

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-135

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

Competition closes at 8 pm
Sept 22, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

1 Who scored the first hat-trick
in this year's Fed Cup
football?

Ritu Kanchan Tanvir

2 Who is Pakistan's cricket
team captain?

Wasim Waqar Moin

3 Who is the captain of
Bangladesh cricket team?

Amrul Akraul Nainur

4 Who won the AB Bank Men's
TT title?

Arasmitola Binan Marjors

5 Who was voted Germany's
footballer-of-the-year in 2000?

Kahn Sommer Reuser

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH

EN-VITS

ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

NOTICE

Due to unavoidable reasons
draw of the WHIZZ KID Com-
petition-135 could not be held
last night. It will be held on
September 22. —Sports Editor

SPORTS TALK



Ian Thorpe

(Australian ace swimmer)

"I've competed at every major
championship except the Olympic
Games."

E Timor only the second

SYDNEY, Sept 15: A team of
athletes from East Timor took
part on Friday in an opening
ceremony for the first time in
Olympic history, entering Stadi-
um Australia just ahead of the
host nation at the Sydney
Games, reports Reuters.

The four team members will
compete as independent ath-
letes at the Games as, although
it gained independence from
Indonesia last year, their
homeland does not yet have an
elected government or a national
Olympic committee.

The athletes - two marathon
runners, a boxer and a weight-
lifter - danced with joy around
the athletics track in white
track suits, waving to all sides
of the stadium.

Their appearance marks
only the second time that a
team of independent athletes
has taken part in the Olympic
Games. A squad of Yugoslavs
was the first in 1992.

East Timor, a former Portu-
guese colony, was invaded by
Indonesia in 1975. It was left in
ruins by pro-Indonesian militias
after voting for independence in
August last year.

UEFA CUP first round first leg

Not too many hiccups



PARIS, Sept 15: For once there
were few sur-
prises as the
UEFA Cup got
underway in ear-
nest on Thursday
and most of the
big guns came through un-
scathed, reports AFP.

Only Italy's Fiorentina and
Benfica of Portugal appear to be

facing an impossible task in the
first round, second leg ties in a
fortnight's time.

Fiorentina went down 3-1 at
FC Tyrol in Innsbruck as the
unheralded Austrian side
caught them cold - the Italian
League season still not under-
way.

The Austrians were 3-0 up
in 50 minutes but a 54th min-
ute strike by Mijatovic gave the



Nick Barnby of Liverpool (L) being congratulated
by teammates Michael Owen (R) and Dietmar Hamman after
the former scored against Rapid Bucharest during their
UEFA Cup first round first leg fixture at Bucharest on
September 14.

Florentine club hope for the
return.

Benfica, meanwhile, strug-
gled in Sweden, going down 2-1
to Halmstad, while fancied
German side Werder Bremen
also went down 2-0 away to
Turkish club Antalyaspor, and
little Lillestrom of Norway
scored a surprising 3-1 home
win over Dynamo Moscow.

But elsewhere everything
went more or less according to
the script.

Italian giants Inter Milan,
the biggest draw of them all,
cruised to a 3-0 away win over
Ruch Chorzow in Poland with
all three goals coming in an
eight-minute spell in the second
half.

Two-time winners Parma
also won away, 2-0 over FK
Podeba in Macedonia and Udinese
and AS Roma completed a fine
night for the Italian contin-
ent.

Udinese won 1-0 away to
Polonia Warsaw, while Marco
Delvecchio bagged a hat-trick
as Roma travelled to Slovenia
where they breezed past Gorika
4-1.

German side Hertha Berlin
won away at Zimbru Chisinau,
beating the Moldovians 2-1 to
add to their two impressive 4-0
League victories so far this sea-
son.

There were two games in the
Russian capital, Locomotiv
Moscow beating Bulgarian side
Burgas 4-2 and CSKA Moscow
scrapping a dull 0-0 draw with
Danish side Viborg.

Elsewhere, Inter Bratislava
got a useful 2-0 result in the
Netherlands against Roda JC
Kerkrade, but the other Bratis-
lava side, Slovan, did less well,
going down 3-0 at home to
Croatia's Dynamo Zagreb.

Barcelona's poor relations,
Espanyol, went down 2-1 to
Slovenia's Olimpija Ljubljana.

'Hand of God' once more!

HAVANA, Sept 15: Argentine soccer idol
Diego Maradona, who was once attributed
a controversial World
Cup goal to the "Hand
of God," said Thursday the
same divine hand saved him
from serious injury in a head-
on car crash in Cuba, reports
Reuters.

"It was God's will that nothing
more serious happened,
because it could have been
much worse," Maradona said
just hours after escaping with
only bruises from the accident,
in which his jeep crashed into a
tourist bus late Wednesday.

"I'm OK, although I feel as
though I've been kicked all over
... I got off lightly," the 39-year-
old soccer idol told Argentine
radio from Havana, where he
spent Thursday resting and
recovering from the crash.

Friends and witnesses said
Maradona, who has been un-
dergoing treatment for cocaine
addiction in communist-ruled
Cuba, was driving his jeep the
wrong way down a road at night
when the crash occurred at
night on the outskirts of Ha-
vana.

A friend travelling with Ma-
radona, Carlos Ferro Viera, and
the Cuban driver of the tourist
bus, which carried no passen-
gers, also escaped uninjured.

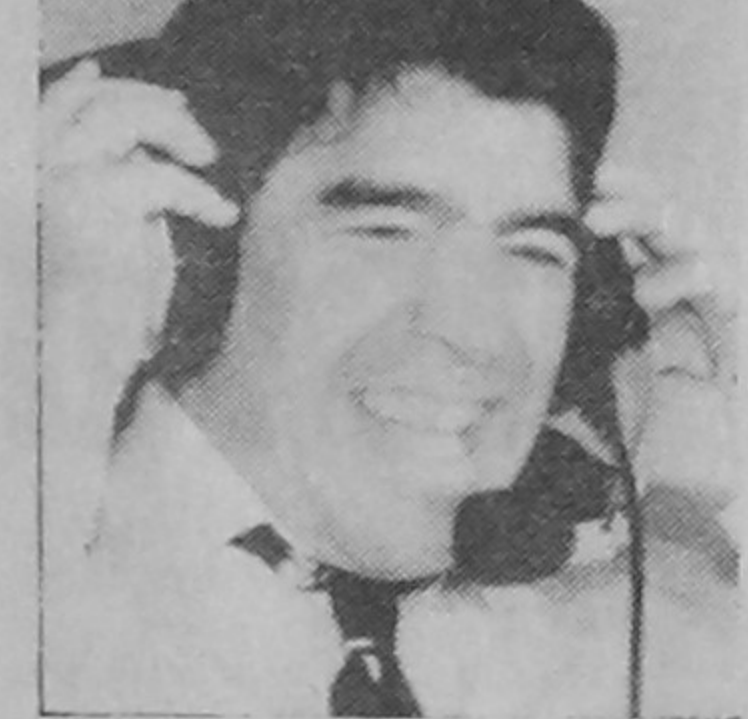
Maradona said he spent an
hour trapped behind the wheel

of the twisted wreckage of the
metallic blue four-wheel-drive
jeep before he was cut free by
rescuers. He said his first words
after the collision were "Call my
Mum and tell her I'm OK."

The bus suffered lesser
damage.

Maradona offered no expla-
nation as to why, according to
local people and accident in-
vestigators at the crash site, he
had been heading the wrong
way down one side of a divided
roadway in darkness when the
collision occurred.

"It was raining and misty ...
there was a closed bridge which
a minute before had forced me



DIEGO MARADONA

to swing the wheel around and
go in a different direction," he
told Argentine radio.

Earlier, his representative,
Guillermo Coppola told Reuters
the former Argentine national
soccer team captain had suf-
fered only bruises to the ankle
and knee of his left leg.

"He's a bit shook up by the
impact but it's nothing impor-
tant," Coppola said. Ferro Viera,
a longtime friend of Maradona,
suffered a sprained shoulder.

Following the crash, an am-
bulance took Maradona and
Ferro Viera to hospital. After
medical checks, including X-
rays, they were released and
returned to the Havana health
hotel where the former star has
been undergoing rehabilitation
for drugs abuse.

The two had set off Wednes-
day night to visit friends at
Guantanamo, east of Havana, after
watching on satellite television
a match played by Maradona's
former team Boca Juniors.

They had been forced to take
a long detour around Havana
Bay because the bay road tunnel,
which normally carries
traffic directly east, was being
trailed.

Maradona has been under-
going treatment in Cuba since

January and doctors said he
was recovering well from his
drugs problem. He is a self-
confessed admirer of Cuban
President Fidel Castro who paid
him a get-well visit early in his
stay.

Scandal and controversy has
dogged Maradona's career both
on and off the playing field.

In a 1986 World Cup match
against England, he scored a
notorious goal with his hand,
which was allowed by the ref-
eree, and then infuriated English
fans by declaring that the
"Hand of God" had helped the
ball into the net.

The presence of his busi-
nessman friend Ferro Viera in
the jeep at the time of the crash
was likely to deepen speculation
surrounding the incident.

After Maradona was first ur-
gently hospitalised in Uruguay
in January, suffering from hy-
pertension and an irregular
heartbeat, Uruguayan authori-
ties called on Interpol to bring
in Ferro Viera for questioning
over his alleged hand in sup-
plying drugs to the stricken
soccer icon.

Ferro Viera, who quickly left
Uruguay, denied he had given
Maradona drugs.

Maradona first started dab-
bling in drugs in 1983 as a
member of the Barcelona
squad.

Bassir's Olympic over!

SYDNEY, Sept 15: Morocco's
poor start to the men's Olympic
football tournament went from
bad to worse Friday when Sala-
heddine Bassir was sent home
by coach Said al-Khaidar, re-
ports AFP.

Bassir was given his
marching orders hours after his
team's 4-1 defeat by Chile in
their opening Group B match
and was expected to leave Fri-
day.

The relationship between
player and coach had deterio-
rated since an incident in Ja-
pan where the team had pre-
pared for the Olympic tourna-
ment.

The player was late to check
in at the airport but then
climbed down, apologising to
his coach.

But the first training session
in Melbourne saw the two men
cross swords again and Bassir,
who scored two goals in his
country's 3-0 victory over Scot-
land in the 1998 World Cup,
was omitted from the starting
line-up for the Chile match.

Bassir was then ordered
home.

Weekend's Primera Liga matches

UNDATED, Sept 15: Inter-
net Spanish Primera Liga
matches over the weekend:
FIXTURES (All games on
Sunday):

Celta Vigo vs Real Sociedad
Espanyol vs Osasuna, Rayo
Vallecano vs Real Zaragoza,
Alaves vs Villarreal, Oviedo vs
Las Palmas, Valladolid vs Nu-
manca, Valencia vs Mallorca,
Malaga vs Real Madrid,
Athletic Bilbao vs Barcelona,
Racing Santander vs Deportivo
Coruna

Arena, Reyna get two-game ban

CHICAGO, Sept 15: United
States head coach Bruce Arena
and midfielder Claudio Reyna
have both been suspended by
the FIFA disciplinary commit-
tee. It was announced here
Thursday, reports AFP.

Reyna received a two-game
suspension and Arena three
games for their actions after the
US 2-1 World Cup 2002 qual-
ifying loss in Costa Rica July 23.

It is a severe blow for the
Americans because they will be
without Reyna and Arena for
their next World Cup qualifying
game against Costa Rica Octo-
ber 11.

Reyna and Arena were in-
volved in a confrontation with
an official following a call that
went against the US that they
felt contributed to Costa Rica's
winning goal.

"The game in Costa Rica was
an emotional defeat for us, and
our reactions to that loss were
equally emotional," Arena said.

"We acknowledge and under-
stand FIFA's decision in this
process, and we need to put it
behind us and move forward in
our preparation for these up-
coming games."

Reyna apologized for his ac-
tions.

"Everyone that has watched
me throughout my career
knows how uncharacteristic my
actions were after the loss in
Costa Rica, and I am sorry for
losing my composure," he said.

The US must re-evaluate
their game plan and prepara-
tion because they are already
without suspended midfielders
Earnie Stewart (two yellow
cards) and Eddie Lewis (red
card against Guatemala, Sep-
tember 3).

The US entertain Costa Rica
at Columbus Crew Stadium
before travelling to Barbados for
the sixth and final semi-final
round, World Cup qualifying
match November 15.

While Reyna's suspension is
final with no chance of appeal,
US Soccer is evaluating the
appeal process in regards to
Arena's suspension.

The US are second in their
four-team group with seven
points. Costa Rica lead with
nine and Guatemala four, and
Barbados three round out the
group.

The top two teams in the
group will advance to the final
six-team group of CONCACAF
World Cup qualifying to be
played in 2001.

Radebe given all clear

LONDON, Sept 15: Leeds
skipper Lucas Radebe will fly
home on Thursday with the rest
of the squad following his neck
injury scare, reports AFP.

Radebe was detained in hos-
pital overnight in Barcelona
following a series of X-rays and
tests which later confirmed the
31-year-old had suffered no
serious problem.

The South African interna-
tional was involved in a colli-
sion with fellow centre-back
Michael Duberry towards the
end of last night's 4-0 Cham-
pions League hammering by Bar-
celona.

For several minutes Radebe
lay motionless on the Nou
Camp pitch while he underwent
treatment, surrounded by play-
ers from both sides.

Radebe was then taken off
on a motorised cart with his
neck in a brace before being
taken to hospital.

There was a possibility he
may have suffered a broken
neck but those fears were
quickly allayed soon after the
first of the X-rays.

Radebe, despite taking a
blow to the head, does not have
concussion either and therefore
will be clear to play in both this
Saturday's Premiership clash at
home to Ipswich and next
Tuesday's Champions League
tie with AC Milan.

A club spokesman said: "Lu-
cas received first class medical
treatment last night and we are
grateful to the Barcelona people
for that."

Premiership preview

Letting their feet do the talking



LONDON, Sept 15: Sometimes it
can be good not to
talk as Manchester
United strikers
Andy Cole and
Teddy Shering-

ham are proving, reports AFP.

The dynamic duo have
scored 10 goals in five starts
together for the Premiership
champions, with Cole netting a
hat-trick in Wednesday's 5-1
Champions League thrashing of
Belgian champions Anderlecht.

However, the forwards' lack
of communication has little to
do with their instinctive under-
standing and everything to do
with one of English football's
more curious feuds.

Back in February 1998,
Sheringham blamed Cole for a
Bolton goal. Cole unsurprisingly
disregarded and relations between
the pair have been icy cool
ever since.

"We're not talking, but like
I've stated before when you are
on the park you're playing for
your club," Cole said. "What-
ever differences you've got, you can't
concentrate on those differ-
ences when you go out and play
for Manchester United and I do
just that."

"It's about football, it's not
about me and Teddy, it's about
Man United on the whole."

"He's been here quite a few
years and I played with him
when he first came to Man
United. So he knows me and I
know him, and it goes from
there."

"It's a working relationship
when you play for the team like
we do."

COLOGNE, Ger-
many, Sept 15:
Schalke 04 go
into their home
game with Werder
Bremen on Sun-
day in the un-

likely position of German
League leaders, reports AFP.

But they have serious
doubts over the fitness of their
potent strike duo Ebbe Sand
and Enile Mpenza.

Together they have scored all
10 of Schalke's goals. However,
Sand was unable to train this
week because of a heavy cold
and Mpenza is recovering from
the effects of a car accident.

The Belgian international
slammed his Ferrari into a
motorway siding near Liege,
suffering a badly bruised eye,
and has done only light training
since.

Bayern Munich, still funing
about the sending-off of de-
fender Samuel Kuffour in
Wednesday's Champions
League game in Helsingborg,
where they won 3-1, bid to
make amends for last week's
first defeat at VfB Stuttgart in
the short trip across town to
Unterhaching on Munich's out-
skirts.

Unterhaching handed
Bayern the league title in May

when they beat Bayer Lever-
kusen on the final day, having
shone in their debut season
in the top flight but this time
they are having trouble with
just two points from four
games.

Unlucky Hansa Rostock,
who are rock bottom without a
goal and a coach, have the
thankless task of travelling to
Leverkusen, who are smarting
from their 2-0 loss at Spartak
Moscow this week.

And with Ulf Kirsten and Ze-
Roberto both fit again, they will
be burning to set the record
straight with a win.

Kaiserslautern coach Otto
Rehagel is already in the firing
line. His side, who play FC
Cologne on Friday night, beat
Irish minnows Bohemians 3-1
in the UEFA Cup but the 1998
champions could hardly have
played worse.

Kaiserslautern are 13th and
have only scored one goal in
their four games so far - and
that came from the boot of
Mario Basler who tore ankle
ligaments in Dublin and will be
out for weeks.

SV Hamburg had an eventful
start to the Champions League
against Juventus and although
it finished 4-4, the club are
brimming with confidence be-
fore an equally tough game at

"Everything is about the
team and not about two indi-
viduals."

"When you play for Man-
chester United, you play for
Manchester United."

There is no rule that every-
one in a successful side has to
like one another and the for-
wards will look to continue their
goalscoring run at Everton on
Saturday.

One team-mate who is
clearly a Cole fan is Ryan Giggs.
The Wales winger, who had a
hand in two of Cole's goals,
claims the hitman is in the form
of his life.

"He's on fire," he said. "His
finishing is unbelievable and
his two headers were great
goals."

"I think he's playing better
than before. Like any other
player, the older you get the
more experienced you get."

"His confidence is sky high
and he just seems to be putting
everything in the back of the
net."

"I hope he does play for
England because he's on fire at
the moment."

"No matter who he plays
against, he will do well."

Everton have had a mixed
start to the season but did beat
Middlesbrough 2-1 last week,
striker Francis Jeffers scoring
both goals.

Jeffers has now scored six
goals in his last five games and
will provide the main test for
United's defence. But new mid-
field pairing Thomas Gravesen
and Paul Gascoigne could pose
problems if the league leaders
show any signs of complacency.

Chelsea will face their first
Premiership match since sack-
ing manager Gennaro Viali
and they will not have an easy
time of it against high-flying
Leicester at Stamford Bridge on
Sunday.

Peter Taylor's team are cur-
rently second in the table have
lost none of the hardworking
attributes that made them such
difficult opponents under Mar-
tin O'Neill, now in charge at
Celtic.

Former England Under 21
and Gillingham boss Taylor
may be safely installed at
Leicester but Chelsea are in no
rush to make a decision about
Viali's successor.

"We're a Continental side
playing football in England and
that will obviously be reflected
in our choice," said Chelsea
managing director Colin
Hutchinson.

Former England coach Terry
Venables is the favourite with
most English bookmakers but
Frank Rijkaard and France
World Cup-winning coach Aimé
Jacquet are among other names
linked with the job.

FIXTURES

Saturday (kick-off)

1400GMT (Arse-
nal v Coventry, Aston Villa v
Bradford, Charlton v Totte-
nam, Everton v Manchester
United, Leeds v Ipswich, South-
ampton v Newcastle, Sunder-
land v Derby)

Sunday: West Ham v Liver-
pool, Chelsea v Leicester, Man-
chester City v Middlesbrough
(1500GMT)

Bundesliga preview

Leaders worried about Sand, Mpenza



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