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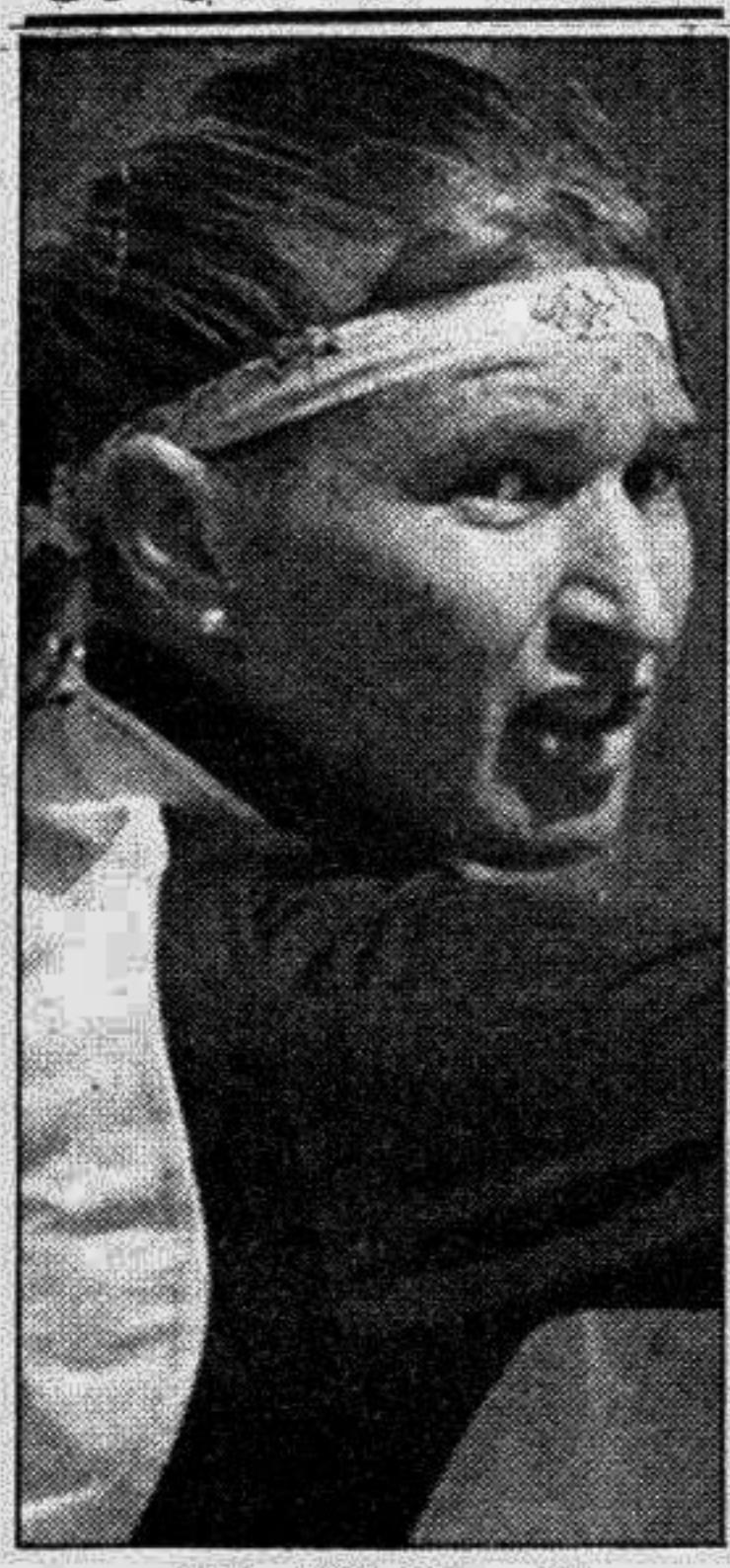
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Star Sport

DHAKA THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1999 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Steffi Graf
(Legendary German tennis player)

"Right now I am a little disappointed about it. But I still feel like a winner coming out of this tournament."

After her loss in this year's Wimbledon final.

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

1 Who is the new England cricket coach?

Fletcher Hussain Marsh

2 Brazilian footballer Rivaldo plays for

Lazio Barcelona Arsenal

3 Who is the captain of Argentina soccer team?

Simeone Batistuta Ayala

4 How many Grand Slam titles has Steffi Graf won till now?

22 23 24

5 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

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT cricket was so much revered as a gentleman's game that everyone associated with it was considered as possessing fair and honourable behaviour. Gerry Nadel is so quoted, "it wasn't cricket for her to break her contract."

Or, as the animal lovers would like to understand: It was not cricket of the cricketer to kill the cricket at the cricket match.

Popov eying a fifth

ISTANBUL, July 21: Alexander Popov can cap a decade of swimming excellence next week by completing an unprecedented winning streak at the European Championships, reports Reuters.

Popov, double gold medalist at the 1992 and 1996 Olympics, is favourite to win the European 100 metres freestyle for the fifth time since his debut in 1991 and also collect his fourth successive victory in the 50 freestyle.

Nobody has won a single event more than four times in the 73-year history of the championships, which begin on Thursday amid enormous security because of the conflict between Turkish security forces and Kurdish guerrillas.

Thousands of police have been drafted in to step up security for around 1,000 swimmers and officials from 43 nations. Leading swimmers had expressed doubts about their safety and the German Swimming Federation at one point considered staying away from the 11-day championships.

In the pool, Popov suffered his only major long-course championship defeat of the 1990s when he was beaten into second place in the 50 by American Bill Pilzuk at the 1998 world championships in Perth.

Dhaka derby today



Arch rivals Mohammadian SC and Abahani meet today in a crucial match of the Keya Metropolis Premier Division football league at the Bangabandhu National Stadium at 5:30 pm, reports UNB.

The match is particularly important for Abahani as they are two points behind Mohammadian who collected 16 points from six matches.

Abahani began their league campaign with a 1-1 draw against Arambagh KS and also shared points with Youngmen's Fakirpool Club in a goalless affair, while Mohammadian lost one point against Arambagh.

Two traditional rivals last met in the Federation Cup in May this year which Abahani won 1-0.

The two teams earlier played 45 league matches with Dharmodi-based Abahani winning 14 and Motijheel-based Mohammadian 13. The rest 17 ended in draws.

Abahani, not a balanced side

STANDINGS

Team	M	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Muktijoddha Sangsad	7	6	1	0	17	5	19
Mohammadian SC	6	5	1	0	8	0	16
Abahani	6	4	2	0	11	3	14
Farashganj SC	6	3	0	3	7	7	9
Badda Jagoroni	6	2	2	2	9	8	8
Sangsad	7	2	1	4	9	7	7
Brothers Union	7	1	3	2	9	11	6
Arambagh KS	6	1	2	3	6	9	5
Rahmatganj MFS	6	0	2	4	2	12	2
Fakirpool YMC	6	0	0	6	5	21	0
Mirpur Chalantika SC	6	0	0	6	5	21	0

GOALSCORERS

5: Effeni (Muktijoddha), Zakir (Abahani), Mizan (Brothers). 4: Alfaz (Mohammadian), Asif (Arambagh). 3: Olio (Muktijoddha), Raquib (Mohammadian), Sabir Pasha (Abahani), Milan (Rahmatganj), Ritu (Arambagh), Monwar (Badda) and Khokan (Badda).



Abahani booters train at their club ground yesterday ahead of the traditional battle royale against Mohammadian today.

— Star photo



The Mohammedans squad practising at the BDR ground yesterday.

— Star photo

ROK top AFC rankings

Sports Reporter

The Asian Football Confederation rankings for July released yesterday saw powerhouse South Korea maintain an edge over rivals Saudi Arabia and Japan.

The Koreans joint hosts of the World Championships in three years time, are currently ranked 37th by FIFA and have collected 563 points. The Saudis are seven points behind.

Third place Japan are on 542 points.

Among the South Asian countries India are 18th with 319 points, Sri Lanka (27th) with 188 points followed by Bangladesh who are nine points behind.

The Maldives are placed at 32 in the 43-team table on 139 points. Pakistan languish in 39th place.

Gum are the last-placed team.

Atherton in hunt for more runs

LONDON, July 21 (Internet report): Hampshire, whose charge towards the top was checked by Surrey last week, face relegation-threatened Lancashire, for whom Mike Atherton will hope to add to his career-best 268 not out against Glamorgan last week in his bid to regain his England place.

Somerset, unbeaten at home this season, include Steffan Jones in their team for the game against Middlesex at Taunton.

Jones replaces Andy Caddick, who is on Test duty with England, while the other change from the side that beat Derbyshire a fortnight ago sees Jason Kerr replace Adrian Piereson.

Middlesex are forced to make changes of their own, with Phil Tufnell and Mark Ramprakash also on duty at Lord's.

Nottinghamshire coach Clive Rice has made changes for the visit of Kent, as the fourth-bottom side hope to galvanise their season.

Guy Welton, who scored a century for the second XI last week, comes into the side in place of Matthew Downman, and seamer Mark Bowen replaces spinner Richard Stump.

Meanwhile, Kent's denied the services of Dean Headley - could give 19-year-old Matthew Baines his championship debut following a maiden first-class 50 against New Zealand.

Div II hockey

Combined Sporting Club defeated Dhaka Young Star Club 2-1 in the Green Delta Insurance Second Division hockey league at the Moulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 1-0 when Santu netted the goal in the 19th minute from a penalty corner. Ziaur Rahman doubled the margin in the 41st minute also by a penalty corner. Ziaur of Dhaka Young Star reduced the margin in the 61st minute by a field goal.

The day's another match between Police AC and Tejgaon Agragami Club ended in a 1-1 draw.

Note: Teams inactive since 1991 and teams which have not played yet do not appear in the table.

Continental Ranking

Team

Points

Ranking

World

1	Korea Republic	563	37
2	Saudi Arabia	556	40
3	Japan	543	44
4	Iran	527	50
5	Kuwait	512	55
6	China PR	502	58
7	United Arab Emirates	490	65
8	Thailand	439	78
9	Qatar	436	80
10	Oman	419	86
11	Uzbekistan	412	101
12	Syria	359	103
13	Singapore	355	105
14	Iraq	349	110
15	Lebanon	339	111
16	Indonesia	331	112
17	Vietnam	323	112
18	India	319	113
19	Kazakhstan	301	116
20	Malaysia	285	118
21	Bahrain	275	120
22	Turkmenistan	271	124
23	Myanmar	263	127
24	Tajikistan	254	128
25	Jordan	239	131
26	Hong Kong	210	137
27	Sri Lanka	188	142
28	Bangladesh	179	149
29	Yemen	174	150
30	Kyrgyzstan	147	157
31	Laos	146	158
32	Maldives Republic	139	161
33	Korea DPR	138	162
34	Nepal	134	163
35	Chinese Taipai	101	169
36	Macao	95	171
37	Cambodia	89	175
38	Pakistan	77	179
39	Philippines	74	180
40	Brunei	42	188
41	Palestine	27	191
42	Mongolia	6	198
43	Guam	4	200

Report by Md. Golam Ali

Photo: Md. Golam Ali

Cricket carnival at Singapore

NEW DELHI, July 21 (AFP): Big-time cricket returns to Singapore when India, Zimbabwe and the West Indies play a limited-overs series there from September 2 to 7, officials said on Wednesday.

The top two sides from a round-robin preliminary league will advance to the final. All matches will be played at the Kallang ground in central Singapore.

It will be the second official one-day tournament to be staged in Singapore, a non-Test-playing nation which is aiming to become a regular international venue.

India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka played a series in the city-state soon after the 1996 World Cup.

Schedule:

Sept 2: West Indies vs Zimbabwe

Sept 4: India vs Zimbabwe

Sept 5: India vs West Indies