

Leeds English league champions

LONDON, Apr 27: Leeds United won the English League soccer championship on Sunday for the first time since 1974 when nearest rivals Manchester United were beaten 2-0 at Liverpool, reports Reuter.

Leeds had set up their title victory with a thrilling 3-2 win at Sheffield United earlier in the afternoon.

Liverpool's opening goal, which signalled the end of Manchester's hopes, was scored by Welsh striker Ian Rush, his first ever against United in his 24 games against the club.

Rush struck in the 12th minute but Liverpool had to wait until three minutes before the end for Mark Walters to seal the victory which shattered Manchester's dreams.

Leeds deserved the title because their nerve held better when it mattered most.

But they had a huge stroke on luck on Sunday when Sheffield United's goalkeeper Mel Rees hurt his knee and had to hobble through the entire second half with a heavy strapping.

Both Leeds second half goals owed something to Rees' lack of mobility.

Leeds had trailed to a 28th minute goal from Alan Cork, but nippy striker Rod Wallace equalised on the stroke of halftime.

Leeds went in front when defender Jon Newsome scored in the 64th minute but four minutes later striker Lee Chapman, who has scored 20

goals this season, turned villain by putting the ball into his own net.

Another own goal, from Sheffield's Brian Gayle in 77th minute, spared Chapman's blushes and sent the visiting fans in a 32,000 crowd into raptures.

Liverpool, with manager Graeme Souness still recovering from heart surgery, reserved one of their better performances for their



RUSH...United'sbane

Manchester visitors and on this form look a good bet for next month's FA Cup final against Second Division Sunderland.

England forward Johan Burmes, a class apart, set up the opening goal with a perfectly weighted pass into open space and the experienced international striker Rush did the rest.

Paul Ince hit the post for United midway through the first half and there was plenty of incident at either end, with

Liverpool generally having the better of things.

United might have equalised in the closing stages when three men failed to connect with a perfect cross from young Ryan Giggs, one of the finds of the season.

But moments later Liverpool broke clear and Walters was able to stab the ball home.

Manchester manager Alex Ferguson gambled by including the not fully fit Bryan Robson, but for once the ex-England captain's inspiration was not enough.

With one game left, Leeds on 79 points are four clear of Manchester and five ahead of Sheffield Wednesday, who drew 1-1 at Crystal Palace on Saturday.

Leeds' triumph is their third title success following victories under Don Revie in 1969 and 1974.

Howard Wilkinson, enjoying his first championship win as a manager, said of the victory at Sheffield: "There were more than a few heart-stopping moments in this game. I don't think a cardiologist would have been too pleased with my heart rate in the last few minutes."

Midfielder David Batty said: "I wouldn't say it was a surprise that we won, but a few weeks back it didn't look that likely."

"It's a nice bonus. We achieved what we set out to do at the start of the season by getting a place in Europe, and now today has gone brilliantly for us."

Scotland midfielder Gary

McAllister added: "It's beginning to sink in that we're confirmed as champions and it will sink in a bit more as the evening wears on."

French striker Eric Cantona responded with one word: "Magnifique."

United were strong favourites until a home defeat six days ago by Nottingham Forest and 1-0 loss at bottom club West Ham on Wednesday.

Ferguson said: "It's a terribly disappointing end. There's no point in us analysing our own selves. I think we have to say well done Howard Wilkinson, it's a marvellous achievement for him."

"People say it is an ordinary league this year. What you have to realise about the English First Division is Leeds and ourselves got off to a great start this season, stayed there and were worthy front runners."

"Arsenal got off to a bad start and are now playing well. That is how hard this league is. If you make mistakes you get punished. As we realised today. It is such a difficult and hard league to win."

Real widen lead in Spanish league

MADRID, Apr 27: Real Madrid widened their lead to three points in the Spanish soccer league with a 2-2 draw at Real Sociedad on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Real Sociedad scored after only 17 seconds, with an opportunistic goal from Yugoslav Meho Kodro, but Madrid equalised after 17 minutes when Emilio Butragueno pounced on a rebound from a fierce George Hagi shot.

Romanian Hagi made it 2-1 for Madrid three minutes later when Butragueno beat a defender and passed for Hagi to lob the ball over goalkeeper Jose Luis Gonzalez.

Real Sociedad dominated in the second half and midfielder Da Cruz Oceano created numerous chances, one of which fellow Portuguese Carlos Xavier converted with a 73rd-minute goal.

The draw was a boost for Real Sociedad's Welsh coach John Toshack, who was sacked by Real Madrid last year.

Real Madrid were also satisfied with a draw and are now hard to catch with just six games left in the season.

Real's city rivals, Atletico Madrid, had a convincing 3-1 home win over Athletic Bilbao which put them level on 44 points with second-placed Barcelona, who lost 2-1 in Tenerife on Saturday.

Athletic Bilbao went ahead with a 43rd-minute penalty from Ander Garitano but defender Juanito Rodriguez levelled the score one minute later.

Manolo Sanchez made it 2-1 for Atletico Madrid after 70 minutes and Paulo Futre scored their third goal in the 82nd.

China top Asian soccer prelims

SINGAPORE, Apr 27: China went through a mere formality here Sunday, edging hosts Singapore 1-0 to end up of their Asian Cup qualifying group — having already assured themselves of a berth in the finals in Hiroshima, reports AFP.

The solitary goal was scored by Xie Yuxin in the 27th minute.

China, who had already secured their finals berth, fielded several reserve players and played at a leisurely pace to secure the two points.

They remained the only unbeaten team in the four-nation group, and as winners go through to the ten-nation Asian Cup finals in Japan in October.

The ten teams will be made up of eight group winners, with defending champions Saudi Arabia and hosts Japan automatic qualifiers.

In another minor tournament, Thailand defeated Singapore 3-1 in the Asian Youth Cup Group Four and qualified for the finals to be played in the United Arab Emirates also in October.

Final team standings in Group Four (Played, won, drawn, lost for and against): China 3 3 0 0 7 0 6; Indonesia 3 1 1 1 3 4 3; Malaysia 3 0 2 1 2 6 2; Singapore 3 0 1 2 2 4 1.

BSWA's May Day blood donation

The Bangladesh Sports Writers' Association (BSWA) will hold a voluntary blood donation programme in association with Sandhani on May 1 at the BSWA office.

State Minister for Sports and Youth Sadeq Hossain Khoka will grace the occasion as chief guest.

Members, sports enthusiasts, organisers, umpires referees and interested blood donors have been requested to be present at the BSWA's Dhaka Stadium office between 10 am to 4 pm May 1 Friday, says a BSWA press release.

Munshiganj grapplers top table

Sports Reporter



Medal winners in the 11th national mini-cadet wrestling championships seen with chief guest State Minister for Textiles M.A.Mannan at yesterday's concluding ceremony.

Munshiganj DSA with six golds and a bronze emerged as the champions while Khulna DSA, who bagged five golds, two silvers and four bronzes, finished as runners-up in the three-day 11th national mini-cadet (under-16 years) wrestling championships that concluded at the National Sports Council (NSC) gymnasium yesterday.

Dhaka DSA with two golds, six silvers and five bronzes became third while Rangpur clinched the fourth position securing one gold, two silver and a bronze medal.

The Chittagong grapplers could muster only a solitary gold and two bronzes while Gazipur collected four silvers and Jessore a silver and a bronze to be among the medal winners. Only Bogra DSA, the remaining team in eight-team meet, went home empty handed.

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Ethiopia to go to Barcelona

ADDIS ABABA, Apr 27: Ethiopia will participate in the Olympics in Barcelona, Spain, ending a 12-year self-imposed boycott ordered by former Marxist dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam, reports AP.

Sebat Relay, head of the sports department of the Ministry of Culture and Sports, said Ethiopian athletes would begin intense training this week to participate in athletics, cycling and boxing, the Amharic language Yezarietu Ethiopia reported this week.

The ban was lifted by Ethiopia's transitional government, which is dominated by the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front. The EPRDF played a major role in chasing Mengistu from power last May.

Sebat told the weekly pub-

Shohab Molla of Khulna forced Sanaul Huq of Dhaka into submission in the final while Md Ibrahim of Dhaka got the bronze.

In the under-68 kg, the last of the fifteen events, Md Mokabbar of Munshiganj emerged as champion beating Md Ali Hossain of Gazipur in the final. Moniruddin Kayed of Dhaka finished third.

Jasimuddin of Khulna beat Sujon of Chittagong in the under-40 kg category final while Satya Charan of Khulna finished third.

Tamizuddin of Dhaka lost to Alamgir of Munshiganj in the final of the under-42 kg event. Ruku Mia of Dhaka got the bronze.

In the under-45 kg division, Azizur Rahman of Khulna beat Mizanur Rahman of Gazipur to clinch the gold while Delwar Hossain of Chittagong took the bronze.

Zahurul Islam of Munshiganj got the gold and M A Matin Bhulu of Rangpur earned the silver while Liton Al-Syed of Rangpur finished third in the under-48 kg category.

In the under-51 kg event, Mujibur Rahman of Dhaka and Zahidur Rahman of Jessore finished as champion and runner-up respectively while the bronze went to Khan Abdul Halim of Khulna.

In the under-55 kg event,

above 18-years but not fit for the senior championships) will simultaneously begin from May 25 in the city while the national senior championships will be held in June.

As regards coaching programme, he said that the NSC plans to coach 25 wrestlers for about a year and a half for the sixth South Asian Federation (SAF) Games, which may be held in the capital sometime next year.

Besides, the NSC will arrange a month-long coaching programme for 50 wrestlers from each of the four divisions of the country.

When asked why the national championships take place without the completion of the district level competitions, Tabibur Rahman pointed to the 'non-cooperation' of the DSAs in this regard.

"They remain busy with football and cricket and they are least bothered about wrestling", he lamented.

"The future of wrestling in Bangladesh is indeed rather bleak unless proper care is taken right now," he said.

The BAWF official added: "Wrestlers ought to be supported financially. If they are not well taken care of, what can we expect from them?"

Bangladesh, despite finishing third behind Pakistan and India in the fourth SAF Games held in Islamabad in 1989, today finds it difficult to retain that position, let alone think of improvement for lack of effort and resources, the secretary regretted.

As for as the budget of the three-day mini-cadet championships is concerned, the BAWF secretary disclosed that a sum of around Taka 35,000 was spent, which is much less than the huge sums spent on many other less popular events.

NEGLECTED SPORT

Talking to The Daily Star during the concluding day of proceedings, Tabibur Rahman, secretary of the BAWF, said that the national junior under-18 championships and 'spares' meet (for players who are

MEDAL TABLE

Following is the medal table of the 11th national mini-cadet wrestling championships:

	G	S	B	Total
Munshiganj	6	0	1	7
Khulna	5	2	4	11
Dhaka	2	6	5	13
Rangpur	1	2	1	4
Chittagong	1	0	2	3
Jessore	0	1	1	2
Gazipur	0	4	0	4
Bogra	0	0	0	0

Baggio sustains Juventus hopes

ROME, Apr 27: Roberto Baggio scored two goals and made a third to give Juventus an easy 3-1 away win over Internazionale on Sunday and keep them in distant contention for the Italian First Division title, reports Reuter.

With four games to go, Juventus are five points behind unbeaten AC Milan who could only draw in Saturday's match against Torino.

Baggio's first goal came from a penalty after 30 min-

utes of a tense match in which Inter had been hoping for a boost to their aim of a UEFA Cup place next season.

The Italian international's second goal was a lucky interception, struck while he was off balance, lunging for a cross from winger Paolo Di Canio.

German striker Rudi Voeller kept Roma in contention for a UEFA Cup place when he made up for missing a penalty by scoring the only goal of the game at Atalanta.

Parma improved their UEFA Cup chances with a 2-0 win over Genoa while European Cup finalists Sampdoria had 36-year-old Brazilian Cerezo to thank for setting up Gianluca Vialli's goal which scraped them a draw against Foggia.



BAGGIO...two goals

Juventus's third goal came from Salvatore Schillaci who netted from a Baggio pass nine minutes into the second half.

Inter, playing without injured German midfielder Lothar Matthaus, scored a consolation goal 10 minutes later when Juventus midfielder Giancarlo Marocchi deflected a shot into his own net.

Lazio's German midfielder

Thomas Doll opened the scoring in a thrilling 3-2 win against lowly Cremonese when he connected with a low cross from Uruguayan Ruben Sosa after nine minutes.

German Karlheinz Riedle was brought down on the half-hour to give Lazio a penalty which Sosa converted and Riedle's outstanding efforts were rewarded with a goal in his own right shortly after the interval.

Cremonese won a penalty in the first half and took a good goal in the second to set up a tense finish.

Two more relegation candidates, Bari and Ascoli, played an entertaining match with the result looking likely to be a 1-1 draw until England's David Platt kept alive Bari's hopes of staying in the First Division with a goal just a minute from time.

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Eindhoven win Dutch title

THE HAGUE, Apr 27: PSV Eindhoven won their seventh Dutch football title in light years on Sunday by winning 3-0 at Groningen, reports AFP.

Though the season is not yet over, the team coached by Bobby Robson to a second successive championship win can no longer be caught by nearest rivals Ajax Amsterdam.

Robson is leaving the club at the end of the season to join sporting Lisbon though.

This is Eindhoven's 13th title in all. Ajax won the title in 1990 to break up Eindhoven's winning streak.

Barcelona to guard against everything in ensuring security

BARCELONA, Spain, Apr 27: If nobody notices Enrique De Federico's contribution to this Summer's Olympic Games in Barcelona, he would be a very happy man indeed, reports Reuter.

Barcelona's police chief is in charge of the 20,000 officers who, together with 12,000 soldiers and 10,000 civil guards, have the task of keeping the Games secure from the threat of everything from international terrorism to petty theft.

It is a tall order, but De Federico vows not only to keep the lid on crime during the Olympics, but also to preserve the relaxed atmosphere of this elegant holiday city.

While the world spotlight is on Barcelona between July 25 and August, the city will not turn into a security bunker with police checks and body searches on every street corner, he says.

"We seek to have everything under control without giving that impression. Security is important, something basic and indispensable, but it should never be the star player of the Games," he said.

City mayor Pasqual Maragall echoes De Federico's views.

"The security plan will be working, but it will not look like Seoul (venue of the 1988 Olympics), because you will not see it on the streets," he said.

This year, the problem is compounded by the fact that Spain is home soil to one of Europe's biggest and most active guerrilla organisations, ETA.

ETA, fighting for the independence of the Basque Province in northwestern Spain, has vowed to make Barcelona a prime target. Last month, the ETA leadership was captured in neighbouring France and one of the group's main travel-

ling commandos was taken near Barcelona. But the city's security chiefs are not claiming victory in advance.

"Our security plans are unaffected, if anything they have been reinforced... ETA does not have a fixed work manual," De Federico said.

"(The arrests) are an important success but those responsible for the security of the Games should not drop their guard," said civil governor Ferran Cardenal, the government official responsible for Olympic security.

Underlining their threat to the Olympics, ETA have killed five people in Barcelona this year in gun and bomb attacks.

Despite attempts to make security an invisible machine, there are already tell-tale signs of the police web which will allow 15,000 athletes and officials and hundreds of thousands of visitors to sleep soundly in their beds.

It is the culmination of years of planning including unprecedented cooperation between Spanish security forces and international organisations such as the Israeli Mossad, British M-15 and American CIA.

Police are out in force on Montjuic Hill, venue of the major Olympic facilities and media centres, which broods over the city centre and port areas.

Officers in armoured cars and carrying automatic rifles are on non-stop patrol on Montjuic, for centuries a leafy playground oasis of graceful parks and gaudy fountains.

The neo-classical Olympic Stadium the showpiece Sant Jordi indoor sports arena and the Poble Nou swimming pools are already sealed off while workers put the finishing touches on the jewels in Barcelona's Olympic crown.

Down at the harbour, where

10 luxury liners will be moored to lodge 30,000 visitors during the Games, security will be paramount both above and below the waterline.

Two-man pocket submarines are already going through their paces in the harbour depths to protect ships from underwater attack. Floating security barriers will seal off a large part of the Mediterranean's busiest commercial port.

Another two kms along the coast, electric fences are being built around the shorefront Olympic Athletes Village, around the neighbouring marina and across the yachting basin.

Less dramatic than international terrorism but probably more aggravating for the Olympic tourist, will be the small army of petty thieves and pickpockets.

But police aim to have that problem in hand as well — De Federico said the incidence of petty crime on the streets had declined since thousands of reinforcements were drafted into the city ahead of the Olympics.

"The number of petty crimes has declined during the first three months of this year and police efficiency has increased. They have made more arrests and cleared up more cases," he said.

"But there are certain points where vigilance will have to be reinforced, not least against drug trafficking," he added.

One side effect of this clean-up is already evident. Prostitutes and transvestites, once a prominent and sometimes colourful feature of the city centre, have been moved on from the heavily visited red-light districts into some of Barcelona's other suburbs.

CROSSWORD By Eugne Sheffer

ACROSS

- Spring month
- Checks
- Mirth
- Honest politician
- Actor
- Calhoun
- Popeye's Sweet
- Facts
- Opening bet
- Rulers
- Bee follower
- de France
- Nicholson role
- Squid squirt
- Tara-diddle
- Belligerent deity
- Gear tooth
- Goose egg
- Howl at the moon
- Zero-star review
- Bakery buy
- Beat

DOWN

- Walker
- Bart, to Homer
- You'd be nuts to put them on
- Uses credit cards
- Em, to Dorothy
- Buck's mate
- Stoolie
- Division word
- Received
- Picnic hamperers
- Approach
- Tracks up?
- Nav-igator's stack
- Boxer's tactic
- Help a hood
- Calendar's duration
- Less of a mess
- Saw the opposite shore...
- Roofer's job
- Rank
- "Cheers" alumna
- Art Deco VIP
- 11 Ben Turpin's trademark
- Dogfight participants
- Wapiti
- Boxer's
- Man-mouse link
- Calendar's duration
- "And — the opposite shore..."
- Moroccan city
- Incense
- Good, in Grenoble
- Leader
- Bad deal from Monty
- Taro paste
- Soap opera role, often
- Barrels
- Annual visitor
- Couch
- " — Peaks"
- "Mo-nopoly" payment
- 1 Across' follower
- Rim
- Implement
- Solidities

Solution time: 23 mins.

**HAS SPA JAEED
ULT WIT ORATE
MOO ALLTHEWAY
INN YEARN
DEEP USE CLAW
AMP KARATE
BRACE CUBED
REGENT NEM
ADOS ABA BLAB
SCUBA AMI
HIGHHOPES BIN
ADIEU RAP EGG
MONEY ASS LOO**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15			16					17		
18			19				20			
			21				22			
23	24	25			26			27	28	29
30					31			32		
33					34			35		
					36			37		
38	39	40			41			42	43	44
45					46			47		
48					49			50		
51					52			53		

CRYPTOQUIP

DGRBWSRAQUG UBGJXXUW
VB TXJTY-LRYVBD TXRPP
RBW QRW AQU AVLU JS
QVP XVSU.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: T equals C

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.