

Montu's mistake saves MSC

Sports Reporter



A late suicidal goal by Fakirpool defender Montu saved the day for the star-studded Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club who made a most unimpressive debut in this year's eleventh Federation Cup football tournament at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday afternoon.

That goal gave the defending champions a fact-saving 1-0 win in the inaugural Group A match of the round robin league phase which started yesterday with eight teams divided into two groups.

Fakirpool Youngmen Club, who topped Group C of the qualifying knock-out stage, took the field yesterday determined not to be overawed by the reputation of their famous opponents before the best crowd of the season, nearing almost twenty thousand. And the champions were made to sweat until the final whistle.

Mohammedans, coached by the former 1970 World Cup goalkeeper of Iran Nasser Hejazi, could not live up to the great expectations fuelled by their expensive shopping for players during last month's transfers. Even their most ardent fans could not be satisfied with Mohammedans' performance despite the fact that

they dominated most of the proceedings.

Their star forwards Naqib, Mizan and Shabbir cut a sorry sight in front of the rival goalmouth.

At least two clear cut goalscoring chances were spotted by the Mohammedan players.

The black and white outfit did occasionally give flashes of its true potential but most of the time looked a rather ordinary side.

Mohammedans opted for the 3-4-3 formation and dominated the exchanges but never quite looked a fully organised side.

Fakirpool, on the other hand, played within their limitations, coach Abdur Rahim opting for the 5-3-2 defensive formation. The crowded defence hardly allowed any space to the Mohammedan forwards. Besides, goalkeeper Dhanu made some brave efforts to thwart the Mohammedan forwards. The tight Fakirpool defence, manned by skipper Raquib, Govinda Shahabuddin and Montu worked hard to defend their citadel.

The first positive Mohammedan move came in the 12th minute of the match when Mohammedan striker Mizan's substitute Reaz shot over the bar on a Shabbir

cross.

Imtiaz Sultan Johnny's fierce 40 yds piledriver was well collected by goalie Dhanu in the 24th minute.

Two minutes later, Dhanu fumbled a high ball, and Naqib, standing nearby, attempted a hearted push at the empty goalpost, allowing Fakirpool skipper Raquib enough time to stop the ball from entering the net.

In the 35th minute Tito, off Naqib's wall pass, shot over the bar with the goalkeeper at his mercy. The very next minute Reaz nodded over the goalpost with the goalkeeper out of position.

Nine minutes into the second half Mohammedans' right back Montu's superbly taken thunderous shot from a free kick forced Dhanu to go full stretch to block it at the cost of a corner.

Fakirpool right-winger Masud, quite against the run of play, nearly scored a goal for his side when he dribbled past Kaiser Harnid, only to be stopped through rough tackle by the young Jewel just outside the box in the 61st minute of play.

Two minutes later, Apu's dangerous shot went just inside of the Mohammedan post. The very next minute Mohammedan medio Johnny's

fine minus saw first Reaz and then Naqib failing to tap the ball home from handshaking distance.

Fakirpool were lucky not to have conceded a goal in the 75th minute when a goal mouth melee created following a faulty back pass by Govinda beat Dhanu only to be cleared by Raquib on the goal line.

Nine minutes from the final whistle, a long clearance by Mohammedans' stopper Jewel saw Fakirpool's Montu and Mohammedans' Naqib going for the common ball; and in a bid to clear the luckless Montu lobbed the ball over his own goalkeeper deep inside the far post (1-0).

Mosh, Babu and Mehdi of Fakirpool and Naqib of Mohammedans were shown the yellow card.

Mohammedans will play their next match tomorrow against Dhaka Wanderers Club at 4 pm.

TEAMS

MOHAMMEDAN SC — Kanan, Mantu, Jewel, Kaiser, Barun, Rosy, Johnny, Tito, Naqib, Mizan (Reaz, Chandan) and Shabbir.

FAKIRPOOL YMC — Dhanu, Shahabuddin, Raquib, Gobinda, Montu, Swapan, Mosh, Salam, Babu, Mehdi (Apu), Bhutto (Bhola) and Masud.



Fakirpool goalkeeper Dhanu brings off a fine save as two Mohammedan Sporting forwards Naqib (R) and Mizan lurch dangerously close in the opening eleventh Federation Cup soccer round robin league match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday afternoon. Defending champions MSC had a fortuitous 1-0 win in this Group A encounter. — Star photo

Napoli surge to top of Italian league



ROME, Oct 7 : Napoli went to the top of the Italian First Division for the first time since Diego Maradona left in April when they won 4-1 at Ascoli on Sunday.

Brazilian striker Careca and little midfielder Gian Franco Zola, who has taken over Maradona's number 10 jersey, scored two goals each to make Napoli league leaders with nine points from six games.

Juventus, top of the table at the start of the day lost their unbeaten record against Genoa, the home team coming from behind to beat them 2-1.

The Turin side were without playmaker Roberto Baggio. He failed a late test on a pulled muscle which is likely to keep him out of Italy's vital European Championship match against the Soviet Union in Moscow next Saturday.

Napoli, champions in 1987 and 1990 with Maradona, are

one point ahead of five teams all on eight points, including AC Milan — 2-0 winners at Atalanta — who have a game in hand.

Dutch striker Marco Van Basten converted a third-minute penalty and midfielder Demetrio Albertini added the second goal four minutes into the second half.

Parma shook off the disappointment of their early elimination from the UEFA Cup in midweek by beating champions Sampdoria 2-1 at home, Belgian defender Georges Grun netting the winner.

AC Milan are second on goal difference, the other sides on eight points being Torino — 3-1 winners at home to Foggia — Juventus, Parma, AS Roma and Internazionale.

Genoa, on seven points but like Milan with a game in hand, fell behind against Juventus to a seventh-minute penalty by Eugenio Corini.

Uruguayan striker Carlos Aguilera equalised on the hour

and midfielder Mario Bortolazzi settled the match with a superb dipping shot from outside the penalty box nine minutes later.

Sampdoria's Gianluca Vialli remains top of the scorers' list with six goals but his penalty at Parma failed to save the champions from a 2-1 defeat.

Sampdoria now have seven points from six matches.

UEFA Cup holders Internazionale, looking to recover from their elimination in the first round of the competition, were held 1-1 at home by Fiorentina.

Stefano Desideri put Inter into the lead after a free kick from German defender Andreas Brehme three minutes into the second half.

But Fiorentina, led by Gigi Radice after the midweek sacking of Brazilian World Cup coach Sebastiao Lazaroni, equalised in the 72nd minute when defender Massimiliano Fiordella surprised goalkeeper Walter Zenga with a low shot

from outside the box.

The AS Roma-Lazio Derby at the Olympic Stadium also ended in a 1-1 draw.

German striker Karl Heinz Riedle gave Lazio a 65th minute lead but Ruggiero Rizzitelli equalised for Roma with a header 10 minutes from time.

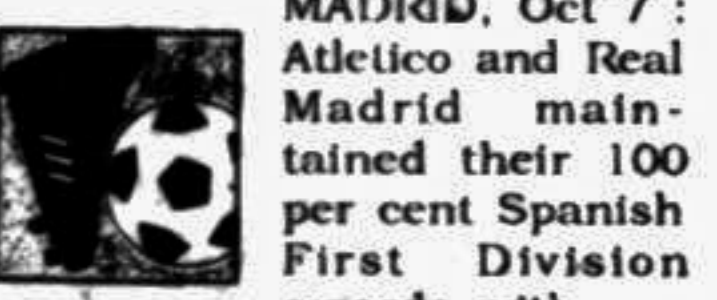
Yugoslav Dragan Stokovic inspired Verona to their second win of the season, scoring the second goal from a free kick in the 2-0 home win over Cagliari.

Former Poland international Zigi Bonick's first match as coach of Bari, following the resignation in midweek of Gaetano Salvemini, ended in a fortunate 0-0 draw at home to Cremonese.

Angelo Carboni, signed from AC Milan to cover the loss through injury of Brazilian striker Joao Paulo, was sent off on his Bari debut for two bookable offences.

Bari have picked up just three points from six games.

Madrid giants march unhindered



MADRID, Oct 7 : Atletico and Real Madrid maintained their 100 per cent Spanish First Division records with emphatic wins on Sunday while champions Barcelona slumped to a shock home defeat against Real Oviedo, reports Reuter.

Real striker Emilio Butragueno scored twice and midfielders Michael Gonzalez and Fernando Hierro once each in a thumping 4-1 success at Sporting Gijon which lifted Real to the top of the table on the strength of their scoring record.

Atletico beat Real Zaragoza 2-1 at home, conceding their first goal of the season just one minute from the end of an otherwise solid performance.

They have the same points and goal difference as their city rivals.

Barcelona again showed their frailty this season by crashing 2-1 to the jeers of a 75,000 crowd at the Camp Nou Stadium.

With three defeats against two wins this season, critics of mid-table Barcelona are already talking of crisis.

Sporting looked jaded from their efforts in Istanbul last Wednesday when they eliminated Partizan Belgrade from the UEFA Cup after extra time and penalties.

Real took firm control of the first half in a performance of pace and class, with Romanian George Hagi providing a cross in the 16th minute and then a corner in the 25th for Butragueno to score with perfectly placed headers.

Sporting put Real under pressure in the second half and collapsed to 2-1 when Czechoslovak striker Milan Luhovy scored from a penalty in the 78th minute after former Gijon star Luis Enrique handled in the area.

But a minute later it was 3-1 to Real when Michel turned inside a defender and scored with a low left-foot shot.

The issue was settled in the 82nd minute when Hierro ran on to a long cross from the right to crash an unstoppable shot past helpless goalkeeper Emilio Instierre.

home.

Zaragoza's 89th minute reply came when Romanian striker Torin Mateut poked up a long ball out of defence and beat goalkeeper Abel Resino with a low shot.

Jorge Vinals and Carlos Munoz fired Oviedo's success with goals in the 29th and 42nd minutes.

Julio Salinas put the champions back in the match two minutes before halftime but Barcelona were never able to penetrate the Oviedo defence in a frustrating second half.

SCHUSTER SHINES

German midfielder Bernd Schuster had a hand in both Atletico goals in the 34th and 53rd minutes.

First he hit a free kick from the left wing which goalkeeper Andoni Cedrun could only push out for Miguel Soler to thump home.

Then Schuster dribbled past two defenders on the right and crossed perfectly for Sebastian Losada, making his debut for Athletic after years with Real Madrid, to head

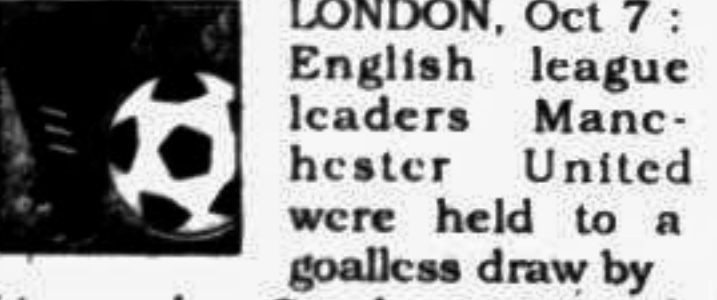
Juvenile soccer

The Kendrio Kishore Kafela has arranged a juvenile football tournament at the Armanitola Government High School ground on the occasion of the international Children's Day, a press release said, yesterday, reports BSS.

The tournament which begins Tuesday will be inaugurated by Sadek Hossain Khoka, State Minister for Youth and Sports at 3.30 p.m.

In all 22 teams are participating in the tournament.

Liverpool hold United



LONDON, Oct 7 : English league leaders Manchester United were held to a goalless draw by Liverpool on Sunday in a match marred by the dismissal of Mark Hughes and Gary Ablett.

ROK fancied to host 1999 Winter Asiad

SEOUL, Oct 7 : South Korea is most likely to host the 4th Asian Winter Games in 1999, an official at the Sports and Youth Ministry said today, reports AFP.

Only China, Japan, North and South Korea qualify in terms of weather and facilities, the official said, and of those Japan has already hosted once, North Korea is to hold the 1995 Winter Games, and China will be busy trying to host the Summer Olympic Games in 2000.

"South Korea is the only conceivable country as the host of the 1999 Games," said the official. One of the candidate venues is the Mujoo resort area in north Cholla province, he said.

The national news agency said the government planned to submit a formal application to the general assembly of Olympic Committees of Asia in Hiroshima, Japan, in April.

South Korea hosted the 1986 Summer Asian Games and 1988 Summer Olympic Games.

Liverpool were reduced to 10 men in the 66th minute when defender Ablett, booked earlier, was sent off for body checking United's Soviet winger Andrei Kanchelskis.

United's numerical advantage was short-lived, Welsh international striker Hughes receiving his marching orders nine minutes later after he appeared to head Butt David Burrows.

There was little good soccer to admire as the two bitter northern rivals cancelled each other out.

Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar had an unhappy surprise on his 34th birthday. Manager Graeme Souness dropping him in favour of Mike Hooper.

Hooper proved his worth with a fine one-handed save from evergreen United captain Bryan Robson late in the first half.

The result puts United four points clear at the top while Liverpool, struggling with a crippling injury list, are in an unfamiliar mid-table position, 11 points adrift of United.

United's neighbours Manchester City ended a recent poor run with a 3-1 win at Notts County.

Two goals within a minute by much-travelled striker Clive Allen in the second half put paid to county.

Substitute Allen scored his first from the penalty spot in the 70th minute after County's Dean Thomas had been sent off for deliberate handball and added a second moments later.



Fakirpool skipper Raquib (obscured) makes a fine goalline save after the goalie was beaten during a goalmouth melee in yesterday's Federation Cup match against Mohammedan Sporting at the Dhaka Stadium. — Star photo

England recall Robson, Waddle

LONDON, Oct 7 : England on Monday recalled former captain Bryan Robson, striker Peter Beardsley and winger Chris Waddle for next week's European Championship qualifying soccer game against Turkey, reports AP.

The three veterans were not in manager Graham Taylor's team reshaping plans but their own good form and injuries to other players forced him to name them for the Oct 16 game at Wembley.

Robson, 34, is playing some of the best soccer in his 17-year career and his Manchester United team, unbeaten in 11 games, stands atop the English standings with a four-point lead.

Olympique Marseille's Waddle was recalled after injuries to left side midfielders John Barnes of Liverpool, Manchester United's Lee Sharpe and John Salako of Crystal Palace.

Taylor said he was impressed by Robson's form this season. "I would be the first to admit that when someone is 34 and has had the injuries, Bryan has had, you have got to be looking ahead and thinking it's all coming to an end," the England manager said.

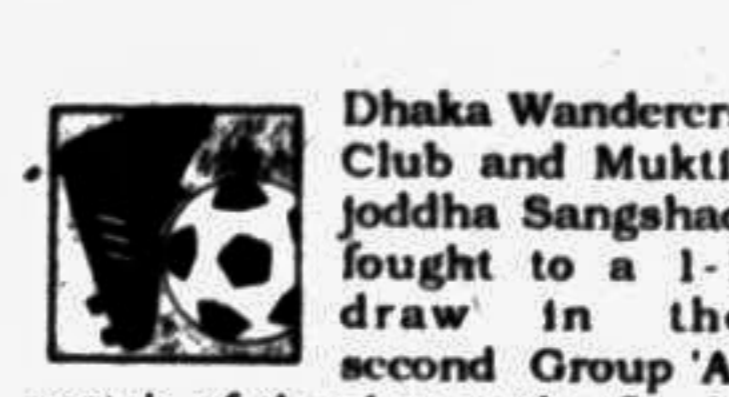
"But you have to believe the evidence of your own eyes and whenever I have seen Bryan he has looked as fit as at any time over the last 18 months."

Goalkeepers — Chris Woods and David Seaman; Defenders — Lee Dixon, Stuart Pearce, Tony Dorigo, David Burrows, Gary Pallister, Des Walker, Tony Adams;

Midfielders — David Batty, Geoff Thomas, Steve McMahon, Bryan Robson, Trevor Steven, David Platt, Chris Waddle;

Strikers — Alan Smith, Peter Beardsley, Ian Wright, David Hirst, Gary Lineker, Paul Merson.

DWC hold Muktijoddha



Dhaka Wanderers Club and Muktijoddha Sangshad fought to a 1-1 draw in the second Group 'A' match of the day at the floodlit Dhaka Stadium.

Both sides failed to break the deadlock at the breather.

Muktijoddha Sangshad, who were placed directly in the robin league for having made last year's semifinals along with Mohammedans, Abahani and Brothers Union, yesterday started the favourites against the modest Dhaka Wanderers Club who qualified for the robin league by topping Group

'B' of the knockout round. But the freedom-fighters found strong resistance from the traditional Dhaka outfit.

The match was mostly confined to the midfield in the first period of play, neither side succeeding in creating any notable move.

The second half was much more competitive and exciting. In the 22nd minute of the match, Dolon of Wanderers floated a curling cross from the right and Belal was there to place it in the net past the diving Muktijoddha goalkeeper Selim (1-0).

Muktijoddha rose from their slumber and pressed hard for the equaliser. They were duly rewarded when Faiz Babu, with a brilliant run, was brought down inside the Wanderers danger zone, and referee Monirul Islam had no hesitation in pointing his finger at the dreaded spot. Zia Haba stepped forward to nicely convert his penalty kick into a goal (1-1).

Neither team showed any inclination for more goals in the remaining period of the match.

Shipar, Portosh, Zakir, Rana and Ripon of Muktijoddha Sangshad and Bhutto, Gopal and Dizu of Wanderers Club received the yellow card.

WANDERERS: Arun, Kamal, (Tuhin), Bhutto, Gopal, Youst, Dizu, Motin, Dolon, Mosharraf, Belal, Mustakim.

MUKTIJODDHA: Selim, Shipar, Sohel, Emdadul, Shahadat, Faiz Babu, Zia Babu, Paritosh, Zakir (Ari), Rana, Ripon (Rupom).

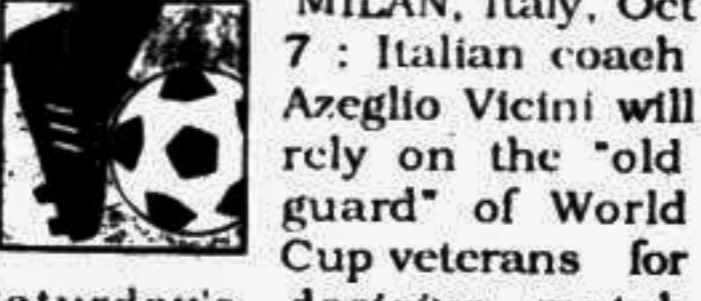
Referee: Monirul Islam.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Abahani KC vs Dhanmondi (4 pm)

Brothers Union vs Army (6 pm)

Vicini relies on old guards



MILAN, Italy, Oct 7 : Italian coach Azeglio Vicini will rely on the "old guard" of World Cup veterans for Saturday's decisive match against the Soviet Union in the European Championship qualifying round, reports AP.

The list of 19 players announced Monday includes 16 experienced internationals and only three newcomers.

The newcomers, AC Milan defender Alessandro Costacurta, Torino striker Gianluigi Lentini and Roma forward Ruggiero Rizzitelli are not likely to start in the game in Moscow.

The Soviet Union leads the Group 3 standings with 10 points in seven games, and Italy must win to keep its qualification chances alive.

Italy has six points out of five matches and must win its remaining matches against the Soviet Union, Norway and Cyprus to finish on top of the group standings and qualify for the final round.

Only the winner of each group will earn a berth in the final round.

Vicini, who coached Italy to third place in the World Cup last year, called five players from Italian champion Sampdoria of Genoa, which was upset 2-1 by underdog Parma in a league game Sunday.

Vicini did not immediately disclose his starting 11 for Saturday's game. Some of the players called, including Inter defender Riccardo Ferri, are nursing light injuries.

The Italian coach, ignoring pleas by the Italian media, did not call midfielder Gian Franco Zola, who is in top form and has first place in the league standings.

The Italian team will have to do without injured Juventus virtuoso Roberto Baggio but will include striker Gianluca Vialli, who barely escaped suspension following his expulsion at the end of the Bulgaria-Italy exhibition game in Sofia two weeks ago.

The players named to the Italian roster were :

Goalies — Walter Zenga (Inter), Gianluca Pagliuca (Sampdoria);

Defenders — Franco Baresi, Pablo Maldini and Alessandro Costacurta (AC Milan); Ciro Ferrara (Napoli); Pietro Vierchowod (Sampdoria); Riccardo Ferri (Inter); Luigi De Agostini (Juventus);

Midfielders — Nicola Bertini (Inter); Massimo Crippa and Fernando De Napoli (Napoli); Giuseppe Giannini (Roma); Attilio Lombardo (Sampdoria);

Forwards — Roberto Mancini and Gianluca Vialli (Sampdoria); Salvatore Schillaci (Juventus); Gianluigi Lentini (Torino); Ruggiero Rizzitelli (Roma).

Kim keeps title

SEOUL, Oct 7 : South Korean Kim Young-Kang retained his World Boxing Association (WBA) flyweight title on Saturday after a stinging right hand punch opened a deep gash over Venezuelan Leo Gomez's left eye in the third round, reports Reuter.

Gomez was always struggling from then on and was eventually beaten on points.

Kim made full use of his height and reach advantage to pepper the challenger with punches. One in the ninth round to Gomez's head wound brought blood flowing down his face.

The judges scored the bout 116-114, 116-114 and 115-114 in favour of Kim.

Soviet spikers book

Barcelona berth

ROME, Oct 7 : The Soviet Union won the women's European Volleyball Championship on Sunday, qualifying along with the Netherlands and Germany for the Barcelona Olympics, reports Reuter.

Bagan in final

GANGTOK, Oct 7 : Mohun Bagan struck three within a span of eleven minutes to knock out defending champions, Royal Nepal Airlines Club, to march into the final of the 13th All India Governors Gold Cup football tournament here today, reports IPI.

After a barren first half, defender Anil Bhadra drew first blood in the 63rd minute and then substitute, Pabitra Kar, added two more to complete the rout of the Nepalese side.

Mohun Bagan, which won this trophy on four occasions, now awaits the winner of the second semifinal match between Mohammedan Sporting and Army Eleven.

The match witnessed by a packed house at the Paljor Stadium saw the Royal Nepal Airlines Club putting cup's spirited fight before the Calcutta giant and gave many anxious moments to Bagan defence. But the second session saw a complete reversal in the trend of the match as the Nepalese outfit after conceding the first goal surrendered meekly to the disappointment of their large number of supporters at the ground.

The Nepalese team, which had lost to Mohun Bagan by 1-2 in the Kalinga Cup recently, were mainly depending on their speedy strikers, Mani Shah and lanky forward, Ganesh Thapa. But unfortunately both of them were completely off colour in today's outing and despite some brilliant performance by defender, Rajesh Manandhar and skipper Siram Ranjitkar.

On the other hand Mohun Bagan hardly played according to any plan in the first half were mainly depending on the individual brilliance of China Okeri and Vijayan but both were tightly marked by the Nepalese defenders.