

Reader's Opinion

Why Brazil lost the Cup?-II

Dr KM Saiful Islam

(Part-I appeared yesterday) Some soccer correspondents have been eschewing the human tragedy and disruption factor that wrecked the very morale, fabrics and virility of the team...

whole world was thus deprived of enjoying an excellent match which they otherwise expected to discern. The suggestions is not actually to let the Brazilian team... it is indeed in support of a brilliant competitive match that had to take place...

wonder that Zidane, who himself admitted, he was "not very good in head", repeated his header from a similar corner shot from rightwing in second half...

LACK OF INTEGRATED PRACTICE The team composed of starts drawing from different clubs was not properly fielded in full form by Zagallo before Brazil arrived in France...

TEAM MANAGEMENT The abrupt send-off of the best striker of 1994 Romario on the plea of injury before the start of the tournament clearly smacks of something wrong in the team management...

WHY EUROPEAN FORM?

Another blunder in Brazil's trauma was the decision taken either by Zagallo, Zico or Pele to adopt European form from the very start conceivably by imitating the tactics of the second half of final with Italy in 1994...

WHAT WAS WRONG WITH BRAZIL SQUAD?

Over-dependence on Ronaldo. Apart from the ordeal with Ronaldo's convulsion, a number of factors centre round the Brazilian squad. Firstly, the team was over-dependent upon one striker - Ronaldo since his compatriot or equivalent Romario was axed in tears and sent back home because of injury...

SHIFTING OF DATE: THE ANSWER

The ordeal through which the Brazilian team went on July 12 could be overcome only by shifting the match to some other day allowing some time for the Brazilians to solve this unprecedented trauma...

INDIFFERENT AND VULNERABLE DEFENCE

Secondly, the team was indifferent, elusive and vulnerable, if not weak in defence. It lacked in defence planning and imagination. It was basically an all shooting star team. Cafu, the right back, Roberto Carlos, the leftback and Junior Baiano, the central defender played more as midfielders than defenders...

THE ANSWER

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Wang clips Iseki's wings

OSAKA, Japan, Oct 4: Wang Linqin put an end to Seiko Iseki's giant-killing streak to win the men's singles title and wind up the Asian Table Tennis Championships with a sixth gold medal for China today, reports AFP.

Agassi's amazing escape

MUNICH, Oct 4: Andre Agassi staged one of the most remarkable comebacks of his career against Slovakia's Karol Kucera to reach the final of the Grand Slam Cup on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Mayweather captures WBC belt

LAS VEGAS, Oct 4: Floyd Mayweather Jr became the first member of the 1996 US Olympic boxing team to capture a world title Saturday as he dominated World Boxing Council junior lightweight champion Genaro Hernandez, reports Reuters.

Alcock returns to normal action!

LONDON, Oct 4 (Reuters/Internet): Paul Alcock, the referee felled by Sheffield Wednesday's Paolo Di Canio, enjoyed a more routine afternoon on Saturday when he took charge of his first English premier league match since the infamous Hillsborough incident.

MTV INDIA

7:00am Non-Stop Hits 8:00 MTV Hanging Out VJ Rahul/Sonia 9:00 Classic MTV VJ Sarah/Rahul 10:00 Non-Stop Hits 10:30 MTV Most Wanted VJ Nadya 11:30 MTV Chill Out VJ Shehnaaz/Amrita/Nikhil 12:30 MTV Hit Film Music 1:00 MTV Houseful VJ Nafisa 1:30 MTV & Kenwood India Hit List VJ Rahul 2:30 MTV Select VJ Nikhil 3:30 Thums-Up Non-Stop Hits 4:00 Essential 4:30 Pepsi Dance Connection Special: T-Series 5:00 MTV Most Wanted VJ Nadya/Rahul 6:30 MTV Chill Out VJ Shehnaaz/Amrita/Nikhil 7:30 MTV Ek Deo Ten VJ Rageshwari 8:30 Non-Stop Hits 9:30 MTV Hit Film Music 10:00 Houseful VJ Nafisa 10:30 Non-Stop Hits 11:30 The Grind (Beach Show) 12:30 Non-Stop Hits Continue

MUSIC ASIA

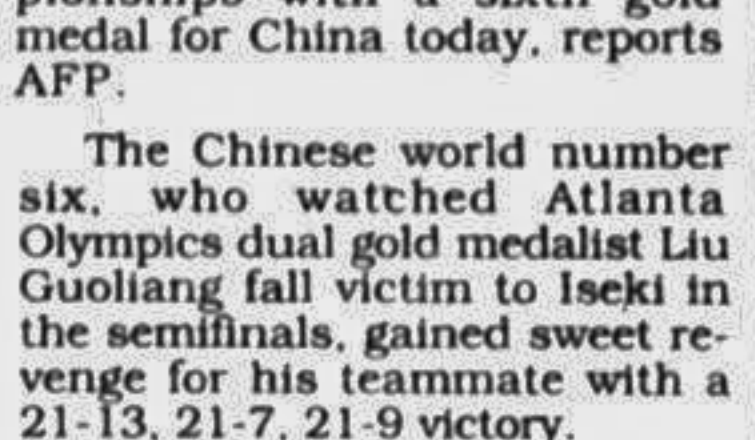
7:30am Aalaap 8:00 B & W Games 8:30 All Time Hits (Hit Songs Show) 9:00 Old Tavern: Sizzlers 9:30 Asian 10:00 All Time Hits 10:30 Bagpiper: Jharoka 11:00 Pehlu 11:30 Baaji: Music Box (Trailer Show) 12:00 Coca-Cola: World Premiere 12:30 Jagan: Jagan 1:00 Jagan: Jagan 1:30 Jagan: Jagan 2:00 Jagan: Jagan 2:30 Jagan: Jagan 3:00 Jagan: Jagan 3:30 Jagan: Jagan 4:00 Jagan: Jagan 4:30 Jagan: Jagan 5:00 Jagan: Jagan 5:30 Jagan: Jagan 6:00 Jagan: Jagan 6:30 Jagan: Jagan 7:00 Jagan: Jagan 7:30 Jagan: Jagan 8:00 Jagan: Jagan 8:30 Jagan: Jagan 9:00 Jagan: Jagan 9:30 Jagan: Jagan 10:00 Jagan: Jagan 10:30 Jagan: Jagan 11:00 Jagan: Jagan 11:30 Jagan: Jagan 12:00 Jagan: Jagan 12:30 Jagan: Jagan

DD CHANNEL-1

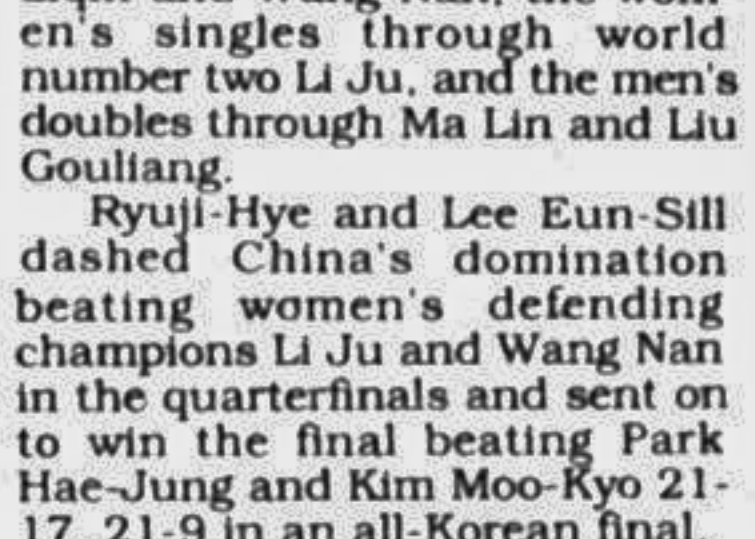
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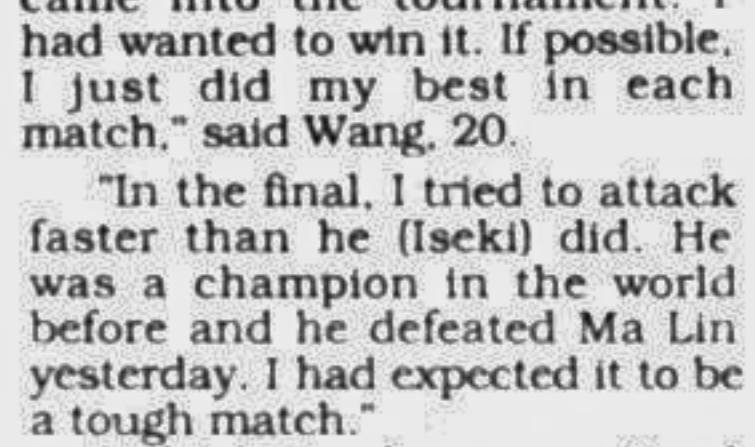
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Gustavo Kuerten of Brazil watches his forehead travel during the Mallorca Open semifinal against Austrian Thomas Muster on October 3. Kuerten won 7-5, 7-5.



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Agassi's amazing escape

MUNICH, Oct 4: Andre Agassi staged one of the most remarkable comebacks of his career against Slovakia's Karol Kucera to reach the final of the Grand Slam Cup on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Showing glimpses of his pre-slump form, the former world number one fought back from 5-2 down in the fourth set and saved four match points before sweeping to a 7-6, 6-7, 2-6, 7-5, 6-0 win.

He will meet Marcelo Rios in today's final. The Chilean world number three enjoyed a relatively straight forward 7-6, 6-3, 6-4 win over Australian Marc Philippoussis in the other semifinal.

Kucera, who had beaten Agassi in five sets in the fourth round of the US Open last month, crumbled completely in the decisive set.

A double fault on match point left him crushed after three hours 41 minutes of brilliant tennis.

Agassi had not won from a match point down since beating compatriot David Wheaton at the 1994 Canadian Open.

"It was a very physical match," said Agassi who received a wild card for the lucrative tournament for the best performers in the year's four Grand Slams.

"I was tired, too, but not as much as him."

"That's the good thing about tennis. You don't need perfection, you simply have to be that much better than your opponent," said the former Wimbledon champion, currently eighth in the rankings after sinking below 140th last year.

"I'm bit surprised I came so close to winning," Kucera said before leaving the Bavarian

capital with 325,000 dollars in prize money. "I'm not too disappointed. It was a great match."

Agassi, who whitewashed Frenchman Cedric Pioline before outplaying Australian Open champion Petr Korda in earlier rounds, will now battle it out with Rios for a 1.3 million dollars cheque.

After losing the first set in a tie breaker world number six Kucera rallied to win the second set but Rios won the

second set but winning that set and the next ones gave me the strength to carry on," said Kucera. "After those four match points it became really difficult and I tried to avoid long rallies."

There was little drama in the second match. Rios winning a close first set in a time break before getting on top of the US Open runner-up.

Philippoussis relied on his trademark booming serves but made too many unforced errors.

Rios, the highest ranked player in the men's draw in the absence of Pete Sampras and Patrick Rafter, hit fiercely from the baseline, waiting for his opponent to make mistakes.

"I'm looking forward to playing Andre," said the volatile Chilean. "It should be a good match with great rallies."

Agassi was considering a trip to the October festival after his gruelling five-set and four-hour could use a few of those beers tonight," he said.

Gomez retains WBC crown

AUGSBURG, Germany, Oct 4: Cuban Juan Carlos Gomez retained his World Boxing Council (WBC) cruiserweight title Saturday by defeating Russian challenger Alexei Ilyin in the second round late on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Ilyin fell on his knees after being rocked by a combination from Gomez early in the second round and the referee moved in to stop the fight.

games, although both players hit stunning winners along the way.

"I started to feel tired in the second set but winning that set and the next ones gave me the strength to carry on," said Kucera. "After those four match points it became really difficult and I tried to avoid long rallies."

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The Daily Star TV Guide

Table with columns for Monday 5th October, BBC, CHANNEL [V], STAR MOVIES, ZEE INDIA TV, PTV-2, STARPLUS, DD INTL, CARTOON NETWORK, STAR WORLD, SONY TV, DD METRO. Lists various TV programs and their start times.

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