



Inter Milan's Argentine forward Julio Cruz (C) is being challenged by AC Milan's veteran defender Paolo Maldini (L) during their TIM Cup match at the San Siro on Thursday.

## Milan lift Trofeo TIM

**Football**

INTERNET, undated

Milan won the Trofeo TIM on Thursday evening after defeating both Inter and Juventus in the annual three-team friendly tournament. The Rossoneri came from behind in both games to deservedly lift their first trophy of the season.

### Milan 2-1 Inter

Milan came from behind to win the opening Trofeo TIM tie by beating city rivals Inter 2-1. Two goals in four minutes from Giuseppe Favalli and Marco Borriello stunned the Italian champions who had looked in control of the game until the equaliser.

Inter started brightly and Alvaro Recoba looked in inspired mood with some sublime passing. And it was no coincidence that his pinpoint cross saw Cruz expertly chest the ball past Paolo Maldini playing his first game in four months after injury to fire superbly past Zeljko Kalac.

Yet the Nerazzurri paid the price for some slack finishing as Hernan Crespo and Cruz wasted some glorious chances, with the first even missing an open goal. Milan gradually came into the 45-minute match and made it 1-1 on 32 minutes. Clarence Seedorf opened up the

Inter defence and Favalli slid the ball past Julio Cesar just months after making the city switch.

Milan won it in minute 36 through Borriello. The youngster, who was wanted by Livorno and Udinese this summer, turned his marker Marino in the box and his cross-shot struck the post before sneaking past the Brazilian shot-stopper. That win saw Milan move on to three points, leaving Inter on zero.

### Inter 1-1 Juventus

(3-4 on pens)

An impressive Alessandro Del Piero led Juventus to a penalty shoot-out victory over Inter in a heated Derby d'Italia. The captain, who pledged his future to the outfit despite demotion, gave his side the lead in the 1-1 draw before smashing home the decisive spot-kick.

Juve hit the front after just six minutes when the Italian ripped the net in some style. Del Piero's thunderous 30-yard free-kick flew over the Nerazzurri wall and found the top corner of the net, despite Julio Cesar's best efforts to keep it out.

Although only a friendly affair, the game saw numerous yellow cards as Inter struggled to break down a compact Turin side who looked dangerous on the break. They also threatened with a Marcelo Zalayeta header and an Alessandro Birindelli strike.

Yet Inter gradually got into the game and equalised through Luis Figueroa. The Portuguese ace collected a sublime Adriano assist to slot past Antonio Mirante. The Juve keeper also had to be at his best to keep out Maicon with a truly outstanding stop, while he also denied an Alvaro Recoba rocket and an Adriano shot.

Juve ended the game with 10 men after Giuliano Giannichedda was sent off for two bookable offences, the second being intentional handball. Yet they still won 4-3 on penalties after the three missed efforts two from Inter and one from Juve all struck the bar. Juve netted two points as a result. Inter got one and subsequently finished bottom of the Trofeo TIM table.

### Juventus 1-3 Milan

Milan secured the sixth edition of the Trofeo TIM by defeating Juventus 3-1 in the last tie of the night.

Although Del Piero did worry Fiori and Kaka to net a victory they desperately wanted.

Juventus hit the front early as they did in their first match. Zalayeta broke the offside trap, thanks to a Daniele Bonera positional error, and the Uruguayan ran in on goal to fire past Valerio Fiori in the Milan goal.

Despite Juventus' youthful look, as Pavel Nedved and Alex Del

Piero started the game on the bench, they did show great maturity in the opening period as Milan struggled to create any serious threat. So much so that Milan's first effort was an off target long range Cristian Brocchi drive.

The Old Lady threatened twice more with distance shots from Nedved and Marchisio, but Milan responded by striking the woodwork. Borriello found space in the area and his wicked left-footed shot beat Emanuele Belardi in the Juve goal, but whacked the post. They were a little more fortunate soon after when they did make it 1-1. Some super one-touch pass and move stuff from Milan around the box saw the ball fall to Seedorf, whose shot hit the underside of the bar and was adjudged to have crossed the line even if some Geoff Hurst doubts remain...

Milan started to increase the pressure and take control of the tie. Although Del Piero did worry Fiori with a free-kick, a second Rossoneri goal did look to be on the horizon and it came in the 37th minute. Kaka was brought down in the box by Birindelli and the Brazilian fired home the penalty himself. Seedorf then blasted in a third in injury time.

## Deportivo release Tristan, Scaloni

REUTERS, Madrid

Former Spain striker Diego Tristan and Argentina midfielder Lionel Scaloni have been released from their contracts with Deportivo La Coruna.

Both players had been left out of coach Joaquin Caparros's plans for the season, but failed to secure moves to other clubs before the end of the Aug. 31 transfer deadline.

"Neither Scaloni nor I deserve this kind of treatment because we have given a lot to this club," Tristan told the Marca website on Friday.

"Now we are without a club to play for. We will hand the matter over to the players' association."

As they have not been registered to play with Depor, under FIFA rules the players are free to join another side at any time.

The 30-year-old Tristan, who has won 15 caps with Spain, joined Depor from Real Mallorca in 2000.

Scaloni, 28, joined Depor in 1998 and was a member of the Argentina squad at the World Cup finals in Germany. He spent the second half of last season on loan to West Ham United.

## Kranjcar joins Portsmouth

AFP, Zagreb

Hajduk Split's Croatia midfielder Niko Kranjcar on Thursday joined English Premier League side Portsmouth on a 4.5 million euro (5.8 million dollars) four-year deal.

"I have decided, I am leaving," Kranjcar told the Sportske Novosti daily on Thursday.

Portsmouth's website confirmed the deal with a statement that said: "Pompey have signed 22-year-old Croatian star Niko Kranjcar from Hajduk Split.

"Niko will wear the number 19 shirt vacated by Collins Mbesuma following the striker's loan move to Marítimo."

Kranjcar began his career at Dinamo Zagreb in 2001 and only a year later, while still a teenager, was named club captain. In 2005 he moved to Hajduk Split.

The 22-year-old is the son of Zlatko Kranjcar who was sacked as Croatia coach after they failed to make it out of the first round at the World Cup.

Later Thursday, Portsmouth completed another deadline day signing by snapping up forward Roudolphe Mbela Douala on a season-long loan from Sporting Lisbon.

The acquisition of Douala, 27, follows deals earlier in the day for former England striker Andy Cole and Kranjcar.

Although the deal for Douala is initially temporary, Portsmouth have secured an option to sign him on a permanent deal. Douala is capable of playing wide or as a striker and has won 13 caps for Cameroon.

## Cygan moves to Villarreal

AFP, Madrid

French defender Pascal Cygan on Thursday left English side Arsenal to sign for Villarreal in Spain on a two-year contract, the Spanish club said.

The 32-year-old spent four seasons at the London club after signing from Lille.

Cygan follows compatriot and former Arsenal player Robert Pires to Villarreal.

However, Pires will be sidelined for up to six months because of a knee injury.



South Africa's newly appointed Brazilian coach Carlos Alberto Parreira, flanked by assistants, arrive at the FNB Stadium in Soweto on Friday.

PHOTO: AFP

# Reyes-Baptista in loan swap move

**Football**

AFP, Madrid

Real Madrid on Thursday agreed to a one-year loan swap deal involving them securing the services of Arsenal's Spanish international winger Jose Antonio Reyes with Brazilian midfielder Julio Baptista going to the Gunners, Real confirmed on their website.

But Brazilian striker Ronaldo is staying put despite interest from former club Inter Milan, who had

mull sending fellow striker Adriano in the opposite direction, according to Cadena Ser radio on Wednesday.

The 'meringues' started the Spanish league season with a dull 0-0 home draw with Villarreal which earned them a resounding booing from their fans.

Unsettled Reyes, who turns 23 on Friday, has been angling all summer for a move from Arsenal, whom he joined in 2004 from Seville, where Baptista also played until coming to the Bernabeu a year ago.

"I'm the happiest man in the

world," Reyes told Radio Marca. Madrid coach Fabio Capello can now shuffle the pack although 2002 World Cup winner Ronaldo, whose contract runs till June 2008 and has a net annual salary of 7.5 million euros, will stay with the club after publicly ending the speculation about his future this week.

The "phenomenon," desperate to help Real end a barren run of three seasons without silverware, is set to be back in action in several weeks after undergoing an operation on his left tibia following the World Cup finals last month.

# Hammers hail Argentine coup

AFP, London



Europe to sign Argentina ace Carlos Tevez and Javier Mascherano from Corinthians.

Hammers' chairman Terence Brown described the high profile double signing as the biggest deal in the club's history.

Striker Tevez and midfielder Mascherano, both aged 22, featured for Argentina at the World Cup finals and their move to Upton Park came on the final day of the transfer window.

Brown, in an interview on the London club's official website, said: "The sheer quality of the two players we have signed makes it a very exciting deal, and these are not players coming to the end of their careers - they are young players who are on their way up."

"They are also great lads - both have shown a keen interest in the club and knew all about our success last season."

Brown disclosed that the players were well aware of West Ham's history and in particular its links with England legend Bobby Moore.

"Javier even asked for the number six shirt at one point during the negotiations, as he knew it was the number that Bobby Moore had worn for us all those years ago," he reported.

The club chairman reckons the Argentine duo's arrival will help West Ham step up a gear in their bid to improve on last season's ninth place finish in the Premiership.

"We are now in a position to take the next step up as a football club, and these signings will put us in the spotlight on a worldwide scale."

"I'm sure we can all look forward to some good times ahead," said the Hammers' chief.

He added: "It is a momentous day for the football club. It is without doubt the biggest deal in our history and one that we are all very excited about."

Tevez told the club's website that he had only been told about the possibility of joining West Ham two days before the deal was completed and admitted there were other teams also interested in signing him.

He said: "I first heard about the possibility of joining West Ham 48 hours ago. I had followed the club quite a bit last season because I am a close friend of Lionel Clubs."

"It's true, other clubs in the Premiership and around Europe were interested in signing both myself and Javier. But when we met Alan Pardew the choice was simple, he made us both feel really wanted."

"We watched every West Ham game in Argentina because of our friendship (with Scaloni) and he spoke very highly of the club, its supporters and the manager."

"I know there will be a lot of fuss around us because we are two new players from Argentina, but we see

ourselves as team players, not individuals.

"That was another attraction for coming here, Mr Pardew explained that there is a great team spirit at the club, and we want to be a part of that."

The duo will report for training with West Ham for the first time on Tuesday and Mascherano added: "Mr Pardew's enthusiasm rubbed off on both of us. He talked about his vision for us and the club, and we both became very excited."

"I am also aware of some of the great players at West Ham. I know of Anton Ferdinand, he is talked about a lot in Argentina as a great player of future, while I also like Nigel Reo-Coker, who is a very dynamic captain and displays the work ethic that is clearly in place at West Ham."

The pair's move to the Premiership appears to have been smoothed by the fact that both Tevez's and Mascherano's rights are owned by Media Sports Investment, a British-based company with financial involvement in Corinthians.

MSI were linked with a takeover of the Hammers last season.

Both have been included in Argentina's squad for Sunday's friendly against Brazil at Arsenal's Emirates Stadium.

# Parreira salary creates discontent

**Football**

AFP, Johannesburg

New South Africa coach Carlos Alberto Parreira arrived here Friday against a background of media fury over his 1.8-million-rand (about 250,000 dollars) salary.

Sensing an outcry in a country where many people survive in abject poverty, the South African Football Association threw a veil of secrecy over the figure.

But parliamentarians insisted the salary be revealed this week and it sent shockwaves around the country scheduled to host the 2010 World Cup, the first in Africa.

Parreira, who guided Brazil to the 1994 World Cup title but failed to get them beyond the quarterfinals in Germany this year, was recruited to revive a South Africa side that has plummeted to 17th on the African

rankings.

He is the highest profile coach of Bafana Bafana (The Boys) since they were re-admitted to international football in 1992 after almost three decades of racism-induced isolation.

However, in a nation battling to eradicate mass poverty and where some first division coaches earn 5,000 dollars a month, the Parreira salary unleashed a tidal wave of anger.

The mass-circulation Daily Sun noted that 36 houses for the poor could be built each month with the money Parreira is set to receive after signing a four-year contract.

Several other titles were equally critical, recalling that a local, Clive Barker, brought South Africa its greatest football achievements, winning the 1996 African Nations Cup and qualifying for the 1998 World Cup.

Roger de Sa, coach of mid-table Cape Town club Santos, said it was a waste of money as Parreira had no chance of transforming Bafana into a team capable of challenging the giants at the 2010 World Cup.

"Give Fernando Alonso or Michael Schumacher an old jalopy to drive and they wouldn't make any difference either," fumed De Sa, a former national team goalkeeper.

Parreira is expected to watch South Africa open their 2008 Nations Cup qualifying campaign Saturday against Congo at FNB Stadium on the outskirts of Johannesburg.

He will officially take over in January by which time South Africa will have also played a potentially crucial qualifier in Zambia. Chad complete a pool from which only the table-toppers are sure of a place at the finals in Ghana.

## Moyes to sue Rooney

INTERNET, undated

Everton manager David Moyes is likely to sue England striker Wayne Rooney over claims in his recent book although proceedings have not yet been issued.

Moyes' solicitors have already started proceedings against the Daily Mail, which published extracts of 'Wayne Rooney: My Story So Far'.

And while no action has been taken against Rooney or publishers HarperSport yet, it could be imminent.

Moyes' lawyer Mel Goldberg told PA Sport: "Proceedings have been issued against the Daily Mail. Separate action will be taken against the publishers and presumably Wayne Rooney as well because he is the cause of the publication.

"But at this minute legal proceedings against Wayne Rooney have not been issued."

Moyes is particularly upset by Rooney's claims that the Scot broke his confidence by leaking details of a personal nature.

"There were several comments," said Goldberg. "The main headline (in the Daily Mail) was Rooney claiming that David Moyes forced him out (of Everton) which is not true, and another comment that 'David Moyes was jealous of me' - that was not true.

"And there was a comment which we regard as very serious which is that David Moyes broke professional confidence by leaking stories which he had been told. That's not true either."

"Moyes went out of his way to cover up, over a long period of time, about that and other matters as well."

"What a player tells a manager in confidence is something which is special and if other players feel a manager is going to blow the whistle on him to other people, no player would ever speak to his manager in confidence and that has greatly upset him," said Goldberg.

# Corinthians dream in tatters

**Football**

REUTERS, Rio de Janeiro

In late 2004, a London-based group called Media Sports Investment (MSI) signed a multimillion-dollar partnership deal with Corinthians promising to turn Brazil's second-most popular club into the pride of South America.

The club, promised 35 million dollars in spending money plus immediate payment of their debts, became rich overnight and went on a buying spree unthinkable for Brazilian football, where most clubs have to sell players to Europe to survive.

As their rivals looked on in disbelief, Corinthians splashed out a South American record of 18 million dollars on Argentina forward Carlos Tevez, another 15 million dollars on his compatriot Javier Mascherano and 7 million dollars on former Porto midfielder Carlos Alberto.

Jubilant Corinthians president Alberto Dualib, more used to having angry fans demonstrate outside his house after defeats than celebrate titles, predicted greatness.

Less than two years later, however, Corinthians are in the Brazilian championship relegation zone and their two top signings have turned

their backs on the club to join English Premier League West Ham United.

Their dream of winning the Libertadores Cup, South America's equivalent of the Champions League, is in tatters.

Although Corinthians duly won last year's Brazilian championship, it was the very least that was expected of them.

Otherwise, the chaos at the club has fulfilled the worse fears of MSI's opponents.

From the outset, many within the club opposed the deal because it allowed MSI 51 per cent of future profits and because they said not enough was known about the investors.

Current coach Emerson Leao is the seventh since MSI's arrival and the story has unravelled against a backdrop of training ground incidents between players and protests by fans.

Before one recent game, the Hawks of the Faithful supporters group held a mock funeral procession through the streets of Sao Paulo with coffins bearing the names of, among others, Corinthians president Dualib and MSI president Kia Joorabchian.

The Libertadores dream ended in May when Corinthians lost 3-1 at home to Argentina's River Plate and

# Inter deny Real swap

**Football**

AFP, Rome

No swap deal between Inter Milan and Real Madrid concerning Adriano and Ronaldo would be taking place said an official of the Italian club, ANSA news agency reported on Thursday.

According to Spanish media reports, Real Madrid had agreed in principle to a swap loan deal and earlier on Thursday Inter Milan

owner Massimo Moratti admitted he was interested in taking Ronaldo back to the San Siro.

However, Inter spokesman Stefano Filucchi said later there would be no negotiations with the Spanish club for Ronaldo and no swap deal with Adriano.

Spanish radio station Cadena Ser reported on Thursday night that the negotiations had broken down because of Ronaldo's wage demands of 15 million euros a year.

The 2002 World Cup winner,

whose contract at Madrid runs till June 2008, has a net annual salary of 7.5 million euros in Spain.

Just two days ago Ronaldo had said he wanted to stay with Real.

"I am extremely happy at Real Madrid. I want to stay with the club for many years," said the three-time world player of the year and leading all-time World Cup goal scorer.

Adriano has had several well-publicised fall-outs with Inter coach Roberto Mancini and could have been keen on a move to Spain.