

Kenya stun Algeria

NAIROBI, June 3: Three goals in a frantic second half gave Kenya a 3-1 victory over Algeria in a World Cup African qualifier first round first leg match on Sunday, reports Reuters.

Danes left in a lurch

COPENHAGEN, June 3: Denmark stumbled to a 1-0 win over a lively Ghanaian team on Sunday, just days before they travel to England to defend their European Championship crown, reports Reuters.

Euro giants maul minnows

PARIS, June 3: Norway, Wales and Yugoslavia all breezed through their opening World Cup 1996 qualifiers on Sunday with wins over minnow oppositions, reports AFP.

drilled, home the Croats' second on the stroke of half time but Quinn popped up with his face-saver when Liam Doherty set him up following Alan Kernaghan's free kick.

come from behind as they beat Finland 2-1 in Helsinki. Ajax striker Jari Litmanen opened the scoring on 25 minutes but Tugay Kerimoglu equalised on 35 and Saffet Sancikli netted the winner ten minutes after the break.



"Goliath" the lion, is the mascot for the forthcoming Euro '96 football championship, is on sale now in a large number of London shops.

Craig, Lee cut off

MELBOURNE, June 3: Fast bowler Craig McDermott and all rounder Shane Lee today lost their places in Australia's limited overs side for a four-nation tournament in Sri Lanka in August and September, reports Reuters.

The rest of the squad, led by captain Mark Taylor, guided Australia to the World Cup final before losing to Sri Lanka.

Fast bowler Jason Gillespie, who replaced McDermott at the World Cup, kept his place in the squad.

The 31-year-old Queensland paceman, who returned home from the World Cup after tearing a calf muscle in Australia's opening match against Kenya, will join the current squad at a three-day training camp in August.

Four other players - all-rounders Greg Blewett and Brad Hogg, fast bowler Michael Kasprovic and batsman Darren Lehmann - were also invited to the training camp in Australia.

A 14-man squad to tour India during October and early November will be named from this group of 18 players after the tour to Sri Lanka, Australia Cricket Board chief executive officer Graham Halbish said in a statement today.

Australia: Mark Taylor (captain), Ian Healy, Michael Bevan, Damien Fleming, Jason Gillespie, Stuart Law, Glenn McGrath, Ricky Ponting, Paul Reffel, Michael Slater, Shane Warne, Mark Waugh, Steve Waugh.

Lothar kicks up a row

BONN, June 3: Lothar Matthaeus renewed his sniping at Jurgen Klinsmann in an interview with a German magazine on Sunday, deifying Bayern Munich president Franz Beckenbauer who has ordered him not to air his views in public again, reports Reuters.

Matthaeus capped a record 122 times for Germany told Focus News weekly Klinsmann might leave Bayern Munich before his contract runs out because he had left other European teams prematurely in the past.

In the interview, released ahead of publication on Monday, Matthaeus repeated accusations that two days ago (Klinsmann) led German manager Berti Vogts to ban him from the national side for ever.

"Sonny boy Klinsmann is the most powerful person in the DFB (German Football Federation) since the time of Franz Beckenbauer," Matthaeus told Focus.

When asked if this was a sign that diplomacy was becoming more important in professional soccer, he said craftiness is apparently a key part of the business.

Asked if Klinsmann might move to another club he said: "It's conceivable although he still has a two-year contract. But he also left Milan six months after extending his contract."

In Monaco after a row with trainer Wenger he left prematurely, he said. "Even after a great year at Tottenham," he left early despite his contract.

Matthaeus, who has challenged his teammate to a live television debate to resolve the row, said Klinsmann had begged him during the 1994 World Cup to persuade Beckenbauer to take him back.



LOTHAR MATTHAEUS to Munich from Monaco.

Matthaeus said Beckenbauer refused because the club could not afford him. "I was captain. I once dealt directly with the national trainer. I was the most important link to the DFB but now these positions have been usurped by Klinsmann during my break to recover from injuries," Matthaeus said.

prompted the usually mild-mannered Vogts to say on Friday that Matthaeus had "removed any possibility of playing for Germany again."

Bayern Munich issued a statement the same day saying club president Beckenbauer had called Matthaeus in to "sharply condemn" his comments and elicit a promise to keep his mouth shut in future.

The club said Matthaeus had not meant to upset the national side's preparations and regretted comments he had made confidentially had been made public.

The extraordinary row, involving three of the bigger names in German soccer and pitting Bayern's two top players against each other threatens to overshadow the favourites' build up to the European Championship starting in England next weekend.

In an indication of how high temperatures are running, Klinsmann and his six fellow Bayern players in the national squad have written to the board of the Munich club urging it to make its views clear.

Klinsmann denies he has influenced Vogts decision not to recall Matthaeus who was sidelined for a year with an achilles tendon injury.

Tale of a true survivor

LONDON, June 3: England's new fast bowling hope Alan Mullally survived being bitten by Australia's dreaded red-backed spider earlier this year, reports Reuters.

Now he aims to trap India's batsmen in his web of left-arm pace and swing in the opening Test of the three-match series starting at Edgbaston on Thursday.

The 26-year-old Mullally, English born but Australian raised, was bitten by the spider while visiting his parent's house in Perth last February.

Mullally, named for the first time in England's Test squad of 13 on Sunday, said: "I thought I was a goner. One local man did die as a result of a bite."

Mullally's face, arms and neck swelled up and his throat

"was on fire." His heart was racing, and he felt so light-headed he almost collapsed.

Within four days he had lost nearly five kgs and any attempt to eat resulted in immediate vomiting.

Yet Mullally initially wondered if a strenuous off-season spent largely in gym work and weight training had caused the problem. It was two weeks later, when he was still feeling weak, that he consulted a doctor who told him he had suffered the classic symptoms of a spider bite.

"I then had some injections and a few tablets, but I have been told that it will take a long time, possibly more than a year, for the poison to work its way out of my system."

Mullally, who seems set to win his first cap on Thursday, emphasised his lifelong allegiance to England, despite his

Western Australia upbringing and his selection in 1987-88 for young Australia.

He said: "I got into a few fights at school because people called me the pony, and I've always supported England."

"You can live anywhere in the world. But you can't change your nationality. My dad is a Dubliner and mum's from Southend. I went to Perth where my family immigrated when I was four, but I always wanted to get back to England."

"I love Australia. Like anyone who's been there. But I've always considered myself English. My parents don't consider themselves to be Aussie either and it was great to be able to telephone them with the news."

"I've never regretted my decision to come here on a one-way ticket back in 1988 and although Australia has often been in touch since, I've simply never been able to imagine myself sitting in an Aussie dressing room."

Mullally's biggest influence in cricket has been Hampshire opener Paul Terry, whom he has known since the age of 14, mainly through club cricket connections in Perth.

He said: "Paul, and Robin Smith, had approached me about coming to play county cricket even before I played for the state under 19s, young Australia and Western Australia in a Sheffield Shield final."

"I was approached to join the cricket academy in Adelaide, but by then I had bought my ticket to England."

"I've also got some good new boots and against Warwickshire last week I bowled one ball at Dermot Reeve which was easily the quickest I've ever bowled. Dermot reckoned I've put on at least a half-yard of pace, and my in-swing is also going well."

Mullally won his place in the Edgbaston squad ahead of rival contender and fellow left-arm paceman Mark Ilett because, said chairman of selectors Ray Illingworth, "We'd like to get a little bit more pace from somewhere."

Rathore right on to target

LEICESTER, England, June 3: India's in-form opener Vikram Rathore prepared for his expected Test debut later this week by hammering 91 from 115 balls against Leicestershire on Sunday, reports Reuters.

Rathore, set to win his first cap in the opening Test against England at Edgbaston starting on Thursday, spurred the Indian second innings to 123 for two an overall lead of 110 at the close on the second day of the three-day match.

The tall Punjab batsman, who may have to play a significant role following opener Navtej Sidhu's decision to quit both the tour and Test cricket last week, took his four aggregate to 564 at an average of 70.5.

Driving powerfully on a true pitch, but also cutting the spinners deftly, Rathore demonstrated the full range of his strokeplay in adding to his first innings of 71.

When Leicestershire resumed at 38 for no wicket in reply to India's 305 for three declared, paceman Javagal Srinath removed both Vice Wells and Ben Smith in a fine spell.

Wells hit 52 before Aftab Habib continued his excellent early-season form by hitting a sparkling 124-ball 90 which contained three sixes and 12 fours.

Darren Maddy also showed

form with 61 while West Indian Phil Simmons weighed in with 58 from 63 deliveries before Leicestershire declared at 318 for five.



VIKRAM RATHORE

Yugoslavs maul Malta

BELGRADE, June 3: Dejan Savicevic scored twice and set up two other goals as Yugoslavia thrashed underdogs Malta 6-0 in a European Group Six qualifying match for the 1998 World Cup on Sunday, reports Reuters.

Germany's golden double

MADRID, June 3: High hurdler Florian Schwarthoff inspired Germany to a third successive men's European Cup on Sunday with an upset victory over Britain's world record-holder, Colin Jackson, reports Reuters.

The tall German was pulling ahead of Jackson by the third barrier and steadily increased the margin as the Welshman ran into all sorts of problems from the eighth hurdle on.

Britain rallied strongly to finish second in the men's event, largely due to the efforts of their team captain Linford Christie and their world champion triple jumper Jonathan Edwards.

Christie won the 200 metres, although he needed to work hard in the first 100 and overall did not look as impressive as he had in winning Saturday's 100.

He still clocked 20.25 seconds, which he said was his fastest ever at this time of the season. "Even in training, I'm going very well," he said.

The 36-year-old Briton who still will not say whether he will defend his 100 title in

Atlanta, completed his fourth cup sprint double, confirming once again he is the greatest sprinter ever produced in Europe.

Since winning the European indoor title here 10 years ago, Christie has not been defeated in a European Cup or championship 100 metres.

Edwards had problems with an unpredictable wind but won the competition easily enough with his single valid jump of 17.79 metres, helped by a following breeze of 3.3 metres a second.

"I didn't feel great," he said. "Something's going wrong between the run-up and the jump. But I haven't sat down and analysed it."

Another athlete to catch the eye was France's Olympic, world and European 400 metres champion Marie Jose Perce, who looked particularly sharp in the women's 200 metres.

Perce, who won the 400 at last month's Atlanta Grand Prix on the Olympic track, clocked 22.34 seconds with Melanie Paschke, the German 100 champion, a well beaten second in 22.55.

Russians going great guns

MOSCOW, June 3: Russia extended their unbeaten run to 17 matches with an efficient 2-0 win over Poland on Sunday, two days before leaving for the European Championship finals in England, reports Reuters.

The Russians attacked from the outset and were rewarded after 21 minutes when Yuri Kovtun neatly headed home Ilya Tsybnal's cross.

Vladimir Beschastnykh, who replaced forward Sergei Kiryakov in the second half, fired home the second goal in the 72nd minute from a pass by Yuri Nikiforov.

Russia's tight defence allowed the Poles few chances to challenge goalkeeper Dmitry Kharn.

With both teams keen to give as many players as possible match practice a total of eight substitutions were made.

On Tuesday, the Russian team leaves for England where their opening Group C match is against Italy in Liverpool on June 11. They also face Germany and the Czech Republic.

Australia book last slot in Atlanta

SYDNEY, June 3: Australia beat Canada 5-0 here Sunday to claim the final spot in the Atlanta Olympics soccer contest, reports AFP.

Australia won 7-2 on aggregate after a 2-2 draw in the first leg at Edmonton last Sunday.

Australia, who reached the semifinals of the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, routed the Canadians with three goals in five minutes late in the match.

The Canadian defence collapsed in the last 15 minutes after Australia went ahead with goals from Ajax Amsterdam defender Hayden Foxe and a free-kick blasted home by Goran Lozanovski.

Canada's defence was ripped to shreds with goals from substitute striker Paul Agostino, of Bristol City, Zagreb Croatia-based spearhead Mark Viduka and skipper Kevin Muscat.

Australia will take their place in Group B at Atlanta along with France, Saudi Arabia and Spain.

Northants owe Ambrose one

LONDON, June 3: Curtly Ambrose smashed the fourth ball of the last over to the boundary to keep Northamptonshire top of the Sunday League with a tense three-wicket victory over Warwickshire, reports Reuters.

The West Indian fast bowler came in at Northampton with three runs needed from the final four deliveries and three wickets in hand.

Ambrose swung and missed at his first ball from a paceman Paul Smith, but pulled the next for four to hoist Northants to 186 for seven in reply to Warwickshire's 184 for eight from their 40 overs.

Former England all-rounder David Capel had guided Northants towards their target with a controlled 81 off 82 deliveries, hitting a six and 12 fours.

Northants, two points clear of second-placed Middlesex in the standings, have now won 10 successive limited-overs games in all competitions this season.

A brilliant unbeaten 112 by Alec Stewart and Sunday-best figures of five for 10 from medium-pace Ben Hollisoke inspired Surrey to a 50-run win over Derbyshire at the Oval.

Stewart's century, containing 12 fours, hauled Surrey from 16 for four to 221 for six in their 40 overs, then Hollisoke had a spell of five for six in 31 balls as Derbyshire were dismissed for 171.

Graeme Hick played a key role as Worcestershire beat Hampshire by 36 runs to maintain the current longest unbeaten run in the Sunday League.



Annika Sorenstram of Sweden holds aloft the winner's trophy of the US Open golf championship at the Pine Needles Lodge and Golf Club in Southern Pines, NC, on June 2. She finished with an 8 under par score of 272 strokes.

Brazil to meet Argentina in men's v'ball opener

OSAKA, Japan, June 3: Defending Olympic champions Brazil will take on Argentina in the opening game of the men's volleyball at the Atlanta Olympic Games, reports AFP.

They will also face the United States, bronze medalists at the last Olympics, Cuba, Bulgaria and Poland in the Group A preliminary round robin matches, decided here today as 12 men's and women's teams were divided into two pools each.

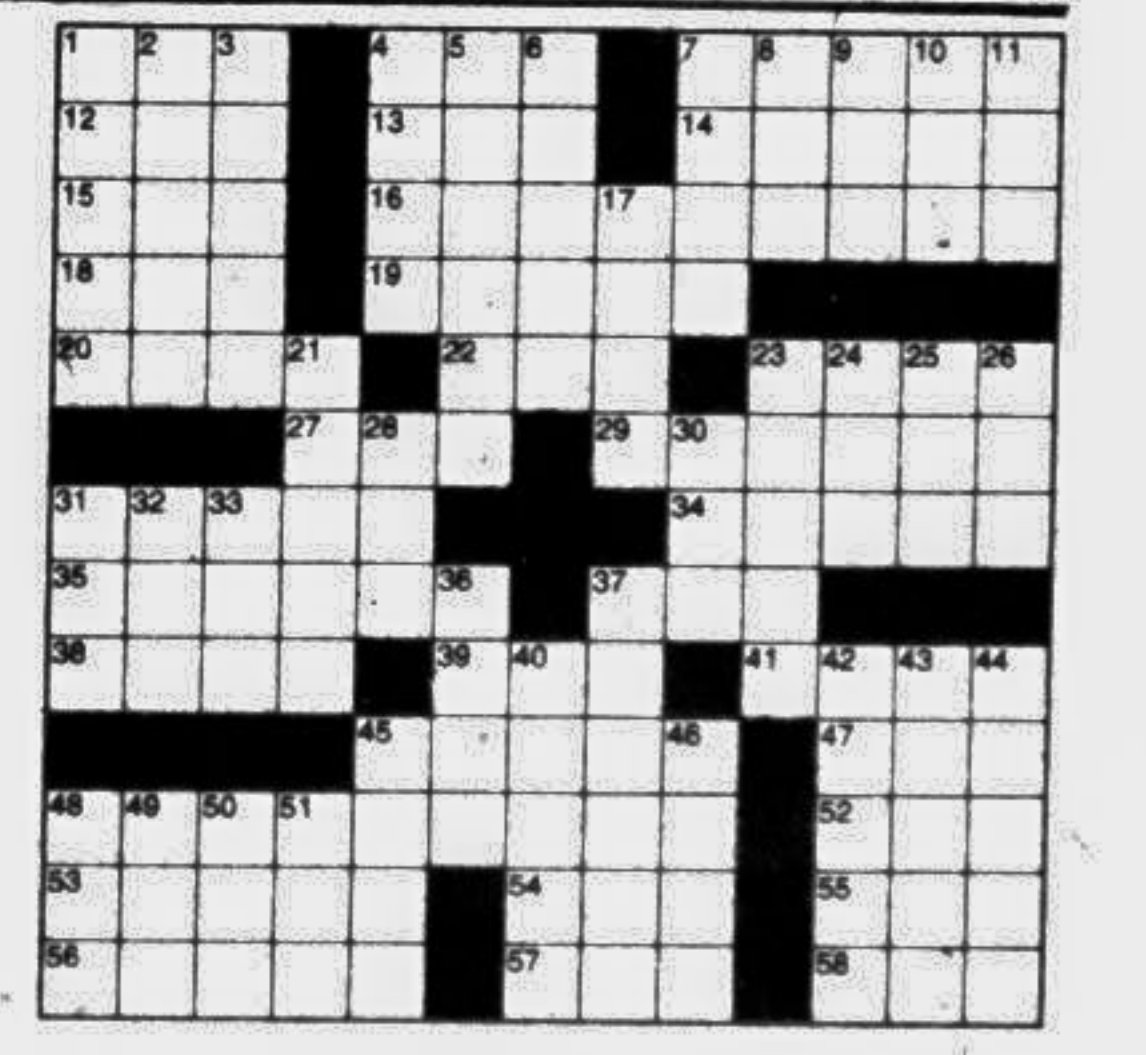
Two-time world champions Italy will lead pool B against the Netherlands, Barcelona Olympic silver medalists, Russia, South Korea, Tunisia and Yugoslavia.

In the women's pools all conquering Cuba will be the favourites in Pool B, but may have a fight on their hands against Brazil and Russia, who picked up the silver and bronze medals respectively in the World Championships.

Also in the pool are Germany, Peru and Canada. In Pool A, hosts the United States face Japan, European champions, the Netherlands, Ukraine, Asian Games gold medalists South Korea, and China.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 Entreat 4 Brazilian resort city 7 Spa city 12 "Town" 13 Ref 14 Mrs. McCartney 15 Sapporo sash 16 Barred bar of bygone times 18 Sermon subject 19 Al et al. 20 Hardy heroine 22 - Paulo 23 Amah's night visitors 27 Reaction to castor oil 29 Caught red-handed 31 Contemptible one 34 Andean beast 35 Acid neutralizer 37 Mimic 38 Eisteddfod 39 Relatives 41 Practice pugilist 45 "Partridge Family" star 47 Candle count 48 16 Across' password 52 Office seeker 53 Roughly of bygone times 54 Take top honors 55 Coach Paraghean 56 Hereditary factors 57 heroine 58 Grow DOWN 1 Shot in the arm 2 Jazz 24 Ga. neighbor 25 Pizzed rock 26 "Apple cider" girl 28 Hair curl 30 Yodelers' mecca 31 Frankenstein's workplace 32 Bullring bravo 33 Music-maker on Maui 36 Pedestal occupant 37 Hemoglobin problem 40 Halved 42 Cousin of the custard apple 43 Old marketplace 44 Take it easy 45 "West Side Story" faction 46 Dismissed 48 Binge 49 U.K. honor 50 A billion years 51 Seek reparations



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