

Juve dance with Del Piero

Football

REUTERS, Tripoli

Alessandro Del Piero struck twice to give Juventus a 2-1 Italian Supercup win over Parma in a game played in the Libyan capital.

Del Piero had given Juventus a first-half lead and then grabbed the winner in the 74th minute after Marco Di Vaio had pulled Parma level.

Although the Supercup is the traditional season-opener between last season's Serie A champions and the domestic cup winners it was a far from traditional event this time.

A row over television rights means Serie A does not get under way for another three weeks, but far more unusual was the venue.

Juventus have close links with Tripoli as the Libyan Arab Foreign Investment Company (LAFICO) owns a 7.5 percent share in the club.

The two teams had accepted an offer from Al-Saadi Gaddafi, son of Libyan leader Muammar, to play the game in the North African country.

Despite the unfamiliar surroundings and a bumpy, sandy pitch, the game, watched by Al-Saadi and FIFA president Sepp Blatter, was an entertaining affair.

Parma's Japanese international Hidetoshi Nakata went close to an opener in the 22nd minute with a powerful drive which was well saved by Juve keeper Gianluigi Buffon.

But Del Piero put the Italian champions ahead in the 37th minute, firing home after a delightful lay-off from Chilean striker Marcelo Salas.

Parma enjoyed some intense pressure after the break with Di Vaio twice going close.

First the pacy striker drove just wide and then in the 63rd minute he crashed a thundering drive against the underside of the bar.

But within a minute Di Vaio had given Parma a deserved equaliser



Alessandro Del Piero, Juventus' inspirational star, lifts the Italian Super Cup trophy at Tripoli's "June 11th" stadium on August 25.

with a fine solo goal, beating Buffon after a lively run inside.

Nine minutes later though, Juventus restored their lead when substitute Marcelo Zalayeta burst down the right flank and slipped the ball across to Del Piero who con-

verted at the near post.

Only a well-timed tackle, though, from Juve defender Mark Luliano stopped a hugely impressive Di Vaio from a potential equaliser six minutes from the end.

Premiership preview More in store for West Brom?

REUTERS, London

West Bromwich Albion's return to the top flight of English soccer after a 16-year absence was always going to be tough but when they discovered that their first three games would be against Manchester United, Leeds United and Arsenal, it suddenly seemed even harder.

It is no surprise, therefore, that the Midlands club visit Highbury on Tuesday without a point to their name and they are likely to stay that way for a few days yet.

Their first game at Old Trafford produced a fighting rearguard that was punctured only by Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's later winner, while their Hawthorns debut on Saturday started with 15 minutes of bright football that had the long-suffering fans dreaming.

However, some woeful finishing was followed by some pretty inept defending as Leeds swept into a 3-0 lead, before Lee Marshall gave the home supporters something to cheer with a last-minute consolation goal.

On Wednesday Leeds United and Liverpool will both hope to make it three wins out of three as they take on Sunderland and Blackburn Rovers respectively.

On Tuesday Fulham play the second leg of their Intertoto Cup final against Bologna while Manchester United are involved in the second leg of their Champions League qualifier against Hungarian side Zalaegerszeg.

Table with 2 columns: Fixture (Time), Match (Teams)

Aussies send for Border

REUTERS, Melbourne

Former Australia captain Allan Border has answered a last-minute request to coach Australia in this week's one-day series in Kenya following the withdrawal of John Buchanan who has a back injury.

Border joined captain Ricky Ponting's 14-man squad on a flight out of Sydney on Monday for the triangular series in Nairobi involving Pakistan and Kenya starting later this week.

Buchanan, 49, was in charge for 15 games of Australia's world record winning streak of 16 consecutive Test matches and also helped guide captain Steve Waugh's team to a world record of 14 consecutive one-day international matches without defeat.

A former Queensland opening batsman who was appointed Australia coach in October 1999, Buchanan replaced World Cup-winning coach and former Australia opener Geoff Marsh.

He is expected to return to assist Ponting for the ICC Champions Trophy starting in Sri Lanka on September 12.

Border, 47, played 156 Tests and scored 11,174 runs, both world records, averaging 50.56 with the bat and also captaining Australia to victory in the 1987 World Cup.

Buchanan suffered lower back pain during Australia's training camp in Brisbane on Saturday and has not responded to treatment, the Australian Cricket Board said in a statement.

BCB picks 21 for U-17 camp

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) selected twenty-one under-17 cricketers yesterday to take part in a five-day residential camp at BKSP.

The players are: Jubair Hossain, Naeem Islam, Nazmus Sadat, Gazi Sagir Hossain Pavel, Dhiman Ghosh, Golam Rahman Hemel, Enamul Haque, Ishtaque Sonnet, Rubayat Haque, Ruquibur Rahman, Nadeef Chowdhury, Ashiqur Rahman, Ziaur Rahman, Eshiyas Sunny, Arafat Sunny, Oshim Chowdhury, Riad Khan Johnny, Ifthikarul Islam, Nazif Ahmed, Asif Niwaz and Tanveer Rashed.

They have been requested to report to coach Malcolm Perera at 4pm today at Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Boycott not a

FROM PAGE 13 as commentator, Boycott would not stoke up the speculation further.

Asked if he had been diagnosed with throat cancer, Boycott replied: "It's not what you're referring to, but I don't see why I have to discuss anything about my personal life that's private and I want it to remain that way."

"Having thought about things I am not going to say anything further about this."

'Williams sisters

FROM PAGE 13 be a threat with her powerful play, she said.

Mauresmo said she had taken a few days rest after losing to Davenport last week, so as to be fresh for the U.S. Open.

"I want things to go well here," she said.

Anil assassinate

FROM PAGE 13 now in the ascendancy.

SCOREBOARD Final scoreboard on the fifth day of the third Test between England and India at Headingley on Monday:

INDIA: First innings 628-8 dec (S Tendulkar 193, R Dravid 148, S Ganguly 128, S Bangar 68; A Caddick 3-150)

ENGLAND: First innings 273 (A Stewart 78 n o, M Vaughan 61; Harbhajan 3-40, Kumble 3-93)

ENGLAND: Second innings (over-night 239-4)

Key lbw b Kumble 34 Vaughan lbw b Agarkar 15 Butcher c Dravid b Bangar 42 Hussain c Sehwa b Kumble 110 Crawley c Sehwa b Bangar 12 Stewart c Dravid b Kumble 47 Flintoff c Dravid b Zaheer 0 Tudor c Sehwa b Harbhajan 21 Giles run out 10 Caddick c Ganguly b Kumble 3 Hoggard not out 1 Extras: (b-3, lb-5, nb-6) 14 Total: (All out in 110.5 overs) 309

Fall of wickets: 1-28, 2-76, 3-116, 4-148, 5-265, 6-267, 7-267, 8-299, 9-307, 10-309

Bowler O M R W Zaheer 22 7 63 1 Agarkar 18 5 59 1 Bangar 13 2 54 2 Kumble 29.5 12 66 4 Harbhajan 27 7 56 1 Sehwa 1 0 3 0

Result: India won by an innings and 46 runs.

Man-of-the-match: Rahul Dravid Series level at 1-1. Fourth Test: The Oval September 5-9. Toss: India.

Umpires: Asoka de Silva (Sri), David Orchard (RSA), Third umpire: Peter Willey (Eng) Match referee: Clive Lloyd (WI)

Mark wary of Englishmen

Cricket

BBC, London

Australia's veteran batsman Mark Waugh believes that England's young side have every chance of winning the Ashes for the first time in 15 years.

Waugh is rejoining former county Essex for the remainder of this season to get in shape for Australia's forthcoming test campaign.

They face England after a three-match series against Pakistan at a venue yet to be named.

And Waugh admits that England, who have rarely looked like reclaiming the famous urn since their 1987/88 triumph, could trouble the current world number one Test side when the series begins in November.

Waugh said of England's current Test series against India: "I've been watching quite a bit on cable TV, I think they've done pretty well."

"Overall, I think England have shown positive signs. They've got some good young players coming through with [Andrew] Flintoff and [Matthew] Hoggard, these type of guys."

"It's going to be a tough summer for us."

Waugh is also impressed by his one-time Essex team-mate, Nasser Hussain, and England coach Duncan Fletcher.

"I played with Nasser at Essex, he's a tough character and a very

competitive player. "With Duncan Fletcher, they're combining really well and got a bit of toughness about them, I think, and leading the side really well."

The 37-year-old Waugh expressed concerns that the freshness of the England team could



MARK WAUGH

trouble Australia. "England are looking quite good, I think," Waugh said.

"There's a new breed of player in there, some younger players coming in with Michael Vaughan, Flintoff, Hoggard - those sort of guys, who we haven't played much cricket against."

"So it'll be interesting, I think it'll be a very competitive series."

"It depends who plays best on the day, both teams have got a lot of ability. "We always look forward to the

Ashes Series and hopefully there's

going to be a lot of good cricket."

The decision of Waugh to join

Essex - and brother Steve to play with

Kent - has received criticism from

some quarters as an intelligence-

Srichapan's maiden crown

AFP, Commark

Unseeded Indian tennis player Srichapan rallied past Juan Ignacio Chela on Sunday and captured his first career ATP title in the 480,000-dollar Thai Waterhouse Cup.

Thailand's top player beat the seventh seeded Argentinian 5-7, 6-2, 6-2 in 1hr 46min in this final tuneup for the US Open which starts Monday at Flushing Meadow. He picked up a \$1,500-dollar winner's check.

Kevin and Jesse's brother Srichapan became the first Asian ATP singles title winner since Leander Paes of India in 1994 in New York.

Thorpe's near miss

Swimming

AFP, Yokohama

Ian Thorpe narrowly missed out lowering his world record in another convincing victory in the 200-metres freestyle at the Pan Pacific Swimming Championships here on Monday.

The Australian triple world record holder set a championship record of one minute 44.75 seconds, just 0.69 seconds off his world mark set at last year's Fukuoka world championships in Japan.

The 19-year-old swimming superstar was under world record pace for the first half of the race and moved away from his teammate Grant Hackett with the two American rivals well beaten.

Hackett finished in 1:45.85 to take the silver medal, as he did behind Thorpe in the 400m freestyle on Sunday's opening night.

American Nate Dusing finished with bronze in 1:48.11. "It was very close to the world

record time tonight and I was happy with the swim, it was a difficult one, the pace was very fast early," Thorpe said.

"If I am to go under the world



IAN THORPE

record next time I am going to have to be a lot more in front ahead in the first part of the race."

Thorpe is the world's highest-profile swimmer and has broken the long course world record 13 times and shares in two relay world records.

It was Thorpe's third gold medal of the meet and his seventh overall at the Pan Pacs.

There is the prospect of more to

come in Yokohama with the 4x200m freestyle relay final and the heats and semi-finals of the 100m freestyle on Tuesday.

"I have the 4x200m relay race and 100m freestyle heats tomorrow so it's a continuing hectic schedule and I hope to continue these good results here," he said.

Thorpe's latest success comes amid reports that he is about to split with his long-time coach Doug Frost after the Pan Pacific Championships.

Australian newspapers reported on Monday that Thorpe was considering leaving Frost, who began coaching the swimming superstar when he was an eight-year-old in an outer Sydney suburban swimming pool.

Reports said Thorpe may switch to Tracey Menzies, a young assistant to Frost.

The Thorpedo, who won six titles at last year's world championships and a record six gold medals at this month's Manchester Commonwealth Games, has only ever been coached by Frost.

Inter's Ronaldo question

UEFA CHAMPS LEAGUE

REUTERS, London

Inter Milan will try to put the Ronaldo transfer saga behind them and concentrate on securing an even more lucrative arrangement -- qualifying for the Champions League.

The Italians seemed set to unload the Brazilian to Real Madrid last week only for the deal to collapse, leaving Inter's fans feeling betrayed by a player who has spent most of his three years with them on the treatment table.

Inter play Sporting Lisbon the second leg of their third qualifying round at the San Siro on Tuesday, having drawn 0-0 in Portugal two weeks ago.

Whether Ronaldo will be in any state -- mentally or physically -- to play a part in the game remains to be seen.

"Over the next days Ronaldo will undergo fitness training to ensure he is in a condition to work with the group as soon as possible," Inter said on Saturday after the striker returned from playing 33 minutes of Brazil's friendly defeat by Paraguay.

Play or not, Ronaldo faces a huge job in winning over Inter's fans, around 100 of whom gathered at the airport on Saturday to "greet" the Brazilian World Cup hero, one carrying a banner demanding an apology and others more forthright in their condemnation.

With, or more probably without,

him Inter will expect to produce the victory necessary to put them into the group stage for the first time in four seasons.

Sporting got the defence of their Portuguese league title off to a solid start on Saturday with a 2-0 away win over Academica.

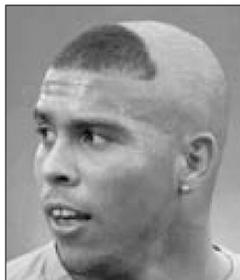
Inter's last Champions League bid in 1999 was ended in the quarter-finals by eventual winners Manchester United but Alex

FIXTURES (1st leg results in brackets)

Tuesday: Man. United vs Zalaegerszeg (0-1), Sparta Prague vs RC Genk (1-2), Bayern Munich vs Partizan (3 0), Fenerbahçe vs Feyenoord (0-1), Internazionale Milan vs Sporting Lisbon (0-0)

Wednesday: Legia vs Barcelona (0-3), Dynamo Kyiv vs Levski (1-0), Newcastle vs Zvezdnicar (1-0), Lokomotive Moscow vs Grazer (2-0), Sturm Graz vs Macc. Haifa (0-2), Auxerre vs Boavista (1-0), Basel vs Celtic (1-3), Club Brugge vs Sha. Donetsk (1-1), Brondby vs Rosenborg (0-1), Slo. Liberec vs Milan (0-1), AEK Athens vs Apol Nicosia (3-2)

AC Milan also face an awkward



RONALDO

Ferguson's team are by no means assured of even making the group stage this time after losing the first leg of their qualifier 1-0 away to Hungarian side Zalaegerszeg.

Since then United have started their Premier League campaign with a scrambled 1-0 win over promoted West Bromwich Albion and a 2-2 draw at Chelsea on Friday.

The Hungarians proved a tough nut to crack in the first leg, though United did miss several good chances, and are likely to pack their defence again on Tuesday at Old Trafford -- also the venue for this season's final.

"They won't be different but we will," said United manager Alex Ferguson. "We will score at home."

Rio Ferdinand could be fit for his competitive debut and he and his fellow defenders must ensure the Hungarians do not steal what could prove an immensely costly away goal.

AC Milan also face an awkward

game as they take a 1-0 lead to Czech champions Slovan Liberec.

New signing Rivaldo missed the first leg but could make his competitive debut on Wednesday. Definitely missing, however, is fellow-striker Andriy Shevchenko, who damaged knee ligaments in the first leg and will be out of action until October.

Maccabi Haifa are on the verge of becoming the first Israeli club to make the group stages as they take a 2-0 lead to Austria's Sturm Graz on Wednesday.

Should they make it they are likely to play their home matches in Cyprus, as UEFA have ruled that the unstable political situation in Israel makes it unsuitable for soccer.

Three former winners -- Bayern Munich, Barcelona and Celtic, also look well-placed to advance after solid first-leg wins.

Bayern are at home to Partizan Belgrade with a comfortable 3-0 lead, Barcelona lead by the same score as they travel to Legia Warsaw and Celtic carry a 3-1 advantage to Basel.

Feyenoord, also former European Champions, have a far more difficult task as they seek to defend a 1-0 lead at Turkey's Fenerbahce.

The winners of the 16 ties -- five on Tuesday and 11 on Wednesday -- advance to the group stage of the Champions League, along with the 16 teams automatically qualified, while the losers go into the first round of the UEFA Cup.

Deportivo's bright beginning

Football

REUTERS, Valencia

Deportivo Coruna claimed the first trophy of the new Spanish season after a last minute goal from Victor gave them a 1-0 win over Valencia in the second leg of the Super Cup on Sunday.

The midfielder added a rare touch of class in a bad-tempered game when he produced a deft chip over keeper Santiago Canizares in injury time to seal a deserved 4-0 aggregate win for last season's King's Cup winners.

Deportivo, who brushed Valencia aside with a 3-0 win in the first leg, were posed few problems at the Mestalla by the reigning league champions who were reduced to 10 men when Roberto Ayala was sent off after only three minutes.

The Argentine international was dismissed when he was adjudged him to have elbowed Deportivo

striker Roy Makaay as the pair challenged for the ball in the centre of the pitch.

Makaay nearly dealt a double blow to the home side when he beat the offside trap to latch on to a neat through ball from Juan Carlos Valeron.

But Valencia keeper Santiago Canizares stood his ground well and blocked the Dutchman's shot.

Depor went close again when midfielder Fran sent a well-worked free kick whizzing past the post on 11 minutes, but despite their numerical advantage the Galician side then surrendered the initiative to Valencia.

Young Spanish international winger Vicente twice went close with long range efforts and centre forward Salva Ballesta worked tirelessly, but they were unable to break down the well-organised Depor defence.

Depor, who were content to play on the break, had the clearest scoring chances but Canizares produced several sharp saves to stop Victor and Makaay.



The jubilant Deportivo Coruna's squad with the Spanish Super Cup trophy after beating Valencia in the second leg at Valencia on August 25.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across, Down, and Cryptquip.

Cryptquip puzzle grid with letters and numbers.

S O K T K I C E C F F X S O C X

B O K S F K X S C Y V O S F W T E .

S D O E ' R R K F R F K I O C B F C V

Q F C U D Y U V O K Q O O W .

Yesterday's Cryptquip: YESTERDAY I HEARD ONE SAND HILL SAY TO ANOTHER, "ARE YOU DUNE ANYTHING TONIGHT?" Today's Cryptquip Clue: O equals E

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.