

World Cup capers

EVER SINCE David Beckham scored that winning penalty against Argentina - and even well before that - commentators have been spouting some pretty weird stuff during this World Cup. The more comical comments have included speculation that England might actually win the thing.

But pundits don't keep their ramblings in store for the big event every four years. No, they're at it all the time. And, just to keep you amused if the auld enemy do get further, here's a wee selection of some gems from the men behind the microphone.

"It may have just been going wide but nevertheless it was a great shot on target." *Terry Venables.*

"Tony Banks described the English fans arrested in Marseilles as 'brain-dead louts'. This goes for me as well." *Secretary, Football Supporters Association.*

"You've got to believe that you're going to win and I believe that we'll win the World Cup until the final whistle blows and we're knocked out." *Peter Shilton.*

"If history is going to repeat itself, I should think we can expect the same thing again." *Terry Venables.*

"I don't think that there's anyone bigger or smaller than Maradona." *Kevin Keegan.*

"Such a positive move by Uruguay, bringing two players off and putting two players on." *John Helm.*

"I'm not a believer in

luck... but I do believe you need it." *Alan Ball.*

"The World Cup - truly an international event." *John Motson.*

"He is without doubt the greatest sweeper in the world, I'd say, at a guess." *Ron Atkinson.*

"You feel if Chile could just organise, they could hammer Austria nil-nil." *John Champion.*

"Croatia don't play very well without the ball." *Kevin Keegan.*

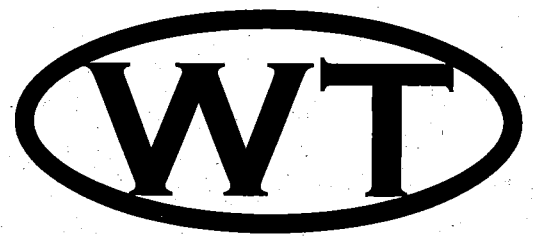
"There's no such thing as an easier route, but it's an easier route." *Bobby Robson.*

Brian Moore: "The whistle's gone, Ray Houghton clearly 4 or 5 yards offside."

Ron Atkinson: "Yes, but for me that's when Ray Houghton is at his most dangerous."

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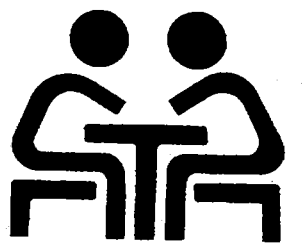
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Trampolining to the top

MOST PEOPLE think of a trampoline as something to bounce around on as a bit of fun, but for eleven-year-old Kirsty Louden from Hailesland Gardens it's a lot more than that.

She has already competed in top competitions in the newly recognised Olympic sport and last year came second

in Great Britain in the under-13 age group. Kirsty's trophy collection is steadily growing with wins this year in Sweden and the Northern Ireland Open.

Before she even started primary school, at the tender age of four-years-old, Kirsty started trampolining and also gymnastics. She eventually

decided to concentrate on the trampoline and, judging by her success so far, she has made the right choice.

Kirsty's older sister, Karen (18), competed all over the world in the sport for 11 years and came 15th in the world championships in Portugal in 1994. Their mother Jackie said: "I'm very proud of

what they have both done over the years. I don't go to a lot of the competitions as I think I might put them off.

"My sister-in-law Yvonne is a coach at Kirsty's club and she usually travels with her to the events, or my husband Eddie or Karen go to give their support and video her performance for me."

The Dumbryden primary school pupil is determined to get to the top in the sport and trains with the Falcon Trampoline Club twice a week in Broxburn and East Calder and six times a year with the Scottish Squad in East Kilbride and Perth.

Kirsty said: "It's a really good sport and I have made a lot of friends in the club. It keeps me fit and it's fun to do, I really enjoy it."

"But, it is hard work and I do get shouted at by my coach if I do something wrong that he knows I can do."

Her coach Mike McGhee, who is also a coach for the Scotland squad, said: "Kirsty works very hard and is exceptionally talented and this is a very



CUPS OF CHEER..... Kirsty with just some of the trophies she has won

difficult sport to be good at. In her first British competition she came fourth and last year she was second out of thousands of kids."

Trampolining has only been recognised as an Olympic sport since it merged with gymnastics for the last Olympics and Mike believes Kirsty can make the grade.

"There is only one man and one woman allowed to enter from each country, that's how difficult it is to get there."

The popularity of

trampolining is increasing according to Mike but it is still difficult to get Kirsty's achievements recognised. He said: "It is still regarded as a minority sport and although Kirsty's win in Sweden in May was a remarkable achievement I could not get any coverage for her in the newspapers."

Trampolining comes in the top ten of dangerous sports but, never having showed any fear since the age of four, Kirsty has what it takes to achieve her dreams. So watch this space.



FLYING HIGH..... Kirsty at a training session