

Sport

Asian Cup soccer Indonesia rout Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, Oct 30: Cambodia lost in a dramatic Asian Cup battle with Indonesia here Saturday in which police were called in to quell fan violence, reports AFP.

Indonesia scored five goals to Cambodia's one to snare three points and put them in the top spot on the table with Hong Kong in Group Seven with four points from their two games.

Cambodia's Chan Arunreath scored the home team's only goal in the 72nd minute, bringing a tremendous cheer from the local fans.

But the match was marred by Cambodian fans throwing bottles of mineral water at Indonesian supporters, requiring the intervention of scores of military police at the capital's Olympic Stadium.

"For us it started very badly because they scored two goals in the beginning," said German-born Cambodian coach Joachim Fickert after the match.

"We will try to do better next week with Hong Kong," he added.

Cambodia, languishing at the bottom of the standings with no points, plays Hong Kong in Phnom Penh on November 7 and Indonesia again on November 21th.

Kazakhs dash Thai hopes

BANGKOK, Oct 30: Kazakhstan snuffed out Thailand's dream of a place at next year's Olympics Saturday with a 4-1 victory which kept alive its own slim hopes of a trip to Sydney, reports AFP.

Kazakhstan broke Thai hearts with a brace of goals within three minutes just after the interval, having taken the lead midway through the fast half with a spectacular 30-yard drive from Andrei Travin.

Faint hopes of an Olympic berth now rest on the Kazakh's trip to Japan next week.

If they can pull off an unlikely win against the group favourites they must hope Thailand can upset the Japanese here in a fortnight.

The Thais, coached by former Aston Villa and England striker Peter Withe, started brightly, appearing confident after holding the Kazakhs to a goalless draw in the reverse tie four weeks ago.

Despite surrendering the bulk of possession early on, the Kazakhs restricted Thailand to a few snatched, long range shots.

Soaking up Thai pressure, Kazakhstan worked the classic visor's strategy perfectly, catching the Thais on the break as Travin powered the ball past Thai keeper Wirat Sanae-ha in the 15th minute.

As glaring holes started to open in their defence, the Thais were unlucky to have their own breakaway goal, by Jatupong Thongsuks ruled offside on the stroke of half-time.

Kazakhstan put the game beyond reach early in the second period when Dmitry Galich thrashed a 15-yard shot past Wirat in the 56th minute and Erian Urasayev added a third three minutes later.

Kazakh coach Vladimir Fomkov on Friday condemned the sodden state of the pitch at the National Stadium, but had few complaints a day later as his side's brisk passing opened yards of space in the half.

Thailand gave the 8,000 fans a glimpse of hope in the 80th minute when Pongsak Kongkaew touched home from a mellee in the six yard box.

Zagreb coach gets the sack

ZAGREB, Oct 30: Argentine coach Osvaldo Ardiles has been sacked by Croatia Zagreb after a run of poor results in Europe's Champions League, the club said on Friday, reports Reuters.

Ardiles, who joined Croatia Zagreb only last June on a two-year contract, will be replaced by his assistant Marijan Vlak, the club's former goalkeeper who had been their coach before the Argentine's arrival.

"A unanimous decision was taken at a supervisory board meeting yesterday that the contract will be cancelled and that Marijan Vlak would coach the team," spokesman Ivan Rotin told the news agency.

Ardiles, who formerly coached in England and Japan, was the club's fourth coach in two years.

Ambitious club president Zlatko Canjuga wants to build a "European" team but Wednesday's 2-1 home defeat by Manchester United meant not only that Croatia would not make the last 16 in the Champions League but also that they might lose a consolation place in the UEFA Cup.

Newspapers put Ardiles's salary at around 750,000 German marks (403,700 dollars) a year, a large sum in a country going through its worst recession in years.

"We have excellent organisation and very talented players. What we have been searching for years is a top-class expert. Perhaps Vlak will be the very one," the Jutarnji List daily quoted club president Canjuga as saying.

Ardiles was a member of the Argentina team which won the World Cup in 1978.

He joined England's Tottenham Hotspur straight after the World Cup triumph and enjoyed further successes with the London club, where he was highly popular.

Ardiles later managed Spurs after serving as manager at Swindon Town, Newcastle United and West Bromwich Albion. More recently he coached Shimizu S-Pulse in Japan's J-League.



South African cricketers gather after the dismissal of Zimbabwe opener Trevor Gripper on the first day of the Bloemfontein Test on October 29. — AFP photo

Shaun surpasses Peter

Zimbabwe lose their way



BLOEMFONTEIN, Oct 30 (Reuters/ AFP): Shaun Pollock upstaged his new ball partner, Donald, who took one for 58 in the first Test match played in Donald's home town.

The top order were swept aside, with an unnecessary run-out of Trevor Gripper adding to Zimbabwe's woes. Gripper and visiting captain Alistair Campbell, who made 27, were looking reasonably solid in a third wicket stand of 26 before Gripper was sent back in seeking a second run after Campbell turned a ball from Lance Klusener to backward square leg.

Pollock took five for 39 as Zimbabwe were shot out for 192 on a pitch of steep but consistent bounce. South Africa reached 29 without loss in reply to Gripper's 58. Pollock turned a ball from Lance Klusener to backward square leg.

New cap Boeta Dippenaar sent in a good throw which beat Gripper.

Zimbabwe were 47 for three at lunch and their situation worsened when Pollock took two wickets and Donald one soon after lunch before a seventh wicket stand of 38 between Gavin Rennie (14) and Whittall broke the dominance of the bowlers.

Henry Olonga, worked for one by Jacques Kallis, lent Whittall valuable support in his 47 minutes at the crease in which he shared in a ninth-wicket stand worth 43 runs.

Whittall was last man out when he top-edged a hook against Jacques Kallis, who finished with three for 44.

Dippenaar and the recalled Adam Bacher, opening for South Africa because of injuries to Gary Kirsten and Herschelle Gibbs, gave their side a confident start.

Zimbabwe's attack was depleted by the absence of strike bowler Heath Street and leg-spinner Paul Strang, both injured.

Dippenaar and Bacher were rather less troubled in scoring 17 and nine not out. Dippenaar celebrated his elevation to the game's highest level by stroking four boundaries.

The match is the first played by Zimbabwe in South Africa.

Match Referee: Jackie Hendricks, West Indies.

They also meet in Harare, Zimbabwe, from November 11 to 15.

Springbok Park is the ninth ground in South Africa and the 80th in the world to stage a Test match. A crowd of 5,622 watched the first day's play.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the opening day of the first Test between South Africa and Zimbabwe on Friday:

ZIMBABWE: First innings

	O	M	R	W
G Flower lbw b Pollock	0			
Griper run out	16			
Goodwin c Boucher b Pollock	7			
Campbell c Klusener b Pollock	27			
A Flower lbw b Pollock	13			
Johnson c Boucher b Donald	6			
Rennie c Cullinan b Kallis	14			
G Whittall c Boucher b Kallis	85			
B Strang c Cronje b Pollock	9			
Olonga b Kallis	0			
Mhangwa not out	0			
Extras: (lb-6, nb-5, w-3)	14			
Total (All out in 75 overs)	192			
Fall of wickets: 1-1; 2-14; 3-4; 4-63; 5-78; 6-79; 7-117; 8-140; 9-183.				

Bowler

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Donald	18	5	58	1
Pollock	21	6	39	5
Klusener	16	5	40	0
Kallis	17	4	44	3
Adams	3	1	5	0

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings

Dippenaar not out	17
Bacher not out	9
Extras: (nb-3)	3
Total: (For no loss in 13 overs)	29

To bat: J Kallis, D Cullinan, H Cronje, J Rhodes, S Pollock, M Boucher, L Klusener, A Donald, P Adams.

Bowler

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Olonga	4	1	11	0
Strang	6	3	10	0
Johnson	2	0	8	0
G Flower	1	1	0	0

Umpires: Steve Dunne, New Zealand; David Orchard, South Africa.

TV Umpire: Ian Howell, South Africa.

Match Referee: Jackie Hendricks, West Indies.

McEnroe enjoys both of them

TOKYO, Oct 30: New US Davis Cup team captain John McEnroe proved he is still a star player at the 150,000-dollar Champions tennis tournament here Friday and said he would continue to play both roles in the future, reports AFP.

"I like both, but the Davis Cup is obviously more important, but both are something that I'd like to continue," said McEnroe after a 6-3, 6-4 win over Mansour Bahrami of Iran in the first round.

"I just started with the Davis Cup, but I'm not going to give up the senior's tour, because I love the competition and I'd like to keep myself in shape. In my opinion, both can be good for tennis," he added.

But the three-time Wimbledon champion added the Davis Cup schedule needs to be fixed to a certain period so that everybody in the world knows when it starts.

"It's a great opportunity for tennis to show the good side of the sport," said McEnroe, who helped the United States to win the Davis Cup three times as a player.

McEnroe's performance with Bahrami was one of the most entertaining matches here as he won applause and some laughs from a crowd of 4,700 spectators. McEnroe hit an ace when Bahrami sneezed at one time.

American tennis legend Jimmy Connors withdrew with an injury, three-time French Open champion Mats Wilander and fellow Swede Mikael Pernfors also joined McEnroe in the second round.

Wilander defeated American Mel Purcell 6-3, 6-4 and now takes on current senior number one, Henri Leconte of France, who breezed past Andres Gomez of Ecuador 6-3, 6-1.

The length of the suspensions was not immediately revealed.

Hiroshi is accused of having played for the Brazilian under-17 squad in the South American Cup when he was in fact 18 years old.

Defender Bell is alleged to have played for the Brazilian junior squad in a 1995 world championship, when he was 20.

Teixeira added that the Brazilian team would not be penalised by football's international governing body FIFA.

Osaka humble Hiratsuka

TOKYO, Oct 30: South Korean international Hwang Sun-Hong struck home twice to stretch his lead in the goal standings as Cerezo Osaka downed regular bottom placers Bellmare Hiratsuka 6-1 in the J-League football on Saturday, reports AFP.

"We have still four games to go, but I have a very good chance to become the top goal scorer if I do well," said the Korean three-time World Cup player who scored his 21st and 22nd goals of the season.

"I think we have almost completed the formation of our team. That's why I've scored so many goals this season," Hwang added.

It was Cerezo's seventh win against four defeats for 18 points at sixth place to trail front-runners Shimizu S-Pulse by eight points in the standings.

S-Pulse defeated Kyoto Purple Sangha 2-0 to stretch their lead to three points while second placers Kashima Reysol and third placers Yokohama Marinos fought it out to a 1-1 draw.

Reysol stood with eight wins, one draw and three defeats for 23 points and Marinos seven wins, two draws and two defeats for 21 points to be tied with Nagoya Grampus Eight, one point above Sanfrecce Hiroshima on 20.

Japan's international forward, Brazilian-born Wagner Lopes led the Grampus Eight with his 11th goal of the season to open the scoring in the 43rd minute as they defeated JEF United Ichihara 2-1.

Defending J-League champions Kashima Antlers and the first-stage winners Jubilo Iwata, the Asian club champions, continued their poor performances, both losing 1-0.

The Antlers bowed to Sanfrecce Hiroshima as Yutaka Takahashi nodded home on a Kentaro Sawada pass in the seventh minute, while the Jubilo went down to Verdy Kawasaki for their fifth straight defeat.

In other games, Vissel Kobe blanked Urawa Red Diamonds 2-0, while Gamba Osaka breezed past Avs Fukuoka 3-1.

They also meet in Harare, Zimbabwe, from November 11 to 15.