



Bordeaux' Zinane fights for the ball with Dublin's Moody during their UEFA soccer match in Bordeaux, France on Sept 28. Bordeaux won 5-0. —AFP photo

PSV stumble on first block

PARIS, Sept. 29: PSV Eindhoven's new boss Aad de Mos was left guarding his back on Tuesday as the Dutch giants crashed out of the UEFA Cup at the first hurdle, reports AFP.

PSV were among the big guns expected to coast into the next stage of Europe's showpiece tournaments. But while the likes of Italian premier clubs Juventus and Parma, and their German counterparts Eintracht Frankfurt and Borussia Dortmund just ended the night on a high, the Dutch side fired blanks in front of their frustrated supporters.

All they needed was one goal after an opening leg 2-1 defeat against German Karlsruhe, but De Mos's attack failed to find the net in a 0-0 stalemate that was roundly booed by their supporters.

The defeat comes on top of disappointing league form which has left PSV, whose supporters demand both domestic and European success, struggling in sixth place.

De Mos, the former trainer of Belgian club Anderlecht, was only brought in this season after Hans Westerhof was sacked when the club lost its championship title to Feyenoord last campaign.

Swede Thomas Brodin ended Tuesday equally unpopular among some people.

But he was still celebrating after scoring Cup Winners' Cup

holders Parma's second in the win over his compatriots Degerfors and ensuring a 4-1 aggregate victory.

The no-nonsense win was a relief after the Italians had needed two goals in two minutes from their Colombian striker Faustino Asprilla in the first leg after going 1-0 down.

Juventus, the UEFA Cup holders, had little to fear after an opening 3-0 win at home in the defence of their title.

But they impressed again in Russia by beating Lokomotiv 1-0 in the return, Giancarlo Marocchi for once upstaging his midfield partner Roberto Baggio by scoring the only goal.

The Germans were predictably efficient. Domestic leaders Eintracht Frankfurt had little to prove in the same competition after murdering Dynamo Moscow 6-0 in the away leg.

They even allowed the visitors the consolation of a 2-1 win, Eintracht's Polish striker Jan Purok adding to his goal in the first match.

Borussia Dortmund, however, almost slipped up against another Russian side in the UEFA format.

They had to sweat after a 0-0 draw in Germany before winning by a solitary goal in the away leg against Spartak Vladikavkaz. Swiss target man Stephane Chapuisat sealing the tie in the 61st minute for last season's UEFA Cup finalists.

Spain's UEFA representatives Atletico Madrid put Scot club Hearts in their place,

avenging the 2-1 away reverse with three unanswered goals, while France's current top club Paris Saint Germain, who refused to replace disgraced Olympique Marseille in the European Cup, moved smoothly through in the Cup Winners' Cup.

A first-minute goal from skipper Paul Le Guen, set up by Brazilian World Cup star Rai, set up a comfortable 2-0 triumph and a 3-0 aggregate score.

The style of the win reflected the Parisians' current strength in depth, with bustling striker George Weah, a double scorer at the weekend in the 4-0 French league demolition of Auxerre, left out to make way for Rai and his compatriots Ricardo and Valdo.

Individual performance of the day came from Deportivo la Coruna's Brazilian star Bebeto, who hit a hat-trick against Danish side Aalborg in the Spaniards' 5-0 UEFA stroll, while Dane Jesper Kristensen did the most for his foreign employment prospects.

High on Scottish side Dundee United's wanted list, he lashed in a 30-yard drive 25 seconds into extra time against -- who else but Dundee, of course. To help visitors Brondby steal a 3-3 aggregate win on his away goal despite losing Tuesday's match 3-1.

In the only European Cup match of the day, Romanians Steaua Bucharest saw off hosts Croatia Zagreb to seal a 5-3 win over the two matches.

Graf gets into grooves

LEIPZIG, Sept. 29: Defending champion Steffi Graf routed 14-year-old fellow German Syna Schmidle 6-1, 6-0 Tuesday to reach the second round at the Volkswagen Cup, reports AP.

The Netherlands' Stephanie Rotter upset world No. 10 Anke Huber of Germany, 7-6 (8-6), 6-2, while third-seeded Czech Jana Novotna slipped past Miriam Oremans of the Netherlands, 6-7 (5-7), 6-1, 6-1.

In a match up of two Americans, Kimberly Po outlasted Gigi Fernandez 6-1, 7-6 (7-3). Austrian Judith Wiesner, seeded sixth, edged Kirstie Boogert of the Netherlands 3-6, 7-5, 7-5.

Schmidle, one of Germany's best young players, delighted the crowd of 2,700 by winning the first game against the world's top-ranked player.

But afterwards, Graf dominated behind her serve and powerful forehand to roll to victory in 45 minutes against the wild-card, who is ranked 512th in the world.

"As a first match, I'm satisfied with it. But it's too bad there weren't any long ball exchanges," Graf said.

Graf has won all three titles since the tournament's inception in 1990, while Schmidle's pro-experience had been limited to a few qualifying matches.

Po's top skin lobs frustrated Fernandez when she attacked the net. Trailing 4-1 in the second set, she rallied to win four straight games before converting her second match point.

Huber, who had trouble with her serve, played inconsistently in losing to the 19-year-old Rotter. The Belgian has climbed from 91 to 36 in the world rankings this year.

Real fortune ahead for Pele

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept. 29: Football legend Pele is set to earn tens of millions of dollars in marketing deals from next year's World Cup finals in the United States, reports AFP.

Hello Vienna, a director of the Brazilian's company Pele Sports and Marketing, detailed five contracts which would earn him seven and even eight-figure profits.

Pele has the exclusive marketing rights for "Striker," the tournament mascot, in Latin America -- a deal worth 10 million dollars.

His company is also handling the sale of 5,000 trips to the finals -- tickets, plus flight and accommodation -- worth an estimated 35 million dollars.

The great man will also appear in a 10-part documentary about football which has already been sold to television networks such as the BBC, France's Canal Plus and Italy's RAI.

Talks with American and Japanese broadcasters are also underway and the whole deal should bring him another six million dollars.

A further 10 million will come from a 52-episode cartoon, called "Peleito," made by a US production company, Anima Dreams.

Finally, he will also be involved in promotional activities organised by credit card giant Mastercard, which is putting 75 million dollars of sponsorship into the tournament.

However, Mastercard's Brazilian subsidiary would not be drawn on how much they were paying Pele for his services.

Maradona rates Australians high

BUENOS AIRES, Sept. 29: Diego Maradona reckons that Australia will be tough to beat when they face Argentina in the World Cup qualifiers, reports AFP.

The former skipper hopes to play in both matches, in Sydney on October 31 and here on November 17, and help the 1986 Cup winners make it to the United States next year.

"They will be very hard opponents," said Maradona, "and should not be underestimated."

"They are going to come here to try and beat Argentina, a team which is traditionally stronger than they are. And if we go in thinking that we are, we're going to have problems."

"It's better for us to take them very seriously and to put them under pressure."

Maradona, who has recently joined Argentinean club side Newell's Old Boys and hopes to make his debut on October 7, added that he was working frantically on his fitness to try and get picked by national coach Alfio Basile.

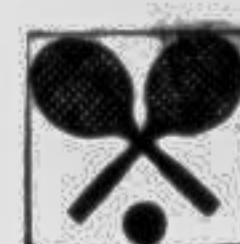
"I think I'll still be feeling the effects of it when I'm 100," he quipped. "This will be my last big chance to play in front of my people, an important, not say beautiful challenge."

Maradona, aged 32, returned to Argentina after a disappointing comeback season with Spanish club Sevilla, following his 15-month ban for cocaine use, which ended in bitter wranglings over his contract.



Michael Chang of America in action against Italian Silvano Simone and Swedish Mikael Stadling in a doubles match during the first round of the Malaysian Open tennis tournament on Sept 28. Chang teamed up with his brother Carl to win 6-1, 7-6 (8-6). —AFP photo

Fraser envisages an upset



MELBOURNE, Sept. 29: Personality clashes between the German players could help Australia to victory in this year's Davis Cup final, Australian captain Neale Fraser said Wednesday, reports AP.

Australia defeated India 5-0 in their semifinal in Chandigarh, while Germany downed Sweden by the same margin in Borlange.

Germany used Michael Stich and Marc Goellner as their singles players but may recall Boris Becker for the final. Becker declared himself unavailable for the earlier rounds.

Becker and Stich have a longstanding rivalry.

"Germany's going to be tough, but I think that we've got one thing going for us," Fraser said. "Reading between the

lines, we've got a better team spirit."

Fraser said rising German star Goellner would be under a lot of pressure playing the final in front of a German crowd.

"He's got a heck of a serve and hits the ball very hard," Fraser said. "He's a young fellow on the way up and I don't think he's had any pressures on him. But playing in front of his home crowd, I can see a few double-faults coming from his serve."

Fraser said the Germans would need to beware of a "meaner" Wally Masur, and what he called the world's best doubles team -- Mark Woodforde and Todd Woodbridge.

"Wally's becoming more and more a true professional every time he steps on court," Fraser said.

"He's very happy with his life. He's letting no one bother him. He knows his strengths and weaknesses and I think he

can go a little bit higher."

"In the last couple of years he's been bit more ruthless. He's got a lot stronger mentally and physically."

"He's hitting the ball a bit harder and, if necessary, hitting it nearer the player. Now he wants to win every game."

Masur made the semifinals of last month's US Open.

The Davis Cup final is expected to be played on an indoor clay court Dec. 2-4. Fraser said his players were versatile and would adapt accordingly.

The Australians probably will call up clay court specialist Richard Fromberg if the final is played on clay.

Jason Stoltenberg, who played singles against India, suffered a hand injury while playing in a tournament in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday and the status of that injury is not yet known.

Ignoring aboriginal people



CANBERRA, Sept. 29: The Australian government was preparing Wednesday to press ahead with legislation on native land rights, despite a threat by aboriginal people to seek an international boycott of the 2000 Olympic Games because the proposed law does not go far enough, reports AFP.

Some 600 aboriginal leaders meeting here Tuesday night said they would ask African nations to boycott the Olympics unless the government of Prime Minister Paul Keating amended its proposals, which seek to reconcile aboriginal claims to land ownership with the commercial rights of mining companies.

Spokesman Micheal Mansell said aboriginals might also send a delegation to England to petition Australia's Head of State Queen Elizabeth II to sign the law, which Keating has said he will submit to Parliament by October 18.

Aboriginal leaders have objected to the proposed law because it denies them a right of veto over lands to which they claim "native title."

This concept was recognised by the high court in a landmark ruling on June 3 last year, which overturned the doctrine of "terra nullius" -- that Australia was unoccupied and unowned before British settlers arrived in January 1788.

Faced with demands from state governments and mining companies for a clarification of the law, Keating this month proposed legislation which would validate all existing land titles, thus making them immune to challenge under aboriginal claims to native title.

Only unclaimed land or

leases and freed holds granted after July 1 this year could be subject to native title claims under the new law.

"If we can't get the federal government to respond to the pressure that is coming from within Australia, then we have absolutely no choice but to campaign overseas," Mansell told reporters here Tuesday.

"We have exhausted the possibility of getting some agreement with the government, he said. "So now it is a matter of taking other avenues."

These included "Sending delegations to Her Majesty the Queen and seeking out those members who will be coming to Australia for the Olympic Games" with a view to having them boycott the Games.

A spokesman for Keating said there would be no change in the government's time-table, and the legislation would be discussed by his cabinet next Tuesday and introduced into Parliament by October 18.

"Aboriginal groups will be going from different parts of the country, probably to the African states, and unless something changes, we'll be asking them to boycott the Australian Olympics in the year 2000," Mansell said.

Biggest quota for Euro judokas

HAMILTON, Canada, Sept. 29: European fighters have been given the biggest entry for the 1996 Olympic judo tournament in Atlanta which is limited to a total of 400 competitors, reports AFP.

The International Judo Federation decided here to award 14 wild cards -- one for each of the seven men's and women's categories -- for Olympic or past world champions who failed to qualify.

Courier crushes Canadian Chang

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept. 29: World number two Jim Courier of the United States went for an early kill against unseeded Canadian Albert Chang to move into the second round of the Malaysian Open tennis tournament Tuesday, reports AFP.

Top-seed Courier broke Chang, ranked 240th in the world, at the start of each set to win 6-4, 6-4 in 90 minutes.

The 23-year-old American merged powerful baseline shots and excellent returns to stun 22-year-old Chang, who served up some big serves without right finish.

"Chang had a good backhand and a good serve. I chose a baseline game not because it was strategy, but because it worked against him," Courier said.

The victory put the American ace in the second round of the 300,000-dollar tournament, with a playoff against Jacco Eltingh of the Netherlands next.

"Eltingh will be a strong opponent. I hope to have a good run against him," Courier said.

Fifth seed Brad Gilbert of United States and eight-seed Jason Stoltenberg crashed out of the tournament Tuesday after losing to Jamie Yzaga of Peru and Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden respectively.

Gilbert bowed out in the first round by falling 1-6, 5-7 to Yzaga while Stoltenberg took a more painful exit by injuring his right wrist in his retired 4-6, 0-2 tie against Bjorkman.

In other singles ties Tuesday, Jeremy Bates of Britain beat Sweden's Lars Wahlberg 6-1, 6-4 while Robbie Weiss of United States edged South Africa's Christo van Rensburg 6-0, 3-6, 6-2.

Later, an AP report added: Unseeded Dutchman Paul Haarhuis upset fourth-seeded Henrik Holm of Sweden 6-4, 6-4 Wednesday in the first round of the \$150,000 Malaysia Salem Open tennis championship.

"I missed several easy shots and needed five or six break points to come back. Haarhuis was playing well and putting the pressure constantly on me," Holm said after the one-hour, 38-minute match.

Coetzer downs Sugiyama

SAPPORO, Sept. 29: Top-seeded Amanda Coetzer of South Africa, seeking her second victory in two weeks, beat Japanese wildcard entry Ai Sugiyama 7-5, 6-1 Wednesday in the first round of the Sapporo ladies Open tennis tournament, reports AP.

Coetzer, winner of the Nishirei ladies on Sunday, breezed through the second set in 23 minutes on the indoor supreme court at the Makomanai Ice Arena in northern Japan.

In all-American first-round matches, fourth-seeded Marianne Werdel crushed Chanda Rubin 6-2, 6-0, and sixth-seeded Lisa Raymond defeated Donna Faber 6-7 (5-7), 6-1, 6-1.

Eight-seeded Linda Harvey-Wild of the United States downed South Korea's Park Seng-Hye 6-0, 6-2.

Three Japanese also advanced into the second round as fifth-seeded Mana Endo beat Claire Wegink of the Netherlands 6-2, 6-3, Rika Hiraki trounced American Halle Cloffi 6-1, 6-1, and Kyoko Nagatsuka outlasted American Commy MacGregor 6-3, 5-7, 6-3.

Kimura puts his life on line

TOKYO, Sept. 29: Just in case he makes a really bad call, 5 foot, 1 inch, 105-pound (155-centimetre, 48-kilogram) sumo referee Shonosuke Kimura carries a dagger whenever he climbs into the ring, reports AP.

The dagger isn't for defending himself against irate losers. It's for atonement.

"It's a symbol of our heavy responsibility. If a referee makes a misjudgment, he should be prepared to commit hara-kiri," said Kimura. "Of course, I couldn't actually do that. We couldn't have enough referees left alive for the sport."

Despite his diminutive build in a sport synonymous with Herculean heft, Kimura, a gray-haired, soft-spoken 63-year-old, rules the sumo ring as its top-ranked referee. In a split second, he must decide the winners of bouts involving the top-ranked wrestlers, and make sure the day's proceedings move along smoothly.

Sumo matches often last only a few seconds, and it is not uncommon for both wrestlers to tumble out of the ring simultaneously. It is the referee's job to judge who fell first. And referees

have to do their work in flowing, traditional Japanese kimono -- hardly the best attire for quick movement.

"It's not as easy as it looks," Kimura said in a rare meeting with the foreign press Wednesday. "You have to keep moving all the time to find the best vantage point, and you can't let yourself get too far away from the wrestlers."

Getting too close to the action can also be hazardous. Kimura is only about one-fifth the weight of American wrestler, Konishiki (Salevaa Atisanoe), but he said the difference doesn't bother him.

"I've never felt intimidated by the size of the wrestlers," he said.

Scheurer wins gold for Germany

PERTH, Sept. 29: Germany's Michael Scheurer improved on his bronze medal at last year's World Junior Cycling Championships in Athens with a gold Tuesday in this year's 1-kilometre time trial, reports AP.



NSC secretary A S M Ali Kabir is being introduced to the juvenile footballers prior to the prequarter-final matches of ongoing Shah sports football meet at the Outer Stadium yesterday. —Star photo

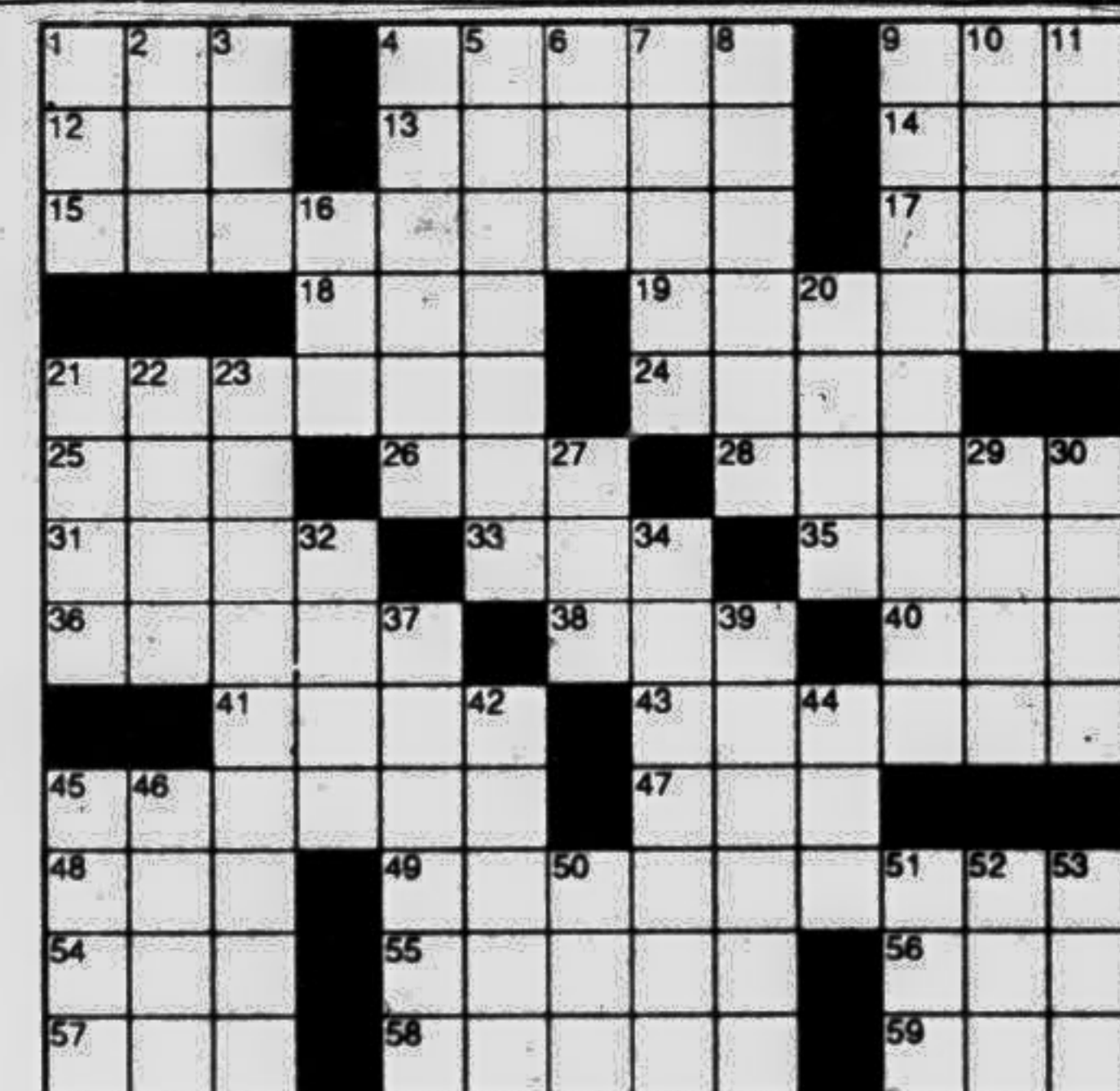
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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14 Quiche	47 Parisian	picture	topping
base	pal	6 — Fly	27 Play-
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35 Fuss			device
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38 Petrol			character

Solution time: 27 min.

GOT BOAS SAND
AHA UPUP ALOE
FIR METE SALE
FOODPROCESSOR
YEA TRY
JOKER MEG NAB
AVID CAR KILLO
WAD PUP SILLY
AIR ITS
WORDPROCESSOR
ALAI NELLA IDO
NEMO NELL NIP
TAPS TOYS KEY

Saturday's answer 3-15



CRYPTOQUIP

K J Y M K H E M T Y I
H M X E R X Y C S D O A R E C X
O S P V J V V I T K D "P V K A."
Saturday's Cryptoquip: MINISTER, BLESSED WITH
A GREEN THUMB, REFERS TO HIMSELF AS YOUR
GARDENING ANGEL.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: V equals P

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, 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.