

## Phil paves Leics' path

LONDON, Sept 13: Trinidadian Phil Simmons celebrated the award of a new two-year contract with Leicestershire on Thursday to shorten the odds on his side winning this season's English county championship, reports Reuters.

Simmons claimed a career best six for 14 as bottom club Durham collapsed to 1226 all out to give Leicestershire maximum bowling points in their penultimate championship match.

They then accelerated to 253 for five at the close, a position of strength in one of the tightest title races in recent years, with Simmons unbeaten on 28.

Surrey, in second place a point behind Leicestershire before the start of play, endured a less successful day against Glamorgan in Cardiff as the home side reached 351 for nine.

Fourth-placed Essex were also on the receiving end of a big total as Sussex amassed 361 for eight, but fellow contenders Derbyshire did their best to keep the pressure on.

They were bowled out for 242 by Warwickshire, relying heavily on Chris Adams who scored 80, but Phil Defreitas then struck back with four wickets to restrict the visiting side back to 131 for five.

Kent, also in with an outside chance if the leaders falter, piled up 376 for four against Hampshire with another West Indian, Carl Hooper, making 80 and Nigel Long contributing an unbeaten 105.

Lancashire's Jason Gallian, named in the England A team to tour Australia where he grew up, made 113 for Lancashire as they made 337 for eight against Northamptonshire.

## New book on cricket

Sports Reporter



"Sabar Jonyo Cricket", a book on cricket coaching translated by Zahurul Islam Nadim, was published by Khelara Bhuvan Prokashoni recently.

Profusely illustrated, the 102-page book will prove to be useful to the budding cricketers of the country.

## Milan seek some solace

MILAN, Sept 13: AC Milan will need to bounce back from their midweek humiliation in the European Cup if they are to prove they are still the best side in the Serie A this weekend, reports AFP.

The Italian champions, who conceded two goals in the last 15 minutes to lose 3-2 to FC Porto, will want to come back with a morale-boosting victory over Sampdoria on Sunday.

George Weah, stretched off after scoring Milan's second goal, should have recovered from a hand injury, but there are still doubts over Dutch defender Michael Reiziger who limped off with knee trouble.

Given the defensive problems, and the continuing absence of injured captain Franco Baresi, a likely solution for coach Oscar Tabarez will be to give ex-Juventus veteran Pietro Vierchow his debut.

The midfield line-up will probably be unchanged, as will the forward trio of Roberto Baggio, Marco Simone and Weah, who guided Milan to a 4-1 victory over Verona last weekend.

Roberto Mancini, the Sampdoria striker and skipper, should have recovered from ankle problems to lead his side out.

Juventus, buoyed up their 1-0 win over Manchester United, go in search of their first league victory of the season at home to Cagliari.

The European Cup holders will have defender Moreno Torricelli back in the team, and are still appealing a two-match ban for captain Antonio Conte.

Should the appeal fail, Valadimir Jugovic, who scored Juventus' decisive penalty in the European Cup final shootout with Ajax Amsterdam, will take over the vacant slot in midfield.

Maurizio Ganz and Chilean Ivan Zamorano, Inter's only available strikers, will lead the attack, supported by inspirational Frenchman Youri Djorkaeff.

Parma, who travel to Piacenza, will be without the Olympics' joint top goalscorer, Hernand Crespo of Argentina, who is still plagued by tendinitis, and Italian international defender Antonio Benarrivo, who is out for 40 days with a fractured collarbone.

Lazio are at home to Udinese, while city rivals AS Roma travel to Vicenza.

Florentina, whose new striker Oliveira missed Thursday night's 1-1 European Cup Winners Cup draw with Bistrita through suspension, will have the Brazilian back on Sunday against Atlanta.



Mauri Keskitalo of Finnish club My-Pa 47 clears the ball before Liverpool's Mark Wright during their European Cup Winners' Cup tie in Anjalankoski on Sept 12.

—AFP/UNB photo

## Stig strikes for Liverpool



KOUVOLO, Finland, Sept 13: Norwegian international Stig Bjornebye ensured Liverpool a 1-0 European Cup Winners' Cup win at Finnish side My-Pa 47 just 60 miles from the Russian border, reports AFP.

In a poor week for British clubs — neither Arsenal, Aston Villa, Manchester United, Rangers or Celtic won — four-times European Cup champions Liverpool gained a little respect by edging out the home side.

Bjornebye made the breakthrough for Liverpool after 61 minutes when McAteer's cross was only half-cleared and Bjornebye, making his debut in a European competition for the club, volleyed the ball home left-footed from just inside the penalty area.

It was only his second goal for Liverpool. He opened his account against Middlesbrough on the opening day of the season.

Former Aston Villa defender David Moore and Chester-born striker John Allen were both included in this first round, first leg clash.

Liverpool began brightly with Robbie Fowler, who has scored just once this season, turning quickly and sending in a snap shot that went just wide of the post.

Then Bjornebye picked out Steve McManaman, but his shot was off target. There was a moment of danger of Liverpool when Mika Hernesniemi punted a long ball forward and

## Stojkovic remains in J-League

NAGOYA, Japan, Sept 13: Yugoslav captain Dragan Stojkovic, the 1995 J-League Most Valuable Player, has renewed his contract with Nagoya Grampus Eight for one more year until January 1998, club officials said Friday, reports AFP.

It was a big relief for the club which is going to lose French coach Arsene Wenger later this month.

Stojkovic, 31, was the key member of the team along with Wenger as they lifted the near regular bottom placers to runners-up place in the second stage last season.

Club officials did not reveal Stojkovic's new salary, but Japanese news agency Jiji Press estimated it at 140 million yen (1.27 million dollars), up 80 million yen from his previous contract.

Grampus Eight are currently third in the 16-team league, only two points away from front-runners Kashima Antlers with the same 12-5 won loss records.

goalkeeper David James raced off his line to clear as Mauri Keskitalo waited for any slip-ups.

Fowler again got away from his market, 19-year-old Moore, only to slice his shot wide of the post.

Liverpool found it hard to get their game together on this tight little ground only 70 miles from the Russian border.

Fowler continued to look dangerous, but he was again off target with another shot as Roy Evans' team tried to carve out a goal before the break.

But worryingly for Evans, the Finnish side were allowed to carve out a number of opportunities of their own and Koskinen was allowed to run with the ball before firing over the top.

Then goalkeeper Jakonen made a fine save as Collymore flicked the ball on from another fine cross by Bjornebye.

Liverpool had looked very ordinary in the first half against a team that had never won at home in a European competition.

Central defender Babb got a stiff talking to by referee Gylfi Orrason for challenge on Toni Huttunen.

Liverpool began to step up the pace and Collymore missed a glorious chance after Barnes and Thomas had linked up. Somehow he managed to steer the ball wide.

## Upali's resignation turned down

COLOMBO, Sept 13: Sri Lanka's sports minister today turned down the resignation of the country's millionaire cricket chief Upali Dharmadasa, who accepted responsibility for a mix-up at last week's Singer World Series final, reports AFP.

The sports ministry said it was satisfied with the apology by Dharmadasa for causing embarrassment to minister SB Dissanayake, who was invited for the tournament as the chief guest only to learn that someone else had been designated chief guest.

Dissanayake had said he was embarrassed when the head of the Singer company here was announced as the chief guest.

Dharmadasa, a leading businessman, was elected head of the cricket board six months ago, shortly after Sri Lanka won the World Cup.

## Steffi's aim in life

BONN, Sept 13: World number one Steffi Graf revealed on Friday she will begin a sports marketing career when she eventually leaves the tennis circuit, reports AFP.

Graf, whose father Peter is currently being tried for tax fraud, once again denied any involvement in tax evasion allegations on her vast fortune.

She has decided to keep a tight rein on her financial affairs and admitted she has now learnt a lot of lessons.

"I have to completely organise the management of my affairs and I am going to personally take the important decisions and make sure they are put into effect," she said, adding her company's headquarters would be in her hometown of Brühl.

"With the new company, my aim is to begin sports marketing at the end of my career. I hope to deal with other athletes and organise all sorts of events."

Meanwhile, her father Peter proclaimed the innocence of his daughter at the trial which began on September 5.

Peter Graf and his ex-financial advisor Joachim Eckardt are being tried in Mannheim for allegedly having not declared 42 million marks (23 million dollars) of his daughter's revenue to the German tax authorities between 1989 and 1993.

## BAF b'ball

JESSORE, Sept 13: Air Headquarters Unit clinched the BAF inter-base basketball championship defeating Base Matur Rahman 73-52 in the final yesterday, reports BSS.

The winners led the first half 30-14.

Squadron Leader Ziauddin, Faruque of Base Matur Rahman was adjudged the best player of the meet.

Assistant chief of air staff Air Commodore Fakhrul Azam witnessed the final as chief guest and distributed trophies.

## Carbajal to defend IBF crown

DES MOINES, Iowa, Sept 13: Michael Carbajal will give this city its first championship boxing match in 57 years on Friday night. He promises to put on a show, reports AP.

Carbajal, of the United States, will defend his International Boxing Federation title at 108 pounds (49 kilograms) against Julio Indio Coronell of Colombia at Drake University's Knapp Center.

It will be the first title fight in Des Moines since a 1939 card that featured triple champion Henry Armstrong.

"I'm glad to be in Iowa," Carbajal said. "The people that come will see a great fight. He is a puncher and I like it when those punches are coming at me."

The scheduled 12-round bout tops a card that includes a light heavyweight fight between Rocky Gannon and Undra White. Gannon is seeking the vacant International Boxing Association title.

Carbajal, 41-2 with 26 knockouts, originally was to have fought Manuel Herrera of Miami. But the retirement of Humberto Gonzalez moved Herrera up to No. 1 in the World Boxing Council ratings, so he backed out of the Carbajal fight in favour of a larger WBC purse.



Former Pakistan cricket captain Imran Khan, with his wife Jemima, host a celebrity benefit for the UK opening of Emma, an adaptation of the Jane Austen novel in London on Sept 12. Starring actress Greta Scacchi is on the right.

—AFP/UNB photo

## Rain plays foul in Colombo

## Zimbabwe in dire straits



COLOMBO, Sept 13: Rain hindered Sri Lanka's push for victory after they forced Zimbabwe to follow-on on the third day of the first Test on Friday, reports Reuters.

Play was possible only in the afternoon session during which Zimbabwe, resuming at 105 for six in reply to Sri Lanka's first innings 349, were dismissed for 145.

They were 20 without loss in their second innings when rain returned to wash out play for the day.

Only Craig Wishart defied Sri Lanka's pace and spin attack for any length of time to score a resolute 51, hitting a six and two fours in his 157-ball innings.

The rest of the Zimbabwe late order succumbed to the spin of Muthiah Muralitharan and Jayantha Silva after left-arm pacer Chaminda Vaas provided the initial breakthrough by having Craig Evans caught behind for nine.

Muralitharan accounted for the wicket of Paul Strang for six and Silva was left on a hatrick after picking up the last two Zimbabwe wickets off successive deliveries.

Left-arm spinner Silva whose only previous Test appearance was against Australia last year, first had Wishart caught off a drive to mid-off and off the next delivery, bowled after a 10-minute break for rain, had Andrew Whittall caught by Kumara Dharmasena at square leg.

Silva finished with a Test best of three for 10 off 14.5 overs, which included nine maidens, while Muralitharan's two wickets cost him 28 runs off 24 overs. Vaas was Sri Lanka's leading wicket-taker with four for 73, which also included his 50th in Test cricket.

Zimbabwe, openers Grant Flower and Mark Dekker survived 30 minutes batting in the second innings but the visitors face an uphill task of trying to bat out the next two days with rain as their best hope of salvation.

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the first Test between Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe at the R Premadasa Stadium on Friday:

**SRI LANKA:** First innings 349 (A Ranatunga 75, R Kaluwitharana 71, A Gurusinha 52, K Dharmasena 42 n.o.;

**ZIMBABWE:** First innings 105 for six (overnight)

G Flower	c Kaluwitharana	b Vaas	0
M Dekker	lbw b Vaas		10
A Campbell	c Mahanama	b Vaas	12
A Flower	c Ranatunga	b Dharmasena	2
b Dharmasena			39
C Whittall	lbw b J Silva		51
C Wishart	c Vaas	b J Silva	5
lbw Olonga	c Tilakaratne	b Muralitharan	1
C Evans	c Kaluwitharana	b Vaas	9
P Strang	b Muralitharan		6
A Whittall	c Dharmasena	b J Silva	1
H Streak	not out		0
Extra: (b-4, lb-4, nb-4, w-2)			14
Total: all out			145

Fall of wickets: 1-0; 2-15; 3-21; 4-45; 5-103; 6-105; 7-123; 8-138; 9-145.

**Bowling:**

Vaas	22	3	73	4
Gurusinha	3	1	3	0
Dharmasena	9	3	23	1
Muralitharan	24	9	28	2
J Silva	14.4	9	10	3

**ZIMBABWE:** Second innings

G Flower not out 13  
M Dekker not out 6  
Extras: (2-1) 1  
Total: (for no wicket) 20

**Bowling (to date):**

	O	M	R	W
Vaas	4.1	0	15	0
Gurusinha	2	0	4	0
De Silva	2	1	1	0



Dhaka on the attack in yesterday's Orient Bread national women's handball championship encounter against Jamalpur at the Indoor Stadium, Mirpur. Dhaka won the match 15-10.

— Star photo

## A complicated situation



LONDON, Sept 13: Does Mike Tyson hold two world heavyweight titles or one? Promoters for Lennox Lewis are planning a challenge for a World Boxing Council heavyweight title they believe to be vacant. But they said Thursday they're worried that Mike Tyson will refuse to give up the belt, reports AP.

According to promoter Panos Eliades, Tyson gave up the WBC title as soon as he knocked out Bruce Seldon to win the WBA championship Saturday. That was one of the terms of a binding contract signed by both sides.

"He lost the WBC title by order of the court," said Eliades, who co-promotes Lewis along with Dino Duva's Main Events. "The real problem is that Mike Tyson has told Don King he doesn't want to give up the WBC belt. Tyson thinks he's not going to give up the title and I believe he'll go to court to keep it."

Eliades said Tyson and his promoter, Don King, agreed to give up the WBC title as part of a deal in which Lewis also accepted a 4 million dollars compensation payment to step aside.

Now King is lining up a WBA

defense against Evander Holyfield in November, followed by a challenge for Michael Moore's International Boxing Federation title next year.

Lewis, meanwhile, is being lined up for the supposedly vacant

all fell through.

Eliades said such a fight was now dead, although it could be resurrected in a year. By then, Lewis could be the WBC champion and Tyson could have the WBA, IBF and World Boxing Organisation crowns.

"It seems Tyson wants to be the first to be undisputed champion with four belts," Eliades said.

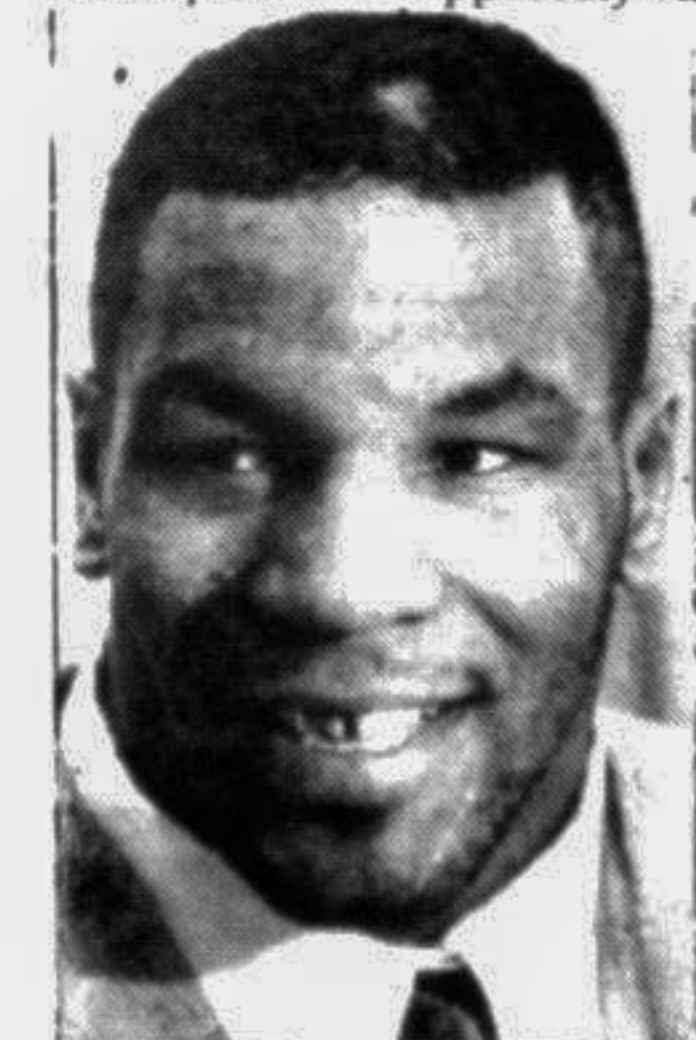
In a trans-Atlantic phone linkup, Lewis, who already is in training in the Poconos in Pennsylvania for a fight against McCall, said he was prepared to wait for Tyson.

"If Tyson doesn't want to fight me right now what can I do?" he said. "I'm just waiting and biding my time. The managers have got to sort themselves out but I am happy to be fighting Oliver McCall and getting back my WBC title."

And what if Tyson defies the legal order and refuses to hand over the WBC belt?

"I think that's great," Lewis said. "It pushes him into a corner and I think that situation is going to be very interesting."

Dino Duva, who also was on the conference call, said a Tyson-Lewis fight should have been made as soon as Tyson took the WBC title from another British fighter, Frank Bruno, in March.



MIKE TYSON

can't WBC championship against Oliver McCall, who took that same title from him almost two years ago.

The British promoter read out a list of offers and counter offers to stage a Tyson-Lewis fight for the WBC title, but they

## Barca ride on Ronaldo



LONDON, Sept 13: Barcelona's fans, crying for more goals, had to settle for just a 2-0 victory over a badly

overmatched AEK Larnaca of Cyprus in the opening round of the European Cup Winners' Cup, report agencies.

Running circles around the much slower Larnaca, Brazilian striker Ronaldo, scored both of Barcelona's goals as he frequently charged untouched through the Cypriot defence.

Ronaldo's first goal came in the 19th minute on a terrific lead pass from the Croatian midfielder Robert Prosinecki. Ronaldo broke into the centre of the penalty area before sending a rifling shot under the outstretched hands of Larnaca's goalie.

Ronaldo's second goal was made possible by a hard pass from the defender Sergi Barjuan who rifled the ball from the left side into the charging Brazilian thirteen minutes from the end.

Before the match started, Barcelona who were forced to switch the match from their Nou Camp stadium to the Montjuic stadium, the main venue for the 1992 Olympics, because of pitch problems.

In just two games in the Spanish league and his first European match, the fleet-footed 19-year-old, Spain's all-time most expensive transfer who signed for 2.5 billion pesetas (20 million dollars), has been nothing short of a delight.

Defending champions Paris Saint Germain had the easiest of starts as they thrashed Liechtenstein club FC Vaduz 4-0.

Paul le Guen, Dely Valdes, Leonardo and Bernard Allou found the net as PSG had little trouble against Vaduz, an amateur side which plays in the regional Third Division of the Swiss league.

PSG coach Richardo was confident enough to leave out key players Vincent Guerin, Patrice Loko and Brazilian Rai for this trip to the German-speaking principality.

Le Guen took just 13 minutes to open the scoring. Leonardo took a corner on the right for Le Guen, playing a record 39th European match for the club, to head home at the far post for his fourth goal in Europe.

However PSG had trouble finding the second. Not till the 41st minute did they increase their lead when a Leonardo free kick on the right found Dely on the near post who headed home his second goal in European competition.

Then, moments before half-time, Leonardo, the best player on the pitch, hit home from 25 yards to give his team their third goal.

Allou blasted PSG's fourth from 25 yards in the 72nd minute — just two minutes after coming on as a substitute.

Benfica routed Poland's Ruch Chorzow 5-1, with four of their goals scored by Brazilian players, guaranteeing that the Portuguese side will pass through to the second round.

The first goal came in the 24th minute when newly-signed Brazilian player Osmar Donizete shot the ball into the net from a left cross by Romanian midfielder Nica Panduru.

After Benfica's captain Jao Pinto scored with a header in the 25th minute, Brazilian mid-



RONALDO

fielder Jamir Gomes slammed the ball through a gap in the defensive wall in a free kick in the 31st minute, giving Benfica a commanding 3-0 lead at half-time.

Brazilian striker Valdo scored two goals in the second half — a long powerful shot

from outside the box in the 68th minute and a free kick that bounced into the net from the crossbar in the last minute of the match.

Ruch Chorzow managed a consolation goal when Polish international striker Dariusz Giesior scored with a header in the 73rd minute in a counter-attack.

Lokomotiv Moscow, reduced to 10 men in the 61st minute when Yevgeny Kharchevyev was sent off for a second bookable offence, held on to beat Croatia's Varteks Varazdin 1-0 in Moscow.

Lokomotiv took the lead in the 12th minute when Igor Cherevchenko ran onto a perfectly-weighted pass down the middle, headed the ball down and shot home.

Kaiserslautern of the German Second Division dominated the second half against Red Star Belgrade and were unlucky to come away with no more than a 1-0 win.

Uwe Wegmann headed in a cross from Thomas Riedl in the 59th minute to mark the start of a sustained period of pressure from Kaiserslautern, relegated last season and now managed by former Werder Bremen and Bayern Munich coach Otto Rehhagel.

Kaiserslautern had plenty of chances to score more and Rehhagel said afterwards: "With a 2-0 win we would have had some peace of mind going to Belgrade. Now we'll have to go through hell in front of 80,000 fans."



THE PICTURE SAYS IT ALL: Italian Fabio Baldato smiles on the podium after winning the sixth stage of the Tour of Spain cycling race in Malaga on Sept 12.—Reuters/UNB photo