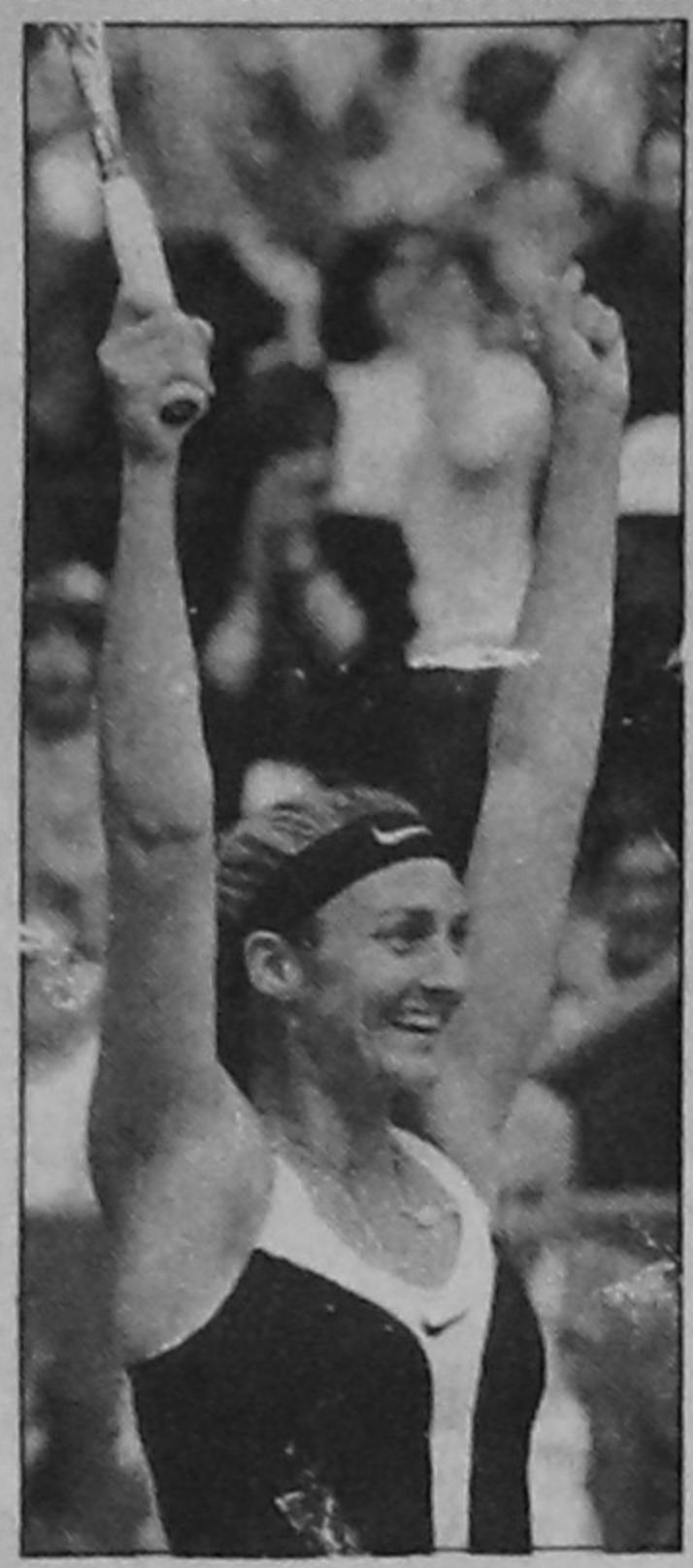


Column One

SPORTS TALK



Mary Pierce

(French Open champion)
"I'll never, ever forget this day. It's fabulous I'm lost for words."

Giving her reaction after winning French Open title.

BOOST sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-131

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

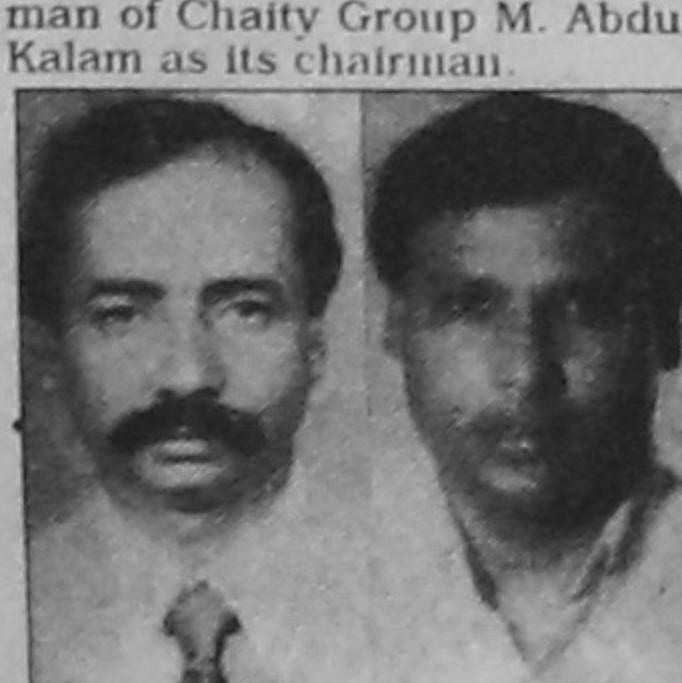
Competition closes at 8 pm
June 16, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

1	Who is the number one women tennis player at the moment?
Hungs	Mary Pierce
United	Real Madrid
3	Who won the European Champions' League?
United	Real Madrid
4	Who lifted national schools cricket title?
St Joseph	McLaren
5	Who is the coach of Bangladesh football team?
Harrison	Van Gaal
	Shakir

Name
.....
Class Roll No.
.....
School Address
.....
Phone: (If any)

MSC's new soccer body formed

Sports Reporter
Mohammed Sporting Club yesterday named a new 26-member football committee with industrialist and chairman of Chaity Group M. Abdul Kalam as its chairman.



KALAM BABUL
Former national footballer and a member of the executive committee of the club, Khurshid Alam Babul has been appointed as secretary of the committee which includes four vice-chairmen and 20 members.

Members of the new committee are: Chairman: M. Abul Kalam. Vice-chairmen: M. Rashiduzzaman Millet, Syed Inamul Haque, Waliz Mirza and Rabiu Alam. Secretary: Khurshid Alam Babul. Members: Hamidul Haque, Mushtaqur Rahman, Imtiaz Sultan Johnny, Amirul Islam Babu, M. Zahid Uddin, Mahibub Khan, Fakhrul Abedin, Akther Sayeed, Lutfur Rahman, Shafeen Shahabuddin Khan, Mohammad Mahibub, Golam Gaffar, Mohammad Hasan, Kaiser Hamid, Sayeed Hasan Kanan, Ilyas Hossain, Syed Rumman Bin Waly Sabir, Mansoor Ahmed, Zahurul Haque and Lutfur Rahman Selim.

Mark where are you?

Sports Reporter



Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) don't know whether their English coach Mark Harrison, who went on vacation after the Maldives Silver Jubilee Tournament, will return to Dhaka.

Both BFF general secretary Harunur Rashid MP and joint-secretary Badal Roy expressed the fear while talking to The Daily Star yesterday.

The English coach who took over the national team in April under an arrangement with the Asian Football Confederation (AFC).

The BFF general secretary said that Harrison openly spoke to many BFF officials about the matter during the four-nation meet in Maldives last month. He returned to Britain on leave as soon as the national team came back.

The Englishman requires 18 thousand dollars per year to educate his two children at the American School in Dhaka. This is half of the amount he gets from AFC as his annual wage (3,000 dollars per month).

"Before Mark left last month he said the amount he received from the AFC would not be enough. He was scheduled to return either on 10th or 11th of this month and resume his job. But so far no contact has been made by him. That's why we are having serious doubts," said Harun.

He told me about his problem before he went on to leave but I did not make any comment. We have no way to increase his salary as it provided by AFC," Harun added.

Nat'l boxing begins today

The Opsonin 15th National Junior and 6th Intermediate Boxing Championships will begin today at the Shaheed Shuhurawary National Indoor Stadium in Mirpur, reports UNB.

President of Bangladesh Amateur Boxing Federation (BABF) Major General A M Siraj will inaugurate the four-day meet.

BABF vice-president and Managing Director of the tournament sponsor Opsonin Chemical Industries Abdur Rouf Khan will be present on the occasion.

A total of 120 boxers from 22 teams are expected to compete in the two-tier meet of 14 weight categories events.



MARK HARRISON

Asian U-16 qualifiers

Bangladesh open against Lanka

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh will take on Sri Lanka in their opening match of the Group Four qualifiers of 9th Asian under-16 Football Championship in Jamshedpur on June 21.

The winners of the robin league will qualify for the final round which will be held in Vietnam next December.

The 25-member Bangladesh team including 20 players, will leave for Calcutta on June 18. The team will be selected tomorrow or the day after from a 25-man camp now being held at the BKSP under the supervision of coach Pranab Kumar Dey Bhanu and Mohammad Mala.

Besides the camp for under-19 team, which will take part in the Asian under-19 Group Four qualifiers in Rajshahi from July 7, is also going on at the country's only sports institute with Abu Yousuf and Sayeed Hasan Kanan coaching the boys.

Twenty five players are undergoing training from which a

final selection of 20 will be made later this month.

Iraq, Nepal and Maldives are the other three countries drafted in group Four.

Following are the fixtures of both qualifying tournaments.

Asian Under-16 qualifiers

Date Match

June 20	India Pakistan
June 21	Bangladesh v Sri Lanka
June 22	Bhutan v Pakistan
June 23	India v Sri Lanka
June 24	Bangladesh v Pakistan
June 25	Bhutan v Sri Lanka
June 26	India v Bangladesh
June 27	Pakistan v Sri Lanka
June 28	Bhutan v Bangladesh
June 29	Rest day
June 30	India v Bhutan

(Note: All matches will kick off at 4.15 pm BST)

Asian Under-19 qualifiers

Date Match

July 7	Iraq v Nepal
July 9	Iraq v Maldives
July 11	Bangladesh v Nepal
	Maldives v Nepal
	Bangladesh v Iraq

(Note: Except for the opener which kicks off at 3.30pm, all other games involving Bangladesh will start at 5.30pm)

Spain's 'Premiership' test, Yugoslavs set to party

UNDATED, June 12 (AFP): Spain kick off their Euro 2000 campaign on Tuesday with a potential banana-skin Group C clash against Norway - otherwise known as the English Premiership XI while in the other fixture of the day, group opponents Yugoslavia face their easiest match in the history of European championship when they face Slovenia.

At two o'clock I was in no pain. If the coach wants me I can play against Norway."

Salgado had been forced out of training Saturday when his ankle flared up after a collision with Real Betis forward Alfonso on the training ground.

The injury was bandaged and the player had an anti-inflammatory injection.

Raul, who wore a bandage during Saturday's training session, also reassured fans and team-mates that he would be able to play.

"I am doing well. People can see that I will be able to play again," said the Real Madrid star, haled by some as the potential star of the tournament.

Camacho confirmed Salgado would be playing, saying: "If he is fit enough to play he will be there."

The coach admitted that he would have to resign if Spain again fail to deliver - the Spanish have a history of freezing on the big occasion although this is their first major tournament under the stewardship of Camacho.

Although Spain are without the supremely talented Luis Enrique, who failed to make the squad because of a knee injury, they have one of the most finely balanced midfields of any team at Euro 2000.

The quartet are orchestrated by Pep Guardiola, the majestic playmaker with a cool head.

Sitting just in front of the back four, Guardiola is one of the few individuals capable of dictating the pace of the game.

The Barcelona star is complemented by an industrious yet technically-gifted trio of Gaizka Mendieta, Joseba Etxeberria and Juan Carlos Valeron.

The Spaniards received further boost on Sunday when the Real Madrid duo of Michel Salgado and Raul both passed themselves fit to face Norway.

Defender Salgado, who had an ankle problem, and striker Raul, who has had muscle pains

both came through a behind-closed-doors training session Sunday without any problems and are available to Camacho.

Right-back Salgado said: "I am fine. I was a bit worried because the strain was in the same ankle that was troubling me some months ago."

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The coach admitted that he would have to resign if Spain again fail to deliver - the Spanish have a history of freezing on the big occasion although this is their first major tournament under the stewardship of Camacho.

"If the team plays badly, logic dictates that I will have to go," said the 45-year-old.

The championship draw has been kind to Camacho and the time may be ripe for the pre-tournament promise to finally come to fruition. However, Norway do have a habit of gate-crashing the party.

The last 10 years have been the greatest decade Norwegian football has ever known. They burst from nowhere onto the international scene, qualifying for two World Cups in succession and exporting more players than they have frozen fish.

They have humiliated England and regularly beaten Brazil and in strikers Ole Gunnar Solskjær and Tore Andre Flo - both struggling to command a regular place at Manchester United and Chelsea respectively - have two of the world's most lethal strikers.

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Free-kick specialist Sinisa Mihajlovic and Dejan Stankovic are at new Italian champions Lazio. Darko Kocavcevic plays for 1998 champion

See page 14

Spain superstar Raul receiving attention from the team doctors after suffering a mild injury during practice at Tegelen on June 10. Spain take on Norway today in Rotterdam in an Euro 2000 Group C match. — AFP photo

Sher-e-Bangla Cup

DU-Army first semi today

Sports Reporter

Holders Dhaka University will take on Bangladesh Army in the first semifinal of the 21st Sher-e-Bangla National Football Championship at the Maitree Stadium in Noakhali this afternoon.

The winners will face either

hosts Noakhali or Chittagong in the June 16 final also to be held at the same venue.

Noakhali will meet Chittagong in the other semifinal tomorrow.

Bangladesh will play an exhibition match against India in

Dhaka on July 30.

Both BFF general secretary

Harunur Rashid MP and joint-

secretary Badal Roy expressed

the fear while talking to The

Daily Star yesterday.

"We will be touring England

next month. So we have to start

the national team camp immedi-

ately," the BFF joint secre-

tary said adding that it would be

run by assistant Hasanuzzaman

Khan Babu in the event of

Harrison not coming.

Bangladesh will play an exhibi-

tion match against India in

Dhaka on July 30.

Bangladesh will name 30 players for

the primary camp on Tuesday after

meeting of the technical com-

mittee on Monday night.

The committee was also sched-

uled to finalise a 25-member na-

tional players' pool during its

meeting last night.

"We will wait for him until

June 15. If he does not report by

that time, we will inform the

matter to the AFC," said Badal

Roy.

"We will be touring England

next month. So we have to start

the national team camp immedi-

ately," the BFF joint secre-