# BOOSI sports

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-101

✓ Tick the Correct Answers Post to The Baily Star Win attractive prizes Competition closes at 8 pm,

Aug 28, '98, and draw shortly afterwards What is the name of Brazil's

new soccer coach? Luxemburgo Parreira Who was the player-of-the

match in the fifth Test at Headingley? Donald Stewart Butcher

How many Tests will Australia play in Pakistan? Two Three Who is the No 1 on ATP

rankings at the moment? Michelle Smith has been banned for

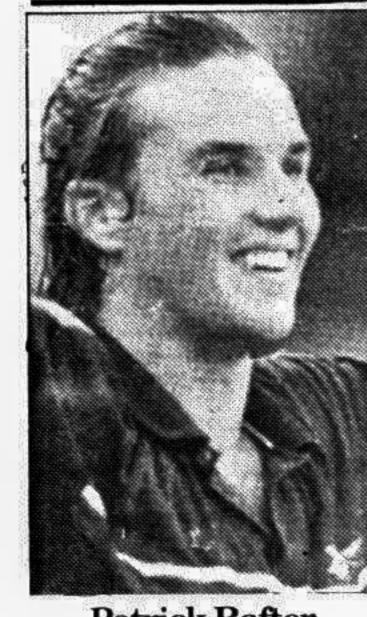
Name .....

Class ...... Roll No. ....... School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....



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#### **Patrick Rafter**

(Australian tennis star) "It's just another loss. Life

After his early exit from the Mercedes Cup.

#### Perkins catches the 'flu

BRISBANE, Aug 18: Dual Olympic 1500-metre swimming champion Kieren Perkins has been hit by the 'flu a week before the Australian team departs for next month's Commonwealth Games, reports AP.

The triple world record holder and 1992 and 1996 Olympic champion has been away from the limelight since the Atlanta Games and failed to qualify for the World Championships earlier this year.

He said he was returning to his best form, but the illness has forced him to stop training for the games, starting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on Sept 11.

West

S XXX

WH KXX

+C:KQ9XX

South (Mazumdar)

THE PLAY

BIDDING (East-West vulnerable)

O XX



Arsenal's French international Emmanuel Petit (L) struggles to control Steve Stone of Nottingham Forest during the English Premiership encounter at Highbury on August 17. -AP/UNB photo Arsenal won 2-1.

# Gunners earn full points

LONDON, Aug 18: Arsenal began the defence of their English Premier league title with a 2-1 home win over promoted Nottingham Forest

on Monday, reports Reuters. Midfielder Emmanuel Petit, who five weeks ago scored France's third goal in the World Cup final, headed the opener his shot. early in the second half and **Dutch winger Marc Overmars** got the second 10 minutes from

been level through Geoff did not have to wait long to cel-Thomas. Forest, without the strike force of Kevin Campbell and Pierre van Hooijdonk who fired them to the First Division title last season, battled hard with a makeshift side but look des-

time after Forest had briefly

tined for a long, tough season. Arsenal took a while to settle and in the first half only went lose once, when Nicolas Anelka

hit a post Forest's 39-year-old keeper Dave Beasant dealt comfortably with everything else the Londoners tried.

Forest, already without in-

jured defender Colin Cooper, were further handicapped when they lost their Norwegian central defender Jon-Olav Hjelde with a pulled hamstring just before halftime.

But they could have gone ahead in the 49 minute when Thierry Bonalair picked out Thomas only for the former England midfielder to miscue

Arsenal immediately broke and sent Anelka clear but the Frenchman's shot missed by But the Highbury full house

ebrate the champions' first goal of the season. Dennis Bergkamp swung in a 58th minute free kick from the right. Tony Adams met it and

bar and Petit reacted well to head in the rebound. Arsenal's Martin Keown, standing in an offside position two yards from the goalline, had to take evasive action as the ball flew past him but despite Forest's appeals the goal

thumped a header against the

Adams was the villain in the 77th minute when he missed his tackle on Thomas, allowing him all the time he needed to curl in the equaliser past David Seaman.

However, it took only three minutes for Arsenal to regain the lead when Overmars, burst from his own half and bore down on Beasant. The veteran keeper did well to stop the first shot but could only watch as the Dutchman hooked in the re-

"I'm very pleased we won tonight because some of our players weren't really sharp -We've had a very short preparation," said Arsenal coach Arsene Wenger.

"We had eight players at the World Cup and they have had only two weeks to prepare.

"Dennis (Bergkamp) is not at his best physically, he needs some matches. In one or two weeks he'll be sharper." he added. Arsenal are joint favourites for the title with Manchester United, who drew 2-2 at home with Leicester on Saturday.

### An alien Dutch season

and Marc Overmars and coach

Lus van Gaal, Ajax brought in a

foreign coach who introduced

10 players to the public on Day

PSV's new coach, has likewise

added 10 new faces to the team

picture and, just like at Ajax,

Dutch soil

last weekend

club.

many of them are alien to

In come Russian central de-

fender Yuri Nikiforov, Por-

tuguese right back Abel Xavir.

Belgian left back Davy Oyen.

18-year-old Brazilian defender

Jorginho, fellow Brazilian cen-

tre-back Marcos and via Willem

Il Tilburg, Finn Joonas Kolkka.

to the club, having coached PSV

from 1990 to 1992, winning two

league titles another would be a

definite bonus in this season of

transition, but the former Eng-

land national coach will have

been boosted by PSV's 2-0 vic-

tory over Ajax in the Super Cup

and cup double winners Ajax,

Georgian Georgi Kinkladze.

Dane Jesper Gronkjaer and

Brazilian Wemberto Campos

have arrived and Danish de-

fender Ole Tobiasen has recov-

ered from a broken leg which

wrecked his first season at the

Coach Morten Olsen's world

But as players drifted back

appeared over in June, allowing

to put his feet up for the World

from France, a bombshell was

dropped. Midfielder Ronald de

Boer had already said he

wanted to leave the club. Now

twin brother and defender

Franck has added himself to

the transfer list. The Dutch FA

has ruled they must see out

their contracts but neither man

As for last season's league

Robson himself is not so new

Englishman Bobby Robson.



SIX NO TRUMPS

A K Sayeedul Huq

A PRE-EMPTIVE OPENING BID KEPT EAST-WEST

**AWAY FROM A GOOD CONTRACT** 

(Hand # 70)

AS AXXXXX

North (D)

. D 10 X X

+ C:A

South

West (Akram)

A S : Q 10

♥ H 10 X

**◆ D QJXX** 

♣ C.JXXXX

North often opens with even sub-minimum HCP as often as he can in

non-vulnerable position, and more so when opponents are vulnerable.

Sometimes he is penalised quite heavily when the bidding goes out of

proportion due to lack of partnership understanding. With Mazumdar as

partner, he confidently opened 2 Spades with six cards headed by only

the Ace. East doubled but to block the communication between East and

West Mazumdar raised to 3 Spades. At the stage, a double by West

would have been quite good, as with good defence the declarer's tricks

could be restricted to six only. However, West erred and bid 4 Clubs.

North was certain that East West had a game in Hearts. He therefore

pushed on to 4 Spades. East should have doubled, but decided to support

partner in Clubs. South could double 5 Clubs for penalty but refrained

from this as it might have driven East West to a makeable Heart contract.

North led the Ace of Spades and on finding the King in dummy, shifted

to a small Diamond. The declarer went up with the Ace and played the 10

of Clubs and when South did not cover, he let it go. North returned

another Diamond on winning the Ace of Clubs, the declarer won the trick

in the dummy, played the remaining Club from the dummy, and when

South played small, he finessed 9. However, ultimately he had to give a

Club trick for down one. The declarer played the hand well, but if he did

not bid 4 Clubs in the first place, and in the event of North passing 3

Spades, East could probably come in with a Heart bid at 4 level.

AMSTERDAM. Aug 18 (Reuters): The Dutch league gets underway on August 20 stripped of several home-

host of overseas signings to light up the new season. Of the 22-strong Dutch World Cup squad, six moved abroad in the close season, making a total of 18 now playing for foreign

Only Ajax's goalkeeper Edwin van der Sar and the uncapped Andre Ooijer of PSV

Eindhoven seem content to PSV have suffered more the most, with five of their first team - Phillip Cocu, Arthur Numan, Jaap Stam, Wim Jonk and Boudewijn Zenden - now

in England, Scotland or Spain

East

North (Sayeed)

AS KJ

♥ H AQJXX

O AKXX

East (Mizan)

Double

+ C 10 X

and coach Dick Advocaat now the boss at Rangers. The club's response has been

to follow the example of Ajax who faced with a similar exodus played in the Super Cup and they seem likely to move at a year ago. After the departure some time. of stars like Patrick Kluivert

The departure of the twins has ruined Olsen's preparations. The coach wanted a more cohesive unit this season and was relying on certain players to instill the Ajax system in others. "Losing two of those players

at the last moment has made that progression harder," said Ajax won the league by a massive 17 points last season.

losing three and drawing just two of their 24 games but may struggle to be so dominant this

Feyenoord, who lost their only current Dutch international Giovanni van Bronckhorst to Rangers in July. still look some way off championship pace. They had a disappointing

time last season, finishing a distant fourth, 29 points behind

One surprise package could be Vitesse Arnhem. In March. the club moved into their new Gelredome home, which, like Ajax's arena, boasts a sliding roof.

Vitnesse have no big names but can claim the standard of their football is starting to match that of their surround-

Their Greek striker Nikos Machlas was Europe's top scorer last season with 34 goals. That helped them to finish third in the league, only two points behind PSV.

The Dutch season has a messy opening, beginning on Thursday, August 20 with Heerenveen hosting Twente Ensched. Ajax play their first match at home to Willem II Tilburg on Sunday, August 23, the day after PSV start their campaign at promoted Cambuur Leeuwarden.

### Japan target Troussier?

TOKYO, Aug 18 (AFP/ Internet): Philippe Troussier, who piloted South Africa to their first World Cup finals this year, will sign a provisional contract here next week to coach the Japanese national team, the Kyodo news agency said Tuesday.

If everything goes as pla-nned, the 43-year-old Fren chman will step into the shoes
vacated by Takeshi Okada
for a two-year period taking
him up to the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Kyodo reported.

Okada, who turned Japan's fortunes in the World Cup qualifying round after taking over from Shu Kamo last Oc-

tober, stepped down after they lost all three group matches in their World Cup finals debut. Troussier, known as the

white witchdoctor, has been recommended for the new job by compatriot Arsene Wenger, who led Arsenal to England's FA and Premiership double this year.

Wenger, who coached J-League Nagoya Gampus Eight from 1995 to 1996, has turned down an offer to coach Japan himself. But he is working for the Japanese Football Association as a technical adviser.

Troussier has worked with national teams and clubs in South Africa, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Nigeria and Burkina Faso after leading a French third division club till 1988. The Frenchman took no-hopers Burkina Faso to fourth place in the African Nations' Cup this year and became the coach of South Africa just three months before France '98.

The Japanese association's executive board is due to finalise details of the contract with Troussier at a special meeting scheduled for September 10, Kyodo said.

### Petrescu gets ready to pack his bags

LONDON, Aug 18: Chelsea's World Cup defender Dan Petrescu looks to be on his way to Dutch giants Ajax in a 2.5 million-pounds deal, reports AFP.

Petrescu was understood to be keen to stay at Chelsea when he returned from World Cup duty with Romanian in France. but the Stamford Bridge club are prepared to let him go.

Chelsea player-boss Gianluca Vialli has told the versatile 29-year-old, who scored against England in the group stages of France '98, that he was not guaranteed a place in his starting lineup following the signing of Spanish full-back Albert Ferrer and the return to fitness of Gustavo Povet.

The club's managing director Colin Hutchinson said here on Monday: "We became aware last week that Ajax were interested in him and he expressed the view that if the deal could be progressed, then he would like to go there.

"We will not stand in his way but Ajax have not yet made a formal bid to us and have not yet come to the negotiating table."

Petrescu has made almost 100 appearances for Chelsea since moving from Sheffield Wednesday. He was a first-team regular last season. But he did not figure in the 18-man squad which travelled to Coventry for Chelsea's opening day fixture.

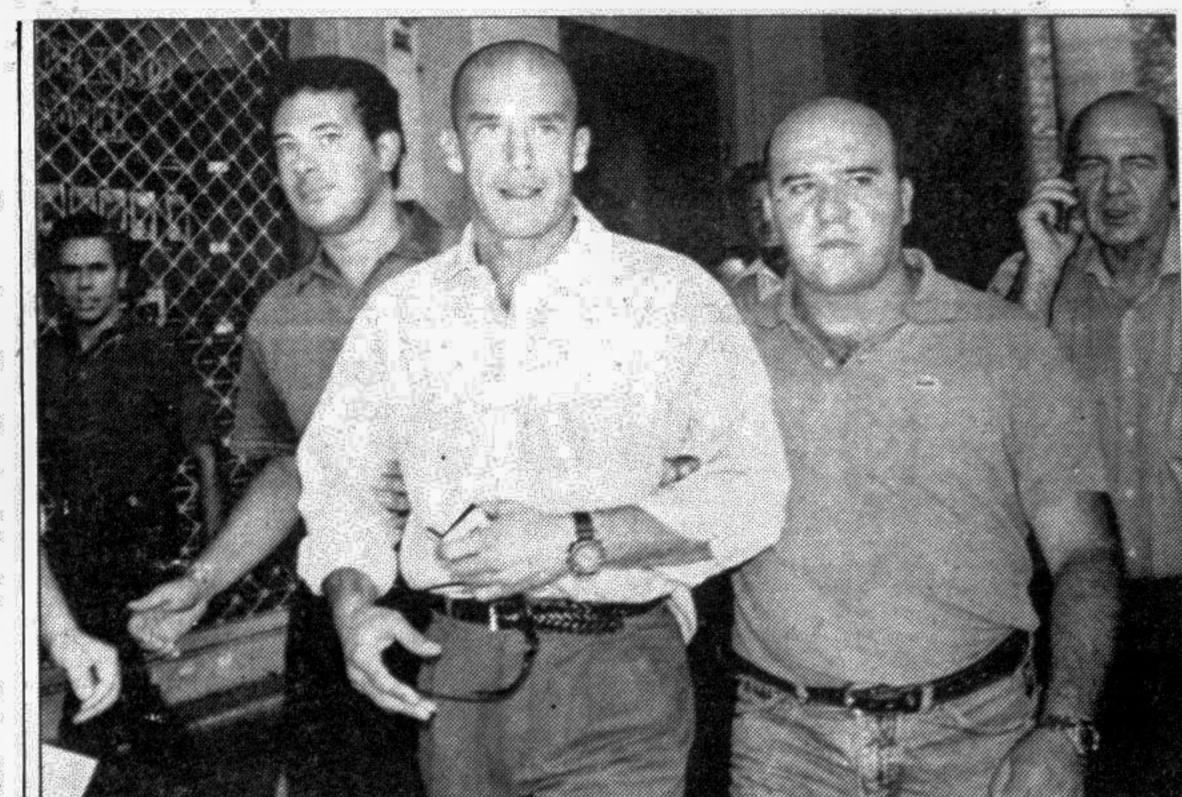
It now looks as if he will become the fourth first-team squad member to leave Stamford Bridge since the end of last season with Mark Hughes, Frank Sinclair and Danny Graveille already having move

#### Noble Rafter!

SYDNEY, Aug 18: Patrick Rafter secretly donated half of his prize money for winning last year's US Open to help sick children in his home state of Queensland, reports AP.

Rafter, who has hit peak form by winning two tourna ments in the past fortnight as he prepares to defend his title this month, gave away half of his 650,000 dollars, according to his mother Jocelyn Rafter She said the money was used to build a games room for terminally ill children.

"He likes to share, he likes to help to do things for people and particularly for children," Jocelyn Rafter told Australian Broadcasting Corp Tuesday. "I don't know if that has anything to do with coming from a big family where the whole family is orientated that way anyway."



Gianluca Vialli, Chelsea's player-manager arrives at state prosecutor Raffaele's office in Turin, Italy on August 17 to answer questions on doping in Italian soccer. -- AFP photo

## Vialli may sue Zeman



TURIN, Italy, Aug 18: Chelsea player-manager Gianluca Vialli testified on Monday before Italian pro-

secutors probing allegations of drug-taking in Serie A soccer, but emerged tight-lipped from his 2-1/2 hours hearing, reports Reuters. "It went really well but I can't

say anything," Vialli told reporters in the northwestern city of Turin, home of his former club Juventus, before climbing into a car and speeding off. Turin magistrates are inves-

tigating allegations of doping after AS Roma coach Zdenek Zeman alleged in an interview with news magazine L'Espresso that drug taking was rife in the world's most prestigious soccer league. Zeman, who has coached in

Italy for 17 years, named Vialli and Juventus striker Alessandro Del Piero in connection with his suspicions but did not accuse them directly. Vialli plans to sue Zeman,

who he has branded a "terrorist bent on a witchhunt," over his allegation that he and Del Piero gained muscle mass surprisingly quickly.

"If someone has made a

mistake then they must pay for it. but it will not be me," the former Juventus captain, who spent four years with the current Italian champions before joining Chelsea in 1996, said last week.

The black cloud of doping allegations is hanging over Italian soccer as clubs limber up with friendlies ahead of the start of the new season on September 13. Three separate inquiries are underway.

In Turin, prosecutor Raffaele Guariniello is looking into the allegations raised by Zeman to see whether any charges of trading or supplying drugs harmful to health should be brought. Del Piero has already been questioned In Rome, the Italian Olympic

Committee (CONI), which regu-

lates sport in Italy, is questioning a string of club officials. national squad officials, doctors and players. CONI's anti-doping panel

has been hearing testimony since July 27 and is expected to wrap up hearings this week. In the northern city of Bologna, magistrates are prob-

ing relations between a phar-

macy and soccer federation of-

ficials in Rome. Bologna and

Italy basketball star Gregor

Fucka is due to be heard on Tuesday. Media reports say he uses the pharmacy because he suffers from food allergies. No charges have been

brought in any of the inquiries. CONI's anti-doping panel is due to question the Italian national soccer squad's doctor, Paolo Zeppilli, on Tuesday.

Zeppilli spoke with the Bologna magistrates for about an hour on Monday but insisted drugs were not mentioned.

"I gave all the details necessary to clarify some collaboration between the Bologna pharmacy and the soccer federation. We absolutely did not speak about doping," he said. "On this subject, I have a

anti-doping panel and on that occasion I will say everything I think about the subject," he Lazio soccer coach Sven Goran Eriksson and the club's

hearing tomorrow with CONI's

director general Julio Velasco are due to be questioned on Wednesday at CONI. Ansa news agency reported that CONI was also speaking to

Chelsea about interviewing the other Italians playing at the London club - Pierluigi Casiraghi, Roberto Di Matteo and Gianfranco Zola.

## Batistuta has high hopes for Trapattoni



Gabriel Batistuta is hoping that new coach Giovanni Trapattoni can Fiorentina turn

A. reports AFP. Fiorentina had only a UEFA Cup place to show for last season's efforts, but Trapattoni is already targeting a place in the 1999 Champions' League after holding on to his Argentine striker.

Batistuta, who had considered leaving the club after seven years, signalled his return with a fine breakaway goal in last weekend's 5-1 win over Second Division Lucchese. "It's great to be back playing

again, and to have a Fiorentina shirt on my back," he said. "And it's also great to be back with my teammates and to feel the support of the crowd. "I can't believe how affec-

tionate they have been towards Looking to the season ahead

Batistuta said: "We've got a good group of players. Now it's down to Trapattoni to turn us into a "He's done the right thing by

raising our sights and aiming for a place in the Champions' League (in 1999/2000), because the objective must be to do the very best we can. But we mustn't give people any illusions. "There are seven or eight

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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2 Help a

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3 Leonine

coming

6 Henry or

Harper

8 Water pipe

California

seaport

10 Collapsed

Hudson

11 City on

19 Deck

58 Airplane's 21 Like some

Solution time: 23 mins.

7 Sense

9 Baja

other clubs who also think they have the right kind of players now to become champions.

"And it won't be a drama or a disaster if we don't make into the Champions' League, the important thing at the moment is just to work hard."

> Corinthians face Racing SAO PAULO, Brazil, Aug 18:

Corinthians face Argentina's Racing on Tuesday in a game that will give the winner first place in Group C of the Mercosul Cup. reports AP. Four teams are deadlocked

with one point after two ties the opening round. Corinthians tied Paraguay's Olimpia 2-2 and Racing drew 1-1 with Penarol of Uruguay. Since club play resumed af-

ter the World Cup, Corinthians have been on a roll. The team is undefeated in the Brazilian First-Division championship and leads the standings with 16 points. Forward Marcelinho is the scoring leader with eight goals.

Coach Wanderley Luxemburgo, named this month to replace Mario Zagallo at the helm of the Brazilian national team, will likely be without the services of injured fullback Cris Batata is expected to start in his

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26 Settle

Among the title challengers will be Inter Milan, who have added Roberto Baggio to an attacking line-up that already in-

cludes Ronaldo. "It makes me laugh when I read people in the newspapers saying that those two might have problems playing together," he said. "That really is

"These are two great footballers who will take Inter to the top. I'm sure about that." Batistuta congratulated Parma for signing fellow coun-

tryman Abel Balbo, who fell out badly last season with AS Roma coach Zdenek Zeman. "He's a friend and great player. Parma are a stronger

club now with him in the team." he said. As for Zeman's recent warning over drug use and his finger-pointing at Juventus, Batistuta said: "I think there's some confusion over this. Are

we talking about drugs or

restoratives?"

Batistuta, whose club and fans are deadly enemies of Juventus, went on: "I think Zeman has done the right thing by opening up the debate, just as it is right for there to be an en-

quiry. "If there is any 'cheating' going on then it will come out, if not the issue will be closed." Batistuta said. "I can't see what's wrong with clarifying the situation.

Police A team captain receiving trophy from Alhaj Habibur Rahman Mollah, MP, after beating Bangladesh Rifles in the premier kabadi final yesterday.



EBSN SNVSVCPIA LAQQAEIQ

PEA ZPE IVV ZBCCBGU

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: PREDICTABLY, ROAD SERVICE PERSONNEL ALWAYS HAVE TO BE ON THEIR TOWS. Today's Cryptoquip clue: S 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.

#### 38 Unclear Kingsley 39 AFL co-48 Trig function 40 Nonclergy Yesterday's answer 51 Nest egg -Star photo 42 Third-place acct.