

Sport

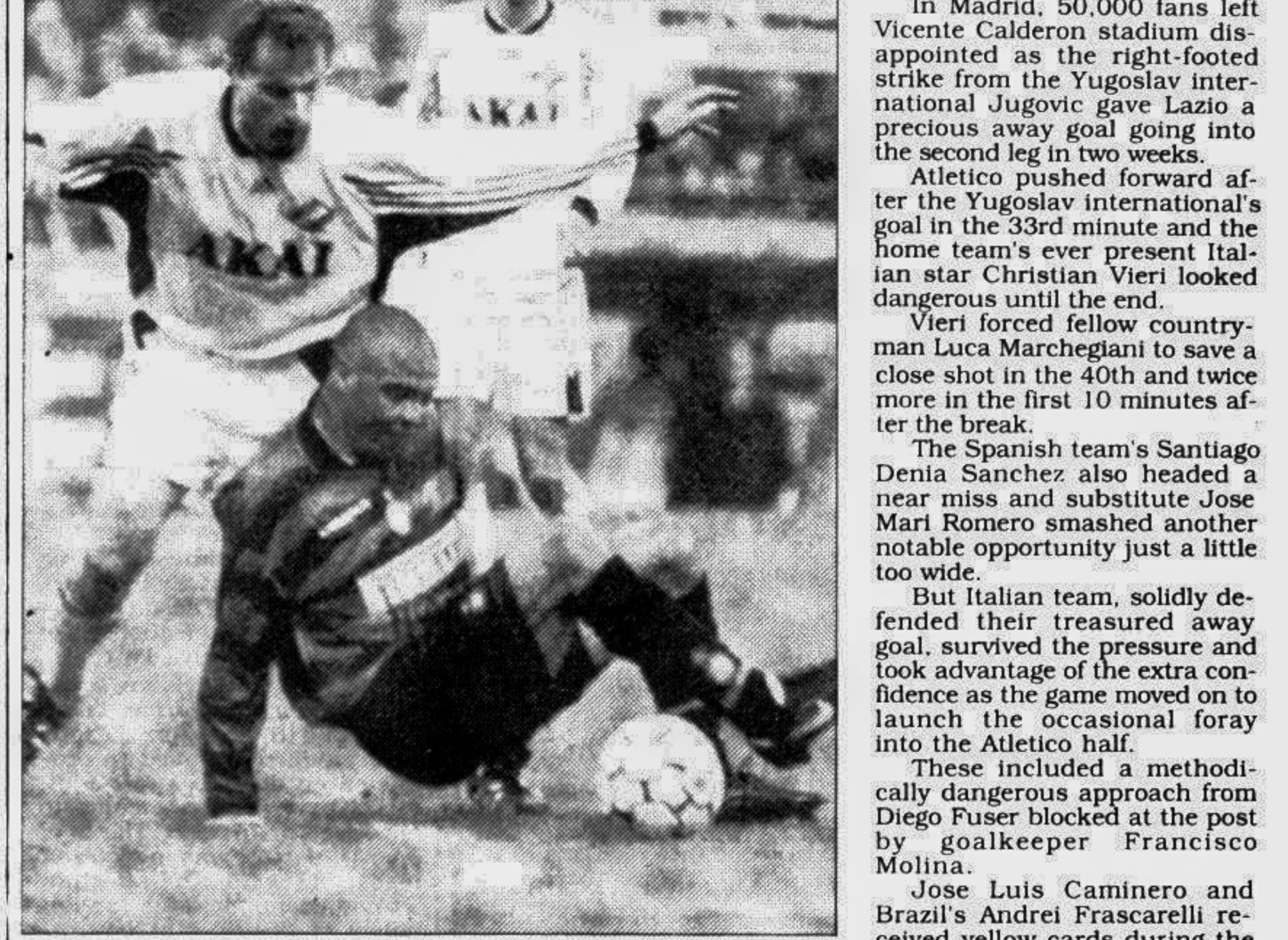
UEFA Cup semifinals first leg

Italians take advantage

LONDON, Apr 1: It's looking like an all-Italian final in the UEFA Cup, reports AP...

Rome's Lazio left Spain with a crucial away goal and a 1-0 victory as Vladimir Jugovic scored in the 33rd minute for Europe's hottest team...

Inter's Ronaldo slips under a challenge from a Spartak Moscow defender during their UEFA Cup semifinal first leg match at the San Siro Stadium in Milan on Mar 31.



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Partex bedevil Biman

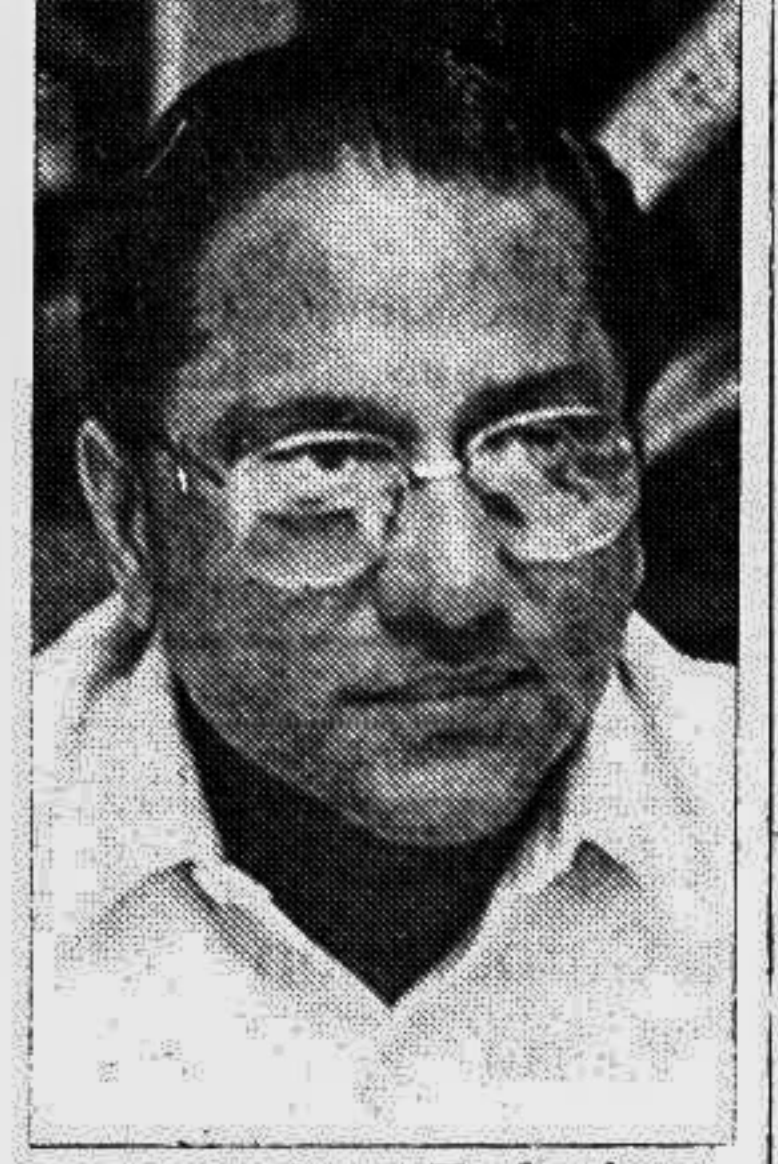
Sports Reporter

The despondency of Bangladesh Biman extended to another height when the cricketers of national flag carrier bowed out of the fourth Office cricket league...

before being all out in 45.3 overs after the rest caved in meekly against a motivated Partex echelon. Although there was no devil in the wicket, not a single Biman batsman of the remaining eight could reach the double figure mark...

Finishing a distant fifth position in the Premier league, Biman started their campaign from where they had left off, losing four wickets for only 41 runs on the board...

Column One



Jagmohan Dalmiya (President of the International Cricket Council)

"There is no way we will allow Test cricket to die. Test cricket to us is like classical music, while limited over cricket is like the modern commercial music."

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-91

Tick the Correct Answers Post to Daily Star Win attractive prizes

- 1 Who are the winners of Janakantha Premier cricket league? Mohammedans | Biman | Abahani... 2 How many goals did Nakib score in the recently concluded Premier Division football league? 13 | 12 | 11... 3 Which country will host the 1998 World Cup? Germany | France | Italy... 4 West Indies fast bowler Franklin Rose comes from: Antigua | Jamaica | Guyana... 5 How many teams will participate in the ICC knock-out in Dhaka next October? 12 | 16 | 9

Name Class Roll No. School Address Phone: (if any) POWERED WITH EN-VITS ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

Conchita hits the road

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, South Carolina, Apr 1: Conchita Martinez failed to reach the Family Circle Cup quarter-finals for the first time in seven tries, falling Tuesday to unseeded Magdalena Grzybowska of Poland 7-5, 6-2 in a second-round match at Sea Pines Racquet Club, reports AP.

In another first-round match, Brenda Schultz-McCarthy defeated Olga Barabanschikova 6-1, 7-6 (9-7).

Boca beat Mexico

BUENOS AIRES, April 1 (AFP/Internet): Mexico slumped to a 3-1 defeat here late Tuesday to Argentine club side Boca Juniors.

Boca Juniors 3 (Isias 21, Larrota 66, Samuel 81), Mexico 1 (Ordaz 62)

Reverse spin Shane's secret?

Star Sport Monitor

An exclusive report of the CrickInfo, a very popular cricket news host on the internet, disclosed the mesmerising spell of world's arguably the best leg-spin wizard, Shane Warne of Australia.

doubt that Warne's flipper, as called by commentators, seems to behave a lot like a normal legspin bowler's top-spinner, and, indeed, dips at the end of its flight. Now research has revealed the reason, claimed the



SHANE WARNE report. Lirpa says: "As the outer circumference of the ball passes a critical velocity, flow around

the ball changes from laminar to turbulent, causing an aerodynamically change. Few bowlers have the ability to spin the ball this rapidly and retain control, which is what makes Warne unique."

Further experiments conducted by Bolmen have confirmed the theory, and also reveal that this velocity is reached quicker in a less dense gas such as methane. Prof Lirpa revealed that he had passed on his findings to Indian Test star Sachin Tendulkar earlier this year, and that Tendulkar had applied these findings to playing Warne, with evident success.

They have reportedly discovered that when the ball is spinning backwards around its own axis a certain number of times faster than it is travelling forward the ball will dip alarmingly. The actual ratio of spin to forward velocity above which this happens turns out to be just a little under 57 - 56.86, to be precise.

Regular viewers of Australian cricket will have no

Davis Cup starts tomorrow

Holder's tricky opener

LONDON, April 1: Karol Kucera, conqueror of Pete Sampras in this year's Australian Open, provides an

Czech Republic. Currently ranked 12th, Kucera heads the team of Dominik Hrbaty, Jan Korlak and Martin Hromec.

Magnus Norman, Mikael Tillstrom, Magnus Larsson and Magnus Gustafsson.

awkward obstacle to Davis Cup holders Sweden in the World Group first round this weekend, reports Reuters.

Slovakia, making their World Group debut, host a weakened Swedish line-up on an indoor clay court in Kucera's birthplace of Bratislava during the three-day tie starting on Friday.

The Czech Republic and Slovakia went different ways when Czechoslovakia split in two on January 1, 1993.

As a result of their superior tennis pedigree, the Czech Republic remained in the World Cup while the Slovaks dropped out.

Eleven victories and one loss later, Slovakia are back in the World Group with a challenging opening tie against the 1997 champions.

The home team will be heartened both by their form in the Hopman Cup mixed team event in Perth this year and Kucera's overall form.

Kucera defeated Cedric Pioline 7-6, 6-4 in the men's singles then combined with Karim Habsudova to win the combined doubles and give the outsiders a 2-1 victory.



Top seeded American Lindsay Davenport plays forehand against Corina Morar in the Family Circle Cup at Hilton Head Island, South Carolina on March 31. Davenport defeated Morarin 6-3, 6-0.

BIMAN-PARTEX SCOREBOARD

Table showing cricket scores for Biman and Partex, including bowlers, runs, and wickets.

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Pele quits cabinet

BRASILIA, Brazil, Apr 1: Pele is resigning his post as Brazil's Special Minister of Sports to do TV commentary at the World Cup - and his job may be gone when he returns, reports AP.

Soccer's greatest player will resign on Thursday to join the Globo TV network team covering this summer's Cup in France, said Pele's spokesman, Jose Natal.

Coca-Cola's cheerful 777

SEOUL, Apr 1: Coca-Cola Korea Co Ltd said Tuesday it will send a 777-member South Korean cheering squad to this summer's World Cup soccer finals, reports AP.

"We've chosen the number 777 to wish luck to the South Korean team so that they can make it to the second round of the World Cup," said Kim Woo-young, a company spokesman.

The beneficiaries will be chosen through lottery, newspaper quizzes and other events, it said.

That's not funny!

LISBON, Apr 1: If only it were true, sighed millions of Portuguese football fans today as they almost felt victim to an April Fools Day joke, reports AFP.

Local broadcaster Radio Paris Lisbon announced that Iran had decided not to compete at the World Cup "for security reasons" and that FIFA had designated Portugal as their replacement.

The station even broadcast spoof "declarations" in English from FIFA president Joao Havelange "confirming" the story.

Imran for full-scale investigation

More twist in Pak cricket

Young Pakistan fast bowler Abdul Razzak is being rushed to South Africa on team's request but the PCB boss claimed to be unaware of the reinforcement, according to press reports in Karachi and Lahore.

The chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board Khalid Mahmood was unaware till late Tuesday night that Razzak was flown to South Africa Wednesday on the request of the Pakistan team tour selection committee.

When The News correspondent contacted Mahmood at his residence in Lahore, he stated categorically that no final decision had been taken on sending any reinforcement to South Africa nor on any player being sent back home from there.

Imran said personally he did not believe in the allegations, but the fact was they were damaging Pakistan cricket and the sooner a logical conclusion was reached, the better for everyone.

Romario served get-fit warning

RIO DE JANEIRO, Apr 1 (AFP/Internet): Brazil coach Mario Zagallo has told Romario to get into shape if he wants to play in the World Cup.

He knows his off-form and must work hard to make the World Cup, Zagallo said of the Flamengo striker who has been disappointing and goalless in Brazil's last five international friendlies. However, Zagallo has extended the get-fit warning to all his squad.

REGRETS

Due to space constraint our regular item CROSSWORD could not be accommodated. - Sports Editor

The Daily Star TV Guide table containing schedules for various channels including BBC, STAR PLUS, CHANNEL V, ZEE TV, TNT CARTOON, SONY ET, DD 7, MUSIC ASIA, and ZEE INDIA TV.