

Aghahowa casts off super sub image

LAGOS, Apr 13 (Reuters/Internet): Julius Aghahowa has cast off his super sub image to become one of the outstanding players at the world youth championship.



ROME, Apr 13 (Reuters/Internet): Parma and Fiorentina, their championship hopes fading by the week, clash in the first leg of the Italian Cup final on Wednesday for what could prove a valuable consolation prize.

Parma, Fiorentina seek cup consolation

Madrid with the home leg to come, but nevertheless they are also taking Wednesday's domestic cup first leg seriously.

Leeds fail to beat L'pool

LONDON, Apr 13: Liverpool denied Leeds United a club record eighth successive win in the top flight by holding them to a goalless draw in the Premier League on Monday, reports Reuters.



Leeds United Harry Kewell (R) fends off Liverpool defender Steve Gerrard during their Premier League encounter at Elland Road, Leeds on April 12. The game ended goalless.

South American soccer scene

RIO DE JANEIRO, Apr 13 (Reuters/Internet): Brazil's Vasco secured the lead in the Rio de Janeiro state championship and Argentina's Boca Juniors continued their winning streak in matches at the weekend.

Santos inflicted a humiliating 5-1 defeat on Portuguesa Santista. Brazil's World Cup coach Mario Zagallo, now with Portuguesa, was jeered by fans of rivals Internacional Limeira after their side went 1-0 ahead in the 17th minute.

Colo strengthened their lead after a 3-1 victory over Coquimbo and Cobrelola beat Universidad Catolica 2-1. Cobrelola are now in third place, above Universidad Catolica and Universidad de Chile.

UEFA warn ticketless MU fans

GENEVA, Apr 13(Reuters/Internet): UEFA warned Manchester United fans on Tuesday not to travel to Turin for next week's sold-out European Cup semifinal second leg against Juventus unless they have a ticket.

United not for any change

LONDON, Apr 13 (Reuters/Internet): English Premier League soccer club Manchester United said on Monday there were no plans for board changes after the British government blocked plans for a billion-dollar takeover by pay TV company BSkyB.

The planned takeover had been opposed by a vocal group of United supporters and small shareholders, with chief executive Martin Edwards coming in for especially strong criticism.

prices would be increased by up to 14 per cent in response to spiralling wage costs. United, European Cup semi-finalists and still chasing a domestic FA Cup and premier league double, stressed that it was business as usual despite the takeover rejection.

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Chelsea set to go atop

LONDON, Apr 13(Reuters/Internet): Chelsea will go top of the Premier League for the first time since January if they beat Middlesbrough away on Wednesday.

Chelsea will be at full strength with the return from suspension of Dennis Wise and Marcel Desailly but possibly the most important development is the return to fitness of Gustavo Poyet, who has been out since December with a knee injury.

After a dip in form, Bryan Robson's team are back in form. Saturday's 2-0 home win over Charlton Athletic stretched their unbeaten run to five games, including four wins, and took them up to eighth place.

Torpedo win Moscow derby

MOSCOW, Apr 13: Torpedo Moscow climbed into third place in the Russian Premier Division with a 2-1 derby win over Lokomotiv on Monday, reports Reuters.

Polster on the move?

BONN, Apr 13 (Reuters/Internet): Veteran Austrian striker Toni Polster could soon be leaving struggling Borussia Moenchengladbach, coach Rainer Bonhof hinted on Monday.

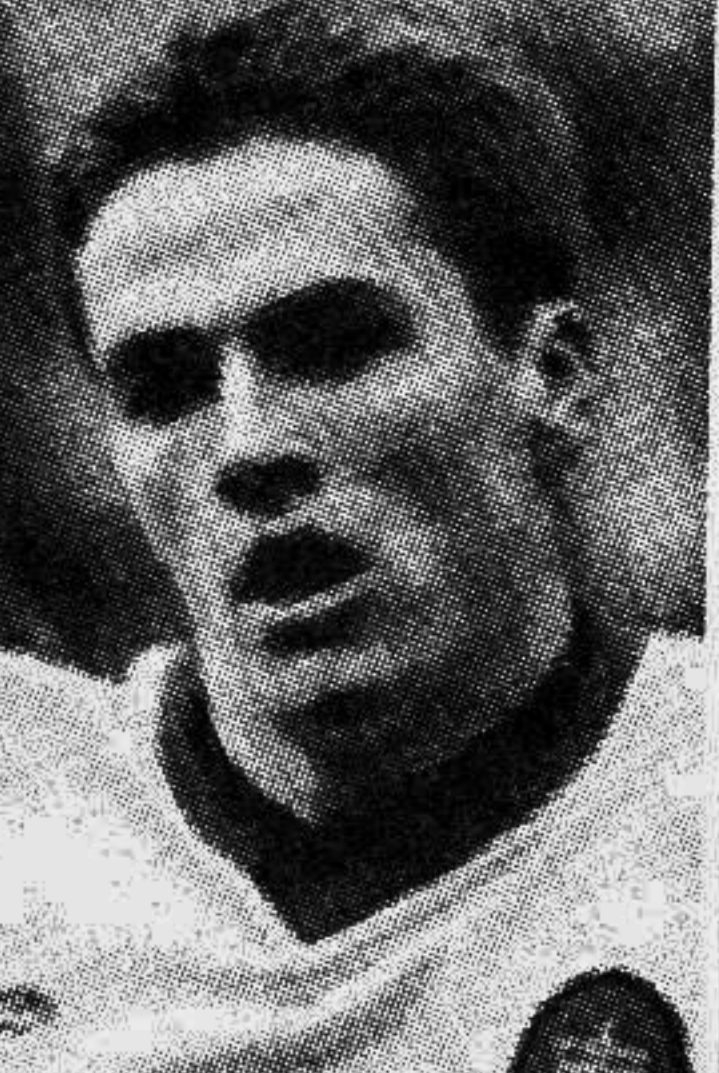
Japanese Olympian dead

TOKYO, Apr 13: Masaji Kiyokawa, a Japanese swimmer who won a gold medal at the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics, died of pancreatic cancer at a Tokyo hospital Tuesday, the Japan Olympic Committee said.

Owen face injury layoff

LONDON, Apr 13 (Reuters/Internet): Liverpool striker Michael Owen faced a hospital scan on a hamstring injury on Tuesday which could upset the rest of his season, including an England friendly with Hungary at the end of this month.

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Chang survives a scare

TOKYO, Apr 13 (Reuters/Internet): Ninth seed Michael Chang struggled to squeeze a three-set win over unheralded Australian Michael Hill on Tuesday in a windswept first-round Japan Open match he felt lucky to have won.

Each set was decided by a tie-break as the American, who has dropped to 40th in the world rankings, prevailed 7-6 (7-5), 6-7 (5-7), 7-6 (7-4) over Hill, ranked 211.

Agassi, seeded second here, was beaten by Andre Agassi in the Hong Kong Open final on Monday.

WTA Tour's top twenty

- ST PETERSBURG, Florida. Apr 13 (Reuters/Internet): Top 20 women's tennis players, according to the WTA Tour rankings (along with points): 1. Hingis 5,763

USOC to launch PR campaign

NEW ORLEANS, Apr 13: The US Olympic Committee unveiled a nine million dollar plan Saturday to rebuild its image in the wake of the scandal of Salt Lake and restore public trust in the games, reports AFP.

A combination of image-building and concrete safeguards against corruption, the plan was announced by executive director Dick Schultz at the USOC's first meeting.



A bus cleaner brushes the face of former Australian skipper Mark Taylor whose picture has been splashed on Sydney buses in an effort to promote the 2000 Games on April 13.

Benitez open to English offers

BARCELONA, Apr 13 (Reuters/Internet): Espanyol striker Miguel Angel Benitez is ready to listen to offers from England if his club decide to sell him at the end of the season.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 43 Albanian composer 19 Carried gets meaty 44 Send out DOWN 21 "...and roles? 45 Lending a hand 1 Jazzy style seven 2 Nitrogenous years-" 3 Peace pipe 22 Nancy's man 4 Writer 24 Yon chap 9 Bonfire 47 Pizza-shop buy 4 Wister 26 WWII Pacific bigwig 12 Conductor 49 Colonial diplomat 6 Ebb 7 "Zounds!" 28 Went ashen 13 Id counter-part 52 Census statistic for short 30 Bumped into poster datum 32 Stampede site 14 Appomattox man 53 Good, in Grenoble 9 Wanted- 33 Waste no time 15 Propelled a gondola 54 Hall of Fame's Hank 10 Geisel's norm de 34 Wapiti 16 It's in your bones 55 "- Mis-erables" 56 Officehold- ers rope fiber 36 Green-card bearers 18 One 55 "- Mis-erables" 56 Officehold- ers rope fiber 36 Green-card bearers 38 Transfer 20 Grate 56 Officehold- ers rope fiber 36 Green-card bearers 38 Transfer 23 Staff 57 "Funny Girl" cultured 39 Mirror's offering 24 Shameless 57 "Funny Girl" cultured 39 Mirror's offering 25 Bob of "Entertainment Tonight" 27 Lukewarm 29 Prompt 31 "Trading Places" actor 35 Olympian's award 37 Bar 41 Toon, e.g. 48 Moe, e.g. 48 Moe, e.g.

Cryptogram puzzle grid with letters and numbers. Includes the text: CRYPTOQUIP X K O I U C M G S J Z M V C B F B M O V I V S V J U A C U A S C X Z C U R K R C C F I K X I G S U M S O C ? Yesterday's Cryptogram: A LINGERIE-SHOP EMPLOYEE SADLY REMARKED THAT SHE HAD GOTTEN THE PINK SLIP.