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German player Karsten Braasch makes a backhand return to Ivan Lendl of the United States during their first round match in the German Open tennis tournament in Hamburg on Monday. Braasch won 6-1, 6-4. — AFP photo

## Lendl learns harsh lesson

HAMBURG, Germany, May 3: Ivan Lendl, once the king of the clay courts, looked a sad and forlorn figure as he crashed out of the first round of the Hamburg Open on Monday, suffering the most common sporting disease of all — age, reports Reuter.

The 34-year-old Lendl, the three-times French Open winner who won the Hamburg titles twice, in 1987 and 1989, looked completely out of touch on his favoured surface in a 6-1, 6-4 defeat by little-known German Karsten Braasch.

Lendl's mind seems to be willing but, on this performance, his timing and speed are slipping away in his mid-30s.

The bespectacled Braasch, eight years Lendl's junior, has never reached the final of a tournament on the circuit. Yet he frustrated the Czech-born player with his varied game.

Lendl, a naturalised American, simply failed to hit his shots and race around the court with the efficiency that

earned him three French Opens within four years between 1984 and 1987.

The former world number one has now plunged to 25th in the world rankings, his lowest since 1978, one of Lendl's greatest achievements was to finish in the top 10 for 13 consecutive years. A place among the *creme de la creme* now looks out of the question.

Yet asked about whether he had thoughts about retiring after such a demoralising defeat, Lendl said: "Everybody can lose in the first round."

"Ask (world number one) Pete Sampras who lost in the first round recently and went on to win the next four tournaments. If you play against somebody who is playing well and you are not so good, you have problems."

Braasch, ranked 47th in the world, put Lendl's performance into a better perspective.

"I was told that he did not play as fast as before," the 26-year-old German said. "I only played my normal game and I was surprised it worked so well."

"But if he feels fit and is having fun then it is up to him whether he plays or not. I am not going to say anything against it."

Lendl's problems started in the warm-up when he struggled to hit his smashes into court. Just over half an hour later he had lost the first set after dropping his serve twice.

After one hour and 18 minutes the naturalised American was put out of his misery by a player the Germans nickname 'the cat' because of his athleticism.

In other first-round matches, Germany's Patrik Kuennen ousted 12th-seeded Alexander Volkov of Russia, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3; Andrei Olhovskiy of Russia struggled past Greg Rusedski of Canada, 7-6 (9-7), 7-6 (7-5), and Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands beat Sweden's Henrik Holm, 6-4, 6-4.

Most of the top seeds, including defending champion Michael Stich of Germany, countryman Boris Becker, Sweden's Stefan Edberg and Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia, see their first action on Tuesday.

## M United retain English title

LONDON, May 3: Manchester United clinched their second successive English league championship on Monday when nearest rivals Blackburn lost 2-1 at Coventry, reports Reuter.

Defender Julian Darby finally ended Blackburn's dogged challenge for the title with a goal in each half.

Blackburn were left trailing the champions by five points with only one game remaining after Monday's defeat.

Keeny Dalglish's team had to settle for the consolation of a UEFA Cup place — their first venture into European competition next season.

Coventry rocked Blackburn when Darby put them ahead after just 11 minutes.

But Blackburn kept their nerve and equalised in the 29th minute when England defender Graeme Le Saux scored his second goal of the season with a cracking drive from well outside the box.

Darby, a mid-season buy from Bolton who had scored only three goals for Coventry before Monday, sank Dalglish's side with a second goal in the 55th minute.

Unmarked in the penalty area, Darby slipped the ball under goalkeeper Tim Flower's hands after Blackburn defenders, attempts to clear a cross landed at his feet.

Blackburn, depleted by injuries, threw defender Colin Hendry up front to partner Alan Shearer but to no avail.

Manchester United will celebrate their triumph at Old Trafford on Wednesday when they play Southampton.

United captain Steve Bruce said: "It's a fantastic achievement for everybody concerned."

Dalglish said: "Congratulations to Alex Ferguson and Manchester United. They stayed the course better than us. The Blackburn lads have given us a lot of enjoyment and a lot of pride this season."

## Good response

NEW YORK, May 3: World Cup organisers reported on Monday an "overwhelming response" to the sale of individual match tickets and said 16 games were now sold out, reports Reuter.

They said telephone lines were flooded by callers throughout Sunday and more than 100,000 seats were sold.

The most popular matches were for the US team's opening appearances in Detroit and Los Angeles.

Five games were already sold out before some 450,000 individual tickets went on sale on May 1. Seats had previously been sold only as tour packages or as a block.

New Jersey's Giants Stadium, where Italy and Ireland play an eagerly-awaited first round clash, was sold out for five of its six games including a July 10 quarter-final.

Other sold out matches include champions Germany's two games in Chicago and Argentina's two in Boston.

Mexico and Ireland's games were all sold out as was the attractive Brazil-Cameroon fixture in San Francisco.

Tickets for the semifinals, third place playoff and final were unavailable on an individual basis.

FIFA said earlier the July 17 final in Los Angeles was sold out but World Cup organisers said "VIP tickets and finals week ticket packages" remained in limited numbers.

The world body said international callers seeking tickets could dial the United States on 213-36 5-6 300.

## FIFA won't step in

ZURICH, Switzerland, May 3: FIFA said on Monday it would not intervene in the controversy surrounding the decision to order a replay of a vital German league game between Bayern Munich and Nuremberg because of a refereeing error, reports Reuter.

The DFB's decision came after video evidence showed that Bayern, fighting for the title, beat relegation strugglers Nuremberg 2-1 just over a week ago with the help of a goal which did not cross the line. The match is being replayed today.

FIFA recently decided to use video evidence to help with disciplinary sanctions for the first time at this year's World Cup finals.

But its general secretary Sepp Blatter made it clear that the decision excluded any use of video to change refereeing verdicts affecting the match result.

## Bulgarians keen to break jinx

SOFIA, May 3: Exactly 500 goals were scored in the European qualifying competition for the World Cup finals, and the 500th and last goal will never be forgotten in Bulgaria, reports Reuter.

It was scored by Emil Kostadinov seconds from the end of Bulgaria's last qualifying match in France and transformed the immediate soccer destinies of the two nations.

Until Kostadinov struck to give Bulgaria a 2-1 victory in their vital group six match in Paris, France were heading for the finals and the Bulgarians were facing a one-way trip back to obscurity. That goal, Kostadinov's second of the match, changed everything.

Bulgaria moved above France to reach the finals for the sixth time. France's manager Gerard Houllier quit a few days later and the hosts for the 1998 World Cup were the ones consigned to the international wilderness — at least until the start of the qualifying campaign for the 1996 European Championship.

For most of the 17-month qualifying campaign, Bulgaria were involved in a three-way fight with France and Sweden for the two qualifying berths — and as the qualifying competition reached its climax, Bulgaria looked certain to be the team to miss out.

But it was France who lost their nerve. Needing just a point from their last two matches, both at home, France lost to Israel before Bulgaria showed up in Paris on November 17, where they had

not won for 61 years.

France were stunned by the defeat while Bulgaria's unlikely victory not only booked their ticket to the United States but also gave them the chance to erase another long-standing unwanted record.

Bulgaria have played 16 matches in the World Cup finals since their first appearance in 1962 — and never won any of them.

Their dismal record of six draws and 10 defeats places them alongside Bolivia, Egypt, South Korea and El Salvador as the only countries to have played in more than one World Cup and never won a game. Of those countries, no-one has gone longer without a victory than Bulgaria.

It is a record that could well be broken this summer but few in Bulgaria would be surprised if it stayed intact either.

Bulgaria are grouped with former World Champions Argentina, Balkan neighbours Greece and newly-crowned African champions Nigeria in Group D, playing their matches

in Dallas and Chicago.

Coach Dimitar Penev has set his initial target as a place in the second round — which is where Bulgaria reached in 1986 in Mexico, their best performance to date.

Penev has no real problems in attack where Barcelona's Hristo Stoichkov is a world class performer and leads the front line with power, style and vision.

He will be ably partnered by Kostadinov, the hero of Paris who plays for Porto, and possibly Luboslav Penev, the coach's nephew, who has been at Valencia in Spain for the past five seasons.

With the finals still two months away, Penev is the only serious doubt as he has been undergoing treatment for a tumour.

The front line and midfield are capable of unsettling most defences and are likely to be filled by mainly foreign-based players.

If Bulgaria do secure their long-awaited first success it will be because the front men have done their job and the weaker half of the side — the defence — have raised their game.

Complementing the possible attacking trio are Krasimir Balakov of Sporting Gijon, Yordan Lechkov of Hamburg and Bontcho Gentchev, who plays in England with Ipswich Town.

Most of the home-based players in the squad are likely to come from champions Levski Sofia and there have even been calls at home for

veteran striker Plamen Getov to be restored to the national side after the 34-year-old hit 26 goals during Levski's run to the title last season.

While Penev is likely to experience problems in certain positions on the field, he is also at the mercy of economics off it.

The Bulgarian Football Union has problems getting sponsorship for the team and Penev says that a lack of money not only makes it difficult to find appropriate opponents for friendlies to help Bulgaria prepare for the finals, but it also means he cannot travel throughout Europe keeping a close eye on his exile players.

Bulgaria will start what Penev calls their "real preparation" for the finals in early May after the end of the Bulgarian domestic season — but that does not give him a great deal of time before his side's opening match against Nigeria in Dallas on June 21.

"Our real preparation will start after the end of our national championship and we hope to have one or two friendlies with the United Arab Emirates at the end of May," he said.

Bulgaria have no illusions about what they want to achieve in the tournament.

While other teams will be disappointed if they do not win the Cup, and others upset if they fail to reach at least the last four, Bulgaria's real ambition is a fairly modest one.

Just a victory will do, a victory they have waited 32 years to celebrate.

## Stoichkov, moody genius

BARCELONA, Spain, May 3: Hristo Stoichkov fits the classic mould of moody stars with immense skill

and suspect temperaments like Dennis Law, Bernd Schuster, Paul Gascoigne and Eric Cantona, reports Reuter.

A volatile player, who received an indefinite ban from soccer as a teenager, the Barcelona striker is a potential match-winner on his day. He has played in his club side's three successive league championship triumphs and the 1992 European Cup victory.

But there is a dark side to his temperament that has seen him in more trouble than most, including a two-month suspension in his first season in Spain for stamping on a referee's foot in rage after being sent off.

With Stoichkov in their attack, however, Bulgaria should improve on a dismal World Cup record of 10 defeats and six draws in five tournaments.

Stoichkov made his international debut in September 1987. He has been capped 41 times and scored 13 goals for his country.

At his best, the dark, stocky forward is player of immense class and power.

Fearless and totally committed, he has impressive ball control, blistering pace off the mark, great tactical vision and a ferocious shot, especially with his favoured left foot.

If his team is down, Stoichkov can lift it. If an opposing defence is dominant, Stoichkov can tear it to shreds in a few darting thrusts.

At his worst, the temperamental Bulgarian can cancel himself out of a game by his

moodyness and constant warring with officials.

Scowling at linesmen, muttering oaths at referees, his record of yellow cards for protesting is second to none.

Stoichkov came to Barcelona from CSKA Sofia at the start of the 1990-91 season.

But, more significantly, Stoichkov and Romario, good friends, off the pitch, have developed a formidable understanding in the front line of the Barcelona attack.

Stoichkov's sophisticated reading of the game has enabled him to set up several of Romario's scoring strikes and played a major part in the champions' challenge for a fourth consecutive league title and a second European Cup in three seasons.

The "Mr Hyde" side of this "Jekyll and Hyde" character has cost him two sendings off this season and another suspension for accumulated yellow cards.

In his worst run-in with Spanish football officialdom, Stoichkov was sent off for persistent dissent, then compounded the offence by stamping on the referee's foot in rage. He was suspended for two months for the stamping and two extra matches for the original dissent.

But his blackest moment came with his involvement, at the age of 19, in one of Bulgaria's worst soccer scandals when players from CSKA Sofia and rivals Levski indulged in fist fights on the field during the Cup final in June 1985.

He and several other players were banned indefinitely, but one by one they were annulled and Stoichkov returned to the game in time to travel to Mexico for the 1986 World Cup, though he did not play.

This season, until a late

son — the first of the Catalan club's three consecutive championship-winning years — for a fee of about four million dollars.

He brought energy and fire to complement the silky attacking skills of Dane Michael Laudrup and the power and solidity of Dutch defender Ronald Koeman, Barcelona's established foreign stars.

In the 1992-93 season Stoichkov was Barcelona's top scorer, netting 20 times in 34 games.

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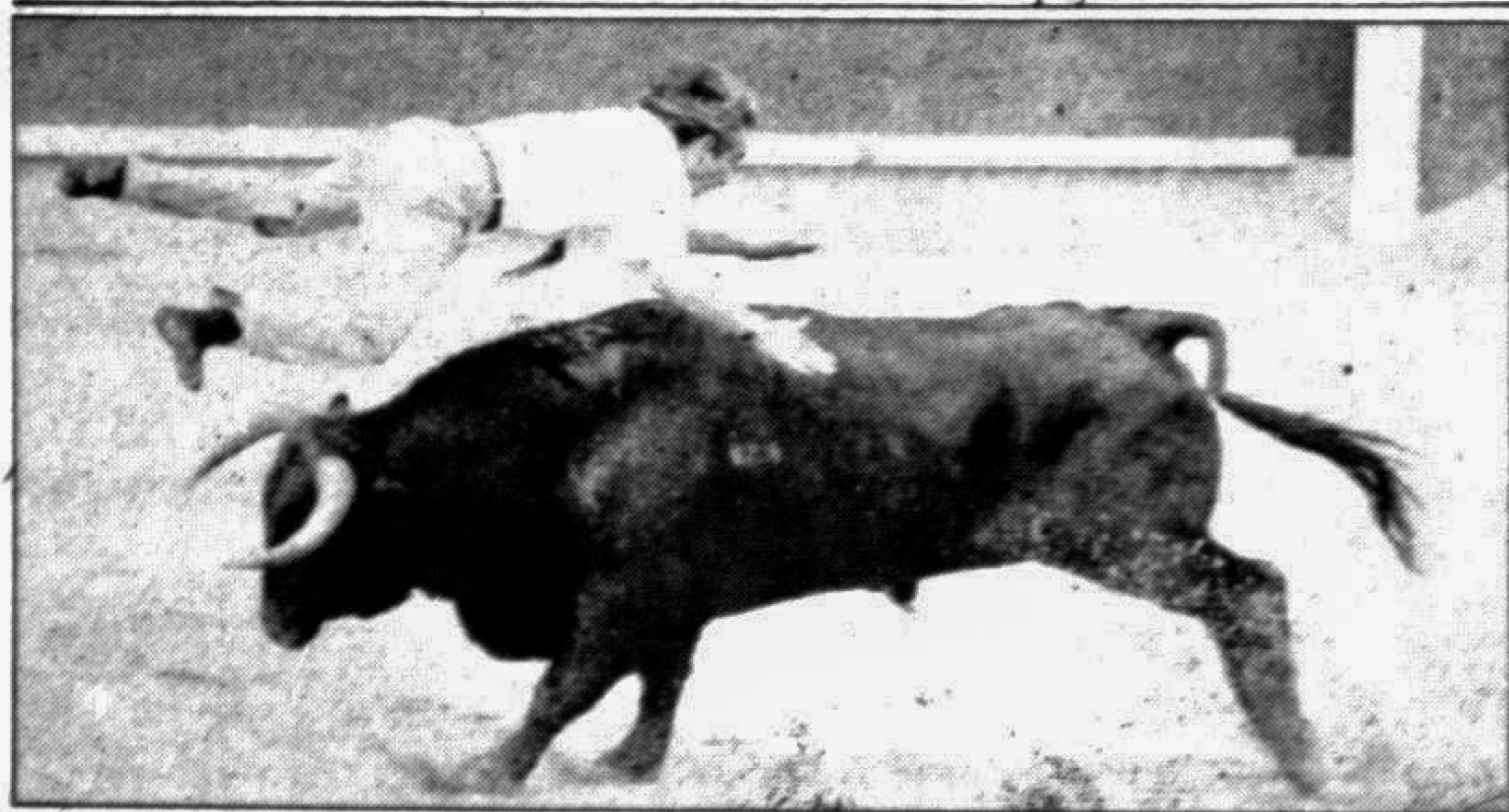
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This spectator, who slipped into the ring, tries his luck at taming the bull in Madrid on April 30. The man, who was not injured, jumped over the raging beast to avoid being tossed about. — AFP photo



The Daily Star

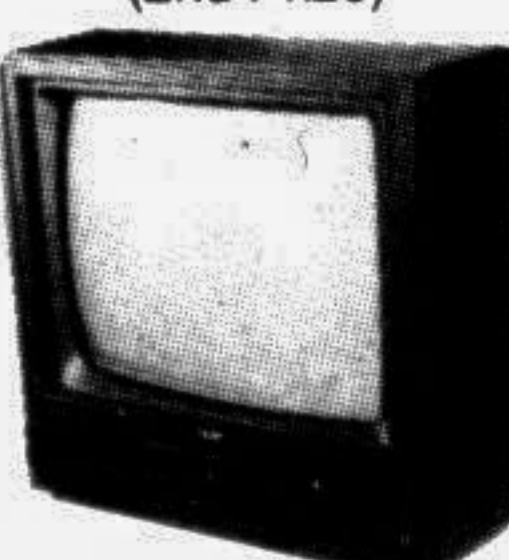
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## COMPETITION RULES

## INTRODUCTION:

- The Daily Star World Cup Quiz'94 is a series of (Six) Quiz Competitions on World Cup Football. Sets of questions will be published for (10) consecutive days in the Sports Page of The Daily Star for the first (five) Quiz Competitions. For the last and final Bumper Quiz Competition, a set of questions will be published for one month in the Sports Page of The Daily Star according to the schedule (Fixture of the Rounds) as fixed by the Daily Star authorities.
- For the first (five) Quiz Competitions there will be 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th (five) consolation prizes. The prizes will be Colour TV Black & White TV, Super Turbo 2-in-1 Stereo Recorder and light bulbs respectively.
- Any taxes or levies, as per rule, for all the above prizes, will have to be borne by the winners.
- Names and addresses of all prizewinners will be published in The Daily Star. Winners will be responsible for collecting their prizes from The Daily Star office after satisfactory authentication of their identity.
- For the Bumper Quiz Competition, there will be the BUMPER PRIZE consisting of a ticket to the World Cup Final match, along with an Economy Class return air ticket (Dhaka-Los Angeles-Dhaka) and an amount for incidental expenses. The Daily Star does NOT take any responsibility for any visa or other travel documents that may be required. The BUMPER PRIZE Winner will have to make his/her own arrangements in this regard. In case of the Bumper Prize winner's inability to travel to the USA he/she may choose to receive a sum of Tk.100,000/- in cash in lieu of the air fare and living expenses.

## RULES

- Residents of Bangladesh, subject to these rules, will be eligible to participate in The Daily Star World Cup Quiz'94. All personnel and family members of The Daily Star, Transcom Electronics Ltd. and Unirent (advertising agency) and all its affiliate companies shall be deemed disqualified to participate in The Daily Star World Cup Quiz'94.

- Participants are to cut the original form along the indicated dotted lines. All entries must be submitted on the original form printed in The Daily Star. Photocopies or reproductions in any form will not be accepted.
- Participants are to put a tick (✓) mark in the box which they think is the correct answer to the question. A person may send as many entries in his/her own name and address.
- Each entry form should be clearly filled in complete with a ball-point pen. Participant's name, address, father's name must be clearly written. Each entry form must bear the correct date and signature of the participant.
- Participants must ensure the following: All entries must reach the office of The Daily Star on or before the closing date marked on the entry form. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "STAR QUIZ". Entries may be hand delivered or sent by post to The Daily Star, House No.11, Road No.3, Dhanmandi Residential Area, Dhaka-1205.
- Entries will be opened by The Daily Star authorities. Entries with all correct answers will be placed in a sealed box for the lucky draw, to be held on the notified/appointed date in public in the presence of invited guests and quiz participants, if any.
- The Daily Star authorities, in their absolute discretion, reserve the right to amend, modify or substitute any of the above rules and/or change or reschedule any and all dates of The Daily Star World Cup Quiz'94 in any circumstances.
- All participants agree to abide by all rules, instructions and guide-lines as may be issued, from time to time, by The Daily Star authorities. Participant's entry in the quiz competition shall be construed as their respective agreement to all such rules, instructions and guidelines.
- Any decision of The Daily Star authorities in the conduct of the Quiz Competition (including the answers selected as correct) shall be deemed final and binding on all participants and shall not be called in question and/or challenged in any manner whatsoever.

## Quiz 4.

Entries close on 16-5-94

Read the instructions carefully. Then tick (✓) the answer which you think is correct.

- |   |                                    |                                  |                                     |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Who scored Holland's goal in the 1974 final?                       | Neeskens <input type="checkbox"/>  | Cruyff <input type="checkbox"/>  | Resenbrink <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. When did Brazil first win the World Cup?                           | 1954 <input type="checkbox"/>      | 1958 <input type="checkbox"/>    | 1970 <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| 3. Which Asian country played in the 1966 World Cup?                  | DPR Korea <input type="checkbox"/> | Iran <input type="checkbox"/>    | Israel <input type="checkbox"/>     |
| 4. Which African country played in the 1970 Cup?                      | Zaire <input type="checkbox"/>     | Morocco <input type="checkbox"/> | Tunisia <input type="checkbox"/>    |
| 5. How many goals did the Hungarian team score in the 1954 World Cup? | 9 <input type="checkbox"/>         | 18 <input type="checkbox"/>      | 27 <input type="checkbox"/>         |
| 6. Which Brazilian scored in every round of the 1970 World Cup?       | Pele <input type="checkbox"/>      | Tostao <input type="checkbox"/>  | Jairzinho <input type="checkbox"/>  |
| 7. How many players did France use in the 1978 World Cup?             | 11 <input type="checkbox"/>        | 18 <input type="checkbox"/>      | 22 <input type="checkbox"/>         |
| 8. How many goals did England score in the 1986 World Cup?            | 7 <input type="checkbox"/>         | 9 <input type="checkbox"/>       | 11 <input type="checkbox"/>         |
| 9. Who was Brazil's Cup-winning captain in 1962?                      | Zito <input type="checkbox"/>      | Mauro <input type="checkbox"/>   | Alberto <input type="checkbox"/>    |
| 10. Which famous player was called the "Little Bird"?                 | Boniek <input type="checkbox"/>    | Zico <input type="checkbox"/>    | Garrincha <input type="checkbox"/>  |

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

FATHER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

Write with a ball-point pen in clear, CAPITAL LETTERS. Cut along the dotted lines and mail it to us FAST!