

## Column One

### DID U' KNOW? (The Professor does)

THAT Ethiopian marathon runner Abebe Bikila (1932-73) was not only the first athlete to win two Olympic marathons, he won in two versions — barefoot and with shoes on. He won a gold medal and set an unofficial world record while running barefoot at the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome, on the cobblestones of the Apian Way.

Four years later he underwent an appendectomy a month before the Tokyo Olympics. Nevertheless, he won a second gold medal, running the marathon — this time wearing shoes and bettered his own record. He entered the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City but was forced to drop out of the marathon with a broken leg after 10 miles. An automobile accident in 1969 left him a physically disabled.

What a fighter!

### SPORTS TALK



**Bob Woolmer**  
(South African cricket coach)  
"Coaching cricket is my vocation and something I love."

### BOOST sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN  
Competition-118  
Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to The Daily Star  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
July 30, '99 and draw  
shortly afterwards

- Who is the new England cricket coach?  
Fletcher Hussain Marsh
- Brazilian footballer Rivaldo plays for  
Lazio Barcelona Arsenal
- Who is the captain of Argentina soccer team?  
Simone Batistuta Ayala
- How many Grand Slam titles has Steffi Graf won till now?  
22 23 24
- Who is ATP's top ranked player right now?  
Sampras Moya Agassi

Name .....

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....

### POWERED WITH EN-VITS ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

### BSWA awardees for 1997-98

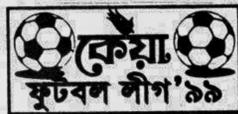
Bangladesh Sports Writers' Association (BSWA) yesterday announced the names of recipients of its sports award for 1997 and 1998, reports UNB.

Recipients of BSWA award for 1997: Imtiaz Ahmed Naqub (football), Mohammad Rafiq (cricket) Mahfuz Alam Nixon (hockey), Rahima Khatun Juthi (athletics), Abdullah Al Rakib (chess), Nibedita Das (swimming), Hosne Ara Khan (organiser), Shamima Sattar Mimo (coach-athletics), Faruqul Islam (judge-athletics), Beximco Limited (patron) and Sabrina Sultana (player-of-the-year, shooting).

Recipients of BSWA award for 1998: Khaled Mahmud Sujan (cricket), Mohammad Javed (hockey), Nilufar Yasmin (athletics), Nasiruddin Jony (shooting), Nazrul Islam (organiser), Jalal Ahmed Chowdhury (coach-cricket), Lt Col MA Latif Khan (referee-boxing), Square Group (patron) and Ziaur Rahman (player-of-the-year, chess).

The award recipients have been requested to send their bio-data along with two colour photographs by August 20 to the BSWA office at the Dhaka Stadium.

## Abahani crush Chalantika



Abahani earned a comfortable 5-1 victory over all-losers Mirpur Chalantika SC in the Keya Metropolis Premier Division football league at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Federation Cup champions Abahani closely follow the joint league leaders Muktijoddha Sangsad and Mohammedan SC securing 14 points from six outings. Muktijoddha and runners-up Mohammedan share the top slot with 16 points from six matches.

Mirpur Chalantika are yet to open their account.

After a barren first half, Indian winger Sabir Pasha struck twice while medio Arman, striker Zakir and winger Mintoo scored one goal each for the sky-yellow Dhanmondi outfit.

Abahani's long serving stopper Sohail Reza gifted a goal to Mirpur Chalantika with suicidal back pass.

Famed medio Arman opened the floodgates in the 47th minute by a power-packed straight shot from top of the box utilising a corner of linkman Sentu.

Mintoo doubled the Abahani margin five minutes later by a low header from Sabir Pasha centre.

Mirpur pulled one back in the 82nd minute.

Abahani, however, recovered scoring three more goals in the last seven minutes.

Pasha extended the margin in the 84th minute by an out-

### Div I soccer

League leaders Victoria Sporting Club split points with lowly Dhaka Wanderers Club in the Keya Metropolis First Division football league in a goal-less affair at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Despite the draw, Victoria still dominate the league with an unbeaten run securing 12 points from six encounters. Wanderers have five points from six matches.

Tuesday's matches: BRIC SC vs Muslim Institute (3 pm), Wari Club vs Prantik KC (5 pm), both at Mirpur Stadium.

side box shot off a Sentu pass. National medio Zakir, playing as striker this season, scored the fourth goal in the 86th minute.

With this goal, Zakir now top the scorer list jointly with Mizan of Brothers Union having five goals each.

Sabir Pasha completed the winners' tally just one minute before the final whistle.

Yellow cards: Arman (Abahani), Rafique, Liton and Sohag (Mirpur Chalantika).

### TEAMS

**ABAHANI:** Aminul, Partha, Sohail Reza, Kingshuk, Dulal, Mintoo, Iqbal (Ranjana), Sentu, Zakir and Sabir Pasha.

**MIRPUR CHALANTIKA:** Humayun (Nayan), Rafique, Dulal, Zakir, Tarek, Pappu, Kakan, Liton (Ripon), Sohail (Babu Das), Sohag and Rabi.

### ROLL OF HONOUR

Winners of Copa America (host nations in parentheses):  
1916 (Argentina) Uruguay  
1917 (Uruguay) Uruguay  
1919 (Brazil) Brazil  
1920 (Chile) Uruguay  
1921 (Argentina) Argentina  
1922 (Brazil) Brazil  
1923 (Uruguay) Uruguay  
1924 (Uruguay) Uruguay  
1925 (Argentina) Argentina  
1926 (Chile) Uruguay  
1927 (Peru) Argentina  
1929 (Argentina) Argentina  
1935 (Peru) Uruguay  
1937 (Argentina) Argentina  
1939 (Peru) Peru  
1941 (Chile) Argentina  
1942 (Uruguay) Argentina  
1945 (Chile) Argentina  
1946 (Argentina) Argentina  
1947 (Ecuador) Argentina  
1949 (Brazil) Brazil  
1953 (Peru) Paraguay  
1955 (Chile) Argentina  
1956 (Uruguay) Uruguay  
1957 (Peru) Argentina  
1959 (Argentina) Argentina  
1959 (Ecuador) Uruguay  
1963 (Bolivia) Bolivia  
1967 (Uruguay) Uruguay  
1975 (Rotating) Peru  
1979 (Rotating) Paraguay  
1983 (Rotating) Uruguay  
1987 (Argentina) Uruguay  
1989 (Brazil) Brazil  
1991 (Chile) Argentina  
1993 (Ecuador) Argentina  
1995 (Uruguay) Uruguay  
1997 (Bolivia) Brazil  
1999 (Paraguay) Brazil

Argentina and Uruguay have won 14 titles each with Brazil victorious six times. Paraguay and Peru have two wins apiece, while Bolivia prevailed once, in 1963.

**TODAY'S MATCHES**  
Rahmatganj MFS vs Arambagh KS (3.30 pm)  
Muktijoddha Sangsad vs Brothers Union (5.30 pm).



Action from the Premier Division league encounter between Abahani and Mirpur Chalantika yesterday. — Star photo

## Sheer Brazil-iance

WORTHY CHAMPS: The Brazilians celebrate with the Copa America after their convincing win over Uruguay in Asuncion on July 18. — AFP photo

### Hockey umpires go international

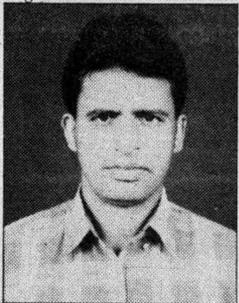
Sports Reporter

The International Hockey Federation will appoint Maksudur Rahman a full international umpire at its next meeting in October. This was communicated to Mirza Farid Ahmed, Chairman, Bangladesh Hockey Umpires Board.

Another Bangladeshi umpire Latifur Rahman will need to umpire one senior international match before becoming a full international umpire.

Maksudur Rahman will join an elite list of Bangladeshi full international umpires that includes Mahmudur Rahman Momin, Alamgir Md. Adel, Mirza Farid Ahmed, Md. Bashir Ahmed, Sekender Hayat Chowdhury and Md. Khalilullah Tuhu.

The IHF letter however expressed concern about the discipline problems which Bangladeshi umpires experience in normal matches. The letter added that 'poor player behaviour simply means that you (Bangladesh) will not get good people to continue umpiring'.



MAKSUDUR RAHMAN

IHF has also asked the umpires board whether Bangladesh has a player discipline code, meaning that players get suspended from playing for periods. IHF also suggested 'guest' umpires for future events.

### JPC reception

Jatiya Press Club (JPC) will hold a reception in its auditorium on July 22 at 4 pm in honour of the members of Bangladesh cricket team for their outstanding performances in the World Cup in England, reports BSS.



WORTHY CHAMPS: The Brazilians celebrate with the Copa America after their convincing win over Uruguay in Asuncion on July 18. — AFP photo

## Sheer Brazil-iance



ASUNCION, July 19: Brazil laid the ghost of last year's World Cup Final humiliation by France by outclassing youthful Uruguay 3-0 to lift the Copa America here Sunday, reports AFP.

Two first-half goals from midfielder Rivaldo and a strike after the interval from striker Ronaldo ensured the pre-tournament favourites justified that status in a match they quite simply dominated.

Both goalscorers shared the title of Copa America top scorer with five goals each.

It was a brilliant performance by Brazil who win their sixth continental title and also gave coach Wanderley Luxemburgo the perfect start in his first tournament at the helm.

It also sealed a personal redemption for Ronaldo, who has finally reestablished himself as one of the leading players in the world during this Copa after a nightmare year that began with his much-publicised fit on the day of last year's World Cup Final.

Uruguay's youngsters - bidding for what would have been a record 15th Copa America crown - made a lively start, shading the first 10 minutes with midfielders Federico Magallanes and Walter Coelho active in midfield and frequently outfoxing the Brazilians.

But Brazil's Rivaldo settled his side's nerves with a fine effort that went just wide from distance.

After 12 minutes Brazil - at last stringing some passes together - got in behind the Uruguayan defence.

Ze Roberto took the ball around goalkeeper Fabian Carini but some inspired defence from Alvaro Picun forced the midfielder wide and he failed to hit the target.

Then Coelho produced Uruguay's best move yet. He was

ruthlessly fouled on the edge of the box but the advantage rule was enforced although Marcelo Zalayeta failed to make his follow-up shot count.

But after 21 minutes the favourites took the lead.

It was a simple goal. A free-kick from Flavio Conceicao was flicked on by Rivaldo whose header eluded the dive of Carini and nestled in the net.

That took the Barcelona midfielder Rivaldo level with compatriots Ronaldo and Amoroso as joint top scorers of the Copa on four goals apiece.

But just six minutes later Rivaldo moved clear of his colleagues with Brazil's second.

He ghosted past marker Alejandro Lembo before beating Carini with a delicate left-footed chip.

Brazil were now dominating the game with Zalayeta isolated up front for Uruguay. When he did receive the ball he was crowded out by the Brazilian defence.

But suddenly with the interval approaching Uruguay almost breached the Brazilian defence.

Martin Del Campo crashed his shot against the crossbar with Dida beaten but Andres Fleurequin could only volley the rebound wide.

The 'Celeste' (Sky Blues) threatened again during first-half stoppage time when Zalayeta got around the back but his cross was intercepted by Roberto Carlos.

After the interval, however, it only took two minutes for Brazil to kill the match with a superbly-taken goal by Ronaldo.

The Inter Milan forward outpaced the Uruguayan defence before thundering an unstoppable left-footed shot into the roof of Carini's net.

Ronaldo thus rejoined Rivaldo as joint top Copa scorer and his delight was there for all to see as he was mobbed by his colleagues on the touchline.

It must have been a sweet moment for the man whose collapse with convulsions just hours before the World Cup Final with France was widely seen as the reason for his side's 3-0 defeat.

Ronaldo was excluded from the original team sheet for that

match before being restored to the line-up in the second and Brazil did not even warm-up on the pitch as the pre-match peep-talk turned into a chaotic shambles.

Despite the subsequent revelations of illness the striker was scapegoated for the defeat by Brazilian fans and had to endure whistles and jeers in some of the earlier Copa matches.

But his goal sealed a personal triumph and left Uruguay dead and buried.

Suddenly a rout looked like turning into a massacre.

Amoroso brilliantly set up Rivaldo, who rolled his shot wide and then Ronaldo forced a good save from Carini.

Brazil had seemingly strolled through their earlier Copa matches but now they were simply blowing away Uruguay as they produced outstanding football at a frenetic pace.

Flavio Conceicao blasted wide after being set up by Brazilian skipper Cafu as Uruguay were left chasing shadows.

Brazil briefly relented and Magallanes tested Dida from long range but still the youngsters were making no headway.

Magallanes had to be admired for his never-say-die spirit but - with little support - he was usually crowded out or reduced to shooting from distance.

Then Zalayeta had a half-chance but Dida was equal to the challenge.

At the other end brilliant play by Rivaldo set up Ronaldo but the striker rolled his shot just wide of Carini's post.

Magallanes again came close to a consolation goal for Uruguay but could not find the target after doing well to chest down the ball.

With Brazil's fans already celebrating victory Zalayeta finally forced Dida to dive to smother a shot from distance but by now it was all over by the shouting.

At the death Rivaldo had two excellent chances - both created by Amoroso - to win the title of Copa top scorer for himself but both were foiled by some desperate defending.

## Asserting authority



ASUNCION, July 19 (AFP): Brazil coach Wanderley Luxemburgo will return from Paraguay with his Copa America winners a happy man Sunday in the knowledge that he can sit a little more comfortably in the hottest seat in international football management.

Luxemburgo has proved an assertive and decisive coach but he was well aware that failure to lift the oldest trophy in international football would make him accountable for those decisions in the face of a media that traditionally displays all the table manners of a shoal of piranhas when a tasty managerial morsel is on the menu.

Luxemburgo was appointed as the successor to the legendary Mario Zagallo in the wake of Brazil's disastrous 3-0

World Cup Final defeat by France last season.

To say Zagallo is a hard act to follow would be an understatement. Zagallo, uniquely, was involved in all four of Brazil's World Cup winning teams - as a player in 1958 and 1962, as a coach in 1970 and as a technical adviser in 1994.

Luxemburgo initially tried to combine the national team job with his club role as Corinthians manager but soon was pressurised into relinquishing his position with the Sao Paulo-based outfit.

His build-up to the Copa was fraught with problems.

He made the decision to dispense with the services of maverick strikers Edmundo, of Vasco da Gama, and Romario, of Flamengo.

Both were undoubtedly talented - and in Romario's case he was the star player of the 1994 World Cup winning side.

But their off-the-field behaviour - frequently leaving something to be desired and it was Luxemburgo's first clear hint that he expected discipline from his players.

But it was the coach showed frayed nerves when he blew his top at fans at the Copa America camp at the tourist town of Foz de Iguaazu.

The supporters in question had been calling for a reprieve for Romario.

Luxemburgo was then forced to make several adjustments to

his squad.

Not all of those were injury-related.

Edilson was sent home after disgracing himself in a domestic fixture while Leonardo packed his bags after admitting he was suffering motivational problems.

But Luxemburgo used the withdrawals to give youngsters such as Ronaldinho and Alex their head.

Perhaps most importantly he showed unwavering loyalty to Ronaldo, widely derided in Brazil following the World Cup Final defeat and a mediocre season in Italy.

Fans continued to barrack the Brazilian striker during the Copa America early stages with Luxemburgo steadfast in his praise.

Some Brazilian legends of yesterday - such as 1970 stars Tostao and Roberto Rivellino - said Luxemburgo's team were not living up to the traditional standards of flair.

But Luxemburgo stuck to his principles and his team never looked like losing a Copa match, in the end winning the tournament at a stroll.

And now Luxemburgo can turn his attention to the World Cup campaign which remains the primary target for any Brazilian coach in the knowledge that he is likely to remain in charge for the duration of that campaign.



HAILING THE BOSS: Brazil players lift coach Vanderly Luxemburgo in the air after the Copa America triumph on July 18. — AFP photo

## More than just a victory



the Cup." Only four remain on the team - Ronaldo, Rivaldo, Roberto Carlos and Cafu - and they were huge in the Copa America.

The team's resurgence belongs to them," Luxemburgo said.

Rivaldo, one of the scapegoats for the Cup fiasco, was named the tournament's outstanding player. Against Uruguay he was brilliant, scoring two goals, assisting on the third and creating a handful of chances.

Ronaldo also got a goal, joining Rivaldo as the Cup's high scorer with five goals. He also felt the weight of losing the Cup lift a little.

"This is an especially happy moment, because it's been a difficult year for me," he said. Since the World Cup, Ronaldo broke up with his fiancée, struggled with tendonitis in his knees and was booted for his uneven play at the Cup.

For a fresh start, the Copa America couldn't have gone better.

Despite the loss of starters Vampetro and Leonardo, the team came together almost at once. Brazil beat Mexico twice, Argentina, Chile, Venezuela and Uruguay to finish undefeated, with the most goals scored (17) and the fewest allowed (2).

It's not that the others were bad, but Brazil right now is suffering.

perior," Roberto Carlos said. Uruguay were outplayed and outclassed, but the Cup was far from a disappointment. The young squad that came here to gain some experience won the hearts of soccer fans with a storybook run to the finals.

If the youngsters learned something in their upsets of Paraguay and Chile, on Sunday Brazil took them to school.

Brazil's only weakness was their failure to convert so many scoring chances into goals. Ronaldo and Amoroso misfired with Carini beaten, and Rivaldo was disarmed after dribbling all the way to the goal line.

The Uruguayans pressed in the closing minutes, but Gabriel Alvez and Federico Magallanes fired just wide.

### Martinez wins Polish Open

SOPOT, July 19: Conchita Martinez of Spain won the 180,000 dollars Polish Open on Sunday, defeating Karina Habudova of Slovakia 6-1, 6-1, reports AP.

Martinez was broken in the opening game, then recovered quickly with powerful forehands that kept her opponent on the baseline. Habudova tried to rally with passing shots, but her chances were undercut by repeated errors.