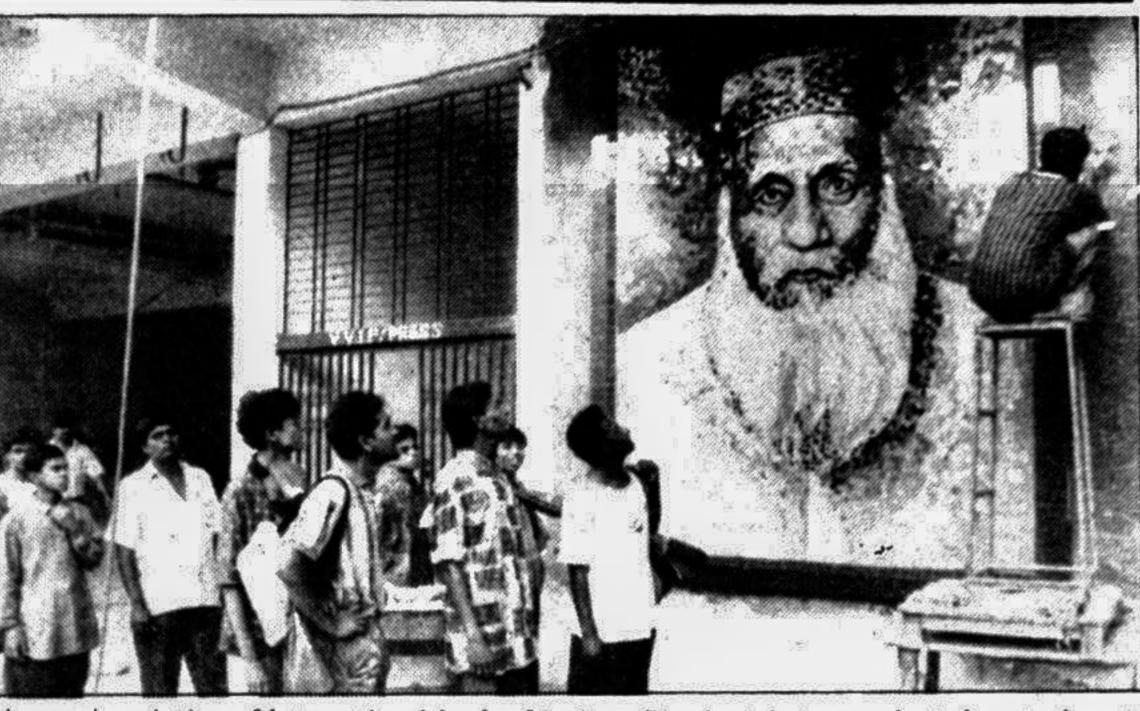
Trouble started when the referee stopped the Sunday match after fighting broke out on the pitch between two players of the junior-level rivals Agbassa Boys and NPA Selected. said reports in the Vanguard and Guardian newspapers.

The match was almost over. with Agbassa Boys leading 3-2. when the referee called a halt to the game after one of the play-ers attempted to hit the other with a plank of wood, said the report in the Guardian.

Bob Kersee upset with the media

LOS ANGELES, Sept 23: Flo-rence Griffith Joyner's brotherin-law and former coach, Bob Kersee, blasted the media on Tuesday for tarnishing her memory by reporting rumours of performance-enhancing drug use by the three-time Olympic champions, reports Reuters.

"It has never been proven that Florence has ever used anything illegally or that any athlete I've ever coached has used illegal drugs," Kersee told reporters at a news conference at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where he is



the national hockey stadium which is named after him. -Star photo by Anisur Rahman



say not. They say it is doubtful that steroids caused Griffith Joyner's death, while at the same time pointing to the dangers of steroid abuse.

Griffith Joyner was found dead at her home by her husband Al Joyner, police said Monday. They described the cause of death as a "heart seizure," which is not a medical

"We don't know what caused her death. We don't know whether or not there was significant heart disease here and we don't know whether or not she used steroids," Dr Jonathan Halperin, a professor of medicine at the MT. Sinai School of Medicine's Cardiovascular Institute in New York, said.

Nonetheless, the speculation was immediate. The death of an athlete is always unexpected, and there had always been accusations about Griffith Joyner, who won three medals and

said Dr Stanley Feld, a Dallas endocrinologist who speaks on hormone abuse for the American Association of Clinical endocrinologists (AACE).

fith Joyner could take weeks," and Helperin said, "Even a thorough examination may not answer all the questions. "Certainly Miss Joyner was

far too young to die of a cardiac

disease but too often cardiac disease does strike young people and athletes are not spared," he He said the idea that steroid abuse can damage the heart is

controversial, and not accepted among all heart experts. "There have been a few papers published that high-dose steroids of the type used by athletes can cause damage but it's

controversial in the world of cardiology," he said. "There are dangers to taking

steroids but those dangers are

by no means confined to the heart. They can have effects on the adrenal glands, whose job in the body is to produce ste-

mood swings, acne, toxic effects on the digestive tract, muscle, nerve and brain damage. Sideeffects in women can include growth of extra body hair, including chest hair, and changes

sons and more all people should avoid any performance-enhancing substance.

stances that they don't know stronger.

muscular body and her amazing performance were could have been attained without the use of steroids. "Just think of Troy Aikman," he said, referring to the Dallas Cowboys quarter-

"When he came from UCLA he was a skinny little lanky 6 foot, 4 inch (192 cm) kid who had a great arm. Now he's sixfour and 245 pounds (111 kg) and he's brute. But that's because he ate 5,000 calories a day and all he did was weight-lift.

opponent



LAS VEGAS, Sep 22(AP/Internet):If he can regain his boxing license. Mike Tyson probably will fight a

ranked opponent in his first comeback fight this year, his adviser said Tuesday. Shelly Finkel said he and Tyson want someone better

than Peter McNeeley, whom Tyson fought -- and knocked out in the first round -- in his first comeback fight when he was releasedfrom prison in "You want credibility in the

person he fights," Finkel said. "We're looking for a rated oppo-Before Tyson picks an oppo-nent, though, he must pick a

team of doctors to examine him andmake sure he is psychologically fit to return to the ring. Nevada boxing authorities have given Tyson a list of three facilities to undergo a psychiatric examination, and a deadline of Monday for his doctors to submit reports on Tyson's mental state. If Tyson is cleared by the

doctors, the Nevada Athletic Commission is expected to give the former heavyweight champion a new boxing license on Oct. 3.

"No one wants to go see doc-

tors, but he's eager to get his license back," Finkel said. Tyson gets his choice of being examined at the Mayo

Clinic in Rochester, Minn.,

Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston or C.F. Menninger Memorial Hospital in Topeka, Kansas. Finkel said he was still try-

ing to decide Tuesday where to The examination was ordered by the commission fol-

lowing a six-hour hearing Saturday on Tyson's request for re-

Denmark face Croatia in friendly

COPENHAGEN, Sept 23 (Reuters/Internet): Denmark will play World Cup semifinalists Croatia in a friendly in Split next February, the Danish Soccer Federation said on Wednes-The match on February 10

Denmark's European championship group one qualifier against Italy in Copenhagen on March 27. Denmark reached the quar-

will serve as a warm-up for

ter-finals of this year's World Cup in France.

instatement. He has been banned since the commission revoked his license July 9, 1997 for biting Evander Holyfield's

A letter sent to Tyson and his advisers Monday from the commission said the team of doctors evaluating him must include a psychologist, a psychiatrist and a neuropsychologist. The boxer must be given comprehensive neuropsychological testing as well as an MRI of the brain and a complete drug screen.In addition, the commission wants the doctors who evaluate Tyson to look at videotape of his fight against Holyfield as well as from post-fight interviews and license reinstatement hearings in New Jersey and Nevada.

Finkel said he was trying to find out which of the three facilities do all the testing required by the commission and whether he could get three doctors to come to Las Vegas on Oct 3 to be questioned by the commission. The Mayo Clinic, he said, apparently doesn't do all the testing requested by the commission.

If Tyson is allowed to return to the ring, he is expected to fight in late November or early December, most likely at the MGM Grand hotel-casino in Las



Scene from the Green Delta hockey encounter between Wari and Sonali Bank yesterday. — Star photo

format of the World Cup tinals. While retaining 32 teams, Euout competition. ropean coaches would like to see the second stage become another group, round-robin portion, with the two top teams from each pool advancing to the

In France, the first stage was played in groups, with the sec-Draw order of

World champions dominate

the day

semifinals.

Sports Reporter

Draws dominated the Green Delta Insurance First Division hockey league matches at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium

yesterday. In the first match, Bangladesh Railway and Cantonian Club shared points after a goalless draw while the next match between Wari Club and Sonali Bank ended 1-1.

The outcome of yesterday's matches left Wari Club second in the eight-team league table with 14 points from six matches, two points adrift of leaders Bangladesh Sporting Club. While Sonali Bank and Railway are now sharing the third spot jointly having nine points each. On the other hand, Cantonians have seven points from six matches.

No matches will be played TOMORROW'S MATCHES

Bachelors' Club v Cantonian SC (2:30 pm) Victoria SC v Dhaka Ansars (4:15 pm)

Simonsen signs for Everton

LIVERPOOL, Sept 23: England under-21 international goalkeeper Steve Simonsen has joined English Premier League club Everton from Tranmere, Rovers, reports Reuters. Simonsen is believed to have

become the most expensive British goalkeeper, with the deal reported to have been worth 3.3 million pounds (5.55 million dollars).

Euro All-Star cast ond round becoming a knock

vent some of the bigger nations

"Most coaches felt six days betches was too long anyway."

at the conference. "I am sure FIFA would listen to this," said Frists Ahlstrom,

listen to football people." While a majority of coaches opposed the sudden-death "golden goal" rule, UEFA had no

Roxburgh said. criteria in refereeing, especially in the tackling from be-

cept of the passive offside has led to confusion and lack of

called for a pool of professional referees and assistants and said the best referees should be retained for the final stages, irrespective of their nationalities. In a comment directed at private interests trying to create a Super League of top Euro-pean clubs, Roxburgh said the

be controlled by football." "UEFA and FIFA must control all aspects of soccer," he

A group system would pre-

getting knocked out in early stages, said Andy Roxburgh, UEFA's technical director. "It would only add one

match and would not extend the World Cup," Roxburgh said. tween some first-round ma-FIFA, the governing body of world soccer, had two observers

UEFA's media director."If the coaches propose it, then it's up to us to make an official proposal. It would be logical if you

immediate plans to scrap it. Analysing the World Cup. the coaches noted a positive attitude toward attacking soccer, but lamented the lack of unified

hind and passive offside. The coaches felt that the referees often failed to differentiate between a non-aggressive tackle and a malicious, aggres-sive tackle from behind which in all cases warrants a red card.

They also felt that the con-

uniformity among referees. "At the same time, holding. shirt-tugging and pushing has reached such proportions that it is regarded as semi-legal. The coaches regard this as a negative trait in the game, which must be stamped out as quickly as possible," UEFA said in a statement.

The coaches unanimously coaches felt "football needs to

an athletics coach.

A mosaic painting of late national leader Maulana Bhashani being emplanted yesterday at Speculating Flo-Jo's death set a world record at the 1988 WASHINGTON Seoul Olympics, retiring soon Sept 23 (Reuters): after at the age of 29. Florence Griffith She had always denied using Joyner, a 38-yearsteroids. roids. They can suppress (natuold former athlete "She was on something - evral) production of steroids and who extolled the eryone always talked about it." can cause weight gain." virtues of sports and fitness, said Australian Tania van-Other effects - diabetes, dies suddenly in her sleep. Heer, a medalist at the Com-The speculation is immedi monwealth Games which have ate - Flo-Jo must have been just finished in Kuala Lumpur. taking steroids and they must "What happened is because have damaged her heart. she such a high-profile person But experts in heart disease who was such a spectacular athand on the effects of steroids letes, everyone will speculate."

to the genitals. Feld said for all these rea-"People should not take sub-"A complete autopsy on Grif-

> what's in there and that's not regulated," · advised. "You don't know who made what in what garage to make you Feld said Griffith Joyner's

Tyson looking for ranked

