

Chelsea pay the price
Milan giants, PSG sail

Football

AFP, Paris

The refusal of some of Chelsea's leading players to travel to Israel came back to haunt the Londoners when they were beaten 2-0 by Hapoel Tel Aviv in their UEFA Cup second round first leg clash on Thursday.

Fielding a weakened team after six of their players preferred to stay at home because of the worsening security situation in the region, Chelsea weathered the pressure and even survived the 53rd minute sending off of Mario Melchiot for kicking out at home skipper Shimon Gershon.

However, they couldn't hang on and conceded two late goals as the Israeli team gained a vital advantage ahead of the second leg.

Gershon opened the scoring in the 86th minute from the penalty spot after a handball from John Terry before Serguei Klashenko headed the second in the last minute past Mark Bosnich who was making his long-awaited debut.

Chelsea had travelled to Israel without skipper Marcel Desailly, Emmanuel Petit, Eidur Gudjohnsen, Graeme Le Saux, William Gallas and Albert Ferrer who all refused to make the trip fearing for their safety in the region.

Leeds beat French club Troyes 4-2 at Elland Road. A pair of goals each from Australia striker Mark Viduka and midfielder Lee Bowyer ensured victory for the English Premiership side.

But Patrice Loko gave Troyes hope for the second leg with two away goals. Troyes suffered a late blow when Algeria international Medhi Meniri was sent off for elbowing Viduka.

Troyes coach Alain Perrin said he feared Leeds could pile on the misery for his men in the return match.

"Leeds are a lot stronger than us and they can win in Troyes," said Perrin.

"In the first half tonight, we gave the ball away too much in midfield and that is unforgivable against a team like Leeds."

Leeds' boss David O'Leary was overjoyed with the result.

"I was very impressed. We have been playing very well lately and we had lots of chances in the game."

"The game was really over when



PHOTO: AFP

Paris Saint Germain's Brazilian superstar Ronaldinho exults after scoring against Rapid Vienna in their UEFA Cup fixture at Paris on October 18.

they had their man sent-off." Glasgow Rangers gave themselves a great chance of reaching the next round with a 3-1 win against Dynamo Moscow.

Lorenzo Amoroso opened the scoring after nine minutes with Michael Ball adding the second on 80 minutes but Rolan Gusev scored in the last minute to give the Russians some hope.

It was a good night for the Italian clubs with victories for AC Milan, Inter Milan, Parma and Fiorentina.

Manuel Rui Costa (20 minutes) and Andrey Shevchenko (50) gave AC Milan a 2-0 win at home against CSKA Sofia of Bulgaria.

Portuguese midfielder Rui Costa fired inside Nenad Lukic's near post from 20 yards to give the hosts the lead before Shevchenko, set up by a run and cross by Brazilian substitute Serginho, made it 2-0.

City rivals Inter, bidding to win the UEFA Cup for a fourth time, defeated Wisla Krakow with both

goals coming from Sierra Leonian striker Mohamed Kallon.

His first goal came when he headed in from close range after a shot by Brazilian Adriano had rebounded off the bar while the second was an acrobatic volley.

Fiorentina saw off FC Tyrol 2-0 with goals from substitute Domenico Morfeo and Nuno Gomes. The win was revenge for Fiorentina who lost 5-3 to the Austrians in the same competition last season.

Parma won 3-1 at Utrecht with two goals from Marco Di Vaio and one from Emiliano Bonazzoli.

Last year's Champions League runners-up Valencia were indebted to Romanian international Andrew Ilie for giving them a vital away goal in a 1-1 draw against Legia Warsaw in Poland.

Ilie stroked home a 61st minute penalty following a foul on striker John Carew. The Spaniards had fallen behind to a goal from Bartosz Karwan after just 12 minutes.

The French contingent of Paris Saint Germain and Bordeaux had successful outings with the French capital club beating Rapid Vienna 4-0 in a repeat of the European Cup Winners Cup final of 1996 which Paris won 1-0 while Bordeaux claimed victory over Standard Liege by 2-0.

Ronaldinho twice hit the target for PSG, and Bernard Mendy and Nicolas Anelka got the other two. Pauleta and Christian found the net for Bordeaux.

There was also drama off the pitch in Paris as part of the famous Parc des Princes stadium had to be evacuated during the interval when a stand was judged to be unsafe.

Around 6,000 fans had to be relocated elsewhere in the stadium. Elsewhere, Richard Nunez grabbed a hat-trick as Grasshopper Zurich crushed Twente Enschede of Holland 4-1 in Switzerland while 1981 champions Ipswich Town of England drew 0-0 at home to Swedish side Helsingborgs.

Weekend's European fixtures

Fixtures in major football leagues of Europe over the weekend:

Spanish Primera Liga

Saturday (Kick off times GMT): Malaga v Barcelona (1700), Real Sociedad v Osasuna (1830), Deportivo La Coruna v Sevilla (1845) Real Betis v Villarreal (1930), Las Palmas v Athletic Bilbao (2000)

Sunday: Valladolid v Alaves (1600), Real Mallorca v Rayo Vallecano (1600), Espanyol v Tenerife (1700), Real Madrid v Celta Vigo (1700) Valencia v Real Zaragoza (1800)

German Bundesliga

Saturday: Bayern Munich v Kaiserslautern, Hertha Berlin v Werder Bremen, Nuremberg v Borussia Monchengladbach, Sankt Pauli v Energie Cottbus, Bayer Leverkusen v VfB Stuttgart, Schalke 04 v 1860 Munich, Hansa Rostock v Cologne, Sunday: VfL Wolfsburg v Hamburg SV, Borussia Dortmund v SC Freiburg

English Premiership

Saturday (all 1400GMT unless stated): Arsenal v Blackburn, Derby v Charlton, Everton v Aston Villa, Leicester v Liverpool, Manchester United v Bolton, West Ham v Southampton

Sunday: Fulham v Ipswich (1200GMT), Leeds v Chelsea (1500 GMT), Newcastle v Tottenham (1300 GMT)

Monday: Middlesbrough v Sunderland (1900GMT)

Italian Serie A

Saturday (13:00 GMT unless stated): Bologna v Juventus (18:30 GMT)

Sunday: Atalanta v Udinese, Chievo v Parma, Fiorentina v Verona, Piacenza v Brescia, AS Roma v Lecce, Torino v Perugia, Venezia v Lazio, Inter Milan v AC Milan (18:30 GMT)

French First Division

Saturday: Lyon v Sochaux, Marseille v Lille, Lens v Montpellier, Nantes v Auxerre, Bastia v Rennes, Guingamp v Monaco

Sunday: Bordeaux v Metz, Troyes v Lorient, Sedan v Paris St Germain

Brazil finalise last missions
Scolari to take side to finals

Football

INTERNET, Rio de Janeiro

Brazil national football team manager, Antonio Lopes, said in a collective press interview on Monday that the schedule for the squad before the crucial World Cup 2002 qualifying games against Bolivia and Venezuela, on the 7 and 14 November respectively is virtually settled.

The call up will be on 24 ("foreign based players") and 31 (players with Brazilian clubs) of this month.

The players called up will meet on 3 November at 1100 hours GMT at Santos Dumont and Tom Jobim airports in Rio de Janeiro. From there they will travel up to the Granja Comari base in Teresopolis where they will train (first session at 1600 hours GMT on the same day) in preparation for the first game against Bolivia.

The next day, the team will only train in the morning at 0900 GMT. Training on Monday 5 will be held in two sessions the first at 0900 and the second at 1530. On 6 November, the team will travel to Santa Cruz de la Sierra where they will train at 1600 GMT.

On 7th November, Brazil will play Bolivia in La Paz. According to Dr. Serafim Borges, the team will arrive in the Bolivian capital two hours before the game to avoid feeling the effects of altitude. The team will be given some time off after the game.

After a day off on Thursday 8, the players will meet up again on 9 in Rio de Janeiro. On the same day the team will train in Granja Comari, where they will be based until the 12th, when they leave for Sao Luiz in Maranhao. Brazil plays Venezuela on the 14th at a time still



PHOTO: AFP

Brazil manager Antonio Lopes talking to the media at Rio de Janeiro on October 15.

to be confirmed.

According to Antonio Lopes, the president of the Brazilian Football Confederation CBF, has confirmed that coach Luis Felipe Scolari will take the team to the 2002 World Cup

in South Korea and Japan, presuming they qualify, ending much speculation as to whether he would keep his job after the November qualifiers.

Lleyton on a roll

Tennis

AFP, Stuttgart

Lleyton Hewitt was preparing for a re-run of last year's losing final at the 2.95-million-dollar Masters Series Friday, getting set for a quarter-final against Wayne Ferreira just hours after a late-night win which stretched into early Friday.

The third-seeded Australian came through with his second consecutive come-back from a set down to oust Argentine Guillermo Canas 3-6, 6-1, 6-4 on the purple carpet of the Schleyerhalle.

Hewitt is running strong after winning his 16th match in a row, a series which has included his fourth and fifth titles of the season, the U.S. Open and the AIG Open in Tokyo.

The 20-year-old Australian can take over the top of the season-long Champions race points table with a title here at an event where he was beaten in the trophy match a year ago by South African veteran Ferreira, also still at the quarterfinal stage.

Brazil's Gustavo Kuerten, the flagging points pacesetter, and Number two Andre Agassi were both ousted this week in their opening matches, opening the door even wider for Hewitt.

Kuerten currently leads on 756 points, with Hewitt chasing just 54 back. A title on Sunday would thrust the young Aussie into the top spot with only two more weeks of regular season competition remaining before the eight-man Masters Cup final in Sydney from November 12.

If Hewitt loses a second consecutive final here, he'll be nine points shy of the top heading in to his next event starting Monday, the Stockholm Open.

Hewitt eased through his after-hours battle against Canas, who had been told by doctors that he might not be able to play tennis again due to career-threatening wrist injury.

After finishing last year outside the Top 200, the South American regained form, winning a spring title in Casablanca and reaching finals in 's-Hertogenbosch on grass, Stuttgart on clay and last week on the indoor courts in Vienna.

Hewitt admits that his focus is on the Masters at home and his country's Davis Cup final against France in Melbourne from November 30. But he'll take what he can get during these closing weeks in Europe.

Pete Sampras fought back from a break down in the final set as he won a battle of former world number one players, sending Marcelo Rios crashing out 4-6, 7-6, 6-4 in the third round Thursday night.

Sampras put aside lingering fears of world terrorism to climb on a plane and cross the Atlantic for his first event since losing the U.S. Open final against Lleyton Hewitt more than five weeks ago.

Rios won a title earlier this month in Hong Kong, securing his return to form after ankle surgery in June.

Victory into the quarterfinals boosted Sampras' chances of notching a place in the Nov. 12-18 eight-man Masters Cup in Sydney.



PHOTO: AFP

Pete Sampras plays a backhand return against Marcelo Rios at the Masters Series tournament in Stuttgart on October 18.

Jr WC hockey
India reach final

AFP, Hobart

India scored a stunning 3-2 upset win over favourites Germany here Friday to reach the Men's Junior World Cup field hockey tournament final.

India went 3-0 up before half-time through Kamal Singh, 2nd minute,INDERJEET Singh, 22nd, and Arjun Halappa, 34th, before Germany hit back.

Florian Keller scored in the 53rd minute, and Mattias Witthaus, four minutes from time, for a shocked German side who had not lost in their six pool games.

India play either England or Argentina, who who meet in their semi-final later Friday, in Sunday's final.

Iran just a win away



AFP, Nicosia

Iran coach Miroslav Blazevic is so confident that his team will book their place in the World Cup finals that he is already planning the downfall of some of the world's soccer superpowers in Japan and Korea next summer.

Iran take on Bahrain in Manama on Sunday in their final Asian round Group A qualifier while rivals Saudi Arabia face Thailand in Riyadh.

"I can't wait to go up against England," Blazevic told Iranian reporters. "Our team will definitely play better against European teams

than Asian ones."

Iran go into Sunday's match as Group A leaders holding a one-point lead over the Saudis. Only the two group winners in Asia are assured places in the finals with the runners-up meeting in a play-off from which the victors face the added obstacle of tackling the Republic of Ireland if they are to make it to the finals.

China have already wrapped up Group B with the runners-up likely to be the United Arab Emirates.

Iran will go into the match without influential midfielder Mehrdad Minavand who picked up his second yellow card in the win over Iraq last week and will be suspended.

Bahrain, whose campaign has fizzled out after having once topped

the group, are without skipper Faizal AbdulAziz who has been banned by his country's football association after leading a group of 12 players on an overnight trip to the notorious Thai resort of Pattaya last weekend without receiving permission last weekend.

The Saudis, hoping to reach their third successive finals, have recovered from a sluggish start but look like being made to rue giving away a late equaliser to Iran in the team's 2-2 draw in Riyadh last month.

Eight of their 13 goals in qualifying have been shared by Abdullah Sheehan and Obeid al Dossary and the Saudis will be looking to them to overrun the Thais and then hope that Iran slip up in Manama.

Parore pilots Kiwis

AFP, Brisbane

Wicketkeeper Adam Parore rescued New Zealand with a blazing century to light up the final day of a drawn cricket tour match with the Queensland Academy of Sport here Friday.

Parore was dropped on four and went on to hit an unbeaten 100 to rescue New Zealand from trouble.

He came in with New Zealand at 110 for five in their second innings and the Queensland youngsters with a sniff of victory.

He partnered skipper Stephen Fleming (68) in a 158-run partnership to steer the Black Caps out of trouble. Parore hit 16 fours and a six.

New Zealand declared their second innings at 296 for six with Parore unbeaten with Dion Nash not out 10.

Set an impossible 327 for victory, the match ended in a draw when the home side reached 114 for two in their second innings with Brendan Nash unbeaten on 29 and Lee Carseldine not out 16.

The tourists head to Canberra for a match against an ACT XI starting on Sunday before returning here to prepare for the first Test against Australia on November 8.

SCORES IN BRIEF New Zealand 297 for 8 declared (S. Fleming 133 not out, M. Richardson 40, D. Mackenzie 4-54) and 296 for 6 (A. Parore 100 not out, S. Fleming 68, M. Sinclair 57, J. Hopes 2-25) vs Queensland Academy of Sport 267 for 7 declared (J. Hopes 75, D. Payne 57, D. Nash 2-36, D. Tuffey 2-72) and 114 for 2 (D. Payne 51). Match drawn.

Taribo West Liverpool bound?

AFP, Lagos

Nigerian international defender Taribo West has told a local radio station here Friday that he is on the verge of signing for English Premiership side Liverpool.

"But for (Gerard) Houllier's illness, I would have signed a four-year contract with Liverpool this week. Everything has been sorted out and all I needed to do was bring down my stuff from Milan," West told local station Rhythm FM Friday.

The defender, who helped Nigeria win the 1996 Olympic title in Atlanta, is still surplus to requirement at Italian giants AC Milan, who he joined in 1999 on a two-and-a-half year deal. He spent most of last season on loan with Derby County in the English Premiership.

The 27-year-old West started his career in Europe aged 19 years with French outfit Auxerre, where he had four successful years winning a title and two French Cups before moving to Inter Milan in Italy with whom he won the UEFA Cup in 1998.

Kapil's appeal

AFP, St Andrews

Indian cricket legend Kapil Dev insisted here Thursday that the respective governments should decide the future of the forthcoming England tour of India.

"We have a war going on," said Dev. "It is too important for the players to decide. It is up to the governments to make the decision."

Dev added that the players should remain silent on the debate.

But next month's tour to India was still on as far as the International Cricket Council (ICC) was concerned, said a spokesman on Wednesday ahead of an executive board meeting in Kuala Lumpur.

"I have heard numerous rumours from so-called informed sources which claim that England will not be travelling to India later this year," ICC communications manager Mark Harrison told AFP.

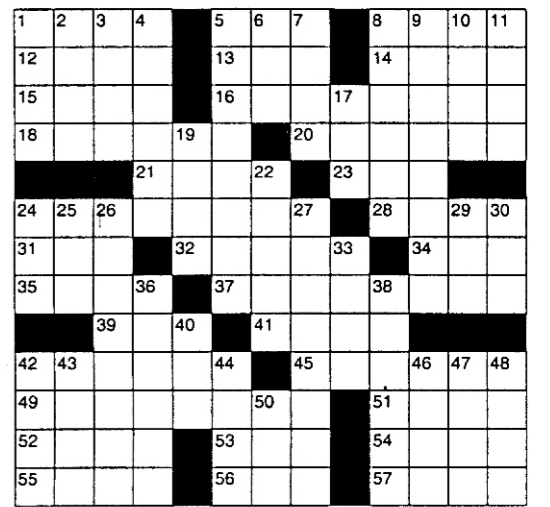
Cricket on neutral

FROM PAGE 13 drafting sports corruption legislation for presentation to the governments of all full member countries for consideration as part of each country's legislation.

A three-man delegation will visit Kenya shortly to review the African nation's application for Test match status.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 H.H. Munro's pseudonym 5 VII x C 8 Dutch portraitist 12 Federal agent 13 Blunder 14 'Typee' sequel 15 Solemn promise 16 Super Bowl necessity 18 Ms. Goldberg 20 Venomous vipers 21 Super-market stack 23 Yale student 24 Ball-carrier's worry 28 'Sesame Street' cutie 31 Lubricant 32 Sleep sound 34 Lucy of 'Ally McBeal'



CRYPTOQUIP

M A K T B U J M N B K A J S
P A M R I E G L B Q Q K S K R
G I M Q P . M P ' R B U P M L B Q X
J T B L E X A B K N
Saturday's Cryptquip: WHEN COURAGEOUS SIR LANCELOT WENT TO BED, I BET HE LIKED TO WEAR A KNIGHT GOWN.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: A equals H
The Cryptquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.