

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-131

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

Competition closes at 8 pm
June 9, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

- Who is the number one women tennis player at the moment?
Hings Pierce V Williams
- Who won the European Champions' League?
M United Real Madrid Lazio
- Who won the UEFA Cup?
Valencia Galatasaray Fiorentina
- Who lifted national schools cricket title?
St Joseph M Singh Zila Cig Khastagir
- Who is the coach of Bangladesh football team?
Harrison Van Gaal Shahr

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Pat Symcox

(Ex-South African spinner)
We attended a meeting in Cronje's room in which he put it to us that he had received an offer for the team to lose a match for 250,000 dollars.
While testifying before the King Commission.

FRENCH OPEN NOTES

PARIS, June 8 (AFP): They'll be getting shirted at Roland Garros on Friday when workers from nearby Lacoste textiles factories plan to stage protests against the closure of their workplaces.

Some 300 employees are protesting at plans by the company to shut down two factories east of Paris.

Lacoste is one of the sponsors of the French Open and one of the leading manufacturers of sportswear in France.

VETERAN GUGA
Gustavo Kuerten, French Open men's singles champion in 1997, has veteran status at Roland Garros this year -- despite being just 23.

The Brazilian star is the most experienced player left in the men's semifinals. None of the other three survivors has previously made it to the last four.

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS
Mary Pierce's rediscovery of Catholicism has been causing quite a stir in France, where she has made the semifinal of the women's singles at the French Open.

She's about to become a lead story in *Louder Magazine*, the digest of the renowned place of pilgrimage in southwestern France. The magazine phoned organisers at Roland Garros after Pierce's quarterfinal win over Monica Seles requesting an interview with the star.

LOST SOUL NOAH
Things have changed since former champion Yannick Noah won his French Open men's singles title at Roland Garros in 1983.

Extensive renovations have been carried out over the past 12 months -- and Noah found he'd lost his way when he turned up for a Legends Trophy doubles match to play alongside Guy Forget.

But the French favourite got lucky after an official manning a door pointed him in the right direction.



FAREWELL: Fans try to catch a last glimpse of their idols as the coach carrying the victorious Pakistan team leaves Hotel Sheraton for the Zia International Airport yesterday. —Star photo

Youhana, Razzaq atop

Sports Reporter



Pakistan middle order batsman Yousuf Youhana and all-rounder Abdur Razzaq emerged as the highest run-getter and highest wicket-taker respectively in the Pepsi Asia Cup which concluded at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Wednesday.

Youhana, the top order player from Lahore, scored 295 runs in four innings with a century and two fifties. He hammered an unbeaten 100 against India with a six in the last ball of the innings. Unbeaten twice in four innings, his average in the tournament stood at 147.50.

He was named man-of-the-series.

Sri Lanka batsman Marvan Atapattu followed with 245 runs.

The talented Sri Lankan, who scored a 100 against Pakistan in the final, ended up with an average of 81.66 in four innings. It includes a fifty.

Bangladesh's Akram Khan is only local batsman in the elite top ten list.

The portly Chittagongian amassed 107 runs in three innings with a top-score of 64 against India. He averaged 35.66.

Razzaq who stole the show in the bowling department taking ten wickets in three matches.

The deceptive medium-pacer, who did not play in the game against India in the first round, bowled 19.2 overs and conceded only 73 runs for his eight wickets that left him with a magnificent average of 9.13.

His compatriots Azhar Mahmood and Arshad Khan and Indian pacer Ajit Agarkar finished with five wickets each. No Bangladesh bowlers made any impact.

Left-arm spinner Enamul Hoque was the most successful Bangladeshi bowler with two wickets costing 78 runs.

Following are the top ten batsmen and bowlers of the Pepsi Asia Cup:

BATSMEN

Player	M	I	NO	R	HS	100s	50s	Ave
Youhana	4	4	2	295	100*	1	2	147.50
Atapattu	4	4	1	245	100	1	1	81.66
Jayasuriya	4	4	1	183	105	1	1	45.75
Inzamam	4	4	2	175	75*	1	2	87.50
Saurav	3	3	1	156	82	1	1	52.00
Sachin	3	3	1	154	93	1	1	51.33
Aravinda	4	4	1	141	96*	1	1	47.00
Inran	4	4	1	127	80	1	1	31.75
Akram Khan	3	3	1	107	64	1	1	35.66

BOWLERS

Player	O	M	R	W	BB	Ave
Razzaq	19.2	1	73	8	4/28	9.13
Mahmood	30	2	106	5	3/24	21.20
Agarkar	30	4	139	5	2/47	27.80
Arshad	38	5	141	5	2/59	28.20
Wasim	20	0	80	4	2/38	20.00
Weeraratne	26	5	98	4	3/46	24.50
Tendulkar	24	0	109	4	2/24	27.25
Zoysa	25	1	121	4	2/44	30.25
Kumaran	28	0	186	4	3/54	46.50
Vaas	31.2	1	129	3	2/28	43.00

(Compiled by Hasan Masood)

Norman invasion continues

PARIS, June 8: The rankings say Magnus Norman is the number one clay court player in the world. Now he's just two wins away from proving it, reports AFP.

Norman overcame a determined challenge from big Russian Marat Safin on Wednesday to reach the semi-finals of the men's singles at the French Open.

Norman, seeking to become the first Swedish winner of the tournament in 12 years, recovered from losing the opening three games to see off his opponent 6-4, 6-3, 4-6, 7-5 on Centre Court with a gutsy display of clay court tennis.

The third-seeded Scandinavian dropped his first set of the tournament against Safin -- but still had enough fizz to book his second Grand Slam semifinal appearance after making the last four at the Australian Open last January.

Norman now plays Argentina's Franco Squillari, who earlier moved a step closer to becoming only his country's second men's singles champion at Roland Garros when he handed a quarterfinal lesson to Albert Costa of Spain, winning a grinding contest between two unseeded players 6-4, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4.

Friday's other semi will pit Brazilian fifth seed Gustavo Kuerten, the 1997 champion, against 20-year-old Spanish newcomer Juan Carlos Ferrero.

Aside from Kuerten, none of those who will contest the last four has previously made it this far here before.

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YOUSUF YOHANA

ABDUR RAZZAQ

Conchita cruises into final

PARIS, June 8: Conchita Martinez ripped up the formbook to crush fellow Spaniard Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario 6-1, 6-2 today and advance to the women's singles final at the French Open, reports AFP.

Martinez reached only the third Grand Slam final of her career -- and her first in 13 appearances at Roland Garros.

Fifth-seeded Martinez will now play either top-seeded Martina Hingis of Switzerland or Sixth-seeded Mary Pierce of France in Saturday's final.

Gays form cricket club

LONDON, June 8 (AFP): The Graces, Britain's first ever cricket team made up of gay-only players, has its sights set on joining a local league.

The London outfit, named after the most famous of all English cricketers, WG Grace, reckons its time to get serious after winning nine out of ten friendly fixtures last season.

Captain Ian Crossland told the Evening Standard newspaper: "People think we're just a load of old queens who think they look good in white, but actually we can and do play well."

"Our opponents respect us for the way we play cricket."

Crossland described sport as one of the last bastions of homophobia and said he hoped that through his sides' success homosexuals would be granted greater respect.

The Graces are not unique in sport as there is a team of gay-only league rugby players called the King's Cross Steelers and a football version too, Stonewall.

Navratilova's double assault

PARIS, June 8 (AFP): Martina Navratilova plans a double assault on Wimbledon despite her doubles comeback being derailed at the French Open on Wednesday.

The all-time great and her partner Marianne de Swardt bowed out of the third round of the French Open women's doubles -- but Navratilova revealed she plans to contest both the women's doubles and the mixed doubles at the All England Club later this month.

Sixth-seeded pair Alexandra Fusai and Nathalie Tauziat of France beat Navratilova and de Swardt 2-6, 6-2, 7-5 to advance to the quarterfinals of the French Open in match that started on Tuesday night and resumed on Wednesday.

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meanwhile alleged the reason for his present state was the wrong treatment he received from national team physio Gavin Benzafield, the South African who is now on a

detected that a tendon of his knee got badly damaged, and the doctor felt that an immediate operation was necessary for such an injury.

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Mehrab meanwhile alleged the reason for his present state was the wrong treatment he received from national team physio Gavin Benzafield, the South African who is now on a

He has now decided to receive treatment from Dr. Amit Sen, an orthopaedic specialist of the Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore.

My wife has gone outside to send a fax to Singapore to know about the treatment cost. Hopefully, I will be able to go there as soon as possible," said Mehrab, who was discharged from the clinic last night.

Rajshahi hockey

From Our Correspondent
RAJSHAH, June 8: Baikal Sangha and Jagarata Sangha won their respective matches of the Rajshahi First Division Hockey League at local stadium today.

Baikal blanked North Bengal Sporting Club 11-0 in the first match.

Shamim completed a hat-trick in the 3rd, 9th and 24th minutes. Raju, Palas and Mamun scored each in the 8th, 37th, 25th, 42nd and 13th, 35th minutes respectively. Kaim and Bulbul completed the score in the 46 and 48 minutes.

Div II kabadi

The Metropolitan Second Division kabadi league begins today at the Outer Stadium kabadi ground, reports UNB.

Twelve teams split into groups will compete in the league organised by Bangladesh Kabadi Federation.

Mutauil Milon Smriti Sangha will play Manda Smriti Sangha while Sunrise Sporting Club will encounter Ishaque Smriti Sangha in the opening day's matches.

Gibbs spills his guts

CAPE TOWN (Reuters): South Africa opener Herschelle Gibbs said on Thursday he had agreed in

India this year to an offer of 15,000 US dollars from captain Hansie Cronje to lose his wicket for under 20 runs.

A testimony to a government commission into alleged match-fixing, headed by retired Judge Edwin King, Gibbs said he went on to score 74 runs off 53

balls in the March 19 match and was not paid.

"Hansie appeared in my room with a big smile on his face saying that someone was prepared to offer me 15,000 US dollars for scoring less than 20. I thought of my mother -- my parents were getting divorced, my father had a part-time job and I would have to look after my mother -- so I said yes."

"The team was to get less than 270."

Gibbs said the targets set in the conversation in a hotel in Nagpur before the fifth one-day international were not met with the team scoring more than 300 runs.

"By the time Hansie got to the wicket, I already had 30 or 40 and I asked him, what were we doing. After a few overs, I asked him again and he said one of us would have to get out."

Gibbs told the inquiry.

Former South Africa international Derek Crookes said earlier he was shocked when Cronje told him he should consider a money offer to lose a match in India in 1996.

"Hansie told me on the plane (to India) that the team had been made an offer to throw the match," said Crookes, who was testifying on the second day of the King Commission of inquiry.

"I couldn't believe what I had heard, and I asked him if he was joking. Hansie replied that I should think about it."

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Mehrab's career at stake

Sports Reporter



The career of promising national opener Mehrab Hossain could well be over unless he undergoes a major surgery on his right knee immediately.

Mehrab, who suffered a knee injury while playing for Abahani Krira Chakra against Mohammedan Sporting Club in a Super League match late April, has been asked by his doctor to avail the surgery within the shortest possible time. If the knee has not been operated on soon, the talented right-hander might lose his leg as well.

The doctor who operated me here has told me that a second operation was needed and for that I have to go abroad," Mehrab said to the Daily Star Sport yesterday. He was advised to get the surgery done by an orthopaedic surgeon, who has the specialisation in injury to sports personalities.

Professor Ruhul Haque, the head of Orthopaedics in the Bangabandhu Medical University, operated on his knee on Tuesday. When reached over phone last night Prof Haque said, "He has a meniscus injury on his right knee. There is nothing to fear about. It will be all right once he is operated."

During the operation it was

detected that a tendon of his knee got badly damaged, and the doctor felt that an immediate operation was necessary for such an injury.

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