

Malik, Ijaz ignored

KARACHI: Veteran batsmen Ijaz Ahmed and Salim Malik have been ignored by the Pakistan selectors for the forthcoming tours to Sharjah and Australia.

The selection committee on Tuesday called up 22 players for the week-long conditioning camp starting in Lahore from October 1 in preparation for the two tours and Malik and Ijaz, who have scored over 8,000 Test runs between them, are not among the invitees.

Also missing from the list of probabilities are Shoaib Akhtar and Saqlain Mushtaq, who are currently in England getting treatment for shoulder and knee problems, respectively.

Malik and Ijaz along with captain Wasim Akram had been suspended in allegation of match-fixing by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) ad hoc committee two months back.

But the ad hoc committee hurriedly lifted the ban on them and reinstated Wasim as captain for just-concluded Toronto series against West Indies. It subsequently declared both Malik and Ijaz were available for selection. Although they are representing Habib Bank Limited in the ongoing T20 Cup, the selectors appear to have made up their minds that these two don't have a future with the Pakistan team anymore.

The final squad will be named on October 7.

PRELIMINARY SQUAD

Wasim Akram, Moin Khan, Aamir Sohail, Saeed Anwar, Wajahatullah Wasti, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Yousuf Youhana, Hasan Raza, Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed, Salim Elahi, Shabbir Ahmed, Arshad Khan, Azhar Mahmood, Abdul Razzaq, Rasid Latif, Muhammad Wasim, Akhtar Sarfaraz, Muhammad Akram, Shahid Nazir, Shahid Afridi and Naved Qureshi.

Cairns vows to be more attacking

MUMBAI, Sept 29: Exciting New Zealand all-rounder Chris Cairns yesterday sounded a veiled warning to the Indian team when he said he intended to be much more aggressive on this tour as compared to the Kiwis earlier visit in 1995, reports PTI.

"The last time when we were here for a Test series I thought it was a bit better. But this time I will be more aggressive while at the same time careful too. It is a very thin line dividing the two," Cairns told reporters after the Kiwis first net session on Indian soil.

Cairns, one of the key members of the current team led by Stephen Fleming and a match-winner on his own, said that he now knew what to expect and how to overcome these.

"I know for instance it would be extremely hot to bowl and I have to drink lot of water (to compensate for dehydration). The wickets would be conducive to spin. It is a very challenging tour," the all-rounder, who has recently undergone a knee surgery for tendonitis, said.

"We want to do well here and win the series. We know the Indians have some very good players. I look forward to the battle with (Indian skipper) Sachin Tendulkar who is a fantastic player. I have had him sometimes and at others he has made runs," the star Kiwi all-rounder said.

Cronje not quitting

NAIROBI, Sept 29 (Internet report): South African cricket captain Hansie Cronje on Tuesday denied claims that he is quitting his job.

Cronje said he has a contract until April and hasn't decided on his plans after that.

Speculation about Cronje's retirement has intensified since South Africa were eliminated in the semifinals of the World Cup. South Africa had been the favourites but after a thrilling drawn semifinal against the Australians, the team was eliminated due to a slower run-rate throughout the tournament.

In the heat of the loss, the 30-year-old Cronje said he might consider retirement, and recent reports have linked him to a coaching job at English county team Gloucestershire.

Asked on Tuesday about reports that he was quitting, Cronje said the reports were "not true."

India beat

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Bowler	O	M	R	W
M Suji	8	1	25	1
T Oduyo	10	0	35	1
T Suji	7	1	24	0
J Ababu	4	1	15	0
S Tikolo	10	0	49	1
M Shekh	3	0	17	0
Oduibe	8	1	51	3

KENYA

K Otieno c M Prasad b V Prasad	0
R Shah c Joshi b Mohanty	26
S Tikolo c Chopra b Mohanty	8
M Oduibe c M Prasad b V Prasad	5
A Vaidya c and b Chopra	18
H Modi c M Prasad b Chopra	33
T Oduyo c V Prasad b Bharadwaj	27
T Suji st M Prasad b Bharadwaj	27
M Shekh c M Prasad b V Prasad	11
M Suji not out	11
J Ababu b Chopra	11
Extras : (w-5, lb-7)	12
Total : (All out in 50 overs)	162

Fall of wickets : 1-0; 2-11; 3-21; 4-42; 5-66; 6-71; 7-133; 8-138; 9-140

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Prasad	9	2	26	3
Mohanty	8	2	25	2
Joshi	10	3	24	0
Chopra	10	2	18	2
Bharadwaj	7	0	38	3
Singh	6	1	24	0

Result : India won by 58 runs.



Chelsea's Romanian international Dan Petrescu sending a rebounder towards the net to score his side's only goal against Galatasaray during a Champions' League match on September 28.

Cruyff blasts Eindhoven

EINDHOVEN, Sept 29: Dutch football legend Johan Cruyff has launched a scathing attack on PSV Eindhoven after their defeat by Scottish side Rangers in the Champions League on Tuesday, reports AFP.

"PSV are not good enough to play at this level because they don't know how to play total football," said Cruyff after an 84th minute goal by Jorg Albertz gave Rangers a 1-0 victory.

"Rangers deserved to win, no question of that in my mind. 'Luc Nilis is the only player in the squad who seems capable of playing at a high level. 'Rangers showed greater maturity on the night and worked hard for their victory.' It was a huge win for the Ibrox club and with Bayern Munich and Valencia drawing 1-1 the three of them look to be fighting for the two qualifying places from Group F. And Rangers now know that if they beat PSV, lodged at the foot of the group with one point, in the return leg at Ibrox in a fortnight they are guaranteed a UEFA Cup spot at least. Albertz, who started the

game on the bench, said: "We have given ourselves a chance with this victory as we now have two home games to come. With our fans we don't fear anyone."

"It was a great feeling to score as my parents and brother were in the stand." Advocat sprang a pre-match surprise by naming Albertz on the bench after his two goals against St Johnstone at the weekend.

Albertz, however, took his chance when he replaced Claudio Reyna after 24 minutes, and could feel well satisfied with his night's work. Advocat quipped: "Perhaps that's the best way to play him."

American midfielder Reyna pulled up with a hamstring injury that could sideline him for five to six weeks.

Albertz was impressive in the middle of the park and made the breakthrough with six minutes to go with an unstoppable volley after some tireless work by Michael Mols.

That goal made it a winning return to PSV for Rangers manager Dick Advocaat.

Not only that, the last time the Ibrox club won an away game at this level was in

December 1992 when they defeated CSKA Moscow in their adopted German home of Bochum.

But Advocaat was more interested in praising his team than trying to seek personal glory for the performance.

"It was a very exciting game and I thought we had a chance by fielding three strikers," he said.

"In the second half we handled the physical side of things a lot better than PSV and created chances."

"I am very satisfied and I still think it is an open group with Bayern Munich and Valencia drawing."

PSV coach Erik Gerets admitted that Rangers had over-run his side in midfield, although he claimed the goal was "lucky."

"We couldn't get the ball up to our strikers from midfield," he said. "That was our main problem."

"It was a good game and I have to admit that Rangers were the better side in the second half."

"But I thought we still deserved to take at least a point. The goal Rangers scored was a lucky goal."

Radebe hoping for the best

LEEDS, England, Sept 29: Leeds' inspirational South African captain Lucas Radebe said on Tuesday that he was optimistic of recovering from a knee injury and making Thursday's UEFA Cup first round second leg clash with Yugoslav side Partizan Belgrade, reports AFP.

The 30-year-old, who scored only his second goal in six seasons at Leeds in the first leg 3-1 win, has been struggling with a knee injury sustained in Saturday's 3-2 home win over Newcastle, which led to him undergoing a scan on Monday.

Radebe, who has been inspirational this season as he has guided a team made up of seven players of 22 and under into second place in the Premiership, still had a light training session on Tuesday before receiving treatment.

"Things are shaping up well. I had a scan yesterday and it all looks good," Radebe said.

"I went jogging this morning and it didn't feel that bad and so there's a possibility I could play. I certainly hope so," he added.

If Radebe is out then Leeds manager David O'Leary, who blasted UEFA earlier in the week saying that the competition was a farce because they were allowing the third-placed teams from the Champions League to enter the competition, admits he will not risk untied New Zealand international Danny Hay against the Yugoslavians.

O'Leary has said that Hay, a 200,000 pound buy from Perth Glory earlier this season is "one for the future."

Right-back Danny Mills, dropped in favour of Gary Kelly against Newcastle, will more than likely be asked to move into the heart of the defence alongside Jonathon Woodgate.

Radebe, however, knows if he does play that Partizan will almost certainly be a different proposition to the team they faced on the neutral territory of Dutch city Heerenveen - but is adamant there will be no complacency from the United players.

"Partizan have nothing to lose. I'm sure they fancy their chances because they know if they nick a goal early on it will set them up well," said Radebe.

"I'm sure they'll then be going for the win like crazy, so that first goal is all-important and hopefully it will be us who gets it to finish them off."

"But they're still a big threat. They move the ball well and technically they're brilliant so we're going to have to work hard to be very tight and very strong."

"I was surprised we came away with such a good lead from the first leg given Yugoslav teams are always so adept technically. But their goalkeeper let them down and that played its part in us scoring three goals."

"Obviously there's now the threat of complacency but that won't happen because we're at home and we're not going to be complacent in front of our home crowd."

Real romp home

No cheers for Milan, Bayern



PARIS, Sept 29: The two most successful sides in the history of Europe's premier club competition had mixed fortunes in Tuesday's European Champions League with Real Madrid taking control of Group E with a 3-1 victory over closest rivals FC Porto while in Group H, AC Milan are still looking far from convincing after a 1-1 home draw with Hertha Berlin, reports AFP.

Germany's Bayern Munich, themselves with a glittering history in the competition with three triumphs, also failed to shine and were held 1-1 at home by Spain's Valencia.

With Groups A-D set to play their matches Wednesday it was Groups E-H that featured Tuesday evening and fate had contrived in each of those four pools to pit the top team before start of play against the second-placed side while the third and fourth placed outfits also met.

Real, second behind FC Porto before the start of play in Group E, won 3-1 at their Bernabeu Stadium fortress to leapfrog the Portuguese side in the table and give their campaign for an eighth European title a real boost.

It was Fernando Morientes who gave the "meringues" the perfect start with a 23rd-minute goal set up on a plate by Spanish international teammate Raul but prolific striker Jardel squared the match for Porto, who won this trophy in 1987, just a minute later after a horrendous bungle by Real keeper Albano Bizarri.

An Ivan Helguera strike eight minutes before the interval put the Spanish side back in front and a Fernando Hierro penalty after 68 minutes calmed the nerves of the fans and Real's Welsh coach John Toshack.

In the other match in that

Lack of ideas irks Bearhoff

MILAN, Sept 29: AC Milan's German saviour Oliver Bierhoff lambasted his teammates after the Italians were given a lesson in defensive football by Hertha Berlin here in the Champions League, reports AFP.

Bierhoff, who scored the equaliser in Wednesday night's 1-1 draw, criticised his teammates for lacking imagination.

Bierhoff said: "We knew that Hertha were very well organised in defence. To break it down, we needed to keep the ball on the ground and to mix things up. But we just never managed it. We were too predictable."

"I'm pleased to have scored," he said. "But for a good part of the game we were too static."

Trying to be optimistic about next week month's tie, he added: "I think the return match could be much easier. They came here to defend and they put 10 men behind the ball. In Berlin, it should be different."

"If they want to try and do more, they could open up the space for us to hit them on the break. At least, I hope that's how it goes."

And he summed up: "Qualifying has now become a bit more complicated and I'd feel a lot better if we'd have won ... I have to confess, I thought we'd get more than this."

Club president Silvio Berlusconi, like Milan coach Alberto Zaccaroni, was also disappointed by the outcome.

"With the way things stood at one point, it could have been worse. But we should have kept the ball on the ground and gone for short, quick passes and one-two's, and not to have kept hitting in high balls for Bierhoff."

Milan just weren't into it. At times, they seemed impatient with the media mogul. We have to reflect on this match and find a better solution to the problem."

UEFA Cup

Cheers for Steaua, Red Star bow out

PARIS, Sept 29: There were mixed fortunes for two former European club champions here Tuesday in the first round of Europe's 'poor relations' trophy, the UEFA Cup, reports AFP.

Romania's Steaua Bucharest, who won Europe's top club prize in 1986, clinched a famous victory 3-1 victory in Austria against LASK Linz to clinch a 5-1 aggregate win.

An early goal from Linz's Christian Stumpf gave the home side hope but the Romanians kept their nerve and prevailed with something to spare thanks to goals from Cristian Ciocoi, Ilie Sabina and Albert Duro.

But Yugoslavia's Red Star Belgrade, champions in 1991, bowed out 3-2 on aggregate to Montpellier after only managing a 2-2 draw in France.

Nicolas Ouedec put the French side ahead only for Branko Jelc to square the match on the night.

Former French international striker Patrice Loko put Montpellier back in front but a controversial penalty from Goran Boskovic made the score 2-2.

But Montpellier survived thanks to Loko's solitary goal in the first leg that was played in the Bulgarian capital of Sofia because of sanctions against Yugoslavia.

In the other UEFA Cup match played Tuesday Germany's VfL Wolfsburg lost 2-1 in Hungary to Debrecen but prevailed 3-2 on aggregate.

pool it was Brazilian Giovanni who inspired Greek champions Olympiakos to a 3-1 victory over Norwegian side Molde.

Giovanni scored twice - fellow Brazilian Luciano was the other scorer for the Greeks - with Andreas Lund scoring the only goal for the Scandinavians.

AC Milan's record of five continental crowns has been bettered only by Real but their hopes of a sixth title took a knock when Iranian striker Ali Daei put visiting Hertha Berlin in the lead after 69 minutes.

Ironically it was German striker Oliver Bierhoff who saved AC Milan when he snatched a late equaliser five minutes later.

Milan remains second behind the Germans but are now only a point ahead of England's Chelsea, whose match with Galatasaray proved to be a passionate occasion with more than one person losing their head.

First Galatasaray goalkeeper

Claudio Taffarel, Brazil's World Cup winning custodian in 1994, was sent off for a rare moment of folly when he rushed out of his area and handled Dan Petrescu's lob.

Prior to Taffarel's rush of blood the Turks had looked the better side.

The match was then held up by a demonstration by some Kurdish protesters eager to make a point to the Turkish contingent.

But Romanian Petrescu made the telling breakthrough for Chelsea 10 minutes after the break when he scrambled the ball home at the second attempt.

In Group G Bordeaux beat top dogs Spartak Moscow, who now slump to third in the pool after Sparta Prague spanked Willem II Tilburg of Holland 4-0.

After nine minutes Bordeaux's French international striker gave the French champions the lead but the credit for the goal must go to Corentin Martins who found Wilford

with an acrobatic overhead pass.

Spartak squandered several chances and after 56 minutes Bordeaux took a 2-0 lead. Johan Micoud fed another French international forward Lillian Laslandes who immediately returned the ball to Micoud whose precise header beat

Alexander Filimonov in the Russian goal.

Artem Bezrodny reduced arrears for the Russians set up by Yegor Titov, who had sprung the Bordeaux offside trap but the home side held on for a 2-1 victory despite some anxious moments.

Willem II Tilburg are more or less eliminated after the Dutch were drubbed 4-0 by Sparta Prague in the Czech Republic.

First-half goals from Jiri Novotny, Martin Prohazka and Tomas Rosicky put the home side in the ascendancy before the interval and afterwards Jiri Jarosik made it four.

Last year's runners-up Ba-



Valencia's Joachim Bjoerklud (L) putting pressure on Bayern Munich's Brazilian international Giovane Elber during their Champions' League encounter on September 28.

STANDINGS

Group E	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid	3	2	1	0	10	5	7
Porto	3	2	0	1	4	3	6
Olympiakos Piraeus	3	1	1	1	6	6	4
Molde	3	0	0	3	2	8	0

Remaining matches:
October 20: Porto v Real Madrid
October 26: Real Madrid v Olympiakos Piraeus
October 26: Real Madrid v Olympiakos Piraeus
November 3: Olympiakos Piraeus v Porto
November 3: Real Madrid v Molde

Group F	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Valencia	3	1	2	0	4	2	5
Bayern Munich	3	1	2	0	4	3	5
Rangers	3	1	1	1	2	3	4
PSV Eindhoven	3	0	1	2	2	4	1

Remaining matches:
October 20: Rangers v PSV Eindhoven
Valencia v Bayern Munich
October 26: PSV Eindhoven v Bayern Munich
Rangers v Valencia
November 3: Bayern Munich v Rangers
Valencia v PSV Eindhoven

Group G	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Girondins Bordeaux	3	2	1	0	5	3	7
Sparta Prague	3	1	2	0	5	1	5
Spartak Moscow	3	1	1	1	5	4	4
Willem II Tilburg	3	0	0	3	3	10	0

Remaining matches:
October 20: Spartak Moscow v Girondins Bordeaux
Willem II Tilburg v Sparta Prague
October 26: Spartak Moscow v Willem II Tilburg
Girondins Bordeaux v Sparta Prague
November 3: Sparta Prague v Spartak Moscow
Willem II Tilburg v Girondins Bordeaux

Group H	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hertha Berlin	3	1	2	0	5	4	5
AC Milan	3	1	2	0	3	2	5
Chelsea	3	1	1	1	2	2	4
Galatasaray	3	0	1	2	3	5	1

Remaining matches:
October 20: Hertha Berlin v AC Milan
Galatasaray v Chelsea
October 26: AC Milan v Chelsea
Hertha Berlin v Galatasaray
November 3: Chelsea v Hertha Berlin
Galatasaray v AC Milan



Hertha Berlin's Thomas Helmer (L) leaps above AC Milan's Oliver Bierhoff (C) to clear the ball during their Champions' League clash on September 28.

ern Munich, themselves European giants with three titles, shared the points 1-1 with Spain's Valencia who stay ahead of the Germans in Group F on goal difference.

By again there was a Brazilian flavour to the game with Giovane Elber sweeping home a rebound in the sixth minute to put the German champion ahead.

The Spaniards were patient after a Giovane Elber goal put Bayern ahead after just six minutes and the visitors were finally rewarded with Gerard Lopez's 80th minute equaliser.

Elber, who was substituted by Carsten Jancker after an hour, snapped up a 22-metre Hasan Salihamidic shot which Valencia's clumsy keeper Andres Palop failed to hold on to as the Bavarians went in front.

Excluding Elber's goal and a Michael Tarnat post-shot in the first half Bayern struggled up front.

Valencia fared better but, for the most part, lacked finishers.

Argentinian striker Claudio Lopez had two sharp shots parried by an observant Oliver Kahn in the 22nd and 42nd minutes while David Albelda was thwarted by Kahn's outstretched leg from just a few metres.

But Gerard Lopez could hardly miss with his headed equaliser from point blank range.

In the other match in the pool PSV Eindhoven, European champions in 1988, have been cast adrift at the bottom following a 1-0 home defeat by Scottish champions Rangers.

Rangers' coach Dick Advocaat, is a former coach of PSV and will have been delighted by the victory, secured by German Jorg Albertz with a volley.

Albertz had only appeared as a substitute after Rangers' American midfielder Claudio Reyna had to leave the field after 24 minutes with an injury.

RESULTS AT A GLANCE

Collated European Champions League results on Tuesday:

GROUP E
At Madrid, Spain
Real Madrid (Spa) 3 (Morientes 23, Helguera 37, Hierro 68) FC Porto (Por) 1 (Jardel 24)

At Athens, Greece
Olympiakos (Gre) 3 (Giovannini 16, 69, Luciano 76) Molde (Nor) 1 (Lund 58)

GROUP F
At Munich, Germany
Bayern Munich (Ger) 1 (Elber 6) Valencia (Spa) 1 (Gerard 80)

At Eindhoven, Netherlands
PSV Eindhoven (Ned) 0 Glasgow Rangers (Sco) 1 (Albertz 85)

GROUP G
At Prague, Czech Republic
Sparta Prague (Cze) 4 (J. Novotny 26, Prohazka 29-pen, Rosicky 40, Jarosik 59) Willem II Tilburg (Ned) 0

At Bordeaux, France
Bordeaux (Fra) 2 (Wilford 9, Micoud 56) Spartak Moscow (Rus) 1 (Bezrodny 64)

GROUP H
At Milan, Italy
AC Milan 1 (Bierhoff 74) Hertha Berlin 1 (Daei 69)

At London, England
Chelsea (Eng) 1 (Petrescu 55) Galatasaray (Tur) 0