

CHICAGO, IL ~ JANUARY 2011 ~ WEEK 3 ~ ISSUE 55

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# Miki Djerisilo

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# #4 MIKI DJERISILO



Height: 5'9" Weight: 155 lbs  
Hometown: Belgrade, Serbia  
Birthdate: Sep 02, 1973

I started playing soccer when I was 6 years old. At 7 my dad saw how much I enjoyed playing and bought me my first pair of soccer shoes. This was so big to me. My family did not have extra money to spend on soccer. We had just enough money to survive.

I wore those soccer shoes for two years. They were my only pair of shoes - I had to wear them for both school and soccer. After two years they were so tight it was painful. I asked my dad if he could buy me another pair, but we didn't have money for new soccer shoes. After practice my feet would bleed so much covering my socks and shoes. My coach noticed and bought me a new pair of soccer shoes. I was crying when he gave them to me. I can't tell you how happy I was. I knew I was set for the next two years!

When I was 10 years old and playing for one of the biggest soccer clubs in Europe, Red Star Belgrade, my dad talked to me about playing soccer. He said "Miki if you want to continue to play soccer you have to make the National Team. I don't have money to pay for your soccer."

Making the National Team was a lot of pressure. Every Saturday over 1000 kids would show up to try out for the National Team. Your spot on the team was never secure. Every week they made cuts. Each kid had to work every day to stay on the team and always give 100% on the field - just to survive.

The Youth 11 National Team asked me to play for them when I was 11 years old. All my expenses would be paid. At that time, however, I was also playing basketball and really enjoyed that sport too, but I couldn't do both. I had to quit basketball. I asked my dad to please call my basketball coach and let him know I was quitting basketball. However my dad said "You are old enough to call your coach and tell him your decision." That taught me to be responsible for my decisions and myself.

As I became a teenager, my dad asked me what I want to be and what I want to do in my life. I knew exactly what I wanted to do. I told him "I want to be a pro-soccer player in biggest soccer club in Europe." My dad said, "Miki do you know how many kids want to play professional soccer? Only a few make a team and more than that you want to play in biggest soccer club in EUROPE! You need to focus on your studies. I told my dad "I will make the team, and I will still finish school because you want me to, but my heart its on soccer field."

When I was 16 year old, the President of the Red Star Soccer Club called me in his office. I was thinking, "I am in big trouble..." I thought for sure I was out, but instead he told me to bring my dad next Monday to meet with them to discuss a professional contract. When I signed the contract and received my first pay check I made more money than both of my parents earned combined for an entire year. I returned to my first soccer coach that had bought me new soccer shoes when I was 9 years old and left a note on his desk along with keys to a new car. On the note I wrote "Coach you deserve more, but this is something for you to remember one of your students. All Respect, MiKI"

On that day my dream to be professional soccer player came true, and I have been living this dream ever since. Through these years of playing pro-soccer I have met a lot of good people, made a lot of friends, and learned a solid life lesson - work hard to respect every person, love the sport, and practice everyday.

Remember to love what you are doing and do it with all of your heart. Give everything you have to the game, be honest with your teammates, and work hard. Do this and you will continually improve yourself and be successful.

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## Higuain has back surgery in Chicago

Real Madrid forward Gonzalo Higuain has had back surgery at Northwestern Memorial Hospital to repair a herniated disk. Neurosurgeon Dr. Richard G. Fessler operated Tuesday with the assistance of Dr. Carlos Diez, Real Madrid's head of medical services, and Argentina national team physician Dr. Daniel Armando Martinez.

Real Madrid said Higuain would

be discharged Wednesday. The 23-year-old, a starter for Argentina's World Cup team, has not played since Nov. 20 because of the injury, which the team originally announced as a hernia. He has seven league goals this season and 10 overall in 17 matches. Real Madrid did not give a timetable for Higuain's return.

## Guillermo Barros Schelotto Joins Hometown Club Gimnasia For Six Months

Unable to find a suitor in MLS, 2008 MVP Guillermo Barros Schelotto will return to his native Argentina after being released by the Columbus Crew. According to multiple reports out of Argentina, the elegant playmaker has signed a six-month deal with his first club, Gimnasia La Plata.

Supporters' Shields with Columbus, as well as the 2008 MLS Cup. Prior to that, the man known as the Twin in his homeland (Gustavo, his twin, has already retired) led a storied career with Boca Juniors. There he won 16 trophies, including four Copa Libertadores and Intercontinental Cups.

Héctor Delmar, the president of Gimnasia, confirmed the agreement, lauding Schelotto for not bringing money into the discussion.

Now 37, Schelotto will play one last stint with the club that launched his career, 14 years after departing. The official announcement and presentation is expected Friday.

Schelotto won the 2008 and 2009

## Los Angeles Galaxy Acquire Forward Chad Barrett From Toronto FC

The Los Angeles Galaxy today acquired forward Chad Barrett from Toronto FC in exchange for future considerations. The six-year Major League Soccer veteran has 34 career regular season goals in 147 games with the Chicago Fire and Toronto FC.

A former U.S. youth international, Barrett was a member of the U.S. Under-20 national team that reached the Round of 16 at the 2005 World Youth Championships in Holland. He scored the lone goal to help the USA defeat Argentina in group play of that tournament.

Barrett played his college soccer at UCLA and began his MLS career with the Fire in 2005 after being selected by the club with the third pick in the first round of that year's MLS SuperDraft.

The Galaxy lost their leading goalscorer from last season, Edson Buddle, to German second-division club Ingolstadt, so strengthening their forward corps was a priority for the Supporters' Shield winners.

# Donovan, Wambach win U.S. honors

Landon Donovan and Abby Wambach have been honored by the U.S. Soccer Federation as athlete of the year for the fourth time.

Donovan scored against Slovenia, Algeria and Ghana at the World Cup. He had an injury-time goal against Algeria that put the U.S. in the second round.

Wambach had 16 goals in 18 games for the national team. She has 117 goals, third on the American career list.

Donovan is the first four-time winner of the male award. He also won in 2003-04 and last year. Wambach also won in 2003-04 and 2007. Wambach trails only five-time honoree Mia Hamm.

Defender Gale Agbossoumonde was cited Monday as the top young male athlete. Goalkeeper Bianca Henninger is the female winner.



# Henry 'keeping fit' with Gunners

Arsenal great Thierry Henry has begun a training stint with the club in order to keep fit during the Major League Soccer off-season.

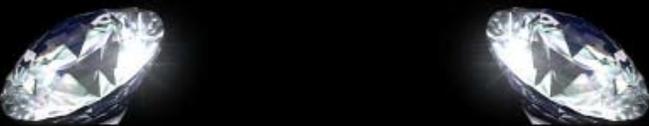
Henry, who plays for the New York Red Bulls in MLS, remains a favourite with Gunners fans after scoring 226 goals in a highly-successful spell with the Londoners between 1999 and 2007.

The 33-year-old left Arsenal to join Barcelona in the summer of 2007 before signing for New York in July last year.

A statement on Arsenal's official website read: "Thierry Henry is back at Arsenal.

"The Gunners legend returned to London Colney on Monday to train with Arsene Wenger's squad. The short-term arrangement will help Henry maintain his fitness ahead of the new MLS campaign, which begins in March.

"Henry joined the New York Red Bulls last year and helped them reach the play-offs, where they lost on aggregate to San Jose Earthquakes in November."



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## CONCACAF will lobby for 4th spot in World Cup

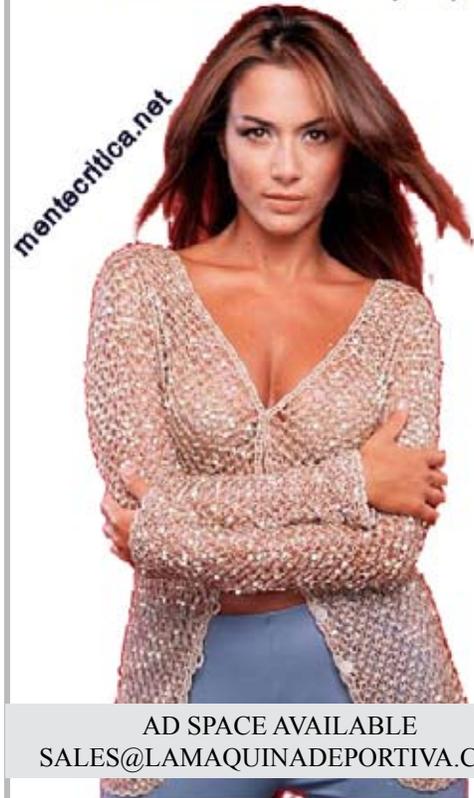
CONCACAF will lobby for a guaranteed fourth spot for the 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

The soccer organization's executive committee said Sunday that CONCACAF - the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football - has earned the right to increase its allotment of World Cup slots from 3 1/2. A decision is expected at a meeting of the FIFA executive committee in March. "We believe that CONCACAF deserves another full place at the World Cup finals due to the performances of our teams on the field and the actions of our confederation off it," CONCACAF President Jack Warner said. "We are unified in our efforts to make this happen."

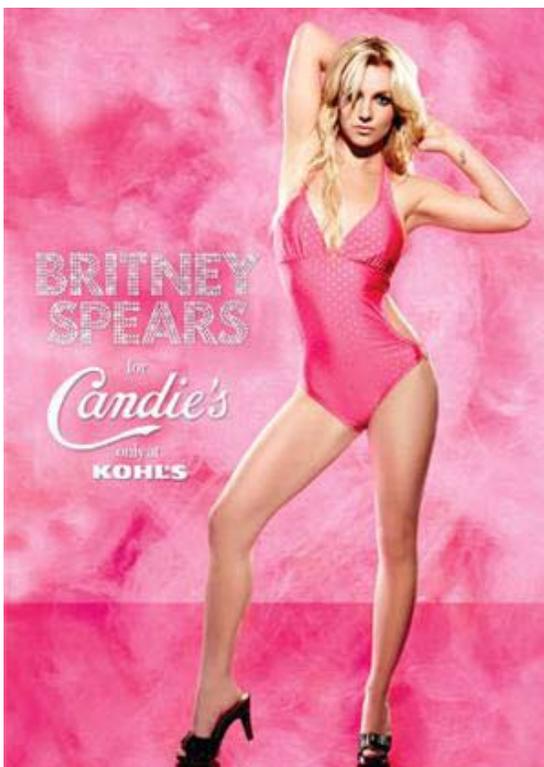
Also, the United States was awarded the Olympic men's qualifying tournament to be held in March 2012.

SM  
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## Chung elected Oceania confederation president

David Chung replaced suspended FIFA vice president Reynald Temarii as president of the Oceania Football Confederation Sunday after his two New Zealand opponents for the position withdrew their nominations. Chung, the president of the Papua New Guinea football association, was elected at the congress of the 11-member confederation at Pago Pago in American Samoa.

New Zealanders Frank van Hattum, chairman of Football New Zealand, and Fred de Jong pulled out of the race to allow Chung's unopposed election. De Jong retained his position on the OFC executive committee. Temarii was forced to relinquish the Oceania presidency when he was suspended for 12 months by FIFA's ethics committee for breaches of regulations governing loyalty and confidentiality during the bidding process for the World Cup in 2018 and 2022.

The Tahitian has appealed his suspension and his fine of 5,000 Swiss francs. The penalties were imposed after a British newspaper filmed Temarii apparently discussing aspects of the World Cup bid process with a group posing as delegates from bidding nations.

Chung, 48, has been acting president since November. He will hold the Oceania presidency for four years and pledged at the start of his tenure Sunday to attempt to unify the diverse confederation of mainly small Pacific states.

The Oceania congress was attended by FIFA President Sepp Blatter and FIFA Secretary General Jerome Valck. In an introductory speech, Blatter stressed the importance of the pending vote.

# Morgan taken first in WPS draft

Women's Professional Soccer held its third annual college draft Friday at the 2011 NSCAA Convention in Baltimore, Maryland. Surprise few in the audience, expansion Western New York Flash selected California standout and U.S. national team rising star Alex Morgan with the top pick in the draft, while also nabbing Elli Reed as the first defender in the draft with the number eight overall selection. Philadelphia Independence, last year's runner-up in the WPS Championship presented by Citi, took local Havertown (PA) product and all-ACC midfielder from Virginia, Sinead Farrelly, with the second overall selection. MAC Hermann trophy-winner Christen Press of Stanford went fourth, after North Carolina midfielder Meghan Klingenberg was selected third.

Among colleges, six schools had multiple picks from their squads including longtime college powers Portland, Notre Dame, UCLA and Virginia. Oklahoma and Wake Forest also had two selections each from their schools. Surprisingly, North Carolina featured just one selection – Klingenberg – among the 24 total picks. In total, 18 different schools had players selected.

WPS CEO Anne-Marie Eileras officially opened the proceedings by announcing the league's sixth national sponsor, Sahlen's Hot Dogs, and looked ahead to the 2011 season which kicks off April 9/10 and includes a two-week break for the 2011 Women's World Cup. NSCAA President Marcia McDermott also welcomed WPS and its teams as the NSCAA Convention played host to the draft for the third consecutive year.

Round 1

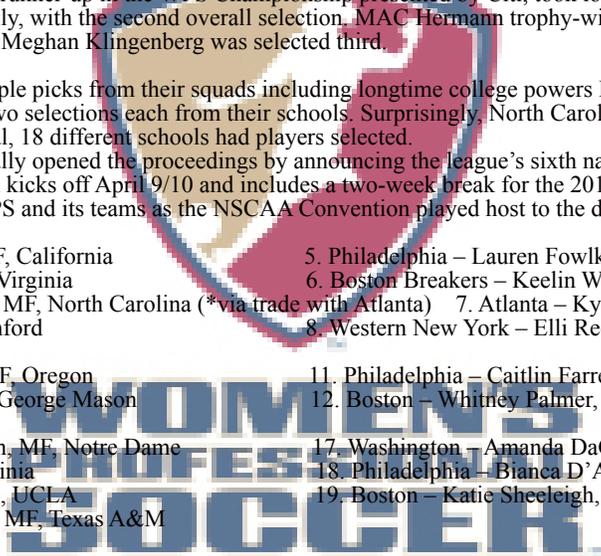
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Western New York – Alex Morgan, F, California                                 | 5. Philadelphia – Lauren Fowlkes, F, Notre Dame   |
| 2. Philadelphia – Sinead Farrelly, MF, Virginia                                  | 6. Boston Breakers – Keelin Winters, MF, Portland |
| 3. Washington – Meghan Klingenberg, MF, North Carolina (*via trade with Atlanta) | 7. Atlanta – Kylie Wright, MF, UCLA               |
| 4. Washington – Christen Press, F, Stanford                                      | 8. Western New York – Elli Reed, D, Portland      |

Round 2

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 9. Philadelphia – Jennifer Stoltenberg, F, Oregon | 11. Philadelphia – Caitlin Farrell, D, Wake Forest |
| 10. Washington – Omolyn Davis, MF, George Mason   | 12. Boston – Whitney Palmer, F, Oklahoma           |

Round 3

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 13. Western New York – Rose Augustin, MF, Notre Dame | 17. Washington – Amanda DaCosta, MF, Florida State    |
| 14. Atlanta – Meghan Lenczyk, F, Virginia            | 18. Philadelphia – Bianca D'Agostino, MF, Wake Forest |
| 15. Philadelphia – Lauren Barnes, D, UCLA            | 19. Boston – Katie Sheeleigh, F, Harvard              |
| 16. Sky Blue FC – Alyssa Mautz, MF, Texas A&M        |   |



## Spain lashes out at Blatter over Messi's win

The Spanish media lashed out at FIFA President Sepp Blatter on Tuesday after Lionel Messi won the Ballon d'Or ahead of Barcelona teammates Andres Iniesta and Xavi Hernandez, who played for Spain when it won the World Cup.

Spanish daily AS said "Spain is very angry," and Marca has "Two Giants and one Anti-Spaniard" splashed across its front page in reference to Messi, coach of the year Jose Mourinho and Blatter. ABC newspaper wrote: "FIFA scorns the world champions."

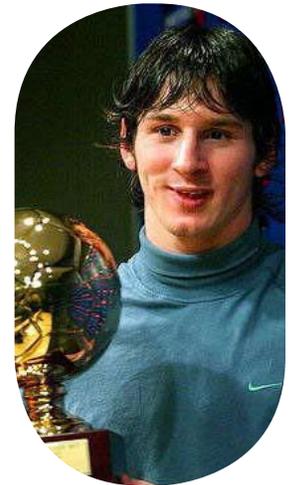
Messi won the FIFA award for a second straight year on Monday, the Argentina forward's standout performances for Barcelona outweighing a disappointing World Cup, where Iniesta and Xavi helped lead the European champions to their first world championship.

Iniesta scored the winning goal in July's 1-0 extra-time win against the Netherlands at Soccer City in Johannesburg, South Africa, while Xavi has been labeled the brains behind the team as he orchestrated much of the team's play.

Despite six Spanish players being included in FIFA's 2010 world all-star team, Marca said "without a doubt the biggest loser on this night was Spanish football."

"(Blatter) had the chance to once again show his ill-will toward everything Spanish," Marca wrote. "Only a few days ago he left us without the chance to or-

ganize the World Cup by instead opting for Russia and yesterday he left us without a prize that Spanish football deserved." Russia beat bids from Spain-Portugal, Belgium-Netherlands and England for the right to host the 2018 finals in a vote last month.



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# COP FUELS CHICAGO RIOT TO 1ST HOME WIN OVER BALTIMORE

## Goalkeeper nets game-winner with 23 seconds, saves 22 shots, adds assist

Chicago Riot goalkeeper Ante Cop was Mr. Everything on Sunday, netting a fourth-quarter game-winner, assisting a goal and adding 22 saves -- including one in the final second -- to lead Chicago to a 14-12 win over the Baltimore Blast in Major Indoor Soccer League action at the Odeum Sports and Expo Center.

Cop scored the game-winner with 23 seconds remaining on the clock -- a deep three-point shot just barely across mid-field. With 2 seconds remaining, following a three-line violation, Baltimore was awarded a free kick just outside the three-point arc. But Cop dove to his left to stop a Giuliano Celenza shot as the buzzer sounded to give the Riot its first home win (1-2 at the Odeum, 2-6 overall).

Baltimore fell to 6-3 and sits in second place in the MISL standings behind the Milwaukee Wave (7-2).

Next up for the Riot is a 6 p.m. match on Saturday, Jan. 22, against the Milwaukee Wave at the U.S. Cellular Arena. The Riot's next home match is at 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 30, against Baltimore at the Odeum Sports and Expo Center. The event features Chicago Soccer Heritage Night. For tickets and more information about the Riot, visit [www.ChicagoRiotSoccer.com](http://www.ChicagoRiotSoccer.com) or call 630-708-6284.

Adrian Bumbut gave the Blast the early 2-0 lead at the 3:07 mark off of an assist from Pat Healey. Healey dished the ball in from the right side and Bumbut drove the ball low past Cop.

Baltimore increased its lead to 4-0 at the 1:16 mark of the second quarter with Matt Watson scoring off of a Max Ferdinand assist. Ferdinand won a 50-50 battle against Riot captain Fred Degand, who played in his 100th career game on Sunday, to lead the Blast attack.

But the Riot needed only 19 seconds to answer with Alex Megson's goal at the 1:35 mark to cut the deficit to 4-2. The quick tally was fueled by Degand on the left side as he crossed the ball to the right and found Megson. Megson has scored a goal in four of the Riot's past five games.

Chicago then tied the score at 4-4 at the 4:53 mark of the second with Eric Lukin's two-point goal. Degand took advantage of a Baltimore player losing control of the ball and the Riot cashed in for the tally. Lukin, who had missed the previous two games for personal reasons, was wearing No. 15 instead of his customary No. 14 jersey.

Bato Radonicic gave the Riot its first lead at the 10:32 mark of the second quarter for a 6-4 advantage. Cop assisted as he passed the ball upfield with his left foot and found Radonicic darting straight at the Baltimore goal, splitting the defense. Radonicic dribbled toward the glass to the right of the goal and shot the ball past Blast goalkeeper Nick Hovaker.

The Blast responded with Pat Morris' restart goal at the 11:15 mark off of a Healey assist to tie the score at 6-6 heading into halftime.

Baltimore took the lead at the 3:52 mark of the third quarter with Worteh Sampson's unassisted goal for an 8-6 lead. Riot defender Eric Duda could not control the ball in the back and Sampson took control. He took one shot that went wide right of the goal, but Sampson followed up his own rebound to garner the goal. Then Ferdinand pushed the Blast's cushion to 10-6 at 5:12 of the third with an unassisted tally.

Chicago ended Baltimore's 6-0 run as Radonicic netted his second goal of the game at the 14:41 mark of the third. Radonicic redirected Marco Sullo's shot from the right side to cut Baltimore's lead to 10-8 heading into the fourth quarter.

The Blast had an answer, however, as Healey scored off of a Carlos Garcia assist at the 7:50 mark of the fourth for a 12-8 lead.

In the final 3 minutes, the Riot started pushing up Cop as a sixth attacker, and at the 12:28 mark Chicago struck with Novica "Novi" Marojevic's three-point goal from the right side to cut the Blast's lead to 12-11.

Then at the 14:37 mark, Cop booted in a long game-winner and the Odeum crowd reached its highest decibel level of the season to hang on for its first home win.

The Blast was shorthanded Sunday with three players suspended for the match following an altercation against Milwaukee the previous week -- forward Lucio Gonzaga, defender Mike Lookingland and forward Warren Ukah.

### POST-GAME QUOTES:

Riot Head Coach Jeff Kraft:

On the game: "We knew we had to come at them. Baltimore's the [second-place] team. The guys showed a lot of heart at the end and we pulled one out for the fans tonight."

On Ante Cop: "Ante can play the game. He's a veteran, and he stepped up and did a great job in goal tonight. And to boot, he makes the winning goal at the end."

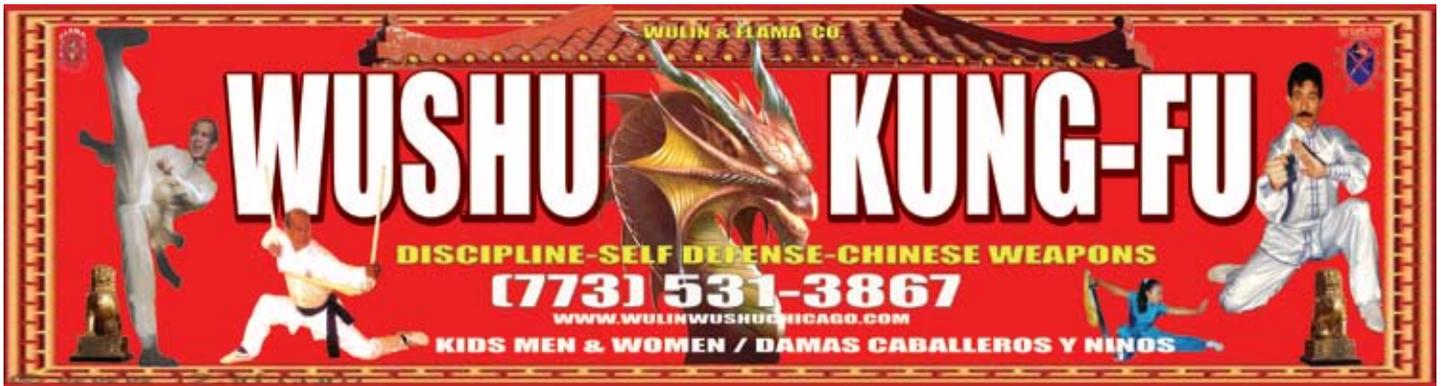
On facing Blast backup goalkeeper Nick Hovaker: "We didn't really know anything about their backup. I thought he played well tonight. he stopped a lot of our shots. But in the end, the goals just happened."

Riot Goalkeeper Ante Cop

On the game: "You know what, if at the end of the day it's a win, I'll take them all. My heart's OK. I'm 36. I might not have as many ticks as some of the younger guys, but I'll take it. What a great game."

On shooting the game-winner: "The boys said, when we went into the huddle, the boys said 'Ante, shoot the ball, shoot the ball.' When it left the foot, I had Robbie Aristodemo in front of me from Baltimore. If I hit him, I hit him. If it's going to go in, it'll go in."

On what was going through his head with Baltimore's final set piece: "Just get my hands on it, that's it. I wasn't going to let Baltimore ruin the parade. We just came back from a four-point deficit."



## David Beckham may not be fit for loan

The chances of David Beckham joining Tottenham on loan appeared remote Friday after Spurs manager Harry Redknapp said the midfielder wouldn't be fit to play a Premier League match until the end of January. Beckham began a monthlong training stint with the Spurs this week, and Tottenham had been in negotiations with the Los Angeles Galaxy about signing the ex-England captain on loan until March. But Redknapp said Beckham is still two weeks away from full fitness and suggested it may not be worth adding him to the squad for such a short spell.

"It's only two months and before you know it, a month will have gone and then it would be only a couple of weeks. So it's a difficult one really," Redknapp said.

Beckham had his first day of training Tuesday, and his presence at the Spurs' training ground in northeast London has generated a huge amount of interest.

Redknapp said there has been "nothing flashy" about the 35-year-old Beckham, and acknowledged his fitness levels weren't up to the required standard to play in England's top division.

"David is a fitness fanatic but getting fit to play Premier League football is very different to just going training on your own and keeping your fitness up," Redknapp said. "He would be the first to admit that in his first week in training he has felt tired, and it's going to be a couple of weeks before he is fit enough to play."

The Spurs initially expressed interest in Beckham earlier this month, raising the prospect of the midfielder playing for Tottenham against his former club Manchester United in the Premier League on Sunday.

Redknapp said he never considered that possibility.

"I never felt he'd be fit enough to play this week," said Redknapp, while delighted with Beckham's impact on the team. "It has been good having him here. Everyone respects him, likes him. He just comes in and just gets on with it. He's a great role model for any footballer."

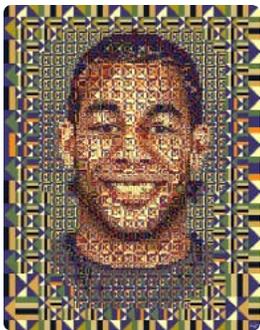
Beckham has been hoping that playing in the Premier League would boost his chances of being recalled to the England squad, having made 115 appearances.

The Galaxy, however, are reluctant to allow Beckham to go to Europe for a third consecutive Major League Soccer offseason.

During a stint at AC Milan last season, Beckham damaged his Achilles tendon and was sidelined for six months.



## Twente signs Onyewu on loan from Milan



Dutch league champion FC Twente has signed United States international defender Oguchi Onyewu on loan from AC Milan for the remainder of the season.

Tuesday's move reunites 28-year-old Onyewu with Michel Preud'homme, his former coach at Belgian club Standard Liege.

Onyewu made his international debut for the United States in 2004 and played at the World Cup in 2006 and last year in South Africa.

After missing most of last season with injury, Onyewu agreed to play for free for a year in return for a contract extension with Milan until 2013, but he has failed to break into the first team this season.

His arrival comes as two Twente defenders, Nicky Kuiper and Dwight Tiendalli suffered knee injuries while at a training camp during the Dutch Eredivisie's winter break.

## Head of Saudi football federation fired

The king of Saudi Arabia has fired the country's football federation president following the national team's disappointing performance at the Asian Cup.

A statement from King Abdullah's office on Saturday says Sultan bin Fahd bin Abdul-Aziz has been removed from his post and replaced by Prince Nawaf bin Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul-Aziz.

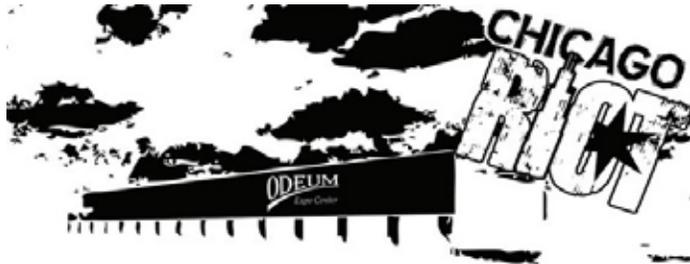
Traditionally a power in Asian football, Saudi Arabia's Asian Cup campaign has been a disaster.

The team fired coach Jose Peseiro following a shock opening 2-1 loss to Syria, and replaced him with Naser al-Johar, a former Saudi Arabia defender and coach.

Saudi then dropped its next match to Jordan 1-0, meaning it can no longer advance to the next round.

The Saudis play Japan in their final Group B match on Monday.





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## U.S. settles exhibition details

Rather than make most players from both teams travel from Europe to the West Coast, the United States and Argentina will play their high-profile exhibition game on March 26 at the New Meadowlands Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J.

The match figures to feature Argentina's Lionel Messi, who won his second straight FIFA player of the year award this week.

The Americans also will play Paraguay three days later at LP Field in Nashville, Tenn., the U.S. Soccer Federation said Thursday.

"We have had terrific support for the national team in Nashville, and obviously a game with Argentina in the New York area is a great opportunity for our fans as a showcase," USSF president Sunil Gulati said.

The Argentina Football Association announced on Nov. 24 that the game would be played at Seattle, but the USSF never confirmed that site.

Prices for the Argentina match range from \$38 (upper endlines) to \$395 (midfield with club access), while Paraguay tickets run from \$20-\$150.

Meadowlands chief executive Mark Lamping said a temporary grass field will be installed for the game. The Meadowlands had held FIFA fixture dates open, hoping to woo the USSF.

The \$1.6 billion stadium also will host the 2014 Super Bowl, and Lamping hopes it one day can stage the European Champions League final, which has never been played outside Europe.

"That's obviously an event that gets the world atten-

tion, and those are the types of events we would love to bring to this facility," he said. "If there ever is the possibility of moving that final off of European soil, we certainly would be very aggressive in trying to bring that here."

In 2008, the U.S. and Argentina played a 0-0 tie before 78,682 at old Giants Stadium. This will be the second match for the Americans at the New Meadowlands following a 2-0 loss to Brazil last August before 77,223.

Fifth-ranked Argentina has a roster that also includes Carlos Tevez, Diego Milito and Javier Mascherano. Real Madrid forward Gonzalo Higuain is sidelined following back surgery this week in Chicago.

"Argentina continues to be one of the most-talented teams in the world, and we are excited to have the opportunity to compete against them," U.S. coach Bob Bradley said. "When you talk about the best players around the globe, the Argentines certainly contribute a lot of names to that list."

Paraguay is ranked 24th.

"Paraguay showed during the World Cup that they are a creative and organized team capable of being very dangerous in the attack," Bradley said. "Both of these matches give us a chance to continue to raise the bar for our team."



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# FIFA officials appeal suspensions

Amos Adamu and Reynald Temarii have formally appealed their FIFA suspensions following corruption allegations

surrounding the World Cup hosting votes. FIFA said Thursday it would confirm hearing dates for the two executive committee members "in due course." The cases will be heard by the independent FIFA Appeals Committee, which is chaired by Bermuda Football Association president Larry Mussenden.

FIFA decisions can be overturned by the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Adamu is challenging a three-year suspension from all soccer duty imposed by the FIFA ethics committee, which ruled in November that he sought bribes from undercover reporters.

The Nigerian official hopes to be exonerated within weeks, therefore clearing him to stand for re-election. The Confederation for African Football has its annual assembly Feb. 23 in Khartoum, Sudan, where it will choose two of its four delegates to the 24-member FIFA ruling body. Adamu is listed as a candidate pending his appeal.

Temarii, a FIFA vice president from Tahiti, was cleared of corruption but received a one-year ban for breaching confidentiality and loyalty rules. He will be replaced as Oceania confederation president on Saturday at its congress in Pago Pago, American Samoa.

Both men were barred from the World Cup votes in December. A 22-man FIFA executive committee chose Russia to host the 2018 World Cup and Qatar in 2022.

## Ex-referee Byron Moreno pleads guilty

A former World Cup referee arrested in New York City has admitted to heroin smuggling charges.

A U.S. attorney's office spokesman says Byron Moreno pleaded guilty Thursday in a Brooklyn federal court to one count of heroin smuggling.

Prosecutors say Moreno was caught in September at Kennedy Airport with bags of heroin attached to his body after a flight from his native Ecuador.

He faces up to 63 months in prison under federal sentencing guidelines. No sentencing date was set, and he is being held without bail.

Moreno's attorney did not immediately return messages for comment.

Moreno refereed the United States' opening 3-2 upset of Portugal at the 2002 World Cup.

Moreno was also involved in Italy's controversial elimination that year, when he ejected Francesco Totti, giving the Italian a second yellow card for an alleged dive in the penalty area 13 minutes into overtime of a 2-1 loss to South Korea in the second round.

A 111th-minute goal by Italy's Damiano Tommasi that would have advanced Italy was disallowed, apparently for offside, and South Korea was awarded a penalty kick -- that goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon saved -- for a foul by Christian Panucci against Seol Ki-Hyeon.

"I think Moreno already had the [heroin] in 2002, but not in his underwear, in his body," Buffon said in September after Moreno was arrested. "Joking aside, when sports people get involved in drug cases it means they're scraping the bottom of the barrel.

"It also means they've lost the real meaning of the sport, which is also to save kids from the street and various dangers, like drugs," Buffon said.

In 2003, Ecuadorean soccer officials suspended Moreno for 20 games after a game there drew complaints about him from both teams. He added 11 minutes of stoppage time to a game between domestic clubs Barcelona and Liga de Quito without recording it.

He resigned a short time later.



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## 2010 STARS Scholars are comprise of nine Older Youth (Benito Juarez HS) Helping our Younger Youth (Manuel Perez MS) Academically.

We'd like to share with you the sixth of a total of nine biographies.



“Leadership is a state of mind not a state of being”, says Iliana Mojica. Ever since I was a little girl I knew I was different. I thought differently, I acted differently from others. I always knew that I had the ability to become someone in life, the ability to make a difference. When I say I was born a leader, I mean it.

I always wanted to make a difference in other people’s lives. My first year in high school I joined the National Hispanic Institute (“NHI”) debate team. From there I knew I had to do something to help the Latino community by informing the community about what’s going on and what they can do to help each other succeed. From the NHI debate team I started to work with the Rudy Lozano and Jesus “Chuy” Garcia Campaign, with Alma Lozano organizing non-violent protests. Currently I’m working on forming a Latino youth group called New Era.

When I first heard about STARS Project I knew I had to take part in this new upcoming program, knowing this was going to make a big difference. I knew STARS was going to help youth value education and understand that education can go a long way. This program is going to help middle school children feel motivated to learn and take advantage of their opportunities. I am a soldier and I’m fighting to stop the stereotypes in the Latino community and hope that the middle school students will be motivated to put an end to all Latino stereotypes by furthering their education and most of all accomplishing their goals.

Iliana is one of many students STARS has touched please support our initiative by investing in our future leaders thereby allowing STARS to guide and support their path to reach their academic goals. Join us at our 1st Fundraiser of the year it will be on Saturday January 22, 2011. Come and support our students’ education while enjoying tasty Italian cuisine, LIVE entertainment, and SALSA lessons. \$20 will show our students that their education is important. 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 the math and sciences.



Yolanda Sanchez  
Executive Director

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