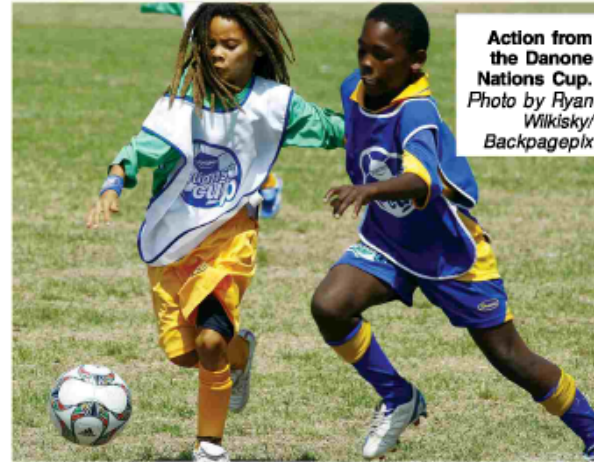




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SIGN UP FOR SOCCER CUP



Action from
the Danone
Nations Cup.
Photo by Ryan
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Backpagepix

By BONGANI OLAYI
REGISTRATION for the world's biggest under-12 soccer tournament, the Danone Nations Cup, is now open!

The South African Schools Football Association and Danone are encouraging all primary schools to enter.

The overall winning team from Mzansi will travel to London to take part in the world finals and get to play before French ex-national player, Zinedine Zidane.

Mzansi has been involved in the Danone Nations Cup world finals since 2000 and holds the record as the only country that has won the tournament three times.

The competition starts at cluster level after which winners

compete in regional finals. Nine provincial winners then play off in the national finals to decide which school will represent Mzansi in the world finals.

Many teams that take part each year are drawn from soccer programmes operating in poor areas and from social development projects that use soccer to uplift young people.

Chantel Ehlers, Danone spokeswoman, said there is more to the tournament than soccer.

"Groupe Danone has built the tournament on four fundamental pillars, namely, fair play, openness, accessibility and passion for the game. We promote healthy habits and encourage the youth to believe in their dreams," she said.