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DHAKA TUESDAY, JULY 6, 1999 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Michelle de Bruin

Irish ace swimmer
"I reaffirm that I have never used any banned substance in my career, nor have I ever been charged by FINA of using any banned substance. I am saddened that my career has ended this way."

While announcing her retirement.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-117

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm
July 9, '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1	How many matches have been scheduled for the World Cup 99?	40	41	42
2	Pakistan beat New Zealand in the semifinal by	9 wkt	10 wkt	53 runs
3	How many wickets did NZ bowler Geoff Allott capture in the World Cup?	18	21	20
4	Saqib Mushtaq scored his hat-trick against which country?	Kenya	Zimbabwe	Bangladesh
5	How many runs did Minhazul Abedin score in the World Cup?	120	140	140

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

Div I SOCCER

Victoria Sporting Club maintained their all-win run in the Metropolis First Division football league, beating Shantinagar Club by 3-2 at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Fazl Babu, Pavel and Habib netted one goal each for Victoria, which dominated the first half by 2-1. Belal and Masud scored for the losers.

After the day's outcome, Victoria topped the points table securing full nine points from three straight wins while Shantinagar remained at their previous credit of one point from three outings.

In the previous matches, Victoria beat Prantik KC 2-1 and Dhanmondi Club 3-2 while Shantinagar lost to Dhaka Wanderers 2-3 and drew one-all with BRTC.

TODAY'S MATCHES

BRTC will meet Wari Club at 3 pm while Prantik KC will play the Muslim Institute at 5 pm, both at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Mac takes it very badly

LONDON, July 5 (Reuters): John McEnroe is bitterly disappointed to have missed out on a chance to finish his career at Wimbledon with a title.

The three-time men's singles champion, playing alongside women's singles finalist Steffi Graf, had to withdraw from the mixed doubles on Saturday after Graf slightly strained her left thigh. The pair had reached the semifinals of the mixed.

"This is probably my last Wimbledon as a major factor," McEnroe wrote in Britain's Daily Telegraph newspaper today.

"I wanted to try to win the championship and what happened still feels like a punch in the stomach."

"It's really hard to speak about it. It didn't feel as though I had a proper goodbye.... I didn't want to go out that way. Maybe no one cares, but I care."

Holders' first hiccup

Sports Reporter

Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira
Chakra became the latest stumbling block in the topsy-turvy Kanya Premier Football League when they were held to a goalless draw by Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The defending champions had come into their fourth League match with three consecutive victories under their belt, but returned disappointed, losing their first points to the stubborn old town outfit.

In an eventful match,

marked by forays and counter forays, the all reds it seemed were destined to draw as their Nigerian forward Alieu Rahman cracked the ball against the far post from an unshakable distance on the stroke of the final whistle. Earlier, another attempt had returned off the post.

Although the outcome came

as a set-back for Muktijoddha,

a few thousand loyal football fans of Mohammedan and Abahani, who thronged at the big bowl, looked understandably happy at the end of the day. With this draw Muktijoddha not only missed an opportunity to take the solo lead, but also allowed both Mohammedan and Abahani to bounce back into contention.

Muktijoddha

got their second

chance to take the lead in the 63rd minute when Effieni, the dapper Nigerian with four goals already to his name, headed a Masud Rana free-kick towards the far corner of the net. But his

header came of the metal-work

much to the horror of Muktijoddha.

Rahmatganj

also had their

share of chances to turn the tide

around. In the 82nd minute Saiful came up with a superb header, which Muktijoddha's custodian parried off for a corner. But that only opened up the best opportunity for Rahmatganj. Masum took the corner from the left-hand side of the post that sailed over the Muktijoddha defense to an unmarked Milon, who headed the ball past Biplob but only to be denied by the cross-bar.

Muktijoddha

made some

desperate efforts during the last

quarter of the match, but once Alieu missed the sitter a draw was a forgone conclusion.

Yellow cards: Effieni, Nakib (Muktijoddha), Masum, Milon and Biplob Marma (Rahmatganj).

TEAMS

Muktijoddha: Biplob, Hasan

-al Mamun, Jewel Rana, Rajani,

Titu, Masud Rana, Tushar Joy,

Liton (Mamun Joarder), Alieu

Rahman, Effieni and Nakib.

Rahmatganj: Hima, Biplob

(Biplob Marma), Deen Moham

med, Masum, Kamal, Monir (Roman), Nayan, Nurul Islam, Saurav Raja, Milon and

Saiful.

Referee: Ibrahim Nesar.

Iraqis for MSC

Sports Reporter

Mohammedan Sporting Club have roped in two Iraqi booters to play in the ongoing Premier football League.

The Iraqi duo who arrived in the city yesterday are Mazin Abdus Sattar and Shamir Jasim Abbas.

Shamir Jasim is a regular club footballer in the Indian. The 29-year old striker played for Mohanbagan last season, informed the general secretary of Mohammedan Sporting Club Lokman Hossain Bhuyan.

Mazin, a current Iraqi national player, is a 26-year old midfielder. Mazin plays for Al Zawra, a leading team in the Iraqi first division.

Lokman Hossain, however, said that the registration formalities of the Iraqi duo would be completed after the team's training session today.

Mohammedan will play their next League match against Fakirpool Youngmens Club tomorrow. And if everything goes according to plan the Iraqi duo, Mohammedan's first foreign recruit this season, will don the black and white jersey.

SERIAL WINNERS

LONDON, July 5 (AP): Following is a list of consecutive Wimbledon winners:

MEN

6 — Willy Renshaw, 1881-1886.

5 — Laurie Doherty, 1902-1906; Bjorn Borg, 1976-1980.

4 — Reggie Doherty, 1897-1900; Tony Wilding, 1910-1913.

3 — Fred Perry, 1934-36; Pete Sampras, 1993-95, 1997-99.

2 — John Hartley, 1879-80; Wilfred Baddeley, 1891-92; Joshua Pim, 1893-94; Arthur Gore, 1908-09; Bill Tilden, 1920-21; Don Budge, 1937-38; Lew Hoad, 1956-57; Rod Laver, 1961-62; 1968-69; Roy Emerson, 1964-65; John Newcombe, 1970-71; John McEnroe, 1983-84; Boris Becker, 1985-86.

WOMEN

6 — Martina Navratilova, 1982-1987.

5 — Suzanne Lenglen, 1919-1923.

4 — Helen Wills Moody, 1927-1930.

3 — Lotta Dod, 1891-93; Louise Brough, 1948-50; Maureen Connolly, 1952-54; Billie Jean King, 1966-68; Steffi Graf, 1991-93.

2 — Maud Watson, 1884-85; Lottie Dod, 1887-88; Charlotte Cooper, 1895-96; Blanche Bingley-Hillyard, 1899-1900; Dorothea Douglass, 1903-04, 1910-11, 1913-14; Helen Wills Moody, 1932-33; Alice Gibson, 1957-58; Maria Bueno, 1959-60; Billie Jean King, 1972-73; Martina Navratilova, 1978-79; Steffi Graf, 1988-89, 1995-96.

Paes, Bhupathi hailed

NEW DELHI, July 5: President K R Narayanan, Vice President Atal Behari Vajpayee today led the nation to shower encomiums on star tennis pair Leander Paes and Mahesh Bhupathi for their memorable Wimbledon men's doubles title triumph, reports PTI.

The President, in a message, said Paes and Bhupathi had done India proud and had also proved they were the best in the world by their victory coming close on the heels of their French Open triumph.

The Vice President conveyed his best wishes to the duo and congratulated them for their splendid victory over Dutch-American pair of Paul Haarhuis and Jared Palmer.

"You have done the country proud," said the Prime Minister.

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"You have once again proved

you are the best doubles pair in the world. I am glad that you've maintained your winning streak after your grand victory in the French Open (last month)," Vajpayee said in his congratulatory message.

Paes and Bhupathi's mother, Meera Bhupathi said she was thrilled by her son and Leander Paes' success.

"I am very, very happy and proud to be mother of Mahesh."

Meera said she was feeling great and that a lot of prayers had been answered.

The doubles

Dhaka, 1999

Three years ago, the Californian was overweight, lacking in confidence and her family life was in turmoil, with her parents going through a divorce.

After 25 years of marriage, my parents divorced in 1996 as well, and that was really difficult for my family.

"But I couldn't be happier now. I'm very close to my mum, I'm rebuilding my relationship with my father and the family is very close," she said.

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