

Sport

Roost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-102

Tick the Correct Answers Post to The Daily Star Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm, Sept 11 '98, and draw shortly afterwards

- 1. How old is Sir Don Bradman? 80 90 100
2. Who is Newcastle's new coach? Gullit Vialli Robson
3. Who is the defending Wimbledon champion? Krajceck Rafter Sampras
4. Who won the Club Cup hockey title? Abahani Ajax Usha
5. Who lifted Emirates tri-series? England Sri Lanka S Africa

Name ..... Class ..... Roll No. .... School Address ..... Phone: (if any) .....



SPORTS TALK



Bob Simpson

(India cricket team's consultant) 'I get a kick as a coach. I have never lost my enthusiasm for the game.'



England's striking duo Michael Owen (3rd from R) and Alan Shearer (R) coming off the Rusanda Stadium pitch in Stockholm following a training session ahead of Saturday's Euro 2000 qualifier against Sweden.

Anderton to start anew

STOCKHOLM, Sept 5 (Reuters/Internet): England midfielder Darren Anderton is hoping to further distance himself from his 'three years of hell' when Glenn Hoddle's men open their European championship qualifying campaign against Sweden on Saturday.

That gave me a lot of self-belief. 'I felt as if I was on trial in the first game or two, but I felt I did well overall and my confidence was sky high afterwards, especially after the three years of hell I've had.'

ROK retain Asian jr h'ball title

OSAKA, Japan, Sept 5: Four-time defending champions South Korea outplayed hosts Japan 36-28 for their fourth straight win to retain the Asian junior women's handball championships on Friday, reports AFP.

tenham but despite Tottenham's miserable form over the last two or three seasons, Anderton says he is happy at the north London club -- even though he says the club must take their share of the responsibility for his injuries.

'I showed my loyalty to Spurs when I turned down the chance to join Manchester United,' he argues. 'I'm very happy there and the club have been good to me, so I suppose I owe them a little bit.'

He also says its good to return to England duty for the first time since the World Cup and their dramatic loss to Argentina on penalties.

With David Beckham suspended, Anderton would relish the chance to play in central midfield -- but the Swedes know all about his talent already.

He scored a late equaliser the last time the teams met, at Elland Road in a 3-3 draw three years ago, and adds: 'We know this will be a difficult game and it is a tough group, so a good start is vital. But we're prepared well and we are full of optimism.'

Lazio after Owen?

LONDON, Sept 5: Italian giants Lazio are prepared to gamble 1.5 million pounds (about 2.5 million US dollars), just to secure an option on Michael Owen, who shot a wonder goal at the World Cup in France this summer, reports Xinhua.

According to local reports on Friday, the Lazio are offering the cash knowing they will lose it if Owen stays, but if English Premier club Liverpool do decide at any stage to part with Owen, Lazio would be guaranteed first place in this queue.

But Owen is unlikely to be going anywhere soon, having just signed to the Merseysiders for another five years.

It is the latest development in a frenzy of interest dubbed 'Owen-mania' that has surrounded the 18-year-old prodigy since his electrifying performance in the 1998 World Cup.

Nude athletes upset hosts

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 5 (Reuters/Internet): Commonwealth Games organisers are angry about reports of athletes going naked in the corridors of their apartment blocks at the Games village, a Malaysian newspaper said on Saturday.

'We can't allow such indecency,' an official of Sukom 98, the Games organisers, was quoted as saying in the Malay Mail.

'We have received complaints about some athletes seen naked in the corridors of the apartment blocks at the Games village,' the official added.

'Though we are one big happy family in the Games village, we can't be too open in certain things. I don't think we are being unreasonable in asking everybody to maintain a modicum of modesty so nobody will be offended.'

The Malay Mail said athletes from the Welsh team had been seen naked on a few occasions.

'The voyeurs may be happy to see members of the Commonwealth community showing off their assets...but that does not conform to Malaysian standards,' the paper said.

Some 6,000 athletes and officials from nearly 70 countries are expected to be in Kuala Lumpur for the Games which open on Friday.

Tragic

HANOI, Sept 5: Vietnam's victory over Thailand in the semifinals of the Tiger Cup soccer tournament came at a cost -- a flurry of traffic accidents as fans on motorbikes poured into the streets to celebrate, reports AP.

Such outbursts have become common after the national team scores major victories in the soccer-mad country. Fans speed around the cities' major streets, waving the Vietnamese flag.

Ho Chi Minh City's Cho Ray hospital normally gets 100 cases a day from traffic accidents. The Thanh Nien newspaper reported Saturday that the number shot up to 443 on Wednesday -- National Day and Thursday, with nine deaths.

Another two people died in Hanoi. Viet Duc, the capital's major hospital for injury treatment, said traffic accidents doubled on Thursday when Vietnam beat Thailand 3-0 to advance into the final.

Meanwhile, the Labor newspaper reported Saturday that Ho Chi Minh City police seized 175 motorbikes for traffic violations Thursday night, while 22 bikes were seized in Hanoi.

Prices being demanded by scalpers provided further proof of soccer's popularity. A 65,000-dong (dls 4 65) ticket was going for 700,000 dong (dls 50) just before Thursday's match, and prices already had risen to 500,000 dong (dls 36) a day before Saturday night's final.

Those are huge amounts in one of the world's poorest countries, with an average per capita income of about 300 dollars per year.

Costly insult

LIVERPOOL, England, Sept 5 (Reuters/Internet): Welsh international midfielder Robbie Savage's international career hung in the balance on Saturday after he was kicked out of the Welsh team for throwing away Paolo Maldini's Italian shirt in a TV interview.

The Leicester midfielder was told to leave the team's hotel by manager Bobby Gould only hours before Saturday night's European Group One qualifying match against Italy at Anfield.

Gould said he was outraged by Savage's lack of respect for Maldini's shirt.

'Players must realise that they have a duty to be respectful on and off the field of play, otherwise this game which is loved by millions will be in very serious trouble. I have a duty to uphold the good name of Welsh football.'

Welsh FA spokesman Ceri Stannett added: 'He's been removed from the team to play tonight because of comments made on a television programme. There will be a discussion later on about whether he will continue in future Welsh squads.'

Savage, 24 next month, established himself in the Welsh team last season, scoring his first international goal against Turkey and was expected to win his 10th cap on Saturday.

Some of the Welsh players were reportedly unhappy about Gould's treatment of the player, which has left them with a squad of 17 to face the Italians.

Chilavert scores again



RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept 5 (Reuters/Internet): Paraguayan goalkeeper Jose Luis Chilavert scored for the second successive game to salvage a point for Argentina's Velez Sarsfield in a Copa Mercosur match on Thursday.

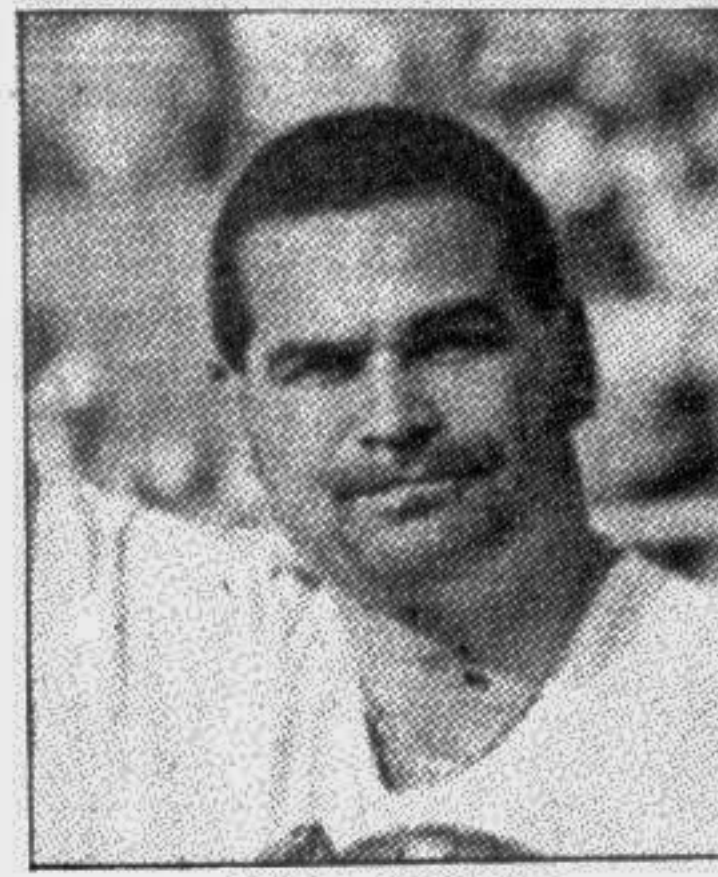
He converted a 62nd minute penalty to give his club a 2-2 draw in their group D match at Cerro Porteno of Paraguay.

Chilavert, one of the characters of the World Cup in France, was booked after a nasty clash with an opponent in the first half.

Two goals in three minutes by Jorge Espinola had put Cerro Porteno 2-1 ahead midway through the first half and Velez then had full-back Flavio Zandonata sent off in the 32nd minute for a second bookable offence.

Chilavert, his team's dead ball specialist, also converted a penalty in the Argentine championship at the weekend.

Velez are top of group D with seven points from three games, while Cerro Porteno are three points behind in second place. Flamengo of Brazil and Boca



CHILAVERT

Juniors of Argentina have three points each. Argentina's San Lorenzo stayed top of group A despite go-

ing down 2-1 away to Brazil's Sao Paulo, who won thanks to two second half goals by striker Dodo, the first a penalty. Both teams have six points from three games.

Chile's Colo Colo picked up their first points in the same group by beating Brazil's Cruzeiro 2-1 in Santiago thanks to two goals by veteran striker Ivo Basay, a man who has refused to play for the national team since the early 1990s.

Veteran midfielder Valdo, formerly of Benfica and Paris St. Germain, pulled a goal back for the Brazilians, who also have three points, in the second half.

In group E, South American champions Vasco da Gama fielded a reserve team for their match away to Argentina's River Plate but still forced a 1-1 draw.

Vasco's first team had been involved in a Brazilian championship match just 24 hours early.

Indonesia won't send booters to Asiad

JAKARTA, Sept 5: Indonesia has decided to pull its national soccer team out of the Asian Games in Bangkok in December after it was disgraced for throwing a game in Vietnam, newspapers said today, reports AFP.

'They are definitely out of our Asiad-bound squad,' the Jakarta Post quoted national sports council deputy chairman Arie Sudewo as saying.

Council officials were not immediately available for comment. The Post said the decision was taken Friday after Thailand and Indonesia were fined 40,000 dollars each by organisers of the Tiger Cup football tournament in Vietnam for violating 'the spirit of the game.'

'The all-Indonesian soccer federation must not think of sending a team to the Asian Games,' Arie said. 'It's better for the federation to consider grooming young players for the 1999 Southeast Asian Games in Brunel.'

The Post also quoted State Minister for Youth and Sports

Affairs Agung Laksono as saying he was reconsidering giving the national team a cash bonus after the Hanoi debacle, in which Indonesia was considered to have deliberately netted an own goal against Thailand to avoid playing Vietnam in the semifinals.

'Do they deserve such a bonus after they breached sportsmanship standards and fair play?' the Post quoted Laksono as saying.

He said the tactics had not only earned the team a public reprimand but had 'boomeranged' when he was lost to Singapore.

Amid the public outcry over Thailand's performance, team manager Thirachai Wuthitham, tendered his resignation.

In Hanoi Friday Asean Football Federation (AFF) honorary secretary Paul Samuel said AFF members had expressed 'open disappointment with Thailand and Indonesia for their negative game.'

'The Vietnam Football Fed-

eration tournament committee has fined each team 40,000 dollars and the AFF council is satisfied with that decision,' Samuel said.

However the all-Indonesian soccer federation (PSSI) may plead that it is not able to afford the fine.

The Suara Perbaruan evening daily quoted PSSI spokesperson Tondo Widodo as saying 'the fine is too much and PSSI could not afford to pay it especially in a crisis situation like now.'

'We will ask for a dispensation,' Widodo said, adding PSSI would ask to pay the fine in installments if a dispensation were not granted.

Pembaruan said if its team wins third place, it will win prize money of 30,000 dollars, leaving it with 10,000 dollars to pay.

The PSSI last year was fined for 50,000 dollars after riots erupted during a final football match for the 19th Southeast Asian Games here. It managed to pay the fine in installments.

Boldon targets double



KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 5: Trinidad's 200 metres world champion Ato Boldon is set to add a much needed boost of world class sprinting to the Commonwealth Games, reports AFP.

The 23-year-old, who ended his run of three bronzes in Olympics and World Championships when he took gold in last year's World Championships in Athens, is looking to complete the sprint double and end Trinidad and Tobago's first gold medal at the Games since 1966.

Boldon, who showed his promise when he won double world junior gold in Seoul in 1992, could also threaten the 100 metres world record (9.84) of injured Canadian Donovan Bailey -- he has twice run 9.86 this season, although ever the perfectionist he berated himself for not breaking the mark set back in Atlanta in 1996.

'That race (June 17, Athens) did it for me. That's when I said I have to take a step back and focus on the technique,' Boldon said.

'I'm done thinking about the record. I'm just going to run the best I can. If it comes, it comes.'

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the extrovert Los Angeles based sprinter added.

Boldon, who first moved to New York with his mother aged 14 and then to live with an uncle in Los Angeles, may not have to face the twin pronged Canadian challenge of Bailey or his 1995 World Championship silver medalist Bruny Surin but he still will have a challenge on his hands.

Namibia's former 200 metres world champion Frankie Fredericks will be all out for revenge in the 100 after Boldon ended his dreams of winning a share of the IAAF Golden League million dollar bonus by beating him in Monaco while English duo of European champion Darren Campbell, provided he recovers from a hamstring injury, and 100 metres world junior record holder Dwain Chambers will also be keen to claim a famous scalp.

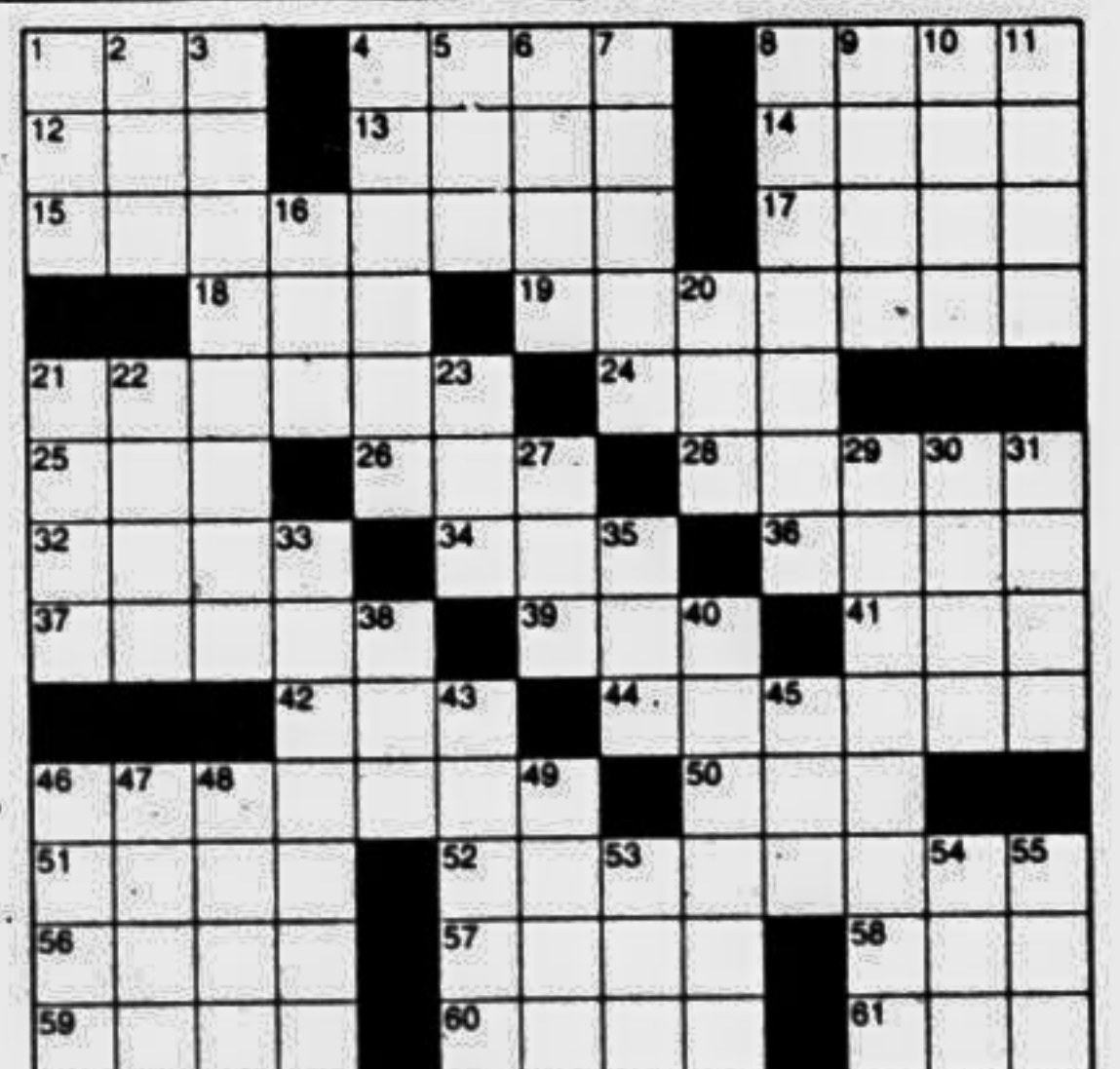
Boldon, who last year landed Trinidad their first gold at a major championships since Haseley Crawford won the 100m Olympic title in 1996, will also have to face another of the growing breed of new sprint kids from Great Britain in the 200 metres, in the form of Welshman Christian Malcolm.

The 19-year-old, son of Jamaican immigrants, has been feted by no less an authority than Carl Lewis and he has already emulated Boldon by claiming both the 100 and 200 metres world junior titles in Anney in July.

Boldon, who is part of the elite John Smith stable which also includes 100 metres world champion Maurice Greene, should be a comfortable winner in both events, particularly as Fredericks' season seems to have nosedived since the Monaco defeat.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 Fun 'n' games 4 Bridge position 8 Thick slice 12 Chicken-king link 13 A-line creator 14 Soda shopping offering 15 Screen-dom's Dr. Frank-N-Furter 17 Wallet occupants 18 Atl. counterpart 19 'Evita' lyricist 21 Reacted in pain 24 Mai 25 Actress MacGraw 26 Made a moat 28 Be phil-anthropic 32 Breathe audibly 34 Director's eye 36 See 28 Across 37 Sharpened 39 Witticism 41 Rarin' to go 42 Diving bird 44 They have pipes or needs 46 Sister, star creator 50 Sushi candidate 51 Last writes 52 'Home improve-ment' star Frank-N-Furter 56 Velocipede 57 Radiate 58 Eventual 59 Unimprovable place 60 Alluring 61 Symbol of intrigue 21 Prepare spuds 22 Medley 23 French noble 27 Wrigley product 29 Nully 30 It takes the cake 31 Drenches 33 Encourage broccoli? 35 Additionally 38 Payable 40 Pact 43 Diamonds in the sky? 45 Salon 46 One of Hamlet's choices 47 Footnote abbr. 48 Auditorium need, maybe 49 It ain't worth a nickel 53 Blend 54 Prior night 55 Arrest



CRYPTOQUIP

PG A O T LDU BMEFPLX, UAO XDMGOY RTRMMF GOOMT A O T D L M F BRUOYPLX EMDLX Yesterday's Cryptic: THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST OFTEN FEELS THAT LIFE IS A GAS. Today's Cryptic clue: B equals P The Crypticquip 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.

TV entrepreneur threatens to hijack Euro soccer

LONDON, Sept 5 (Reuters/Internet): In a reprise of the Kerry Packer rebel cricket series, an entrepreneur backed by television money is set to hijack a major sport and set up his own breakaway series.

Rodolfo Hecht, a 38-year-old Italian who introduced the first pay-per-view soccer deal in Europe, outlined in London this

week plans for a European Super League involving the continent's elite clubs.

The proposals, drafted by Hecht's Milan-based Media Partners company, bring him into direct conflict with the traditional authorities.

FIFA, the world governing body, is adamantly opposed to the proposal and UEFA, which

runs the European game, is fighting tooth and nail to retain control.

In 1977, Australian media millionaire Kerry Packer sent similar shock waves through the cricket world when he bought practically all the world's top players and set up his own rebel series.

Packer's television network had failed in its bid to buy the rights to show Test cricket and the feisty Australian responded by setting up his own series.

After two years, in which world cricket split into two rival camps, a truce was arranged with the Australian authorities.

But, significantly, the face of the game was changed forever with the introduction of coloured clothing and day-night matches and Packer's Channel Nine has held the rights for Test and one-day cricket in Australia since.

Packer was able to defy the game's traditional authorities and set up his own highly competitive series principally because test cricketers in the early 1970s were appallingly badly paid by comparison with other sportsmen.

By contrast, Hecht plans to exploit the commercial imperatives driving major football clubs in the 1990s, namely their responsibility to the shareholders.

Significantly, the first confirmation that Britain's richest and most glamorous club Manchester United was interested in Hecht's proposals came through the stock exchange, which demands correct information from publicly quoted companies.

In the latest draft proposal, outlined by Hecht on Wednesday, 18 clubs selected on their performances over the past 10 years would be guaranteed a place for three seasons.

The 36 teams would be divided into three groups of 12, each playing the other once. The top five in each group plus the sixth-placed team with the best record would advance to a knockout final 16 culminating in a one-off final.

SIX NO TRUMPS

A K Sayeedul Huq

DIAMONDS MUST BE ESTABLISHED BEFORE CLEARING TRUMPS (Hand # 85)

Table with 4 columns: North, West, East, South (D). Contains card symbols like 7XX, 98XX, 10XX, etc.

BIDDING South (Mannan) 1D\* 2H Pass 3S Pass 4S Pass West (Sayeed) Double Pass Pass North (Mizan) Pass Pass East (Mazumdar) 1H\*\* 4S

Artificial Artificial, 0-6 HCP.

With a powerful hand West doubled South's opening bid of one Diamond. In response, East showed 0-6 HCP. When South called 2 Hearts, West assumed that he would have two Heart winners, and therefore he made a forcing bid of 3 Spades which was raised to game contract by partner.

THE PLAY

North led nine of Hearts which was won by South with the Ace and returned a small Spade, which was won by the declarer with the King in the closed hand. On winning the trick, the declarer was about to clear the trumps, but he stopped to reassess the situation. He rightly thought that the Clubs could be the cause of concern in which he might have three losers. Hence, he needed to establish a Diamond trick for eventual discard of a Club. Accordingly, he played the King of Diamond and when it was ducked by the defence he played the Jack of Diamond. South won the trick and returned another Spade. The declarer won the trick in the dummy with the Ten. Next he played the Jack of Spades to clear the trumps, cashed the Queen of Diamond, and when both the defenders followed, he threw another Club on the good Diamond. A Heart was returned and when South played low, the Jack won the trick. Finally, a club was surrendered and four Spades were made.

Note that if the declarer cleared his trumps, there would have been fewer entries to the dummy to use Diamonds as threat cards. And if the declarer opened Clubs, there would have been three Club losers. Moreover, if the North initially led Club the contract would have failed by a trick.

'Don't believe Internet'

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 5: Malaysia has advised athletes and visitors, numbering about 75,000, not to be worried by rumours spread on the Internet about their safety, a news report said Friday, reports AP.

The Minister of Youth and Sports, Muhyiddin Yassin said these rumours were spread by irresponsible people.

Three years ago, Rupert Murdoch, a bigger media tycoon than either Packer or Hecht, effectively bought the newly professional sport of rugby union in England and the southern hemisphere, pumping millions of dollars into the game in exchange for exclusive television rights.

Soccer looks ripe for a similar takeover.