Interride on Ronaldo

UNDATED, Sept 21 (AFP/ AP): Superstar Ronaldo was on target for Inter Milan in the Italian Serie A, Bayern Mu-nich's rich vein of form continued in the Bundesliga while in the Spanish Premier League, Real Zaragoza missed the chance to go atop as Sunday's soccer fixtures ended in Europe. ITALY

Ronaldo made a match-winning debut for Inter driving home a penalty for a 1-0 victory

over Piacenza. Ronaldo, suspended for the season-opener against Cagliari. won himself an early birthday present and earned a respite for under-fire coach Gigi Simoni in

a harsh-tackling match. The turning point came when Inter's 19-year-old whizzkid Andrea Pirlo was tripped by defender Stefano Sacchetti. Ronaldo drove his spot-kick in the right-hand corner, sending

"It was my first match and my first goal," said the Brazilian, who turns 22 on Tuesday. "I hope it's a good omen, because I'm looking to be the Ronaldo I was last season or even better."

Looking ahead to the expected championship duel with Juventus, he said: "We're all hungry for victory and we're a real team. We're on the right

Juventus chalked up a 1-0 victory over Cagliari after being rifled into an eight-minute lead by Filippo "superpippo" Inza-

But it was another disappointing day for Alesandro Del Piero, who hasn't scored in open play since last April despite a dozen game.s between club and international duty. Coach Marcello Lippi said:

"we know that we are not really s orted yet, but the important th ing is to get results when the tea m aren't on top form. 'The team spirit, the sense of

sacrifice and the will to win are all there."

The champions are one of only three clubs, with Fiorentina and AC Milan, to have won both league matchies this season.

Fiorentina kept their 16'0 per cent record by beating Vicenza 2-1 away, with Argent tinian skipper Gabriel Batistuta nodding home Moreno Toricelli's cross in the first minute.

The home side levelled when midfielder Marco Schenardi crossed and Fiorentina derender Pasquale Padalino fumbled the ball into his own net in the 68th minute.

But his team sealed all three points three minutes later when Batistuta set up Belgian international Luis Oliveira for a rasping angled shot into the far corner of the net.

AC Milan were 2-1 winners away to Salernitana, with all the goals coming late in the

German ace Oliver Bierhoff headed Milan into a 67thminute lead and Brazilian substitute Leonardo deflected home a George Weah shot for their second in the 86th.

Salernitana pulled one back two uninutes later when skipper Rober to Breda cracked home a free-ki ck but it was all too late for the southerners.

Milan coach Zaccheroni said: "we were motivated and showed a lot of grit, although I do think we could have finished it earl ier.

"We: were more determined in the sec ond haif, although as I've said before, we still need that confidence which will come only with the results."

Bier hoff, the Serie A's top scorer last season with Udinese, said: "It's not the fact that I scored, it's the result that count's.

West

. S : 43

WH: 4

Pa. %

Pass

Pass

Pass

3 Hearts

THE PLAY

♦ D: AK10932

Bidding: East-West were vulnerable.

* Artificia, 18 or more HCP.

** Artificial, . thowing 7-9 HCP.

1 Heart**

2 Diamonds

4 Diamonds

6 Diamonds

♣ C: J632

Marcio Amoroso was Udinese's hero in a 3-1 win at Bologna after a heart-stopping finish. The Brazilian striker headed them into a 14th minute lead and then converted a 44th minute penalty after being tripped by goalkeeper Francesco Antonioli.

Bologna had Amedeo Mangone sent off just before the break but Igor Kokyvanov pulled one back by converting a 63rd penalty - only for his Russian teammate Igor Simutenkov to miss another in the

Two minutes later, Belgian midfielder Johan Walem volleyed in Udinese's third for the team's first win there since

Big-spending Lazio ground out their second draw, 0-0 with

Ottmar Hitzfeld, built there lead in the table to five points with the home victory in front of 50,000 at Olympiastadium.

Munich, whose only setback this season was a loss to Broendby Copenhagen last week in the Champions League, has outscored opponents 17-5 while picking up five league

wins in as many outings. Daei struck twice in the 19th and 39th, but Hamburg's Anthony Yeboah provided a temporary equaliser in the 22nd with the fast-paced contest's most spectacular goal.

Yeboah, a former Bundesliga scoring king, froze German national team players Thomas Helmer and Lothar Matthaeus before unloading his shot. But Munich, who have jelled

offensively under Hitzfel, was never in jeopardy against Hamburg, whose lineup includes 19-

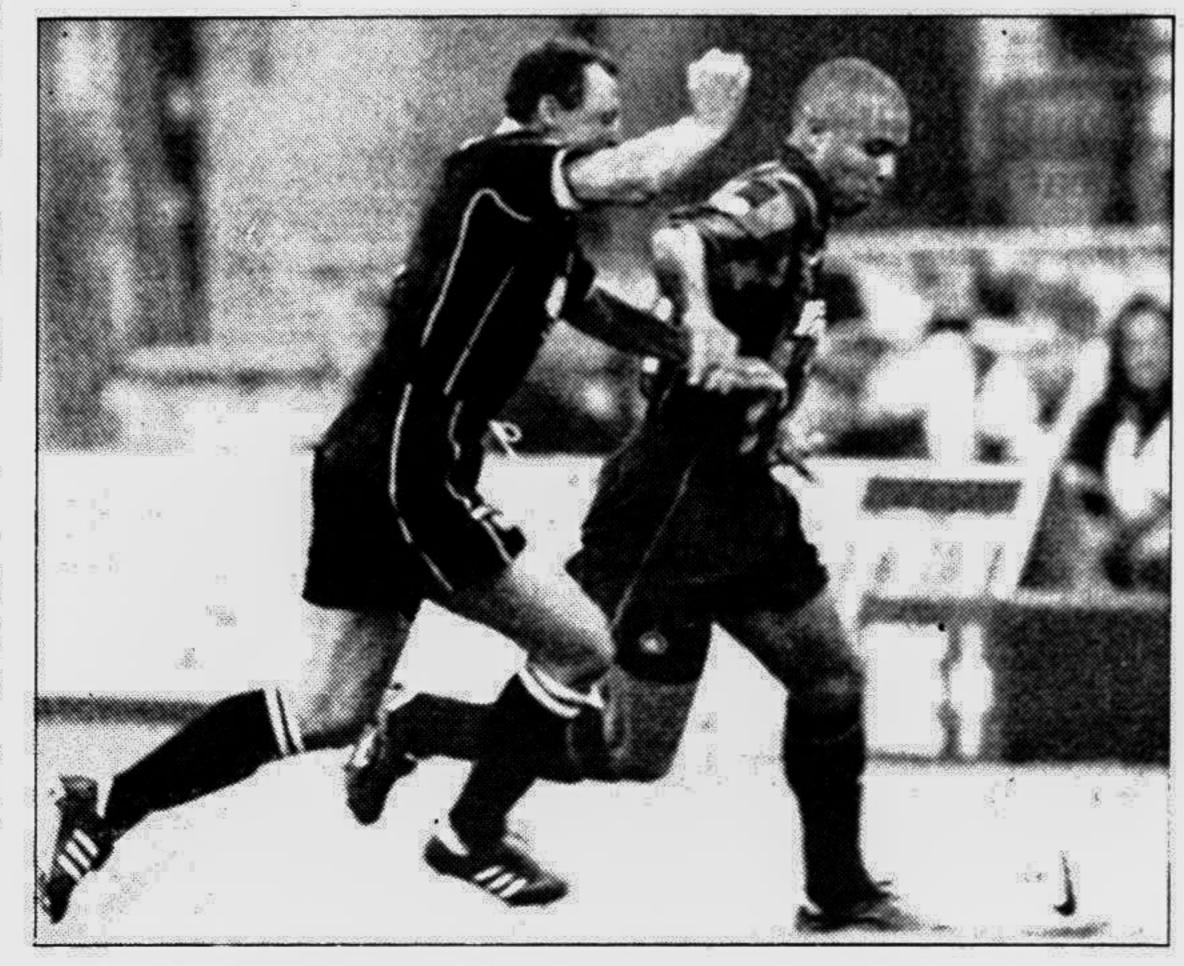
The loss means Real Madrid maintained their lead on goal difference over the First Division after drawing with archrivals FC Barcelona a day ear-

The big chance for Alaves. from the northern city of Vitoria, came in the 70th when Manuel Calabal scored between the Zaragoza goalkeeper's legs. Canabal's goal became the first scored by Alaves in the Premier

Division in 42 years. Zaragoza is now No. 3 in the league with 6 points, one behind Real Madrid.

Madrid was held at a 2-2 draw by defending champion FC Barcelona. Raul Gonzalez scored twice for Madrid while Barcelona's goals came from Brazilian ace Sonny Anderson and Dutchman Patrick Kluiv-

ert. Salamanca beat Deportivo



FINDING HIS FEET: Ronaldo of Inter Milan going part Pietro Vierchowood, Piacenza's former Italy international defender, during their Serie A match at the San Siro Stadium on September 20. Inter prevailed 1-0. - AP/UNB photo

And he warned: "Juventus —

we'll catch you.' City rivals AS Roma could cho no better at Empoli after international midfielder Luigi Di Biaiglo missed an 85th minute per alty - just as he did in Italy's shoot-out with France in the World Cup quarterfinal. Sampdoria finished 1-1 with

Perugia after they too missed a match winning penalty.

Frenchman Pierree Laigle scored for Sampdoria, Perugia levelled in the 49th minute through Renato Olive and then watched Sampdoria striker Vincenza 1 Ionetlla miss a 72nd minute spct-kick.

Parma ineanwhile clocked up their sec and consecutive 0-0 draw at Venezia.

GER'MANY

Stefan Effernberg and Iran international Ali Dali each scored twice Sunday as frontrunners Bayer 11 Munich remained unbeaters with a 5-3 victory against Ham burger SV.

Munich, loadect with German national team players. dominated the wide'-open contest against an inexperienced Hamburg side who se young players had carried them into second entering the we ekend.

Munich, willing to gamble on offense under new coach

45 AQ82

♥ H: K5

♦ D: QJ5

+C:AKQ8

1 No Trump

Double

4 Spades

Pass

SIX NO TRUMPS \

A K Sayeedul Huq

GOOD BIDDING BY EAST AND WEST

(Hand # 100)

♦ S KJ1096

♥ H. J 10832

♦ D:4

+C 94

South (D)

♦ S : 75

♦ D:876

+ C: 1075

♥ H: AQ976

North

2 Spades

4 Hearts

Pass

In response to East's 1 Club, partner showed 7-9 HCP. According to

partnership unders tanding East bid 1 No Trump as he did not have a 5-card

suit. West bid his 6- card Diamond. With a singleton in the opponent's suit

North came out with his Spade suit which was doubled by East. This was

rescued by South with 3 Hearts. West rebid his Diamond at four level and

North competed in Hear,'s. At this stage, East made an aggress,ive response

year-old Fabian Ernst, a defensive midfielder regarded by some as Germany's most talented newcomer in many years. . Effenberg added a goal in the

58th minute, converted a penalty in the 70th, while Brazilian teammate Giovane Elber capped the Munich scoring a minute before the whistle. Hamburg keeper Hans-Joerg

Butt converted a penalty for his team in the 69th minute before Martin Groth blasted a free kick under the cross bar five minutes later.

Stefan Emmerling also sal vaged a 2-2 home draw or Duisburg with a last-minute equaliser against

Moenchengladbach Emmerling's goal ironed out an own goal by teammate Torsten Wohlert five minutes earlier.

But Duisburg also picked up an early own goal by Martin Schneider in the ninth minute before Austrian striker Toni Polster evened the contest at 1-1 for Moenchengladbach.

SPAIN

Newly promoted Alaves defeated Zaragoza 1-0 stopping Zaragoza's bid to advance to first place in the Premier

La Caruna 3-1. Argentina Walter Silvani scored a goal in each half to lead Salamanca to their first victory in the league. Leo Ramos of Uruguay added another in the 61st. Salamanca's Sergio Corino helped the rivals with an own goal in the second

In San Sebastian, Mallorca's defender Marcelino Elena made it 1-0 in the 16th minute, giving the visiting team a needed victory against middle-ranked Real Sociedad.

With the victory, Mallorca advances to No. 2 in the league, tied at seven points with Real Madrid.

At the small farm town of Almendralejo, Athletic downed lowly Extremadura thanks to a 67th-minute close-range shot by forward Ismael Urzaiz. Athletic is tied with Zaragoza and Valencia with six points.

In Barcelona, a 78-minute goal by forward Francisco "Kiko" Narvaez gave Atletico the chance to equalise against Espanyol. Paraguayan Miguel Angel Benitez scored for the local team in the 58th.

In other games Sunday, it was: Oviedo 0, Tenerife 1; Valencia 1, Villareal 0; Celta 0, Valladolid 0: Racing de Santander 1. Betis 1.

Da Costa the unsung hero

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept 21 (Reuters/ Internet): Brazilian media grudgingly granted so-me space to world-breaking marathon runner Ronaldo da Costa on Monday but the 28year-old's historic run still played second fiddle to the

weekend's domestic soccer. Photos of Da Costa finishing Sunday's Berlin marathon featured on the front pages of most ne wspapers but, in a country where athletics has never been taken seriously, soccer continued to hog the limelight.

Da Costa broke the 10-yearold record by 45 seconds as he finished the Berlin marathon in two hours six minutes five seconds.

O Clobo featured a small photo of him crossing the finishing line, underneath a much larger picture of a Santos player chasing the ball during a Brazilian championship soccer match.

The newspaper's sports section devoted a page to his run but it was hidden deep inside the supplement, with the main pages covering the demise of Flamengo and Fluminense, two of Rio de Janeiro's most popular soccer teams.

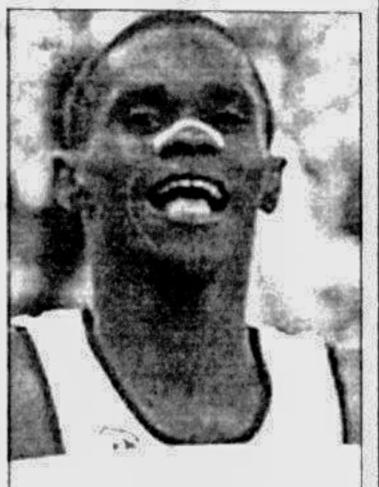
The Gazeta Esportiva's front page picture of him was dwarfed by one of Portuguesa players

mentioning his run.

The Folha de Sao Paulo was

one of few newspapers to give full prominence to Da Costa, who, like most of his fellow athletes, is reasonably wellknown in Brazil but does not enjoy the fame of even club soc-

Athletics has always struggled for recognition in Latin America's most populous coun-



Da Costa, who lives in the that his win would give the sport a greater slice of the cake. | Korean Olympic officials.

Malaysian shuttlers shine

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 21: Malaysia's Wong Choon Han came from a game down to beat compatriot Yong Hock Kin and claim the gold medal in the men's singles badminton competition at the commonwealth Games on Monday, reports AP.

Wong, Malaysia's No 3 player who has been in strong form since the Thomas Cup in May, won 10-15, 15-12, 15-6 in a tense match lasting 76 min-

The victory was Wong's first against Yong in their three meetings. He started aggres-sively in the first set, taking a 9-5 lead with several strong crosscourt smashes. The more experienced Yong fought back to level at 10-10 and won the game in 27 minutes.

Wong, 21, outplayed Yong in the third with some deceptive shot and good work at the net. "I was really exhausted as I

had to match Yong stroke for stroke," said Wong. "I was lucky I played Yong on his bad day."
In the men's doubles gold medal round, Malaysia's second

pair of Choong Tan Fook and Lee Wan Wah scored an upset 15-7, 15-4 win over No 1-ranked compatriots Cheah Soon Kit and Yap Kim Hock.

"We just went to the court and did our best. We felt no pressure at all," said Wan Wah. Tan Fook said the winning duo was inspired by its critics. "At the beginning of the tournament, people said we can't beat England, can't even beat Northern Ireland. But today, we proved that we can do it," said

> Pak shooter disqualified

Tan Fook.

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 21: A Pakistani shooter was disqualified at the Commonwealth Games for using a drug that helps to lower the heart rate. officials said Monday, reports

The shooter was found to have used beta-blockers Michael Fennell, chairman of the Commonwealth Games Federation, told reporters. Betablockers are banned because they can help shooters by lessening shaking by their hands.

Fennell did not identify the shooter or give any other details. Pakistani officials were not immediately available for comment.

The disqualification was the only doping incident reported at the 16th Commonwealth Games, which were ending later Monday.

Fennel said the federation was not looking at the possibility of introducing blood tests. Urine tests now are used to check for use of banned drugs.

Di Biagio can't take it anymore!

MILAN, Sept 21: Italy's Liugi di Biagio has vowed not to take any more penalties after his blunders cost his country a place in the World Cup semifinals and his club three points at the weekend, reports AFP. The AS Roma midfielder hit

the crossbar with his spot-kick against France in the quarterfinals at St Denis, and then watched the goalkeeper save his effort in a 0-0 draw at Empoli on Sunday. "There's not much I can say.

but I don't think I'm going to be taking the penalties any more. "I'm not going near the spot," he said. "We should have got three important points. We would have been top of the table now. "Personally, it's a very

painful experience to see the AS Roma fans who have come al the way here and not be able to send them home happy." Coach Zdeneck Zeman said: "Gigi looked confident, but even

Harmony thru' football

great players miss penalties."

SEOUL, Sept 21: South Korea is hoping to hold a soccer festival with its arch-rival North Korea, China and Japan aimed at promoting ties between the four countries, soccer officials said today, reports AFP. An official at the Korean

Football Association (KFA) said China and Japan had expressed support for the festival, and they were now trying to persuade the North Koreans to

proposal was sent to North Korea, but we have not yet had a reply," the official

Specific details on the festival were not immediately South and North Korea are

still technically at war since the 1950-53 Korean war, sports exchanges between them have stalled since July 1991 when a North Korean juduka defected to the South. The defection dampened hopes of an inter-Korean sport-

ing thaw which followed the

formation of unified Korean

delegations for international table tennis and soccer games in early 1991. Meanwhile, a senior delegate of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Thomas Bach is scheduled to leave North Korea today after a four-day visit

than we did, they had far more

hester United were humiliated by champions Arsenal yester day. losing 3-0 and having Nicky sheer effort. Butt sent off for the second time

And it could have been worse as Alex Ferguson's team, once the pride of England, appeared to lose their heads in the High-Roy Keane, who had already been booked, was fortunate to escape a red card for what looked like a stamping offence on Stephen Hughes that left the Arsenal midfielder clutching his chest. Keane also got away with a fierce tackle on Marc

Not just that, David Beckham, trying to live down the disgrace of his World Cup dismissal against Argentina. showed he still treads a tightrope with a rash challenge on Hughes

in five days.

bury heat.

Overmars.

LONDON, Sept

21(Internet):Manc

Yet manager Ferguson was unhappy with United's commitment. He said: 'Arsenal were prepared to give fouls away to win the match, but we were tiptoeing into tackles. They were far more deter-

mined and won the game with

their effort. We were second best in every challenge, particularly in the first 20 minutes. 'It was really disappointing and there are some games where you can find no excuses because

there is no place for them. This

was one of them. 'We were poor, and I don't like to say that, as a Manchester United manager, about a group of players who have ascended great heights over the

years. I hope they realise how

poor they were and that it won't be repeated.

Gunners give MU a real hiding

RUGBY TACKLE! Martin Kewon (top) of Arsenal jumps atop Manchester United's Ryan

Giggs during the Premiership clash at Highbury, London on September 20. Arsenal won

'Arsenal wanted it more determination to win and they earned that basic right through

The Gunners tore the heart out of United with first-half goals from Tony Adams and Nicolas Anelka, and a late third from substitute Fredrik Ljungberg, their 3 million pounds new signing. It left Ferguson bitter and upset about the performance of a team which included 27 million pounds worth of new boys in Dwight Yorke, Jaap Stam and Jesper Blomqvist. United are presently 10th in the league, six points behind leaders Aston Villa and two points

behind fifth-placed Arsenal.

Butt, sent off for hand-ball in United's 3-3 draw with Barcelona in the Champions League last Wednesday, was perhaps unlucky to be dismissed for yesterday's challenge on Patrick Vieira. Referee Graham Barber is prepared to review his decision should United ask the FA to study video evidence, and Ferguson said: 'I've seen the sending-off and according to the official it was for a tackle from behind and because he was the last

'He's wrong on both counts. You can talk about professional referees, but how can it improve a decision like that? What difference will it make if we do appeal? It won't alter the result. The mistake is made and the referee can't change his mind. What chance have you got? He should know when he sees the

Ferguson's dark mood was in stark contrast to that of his Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger, who said: 'We are back. We got our game back in Lens in midweek and built on that. Now we have

- AP/UNB photo

our confidence again. 'I said this game would shape the course of our season, and it would have been a big blow to lose. But this pushes us up with the contenders.

It was the champions' first victory in six games but the diplomatic Wenger tried to play down Arsenal's anger for the Beckham tackle on Hughes, and the challenges from Keane.

Wenger said: 'Beckham is not a dirty player, there was no intent. Keane is aggressive but if you take that out of his game, he is not Roy Keane.'

Similarly Hughes, booked for a challenge that left Beckham clutching his face, tried to play down the clashes, saying: 'It's always going to be tough. You have to look after yourself. 'Beckham and Keane are not dirty players. You give a knock and you have to take one and get on with it.'

Hughes, deputising for the injured Emmanuel Petit, added: I'm not complaining. We played well and got the three points. That's all that's important.'

Wenger was pleased with the debut of Ljungberg, the 21-yearold Sweden striker who has taken over the No.8 shirt previously worn by Ian Wright.

Wenger said: To score in his first game, against Manchester United, was a really good start. You can imagine how he felt to make his debut against United after coming from Sweden but he showed a great reaction to stay onside when the ball came through and he finished very well.'

Brazilians in goal-fest



RIO DE JANEIRO. Sept 21 (Reuters/ Internet): The Brazilian championship produced a feast of

goals at the weekend, with 51 in 11 games. In Argentina, Boca Juniors won again to stay top of the table while the country's other big club River Plate continued to slide downwards.

Brazil championship leaders Corinthians won 5-4 away to Ponte Preta, who fought back from 5-1 behind to give their opponents a late scare, while fourth-placed Portuguesa hammered Sao Paulo 7-2, four of their goals coming in an eight-minute spell in the first

After the fourth Portuguesa goal, a whole section of the Sao Paulo supporters turned their backs to the pitch in protest.

Flamengo striker Romario scored an early goal for his team, only to be upstaged by rival Viola who grabbed a hattrick as Santos fought back to win 4-1 and stay second.

Another high-scoring game saw third-placed Sport Recife hammer 1996 champions Gremio 5-0 as the qualifying

51 Seek

restitution

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

to "Jaws"

6 Mayberry

honoree

5 Zest

7 June

8 Bark

9 Wings

10 Tuesday

at the

movies?

sight of

11 Michigan, 34 EEE,

stage of the competition reached its halfway mark. The 24 teams play each other once with the top eight going

ARGENTINA Boca Juniors, who have not

into the quarter-finals.

won a title since 1992, stayed top of the Argentine championship with a 2-1 win at home to previously unbeaten Newell's Old Boys, striker Martin Palermo scoring both of their goals. They have a three point lead

feat by Colon, and Gimnasia-La Plata. River Plate's miserable sea son continued with a 2-1 defeat

over Union, who lost their un-

beaten record in a 2-0 derby de-

at Independiente, coached by veteran Cesar Luis Menotti. River, who have dominated Argentine football in the last two years, have lost their way

ala to European clubs. They are 16th in the table but are in no danger of relegation, which is decided by an average points taken over three seasons.

athlete.

for short

recording"

24 "This --

25 Airborne

vampire

26 NYC airport

adjective

among

shoes

soonest

39 Nicholson

40 Fitzgerald

27 Chopper

28 Abner's

29 Tease

31 Sort

35 From

following the sale of Chilean

striker Marcelo Salas and

Paraguayan defender Celso Ay-

Guadalajara, who proudly maintain a policy of fielding only Mexican players in a championship dominated by foreigners, overcame America 1-0 in the clash between the country's two biggest rivals at the Jalisco stadium.

MEXICO

for the injured Mexican international Luis Garcia. The 18 teams play each other once but are divided into four groups with eight sides going

Substitute Hector de Angel

scored the winner one minute

before halftime after going on

into the knockout stage. Guadalajara lead group one with Morelia, Necaxa and Atlas. 4-0 winners over Atlante.

heading the others. CHILE

Colo Colo increased their lead to three points by beating bottom-of-the-table Wanderers while second-placed Concepcion's hopes of an unlikely title took a dive with a 1-0 defeat at Puerto Montt.

Universidad de Chile continued their revival with a 4-2 win over Temuco to stay third, seven points behind the leaders.

CRYPTOQUIP

U D W K D Y K Z Z L Y D N O Q D C E Q O O Q K W Z U U Z Y E G UODIKY

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DO YOU THINK A BANK ROBBER'S A GUY THAT GETS ALARMED MIGHTY

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.

sunny day 3 Body sci. 23 Tampa Bay. **ACROSS** 1 Resorts 43 Double-6, 4 "Jaws 2," 5 George in Vegas Burns role 47 Sure thing 8 Cry loudly 49 Thought 12 Welles role 50 Car rental 13 "- Lazy name

River"

14 Olive

22 Mailing

abbr.

23 Evangel-

26 Cut

ist's need

corners?

52 Infinitesi-15 Basra is 53 Big top 16 Pavement 54 You 18 Locate maiden 55 Eve's 20 Hammargrandson 17 Catch skjold, e.g. 21 Freudian DOWN 1 Killy's concept

19 The time equipment of your life 36 Send 2 -- mutuel 22 Balloon fill Solution time: 24 mins. 37 Stir up LONG COMPLAIN ORATOR PROMPT

Yesterday's answer 40 Haven on a

2-24 48 Bat wood

square one IZYL NGU UGCUGEK.

> EASILY? Today's Cryptoquip clue: W equals M The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one

by a cue bid of Spades which indicated control in Spades, support in 30 Dream specialty Diamonds and interest in a Diamond slam provided partner was stopping Team's OPALMOTB 41 Possess
COMPUTERESEAL
AVEESIDES DIP 43 Desponin the Stalinist nation to try try, lagging behind soccer, volcrawling over each other after Hearts. With a singleton Heart West bid 6 Diamonds. and broker inter-Korean sports leyball, motor racing and basscoring in a game against Sao 31 Conditions ketball in the popularity exchanges. Paulo. 32 Sundial North Korea Sunday said The tone had been set the stakes. 44 Tennis notation Bach, IOC executive board Even sports such as beach night before when Apito Final 33 Models' situation volleyball and futsal receive member from Germany, met North opened the Jack of Hearts; the declarer played low from the dumity (Final Whistle), the most 45 U.S. with North Korea's vice-preprominent of the Sunday night more publicity. and North continued with Hearts. After ruffing the second Heart, that 36 Occupation ROSE MED Attorney mier Kwak Pom-gi. round- table style sports prodeclarer cleared trumps, took the successful Spade finesse to make 6 38 Squid squirt General Bach and Daimler Benz offismall town of Sao Joao de grammes on Brazilian televi-Diamonds. A very good contract was neached by an imaginative bid by East 39 Tenor 46 Emulates cials donated a bus Saturday in Nepomuceno, said he hoped sion, took seven minutes before Peerce Simon and perfect understanding between partn. ers. a ceremony attended by North