

## Sport

## Historic

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and made up by defeating Netherlands, China and Zealand.  
Women's hockey, introduced to the Olympics at the Moscow Games in 1980, had produced different winners in the five previous competitions.

Zimbabwe won the western-bosco tournament in Moscow, followed by the Netherlands (1984), Australia (1988), Spain (1992) and Australia (1996).

## DUTCH BAG

## BRONZE

The Netherlands, meanwhile, defeated Spain for the second time in 48 hours to retain the bronze medal also on

The Dutch, who won 2-1 on Wednesday to ensure a place in the medal round, scored a 2-0 verdict to keep the third place they secured at Atlanta four years ago.

Ageeth Boomgardt put the Netherlands ahead with their first penalty corner in the 10th minute, before captain Carole van der Heijden increased the margin midway through the second half.

That's goal came after she dribbled past the Spanish defence and beat goalkeeper Elena Carrion with a stinger from the top of the circle.

Spain, gold medalists in Atlanta in 1992, rarely got openings to score, but still managed to improve upon their place finish at Atlanta.

The third position for the Dutch after winning the Championships' Trophy at home in Amsterdam in May, however, did not impress outgoing coach van der Heijden.

## Dream Five

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successful jump 6.68 metres, in short of May's leading mark from the first round.

Russia's Olga Rubleva briefly overtook both the Italian and the American later in that round with 6.79m. But none of the jumpers had really found their rhythm, nor the bigger distances anticipated.

Then up stepped Drechsler.

At 35, the German was the oldest woman in the competition, competing in her third Olympics. And the champion from Barcelona eight years ago owed some of her old style as he flew to 6.99m to take a third-round lead.

With May and Jones both jumping 6.92 in the same round, Jones was now in bronze medal position on countback to her second-best jump compared to the May, the Olympic silver medalist in Atlanta four years ago.

Jones still has a chance of two more medals at the Sydney Games in Saturday's finals of the 4x100 and 4x400m relays, in which the United States managed to qualify without her help on Friday night.

## Fu Mania

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honour to the motherland. Fu was enjoying a victory which she fought not for her country or her coaches, but for herself.

Fu, who as a 12-year-old in 1991 became the youngest diving world champion ever, has criticised China's strict sporting regime, which plucked her from home at the age of seven and put her through rigorous training where she saw her parents no more than once a year.

She won her first Olympic gold in the platform in Barcelona, and achieved the springboard and platform double in Atlanta in 1996, before retired exhausted at the age of 18.

But while studying economic management at the prestigious Qinghua University in Beijing, Fu realised she how much she loved diving and returned to the waters, this time for herself and on her own terms.

## Sirajganj cricket

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Sept 29: Savagobindo Nabojatra Club defeated Monoharipatty Krira Chakra by 44 runs in the Sheikh Russel Smriti tournament cup final today at the Sirajganj Government College playground.

Winning the toss, Savagobindo decided to bat first and collected 101 runs losing all wickets in the stipulated 24 overs.

In reply, Sirajganj Monoharipatty made only 57 runs losing all wickets in 16 overs.

Shakil of Nabojatra was declared man-of-the-match.

## Serie A preview

## Italy get into action



MILAN, Sept 29 (Reuters/Internet): Serie A football gets underway on Saturday and new Fiorentina coach Fausto Terini is already getting a taste of the league's demanding pressures.

Fiorentina crashed out of the UEFA Cup on Thursday after a 5-3 aggregate defeat to Austria's Tirol Innsbruck and now face a tough opening game away to title hopefuls Parma (Sunday 1300 GMT).

## BARI V VERONA

(Saturday 1300 GMT)

There were ugly scenes at the end of Thursday's game as Fiorentina fans protested against club president Vittorio Cecchi Gori.

For the moment, the anger is being directed against the man who sold the fans' favourite player, Gabriel Batistuta. But the Turkish coach cannot afford a poor start in the league.

## AC MILAN V VICENZA

Striker Gianni Comandini will make his league debut for Milan against the club he helped to promotion with 21 goals last season.

Alberto Zeccheroni's team enjoyed a 2-0 win away to Barcelona on Tuesday and after losing just once at home last season will look to make a comfortable start. However, they will be without new signing Redondo, who is still suffering from a knee injury.

## PERUGIA V LECCE

Lecco have managed just one victory at Perugia, back in 1948, but both sides know this is the kind of game they need to win if they are to avoid relegation worries this season.

It was a poor away form with just one win -- that caused Lecco trouble in 1999/2000, although Perugia have not impressed in pre-season.

## REGGINA V INTER

MILAN With Inter failing to qualify for the Champions League after a defeat to Sweden's Helsingborg, coach Marcello Lippi needs a good start to the Serie

Hernan Crespo and Angelo Peruzzi and will need to recover from their disappointing 2-0 defeat to Arsenal in the Champions League.

Newly promoted Atalanta have a good record against Lazio, having only lost three times at home to the Rome side. But they will need all the qualities they showed in their recent Italian Cup victory over AS Roma.

## AS ROMA V BOLOGNA

Gabriel Batistuta scored his first goal for Roma in their 7-0 UEFA Cup win over Slovenian's Nova Gorica on Thursday and will look to open his Serie A account against new-look Bologna.

New signings Tomas Locatelli and Ricardo Cruz should start for Bologna who will need to improve on a solitary away win last season.

## UDINESE V BRESCIA

Roberto Baggio will make his league debut for Brescia, who are on a high after knocking Juventus out of the Italian Cup on Saturday.

The newly-promoted side looked to have all the character needed to achieve their goal of survival but face an Udinese team who have not lost at home in the Serie A since January.

## NAPOLI V JUVENTUS

(Saturday 1830 GMT)

A tricky test for Juventus who must deal with a fanatical capacity crowd at the San Paolo stadium, celebrating Napoli's return to Serie A after a two-year absence.

Striker Nicola Amoruso makes his league debut for Napoli, against the side he left this summer. Amoruso will meanwhile be up against Juve defender Ciro Ferrara, who was a member of Napoli's title-winning sides in 1987 and 1990.

Although unbeaten in their three games, Juve have been unimpressive in the Champions League and under-pressure coach Carlo Ancelotti needs a good start to the league campaign.

REGGINA V INTER

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## UEFA Cup 2nd round draw

NYON, Switzerland, Sept 29 (AFP): Draw for the second round of the UEFA Cup, made at the headquarters of European football's governing body here on Friday:

## Hertha Berlin (Ger) v Amica

Wronski (Pol), Werder Bremen

(Ger) v Genk (Bel), Vitesse

Arnhem (Ned) v Inter Milan

(Ita), Red Star Belgrade (Yug) v Celta Vigo (Spa), Osijek (Cro) v Rapid Vienna (Aut), OFI

Crete (Gre) v Slavia Prague

(Cze), AEK Athens (Gre) v Her

FC Basel (Swi) v Feyenoord

(Ned), FC Basel (Swi) v Halmstad

(Swe) v Munich 1860 (Ger),

Parma (Ita) v Dynamo Zagreb

(Cro), Espanyol (Spa) v Graz

AK (Aut), Liverpool (Eng) v

Slovan Liberec (Cze),

Lausanne Sport (Sui) v Ajax

(Ned), FC Porto (Por) v Wisla

Krakow (Pol), Tyrol Innsbruck

(Aut) v VfB Stuttgart (Ger),

Rayo Vallecano (Spa) v Viborg

(Den), FC Nantes (Fra) v MTK

Kaiserslautern (Ger) v Iraklis

(Gre), FC Bruges (Bel) v St

Gallen (Swi), Lillestrom SK

(Nor) v Alaves (Spa)

## UEFA Cup

## Chelsea, Fiorentina thrown out

PARIS, Sept 29: English big spenders Chelsea and Italian counterparts Fiorentina endured a humiliating night

Thursday as they crashed out of the UEFA Cup at the first hurdle.

The two clubs, already condemned to the poor man's table of European football having failed to join the Champions League banquet, failed even to pick up the scraps as they slumped to defeats whose financial consequences could prove even greater than the huge loss of kudos.

Chelsea crumbled to modest Swiss outfit St Gallen, going down 2-0 away to bow out 2-1.

St Gallen proved money can't buy success as they fought the glitz Londoners, leaving the Blues' new Italian coach Claudio Ranieri to ponder just what he has let himself in for after replacing the sacked Gianluca Vialli earlier this month.

First-half goals from Sascha

Muller and Charles Amoah gave the Swiss champions, 600-1 outsiders, a deserved triumph on the biggest night in their history.

Amoah almost piled on further misery but his 88th-minute effort was chalked off for offside.

Chelsea's woe was complete as Italian midfielder Roberto Di Matteo broke his leg and was stretchered off after an innocuous-looking first-half clash with Daniel Imhoff.

The match was played at Zurich's Hardtwald Stadium, borrowed by St Gallen for UEFA

dates because their own ground was not available.

Ranieri gave an honest assessment as he came to terms with his bitter disappointment.

It will be hard to pick ourselves up from this but we will come back very strong after this. A man can fall but I like to see a man who can rise again.

"It's a sad time for the club, for the players and above all for

our passionate fans."

If the Chelsea result constituted a shock there was an even bigger surprise in Florence, where unheralded Austrian outfit Tirol Innsbruck dumped out underachieving Fiorentina.

The Austrians did more than just hold on to a 3-1 first leg lead by gaining a battling 2-2 draw in Italy.

Wolfgang Mair put the visitors ahead and although former Real Madrid star Predrag Mijatovic and Leandro Camara Do Amaral put Fiorentina 2-1 up, Radoslav Gilewicz levelled to kill off the hosts' challenge.

Roma, Parma and Inter Milan picked up the pieces for Italian sides, however, with easy victories.

Roma scored four goals inside the opening 20 minutes against Slovenian side Gorica and added three more for good measure for a 7-0 waltz in the Olympic Stadium. Overall they advanced 11-1.

And Inter Milan hammered Ruch Chorzow of Poland 4-1 to make it a 7-1 aggregate stroll.

Parma thrashed Pobeda of Macedonia 4-0 with Emilian Bonazzoli twice on target to complete a 6-0 win over the two games.

English Premiership outfit Leicester joined Chelsea on the scrapheap losing to Red Star Belgrade in Vienna while Celtic needed extra time to avoid humiliation in Finland as they edged out HJK Helsinki 3-2 on aggregate with a goal deep into extra-time from Chris Sutton.

Liverpool, meanwhile, endured a goalless stalemate at home to Rapid Bucharest for UEFA dates because their own ground does not meet regulations.

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