

# Waddle charms Marseille fans

**MARSEILLE, France, Sept 25:** Chris Waddle had to forsake the violent atmosphere of English soccer stadiums and bask in the warmer climate of southern France to become the player he yearned to be, reports Reuter.

The 30-year-old midfielder has a simple answer to the riddle of how a respected but not over-admired English international could suddenly be transformed into a soccer genius worshipped by French fans as the greatest entertainer in the game.

It was the English crowds who would never let him express himself on the pitch, Waddle told Reuter in an interview.

"I adore the people here," Waddle said of the Marseille public who affectionately call him "Magic Chris."

"It's my pleasure to give them pleasure. They make enormous sacrifices to come and support us. They want goals and they want a spectacle.

"At try to fulfil their demands as best I can. If the spectators are happy, I know I've achieved my objective. Whatever the match, I play to win and to please them, I'm in communion with the fans.

He says he is more serious off the pitch.

"In England it was not the same because the crowds are different. If I tried a few tricks, the fans would think I was being provocative and would get quite aggressive, especially at away games. I might even start a revolution in the stadium.

The things which amuse a French crowd are not necessarily allowed in England. I can do things in France which I can't do in England because it would be rather dangerous.

"English crowds are not used to seeing players have fun or play cat and mouse with defenders. In France the fans respect me and I respect them. Even at away matches, they call my name and ask for autographs."

Waddle arrived in Marseille from Tottenham Hotspur two years ago for what seemed at the time a ludicrous transfer fee of 45 million francs (709 million dollars) but one which

he has since amply repaid. Released from the impatience of British crowds given to urging potential ball-jugglers to "get on with it", Waddle found the freedom to stand on the ball, tease defenders, set off on Nazy Dribbles, all to the obvious delight of French fans.

He added a sense of fun to his game clowning at every opportunity and making faces

whenever a television camera zoomed in for a close-up.

The fanatical Marseille crowd may admire extraordinary goalscorer Jean-Pierre Papin with an almost religious reverence. But they and the whole French public simply love Waddle.

Like that other great English soccer artist of the last decade, Glenn Hoddie, it took a move to France to unearth

the richest vein of his remarkable talent.

Waddle's contract with European Cup finalists Marseille runs out next summer but the midfielder does not appear to be contemplating an early return to England.

"I don't know what I will do, to be honest," he said. "Maybe I will stay at Marseille or maybe I will go to another French club."

He certainly is not lacking in either motivation or ambition Waddle said his season's targets includes fourth consecutive French title for Marseille as well as the European Cup after two narrow misses in the last two years.

Nor has he given up hope of a return to the English national side though he has been left out by new manager Graham Taylor.

"If I play well for Marseille, I hope to get my place back," he said. "I think I can still add something to the English attacks."

"I haven't said my last word in international football yet."

## Schools soccer

**TANGAIL, Sept 25:** Ghatail School won the championship in the inter-upazila football tournament defeating Nagarpur School by five goals to nil in the final match played at the local Sadar Zila School playground yesterday, reports BSS.

Eleven schools, took part in the championship which was organised by the National School and Madrasa Sports Association.

## Soccer result

**MOSCOW, Sept 25:** The Soviet Union beat Hungary 2-0 in Tuesday's Olympic football qualifier here, reports AFP.

Their goals came from Sergei Chicherbakov (56) and Dmitri Radchenko (81).

# Hybl to be new USOC president

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Sept 25:** Former White House counsel William Hybl has been nominated as United States Olympic Committee (USOC) interim president to replace Robert Helmick, who resigned under fire over his business dealings, reports Reuter.

The 49-year-old Hybl, a Colorado business executive, was the surprise choice of the USOC Executive Committee on Monday night. He must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the 105-member USOC Board of Directors.

The mail balloting process is expected to be completed by Friday, nominating panel chairman Charles Foster said.

Helmick resigned last week after allegations of possible conflict of interest. He acknowledged working as a paid consultant to companies with potential financial interest in the Olympics.

Hybl, who is a member of the USOC Board of Directors, was the unanimous choice of the 11-member nominating committee.

If elected, Hybl would serve the 13 months remaining in Helmick's term. Hybl has indicated that he would not seek the office again when regularly scheduled elections are held for the following four-year term next year.

Hybl is chief executive officer of El Pomar Foundation which gives grants in education, health care, the environment, human services and the arts.

Hybl, who served as White House counsel to President Ronald Reagan in 1981, was to have been assistant chief of mission to the 1992 US Olympic team for the Winter Games in Albertville, France.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) last week announced that it will investigate Helmick's business dealings.

# Donadoni injury worries Vicini

**ROME, Sept 25:** Italy will be without injured World Cup midfielder Roberto Donadoni for Wednesday's friendly in Bulgaria, a game which troubled coach Azeglio, Vicini knows they must win.

Should Italy draw or lose against the Soviets, Vicini will almost certainly be sacked and replaced by the former AC Milan coach Arrigo Sacchi.

Although Italian club AS Roma beat CSKA Moscow away in European Cup Winner's



ROBERTO DONADONI

reports Reuter.

Donadoni was carried off after suffering a back injury in AC Milan's game against Fiorentina on Sunday. Italy will also be without Roma striker Ruggiero Rizzitelli, also injured.

Vicini, under pressure to keep his job after losing to Norway in a European championship qualifying match in June, sees Wednesday's match as ideal preparation for next month's group three clash with the Soviet Union.

Italy must defeat the Soviet Union in Moscow to keep alive their slim chances of qualifying for the European Championship final in Sweden next

Cup game last week, Vicini takes little encouragement from that result.

"Roma's win was a prestigious one but it doesn't make any difference to our chances against the USSR.

"People forget that our clubs play with the best foreigners against the very clubs that have lost those same foreigners, whereas Italy plays without the foreigners against the very national teams that have welcomed them back."

Probable team: Walter Zenga, Franco Baresi, Paolo Maldini, Ciro Ferrara, Pietro Vierchowod, Massimo Crippa, Attilio Lombardo, Stefano Frano, Giuseppe Giannini, Gianluca Vialli, Roberto Mancini.

# Close call for Newcastle

**LONDON, Sept 25:** Six-times English FA Cup winners Newcastle United staged off one of the

biggest humiliations in their 100-year history on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

Debt-ridden united, now managed by former Argentina World Cup star Osvaldo Ardiles, trailed Fourth Division Crewe 3-0 after 22 minutes of their first round first leg League Cup match.

A hatrick by Gavin Peacock and a goal from Andy Hunt rescued Second Division Newcastle who won 4-3. But director Bob Young has warned the club could be out of business by the end of the season unless they can move up the table and pull in the crowds.

Striker Andy Ritchie returned in triumph to guide First Division newcomers Oldham to a first leg lead over Third division Torquay.

Ritchie, playing his first full game of the season after a calf muscle injury, stroked in four of the goals to crown an Oldham victory which had seemed unlikely at the interval when the score was just 1-0.

Leeds, second to Manchester United after beating Liverpool on Saturday, were happy to cling to their unbeaten record at Scunthorpe where the fourth division club emerged with all the plaudits from a goalless but rousing match.

Leeds might even have been facing a deficit if goalkeeper John Lukic had not pulled off superb saves from fullbacks Joe Joyce and Paul Longden in the opening 11 minutes.

Holders Sheffield Wednesday were also held to a goalless draw at Third Division Leyton Orient.

# Ctg Abahani win

**CHITTAGONG, Sept 25:** Abahani Krira Chakra beat Muktiyodha Krira Chakra by a solitary goal in the CJKP Elite Paint First Division football league at the Chittagong Stadium here this afternoon, reports BSS.

Striker Moshir Salam scored the lone goal for Abahani in the first half of the match.

In the 8th minute, Moshir misused a ball to Sujit into the box but Sujit's shot was saved by Muktiyodha goal keeper Bishwjit. Four minutes later a beautiful shot from winger Tipu went off.

In the 34th minute Moshir scored the winning goal. Right-winger Tipu crossed a ball to Nipu inside the box, Nipu's shot was fisted by the Mukti' keeper but Moshir sent the return ball home with a fine placing (1-0).

The other match of the day, between PDB Club and Shatadal, ended in 2-2 draw.

PDB led the first half 1-0. Didar scored twice for PDB while Turul and Uttam one each for Shatadal.

# Iraq to take part in 2 Olympic events

**BAGHDAD, Sept 25:** Iraq will take part in only two events at the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games shooting and weightlifting, reports Reuter.

A spokesman for the Iraqi National Olympic Committee was quoted by the official press today as saying trials for the shooting team would be held early next year.

Iraqi weightlifters last competed abroad at the 1986 Asian Games in Seoul, where they won three silver medals and a bronze.

The country's strongest sport is soccer and Iraq reached the 1986 World Cup finals in Mexico.

But its footballers missed the preliminary qualification rounds for the Barcelona Olympics due to a variety of bans, the effects of its 1980-88 with Iran and last year's invasion of Kuwait.

# Seeds tumble in Sicily

**PALERMO, Sicily, Sept 25:** Spaniard Emilio Sanchez, Guillermo Perez-Roldan, Argentina and Austria's Thomas Muster were the only seeds to survive the first round of the Sicily international tennis championships on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

Top seed Sanchez, the Italian Open champions ranked 12th in the world, cruised past Uruguayan Diego Perez 6-4, 6-0.

Perez-Roldan, the 21-year-old fifth seed and winner at San Marino this year, beat Spaniard Francisco Roig 6-3, 7-5.

Eighth-seeded Muster, upset by British Davis Cup debutante Mark Petchey last Friday in Austria's defeat in the World Group qualifier in Manchester, crushed Haiti's Ronald Agenor 6-0, 6-4.

The second-seed, Croatian-born Goran Pripic who dropped out of Yugoslavia's Davis Cup World Group semifinal against France last weekend, was eliminated in two sets on Monday night by Italy's Renzo Furlan.

Austrian Horst Skoff, the third seed, fell 7-6, 6-2 to another Italian, Diego Nargiso, who recovered from a poor start to dominate his rival at the net.

The other seeds beaten where Sanchez's brother Javier and fellow-Spaniard Francisco Clavet, while sixth-seeded Italian Omar Camporese withdrew with wrist injury after helping Italy beat Denmark in their Davis Cup World Group qualifier.

# Asian jr chess

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates, Sept 25:** Qatar's Mohammed al-Modiahki and Vietnamese Tu Hoang Thong have emerged sole leaders with five points each, after the sixth round of the Asian Junior Chess Championship, reports AP.

Modiahki, with the Fide rating of 2275, on Tuesday pushed home the offensive against V Saravanan of India, who now has four points.

Playing white, Saravanan got himself in a six when, in the 15th move, the Indian junior champion moved the wrong pawn on the queen side.

Five moves later Saravanan was already in time trouble, needing 20 moves in five minutes. The black pieces created a lot of activity which put Saravanan in a difficult position and he lost on the 31st move, seven short of the required 40.

Tu Hoang, who jots down his moves in Russian, was in excellent form against Khalil ur Rahman. But of Pakistan who made unforced errors. But the Pakistani is now with 3.5 points.

Raafat Issa of Syria played way above par to beat fancied United Arab Emirates' junior champion Abdullah Mansoor. Issa now has 3.5 points to Mansoor's 2.5.

Other results: Brijesh Agarwal of India (3.5) beats Mohammed Hirwaidi of Malaysia (2.5).

Abdul-Majid Mohammed of UAE (3) beats Tomohiko Matsuo of Japan (1). Edward Swaine of New Zealand (2.5) beats Palestine Ehsan Jawad (2).

# Record field for '94 WCup soccer

**ZURICH, Sept 25:** A record 134 national teams have registered for the 1994 World Cup qualifiers, the head of world soccer's governing body said here, reports AP.

Sepp Blatter, FIFA general secretary, said the number of entries was up from 123 in the 1990 competition. He said the public draw for the various qualifier groups would be held in New York Dec. 8. The finals are to be held in the United States.

Seeded teams in each regional grouping would be decided by the FIFA organizing committee at a private session Dec. 6.

# SOCCER SCENARIO

## Pele won't coach Brazil

**RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept 25:** Pele, the great Brazilian soccer player, has denied rumours he has been asked to take over as coach to the national team, an aide to the ex-international said on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

"Pele never received (an) invitation and even if he had received it, he could not accept it because of the enormous amount of commitments he has abroad," Helio Viana told Reuters.

But he said Pele was considering training a Brazilian team at junior or youth level in 1994 "if his commitments allow."

Local radio stations had carried reports that the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) had invited Pele to take over. Earlier this month Brazil suffered an embarrassing 1-0 defeat in a friendly with Wales.

Brazil has been without a coach since Paulo Roberto Falcao resigned in August following a row with the CBF. Ernesto Paulo, coach of Rio de Janeiro club Botafogo, was appointed for the Wales match on a caretaker basis.

Tele Santana, who led Brazil in the 1982 and 1986 World Cups and Carlos Alberto Parreira, who coached Kuwait in the 1982 World Cup and the United Arab Emirates in last year's competition, are rated the favourites to take over.

The CBF has said they will announce Falcao's successor within the next two weeks.

## Johnston rejects Liverpool

**SYDNEY, Sept 25:** Australian soccer star Craig Johnston said on Tuesday he had turned down an offer to rejoin leading English soccer club Liverpool, reports Reuter.

Johnston shocked Liverpool by suddenly announcing his retirement in 1988 while still contracted to the First Division club. However, earlier this year he had talked with manager Graeme Souness about resuming his career.

But Johnston, 30, said he had received an attractive offer from Europe to produce a television game show he has created and which has proved popular in Australia.

"I made a decision on the weekend and called Liverpool and said because of the latest offer I would not be able to go back and play football ever again — because of this huge commitment," Johnston told Australian Associated Press (AAP).

"Souness is a very tough man, a very, very tough negotiator and it wasn't easy to tell him that I wasn't coming back", Johnston said.

He also said he was considering an offer from the Australian Soccer Federation to manage the national youth team for the World Youth Championships in Australia in 1993.

Johnston, who was born in South Africa, joined Liverpool in 1978 and played a vital role as an attacking midfielder in the side which dominated English football in the 1980s.

## Brazil drops World Cup bid

**RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept 25:** Brazil's dire economic problems have forced the country to abandon hopes of hosting the 1998 World Cup, reports Reuter.

A spokesman for the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) said on Tuesday Brazil had informed FIFA, international soccer's governing body, they were no longer interested in holding the event.

"The government is in no condition to make the necessary investment and the businessmen are not interested," the spokesman told Reuters.

CBF President Ricardo Teixeira had travelled around the country trying to secure private enterprise backing for Brazil's bid but had received no support, he said.

# Cerezo — veteran who still serves

**ROME, Sept 25:** The name Toniinho still fits. Like Jimmy Connors on the tennis court, the "little Antonio" Cerezo enjoys his soccer like a youngster just starting out, reports Reuter.

"His performance is incredible at 36 years (of age). Why not trade him in for two of

187" asked the Italian sports daily Gazzetta Dello Sport.

The Gazzetta poured praise on Cerezo, man-of-the-match in champions Sampdoria's 4-0 drubbing of Internazionale last Sunday.

Cerezo, also voted best player in the match by Corriere Dello Sport, was the hub of Sampdoria's resounding victory in his record-breaking 192nd game in the Italian league.

The Brazilian midfielder beat the previous record of 191 by a foreign player held jointly by Ireland's Liam Brady and Austrian Walter Schachner since Italy re-opened its doors to imports in 1980.

He has also claimed the record among South Americans passing Argentina's Ramon Diaz (189) and Diego Maradona (188).

Cerezo joined Sampdoria in 1986 from As Roma, for whom he played 70 league games, after moving across the Atlantic from Brazil's Atletico Mineiro three years earlier.

A member of Brazil's last outstanding World Cup side in Spain in 1982, Cerezo has spent half his life in top flight football.

"My goal is to complete 20 years of First Division football before retiring," Cerezo said. That will be achieved at the end of this season.

"I love my job," he said in a telephone interview from his home in Genoa.

"With the ball at your feet you really appreciate what freedom means," he said.

"I have to work harder in training to retain muscle tone, but I'm in great shape."

## Top UK athletes want life bans or doping

**OSLO, Sept 25:** The majority of top British athletes questioned in a survey want life bans for competitors who test positive for banned drugs, the British Sports Council said on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

"Elite athletes it seems would not be as squeamish as officials in dealing out harsh punishment to their drug-taking colleagues," Professor Peter Radford, a representative of the sports council, told the third world conference on anti-doping in sport.

Survey of 102 athletes from 20 sports attending Olympic training camps this month, showed that 51 per cent wanted life bans for those who failed dope tests while 24 per cent wanted a five-year ban.

Another 24 per cent wanted a one-year ban while 0.5 per cent wanted a three-month ban and 0.5 per cent a warning only.

But only one per cent felt a competitor should be barred for life on a first offence if the banned substance taken was part of medical treatment for a common ailment.

Asked what they believed about the number of competitors using banned drugs in Britain, 33 per cent of those questioned said it was insignificant, 63 per cent said it was small and only four per cent thought it was large.

# Baltics hopeful of Olympic medals

**BERLIN, Sept 25:** The Baltic states of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, who rejoined the Olympic movement last week, all have good chances of winning medals at next year's Winter and Summer Olympic Games, reports Reuter.

Sporting chiefs from the three former Soviet republics said they would all send teams to February's Albertville and July's Barcelona Games following last Wednesday's invitation from the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Lithuanian athletes are most likely to shine in the track and field events and in basketball in Spain while Latvia and Estonia will look mainly to succeed on the French snow and ice.

Lithuania, who plan to take 30 to 40 athletes to Barcelona, boast Romas Ubartas, silver medalist in the discus at the 1988 Seoul Olympics who recently beat German world

champion Lars Riedel at the Cologne Grand Prix meeting.

Laimute Baikuskaitte, who won silver in the 1,500 metres in Seoul, may also compete in the women's team.

Lithuania has several top-class cyclists, including

Arturas Kasputis who won gold on the track in the 4,000 metres team pursuit in 1988 and Laima Zilporite, third in the women's 82-km individual road race in South Korea.

National Olympic Committee (NOC) president

**Milan to bid for 2000 Olympics**

**ROME, Sept 25:** The Italian Olympic Committee on Tuesday gave the city of Milan its approval to bid to host the Summer Olympic Games in 2000, reports AP.

The committee's decision means that Milan authorities can now formally apply to the International Olympic Committee to host the Games.

The international committee will choose a host city in 1993 for the 2000 Olympics. Milan's rivals are expected to include Berlin, Beijing, Sydney, Australia, Brasilia, Brazil, and Manchester, England.

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