

## Sport

## SPORTS TALK



## Mohammad Azharuddin

"I know I did my best and I believe I still have a lot to contribute to the team. I have enjoyed the job, but it is up to the selectors to decide whether I am good enough."

About his future.

## Boost sports WHIZZ KID

## COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-116

## ✓ Tick the Correct Answers

## Post to The Daily Star

## Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm June 18, '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1 Who was the man-of-the-match in the opening match of the 1999 cricket World Cup?

Stewart | Jayasuriya | Ranatunga

2 How many runs did Aminul Islam score against New Zealand?

14 | 15 | 16

3 Who won the cricket World Cup in 1979?

Australia | W Indies | Canada

4 Who are the current ICC runners-up?

Kenya | Scotland | Germany

5 Who is the vice-captain of the Bangladesh cricket team?

Mahmud | Minhaz | Naimur

Name .....

Class .....

Roll No .....

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

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Chelsea sign

## Melchiot

LONDON, June 14: Chelsea have signed Dutch defender Mario Melchiot on a free transfer from Ajax, Amsterdam, reports Reuters.

Chelsea Club call said the 22-year-old, who can play anywhere across the back four, had signed for three years under the Bosman ruling and would join the west London club on July 1 when his current contract with Ajax expired.

Ajax announced in April that Melchiot would be leaving along with fellow defender Kofi Mensah.

Melchiot, who has won 13 under-21 caps for the Netherlands, is Chelsea's first signing since the end of last season when they finished third in the premier league.

## Sampras ends title drought

LONDON, June 14: Pete Sampras broke a tennis title drought stretching back to October as he defeated Briton Tim Henman 6-7, 6-4, 7-6 to win the trophy at the 72,000-dollar Queen's Club tournament here on Sunday. reports AFP.

Sampras, who regains the world number one spot in Monday's rankings, needed to scrape through a third-set tie breaker to finally claim his first event since Vienna eight months ago. Henman has lost to the

American all five times they have played but he received a glowing endorsement from the second-seeded winner.

"He's so strong, I can see him winning Wimbledon one day," Sampras said. "Britain should be proud of Tim Henman. He'll be around a lot of years."

Sampras secured his passage to the title with just a week left prior to the start of Wimbledon as he landed a lucky defensive lob inside the Briton's baseline, then put over a cross-court winner for two match points in the final-set tie breaker.

One opportunity was enough

as Sampras shovelled over a forehand winner out of reach after two hours, 30 minutes on the grass.

Sampras had been desperate to score a trophy and break the back of a 1999 winless streak which has left him at a low ebb.

He did it with a fight back, taking away a cheque for 85,000 dollars to the 50,000 dollars of third seed Henman.

"My year has not been that great," said Sampras. "It's nice to be back on the grass. I've had to fight through third-set tie breakers in my last two matches here."

"This week has been a struggle, but my serve is working well."

After much of an opening set which stayed on serve, the drama increased in the tenth game as Henman rallied to save two set points.

The Briton won the first with a forehand which Sampras could not properly return and the second with a volley winner, finally levelling at 5-all.

Sampras held to take a 6-5 lead, but not without problems of his own. The second seed had to save two break points and won it on an ace.

In the 12th, Henman again played the hero for an enthusiastic home crowd as he saved another set point thanks to a service winner and forced a tie breaker.

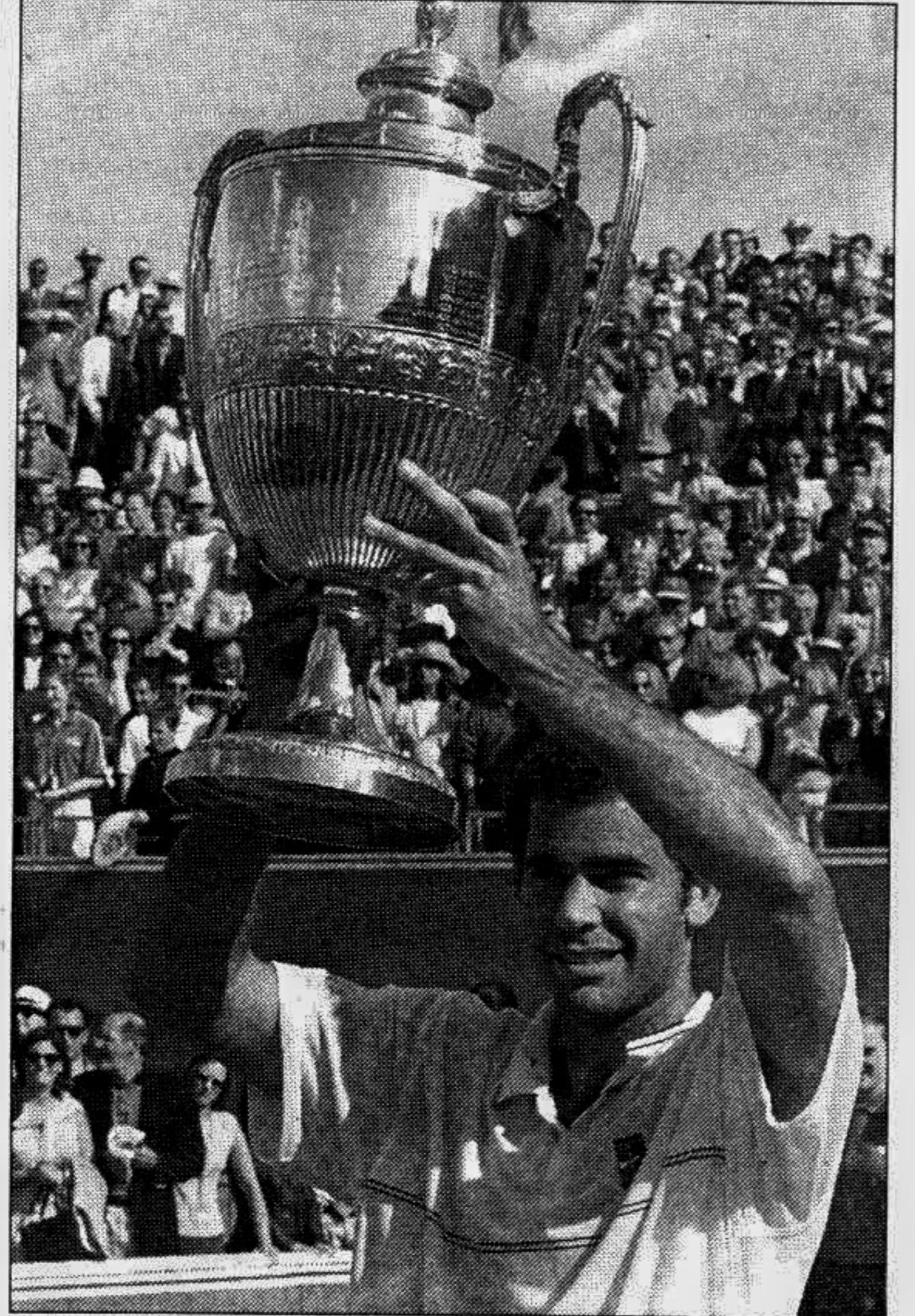
Henman suddenly stepped up his intensity, rolling out to a 6-1, capped as Sampras presented him with five winning chances from a loose backhand wide.

The Brit clinched the set a point later when Sampras missed a backhand at the net after 61 minutes.

But the American, remembering his love of the grass and perhaps the fact that he has not won a tournament this year, suddenly began increasing the pressure.

Sampras broke on his third chance of the third game to grab a 2-1 second set lead as Henman faded slightly. The American ached for 3-1 and superbly touched over a cross-court winner for a 4-2 edge.

The top seed, who will be No.1 ranked going into Wimbledon and throughout the fortnight, levelled the contest at a set each after more than 90 minutes of play in alternating cloud and sunshine.



A joyous, Pete Sampras holds up the Queen's Club trophy after beating Tim Henman in the final in London on June 13. — AFP photo

## Div III soccer

Kawran Bazar Pragoti Sangha beat Surjolata Wright Brothers 3-1 in a super league match of the Metropolis Third Division Football League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Tuesday's matches: Sheikh Russel KC vs Purbachal Parishad (2:45 pm) and Kasaitly Samaj Kalay Parishad vs Sunrise SC (4:30 pm).

## Arum in Hall of Fame

CANASTOTA, New York, June 14 (AP): Promoter Bob Arum took his place Sunday in the International Boxing Hall of Fame.

Someday, he told thousands of well-wishers, he hopes to accomplish something to deserve his place.

"Sometimes people get an award and then what they do subsequently justifies the award. I hope that will be the case in my situation," Arum said during the 10th anniversary induction ceremony attended by nearly three dozen past and present champions, including Sugar Ray Leonard, Jim Frazier, Floyd Patterson and Leon and Michael Spinks.

"Maybe some day I will really be worthy of this honour you have given me today," said Arum, who entered the hall along with five other living inductees, heavyweight Jimmy Bivins, featherweight champion Eusebio Pedroza of Panama, bantam great Khaosai Galaxy of Thailand, publicist Irving Rudd and celebrated English manager Mickey Duff.

Taking blame for some of the problems that have beset boxing during the last generation, Arum threw out a challenge to himself and other fighters to help boxing "reestablish itself as the major sport it truly is."

On a day where levity had been the prevailing tone among the earlier recipients, Arum turned serious at the end of the ceremony to offer three suggestions to improve boxing.

Calling the continued exploitation of fighters by managers and promoters a problem that has soured boxing's public image, Arum urged his listeners to help lobby Congress for approval of the so-called Muhammad Ali bill, a proposal by Arizona Sen John McCain.



Australian Stephen Holt (L) tries to tackle Dutchman Remco van Wijk during their Champions' Trophy clash in Brisbane yesterday. — AFP photo

## Woeful day for Dutch



BRISBANE, Australia, June 14: Olympic men's field hockey champions the Netherlands were virtually knocked out of Champions' Trophy contention on Sunday after crashing to a 2-1 defeat against hosts Australia.

With one point from three matches, the Dutch need to win their last two round-robin games and hope for a miracle in the other.

Australia's win took them top of the table with nine points from three wins while South Korea were second on seven points. Spain moved into third on four points with a 3-0 win over England earlier Sunday.

In the women's competition, Germany surprised arch-rivals the Netherlands with a 3-2 victory, completing a miserable day for the Dutch. Argentina improved their chances of reaching the final by beating South Korea 2-0.

Dutch men's captain Stephen Veen was furious at the match refereeing, claiming his side was denied a crucial penalty stroke late in the game.

Troy Elder scored the first goal from a penalty corner flick in the 13th minute and Stephen Davies produce a piece of magic to score on halftime after Jacques Brinkman had equalised with a penalty stroke in the 32nd minute.

Juan Escarre scored a goal in each half and Eduard Tubau added a third as Spain sentenced England to their third loss from as many matches and ended their final hopes.

Despite Escarre's double he received a post-game blast from coach Toni Forrellat, who said his star striker was playing at just 65 per cent capacity.

Forrellat said Escarre had become a mental victim of the controversial foot change rule, which allows umpires to allow play-on if the ball accidentally strikes a foot or a body — an infringement which used to be an automatic offense.

"He (Escarre) has a physical and a mental problem because of the rule change," said Forrellat. "He played 65 per cent today. I want him playing like he was the last three years."

Forrellat said Escarre was an example of one of the best

forwards in the world who had been unable to adjust to the new foot rule.

English coach Barry Dancer was disappointed by his team's failure to capitalise on its best start of the tournament.

"We threatened a lot but we didn't get the outcomes, the negative corners or goals," said Dancer. "We were in the game until a soft goal in the second half."

Dancer warned that the new foot rule could see teams adopting a conservative style, especially against counter-attacking sides such as Spain.

Players attacking are getting caught when the ball hits a player's foot and some are taking a more conservative approach," Dancer said.

The Netherlands' women's team coach Tom van Hek accused his team of lacking heart after they lost to Germany but said they should rebound for the decisive final pool match against Australia on Thursday.

"In 70 minutes we broke down everything we had built up over the last five days of the tournament," van Hek said. "I was astonished to see them play like that. It was a very bad performance."

Olympic silver medalists South Korea slumped to their third loss from three games as Argentine captain Karina Masotta sealed the win with a goal in the final minute.

South Korea fired in an unsuccessful protest after captain Lee Eun-yang had a goal disallowed which would have levelled the scores with six minutes remaining against an Argentine team struggling to hold out their attacking raids.

American referee Renee Chatas ruled that Lee struck the ball from outside the circle and the captain debated the point heatedly while the clock ticked down.

South Korea then threw everything into attack, leaving Masotta to slam home the final goal after she was left virtually unattended near the halfway line.

Argentina's first goal came from Alejandra Gulla in the 46th minute, allowing Argentina to remain in the gold medal hunt even though coach Sergio Vigil was unimpressed with his team's performance.

"We didn't play that well

## Bugner bids bye in style

GOLD COAST, June 14: Veteran boxer Joe Bugner won his last fight in a 32-year career Sunday when American opponent Levi Billups was disqualified for repeated low blows, reports AP.

The fight ended in the ninth round, giving grandfather "Aussie Joe" a career record of 69 wins, 13 losses and one draw, but Bugner was furious with Billups' tactics.

Bugner was covered in blood throughout after having his eye cut in a head clash in the first round.

"I could feel the blood pouring out of there and I was very concerned and I told my trainer Les Wilson in the eighth round that if it got any worse to stop the fight," Bugner said.

"I don't want an injury especially in my last fight. There will be no returns, no nothing."

Bugner said he believed the head clash was deliberate and he was also upset that referee Wally Lewis allowed the fight to continue nine rounds.

"Here I am at my age being allowed to be punished with a head for the glove — to the head," Bugner said. "He hit me seriously about 20 times in the groin and Wally Lewis only picked him up once or twice on it. Now that is pathetic. He's either blind or not too concerned."

The 49-year-old Bugner twice went the distance with Muhammad Ali, once in a world title fight in 1975.

He also won the British, European, Commonwealth, Australian and the World Boxing Federation heavyweight titles in his long career.

Bugner has announced his retirement three times previously but says he is convinced he will stay retired this time.

"I think after 32 years in the business I've had a very good run and I'm very proud to go out on this fight," said Bugner.



US defender Tony Sanneh (L) and Argentina's Javier Zanetti fight for the ball during a friendly soccer match in Washington on June 13. The host team won the game 1-0. — AFP photo

## TV Guide

Tuesday 15th June

(All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme)

## BBC World

6:00 World News Headlines 6:05 USA Direct

6:30 World Living : A Goller's Travels- Hawaii

7:00 BBC World News inc.

World Business Report/Asia Today /24

Hours 10:00 BBC World News 11:30 World Focus: Europe Direct 12:00 BBC World News 12:30 Style

1:30 Jancis Robinson's Wine Course - 2:00 World News 2:30 World Focus: Reporters

2:00 BBC World News 2:30 World Living : Talking Movies 3:15 Europe Direct 4:00 BBC Newsdesk inc. World Business Report/24 Hours

7:30 First Day First Show 7:45 [V] News Bulletin 8:30 House Arrest 8:30 Turn On TV 10:00 BioScope 10:30 The Juice 11:00 The Udam Singh 11:30 Band At Bedtime 12:00 House of Noise 12:30 Turn On TV 1:30 News Bulletin 1:32 Turn On TV

7:30 STAR PLUS

6:30 Nainaa 7:30 Good Morning India 9:15 The Trial Show 9:30 Good Morning India 11:30 Star Talk 12:00 Ek Do Teen 1:00 Hello 1:30 Good Food Guide 2:00 Saans 2:30 Yeh Hai Raaz 3:00 Swabhiman 3:30 Kabhi Kabhi 4:00 Pal Chinn 4:30 Tu Tu Main Main 5:00 Animal Adventure 5:30 WFW Superstars 6:30 Small Wonders 7:00 Meri Awaz Suno 7:25 The Trial Show 7:30 Star News (Hindi) 8:00 Hello 8:30 Is Duniya Ki Setare 9:00 Kora Kagaz 9:30 Star News 10:00 Rendezvous With Simi Garewal 10:30 Ajeeb Dastan 11:00 Aaj Ki Baat 11:30 A Mouthful of Sky 12:00 India Business Week 12:30 The Bold And The Beautiful 1:00 Newheart 1:30 Class Act 2:30 Vegas 3:30 LA Law 4:30 Fashion TV 5:00 The Bold And The Beautiful 5:30 Comedy: Getting Even With Dad (12)

7:30 STAR MOVIES

7:45 Comedy: Scenes From A Mall 9:30 Comedy: Getting Even With Dad (12) 11:30 Action