

# First goal, first win

Sports Reporter

Agrani Bank came from the behind to record their first win in the Lifebuoy Premier football league when they beat babes Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society by the odd goal in three at the flood-lit Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

In an evenly contested match with forays and counter forays Rahmatganj's Russian recruit Alexander Ninaski shot the old town outfit into the lead in the 19th minute with a gem of a right-footer from the edge of the box. It was Ninaski's second goal in the league.

But Agrani Bank undaunted by the early setback bounced back into the game when their striker Tutul retaliated in the 27th minute slotting the ball home past an onrushing Rahmatganj custodian Himu as the Bankers celebrated their first goal in the league.

In the second half both sides pressed hard to broke the stalemate. But most of their attacks faded away against the defensive wall until Jahangir served the crucial blow for Agrani Bank eight minutes from the final whistle stabbing a rebounder into an open net.

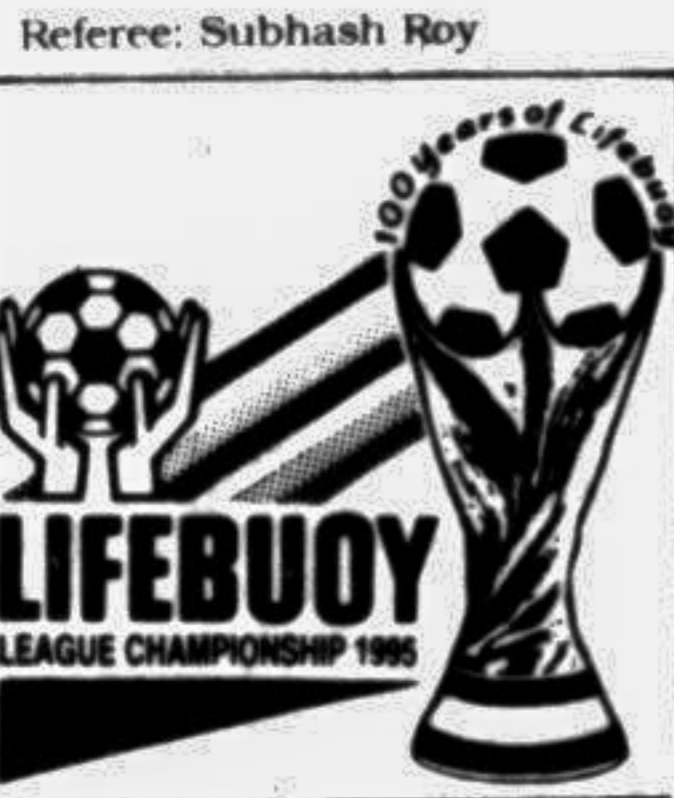
Agrani Bank midfielder Sentu after winning a ball on the top of the Rahmatganj box set Akhter free with an intelligent square pass. And Akhter taking a few steps fired a powerful grounder which rebounded off Himu's chest leaving a lurking Jahangir shot the ball home from close.

With this win Agrani Bank earned three valuable points to raise their collections to four from five matches while Rahmatganj, who promoted to the Premier Division this year, remain stuck to the paltry tally of two from five engagements.

### TEAMS

**AGRANI BANK:** Manu, Kala, Rafiq, Raj, Bachchu (Akhtar), Panosh, Munna, Sentu, Moin, Tutul and Jahangir.

**RAHMATGANJ MFS:** Himu, Babob, Marma, Shahid, Jagoo, Shahn, Nazimuddin, Jabed, Bagat (Zakir), Ninaski, Ripon (Mamunul Karim) and Azim.



### ESKATON-POLICE MATCH DRAWN

In the first match of the day at same green-top, Eskaton Sabuj Sangha and Police Athletic Club, the two

Lifebuoy First Division outfits, split points in a one-all draw. Although Police enjoyed a better share it was Eskaton, who earned a feat of scoring the fastest goal in the league, when their striker Tipu found the target with an angular drive forty seconds into the match.

After that Police took complete command of the match but was frustrated by their forwards before substitute Masud Rana neutralised the margin 17th minute into the second half shooting a Tara Miah right-flank-cross from inside the box.

The draw now left Eskaton raising their collections to five from four matches while Police earned three on completion of their four league engagements.



Midfielder Khokon of Police Athletic Club with a typical servicemen-haircut locked in an aerial tussle with an unidentified Eskaton defender during their Lifebuoy First Division football league engagement at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. The match ended in a 1-1 fiasco. — Star photo

## Pioneer soccer

Sports Reporter

Three teams — Arambagh Krira Chakra (Juniors), KR Boys and Diba Sangsad won their respective matches, while Jatrabari Krira Chakra got walk-over from Shatadal Shamajik and Sangskritik Sangha in the Pioneer Division football league at different venues yesterday.

Arambag earned an easy 3-1 victory over Rainbow SC at RAJUK ground adjacent to the Dhaka Stadium.

Anisur Rahman scored once, while Russel netted the other two goals for the winners.

Abul Hossain was the lone scorer for the losers.

Meanwhile, KR Boys sauntered past Lalbag Tarun Sangha by lone goal at the same venues.

Liton struck the all important goal.

In the other billing of the day, Diba secured their first win over Railway Blues by 3-0. Masud listed two goals under his name, while Sanjoy sealed the fate of the match striking the last goal for the winners.

## SAF Games review meeting August 5

MADRAS, July 17: Presidents of the National Olympic Committees (NOC's) of the SAARC countries will meet here on August 5 for a review meeting on the conduct of the seventh South Asian Federation (SAF) Games, scheduled to be held here from December 18 to 27, reports PTI.

The meeting, convened by the Indian Olympic Committee chief, B Sivanthi Adityan, who is also the president of the SAF Sports Federation, will review all organisational aspects. The NOC chiefs, who will also inspect all the Games venues, will give their views, according to information from the IOA president.

The constitutional committee of the SAF Games, headed by the Sri Lankan Olympic Association president, Roy de Silva, will also be meeting to discuss any amendments to be made to the SAF Games statute. The Madras Games, however, is expected to adhere to the president guidelines in the constitution.

An important part of the agenda would be a discussion on the request for inclusion of judo and squash in the Games. NOC chiefs of Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives besides India, will attend the meeting.

The participants might also call on the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Miss Jayalalitha, on the occasion.

## Lotus-Kamal cricket results

Kagjila Social Club recorded a comfortable 74-run victory over Mirpur KC in the qualifying round matches of the Lotus-Kamal Second Division cricket league at the Jagannath Hall ground yesterday, reports UNB.

Winning the toss, Kagjila SC opened their innings first and were all out at 162 in 34.4 overs with tallender Abdur Rahman Titu contributing match highest 44 off 38 balls.

In reply, Mirpur KC were bundled out for 88 runs in 27.2 overs with only Piroj and Tanveer making double figure with 14 and 13.

In the other two remaining matches of the day, Srijoni CC beat Ward Number 4 CC by 8 runs at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium while Poison CC defeated Young Star Club by 5 wickets at the Mirpur City Club ground.

## NBL v'ball

Sports Reporter

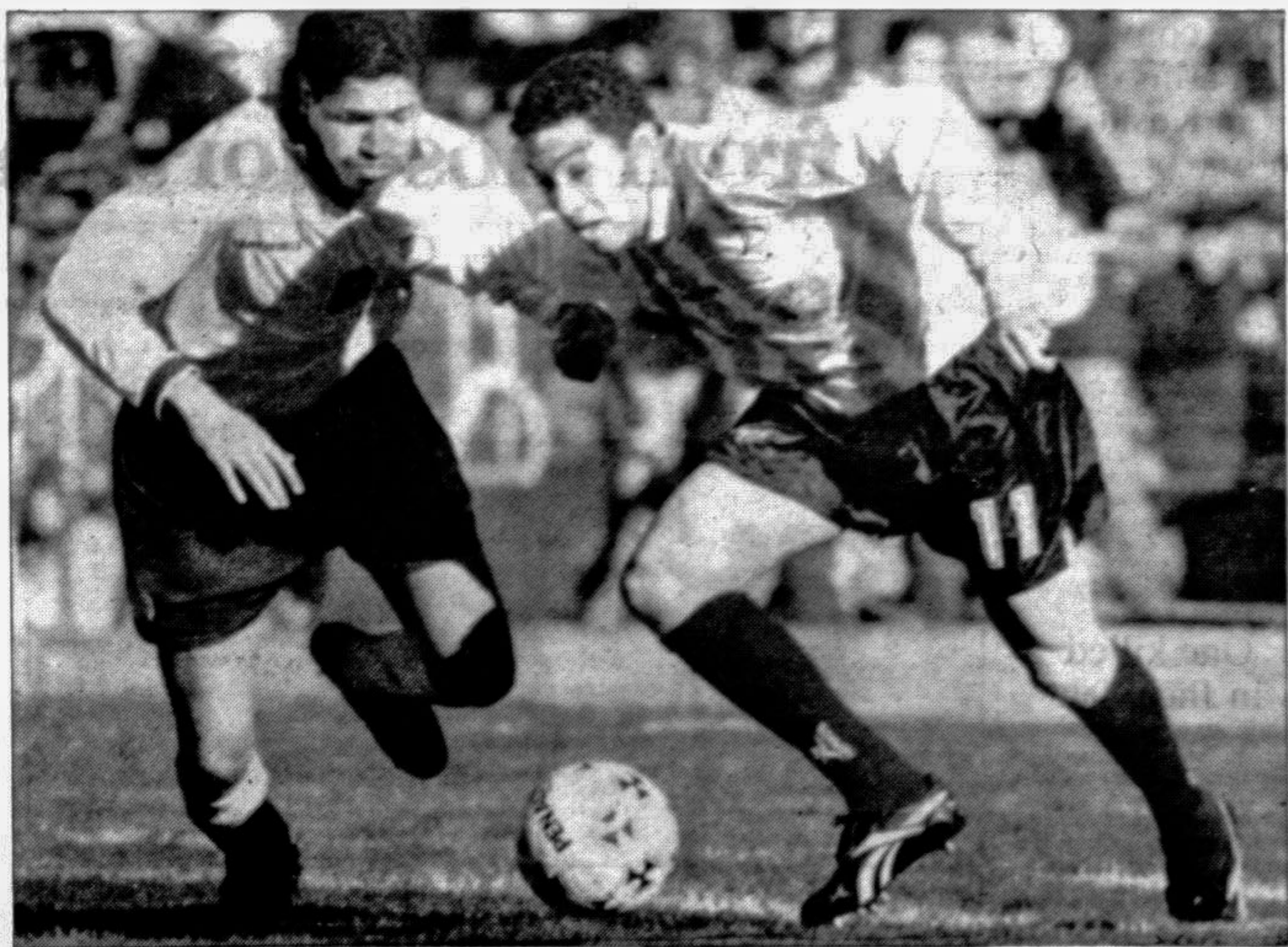
Titus Club and Bangladesh Rifles became group champions after winning their respective matches by straight 3-0 sets in the NBL First Division volleyball league at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

In the day's other two engagements Dilkusha outplayed East End Club 15-5, 15-8, 15-12, while Dhaka Sabuj needed 123 minutes, to overcome, Fire Service 9-15, 16-14, 15-12, 15-19.

Titus Club will take on Group B runners-up Police AC in the first semifinal while BDR will meet Group A runners-up PDB.

Defending champion Titus sauntered past Power Development Board SC (PDB) 15-6, 15-6, 15-9 to finish top from Group A, while former champions Rifles secured a facile 15-3, 15-6, 15-3 victory over Water Development Board (WDB) to become Group B champions in the other semis. Both fixtures are billed for Thursday.

The final is slated for Saturday.



Colombian Hernan Gaviria (L) and Jorge Campos of Paraguay fight for control of the ball during their Copa America quarterfinal showdown at the Centenario Stadium in Montevideo, Colombia on July 16. Colombia's controversial goalkeeper Rena Higuita saved the decisive penalty to help his side to a 6-5 victory in the shootout. — AFP/UNB photo

## Uruguay, Colombia in semis



MONTEVIDEO, July 17: Hosts Uruguay reached a semifinal showdown with Colombia in the Copa America Sunday when they held on to an early lead to beat Bolivia 2-1, reports AFP.

Earlier, former convict Rene Higuita had become Colombia's hero when he saved a decisive shot in a penalty shoot-out to put his country through against, Paraguay.

Higuita, jailed for seven months in 1993 for his involvement in a kidnapping, ended Paraguay's hopes of a third triumph in the competition by saving an effort by central defender Carlos Gamarra.

Paraguay, prompted by midfielder Dynamo Roberto Acuna, played a more direct style than the rather languid passing efforts of the Colombians and it paid off in the 27th minutes when Juan Vil-

lamayor came from deep to latch on to a long ball and slot home.

The Colombians made two substitutions at half-time replacing ineffectual former Valencia striker Aristizabal with Niver Arboleda and midfielder Herman Gaviria with John Lozano.

Arboleda proved an inspired choice as he was involved in the move that led to Colombia's equaliser.

The best move of the match started with Alvarez passing to Valderrama, competing in his fifth Copa America. Valderrama laid it out wide to Arboleda who played it back for Valderrama to provide a delightful touch to Napoli striker Freddy Rincon.

Rincon outstripped a defender and slammed the ball past unsighted keeper Jorge Battaglia.

The goal temporarily unnerved Paraguay as first Parma's Faustino Asprilla and

then Arboleda went lose. However, both -times Battaglia, 35, a veteran of Paraguay's 1986 World Cup team in Mexico, saved well.

He was only playing on to the inevitable penalty shoot-out and although Battaglia got his hands to two efforts, Higuita was to be the hero.

Exactly 45 years to the day they last won the World Cup in 1950, Uruguay sealed their passage with an excellent first-half performance which brought goals from Marcelo Otero (2) and Roma's Daniel Fonseca (30).

Bolivia, however, looked a very different team when they came out for the second-half and not just because they had changed their white shirts for green shirts.

Faster into the tackle and sharper up front, they pulled a goal back 20 minutes from time when substitute Oscar Sanchez soared to head home from a controversial free-kick close to the corner post.

## Two Pak booters for Victoria

Two Pakistani booters joined Victoria SC to play in the ongoing Lifebuoy First Division football league.

Mohammad Yasin (24), stopper of Habib Bank and Tarique Omar (23), striker of PWD SC, who arrived in the city on Saturday, completed their registration formalities with the BFF yesterday evening, reports UNB.

Both the booters were earlier included in the Pakistan under-19 team.

Tarique is the offspring of Omar, a celebrated footballer of 60s.

They are expected to play for Victoria SC in their next match against league leaders Sadharan Bima KS on Thursday.

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

**Lifebuoy Premier Division football league:** Youngmen's Club Fakir-erpool vs Farashganj SC (4:30 pm Dhaka Stadium)

Abahani Krira Chakra vs Arambagh KS (6:30 pm Dhaka Stadium)

**Lifebuoy First Division football league:** Bangladesh Boys Club vs Shantinagar Club (5 pm Mirpur Stadium)

**Pioneer Division football league: (Venue: RAJUK ground)** Badshah Smriti Sanghad vs Rising SC (2:30 pm)

Azimpur Kishore Sangha vs Kendriyo Kishore Kafela (4 pm)

Shadesh Samaj Kalyan Sangha vs Kalindi KC (2:30 pm Dhanmondi Club ground)

Surjoshena SC vs Golam Mostofa Lane Kishore Sangha (4 pm Dhanmondi Club ground)

Bikrompur Ekadosh vs Obakash Tarun Sangha (2:30 pm Dhupkhola metropolis ground)

Mansoor SC vs Shutrapur SC (4 pm Dhupkhola metropolis ground)

Mukti Khelaghar Ashar vs Redsun Krira Chakra (2:30 pm Jagannath University and College ground)

## Eric & Ferguson's book

LONDON, July 17: Eric Cantona pledged his future to Manchester United by signing a pay-as-you-play deal with the Old Trafford club when he agreed a new contract in April, manager Alex Ferguson reveals in a book to be published later this week, reports AFP.

Ferguson also admits in the book that at one stage he was resigned to losing Cantona, with Inter Milan pressing hard to take him to Italy.

The Frenchman's future with United hung in the balance last February when he was suspended until October and find 10,000 pounds by the Football Association for his now infamous attack on a Crystal Palace fan.

But he agreed to stay with United by signing a new contract which will keep him at Old Trafford until 1998 and it was the player himself who suggested that the deal should be tied to appearances.

The unusual arrangement is revealed in Ferguson's new book "A Year in the Life," extracts from which were published in The Mail on Sunday.

"The new contract reflects the situation, the need for Eric to play and, in fairness," he suggested that the pay should be tied to him playing.

## Last laugh Romario's

SAO PAULO, July 17: Vanderlei Luxemburgo, coach of Brazilian club Flamengo, has been sacked following a series of clashes over training methods with top striker Romario, the Globo newspaper reported, reports Reuter.

Brazil's World Cup hero Romario was quoted as saying: "He is a great coach but the methods he used in one team may not work in another one."

"Flamengo are different from Palmeiras," he said, referring to Luxemburgo's previous team.

In return, Luxemburgo had called Romario "lazy and indisciplined."

"I have in my hands one of the best players in the world, and one of the laziest as well," Luxemburgo said recently.



An unidentified Fire Service spiker smashes a ball during his sides NBL First Division volleyball league engagement against Dhaka Green at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

## Soccer aid for Kobe victims

TOKYO, July 17: Brazilian football legend Pele will serve as honorary captain when a team of Pan American All Stars take on the Rest of the World in a game to raise funds for victims of January's Kobe earthquake, reports AFP.

The Japan Football Association (JFA) said it hopes the match, to be held August 30 at Tokyo's national stadium under the auspices of FIFA, the sport's governing body will raise at least one million dollars.

Carlos Alberto Parreira of Brazil is expected to coach the Pan American team while Roy Hodgson of England will coach the opposing side.

"Many people are suffering hardships in various areas in the world," FIFA president Joao Havelange said in a message to the JFA. "It is our role to support them we had been considering holding a charity match since the

earthquake occurred.

The January 17 earthquake, which measured 7.2 on the Richter scale left more than 6,000 dead and 35,000 injured in Kobe and surrounding areas in western Japan.

## Taveggia's assignment

MILAN, July 17: Internazionale were planning today to send their general manager Paolo Taveggia to South America to sign Brazilian Roberto Carlos, reports Reuter.

"Taveggia is going to sign Roberto Carlos for US although we still have to get the player's final agreement," Inter president Massimo Moratti told the Gazzetta dello Sport.

The defender, who plays for Brazilian club Palmeiras, is currently with his national team at the Copa America in Uruguay.

More than 17,000 people are still living in schools and other public facilities after their homes were destroyed.

The Pan American team is expected to include Japanese based Brazilian internationals Jorginho, Leonardo, Dunga and Zinho, as well as Ramon Ismael, Median Bello of Argentina and Jorge Dely, Valdes of Panama.

Other prominent players expected to compete include Carlos Valderrama.

Freddy Rincon and Faustino Asprilla of Colombia, Erwin Sanchez of Bolivia and Mexico's Jorge Campos.

The Rest of the World All Stars are expected to include Thomas Ravelli of Sweden, Michel Preud Homme of Belgium, Hong Myung Bo of South Korea, Guido Buchwald of Germany, Dragan Stojkovic of Yugoslavia, Salvatore Schillaci of Italy and several top Japanese players led by Kazuyoshi Miura.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Shot Series together

5 More, in Madrid type, for short

8 He can dish it out

12 Air-conditioned

13 Guidonian high note

14 Mata — ruthless practices

17 Neighbor of N. Mex.

18 Ninesome

19 Capt. Hazel-wood's ship

21 — Grande

22 Oil org.

23 "Humbly"

26 Love seat capacity

28 Collars or jackets

31 Put one's feet in one's mouth

33 Command to an attack dog

35 Lady Macbeth's problem

36 He caught

**DOWN**

1 Rue the run

2 Haunted-house noise

3 Early hours

4 Senior

5 Gleason's TV wife

6 The whole shootin' match

7 Verbal assault

8 Alpine cottages

9 Computer printout

10 New York canal

11 Efferves-

cence

16 Worm, often

20 Ancestor, as per Darwin

23 Consumer-aid org.

24 "Chances —"

25 The computer itself

27 Petroleum

29 Appellation, in Aix

30 Depot: abbr.

32 Given

34 Heat unit

37 Downed

39 Former Celtics star

42 For this purpose

44 Trattoria entree

45 Hemingway sobriquet

46 Obsessed seaman

48 Requisite

49 Pleased

50 "Desire Under the —"

53 Honest politician

**Solution Time: 21 mins.**

WALK HEM RAFT  
AGUE ODE UGLI  
RUTABAGA DRAM  
PAZ ERE DIANE  
RED LOM  
BOGUS JEWELER  
ARAB AAA NOLO  
REGENCY STOKE  
BIT GAS  
CRACK TAR TBS  
LOPE RUBAIYAT  
OVEN EBB OKRA  
TEXT PAY NEAR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12				13				14				
15				16				17				
18							19	20				
				21			22					
23	24	25		26		27		28		29	30	
31				32		33		34		35		
36				37		38		39		40		
				41		42		43		44		
45	46							47		48	49	50
51						52	53					
54						55				56		
57						58				59		

**CRYPTOQUIP**  
W O J F X Q E M T R B Q T X G  
E B J O Z O M T W U B T G R F M R  
F X Q X M S S K Z U B S G T ' R  
Z M Q Q K M R B T M  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HONEST FARMER IS KNOWN AMONG HIS FRIENDS FOR TILLING IT LIKE IT IS.  
Today's Cryptoquip clue: Z equals C  
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.