

# Gunners win English League Cup

LONDON, Apr 19: Northern Ireland international Stephen Morrow sealed a 2-1 victory for Arsenal over Sheffield Wednesday in the English League Cup final here on Sunday — but then missed the party that his first goal for the Gunners had launched, reports AFP.

The 32-year-old midfielder left Wembley on a stretcher with an oxygen mask over his face after his teammates had dropped him when they attempted to carry him shoulder-high on the final whistle.

Gunners boss George Graham and his medical staff rushed to the prostrate youngster and, after lengthy treatment, he was carried off in a stretcher to the dressing room with a suspected broken elbow while the rest of the Arsenal side began their celebrations.

Morrow could never have envisaged such an ending to his evening of triumph, set up when he pounced on a 68th-minute mistake by Carlton Palmer to leave the Gunners dreaming of a unique English Cup double.

Paul Merson's 18th-minute volley had cancelled out American John Harkes' ninth-minute opener for Wednesday and Merson also supplied the cross that saw his England teammate mis-hit a clearance into Morrow's path.

The goal gave Graham a hat-trick of League Cup triumphs as a player and manager, and also guaranteed the London side a place in next season's UEFA Cup.

However, in the early exchanges Wednesday boss Trevor Francis — 39 on Monday — must have felt confident.

David Hirst's lack of match sharpness had Paul Warhurst spearhead in his attack, a decision which almost paid off after only four minutes with a volley which smacked against the base of David Seaman's left-hand post.

The converted defenders shoot-on-sight policy, which had brought him 11 goals in 10 games in one spell this season, saw him go close again moments later.

Arsenal top scorer Ian Wright then twice tested England teammate Chris Woods, before Wednesday broke the deadlock.

John Sheridan dinked a free-kick down the left edge of the area for Phil King to run on to and cross low. Tony Adams cleared straight to Harkes 18 yards out and his first-time right foot drive gave Seaman

no chance.

However, Arsenal equalised nine minutes later. Paul Davis crossed was scrambled away, only as far as Merson, whose superb right-footed volley swerved beyond Woods despairing dive.

Just before that the swirling wind had deceived Wright into squandering a great chance created by Merson, followed by Mark Bright's miss after 24 minutes from a quickly-taken

setting up Arsenal's decisive second goal.

Palmer intercepted the resulting cross from the left, but knocked it tamely into the path of Morrow to score from eight yards.

Francis then turned to Hirst to supplement his firepower for the last 20 minutes and the switch almost worked as the England international spun on to a last minute half-chance



Arsenal captain Tony Adams holds aloft the Coca-Cola Cup as goalkeeper Davis Seaman celebrates next to him at Wembley Stadium in London on April 18. Arsenal defeated Sheffield Wednesday 2-1 in the League Cup final.—AFP photo

corner.

Kevin Campbell balanced up the woodwork account, too when he angled a low shot across Woods against the base of the far post and back into the relieved goalkeepers arms.

Wright showed few signs of emerging from his recent drought. Instead he courted further controversy when his high-held elbow left veteran Viv Anderson with blood dripping from a gashed forehead.

The 36-year-old defender continued with heavy bandaging to protect the wounds, but it may have been significant that he was the Wednesday player outrun by Merson in

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# Seles laid low by virus

BARCELONA, Apr 19: The world's top woman tennis player, Yugoslav Monica Seles, has dropped out of the \$1.375 million La Familia Open tennis championships with a virus, tournament organizers said Monday, reports AP.

Seles hasn't played in a tournament since Feb. 21. She withdrew from the Lipton Championships in Key Biscayne, Florida, four days before it began on March 15, complaining of the flu.

The next week she pulled out of the Virginia Slims of Houston because of illness.

On April 12, she defeated Spain's Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario in an exhibition match, but La Familia Open organizers said Seles' representatives told them illness — "apparently the same virus she had before" — would force her to miss the tournament.

Seles, withdrawal means Sanchez-Vicario and Spaniard Conchita Martinez will be the top seeds when main-draw play begins Tuesday. Qualifying matches were to be held Monday.

# Renegation in surfing circuit

SYDNEY, Apr 19: The raging battle for sports sponsorship between soft drink giants Coca-Cola and Pepsi has spilled into surfing after several of the world's top surfers voted Monday to defy their sport's governing body and compete in a break away event, reports AP.

The world surfing circuit is sponsored by Coca-Cola, but soft drink rival Pepsi has financed a contest Tuesday in Warranamboul, in the southern Australian State of Victoria.

The Association of Surfing Professionals (ASP), the sport's ruling body, initially backed the event but then reversed its decision late last week in a show of support for Coke's sponsorship pledge.

But at a meeting here Monday, surfers including the reigning world champions, American Kelly Slater, compatriot Todd Holland and former world champion Barton Lynch of Australia, voted in favour of the rebel event.

However, a knee injury will prevent Slater from competing and he flew home later Monday for surgery.

The rebel event offers a 35,000 Australian dollar (25,200 US) winner-takes-all purse — the richest first prize in surfing.

The ASP confirmed Monday that two world's top competitors, Australians Tom Carroll and Damien Hardman, would not surf at Warranamboul.

The world's top surfers were in Sydney for last weekend's 1.6 million Australian dollar Coke Classic — the second contest on the 11-event world championship tour and the world's richest surfing contest, carrying 214,000 dollars in total prize money.

Coca-Cola on Sunday vowed to support the Coke Classic in Sydney for another three years despite rumours that it was set to dump the sport.

# Leftists hold rally against Berlin bid

BERLIN, Apr 19: Leftist opponents of Berlin's bid to host the 2000 Olympics marched in protest on Sunday but police said only half of the expected 10,000 people turned out, reports Reuter.

Police said about 5,000 demonstrators gathered at the start of the march at the former checkpoint Charlie, a crossing in the now-vanished Berlin Wall.

Police turned out in force to search demonstrators for weapons and keep an eye out for violence feared from Berlin's active anarchist community. No incidents were reported.

Demonstrators at the head of the march, organised by leftists, socialists and environmental groups, carried a banner reading "Attack the IOC bosses."

Inspectors from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) began a five-day tour on Saturday to check on stadiums and facilities that are part of Berlin's bid to host the Games in the year 2000.

# Schools kabaddi

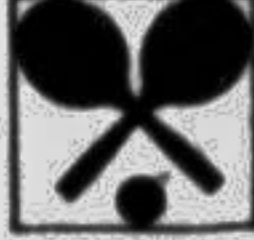
Rifles Public School and College dumped Mottifheel Govt High School 68-11 with six lonas in the ongoing fourth schools kabaddi competition at the Outer Stadium kabaddi court yesterday.

The Rifles Schoolboys made their intentions clear very early in the match, leading the first half 43-3.

In the other match of the day, Kamalapur High School trounced Dipshikha Biddalaya 45-27 in another top-sided affair.

Mirpur Bangla High face Dholaiapur High while Bangladeshi Rifles High meet Ramkrishna Mission School in today's fixtures.

# Goellner needs one, he gets one



NICE, France, Apr 19: After beating two former No. 1 players in two days and winning a tournament as a qualifier, Marc Goellner deserves a rest, reports AP.

He's getting it, whether he wants, one or not.

Goellner, a 23-year-old German, born in Brazil, won his first career title by upsetting Ivan Lendl 1-6, 6-4, 6-2 Sunday in the final of the Nice open tennis tournament.

"I'm very happy and very tired," said Goellner, who had to win three preliminary matches in qualifications to enter the main draw. Then he won five more matches in the tournament, including a semi-final victory over top seed Stefan Edberg.

It was Goellner's first final on the ATP Tour. He had never got past the quarterfinals of a pro event before Nice. It was the 143rd career final for Lendl, who has won 92 titles.

It also was a good week for an unseeded player in Charlotte, NC, where Horacio de la Pena of Argentina won the US Men's clay Court Championships.

But it wasn't only the low-ranked players who were successful Sunday.

In Hong Kong, the world's No. 1, Pete Sampras, won a showdown with second-ranked Jim Courier, beating the former top-ranked man 6-3, 6-7 (1-7), 7-6 (7-2) to win the Hong Kong Salem Open.

Usually after the Nice tournament, the players go on to nearby Monte Carlo. Goellner's impressive streak would make him an attraction in the Monte Carlo Open, which begins Monday.

Lendl will be going, but not Goellner, who was ranked 95th in the world before Nice. Because he was playing in the tournament at Nice, he couldn't play in the qualifying at Monte Carlo. And all of the wild cards for the Monte Carlo Open already had been distributed to other players.

In Monte Carlo, Edberg, Boris Becker, Petr Korda of the Czech Republic and Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia are the top four seeds, the same as they were for the Nice Open.

Lendl is seeded fifth, while former Wimbledon champion Michael Stich of Germany is No. 6. Andrei Medvedev of Ukraine, who won two consecutive tournaments before Nice,

is the seventh seed and defending champion Thomas Muster is eighth.

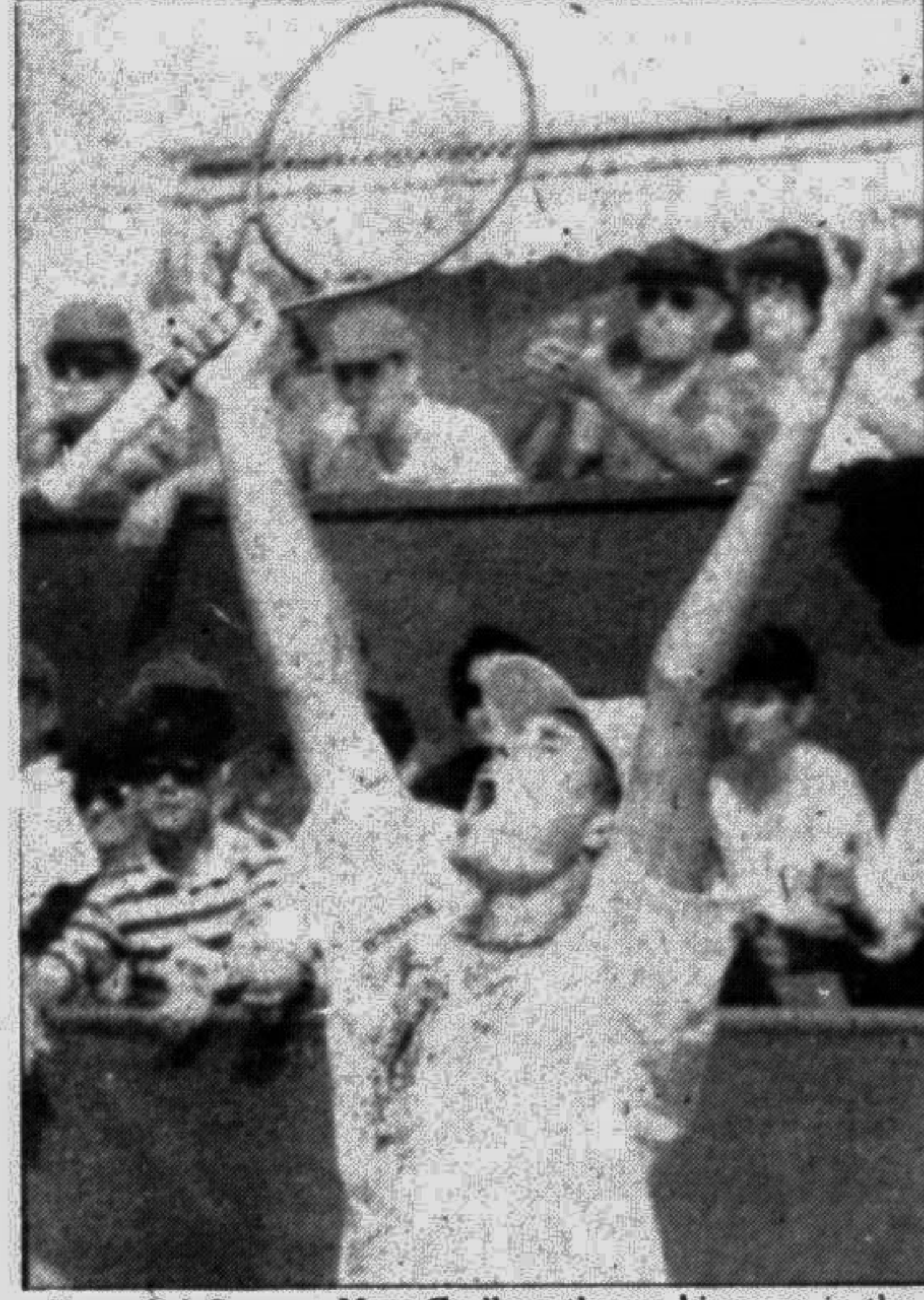
Nice had an unusually strong field this year as five of the top 10 players entered. However, it was the qualifier who overcame a rocky start in the final to win.

Lendl broke Goellner's serve three times in the first set. At 5-1, Goellner held a 40-0 lead and managed to hand

said. "I had the match in control, I had my chances in the second set and I couldn't take advantage of them."

In the second set, Goellner broke Lendl in the fifth game to take a 3-2 lead and hold it for the rest of the set to even the match.

Errors started creeping into Lendl's game in the third set as the match approached the two-hour mark in the



Unseeded German Marc Goellner throws his arms in the air after defeating Ivan Lendl 1-6, 6-4, 6-2 in the final of the Nice Open in France on April 18.

Lendl the game with unforced errors that gave Lendl the first set in 30 minutes.

"I was a little nervous at the start and very shaky," Goellner said. "I think the turning point came at 1-0 in the second set when he had a couple of break points against me and I held."

After that, Goellner did not lose another serve. "I started playing better and became more aggressive on my shots and they were a lot more powerful," he said.

"It is a bit upsetting," Lendl

bright sun. After dropping behind 2-1, Goellner took the next five games to gain the victory.

"He was playing with a lot of confidence and taking a lot of risky shots and making them," Lendl said.

Goellner agreed he was taking more chances than in the first set.

"I started hitting the ball a little harder and making him run a little more and I went for my shots," Goellner said.

De la Pena fought through a long rally to win the match as Yzaga hit a backhand long.

"He was ahead all the time and suddenly I had one chance and I did it," said De la Pena.

"I had to take the initiative on those points," he said of the break points he faced at 3-4 in the third set. "I put in two good serves and moved the ball around and he missed."

Yzaga said mental lapses cost him the match.

"This happens to me very often when I'm winning," Yzaga said. "I had little lapses today and that cost me the match. This is something I need to work on but maybe it will make me push harder and be more intense at important times in the match."

De la Pena collected 39,600 dollars. Yzaga received 22,330 dollars.

# Medvedev a dangerous floater



NICE, France, Apr 19: While six of the top 10 players in the world are at this year's Monte Carlo Open, the one just outside the top 10 — Andrei Medvedev — poses the biggest threat in the \$1.65 million tournament starting Monday, reports AP.

Medvedev, an 18-year-old Ukrainian, has won his first two tournaments of the year on clay at Estoril, Portugal and Barcelona, Spain. That raised his career titles to five, all on clay.

With five titles before his 19th birthday in August, he joined an elite list of teenage winners. Only Boris Becker, Bjorn Borg, Mats Wilander (9 each) and Andre Agassi (7), had more as 18-year-olds.

Becker is now 25 and is the second seed at Monte Carlo, where he has a home. He lost

in the second round of the Nice tennis tournament last week on his return to the circuit after being out almost two months because of viral infections. He missed five tournaments before beating Brazilian Jaime Oncins and losing to Argentine Franc Davin.

Stefan Edberg, who lost in the semifinals at Nice to Marc Goellner, a German qualifier who went on the win that tournament Sunday, is the top seed of the Monte Carlo event.

Monte Carlo is one of the nine "Super Series" tournaments of the ATP Tour in addition to Grand Slams.

Edberg, Becker, Petr Korda of the Czech Republic and Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia are the top four seeds, the same as they were for the Nice Open.

Ivan Lendl is No. 5 seed and former Wimbledon champion, Michael Stich of Germany, is No. 6.

Medvedev, now No. 11 in the world after his recent victories is seeded seventh and defending champion Thomas Muster is No. 8.

ANDREI MEDVEDEV

# CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Prickly seedcase  
4 Snatch  
8 Gilbert of "Roseanne"  
12 Past  
13 Zhivago's love  
14 Rundown horse  
15 Relic of a former time  
17 Simplicity  
18 Feb. 14 emotion  
19 Fender benders  
20 Pizzeria fixture  
22 Temperament  
24 Apiary structure  
25 Airplane measurement  
29 "A Chorus Line" song  
30 Paycheck extra  
31 Put to work  
32 Upstarts  
34 Ballet bend  
35 Diner sign  
36 On top of

**DOWN**

1 "Humbug!" occupants  
2 Actor Tognazzi  
3 Reinvestment  
4 Fielder's need  
5 Four-star review  
6 "Where the Boys —"  
7 "Cheers" locale  
8 Indy 500 data  
9 King of comedy  
10 Oxidize  
11 Shake-spearan septet  
16 Peacenik  
19 Kennel  
37 Small nail  
38 Highway section  
39 Complexion woe  
40 Peruvian's ancestor  
42 School dance  
43 Rubber-tree plant mover  
44 Habitat: comb. form  
45 Massage

**Solution time: 26 mins.**

**BLOC ASK OCHO**  
**REMO LEA BAIN**  
**OVER TET ERMA**  
**ZINNIA READ**  
**CARMICHAEL**  
**MACON ONO MIA**  
**ARAB BRA TORN**  
**SIR BOO AIMED**  
**CARTOONIST**  
**YEAR SHUCKS**  
**OPAL ILL LONI**  
**RILL SEA AMID**  
**RELY HEM ROTE**

**CRYPTOQUIP**

A X E E D S K T J A U J M  
U K Q J L K Q L K N S K H X H R  
Z F S X N S J Z N K N Y M  
"R J J O U M K, J E O F Y X H D" ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: OUR DESIGNER CLOTHING THAT DIDN'T SELL WELL WERE CALLED DUDS.  
Today's Cryptoquip clue: F equals P

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.

# Inter close gap with AC Milan

MILAN, Apr 19: Inter Milan kept alive their Italian championship hopes on Sunday when they came from a goal down to snatch a memorial 3-1 win over Brescia and narrow the gap on league leaders Milan to five points, reports Reuter.

Their Uruguayan striker Ruben Sosa continued his outstanding recent form when he scored twice within four minutes in the second half — soon after Inter had fallen behind to a 53rd minute goal by Romanian midfielder Ioan Sabau.

Former Italian national striker Toto Schillaci then sealed the win in the 81st minute, fittingly from a Sosa pass, when he scored against the run of play as Brescia pressed for the equaliser.

With six league matches left, Inter have an outside chance of overhauling a faltering Milan, who have not won in the league since March 7. They were beaten 3-1 at home by Juventus on Saturday night.

The momentum is very much with Inter, who have not been beaten for 14 weeks, while Milan's six-match run without a win in their worst sequence since 1985-86.

Sosa took his season's goal tally to 14 with his double — a

header in the 56th minute



RUBEN SOSA

and, unusually for the predominantly left-foot player, a right-foot shot from the edge of the area.

Milan probably have the more difficult run home, playing four of their six matches away from San Siro, Udinese (away), Ancona (a), Roma (home), Cagliari (a), Brescia (h), Genoa (a).

Inter's final matches are: Ancona (h), Lazio (h), Genoa (a), Foggia (h), Parma (a), Torino (h).

The Rome derby between



Action from yesterday's fourth schools kabaddi competition match between Dipshikha Biddalaya and Kamalapur High School at the Outer Stadium Kabaddi court. Kamalapur won 45-27. —Star photo