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#7 Semir Mesanovic



Height: 5'10"
 Weight: 170 lbs
 Hometown: Toronto, Canada
 Birthdate: Jan 01, 1981
 Hometown: Dobo, Bosnia
 Place of Residence: Chicago, IL

Career Highlights: 2000: Signed with Besiktas of the Turkish league. ... 2001: Played with Toronto Croatia of Canadian Professional Soccer League, earning CPSL Rookie of the Year. ... 2002-03: Returned to his native Bosnia to play for Sarajevo. ... 2003: Played for Indiana Blast of United Soccer Leagues' A-League. ... 2003-04: Made MISL debut with Milwaukee Wave, tallying three goals and two assists in 12 games. ... 2004: Signed with Minnesota Thunder of USL's A-League. ... 2004-05: Scored eight goals for Wave as Milwaukee earned MISL championship. ... 2005-06: Played in two games for Milwaukee, then traded to Chicago Storm, where he had 15 goals and four assists. ... 2006-07: Played in five games for Chicago, then traded to California Cougars. Had five goals and seven assists. ... 2007-08: Posted a career season with personal bests in goals (19), assists (14), points (56) and blocks (13)...

Pro - Began pro career with the Toronto Croatians in 1999... Spent time with Besiktas of the Turkish First Division and Osijek of the Croatian First Division before returning to Bosnia in 2002 to play for Sarajevo... played with the Indiana Blast in 2003 recording four goals and three assists. He has also been a member of the U-18, U-20 and U-23 Canadian National Teams.

Personal - Enjoys playing tennis and basketball... Interested in pursuing a career in sports medicine in the future.

Statistics

Year	Games	3PT	2PT	1PT	TOT	A	PTS	BLK
2009-2010	22	2	15		17	9	45	18
Career	146	7	40	26	74	48	175	62

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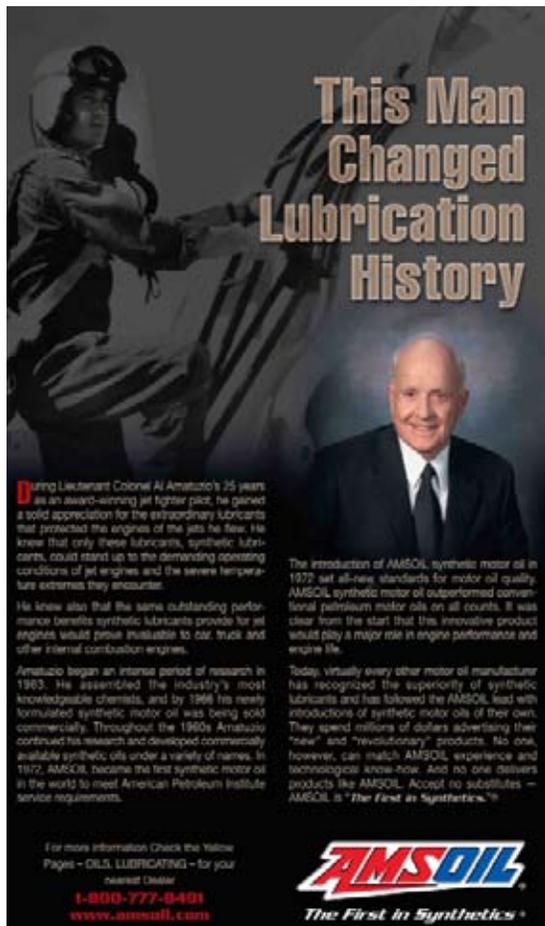
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Tottenham trying to bring Beckham back to England

David Beckham could be on his way back to England's Premier League - for a little while. Tottenham, where Beckham trained as a school-boy before signing for Manchester United, wants to sign the former England captain on loan from Los Angeles Galaxy until the Major League Soccer season starts in March. Beckham has said he would like to return to the Premier League after more than seven years away and Spurs manager Harry Redknapp thinks the 35-year-old midfielder's experience could be invaluable for a team challenging for a second straight top-four finish and doing well in its Champions League season.

"He just said that he would like to come and play here at Tottenham," Redknapp said after Tottenham beat Fulham 1-0 on Saturday to stay fifth in the Premier League.

"I've left it to the people at the club. I've passed it on to them. They're talking to whoever they have to talk to at his club."

Beckham spent the past two northern hemisphere winters in Italy on loan at AC Milan, while his Galaxy teammate Landon Donovan did the same last year at English club Everton. Beckham wants to join a European club on a short-term loan to boost his chances of being recalled to the England team. He made the last of his 115 international appearances against Belarus in October 2009 and missed last year's World Cup because of an Achilles injury at Milan.

Beckham previously said the only Premier

League team he would consider playing for was Manchester United, which he left in 2003 to join Real Madrid. But the north London club hopes to exploit Beckham's connection to the capital, where the player was born and raised.

With a Champions League knockout round meeting with Milan to look forward to in February, Tottenham would appear well-placed to offer Beckham the sort of profile he is used to.

"He'd be a good influence to have, the type of lad you want at your club, and he'd give the whole place a lift," Redknapp said. "He's been a fantastic player and he is someone the players would look up to and respect.

"It's not as if he's suddenly lost blistering pace. He makes the ball do it and plays around people." Midfielder David Bentley wants to leave Tottenham in January because he has failed to oust winger Aaron Lennon from the team, which would free a spot for Beckham in Spurs' Premier League squad.

Beckham's lack of pace and the presence of attacking midfielders Rafael van der Vaart, Luka Modric and Gareth Bale means he is unlikely to replace Lennon in the starting lineup of what has become recognized as a swift, free-flowing Tottenham side.

But he could replicate his recent role with England as a steadying influence late in games, with his accurate delivery from corners and free kicks still unmatched in world football.

"He can still do a job, otherwise I wouldn't bother," Redknapp said.

U.S. goalie Brad Guzan joins Hull on month loan

American goalkeeper Brad Guzan has joined the second-tier English team Hull on a one-month loan.

Guzan is under contract to the Premier League club Aston Villa but has been unable to oust fellow American Brad Friedel from the starting lineup. Guzan could debut for Hull in a League Championship match against Leicester on Saturday.

Guzan joined Villa from Chivas USA

in August 2008. His only Premier League appearance came as a 64th-minute substitute against Liverpool in March 2009. Guzan entered after Friedel had been sent off for allowing a penalty kick to be called. Liverpool beat Guzan on the kick to complete a 5-0 victory.

Wayne Rooney may miss 2 weeks with ankle injury

Manchester United striker Wayne Rooney could be out of action for two weeks after injuring his left ankle in Saturday's 2-1 Premier League win at West Bromwich Albion.

Rooney scored in the third minute for his first goal from open play since March but hobbled off late in the match after he was hurt in a tackle by Chris Brunt.

Rooney limped back onto the field

for the final few minutes because United had used all its substitutes.

United manager Alex Ferguson says "it looks as though he is out for a couple of weeks."

Ferguson added that the England striker had been "absolutely magnificent and drove us the whole way."

United leads the Premier League and hosts Stoke on Tuesday.

Hodgson says sorry to Reds fans

Liverpool manager Roy Hodgson has apologized for offending fans with his comments made after Wednesday's defeat at home to Wolves.

The 63-year-old had to endure chants of "Dalglish" and "Hodgson for England" during the 1-0 loss.

Hodgson said after the game he had never had the "famous Anfield support" in his six months in charge and that was interpreted as an attack on his critics in the crowd.

However, the Reds boss insisted that was not the case.

"Things have been misinterpreted," said Hodgson.

"I'm afraid people have taken one small comment where I was describing my situation.

"I was responding to a question about how it felt to be jeered by fans, making it clear it hurts me and I was disappointed by it because no-one wants to feel they are unpopular.

"I understand it is up to me to take it on the chin but it's not been an easy ride for me.

"It's been an uphill struggle and I was not the first choice appointment with a lot of fans.

"But if I have offended them in any way I deeply regret that.

"All I can do is apologise and make it perfectly clear there was nothing offensive in my comments."

Hodgson said supporters were perfectly entitled to their views and accepted he and the team had to do more to improve their enjoyment.

"Fans always have the right to show their anger and disapproval - we've got fantastic fans but you have to give them something to be passionate about and we didn't do that on Wednesday," he added.

"I don't think they were happy with anyone and as manager you are first in the firing line.

"The Anfield support will always be there and what's more it's better in times of crisis."



Ljungberg joins Celtic after passing medical

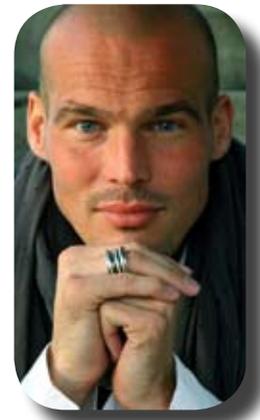
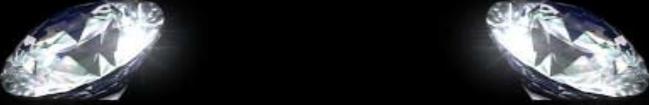
Celtic has signed Freddie Ljungberg after the former Sweden midfielder passed a medical examination.

The 33-year-old Ljungberg has been without a club since leaving the Chicago Fire at the end of the 2010 Major League Soccer season.

Celtic announced the signing on its website Thursday and said Ljungberg "could be in contention" to make his debut in the Old Firm derby against Rangers on Sunday.

The club did not disclose details of the contract.

Ljungberg spent nine years at Arsenal before moving to West Ham in 2007. But he left the Hammers just one year into a four-year contract and took a brief break before joining the Seattle Sounders.

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Blatter sets strategy for FIFA presidential vote

FIFA president Sepp Blatter set out a globe-trotting strategy on Wednesday to meet voters before he stands for re-election in June.

In a year-ending message, Blatter said he would attend each congress of soccer's six continental confederations ahead of FIFA's own annual gathering of 208 nations, where he will ask them for a fourth four-year term in office.

"I look forward to meeting the representatives of the member associations there in person, addressing their concerns and, together, setting a strategic course for the future," Blatter wrote in an open letter published on FIFA's website.

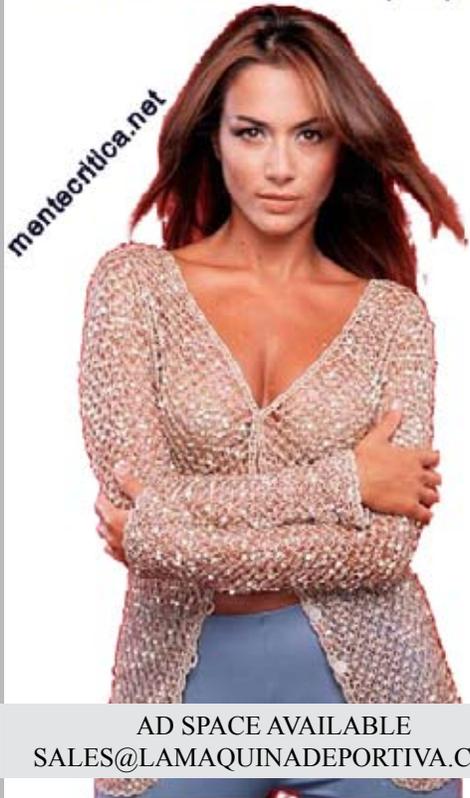
Blatter said it was "time to focus our attention and efforts on the future" after events this year showed "the universal power of our sport."

The 2010 World Cup in South Africa was the first played on the African continent, and this month FIFA awarded hosting rights for the 2018 tournament to Russia and the 2022 finals to Qatar - taking soccer's marquee event to Eastern Europe and the Middle East for the first time.

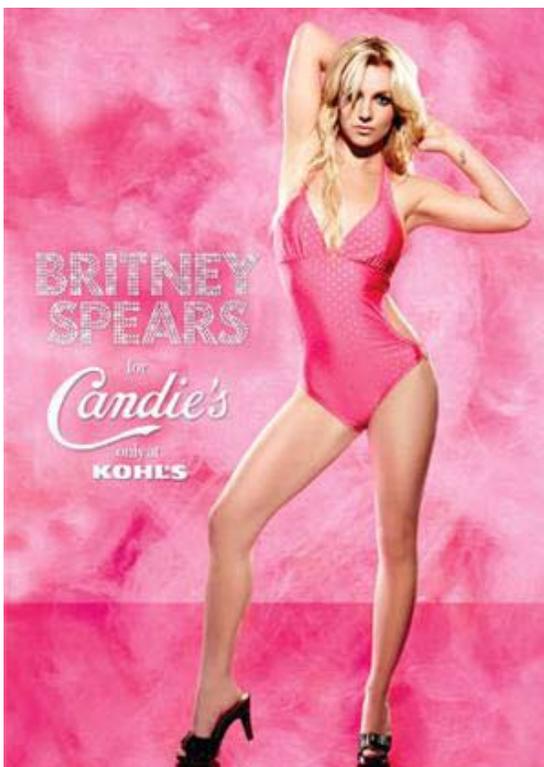
"At FIFA, we will therefore continue to pursue our goal of constantly developing football all over the world," Blatter said, adding that leadership was a key focus in 2011. "I hope that you will support me in my mission."

Blatter is first scheduled to meet his voters on Jan. 6, when the 46-nation Asian Football Confederation meets in Doha, Qatar.

Se la fanno ministro non si può più dire



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The Oceania body of 11 countries then meets Jan. 15 in Pago Pago, American Samoa.

The 52-member African confederation has its assembly Feb. 23 in Khartoum, Sudan.

UEFA, the European body, meets March 22 in Paris, and the football authorities of South America (CONMEBOL) and Central and North America (CONCACAF) are scheduled to meet before the end of May.

Blatter is scheduled to stand for re-election June 1 at FIFA's congress in its home city Zurich.

Challengers must be nominated by a FIFA member nation at least two months before the vote.

No candidate has openly declared their intent to run, although FIFA executive committee members Chung Mong-Joon of South Korea and Mohamed bin Hammam of Qatar are seen as having leadership ambitions. Chung must first defend his FIFA vice presidential seat in Doha next week against a challenge from Prince Ali of Jordan.

Blatter was elected FIFA president in 1998 and won a fierce re-election fight at the 2002 congress against African confederation leader Issa Hayatou of Cameroon. He won his third term unopposed in 2007.

Club America beats Guatemala 4-1

Matias Vuoso, Miguel Layun, Angel Reyna and Daniel Marquez scored to give Club America of Mexico City a 4-1 victory over Guatemala's national team in an exhibition game Wednesday night.

Guillermo Ramirez, who played for the Los Angeles Galaxy in 2005, scored his 14th career goal for Guatemala.

Vuoso gave Club America a 1-0 lead in the 19th minute with a penalty kick after Guatemala's Jaime Vides fouled Vicente Sanchez in the penalty area.

Goalkeeper Guillermo Ochoa, a member of Mexico's World Cup team, kept Guatemala from tying the score in the 36th minute. With Carlos Figueroa on a breakaway, Ochoa used his right leg to deflect the ball at point-blank range.

Layun then extended the lead to 2-0 in the same minute by redirecting Sanchez's right-wing cross from 11 yards.

Ramirez converted an 11-yard shot off Vides' cross in the 45th after Vides eluded three defenders on the right flank.

Reyna made it 3-1 with a 13-yard shot in the 81st minute. Marquez scored on a 9-yard header in the 84th.

Cologne signs defender Eichner from Hoffenheim

Defender Christian Eichner is joining struggling FC Cologne from Bundesliga rival Hoffenheim.

Cologne said Wednesday that the 28-year-old Eichner's contract lasts through the end of this season. He will join Cologne at its winter training camp.

Cologne gave no financial details of the deal. The club went into the winter break third from bottom in the Bundesliga, with 15 points from 17 games.

Eichner's arrival comes after Cologne also signed former Bayern Munich goalkeeper Michael Rensing.



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Sevilla defender Sergio Sanchez cleared to play

Sevilla says a doctor has cleared defender Sergio Sanchez to play again after a heart condition sidelined him nearly a year ago.

The 24-year-old Sanchez was diagnosed with the condition in January, requiring him to stop all physical activity. He then underwent an operation.

The club said Tuesday that a doctor cleared Sanchez after a recent series of tests. Sanchez will resume training Wednesday but the doctor wants him to be checked again at the end of the season.

Sanchez says his first reaction at the news was to “cry and hug my family.”

Sanchez was among a string of similar Spanish football cases following the deaths of Sevilla's Antonio Puerta and Espanyol's Daniel Jarque from heart-related problems.

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Diego Ventura has a fine debut in Querétaro where he cuts ears and tail, El Payo cuts two ears December 25, 2010/Emilio Mendez

The plaza of Santa Maria in Queretaro registered a full plaza for the celebration of Christmas. The bulls were from San Jose and Garfias each demonstrated great character and fought bravely in the rejón. The bulls from Fernando de La Mora were for the toreros on foot. They were comfortable and allow the matadors to show their skill.

Israel Téllez triumphs in his hometown Uriangato December 25, 2010/Comunicado

The plaza of Uriangato, Gto. registered a full plaza for the celebration of Christmas. On a chilled afternoon the matadors fought bulls from Cecilia Barbabosa which were well armed and performed fine. The triunfador of the festivities was the local matador Israel Tellez. He cut two ears off the first bull. He covered the three tercios, his work with the muleta was emotional and completed with a well placed sword. On his second bull he was once again masterful with the capote and muleta, but he squandered his



El Zapata and Joselito Adame Triumph in Apizaco, Tlax.

The Plaza de Toros “Rodolfo Rodríguez El Pana” registered half a plaza in attendance. Two bulls from Vistahermosa and four from El Vergel. The rejoneador Rodrigo Santos one ear and palms. Uriel Moreno “El Zapata” two ears and palms and Joselito Adame one ear on each bull. At the end they were carried out of the bullring on the shoulders of aficionados.

The ganaderias for Bilbao 2011 are selected December 23, 2010/Aplausos.



The administrative group of the Feria de Bilbao have selected the ganaderias which will be fought in the Plaza de Vista Alegre. The ganaderias are as follows: El Pilar, Miura, Jandilla and Victoriano del Río are a surprise addition to the group that includes Fuente Ymbro, El Ventorrillo, Victorino Martín, Núñez del Cuvillo and Alcurrucén.

Manzanares cancels the rest of his American temporada

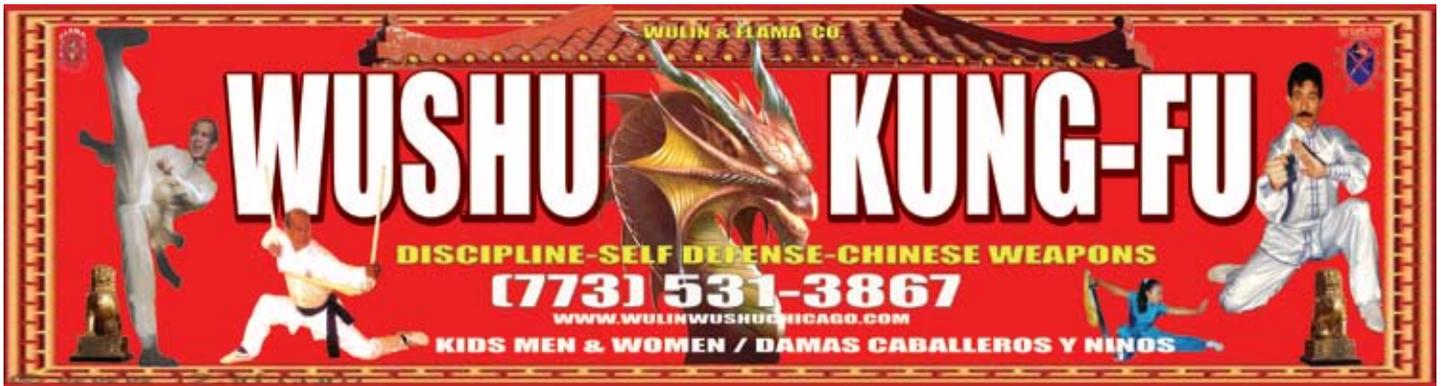
December 26,/MUNDOTORO

Jose Maria Manzanares has cancelled the remainder of his American Temporada. The matador from Alicante has decided to give himself a chance to fully recuperate from his injury suffered on September 8, in the Plaza of Utrera.



Who is the most important matador of the decade?

As we close the decade it is time to figure out who is the most important matador of the decade. Here are ten of the matadors who could easily enter a poll or survey: Ponce, El Juli, Fandi, El Cid, Castella, César Rincon, Morante de la Puebla, José Tomás, Manzanares and Perera . Who would you pick?



Saudi club Al Ittihad hires Tony Oliveira as coach

Saudi Arabian club Al Ittihad has hired Tony Oliveira as coach, replacing fellow Portuguese Manuel Jose following a string of disappointing results. In a statement issued late Tuesday, the club says Oliveira was the best option available. It did not provide any details on the contract for Oliveira, who has coached several Gulf clubs in the past including Al Ittifaq in Saudi Arabia. Jose resigned this month after eight consecutive draws that left Al Ittihad in second place, five points behind league leader Al Hilal. The team is one of the oldest and most successful in Saudi Arabia, winning the league eight times and twice in the past four seasons.



Enrique's injury tweets anger Newcastle manager



Newcastle defender Jose Enrique angered manager Alan Pardew by using Twitter before Tuesday's match at Tottenham to reveal that he would be out injured. Pardew had hoped news of Enrique's hamstring setback wouldn't be discovered until the teamsheet was handed in at White Hart Lane, where Newcastle lost 2-0 in the Premier League. But more than four hours before kickoff, the Spanish defender wrote in broken English on Twitter: "Sorry lads i have a test this morning and we decide is better dont play if no im in 100x100. Im so hungry because this game is nice to play ... my hamstring is so stiff today."

Pardew will now order his players to withhold such revelations from social networking accounts, although he accepts that "it's difficult to police" and won't impose an outright ban. "I got a text message that the press knew," Pardew said. "Did he tweet it, did he? It's something as a club we need to look at. Players can't be giving that sort of information out ... we need to make it as a club policy that it has to stop." Asked if Enrique would be fit for Sunday's match against West Ham, Pardew quipped: "I'll check his tweet." And Enrique had already provided an update for his more than 5,000 followers. "Im sure is ok for sunday because is just stiff nothing worse," he tweeted. "Thanks everyone for your support." Pardew's annoyance must have filtered through to Enrique as the contentious messages were subsequently deleted from his feed. "Sorry i want to delete twitter just get me problems," he explained on his feed. "I have some followers they speak after i say something on the papers."

First Israeli to play in Premier League dies at 54

Avi Cohen, a former Liverpool defender who became the first Israeli to play in England's top league, has died. He was 54. Cohen died Wednesday from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident last week, despite doctors having performed extensive brain surgery in an attempt to save his life. Cohen was among the first Israeli players to sign for a major European team when he joined Liverpool in 1979. He made 24 appearances and scored one goal for the club before returning to Israel to play for Maccabi Tel Aviv. He also played for Scottish club Rangers in 1987-88, and was a longtime captain of the Israeli national team. His son Tamir currently plays for Bolton in the English Premier League. Cohen is survived by his wife and three children. His funeral is set for Wednesday





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Malaysia holiday after football win over Indonesia

Malaysia declared Friday a public holiday to celebrate its victory over Indonesia in the bitterly contested final of a regional football tournament that dominated Twitter for days with hate messages by fans from both sides.

Malaysia beat neighbor Indonesia 4-2 on aggregate in the two-match final to win the ASEAN Suzuki Cup - southeast Asia's premier tournament - for the first time on Wednesday.

Malaysia beat Indonesia in the first leg played Sunday in Kuala Lumpur 3-0. It lost the second leg played in Jakarta on Wednesday 2-1, but won on aggregate over two legs.

Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak announced the holiday in a statement to the national news agency Bernama late Wednesday, saying that the victory marked "the greatest night in Malaysian football."

"Well done, Malaysian Tigers! You played well as a team and have made your country very proud. Congratulations!" he posted from his Twitter account.

Twitter was also the scene of a furious exchange of insults and accusations by fans from the two countries, who have been traditional rivals not only in sports but also in asserting regional influence and their versions of the Malay culture shared by both. Another sore point in their rivalry is the frequent mistreatment of Indonesian maids by Malaysian employers.

Furious Indonesians accused Malaysia of unfairly winning the first leg, alleging fans in Kuala Lumpur distracted Indonesian players by directing bright green beams from laser pens into their eyes.

During the game, officials told fans to stop using the pointers after Indonesia's goalkeeper and another player complained. Malaysia's three goals came after the directive.

Fearing revenge attacks, Wednesday's match in Jakarta was

played amid high security with armored personnel carriers deployed outside the stadium. Malaysian officials were booed when they came out to inspect the pitch. But the game went off without violence.

On Tuesday, Indonesian fans managed to push the phrase "HATE MALAYSIA" to the top of the Twitter charts for an hour.

As Malaysians were glued to televisions Wednesday, Twitter was awash with comments on the match. Malaysian goalkeeper Khairul Fahmi Che Mat even made it into Twitter's global "Trending Topics" chart as one of the most popular topics.

Other phrases among the top 10 trending were "Congratulations Malaysia," "loveindonesia" and "garudafightsback," a reference to the mythical Indonesia bird.

Indonesia - with a population of nearly 240 million people compared to Malaysia's 28 million - has Asia's largest numbers of Twitter users by country.

Malaysia takes ASEAN Suzuki Cup title

Malaysia has lifted the ASEAN Suzuki Cup for the first time after beating Indonesia 4-2 on aggregate in a final played over two legs.

Though beaten 2-1 at the Gelora Bung Karno Stadium on Wednesday, Malaysia's 3-0 victory in the first leg on Sunday was enough to secure the trophy.

However, the Malaysians also needed goalkeeper Khairul Fahmi Che Mat to save a penalty in the 15th minute to stay on course. Safee Sali put Malaysia ahead in the 54th minute, before goals from Mohammad Nasuha and Muhammad Ridwan earned their side a hollow victory on the night.

It was a sharp contrast to Malaysia's opening match of the tournament, when it was hammered 5-1 by Indonesia in a Group A match.

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170 Million

Adults read a newspaper in print or online in the past week.

115 Million

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56%

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61%

18-34 year-olds read a newspaper in any given week.

The year Africa held its first World Cup

This was far from the stylish Spain that dominated Euro 2008 and cruised through World Cup qualifying with 10 wins from 10 games.

The Spaniards lost their opening match to Switzerland in the tournament's biggest shock, before 1-0 wins in each of the four knockout rounds made them the lowest scoring world champions ever, with eight goals from seven matches.

A squad dominated by homegrown Barcelona stars waited patiently for its talent to yield a goal before trusting that its technical superiority would allow it to keep the ball and deny the opposition the chance to equalize.

It worked, even against a brutal display from the Netherlands in the final at Soccer City in Johannesburg. With the teams facing a penalty shootout, Andres Iniesta scored with four minutes of extra time left to clinch his country's first World Cup.

The Dutch were handed nine of the final's record 14 yellow cards and defender John Heitinga became only the fifth man to get a red card on football's biggest stage.

It was a huge anticlimax, especially after a clearly frail Nelson Mandela had turned up to wave to fans at the stadium in Soweto where 20 years earlier he had held his first mass rally following his release from jail.

Spain coach Vicente del Bosque seemed to have tightened things up after Barcelona's shock defeat to Inter Milan in the semifinals of Europe's Champions League.

With Spain internationals Xavi Hernandez, Carles Puyol, Gerard Pique, Sergio Busquets, Pedro and Victor Valdes in its lineup, the defending champions dominated Inter with an astonishing 71 percent possession over two matches but left space on the counterattack to lose 3-2 on aggregate.

Inter's 3-1 win in the first leg owed much to the sort of precision and patience Spain would show at the World Cup, where Busquets and Xabi Alonso effectively mirrored Inter's defensive shield of Thiago Motta and Esteban Cambiasso.

Inter and Germany were just about the only sides able to stop Messi during a year in which he made sure the repeated comparisons between him and Maradona - still Argentina's greatest ever player - ceased to become far-fetched.

Messi helped Barcelona retain the Spanish league and scored an incredible 58 club goals in 2010 to maintain his status as the world's best player, despite Cristiano Ronaldo's sparkling form for Real Madrid.

The dethroning of Barcelona - which by mid December of the following season was unbeaten in 22 matches and had scored 31 goals while conceding only one in the last seven of those - was simply the latest entry in Jose Mourinho's astounding career.

Mourinho led Inter to an unprecedented treble of Serie A title, Italian Cup and Champions League, with Bayern Munich beaten 2-0 in the final in Madrid.

The World Cup finally made it to Africa in 2010 and plans were made to send football's showpiece to even more new destinations.

After South Africa overcame dire predictions of security problems and half-empty stadiums to stage a World Cup that united the country in celebration, FIFA voted to give future tournaments to Russia and Qatar.

South Africa's first-round exit made it the least successful host team in World Cup history, but the rest of the country mostly coped admirably with its biggest global gathering since the end of a decades-long boycott by world sport.

Fans worldwide became intimately acquainted with the incessant buzz of the vuvuzela as South Africans celebrated the World Cup and the arrival of many of the superstars they had only ever seen before on television. But on the field, the World Cup was far from a classic. Spain's 1-0 win over the Netherlands came in the dirtiest ever final, which was an appropriate end to a tournament that promised much but delivered little.

While Germany again thrilled neutrals to take third place for a second straight tournament, Brazil was dour. Italy and England were even worse, but France took the unofficial title of tournament laughing stock - so consumed by dissent that players refused to train before a 2-1 loss to South Africa that confirmed the team's humiliating first-round exit.

Diego Maradona's presence as coach inspired his beloved Argentina to some fitfully entertaining displays, with Lionel Messi doing everything except score, but Germany dismantled the South Americans 4-0 in the quarterfinals and Maradona was fired soon after.

The fervor of home fans was quelled when five of Africa's six entrants fell in the first round. Although Ghana then beat the United States 2-1 in a game watched by 19.4 million Americans - a U.S. record beaten when 24.3 million watched the final - the remaining enthusiasm turned to anger when a deliberate handball by Uruguay forward Luis Suarez denied their adopted team a winner in the last minute of the quarterfinals.

Suarez was suspended from Uruguay's first semifinal match since 1954, but FIFA refused calls for additional punishment for a cynical act that became one of the most memorable moments of the tournament.

Even Spain disappointed despite following West Germany and France to become only the third side to hold the World Cup and European Championship trophies at the same time.

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STARS

STUDENTS TEACHING AND REACHING STUDENTS



1st Fundraiser of the year for STARS Project will be on January 22, 2011 (Saturday). Come and continue supporting our students' education while enjoying tasty Italian cuisine, LIVE entertainment, and SALSA lessons. \$20 will show our community students that their education is important to us. Please join us at 6 pm at the Ristorante Al Teatro, which is located on 1227 W. 18th Street (crossing Allport). Your donation allows our high school students to continue tutoring/mentoring middle school students, while emphasizing math and science.

Yolanda is founder and executive director of STARS Project (Students Teaching And Reaching Students) now coined Helping Youth Help Themselves. It is a Non-Profit Organization. The idea of STARS Project began formulating in March of 2010. Together with five amazing individuals they've worked endlessly to make STARS Project a reality.

This idea became reality with the help of these great leaders that share STARS vision. The Founding Board of Directors include Ana Castillo B.S., Math Department Chair at World Language High School in Little Village and is Nationally Board Certified; Juanita Mora M.D., Physician at Rush Medical Hospital; Leticia Madrigal M.A., Industrial Organizational Psychologist at Madrigal Consulting and HCC Post-Construction Services; Qetsiy'ah Yisra'el B.S., Civil Engineer

and is pursuing her Master of Science in Teaching (Secondary), and Sonia Soto B.S., president of Yayo-Interactive website designing. There have been many community leaders that have extended their assistance, and are extremely eager to implement this project. STARS will continue working with communities that support the importance of giving students as many opportunities as possible.

Our platform is twofold, addressing the financial pressures high school students face and its impact on college readiness and addressing the academic-needs 6th, 7th, and 8th graders face and its impact on their readiness for high school. STARS Project seeks to secure stipends for high school scholars in order to provide career building employment opportunities, alleviate financial hardship, and obtain STEM internships. Thereby guiding our future leaders toward STEM careers; reducing the academic gap between those middle school and high school students; improving our middle school student's academic skills in Math and Science in doing so we are Helping Youth Help Themselves.

Here are a few events we participated during 2010, September; we participated in the Independence Parade both in Pilsen and Little Village. Our students had breakfast with Jose Hernandez, the Astronaut.

The high school students participated on two weeks of professional week in the month of September and October. We provide them the tools necessary for them to tutor and mentor middle school students. They reviewed STARS student policies, job expectations, their projects, and had Chase bank provide them a workshop about managing their money and assist them in opening a bank account for direct deposits.

In October we collaborated with UIC@ Chicago, IIT and other educational community organizations to make this event accessible to middle and high school students.

In November STARS Project collaborated with several community organizations to provide information to our community, parents, and students about the local resources. We also had our students enter an ART contest. They exhibited a jetcar they built from recycled materials, and our 6th graders were awarded 1st place.

Throughout the year we offer monthly workshops held on Saturday for our middle school students and parents. One of our workshops was Engineering Day. SHPE students from UIC @ Chicago came and participated with our students to educate them in the different areas of Engineering.

