

AC Milan to visit China in May

SHANGHAI, Apr 9: AC Milan will play China's top soccer team, Shanghai Shenhua, on May 28, an organiser of the match said on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

The two teams will play in Shanghai's Hongkou stadium, which has a capacity of about 30,000, the official from a Beijing company organising the visit said.

AC Milan has promised to bring its best team, he said, but declined to give financing or other details.

Later this month Shenhua begins the defence of the championship title it won in 1995.

AC Milan and other leading Italian teams are well known in China because of live broadcasts of games from the Italian league on national television on Sunday evenings.

Caniggia inspires Boca

BUENOS AIRES, Apr 9: Striker Claudio Caniggia scored two goals, one a spectacular individual effort, as Boca Juniors beat Lanus 2-1 at the weekend to go top of the Argentinian championship, reports Reuters.

Caniggia, who has been out of favour with Argentina coach Daniel Passarella but is looking more and more worthy of a national team recall, beat three defenders and then scored with an angled shot for Boca's 70th minute winner.

He had opened the scoring with a first-half header but Lanus, unbeaten before Sunday's game, had equalised through Miguel Ibagaza in the 62nd minute.

Boca have reunited three members of Argentina's 1990 World Cup team - Caniggia, Diego Maradona and Jose Basualdo - with coach Carlos Bilardo and are one point clear of surprise packages Estudiantes and Gimnasia.

Of the other pre-season favourites, Racing Club were the only team to win and they only overcame Banfield thanks to a first-half penalty converted by Ruben Capia.

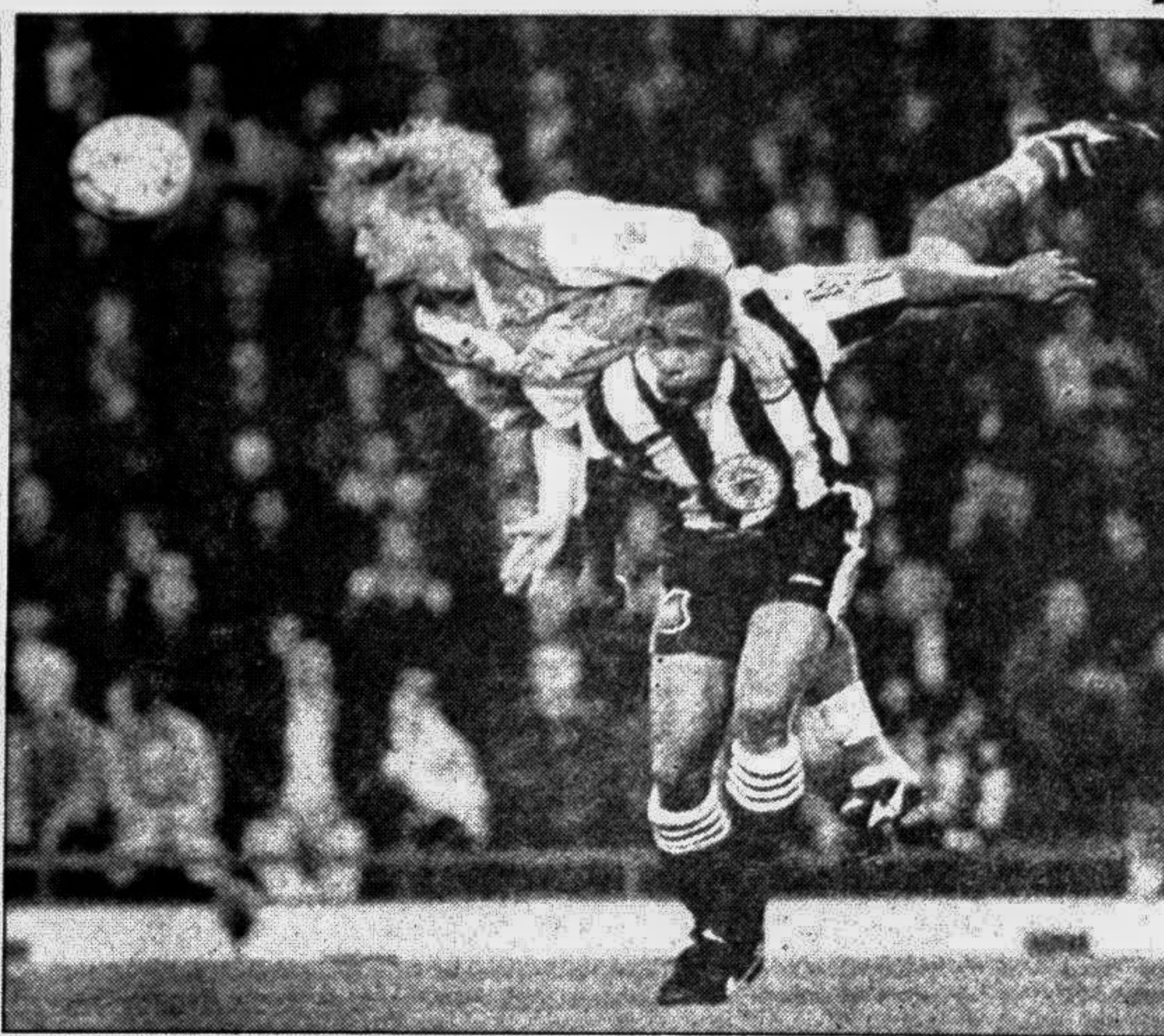
Champions Velez Sarsfield went down to their first defeat of the competition, 2-1 at home to Estudiantes, while San Lorenzo's 3-1 home defeat by Gimnasia Y Esgrima Jujuy left them fourth from bottom.

Lewis fighting back

AUSTIN, Texas, Apr 9: Eight-time Olympic champion Carl Lewis was not finished as a 100m Olympic contender following his victory over fellow American Jon Drummond, reports AFP.

Lewis, who beat Drummond, fourth in the world last year, by 0.01 sec to clock 10.10 sec here on Saturday, said: "After the indoors, a lot of people said it was over. This shows that it isn't."

In the national indoor championships five weeks ago, Lewis finished in least place in the 60m.



Blackburn Rovers' Colin Hendry jumps over Newcastle striker Les Ferdinand to head during an English Premier league clash in Blackburn on April 8. Rovers scored two goals in the last four minutes to stun Newcastle 2-1.

— AFP/UNB photo

Rovers rock Newcastle



LONDON, Apr 9: Newcastle's English championship hopes were dealt another body blow on Monday

when they crashed 2-1 at Blackburn, reports Reuters.

Graham Fenton struck two goals in the last four minutes to cancel out David Batty's 76th minute opener against his former club.

The defeat kept Newcastle six points behind leaders Manchester United who beat lowly Coventry 1-0 earlier.

Eric Cantona's scored his seventh goal in eight games in the 47th minute to move United to 73 points with four matches to play. Newcastle have 67 with five games remaining.

Third-placed Liverpool, midweek conquerors of Newcastle, but defeated by Coventry on Saturday reached 65 points with a 2-0 win over West Ham.

Batty appeared to have repaid all Newcastle manager Kevin Keegan's faith in him with a sensational shot 14

minutes from time.

The 3.75 million pounds (5.72 million dollars) February signing from Blackburn drilled home a left-foot shot from 20 metres for only his second goal in more than three years.

But with just four minutes left, substitute Fenton was on hand to ram in the equaliser off Shaka Hislop following a Darren Peacock deflection.

Newcastle, needing a win, threw everything forward and were caught out with a minute remaining as Rovers pumped the ball upfield and Fenton was on hand to chip it into the net.

While the title now seems destined for Old Trafford, the battle to avoid the drop intensified as the bottom two teams both won.

Bolton improved their faint chances of staying up by coming from behind to beat Chelsea 2-1, while Queens Park Rangers climbed above Coventry on goal difference after beating Everton 3-1.

Bolton stayed bottom but moved to within a point of Coventry who slipped from 18th to 19th behind QPR after

their defeat.

Wimbledon virtually guaranteed themselves another season in the Premier league after thumping strugglers Manchester City 3-0, while Aston Villa beat relegation-haunted Southampton by the same score.

Nottingham forest won 3-1 at Leeds, Tottenham drew 1-1 with Middlesbrough - both sides scored in the last six minutes at White Hart Lane - and a 61st minute goal from Belgian international Marc Degryse ending Sheffield Wednesday's relegation fears after their 10 win over Arsenal.

There was a dramatic start at Old Trafford where Coventry defender Dave Busst suffered a compound fracture of his right leg after colliding with United's defender Denis Irwin after only 80 seconds of play.

For 10 minutes while the medical men tied his legs together and carried him off on a stretcher. Before play restarted blood from Busst's wounds was washed off the pitch.

Onus on Dortmund now



BONN, Apr 9: Champions Borussia Dortmund, a point behind leaders Bayern Munich with a game in hand, have the chance to reclaim top spot in the German league on Tuesday when they travel to relegation-threatened Cologne, reports Reuters.

Dortmund were held 1-1 at home to Werder Bremen on Saturday but Bayern squandered the opportunity of

stretching their lead the following day when they were beaten 3-1 at Borussia Moenchengladbach.

What should have been a straightforward task for Dortmund suddenly looks tricky.

Cologne, who dismissed their second trainer of the season last week, gave new coach Peter Neururer a great start with a 2-1 win at Bayer Leverkusen on Saturday, thanks to a goal by Austrian striker Toni Polster three minutes from time.

And the injury problems are mounting for the champions, who have looked decidedly shaky of late, winning just three of their eight league matches since the winter break ended in February.

Already without six key squad members including libero Matthias Sammer, playmaker Andreas Moeller and striker Heiko Herrlich, they now look like being without Brazilian defender Julio Cesar and striker Karheinz Riedle on Tuesday.

Gatti too good for Rodriguez

NEW YORK, Apr 9: One of the toughest places to be in New York City on Sunday morning was in the ring of the Madison Square Garden Theatre, where Arturo Gatti knocked out Wilson Rodriguez in the sixth round of a back-alley brawl and retained the IBF junior lightweight title, reports AP.

UEFA Cup semifinalists Bayern entertain mid-table St Pauli on Wednesday, aiming for an improvement in their finishing after the reverse at Moenchengladbach.

They might also consider how they played to the counter-attacking strengths of opponents who scored all three goals on the break.

Wily skipper Stefan Effenberg pulled the strings for Moenchengladbach and new Swedish striker Joergen Pettersson hit form with two goals.

Bayern defender Thomas Helmer said: "We were clearly the better side and should have won the game but we failed to convert our chances."

At least we fought to the end. After all, there have been times when we could have been accused of letting our heads hang and giving up without a fight.

But the 13-times champions have been as unconvincing in the league as Dortmund since the restart, losing four of their nine games in 1996.

Above all, they need to maintain their concentration.

After Wednesday's clash with St Pauli, Bayern face a stiff challenge away to fourth-placed VfB Stuttgart on Saturday.

Just three days later they travel to Barcelona knowing that, to qualify for the UEFA Cup final, they must win in the feared Nou Camp Stadium after drawing 2-2 in the home leg.

Singapore's perilous ploy



SINGAPORE, Apr 9: Singapore's experiment with professional football is ready to kick off amid a debate over whether legalised soccer betting should be permitted to help keep out corruption, reports AFP.

The S-League will be inaugurated Sunday with an exhibition match at the national stadium between a Singapore all-stars side and the Thai national side.

Officials said the Singapore sports council is looking into a betting system which could generate funds to promote the sport and prevent match-fixing by syndicates in this soccer-mad city state.

The sports council is tapping, among others, the Singapore Turf Club for advice on how to go about the task, and may seek the assistance of British and Australia experts, officials said.

Such a system was first proposed last month by Member of Parliament Ramasamy Sinnakuruppan, who said that while he personally disliked gambling, legal wagering was "a necessary evil" to preempt illicit betting.

Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong cautioned that gambling was an emotional issue and the matter should be considered carefully.

Lee, however, said organised betting could be one way of raising funds to promote football and conceded that betting was a reality, particularly in Chinese society.

"How can you play football without somebody having a little bit of a wager on the side?" he told reporters.

The eight-club S-League takes off after months of efforts, following Singapore's withdrawal from the Malaysia Cup early last year. The pull out came after the Football Association of Malaysia said it was

not satisfied with the republic's commitment to stamping out match-fixing.

Last year, Australian-born Singapore star Abbas Saad was convicted by a court here and fined 37,500 US dollars for being part of a conspiracy to fix the results of the 1994 Malaysian league.

Czech footballer Michael

Santos rout Uniao Sao Jao

RIO DE JANEIRO, Apr 9: Santos midfielder Giovanni, who has been out of form for much of this year, hit four goals at the weekend as Santos romped to an 8-2 win away to Uniao Sao Jao in the Sao Paulo championship, reports Reuters.

Giovanni scored a first-half hat-trick and added a fourth goal early in the second half as the second stage of the championship got under way.

But he marred his performance by receiving a third yellow card and is suspended from his team's next game.

Giovanni was inspirational last year as the once-great club reached the final of the Brazilian Championships but has not been the same since the summer break and there have been rumours that he wants to leave the club.

The top two teams in the second stage will join Palmeiras and Portuguesa, top in the first stage, in the final play-offs although Palmeiras will win the title automatically if they finish top of the second stage.

Palmeiras, who averaged more than four goals a game in the first stage, began the second round where they left off by beating Ferroviaria 5-1 away.

Strikers Luizao, top scorer in the competition with 17 goals, and Rivaldo scored two each.

Culprits on way back



BEIJING, Apr 9: Chinese swimmers banned after positive dope tests 18 months ago plan to return.

Chen said they were taking their cue from American Angel Martino, who has made an impressive comeback since she was suspended for two years after testing positive at the 1988 US Olympic trials.

Martino, now 28, claimed a relay gold and 50 freestyle bronze at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics and will be a strong contender in the 50 and 100 freestyle and 100 butterfly at the Atlanta Games in July.

Seven Chinese swimmers, including world champions Lu Bin and Yang Aihua, were banned for two years after failing drug tests at the Asian Games in Hiroshima in October 1994.

Chen, speaking at the end of the seven-day Chinese Olympic trials in Tianjin on Sunday, said world 200 metres individual medley champion Lu and the other banned swimmers would be back.

"They'll definitely return," he said.

The doping scandal shook the sport and embarrassed China, though Chinese sports officials have vigorously denied allegations of systematic doping.

The Chinese have recently hit out at what they see as double standards applied in the fight against doping.

Last month, the China Daily newspaper unleashed a scathing tirade against the world swimming body FINA, saying a hypocritical and selfish tolerance of doping had replaced the Olympic spirit of fair play.

Australian world breaststroke champion Samantha Riley escaped with a strong warning from FINA after she tested positive for a banned painkiller at last December's World Short-Course Championships in Rio de Janeiro.

American Jessica Foschi was allowed to compete in last month's US Olympic trials despite having tested positive for banned steroids in August. She did not make the team.

China has introduced internationally administered out-of-competition testing and boosted spot tests by 48 per cent.

Chen said he was confident Chinese swimmers would not test positive at Atlanta. "My heart feels very much at ease," he said. "They're clean."

Indian Open Kulti eliminates Bjorkman

NEW DELHI, Apr 9: Nicklas Kulti of Sweden upset his Davis Cup teammate Jonas Bjorkman, 6-3, 6-4, in the second round of the Indian Open Championship on Tuesday, reports AP.

Kulti needed only 1 hour and 13 minutes to defeat five-seeded Bjorkman, who double-faulted six times during their match in India's first top-level ATP tournament.

The match came two days after a Swedish team that included Bjorkman - ranked 48th in the world - and Kulti - ranked 122nd - routed India in the Davis Cup quarterfinals in Calcutta. The two players each won singles matches and were doubles partners.

"It's hard to lose to your best friend," Bjorkman said after Tuesday's match.

In other matches, American Jonathan Stark upset Magnus Norman of Sweden, 6-1, 7-6 (7-4), and Jecp-Philippe Fleuriau of France beat Oleg Ogorodov of Uzbekistan, 5-7, 6-2, 6-3.

In the first doubles competition, Jerome Golmard and Lionel Roux of France easily defeated Christiano Caratti of Italy and Paul Weskes of Kenya 6-3, 6-4.

Blocking an unholy inheritance

KUALA LUMPUR, Apr 9: Asian soccer powers will vote together to stop the son of controversial Hong Kong tycoon Henry Fok taking one of the continent's places on the FIFA executive, reports AFP.

Fok, a property and hotels tycoon with close links to China, had held Asia's seat on the world body's executive since 1978.

He announced last year he would be stepping down but his son Timothy will be one of two candidates to take over in a vote on June 5, the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) said Tuesday.

The other contender and favourite is Qatar Football Association president Mohammed bin Hammam.

Henry Fok's absences at FIFA and AFC meetings have annoyed soccer chiefs but he is said to have pressed for his son, a vice-president of the Hong Kong Football Association, to succeed him.

Hammam has been backed by 19 countries, four less than the required to win the ballot at the AFC headquarters in Kuala Lumpur. Timothy Fok was only nominated by Hong Kong and China.

The AFC's other FIFA executive position is held by Saudi businessman Abdullah al Dabal. South Korea's Chung Mong-Joon represents the AFC as FIFA Vice-president.

Henry Fok has held the FIFA seat since 1978, "would be sorely missed", said AFC general-secretary Peter Velappan.

UNL's bizarre feat!

MEXICO CITY, Apr 9: Mexican soccer team UNL have qualified for the final stages of the country's national championship and been relegated in the same season, reports Reuters.

UNL, nicknamed 'the Tigers' beat Veracruz 2-0 on Sunday to finish second in Group A guaranteeing a place in the tournament's decisive stages.

Despite this, they will spend next season in the Second Division as relegation in Mexico is decided on the average number of points per game over the last three seasons.

UNL had performed poorly in the previous two seasons and had already been relegated before Sunday's games.

Under the unusual rules of the Mexican championship, the 18 teams play each other twice but are divided into four groups.

The winners of each group plus the two second-placed teams with the most points qualify automatically for the quarter-finals. The other two second-placed teams and the two sides with the most points out of the remaining teams, regardless of group, play off for the other quarter-final spots.

Newly-promoted Celaya, inspired by Spanish veteran Emilio Butragueno, finished top of group two thanks to a 2-0 win over Leon.

Veracruz, Cruz Azul, Necaxa, Monterrey and Atlas were the other teams to qualify directly for the quarter-finals while giants America, Unam and Leon joined the Tigers in the play-offs.

America, with only one win in their last 13 games, took a 3-0 lead against Atlante with two of the goals scored by Cameroon's former World Cup player Francois Omam-Biyik but Atlante fought back to force a 3-3 draw.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Chief Engineer
Construction and Maintenance Management Unit (CMMU)
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
House No 94, Road No. 4, Block-B
Banani Model Town, Dhaka
Memo No MOHFW/CMMU/HFWC/919/96/1344 Dated: 3.4.96

Notice Inviting Bid

- Bids in sealed covers for Construction of Health & Family Welfare Centres (FWCs) and Upgradation of Rural Dispensaries (RDs) into "HFWCs" under IDA Credit No 2259-BD is hereby invited from the contractors/firms of CMMU, pre-qualified for the Project "Construction of 100-Health & Family Welfare (HFWCs), Upgradation of 500-Rural Dispensaries (RDs) into HFWCs and Maintenance of HFWCs". Time for completion of work will be 6 (six) months to be reckoned from 7 days after date of handing over of possession of site to the contractor.
- Interested contractors may purchase bid documents on production of applications addressed to Chief Engineer in letter head pad of their firms with attested prequalification letters, attested photographs of intending bidder, a Bank Draft/Pay Order of Tk 750.00 (Taka seven hundred fifty) only (non-refundable) from any Scheduled Bank of Bangladesh in favour of Executive Engineers, CMMU of respective Divisions.
- Those contractors presently working under CMMU and who have failed to achieve at least 50% of the proportionate progress they were supposed to achieve within the time elapsed may not be allowed to participate in bids. List of such defaulter contractors will be circulated by this office and no appeal will be entertained against that lists.
- Bid document will be available during office hours in all working days up to 22.04.96 in following places:

(i) Office of the Executive Engineer, CMMU Dhaka/ Chittagong/Rajshahi/Khulna/Rangpur/Mymensingh/Comilla/Barisal Division	For works under jurisdiction of respective CMMU Divisions
(ii) Office of the Consultant, M/S Shaheedullah and Associates Ltd, 137, Jahanara Garden, Green Road, Dhaka	For work under all CMMU Divisions
- Package list, name of sites and other necessary informations will be available for inspection in above mentioned offices during office hours in all working days.
- Applications for tender documents for works under jurisdiction of one CMMU division will be accepted in another CMMU divisional office with Bank Draft and documents mentioned above. Intending buyers are required to receive bid papers from that office in time. CMMU will not take any responsibility if bid documents can not be sent timely from Dhaka due to disruption in communication and if any contractor fails to collect or drop the bid documents in time in such case.
- Earnest money at the rate mentioned in the package list in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of Executive Engineer of respective divisions of CMMU, must be enclosed with the bid. Earnest money of unsuccessful bidders will be returned.
- Bids in sealed covers will be received in following manner:
 - In Boxes kept in the offices of Executive Engineer, CMMU: Dhaka/Chittagong/Rajshahi/Rangpur/Khulna/ Mymensingh/Comilla/Barisal Division up to 14.00 hrs on 25.4.96.
 - By post/courier service at BIDDERS' RISK in the office of the Chief Engineer, CMMU. The documents sent by post/courier services be addressed to the Chief Engineer, CMMU, House No. 94, Road No. 4, Block-B, Banani Model Town, Dhaka-1215. Bids will be received up to 25.4.96 till 14.00 hours only. Documents received after the above mentioned time will be returned un-opened.

Name of work, location of work, package No and name of bidder must be clearly written on the sealed cover containing bids (for both dropping in box or for those sent by post/courier service).

9. Bid documents received in box by post or by courier service will be opened in respective offices at 14.30 hrs on the last date of dropping in presence of bidders (if any).

10. Successful bidders will be communicated after evaluation of tender documents. Evaluation will be done centrally after closing together all tenders of a particular package dropped in different places. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids without having any obligation to communicate reasons thereof and this decision shall not be subject to appeal.

DDP-7171-7/4
G-450

Colonel Md Asadul Islam
Chief Engineer

Government of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Rangamati Road Division

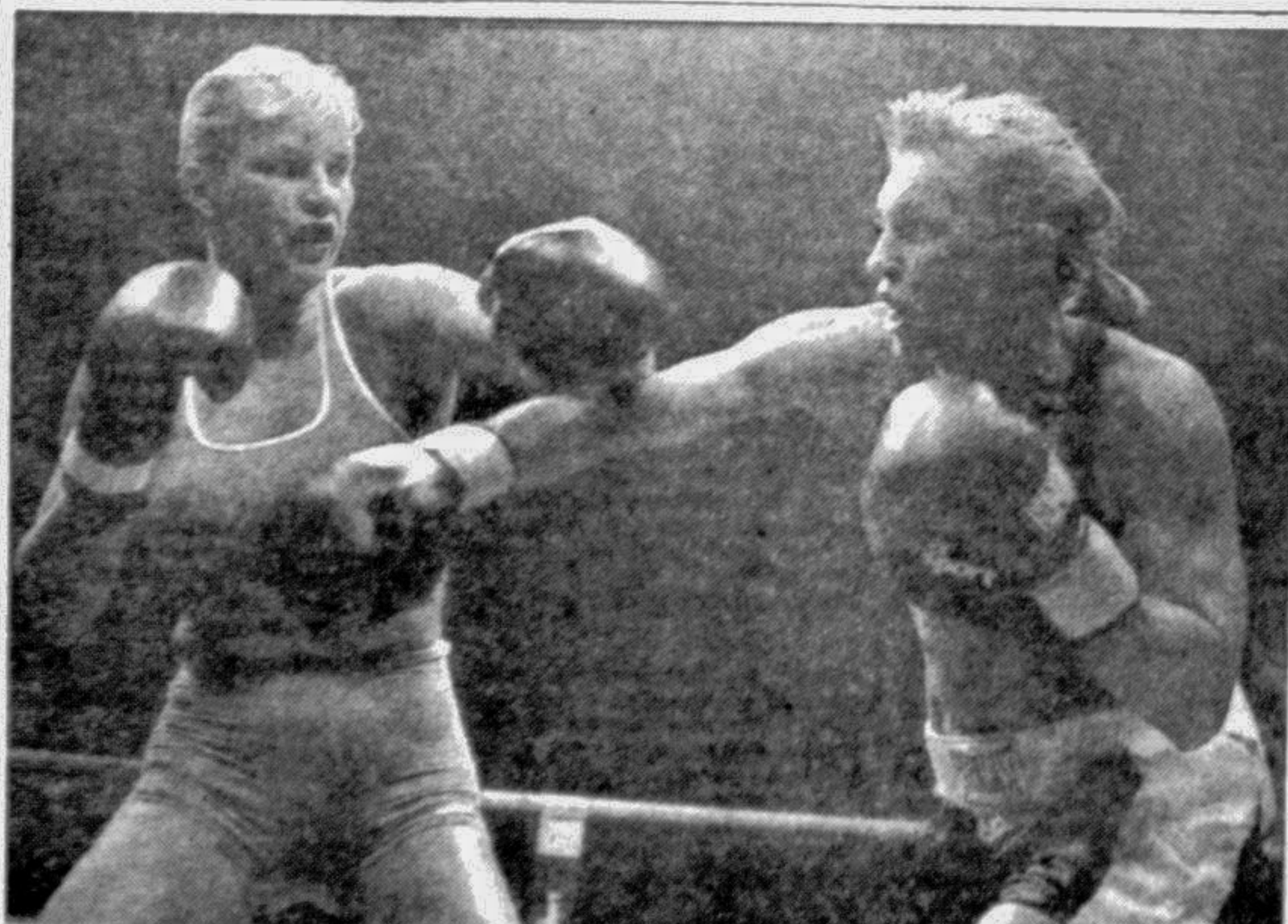
Notice of RHD Inviting Tenders

- Tender Notice No: 35/EE RRD of 1995-96.
- Name of work: Re-construction of pavement (Resectioning method) at 15th (P) KM (Ch. 100M to 200M) of Rangamati-Manikchhari-Mohachhari-Khagachari Road under Rangamati Road Division during 1995-96.
- Estimated cost: Tk. 2,35,762/00
- Earnest money: Tk. 4,716/00
- Time allowed for completion of work: 30 (thirty) days.
- Eligibility of contractor: A to E general category enlisted contractors of RHD.
- Name of offices of availability of tender documents: RHD, Road Division, Rangamati/Khargachhari-VII & Road Sub-Division-III/Chandraghona/1st Line Mechanical Sub-Division, Rangamati under this Division up to 17-04-96.
- Name of officers to receive tender bids: The Superintending Engineer, RHD, Rangamati Road Circle, Rangamati & the Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Rangamati.
- Last date of receipt of tenders: Up to 12-30 P.M. on 18-04-96.
- Date & time of opening bids: At 12-45 P.M. on 20-04-96 by the undersigned or his authorised representative in his office chamber in presence of the intending tenderers, if they like to remain present.

Sealed tenders in B.D. Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from the enlisted contractors of RHD under general category for the above mentioned works. Lottery shall be conducted on 23-04-96 at 12-00 Noon if the necessity so demands.

Baharul Hoque
Executive Engineer (RHD)
(Current Charge)
Rangamati Road Division
Phone-2101.

DDP-6974-6/4
G-446



Daniella Somers (R) of Belgium misses a punch against Dutch Irma Verhoef during their Women's International Boxing Federation (WIBF) World Boxing Championship bout in Antwerp, Belgium on April 8. Somers won on points.

— AFP/UNB photo