

Springboard^{into} Comprehension 5

Main Idea	Bukit Timah Nature Reserve The Nelson Mandela Story
Compare and Contrast	Animals under Threat Soccer v Ballet
Fact and Opinion	The Great Rainbow Hill Council Debate The Smith Family Diaries
Cause and Effect	It's Just Not Right Save Our Planet!
Bias and Prejudice	What's Up? Changing Times
Figurative Language	Sports Mad Magazine The Highwayman

RA 10.5–11.5



Description

SPORTS MAD MAGAZINE



Written by
Jonny Webster

SPORTS MAD MAGAZINE



Contents

Editorial.....	2
Match Report – Soccer.....	4
Tips and Tricks – Basketball.....	6
Competition – Skateboarding.....	8
Man v Animal – Swimming.....	10
Live Commentary – Athletics.....	12
Questions and Answers – Mountain Biking.....	14
The Ouch Column – Trampoline.....	16
Amazing Scenes – Cricket.....	17
The Try-Out Page – Surfing.....	18
60-Second Interview – Showjumping...	20
Things You Didn't Know about...Tennis	22
Glossary and Index.....	24

Written by Jonny Webster





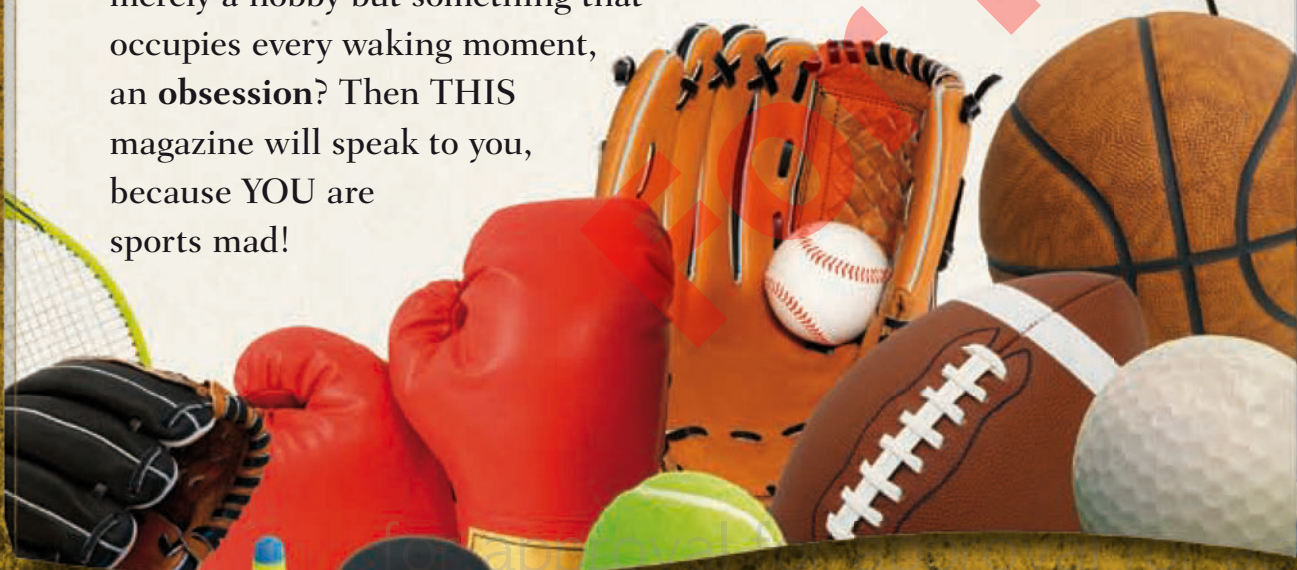
EDITORIAL

It takes all sports to make the world go round.



Welcome to another crazy issue of *Sports Mad Magazine*! Are you insane about sport, cramming your bedroom with bats and balls and boards and bikes? Do you long for that thrill as you surge across the line ahead of the others? Do you watch the game and shout and scream for your team

until your eyes are popping out of your head? Does your heart go boom whenever they score? Is your sport not merely a hobby but something that occupies every waking moment, an **obsession**? Then **THIS** magazine will speak to you, because **YOU** are sports mad!



Sports Mad Magazine has all the best action from around the wide world of sport. Look out for cool competitions, interesting interviews, tempting tips and tricks, and a whole lot more. The whistle has blown, the hooter has sounded, the light is green, and it's time to begin. Let's go!



Fun and safety – the perfect combination

Match Report

SOCCER

Last week's match between South School and North School will rank as one of the most extraordinary games of soccer in the history of the League. The fans were expecting a close contest, but no one expected the night of drama that unfolded at North's playing fields.

The first few minutes saw both teams testing their defences, but then South broke North's defence shield with a superb individual effort. Their striker Coleman stormed down the wing and tore the defence to ribbons. The goalie, Sanchez, could only stand and marvel as the ball swooshed into the top of the net. To South's dismay, the referee ruled it offside, so the goal did not stand. With utter outrage, the South players turned to the referee, who was waving his hands around as if he was fighting off a swarm of infuriated bees. The South fans were screaming at the official, but it was water off a duck's back and the game continued.



The game gets underway.



South striker Coleman in action



The battle is on!

North were suddenly injected with a new urgency, throwing themselves forward. South received a punishment because they broke the rules, a penalty, and North were rewarded with a penalty shot. The South defence, desperately clearing yet another floating cross, had pulled a North player down, and the referee pointed to the spot.

In the deathly quiet that followed, the fans held their breaths. The North striker, Kagalwala, stepped up and hit it clean towards the inside corner of the net. Incredibly, the South goalie, Matthewson, launched herself to her left and miraculously tipped the ball over the bar.

Moments later, Matthewson was as flat as a pancake – flattened by her own players, who were screaming with delight. For North, it was a kick in the guts. The half-time oranges must have tasted bitter to the players, who should have headed back out in front.

The second half flew by in a blizzard of shots from both sides, but it looked as if the match would end nil-nil. A tied score, or deadlock, would have been a disappointing outcome for both the players and the spectators. With the 90 minutes ticking over, the referee was reaching for his whistle when the gods of soccer suddenly smiled upon the battle-weary North side.

Afterwards, people swore that it all happened in slow motion. North ran like deer, ducking, diving, turning, shooting, and unbelievably, scoring just before the final whistle. For a fraction of a second, all was quiet, quickly followed by pandemonium, as the North fans screeched and roared and hugged each other. The South fans stood silently, some crying quietly. It was an extraordinary end to a beautiful game. This year, North School won the championship, 1-nil.



North midfielder Sanders takes on South's Coleman.

Tips and Tricks

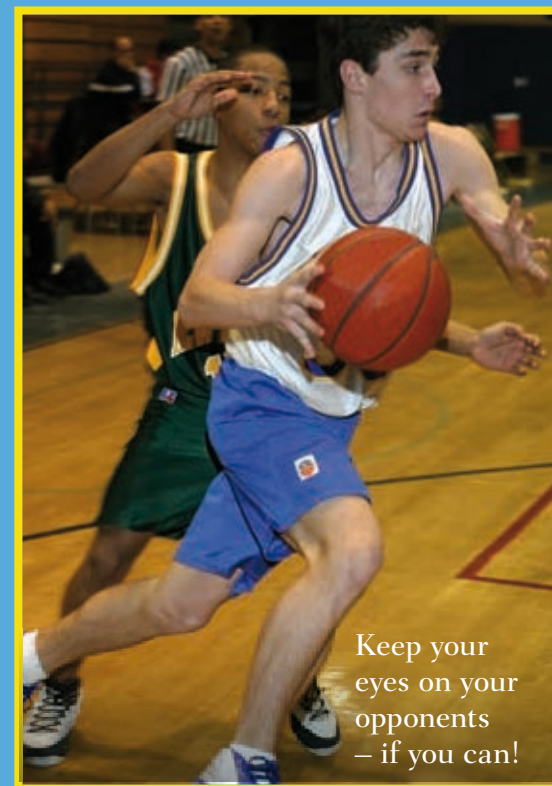
BASKETBALL

You don't have to be a colossal giant to play basketball! Sure, being tall is definitely advantageous, but even if the structure of your body, your **anatomy**, is not that way inclined, you can still make the grade. Improving your skills means you can be a player

with useful qualities, an **asset**, to your team. Here's a Top Ten list of tips and tricks to help you improve your game.

1. Space Man! – Create the space to receive the ball. It will give you time to take the ball cleanly and set up that great shot.
2. Make a Plan – Plan what shot you want to make and work yourself into the position for that shot, because random shots rarely make the hoop.
3. Perfect Practice – Practice really does make perfect. If you make the hoop ALL the time in practice, you'll make it most of the time in the game. However, if you only make it SOME of the time in practice, you'll really flunk out in the game!
4. Know Your Enemy – Keep your eyes open for where everyone is on court. You'll react quickly to openings if you know where the opposition is.
5. On Balance – Keep your body balanced when you shoot. If you shoot with your right hand, take off on your left foot.

6. Point and Shoot – Hold the ball high and point your elbow at the basket.
7. Win with Spin – Drag your fingers down as you release the ball, to give the ball backspin. It will make all the difference if you clip the hoop.
8. Hope on the Hoop – Keep your eyes on the hoop when you shoot. Don't take your eyes off it. Hoop, hoop, hoop – NOT the ball!
9. Follow Up – When you release the ball, your arm and hand should follow through and stay in the air until the ball is in the hoop.
10. Remember the BEEF – Balance, Elbow at the hoop, Eyes on the target, Follow through with your arm.



Keep your eyes on your opponents – if you can!