

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-135

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

Competition closes at 8 pm
Sept 29, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

1 Who scored the first hat-trick
in this year's Fed Cup
football?
Rita Kauchan Tamara

2 Who is Pakistan's cricket
team captain?
Wasim Waqar Moiz

3 Who is the captain of
Bangladesh cricket team?
Amrinal Abrar Naimur

4 Who won the AB Bank Men's
TT title?
Armanola Buman Marjones

5 Who was voted Germany's
footballer-of-the-year in 2000?
Kahn Sommer Reuter

Name

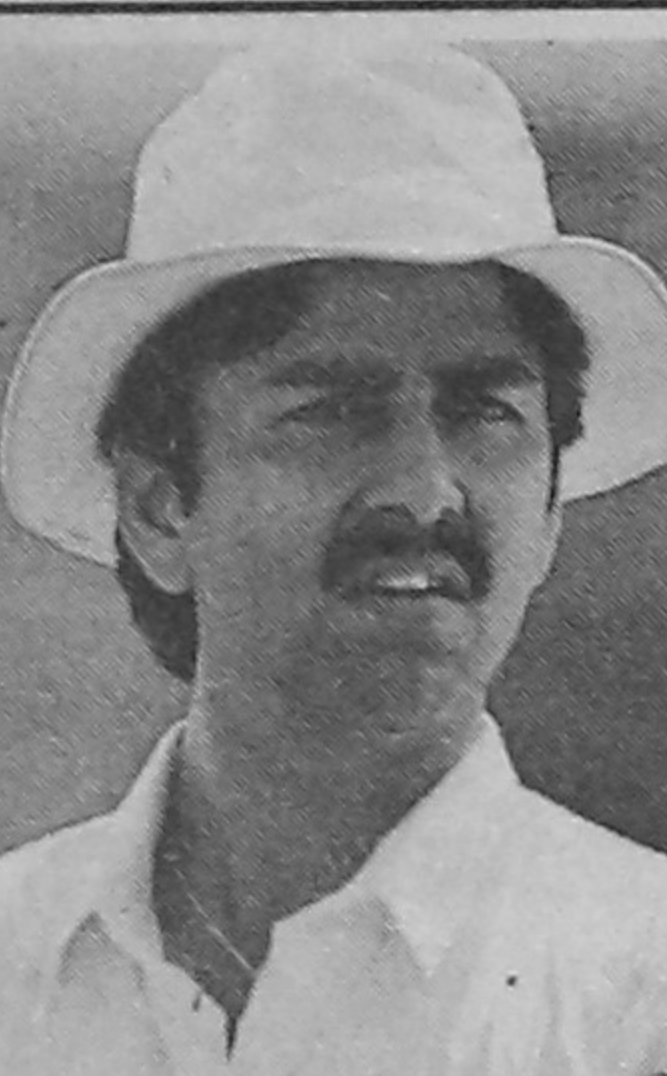
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POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Manoj Prabhakar

(Former Indian Test star)

"I congratulate the selectors for taking such bold step. I'm sure that this will serve as a lesson to others. What has happened is for the good of Indian cricket, the system has to be cleaned."

On the omissions of Azharuddin, Jadeja and Nikhil Chopra from the Indian team for Kenya ICC Knockout tournament due to their alleged involvement in match-fixing.

Fingers crossed

From page 13

liant Pakistanis have had a topsy-turvy tournament, starting with an uninspiring 2-2 draw against unfancied Canada, a 8-1 romp over Britain followed by a last-gasp draw against Malaysia.

But they have one of the best penalty corner marksmen in the business, Sohail Abbas, whose six goals make him the second-highest scorer in the competition behind Jorge Lombi of Argentina.

The world champions are tough to beat but winning is our only option," Pakistani manager Ishtiaque Siddiqui said.

"We will attack from the start and hope for the best. All the pressure will be on the Dutch."

There will also be pressure for hosts Australia, looking for their first Olympic gold despite a top-four finish in seven of their last eight appearances.

A draw against the Koreans will see the Kookaburras through, as long as they don't buckle under the pressure of performing before their vocal home supporters.

Australia also enjoy a better record, having lost just one match to South Korea in 26 meetings. In their last face-off at the Champions Trophy in May, Australia won 2-0.

South Korea's veteran manager Kim Sang-Ryul was, however, not worried by the track record.

Intercontinental

From page 16

The United States - who have reached the last four at the 12th time of asking - showed in their win over Japan, eventually secured on penalties that they will be a tough proposition, built around their strong uncompromising back four.

They singled out Japanese playmaker Hidetoshi Nakata for special treatment on Saturday and may target Spain's AC Milan striker Jose Mari.

The Americans also have a potential world star in Bayer Leverkusen's 18-year-old prodigy Landon Donovan.

However, discounting the penalty shoot-out victory over Japan—the US has drawn three of their four games in the competition, only beating the all-american Kuwaiti team inside 90 minutes. Spain might prove a step too far for them now.



Players and officials of Mohammedan Sporting Club, who have already ensured this year's league title by winning their match against Mariner Young's Club yesterday, pose for photographers after the game at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium.

MSC champs untested

Sports Reporter

Runaway leaders Mohammedan Sporting Club became the first team in the history of Dhaka.

Mokey to clinch the prestigious Premier League title four times in a row.

The recipe of success owed a lot to the arrival of Tahir Zaman and Shahbaz Ahmed. Their presence especially Tahir's, who besides taking on the role of play-maker also discharged the duties of coach this season, has led some to believe that Mohammedan have monopolised the local hockey scene.

The popular Motijheel outfit with still two matches to play, confirmed the title when they dealt powerful Mariner Youngs Club a 8-1 drubbing in their return leg clash at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

It was Mohammedan's 14th straight victory and took their impressive tally to 42 points, 10 more than second placed Abahani.

The result also eclipsed Abahani's reign as champions from 1975 to 1978. Besides, Mohammedan also equalled their arch rivals feat of lifting the crown nine times.

The invincible black and whites wrap up their campaign with matches against Abahani and Usha Krira Chakra respectively.

The champions unlike their first round meeting in which Mohammedan fought out a 3-2 victory, found the going smooth this time.

Mohammedan, spearheaded by former Pakistan skippers Shahbaz and Tahir, toyed with their neighbours to score four goals in each half.

Tahir demonstrated his vast experience to dictate the pattern of play from the defence.

Today our plan was to score through the local players as both I and Shahbaz would be tightly marked. And I think our tactics worked out perfectly judging from the scoreline," said Tahir who is playing his fourth successive season for Mohammedan.

"This season gives me immense satisfaction because my deeds will be recalled when people talk about the success of Mohammedan in the days to come," said the Falsalabad-based player who has yet to officially retire from the international scene, but regards his chances very slim to be included in the national team.

"I could have played in Olympics but due to a difference of opinion with the selectors I withdrew my name from the list of probabilities," he said.

Tahir hopes to play for the holders next season too.

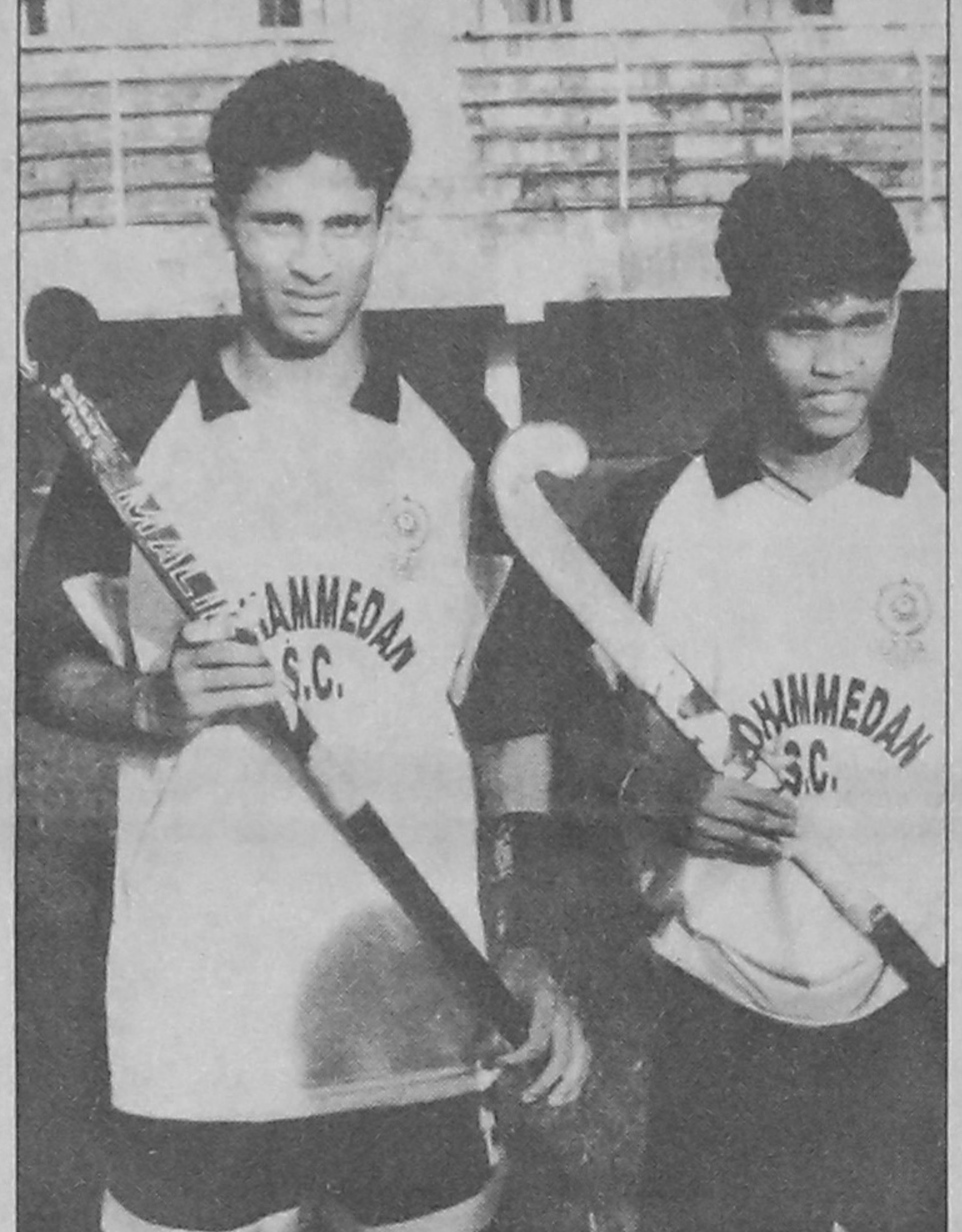
Back to the day's match, forward Mahbubul Elshan Rana scored four goals while his prolific partner Shamim Reza

added two for Mohammedan. Midfielder Ashiquzzaman and wizard Shahbaz Ahmed increased the margin with a goal each.

On the other hand, midfielder Yousuf Biswas grabbed a consolation goal for the Arambagh-based club which remained fourth in the table with

mouth melée.

Rana then slammed his third from a Tahir pass in the 58th minute while maestro Shahbaz, playing his first match for the club since appearing in the first leg, showed why he is called the 'Maradona' of hockey with a classic goal from the right following a solo



MOHAMMEDAN'S MEN OF THE DAY: Rana (L), who scored four goals, and Shamim, two goals, pose after the match against Mariner Young's. Shamim is the leading scorer in the league with 25.

24 points from 13 matches.

Rana, the stout midfielder, struck twice in five minutes.

He opened his with a powerful-packed hit from the right corner after winning a 15a free hit in the ninth minute and then doubled the margin with an identical hit after being brilliantly fed by Tahir in the 14th minute.

Shamim, the league's leading scorer, made it 3-0 from a Tahir pass in the 25th minute while Ashique sealed the first period steering home a Shahbaz pass in the 33rd minutes.

Mariner tried to get into game early in the second half and in the 37th minute found the net thanks to Yousuf utilising a Musa pass.

But their hopes of more goals came to a premature end once Shamim scored his 25th goal of the league from a goal-

run in the 68th minute.

"Usually I prefer to feed others instead of scoring myself. But seeing I was in a position to score I could not resist the opportunity."

I will probably play in the next match against Usha and that is going to be the last competitive match of my life," revealed the 36-year old legend.

Shahbaz inspired Rana to drive the last nail of Mariner's coffin with a well judged pass in the next minute.

Rana has scored 12 goals so far.

Mohammedan take on Usha Krira Chakra in their penultimate match on September 28 before rounding off against Abahani on October 4.

TODAY'S MATCH

Abahani v Usha KC (3:45 pm)

Venue: Maulana Bhasani Stadium.

Badda beat Victoria

Sports Reporter

Badda Jagarani Sangsad recorded their second win in the National Bank Premier Division Football League with a 3-1 victory against Victoria Sporting Club at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Fatali, substitute Lajuk and captain Monwar scored one goal each for the winners. For Victoria, Polo scored a consolation goal.

Badda raised their tally to six points from seven matches. On the other hand, Victoria's sixth defeat kept them glued to the bottom of the table with only two points.

Pak court rejects 'fix' petition

KARACHI, Sept 25 (AFP): A superior court Monday dismissed as a publicity move a local lawyer's petition seeking jail terms for cricketers already fined through a match-fixing report, a court official said.

Justice Sabihuddin Ahmed of the Sindh High Court observed "the petition is aimed at seeking personal publicity."

He also ordered petitioner, Qadir Khan Mandokhail, to pay 10,000 rupees (200 US dollars) as a fine, they said.

Mandokhail, 36, in his petition asked the court to jail cricketers found guilty by Justice Malik Mohammad Qayyum for match-fixing.

He said he was disappointed by the verdict and vowed to pursue the case in the country's Supreme Court.

Former Pakistan captain Salim Malik and pacer Ata-ur-Rehman were banned for life by the Qayyum report.

Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Saeed Anwar and Akram Raza were fined between 2,000 dollars and 10,000 dollars after the report was made public last May.

Size does not matter

SYDNEY, Sept 25: Romania's two-time outdoor world champion Gabriela Szabo beat her greatest rival Sonia O'Sullivan of Ireland in an epic battle to clinch the Olympic 5,000 metres title here on Monday, reports AFP.

Ethiopia's Gete Wami, who was a late replacement in the team for this event as she is going for the 10,000 as well, won the bronze.

O'Sullivan, who had left Atlanta four years ago in tears after failing to justify favouritism in the 5000 and 1500, made her move on Szabo down the back stretch of the final lap.

However, the small but unbelievably tough 24-year-old Szabo, who had been beaten by O'Sullivan the last time they met in a final in the 5000m at the 1998 European Championships, refused to give an inch hugging the inside line and while the Irishwoman came up alongside her shoulder she never got past.

Szabo, who was a silver medalist in Atlanta in the 1500, repelled her and even though O'Sullivan came back at her the whole way down the straight, Szabo had it sealed five metres from the finish.

Rana rocks Abahani

Sports Reporter



A ten-man Mukti-joddha Sangsad Kira Chakra pulled off a stunning 1-0 win over Abahani in a crucial National Bank Premier Division Football League at the floodlit Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The sensational triumph of Mukti-joddha with their back against the wall not only enabled them to bounce back strongly in the title race, but also ended Abahani's impressive record of six wins on a trot.

Masud Rana, the experienced left back of all reds, scored the all-important goal from a penalty awarded by referee Monsur Azad in the 70th of the match.

Reduced to ten men five minutes before the half time when their shaven-headed forward Farhad got the marching order for his second bookable offence, Mukti-joddha however never allowed Abahani to take the advantage of an extra man.

It was an altogether disappointing day for the popular Dhamondit outfit and their loyal supporters in a match, where they hardly created a penetrative offensive. While their striking duo of Kennedy and Don were not allowed to have a single shot at the goal, the midfield was baffled by the destructive play of Joy.

Their misery took its toll when an otherwise dependable right-back Titu handled the ball in forbidden zone while attempting to clear a rather inebriated lob from Mukti-joddha's substitute midfielder Liton.

Monsur, who is known for his iron-fisted approach, pointed to the dreaded spot and

Mukti-joddha selected undoubtedly the coolest customer among their ranks Masud Rana, who blasted the ball into upper right-hand post sending reserve national custodian Biblob the wrong end.

After the goal quite against the run of the play Mukti-joddha successfully protected their fort with their captain Rajani manning the watertight defence.

Although Mukti-joddha has been a source of disappointment so far with inconsistent performance, they transformed into a cohesive force last night with their hard-working midfielder Anif Khan returning to action and striker Maksudul Amin Rana playing his first league match.

While Joy dominated the midfield play a fleet-footed Rana was a constant threat for Abahani with menacing moves down the flanks.

Rana, who had made his mark at the tender age, failed to appear in a single match for Abahani last season because of injury. He switched to Mukti-joddha this year, but looked set to experience another unglamorous season before coach Manik put him in the starting line-up in a surprise move.

He made an immediate impact in his first match after a long lay off when he came up with a spectacular diving header in the 59th minute, which was flisted away by Biblob.

The sky blues however looked a more likely team to score in the first fifteen minutes. They came close to scoring in the 12th minute when Arman lobbed a perfect cross near the far post to an unmarked Ghansha. But a beautiful header from the tall Gha-

nahian was saved by Mukti-joddha's reserve custodian Bijon Barua, who had an extraordinary match under the bar in the absence of injured national goalkeeper Aminul.

Titu, whose fatal blunder eventually cost Abahani the match, drove a searing right-footer one minute later that missed the mark by inches.

After a barren first half in which Mukti-joddha were down to ten men and also saw their tireless Joy limping off the ground, Abahani still failed to push forward the advantage. They however went all out after conceding the goal, but all their efforts faded against the rock-solid Mukti-joddha wall.

The defeat now left Abahani sharing second slot along with their conquerors, both having 18 points each from seven games. Defending champions Mohammedan leads the table with a maximum 21 points from seven games.

Yellow cards: Nazrul, Mithu and Kennedy (Abahani)

TEAMS

MUKTIJODDHA: Bijon, Hasan al-Mamun, Rajani, Sun, Prodig, Shamsher (Asif) (Mintu), Masud Rana, Tushar, Joy (Liton), Farhad and Amin Rana

ABAHANI: Biblob, Titu, Nazrul (Partho), Ghansha, Mithu, Iqbal, Zakir, Arman, Kanchan (Sentu), Galib (Don) and Kennedy

Referee: Monsur Azad

TODAY'S MATCHES

Rahmatganj MFS v Farashganj SC (3:30 pm)

Brothers Union v Dhanmendi Club (5:30 pm)

Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium



Action from yesterday's National Bank Premier Division Football League encounter between Abahani Kira Chakra and Mukti-joddha Sangsad at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

—Star photo

Yevgeny finds his feet

SYDNEY, Sept 25 (AFP): Yevgeny Kafelnikov, who was in such low spirits before the Olympics that he considered not coming to Sydney, on Monday put himself just two matches away from winning the gold medal for Russia.

The former world number one produced his best match since reaching the final of the Australian Open in January to shatter Gustavo Kuerten's dream of Olympic glory.

Kafelnikov, seeded five, broke the second-seeded Brazilian's service in the final game of both sets for a 6-4, 7-5 victory that earned him a semifinal clash against France's Arnaud Di Pasquale, one of three unseeded players in the last four.

Switzerland's rising young prospect Roger Federer will take on Germany's Tommy Haas in the other semifinal.

"Before I came here I was not playing as well as I would like to," Kafelnikov, who before Monday had not won four consecutive matches since the French Open in June, said.

"But after a few matches here I've got my confidence back and now I just have a very small thing to do, win two matches, and I'll be an Olympic champion."

It was all very different three weeks ago, when a third round exit from the US Open left the Russian despairing of whether he would ever rediscover the form that brought him French (1996) and Australian Open (1999) titles.

"I've got to be realistic," he said then. "My chances are not high to compete for any medal at all. I'm not playing as well as I can and if I'm not, what's the point of going there?"

Conscious athletes

SYDNEY, Sept 25 (Reuters): Athletes at the Sydney Olympics are snapping up free condoms at a rate of knots.

Some 25,000 have been handed out since the Olympic Village opened on September 2, two weeks before the start of the Games.

The safe sex concept is alive and well in the village and it's not a single sex thing. Both sexes have been asking for them at the pharmacy, said Village spokesman Jim Webster.

An Australian manufacturer has supplied 50,000 condoms to the Village, home to some 16,000 Olympic athletes and officials. They are available free from the Village pharmacy.

Not the sex is necessarily the order of the day.

"I'm quite sure that a lot of them are utilising what is a free issue to stock up and take them home with them," Webster said.

Lara quits T&T captaincy

BARBADOS, Sept 25 (Internet report): Brian Lara, Trinidad and Tobago captain since 1994, has asked not to be considered for the job for next month's Red Stripe Bowl.

"Last Friday he indicated to me that he would be declining the captaincy but he is willing to play under whoever is captain," chairman of selectors Rangy Nanan told Trinidad's Express newspaper on Friday.

Lara, 31, also resigned as West Indies captain earlier this year after the 1999 tour of New Zealand, where his side lost both Test matches and all five one-day internationals. He then took a three-month break from the game before returning to the West Indies squad for the recent tour of England.

Lara won three Red Stripe limited overs titles in his time as captain, the latter two coming in 1995 and 1996.

Candidates to replace Lara at the helm include former West Indies U-15 captain Zaheer Ali and former U-19 skipper Kenzo Mason, who this weekend will lead the teams in the first trial

matches to select the squad for the competition, which begins on October 11.

The four 50-over trial matches will be contested this and next weekend and the team will be announced next Sunday.

T&T have been grouped with Barbados, the United States, Canada and hosts Jamaica in

Zone One of the Red Stripe Bowl while Guyana, the Windward Islands, the Leeward Islands, Bermuda and the Cayman Islands will battle in Zone Two in Antigua and Anguilla.

After round-robin competition the top two teams from each group will advance to the knockout semifinals.



Bangladesh national cricket team members were seen off by Emirates officials at the Zia International Airport prior to their departure for Kenya on Sunday.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 36 After five 2 Days of Grace 23 Petrol

11 Mid-east 37 Swamp 24 Eggs

38 Clutch 41 Biblical 3 Utah

5 Tea 42 Lagniappe 4 Fool

8 Weep 45 California 5 Timepiece

12 Unpaired 46 Quiz 6 Intimate

13 Backtalk 47 Show 7 Imitate

14 Met 48 Valhalla 8 Savage

15 Wyoming 49 Picnic 10 Som-

17 McNally 50 It's in the 11 Jerry

18 Coop 51 Carrots' 16 Aesopian

19 Perform- 52 Tarzan's 20 Candide

20 Convent, 53 Salica's 21 Stalene/

21 Refuge 54 end 22 Glutton

22 Woods' 1 Long cut 22 Glutton

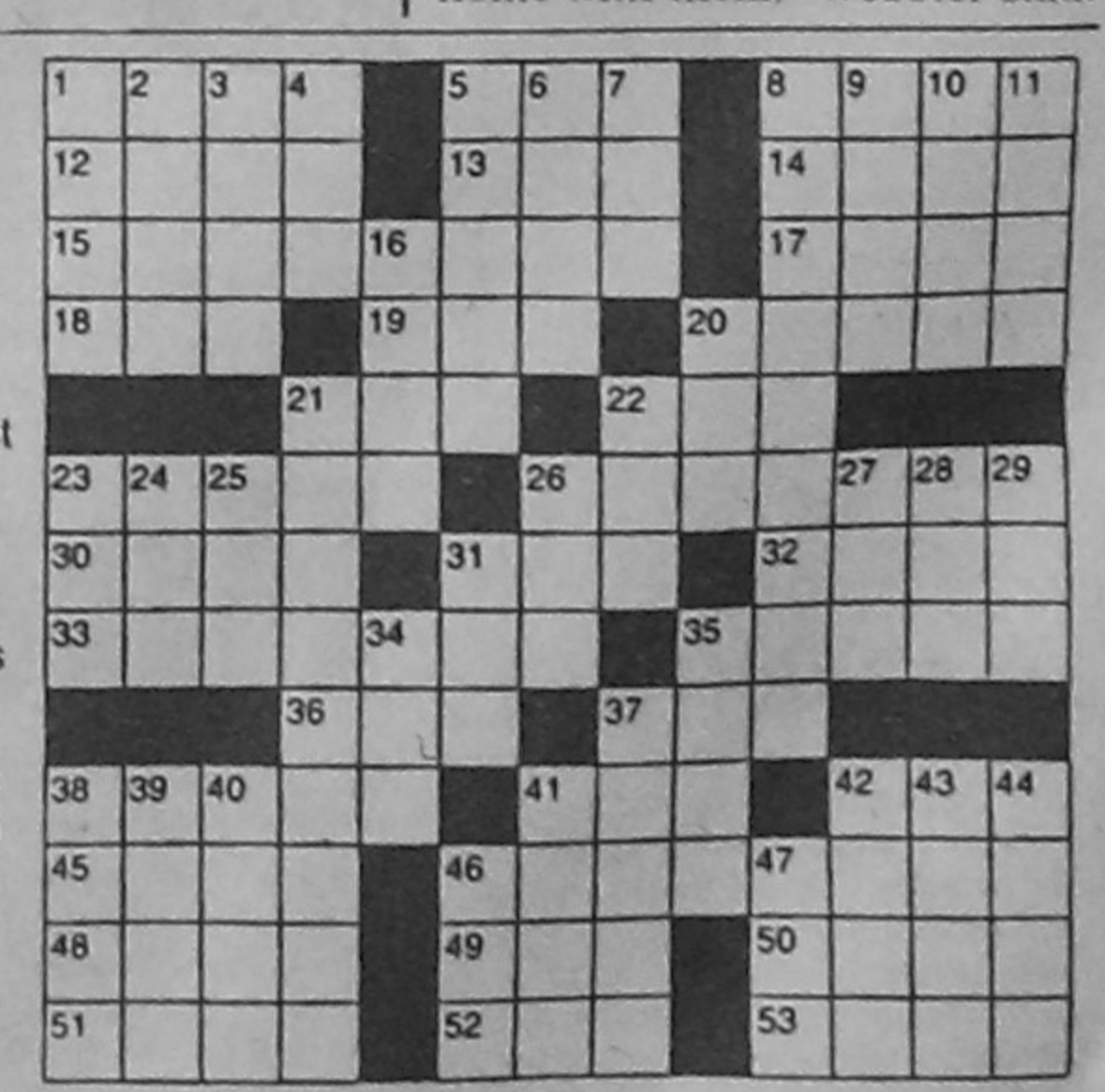
23 Gaggie 24 Mountain

26 Mountain 30 Hertz

31 Hairpiece 32 Corn Belt

33 New York 34 Marathons

35 In a stupor



CRYPTOQUIP

BW IFNM PBWZ-OF-JZ

PEYOL E MZEVVI JBD

XBEQFYX DZO QEMMBZX

BYEJELZJEV LOEXBNO

Yesterday's Cryptogram: THE WINDOW

CLEANER WOULD TELL HIS CUSTOMERS,

"YOUR PANE IS MY PLEASURE."

Today's Cryptogram: C equals L

The Cryptogram is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals Q, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.