

Column One

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

WIN
TK, 2000/-
PRIZE BOND
EVERY FORTNIGHT

Sports Whizz Kid competition-53

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes: 8 pm
September 27, 1996

1. The winner of the man-of-the-series award in the Singer World Series is

De Silva Jayasuria Ranatunga

2. The number of participating nations in the Pepsi ACC Trophy are

15 12 10

3. The winner of the US Open 1996 women's title is

Graf Seles Hingis

4. The Bangladeshi who scored a century in the first round of the Pepsi ACC Trophy is

Akram Bulbul Bidyut

5. The new England Test vice-captain is

Hussain Stewart Russell

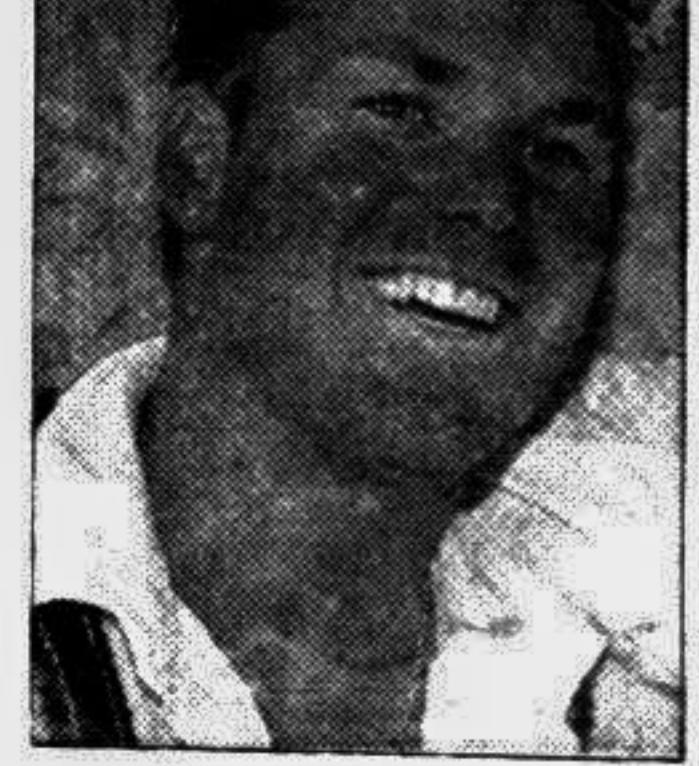
Name: _____

Class: _____ Roll No. _____

School Address: _____

Phone: (if any): _____

SPORTS TALK



Shane Warne
(Ace Australian leg-spinner)
"I am to get out the opposition's best batsman... I like to get the wicket that changes the game. Bowling to the best makes it interesting for you and the spectators."

Postponed

Sports Reporter

The Danish First Division league encounter between Wari Club and Victoria Sporting Club, scheduled for yesterday was postponed due to heavy shower in the capital early in the morning.
The match will now be held today at 3:30 pm at the Mirpur Stadium prior to the day's other two scheduled engagements.

Czechs maul Malta

TEPLICE, Czech Republic, Sept 19: Patrik Berger, the Czech Republic playmaker, scored twice to inspire his country an easy 6-0 victory over Malta in their Group Six World Cup qualifier, reports AFP.

Berger, scorer of the Czech Republic's goal in their 2-1 defeat by Germany in the European Championship final, opened the scoring in the 12th minute with an 18-metre free-kick.

He added a penalty in the 62nd minute to make it 3-0 — his fourth goal in two matches following a double strike for his English premiership club Liverpool at Leicester on Sunday.

Berger also set up French based striker Vladimir Smicer for the fifth goal. Veteran Lubos Kubik, midfielder Pavel Nedved and substitute Martin Frydek scored the Czech's other goals.

Ajax go thru' a sticky patch

AMSTERDAM, Sept 19: Only a month after the inauguration of their new stadium, Ajax Amsterdam will be refunding 1,400 season ticket holders who have difficulties seeing the pitch from their seats, the Dutch news agency ANP reported today, says Reuter.

The First Division club's financial director Maarten Oldenhof said those with seats in the first five rows behind the goalposts would receive a 25 per cent refund.

The stadium has been plagued with problems since its opening and players have complained the pitch is patchy and lacks natural bounce.

The surface was also damaged by a Tina Turner rock concert before the start of the season.

The unhappy team's form has suffered since the move to the new venue. The champions are currently seventh in the league standings.



An air-borne Youngmen's custodian Bijan thwarts an attack for a corner before Mohammedan striker Alfaz could reach the ball during their yesterday's Danish Premier Division football league encounter at the Dhaka Stadium. The match ended in a 1-1 draw. —Star photo

Fancy work by Fakirerpool

Sports Reporter

Maksudul Amin Rana led his team from the front to produce a spectacular late rally as Fakirerpool Youngmen's Club came from behind to pull off a sensational one-all draw against title aspirants Mohammedan Sporting Club in a Danish Premier football league match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The nimble Fakirerpool striker, who came to the limelight last year for his deceptive runs down the middle, sharp-shooting and specially, after his famous goal against defending champions Abahani Krira Chakra that enabled his side a 2-1 win, did not score at the floodlit big bowl last night.

But the upcoming youngster with BKSP background was the man behind yet another giant-killing act when Mohammedan midfielder Iqbal, in a desperate attempt to quell the unstoppable Rana, conceded a penalty in the 71st minute, providing Fakirerpool striker Asif the pleasure of nullifying a 38th minute lead by the black and whites with a smartly-taken 12-yarder.

The wise words of Mohammedans' South Korean coach Man Young Kang, who had an unscheduled meeting with his custodian after referee R Alam awarded the spot-kick, apparently fell on deaf ears as the substitute Fakirerpool centre-forward fired the net leaving Ponir poised on the wrong foot.

Things would have been worse for Mohammedans, who with this draw lost their first point after five consecutive victories, had not Ruhul Amin made a goal-line save off a fierce Monowar right-footer executed from inside the box.

Besides, Rana, who unearthed his richest vein of talents in the second half, not only exposed the Mohammedans de-

fence naked, but also got a golden chance to pull off a late winner at the stroke of the final whistle.

But, with Ponir grounded in the middle, Rana failed to head home an Asif floater from the left into an empty net, much to the relief of a huffing and puffing Mohammedan defense, who had failed miserably against a terrific late assault from the spirited Fakirerpool boys.

The disappointing draw served a stunning blow to the high-flying Mohammedans after their impressive run till the suspension of the league on September 8. The outcome also reduced Mohammedans' cosy four-point lead from their nearest rivals Abahani and Muktiyodha Sangsad, putting a spoke in their chase for regaining the title at the nascent stage of the double-leg league.

The first league match after an 11-day recess, also proved to be a rusty return for Mohammedans, who were painfully out of their usual form with Shabbir and Arman, the two mercurial midfielders of the black and whites, offering a pedestrian display.

Mohammedans took the lead midway through the first half with striker Alfaz scoring his third goal in the league from an apparent off-side position. The dark and dapper forward, who after helplessly watching his powerful grounder ricochet off the far post, however, had the last laugh when he headed home a Manik rebounder past a diving Bijan Barua.

Apart from the early strike Mohammedans, who lacked cohesiveness in the middle, got a few more openings in the second session. But in the 58th minute Shabbir's shot from about seven yards was brilliantly parried off by Fakirerpool custodian Bijan. One minute later Manik's feeble shot from inside the opponents' box narrowly missed the far

post. After surviving those close calls Fakirerpool bounced back into the match magnificently with Rana playing like a spring chicken. The stout striker, who ran down the right-flank at his own will, broke the Mohammedan defence in the 61st minute and lobbed a crispy cross deep into the opponents' box from where Monowar blasted a low-drive.

But Ruhul Amin, later carried off the ground after sustaining an injury, kept Mohammedans afloat with a goal-line save. However, the departure of the Mohammedans left-back paved the way for Rana to capitalise on the trifle presence of substitute Parvez, who time and again failed to shackle a roaring Rana.

In the 71st minute Rana, after being fed by medio Roni with a defence-splitting through, gave a dream run down the right, shook off a stubborn challenge from Iqbal with some adrenaline sway to race deep into the Mohammedan box before being brought down in the forbidden zone, prompting the referee to point to the dreaded spot. Asif then stepped up to convert the spot-kick to snatch a priceless point from their fancied opponents.

The draw now leaves Mohammedans with 16 points from six matches while it was Fakirerpool's third draw after two wins and a defeat against Farashganj in their inaugural match. They have collected nine points from six matches.

Yellow card: Sohul-Al Masum

TEAMS

MOHAMMEDAN SC: Ponir, Monsur, Ruhul Amin (Pervez), Munna, Iqbal, Manik, Arman, Sabbir (Kaiser Hamid), Ranjan, Alfaz.

YOUNGMEN'S CLUB FAKIRERPOOL: Bijan, Sohul, Ibrahim Rezaul, Aju, Sharif, Askar (Asif), Manwar (Mamun), Amin Rana and Jalal (Moni). Referee: R Alam.

Of a cancerous culture

LONDON, Sept 19 (Reuter): British pub culture, celebrated in prose, song and soap opera, exposed its darker side last weekend.

Former England soccer captain Tony Adams, who had already endured a spell in prison for driving while drunk, confessed he was an alcoholic and admitted he was attending meetings of alcoholics anonymous.

Presumably no longer anonymous, Adams added a novel twist to a familiar story by blaming his plight on the Germans.

The Arsenal defender said he went for a "quiet drink" after England lost to Germany on penalties in their Euro '96 semifinal. A day later he was still drinking.

Drink and British sportsmen have combined with unfortunate results before and since Leicester City lost 12-0 to Nottingham Forest in 1909 after a night on the town.

Former Pakistan cricket captain Imran Khan, now pursuing a political career in his homeland, included the county professional's love of the pub in some acerbic observations on the game in England.

"Their two great loves were horse racing and the suspension of play due to rain," he said. "Without any doubt the best

hours of the day for them were spent in the pub after the day's play."

Viv Richards, the former West Indies skipper who unlike Imran was certainly no teetotaler, also found it difficult to adapt to English social life when he arrived in England from Antigua in the early 1970s.

"Drinking was a particular problem," he said. "Some of the British we mixed with just seemed to live for the pub... English guys would go the pub, maybe at midday, and get stuck into pints of lager."

Jimmy Greaves, the wonderful Tottenham and England striker, is as well-known now for his battle with the bottle as his goal scoring prowess.

Greaves came into the game during the 1950s when a maximum wage was imposed on British footballers.

"In those days footballers just couldn't afford to go on the razze," he said.

All was to change for soccer and Greaves, now with Tottenham, when the maximum wage was abolished in 1961.

The Tottenham team would drink in either the White Hart or The Bell and hire public houses after matches, with Dave MacKay presiding.

"He would sit up at the bar like a king on his throne and invariably get the first order," Greaves said.

"Pints all round. We would dissect every move in the match. Pints all round. Then we'd look forward to the next match. Pints all round. Then we would swap the latest jokes and gossip. Pints all round. It didn't seem to be doing any harm and we knew we could run it off next day in training."

Greaves stopped when he realised drink was slowly killing him.

Northern Irishman George Best, possibly the best footballer produced in the British Isles, has never stopped, although he has evidently come to terms with his alcoholism.

"I went from club to club at night just drinking myself silly," he recalled. "The drinking was unbelievable. The drinking was unbelievable. The drinking was unbelievable."

Tyson's \$49m at stake

ALBANY, New York, Sept 19: Mike Tyson's former trainer tried to convince a jury Wednesday that the fighter owes him 49 million dollars for breaking a contract, reports AP.

Kevin Rooney claims Tyson reneged on a hands-hake deal that promised him 10 per cent of the fighter's earnings for the rest of his career. The alleged deal between Rooney and Tyson's late mentor, Cus D'Amato, dates from 1982, when Tyson was 16 years old.

An attorney for Rooney said Tyson dumped him in 1988 without warning, and that Rooney didn't know about it until he saw a tabloid headline reading: Miffed Tyson Fires Rooney.

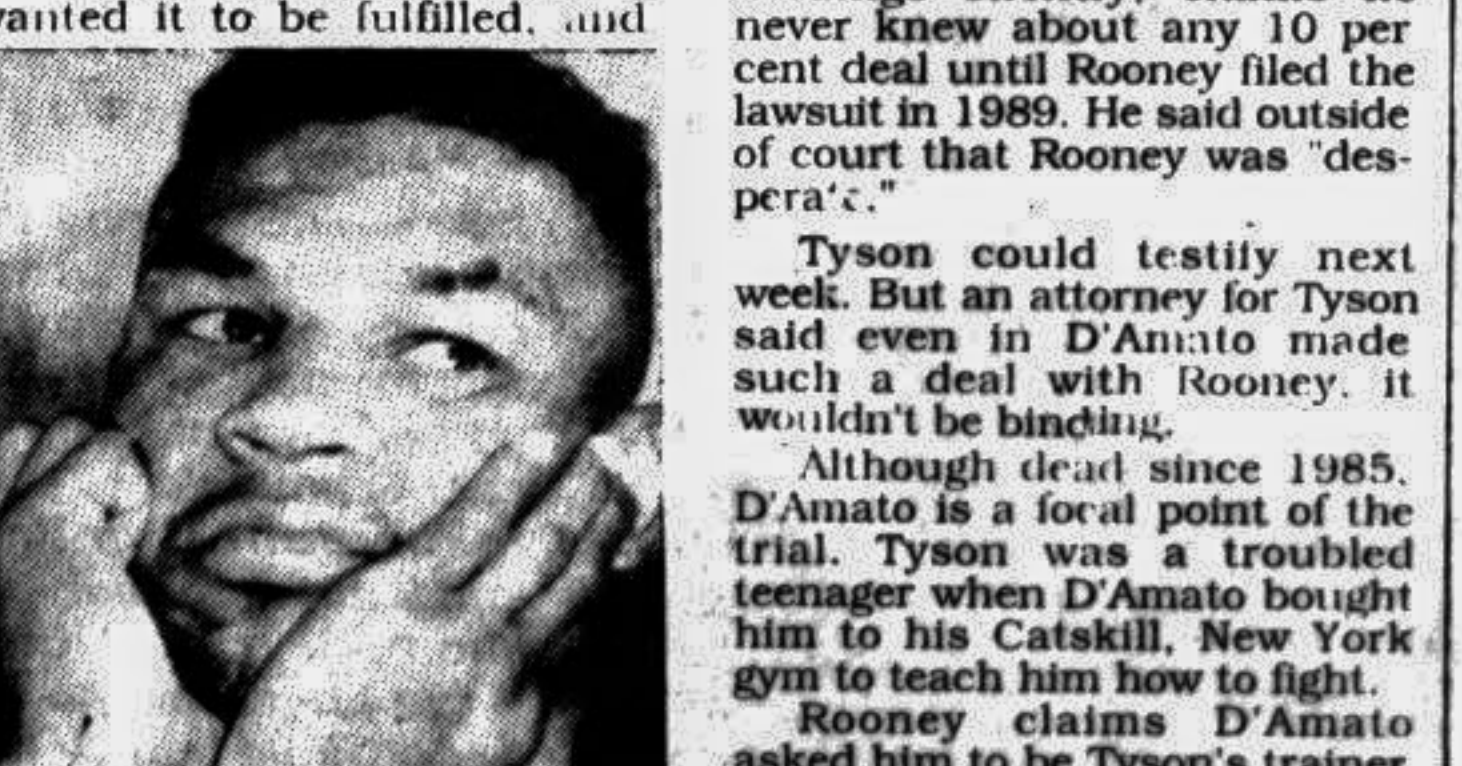
Mike never said nothing," Rooney said during the opening day of testimony.

Tyson, who watched the proceedings silently, claims he never knew about any 10 per cent deal until Rooney filed the lawsuit in 1989. He said outside of court that Rooney was "desperate".

Tyson could testify next week. But an attorney for Tyson said even in D'Amato made such a deal with Rooney, it wouldn't be binding.

Although dead since 1985, D'Amato is a focal point of the trial. Tyson was a troubled teenager when D'Amato bought him to his Catskill, New York gym to teach him how to fight.

Rooney claims D'Amato asked him to be Tyson's trainer for life in 1982, when Tyson was still an amateur.



MIKE TYSON

Chess Olympiad

China takes lead in Round 3

YEREVAN, Armenia, Sept 19: The Chinese team has cruised to a 3-1 victory over Hungary in the third round of the World Chess Olympiad to take the lead with 10.5 points, according to updated results released Thursday, reports AP.

The Hungarian team's strongest player, Judit Polgar, a woman ranked 9th among men, unexpectedly lost in Wednesday's game.

Cuba beat Scotland 3.5-0.5 and was second to China with 10 points. Russia, Germany and Romania followed with 9.5 points each.

The Russian team defeated France 2.5-1.5, using Gari Kasparov for the first time in the Olympiad. Kasparov, the world's highest-ranked player, played white in reaching a draw with Joel Lautier.

Russian coaches held Kasparov out of the first two rounds, when the strongest national teams played the lowest-rated teams. They elected to save him for more decisive games in the 14-round tournament being played in Yerevan, the capital of Armenia.

Russia won the last Olympiad, in Moscow two years ago.

In women's games, Russia moved ahead Wednesday by defeating Kazakhstan 3-0 and getting 6.5 out of 9 possible points in the fourth round of play.

Georgia defeated Cuba 3-0 and held second place with 8 points. China, Ukraine, England and Bulgaria had 7.5 points each.

Play runs through Oct 2

Leading men's results:
China 3.5, Hungary 1
Cuba 3.5, Scotland 0.5
Russia 2.5, France 1.5
Germany 2.5, Argentina 1.5
Romania 3.5, Canada 0.5

Leading women's scores:

1. Russia 8.5
2. China 10
3. (tie) Russia, Germany and Romania 9.5

Leading men's results:

Russia 3, Kazakhstan 0
Georgia 3, Cuba 0
China 1.5, Ukraine 1.5
England 2.5, Slovenia 0.5
Bulgaria 3, Mongolia 0

Leading women's scores:

1. Russia 8.5
2. Georgia 8
3. (tie) China, Ukraine, England and Bulgaria 7.5

Maradona the troublemaker!

ALICANTE, Spain, Sept 19: Former Argentine captain Diego Maradona has agreed to pay for damage caused to an Alicante hotel where he was a guest, reports Reuter.

Five chairs, a table, a marble ashtray, a door, a ceiling and the doors of a lift were damaged in incidents following Maradona's return to the hotel in the early hours of Wednesday.

Angel Gonzalez, assistant director of maintenance at Alicante's Melia Hotel, said Maradona had agreed to pay for the damage.

"He was in a very strange state, very excited, he even shouted at the hotel manager. I'm in charge around there," said Gonzalez.

Maradona has twice been suspended from soccer for drug abuse, in 1992 and 1994, and has been arrested in Argentina for cocaine possession.

Maradona, who left Alicante for Madrid later on Wednesday, has said he would make a decision on whether to retire while in Spain over the next 10 days.

Cantona penalized

LONDON, Sept 19: Eric Cantona, the mercurial French soccer star who has fought to repair his image after a kung-fu attack on a fan last year, was ordered Wednesday to pay damages for assaulting a man in a hotel, reports Reuter.

Manchester United striker Cantona, who served 120 hours community service after his attack on a fan during a match at Crystal Palace in January 1995, did not turn up at the hearing before a judge in Liverpool, north of England.

But lawyers for Cantona said the judge awarded him 350 pounds (\$550 dollars) damages after he was quizzed about his claim he was grabbed and slapped in the incident at a hotel in Chester in May 1994 where the players had spent a day at the horse races.

Cantona's lawyer, Simon Mather, said the player strongly denied the charge. Mather said Cantona offered 1,000 pounds to settle the claim before the hearing and avoid a "media circus".

That offer, which was made without any admission of liability whatsoever, was rejected by Doyle, even though it was the maximum that could possibly be awarded.

"In the absence of Eric Cantona the District Judge inevitably found in favour of Doyle, but awarded him 350 pounds damages and interest of 3.50 pounds," Mather said.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Danish Premier Division football league:
(Venue: Dhaka Stadium)
Farashganj SC vs Brothers Union (4 pm)
Muktiyodha Sangsad KC vs Bangladesh Boys (6 pm)
Danish First Division football league:
(Venue: Mirpur Stadium)
Wari Club vs Victoria SC (3:30 pm)
Police AC vs PWD SC (5:30 pm)
Sadharan Bima KS vs BRTC SC (7:30 pm)



Mohammad Hanif (C), the Mayor of Dhaka, poses with Bangladesh cricket team, the winners of ACC Trophy, at a reception in the capital yesterday. —Star photo

A 'mayor boost' for cricketers

Sports Reporter

Mohammad Hanif, the Mayor of Dhaka, lauded the Bangladesh national cricket team for their extraordinary performance in the ACC Trophy and hoped Bangladesh will play in the 1999 World Cup.

The Mayor was addressing the national cricketers during a reception hosted by him at a restaurant in the capital yesterday afternoon.

"I thank you all for your wonderful deeds which have enhanced the prestige of your motherland," said Hanif to the cricketers who clinched the ACC Trophy last Sunday beating arch rivals UAE by a huge margin of 108 runs in Kuala Lumpur.

Wishing the team well, the Mayor said, "This is not the end. You have to play in the World Cup."

The Mayor also praised the BCCB president for his dynamic leadership and wished him success in the future.

Obaidul Quader, State Minister for Youth and Sports, BCCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury MP, Bangladesh Football Federation general secretary Harun-ur-Rashid MP and sports secretary A S M Shahjahan were also present at the luncheon.

Summer sports in Comilla

Sports Reporter

The 25th summer swimming, football and handball championships organised by the National School and Madrasah Sports Association begins in Comilla today, say a press release.

The swimming competition will be held at the swimming pool of Comilla Education Board while football and handball ties will be held at the Comilla Stadium.

Abdullah Harun Pasha, the Secretary for Education, will inaugurate the six-day meet.

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Sheikh Russel tourney

Sports Reporter

Sheikh Russel Krira Chakra registered a solitary goal win over Ek Jhank Paira in the on-going Sheikh Russel Memorial juvenile football tournament at the Rajuk ground yesterday afternoon.

Striker Shaheen scored the all important goal for the winners 24 minutes into the second half.

The day's other match between Sonar Bangla Sporting Club and National Sporting Club ended in a goalless draw.

Billy brags about Atlanta

ATLANTA, Sept 19: Billy Payne on Wednesday called Atlanta's Olympic Games the greatest city to dream up another audacious scheme, reports AP.

In a speech to Atlanta's business elite and in remarks afterward, Payne also took a dig at the media's coverage of the operational glitches at the games. The president of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games, soon to be out of work, was mum about his own plans.

"These were the greatest games," Payne said. "And if those thousands of letters I have received are any indication, not only the greatest but may be even the greatest imaginable."

Payne said it was time for Atlanta to stop worrying whether the IOC agreed. IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch did not bestow his customary "greatest" designation at the Atlanta closing ceremony.

"Some of us have become overly sensitive to this criticism," Payne said. "It should never, ever be allowed to diminish our gratitude to the International Olympic Committee, nor our respect for its president... our supporter and friend for almost a decade."

Payne said the Summer Games were defined by the "graciousness" of Atlanta, and its response to bombing at Centennial Olympic Park. Though these Olympics were criticized for excessive commercialism, Payne said most visitors enjoyed the carnival atmosphere.

He said the joy of the crowds was missed by journalists who emphasized the technical and transportation problems behind the scenes.

These two issues seemed to feed on themselves, primarily

with the European press as they seemed to enjoy focusing... on these relatively small issues that were relevant only to them," he said. "As they did so, they seemed to become oblivious to the true celebration of the Olympic spirit, which was taking place right outside their windows."

The complaints by the European media probably influenced

booster, said the city must continue to think big.

The time is right for the emergence of Atlanta and Georgia's next idea," Payne told the Commerce Club. "An idea powerful enough to transform us, strong enough to compel action, must be big, even enormous."

Though he did not present a specific proposal, or say what his role might be, Payne said something is needed that would draw people to downtown Atlanta as did the Olympics. City leaders for years have been struggling to revitalize downtown Atlanta, which is primarily a daytime hub for business.

The Olympic park, which was Payne's brainchild, should be the center of a safe and "pedestrian friendly" central city, he said.

"Momentum is a strange thing. Nobody knows how long it lasts," Payne said. "I'm an advocate with getting on with business. So if you've got a free moment, that's one you ought to spend thinking about something to rally people to do."

Cruyff's fresh campaign

Sports Reporter

BARCELONA, Sept 19: Johan Cruyff has begun fresh legal action against Barcelona to recover seven million pesetas (56,000) in wages and bonuses which he claims are owed to him from his final two months at the club, reports Reuter.

Since being sacked as coach in May, Cruyff has begun a case claiming unfair dismissal and is considering launching another for slander against Barcelona chairman Jose Luis Nunez.

Cruyff's financial adviser Jaume Roures said he had asked the club for the money but had been told that it was a matter for the board of directors.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
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