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# Sometimes Beautiful—World Game.

## FREDDY ON THE SPOT!

Like everyone else at RFK, Outside the Box was astonished to watch Freddy Adu step up to take the third spot-kick for his team. He stared straight at keeper Matt Reis, undaunted by the 6' 1" hulk in front of him sporting an intimidating black eye. Stonily poker-faced, Adu was almost unrecognizable from the smiling, wise-cracking kid he is off the field. His eyes didn't wander or flicker. And his body moved with the same graceful ease that he displays in training. His execution was text-book stuff, forcing the keeper to commit, and giving him no chance. The boy is a pure footballer. Indeed, after this daunting display of raw courage, nerve, and professionalism, it's probably time we all dropped the "boy" tag.

"A 15-year-old that steps up and takes a penalty kick?" U.S. veteran Earnie Stewart was saying afterwards, "It's not easy, I'll tell you that. That he stepped up..." And he shook his head and his voice trailed off. Like the rest of us, lost for words.



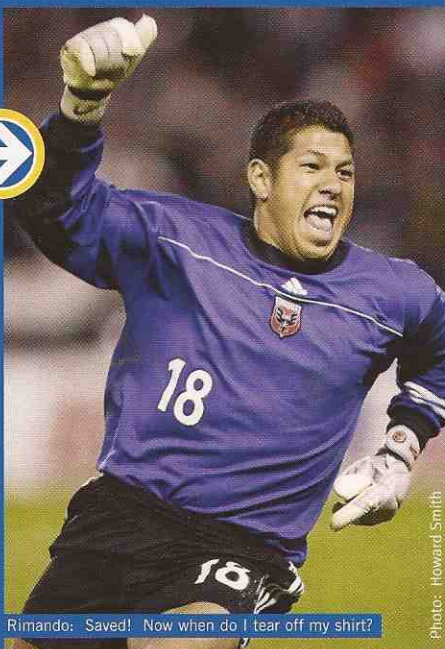
Photo: Rafael Suanes / WireImage.com

## Keeping It Professional—and Fun!

90:00 Minutes grabbed a quick word with the hero of the hour, Nick Rimando, after the Eastern Conference thriller. The game resembled a snapshot of the D.C. goalkeeper's rollercoaster season: the awful luck of Steve Ralston's PK rebounding off his back; the trauma of misjudging the same player's corner kick to allow Pat Noonan to steal the late equalizer; and then the redeeming drama of his two fine stops in the penalty shoot-out.

We asked Rimando about the challenge of putting the negatives behind him and focusing on the job. "That's what a professional is," he said, "somebody who can forget about his mistakes and move on. The most important play is always the next one."

The personal triumph also brought out Nick Rimando's inner striker. "The goal-scorers always get to have the celebrations," he joked, "so to get to run and jump in front of the home fans, that was fun!"



Rimando: Saved! Now when do I tear off my shirt?

Photo: Howard Smith

## KLINSMANN KEEPING THEM GUESSING

German national coach Juergen Klinsmann has stuck to his guns over the (on and on and) ongoing battle between Bayern Munich's Oliver Kahn and Arsenal's Jens Lehmann for the No. 1 shirt.

Sepp Maier became an early victim of the War of the Gloves when he was relieved of his goalkeeping coaching duties for favoring Kahn. Then another national legend dove in. Bayern Munich chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge claimed that Kahn and Lehmann were suffering under the scrutiny, and urged Klinsmann to establish one or other as the regular keeper soon, rather than wait until closer to the 2006 World Cup finals.

"The competition will proceed in a reasonable fashion," Klinsmann said. "Some people may need to adjust to the unusual constellation. But we're not going to change our plan. We will pick a number one six months before the World Cup, not sooner."

Germany team manager Oliver Bierhoff added that Bayern Munich doesn't run the national side.



Oliver Kahn: This indecision is killing me!

## IT'S OFFICIAL—ROY KEANE IS HISTORY

Good to see Roy Keane inducted into England's National Football Museum in Preston. Knowing he mightn't take too kindly to becoming a museum piece, the curators got Sir Alex Ferguson to present the award! Also honored were Alan Shearer, Tony Adams, Billy Bremner and Don Revie. Keane, a very private man, didn't sound exactly overjoyed, and was quick to redirect the limelight: "I'm not a great fan of individual awards, because I play as part of a team," he said, "but I'm here to collect this for the team."



# \$55,000

The price paid at a Christie's Auction recently for the shirt used to mop up Paul Gascoigne's famous tears in the World Cup semi-final of 1990 against Germany.



Gazza: Going, going... gone?