

Sport

Crammed int'l calendar ahead

With the subcontinent bracing for a second staging of the World Cup — the world championship of limited-over cricket — Bangladesh is in for a hectic cricket schedule. The calendar is virtually crammed with visits by foreign teams as well as visits abroad by the national team.

August and September next to make things hum. Bangladesh will then host the full strength Pakistan national team, expected to be in Dhaka by November.

Pakistan, the reigning world champions, were in fact supposed to visit Bangladesh this winter but the seventh President Cup football tournament gobbled up the BCCB works, as the Dhaka Stadium, the main venue for any international cricket match, remained occupied for football.

The Pakistan visit will be reciprocated as Bangladesh will go to Pakistan to take part in the twice postponed Asia Cup championship, programmed for the fag end of this year.

Rajshahi cricket

Baikali Sangha registered an easy 77-run victory against Sunrise Club in the Rajshahi Bhorer Kagaj First Division cricket league at the divisional stadium yesterday.

Changpai cricket

A five-wicket haul and a match-winning knock of 42 by Momin powered Winners Club to a convincing five-wicket victory against Mugda Cricketers in the Changpai Cup cricket tournament at the Golapghat ground yesterday.

Biman squash

Five matches of the inaugural Biman Open squash tournament were held yesterday, the second day of the 12-day meet, at the Dhaka Club squash court yesterday.

Schools, madrassah meet in Ctg

The five-day 22nd national winter athletics and games competition for school and madrassah students will begin from February 12 at the Chittagong Stadium.

Sports programme on Indian TV

NEW DELHI, Feb 9: Doordarshan and All India Radio will broadcast special sports programmes daily from February 15, reports PTI.

Juventus fall further behind

ROME, Feb 9: Italian soccer giants Juventus lost another bout in their battle to keep up with runaway leaders AC Milan, going down 2-1 at Atalanta to sink an embarrassing 13 points behind the champions, reports Reuter.



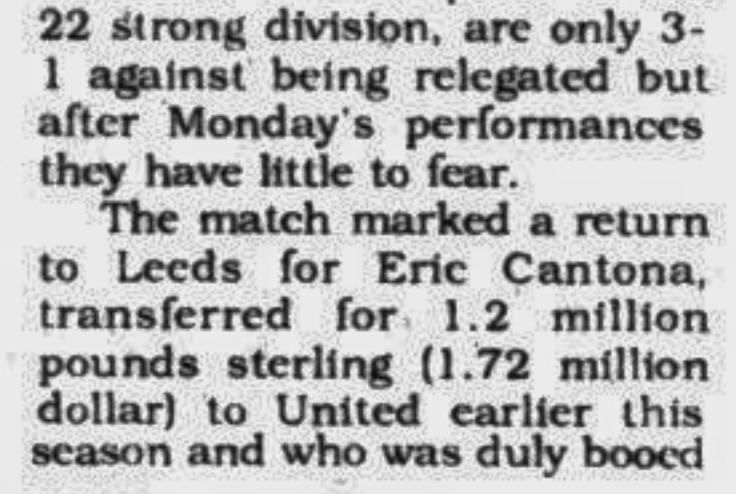
JEAN-PIERRE PAPIIN Lazio, two points behind Internazionale, who drew 0-0 at Cagliari.

tenegrin Dejan Savicevic, AC Milan president Silvio Berlusconi said. "I'm pleased with the result, the goals and the chances created."

Coach Fabio Capello probably sent shivers down his opponents' spines after the game, when he told a radio reporter, "We played well today and this game shows that we are improving."

Schmeichel owes M United one

LONDON, Feb 9: A memorable save by Peter Schmeichel a minute from time pushed Manchester United to a point clear at the top of the English Premier League on Monday as they drew 0-0 at champions Leeds, reports Reuter.



PETER SCHMEICHEL by most of the 34,000 crowd whenever he touched the ball.

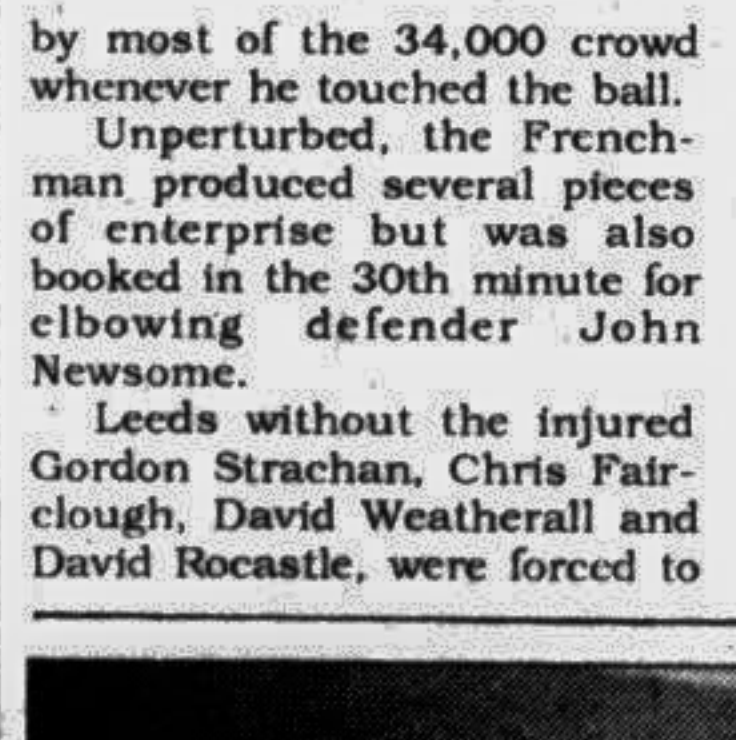
Leeds, in 14th place in the 22 strong division, are only 3-1 against being relegated but after Monday's performances they have little to fear.

The match marked a return to Leeds for Eric Cantona, transferred for 1.2 million pounds sterling (1.72 million dollars) to United earlier this season and who was duly booed

Sports photograph exhibition ends

The two-day Gold Leaf sports photo exhibition ended yesterday at the National Press Club in the city.

Shamsul Huq Tenku of Bhorer Kagaj won the top prize while Khaled Haider of Dainik Dinkal and Mahub Hossain Nabin of Dainik Sangbad finished second and third respectively.



Winners and participants of the Gold Leaf sports photo contest seen with State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeq Hossain and other guests at the concluding ceremony at the National Press Club yesterday.

Soccer coaching

The selection committee of the Bangladesh Football Federation has picked 120 players under 14 years of age for an intensive coaching programme, says a press release.

School sports

The annual sports competition of Gandaria High School was held at the school premises yesterday.

St Joseph's in Nirman final

Naimul wiped the cream of the St Gregory's High School batting order with a deadly spell to give St Joseph's High School an astonishingly easy 86-run victory in the Dhaka zone final of the 11th Nirman schools cricket tournament at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

St Joseph's High will be up against Little Wiles Flower High School in the final, tentatively scheduled for Feb 15.

Niaz posts wins in Calcutta

Niaz Morshed, the lone Grand-master of the country, won his first two matches of the Goodricke open chess tournament now being held in Calcutta, says a press release of the Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF).

Niru in lead

Neyamul Huq Niru with six and a half points led the table of the Zia memorial chess tournament on completion of the seventh round matches yesterday at the Tamanna Complex in Kachukhet.



Even the greats are not spared of the hubris of flirting with basics of the game. Javed Miandad of Pakistan was not bothered yesterday once to use his feet while trying a drive off McMillan of South Africa. The retribution was quick to follow — an easy snick for Dave Richardson behind the wicket.

GMCC outplay Victoria

The Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club (GMCC) denied further babes Victoria's hopes of hitting the headlines on their reappearance in the big league after a long time, outplaying them by seven wickets in yesterday's only match of the Navana Premier Division cricket league at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Victoria, who sounded off their arrival in the eleven-team Navana league this year with some big signings, suffered their sixth defeat yesterday, a fact which leaves them with six points from nine outings and a very tenuous prospect of making it to the six-team super league, let alone winning the title to call for a Napoleonesque epithet.

Tufnell — bewitching, bewitched

MADRAS, India, Feb 9: Phil Tufnell, England's gifted, yet wayward left-arm spinner, treads perpetually the thin line between exile and acclaim, reports Reuter.

This week, as England approached the vital second Test with India in Madras, the 26-year-old Londoner showed the worst of his character and the best of his ability in 24 switch-back hours.

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May has two days to recover

ADELAIDE, Feb 9: Off-spinner Tim May is racing to overcome a finger injury before Australia departs for their cricket tour of New Zealand on Thursday, reports AP.

May has not played cricket since he suffered the injury during his unbeaten innings of 42 in the fourth Test against the West Indies at the Adelaide Oval last month.

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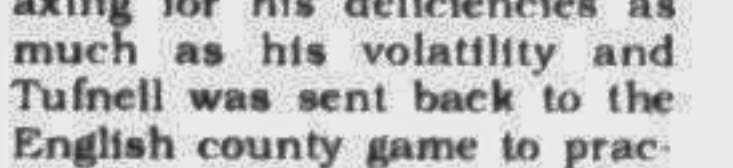
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PHIL TUFNELL

Kabaddi put back

The third Asian kabaddi championship, which was scheduled to begin from February 15, has been postponed yet again due to 'unavoidable circumstances', according to a press release of the tournament organising committee.