

IAAF gives Paris, London the nod

PARIS, Apr 3: Paris and London were awarded the 2003 and 2005 World Outdoor Athletics Championships on Monday...

Grooming

From Page 13
tutions brought along their personal gears - bat, pad, guards, helmet etc. in addition to their very heartening enthusiasms...

For a nine-year-old Aaqeeb studying in Class 1 at Scholastica it was a dream come true to play on such a stage.

"I love cricket more than anything. My favourite team is South Africa," he said.

The Bradman all-rounder picked Jacques Kallis and former Bangladesh skipper Faruque Ahmed, who was his cousin, as his best players.

The nine-year-old captain of the Sobers team Rayid, who reads in Uttara-based ISD (International School of Dhaka), was a die-hard Australian.

The left-handed opener's idols were wicketkeeper-batsman Adam Gilchrist and new pace sensation Brett Lee.

"I became an Australian (supporter) after watching the World Cup," he remarked.

Though the majority belonged to Pakistan.

Shabbab, aged 7, of the Imran Eleven led the chorus standing by Pakistan opener Saeed Anwar and speed merchant Waqar Younis.

The pace bowler from Dhamondi Tutorial was very happy that his favourite side had won the Coca-Cola Sharjah Cup.

"As I fell asleep at one stage during the final I had to ask my father the next morning who won, admitted the Class 1 student."

Rayeed, another Scholastica student, said that The Daily Star helped him to keep track on the sport. He especially read news regarding Pakistan.

The medium-pace heroics were Pakistan tearaway Shoab Akhtar and Anwar.

For those who braved the scorching heat to watch the proceedings, they could honestly say, that cricket is in good hands. Now what is needed is take these blooming buds of Bangladesh to the next level.

(Scorecards of the final on page 15)

Minhaz

Table with cricket statistics: Sarfraz c Sajid b Jewel, Enamul b Rehan, R Chauhan not out, Extras, Total, Did not bat, Suja Erfan, Fall of wickets, Bowler, Al-Amin, Naveem, Rehan, Taposh, Wasim, Saifullah, Jewel, Result: Surjo Tarun Club won by four wickets.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Abahani KC v Brothers Union
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium
Kalabaganh KC v Wari Club
Venue: Dhamondi Cricket Stadium

Dhaka Abahani

From Page 13
title," he said.
Replaying to a question, Partha said they would try to maintain their unbeaten record in the league and play for win against the Mohammedians.

Chittagong Abahani coach and former national defender Abu Yousuf said: "I am fully satisfied with the performance of my team. They played a good game against Abahani, but had to concede defeat due to inexperience and lack of big match temperament."

Both teams played an exciting first half. However, Dhaka Abahani partly dominated the second half.

Farhad of Chittagong Abahani spoiled three good chances - two in the first half and one in the second half. He headed wide from close in the 2nd and 11th minutes, and sent the ball outside in the 49th minute.

Kennedy of Dhaka Abahani missed the target twice while his teammate Zakir spoiled another good chance.

Kennedy received a good pass from Arman in the danger zone but sent the ball straight at opponent custodian in the 29th minute. He failed to find the net from close in the 48th minute off a Kauchan pass.

Dhaka Abahani were denied a goal in the dying moments as Zakir hastily sent the ball over the bar instead of giving a pass to an unmarked teammate.

Yellow card: Kingshuk of Dhaka Abahani.

TEAMS

DHAKA ABAHANI: Aminul, Partha, Kingshuk, Gansha, Tito, Iqbal, Zakir, Arman (Tipu), Mintoo, Kennedy and Stephan (Kauchan).

CHITTAGONG ABAHANI KC: Bijon, Aminur, Biplob, Papul, Raju (Kaiser), Tanveer, A. If. Asad (Pavel), Al Amin, Farhad (Nurul Islam) and Moni.

Referee: Ehsanul Haq (Khuina)



Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson(C) arrives at Madrid's Barajas Airport yesterday. United take on Real Madrid in a crucial Champions League quarterfinal first leg at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium today.

Survival of the fittest

PARIS, April 3: Sudden death matches in the European Champions League bring an added tension to the competition.

with the first two quarter-finals, between Real Madrid and Manchester United and Porto and Bayern Munich, on Tuesday, reports AFP.

Pride for club and country are both at stake with Manchester United and Bayern out to prove last year's final appearances were no fluke yet Real Madrid and Porto will be putting the emphasis on European competition after domestic setbacks.

Madrid could only draw 1-1 at Real Sociedad on Saturday night, leaving them in fourth place, and Porto fell 1-0 at Benfica in a crunch match between two of the three biggest clubs in the country.

Champions Manchester United had no such blips with a 7-1 thrashing of West Ham to move 10 points clear at the top in the English Premiership and virtually seal their sixth title in eight seasons.

Paul Scholes was the hero of the day, scoring his first hat-trick for the club and his second came from a superb backheel.

Of course West Ham are not in the same league as Real Madrid but the words of their coach Harry Redknapp should make Real Madrid take heed in the run-up to their Santiago-Bernabeu stadium clash.

"They are the team to beat in Europe," Redknapp said. "Their movement and their passing was what you would expect from the European champions. They were absolutely different class."

Munich, perhaps with one

eye on their match in Portugal, could only draw 1-1 with VfL Wolfsburg in the Bundesliga to drop their first ever points against the UEFA Cup hopefuls.

Bayern Leverkusen are the new leaders at the top of the Bundesliga after beating 1860 Munich 2-1.

Worse news for Bayern was that they may be without skipper Stefan Effenberg, who has a bruised calf and was clearly missed against Wolfsburg, and Alexander Zickler who has a thigh injury.

"Both are uncertain," coach Ottmar Hitzfeld said. "Both will have a late fitness test in Portugal."

Shoulder victim Mehmet Schull should be fit enough though having trained on Sunday, Hitzfeld added.

Porto have their own problems with keeper Vitor Bala, a key figure in their qualification for the last eight, out of action for a month after aggravating an injury to a right knee which was operated on in December.

The club are also without left back Rubens Junior and coach Fernando Santos is set to wait till after training early on Monday before announcing his list of players for the match.

United are set to be at full strength for the Madrid game as Ryan Giggs, out of the West Ham match because of a hamstring injury, should be back to full fitness.

United manager Alex Ferguson said however: "It will be a different game altogether, but we're ready for it. We know we'll have to perform at the highest level and what you saw today you won't see on Tuesday."

"But we're going there with confidence and we're going there looking strong and fresh."

As for Madrid, Fernando

Morientes, who pulled his right hamstring the day before the final match of the second phase of European Champions League matches against Rosenborg, may possibly return, according to club sources.

Madrid, who appear to have won their battle with French striker Nicolas Anelka after he apologized to his teammates for refusing to train for three days, are of course still without the Frenchman.

Anelka, who has a history of temperamental outbursts, was suspended for 45 days without pay on March 13 and was subsequently ostracized and forced to train alone following his stand.

Brazilian striker Savio, however, who hadn't played since January 26 because of injury, celebrated his return with the goal against Real Sociedad and is set to be in the starting line-up.

Madrid coach Vicente del Bosque said: "We are playing a lot better than at the start of the season. We are very optimistic about the quarter-final because we are getting better and better with each match."

No Russian or French teams are still flying their country's flag in this competition, but Nikolai Levnikov of Russia will be the referee in Portugal and Frenchman Gilles Veissiere will be officiating in the Spanish capital.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE QUARTER FINAL FIRST LEG: TUESDAY: At Oporto, Portugal Bayern Munich(Ger) v FC Porto(Por)

At Madrid, Spain Real Madrid(Spn) v Manchester United(Eng)

Juve hunt for form, Lazio on a roll

MILAN, April 3: Juventus have to pick themselves up after a run of bruising defeats, while Lazio will be struggling to keep their feet on the ground in a very mixed week ahead for Italy's elite, reports AFP.

Juventus, who led the Serie A by nine points just 10 days ago, are now only three points ahead after losing 2-0 to AC Milan and then 1-0 to Lazio in last Saturday's bill-topping match in Turin.

Juventus, for whom nothing is going right, were also knocked out of the UEFA Cup last month after a 4-0 thrashing by Spanish club Celta Vigo - their second worst defeat ever in Europe.

But coach Carlo Ancelotti has a simple answer to his team's problems - just don't think about them.

"After losing a match which could have sealed the title, it's obvious that there's regret and disappointment," he told the Italian press on Monday.

"But let's not dwell on the fact that we had a nine-point lead," he said. "We're still top, we're three points in front and

there are only six matches left to play this season.

"It's not a lead that can give you any certainties, but it's enough for us not to get agitated," he claimed.

Looking back to Saturday's defeat, he said: "Obviously, you feel a bit disappointed when you play well and don't win, but in this championship it happens."

"Just like it happens that you win matches when you don't fully deserve to, like in the derby with Torino."

"But I think the most important thing now is that the team showed they are in good shape and are motivated."

"They want to see this right through to the end."

But while Ancelotti has to boost Juventus' morale, Lazio's is already sky high as they bid for the Treble.

The team has a fair chance in the Serie A, a place in the Champions League quarter-finals - after inflicting Chelsea's first ever home defeat in Europe - and an Italian Cup final showdown with Inter Milan.

Club president and tomato sauce baron Sergio Cragnotti

said: "The important thing now is to keep our feet on the ground. Juventus are a strong side and they also have real character - you have to respect them for that."

As for his own team's title chances, he said: "It won't be easy but I'm convinced we can do it. Some people never thought we could, but I always believed in this team."

"And now everyone is frightened of us and everyone realises we can see things through to the end on all three fronts: and we're the only ones in that position."

"The Grand Slam is within our reach," he trumpeted.

Lazio's next step towards the Serie A title could come in a fortnight's time.

Juventus travel to San Siro to face their old coach Marcello Lippi, now in charge of an Inter Milan side who want a place in next season's Champions League preliminary rounds.

By contrast, Lazio have a less demanding fixture in Florence against Fiorentina, mid-table after a disappointing season.

Vietnam set the example

HANOI, April 3: A Vietnamese court has handed down unprecedented jail sentences of up to a year to four footballers from teams run by police and customs convicted of matchfixing in the national championship two years ago, court officials said Monday, reports AFP.

The jail sentences, the first ever handed down against footballers in Vietnam despite a rash of allegations of matchfixing in recent years, were delivered by the people's court in the commercial capital of Ho Chi Minh City on Friday, the officials said.

The captain of the city's customs team, Truong Van Dong, was jailed for 12 months in hundreds of thousands of VND (55 US cents) in bets.

Dinh The Nam, from the police team in the city of Haiphong - the main port for the capital, received 10 months suspended, while sentencing of his team mate Ng Thanh Thang was postponed because he was not in court. Bookmaker Tran Phi Son was jailed for twelve months.

As in the former eastern Europe, football teams in communist Vietnam are managed by government agencies like the police or army or by provinces.

Despite a rash of stadium violence and matchfixing allegations in recent years, football remains a national passion here and many Vietnamese stay up late into the night to watch games broadcast live from Europe.

Premiership TV rights Broadcasters war kicks-off

LONDON, Apr 3: The battle over one of the world's hottest broadcast deals kicked off today as the chairman of England's top 20 soccer clubs met to hammer out the terms of the sale of Premier League screening rights, reports Reuters.

In a competition expected to bring a windfall of up to 2.0 billion pounds (3.2 billion dollars) for the Premier League clubs, the chairmen were putting the finishing touches to a tender document for the rights which are expected to be awarded by June.

The deal, starting in the 2001-2002 season, is widely expected to split the rights between a large 60-game live package and several smaller ones covering some live games, highlights, pay-per-view and the Internet.

Football clubs are keen to have rights to delayed coverage to screen on their own TV channels, and the length of contracts is expected to be shaved back around three years.

BSkyB paid 670 million pounds in 1996 for the last four-year contact for exclusive live rights while the BBC paid 73 million pounds for the highlights.

Hagi may move to USA

BUCHAREST, Apr 3: Romanian international Gheorghe Hagi said today he was considering joining a Major League Soccer club after the European championship finals, reports Reuters.

Hagi, named Romanian soccer player of the century last December, plans to quit the international arena after Euro 2000.

"I will consider returning home to play for a Romanian club after the European finals, but I might go to United States," he said.

Chicago Fires and New Jersey MetroStars are understood to be interested in recruiting Hagi and Gheorghe Popescu, his Galatasaray Istanbul team mate.

FA Cup Dublin takes Villa to final

LONDON, April 3: Dion Dublin, who feared he would end up in a wheelchair three months ago, made a fairytale comeback to send Aston Villa into their first FA Cup final for 43 years as they beat Bolton Wanderers 4-1 in a penalty shoot-out at Wembley, reports AFP.

Dublin, who broke his neck against Sheffield Wednesday in mid-December, was Villa's hero by scoring the decisive goal.

Bolton striker Dean Holdsworth missed a golden chance just 10 minutes from the end of normal time and 120 minutes of largely uninspiring football failed to break the deadlock.

Holdsworth's miss proved so costly for the First Division club because when it came to the penalty shoot-out drama it was Villa who held their nerve.

Goalkeeper David James was Villa's other hero making two good penalty saves from Allan Johnston and Michael Johansen to give Villa a 4-1 winning margin.

John Gregory's side had failed to do themselves justice but will now play the winners of next week's clash between Chelsea and Newcastle.

There was even smiles at the end from Benito Carbone who had reacted angrily on being substituted midway through the second half of normal time.

The Italian kicked over a bucket of water by the Villa dugout in disgust but now he can look forward to achieving his dream of playing in the last ever final at the Twin Towers.

Primera Liga

Jokanovich soothes leaders' nerves

MADRID, April 3: Deportivo La Coruna's Yugoslavian international Slavisa Jokanovic scored twice in their 3-1 away

win at Sevilla on Sunday night to keep them top of the Spanish title race, reports AFP.

Jokanovic found the net in the 10th and 13th minutes before Juan Carlos pulled one back for Sevilla five minutes later. Leading striker Roy Makaay, who scored a double for them last weekend, added another for Deportivo four minutes from time.

Deportivo, on 58 points, remain two points ahead of Catalan giants Barcelona who beat Valencia 3-0 through Winston Bogarde and two more goals from his Dutch interna-

tional teammate, striker Patrick Kluivert.

Third-placed Real Zaragoza kept up their outside chances of taking the title by beating the other Seville club relegation-threatened Real Betis 1-0 in the evening game to stay four points off the pace.

While Seville could have the very distasteful prospect of having their two clubs relegated, relegation is staring ailing giants Atletico Madrid in the face.

Atletico, double winners as recently as 1996, went down 2-1 to Athletic Bilbao on Sunday, the only consolation that Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink grabbed his 22nd goal of the season to take sole lead in the overall scoring charts, to leave them second from bottom and three points adrift of automatic safety.

Atletico's bitter neighbours Real Madrid's title hopes took a blow on Saturday night after a 1-1 draw with relegation-threatened Real Sociedad left them in fourth spot.

Brazilian striker Savio Bortolini, who hadn't played since January 26 because of injury, celebrated his return with a goal in the third minute, latching on to a freekick by Jose Maria Gutierrez, generally known as Guti.

Another freekick, this time by Real Sociedad's Portuguese midfielder Sa Pinto, set up Oscar de Paula to equalize with a header in the 57th minute.

It wasn't a great result for Real Sociedad either considering the match was at home and they are now fifth-from-bottom and only two points above Real Oviedo in the first relegation berth.



Deportivo la Coruna's Brazilian international Flavio Conceicao (R) and Sevilla's Angel locked in a tussle during their Primera Liga match at Sevilla on April 2. —AFP photo

Serie A

Parma enter Champs League race

MILAN, April 3: Parma beat AC Milan 1-0 to join the race for one of Italy's slots in the next European Champions League on Sunday night, while Juventus and Lazio prepared for the final sprint to the Serie A title, reports AFP.

Roma coach Fabio Capello said: "It was a balanced match. We had chances to score which unfortunately we didn't take."

"And the only time we really suffered was in the last 15 minutes when Udinese made their substitutions and their new players were fresh and fast, and caused us problems."

Elsewhere, it was a story of 1-0 wins, with Perugia's victory over Torino making the Turin club even more likely candidates for relegation back to the Serie B.

Nicola Amoroso nodded home the 21st minute winner

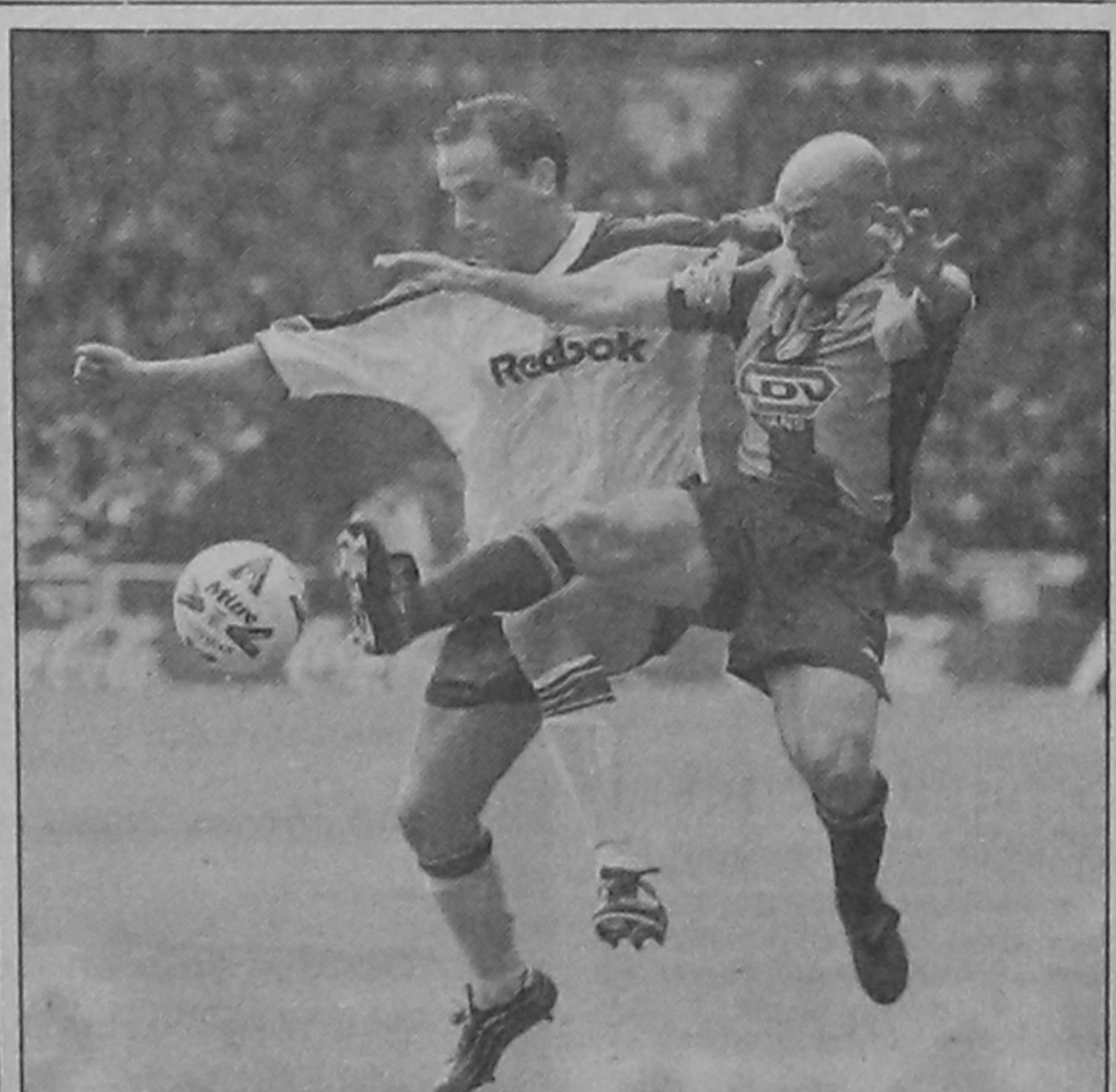
after a free-kick swept over by Croatian teammate Milan Rajpajc.

Bari's Swedish midfielder Daniel Andersson converted a 22th minute penalty as he edged Cagliari, after 17-year-old wonderkid Antonio Cassano was felled in the penalty area.

In another battle between relegation strugglers, Verona midfielder Christian Brocchi blasted home their 68th minute winner from the edge of the area against bottom club Piacenza.

Venezia meanwhile finished up goalless with Lecce.

Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation Office of the Executive Engineer (S&M) Kishoregonj Region, Kishoregonj Re-Tender Notice. Includes details of tender No. 2/1999-2000, description of work, value of tender, place of selling, last date and time of selling, date and time of submitting tender, date and time of opening the tender, earnest money, eligibility of tenderer, and documents to be furnished with tender.



Aston Villa's Steve Stone (R) battles for control with Dean Holdsworth of Bolton during their FA Cup semifinal at the Wembley Stadium on April 2. —AFP photo