

PREVIEW

Bayern have scores to settle



AFP, Paris

German champions Bayern Munich have revenge on their minds when they take on Juventus in their Champions League Group A match at their Allianz Arena on Tuesday.

It is the second season running that both sides have been grouped together and Bayern have a score to settle after losing home and away to the Italian champions by a 1-0 scoreline on both occasions.

Manager Felix Magath, who scored the winning goal for SV Hamburg against Juventus in the 1983 European Cup final, is confident things will be different this time out.

"It's nice that Juve are up next. Now we can see where we stand and prove that we are better," said Magath.

Both sides will be bidding to take control of Group A as they have collected a maximum six points after beating FC Bruges and Rapid Vienna in their opening two matches, with Juventus ahead on goal difference.

Amid injury concerns Bayern have been boosted by the news that French defenders Willy Sagnol (groin) and Bixente Lizarazu (calf) are fit to help them defend their 100 percent home record.

India tour

FROM PAGE 12 series when they visit Bangladesh in March next year. In that case we might invite Kenya," he said.

But the board president expressed his dissatisfaction over the progress of the preparation of cricket's new home -- the Mirpur Stadium.

"We are really worried about the Mirpur ground. The renovation work is going at a snail's pace due to fund crisis. The NSC should speed up the work if they want the venue to be ready before the home series against Sri Lanka," said Asghar, who ruled out the possibility of holding matches at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

"I have also requested ICC high-ups to send a team soon to visit Bangladesh so that we can get approval of more venues to hold international matches," he informed.

Asghar however was doubtful about the Mirpur Stadium. Next year's home series will start with the coming of Sri Lanka in last week of February and after that Australia will visit Bangladesh in April.

MacGill's strong

FROM PAGE 12 "It's a tough question. You're always trying to pick a team for the right conditions," Ponting said after Monday's 210-run victory.

"There's going to be some tough decisions to be made once again come the first Test in Brisbane."

Asked if the Australian team could accommodate both Warne and MacGill, Ponting said: "There's no reason why it can't work."

"Stuart's going to turn the ball on any wicket just about and Warne's bowling as well as he ever has. That's what will make it difficult going ahead."



Did U Know?

FIFA was established on May 21, 1904 in Paris by the football federations of Belgium, Denmark, France, Holland, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.



Anil Kumble (India) leg-spinner
"David's appointment is a good call. He has been there for a long time and will make good use of his ability to read the game."
After Rahul Dravid was named captain.

start of the season Bayern have won all five games and have yet to concede a goal.

Juventus will be without midfielder Patrick Vieira who has been ruled out with a groin injury he picked up during France's 4-0 win over Cyprus which booked their ticket to the 2006 World Cup finals.

Rapid Vienna, bottom of the group and still to score in this season's competition, host FC Bruges.

In Group B, Arsene Wenger's Arsenal will be looking to take their minds off their poor domestic run and claim a third straight win against struggling Sparta Prague.

A win over the Czech side, who this month sacked manager Jaroslav Hrebik, would go a long way to ensuring their qualification for the knockout stages.

Although Wenger's selection worries may be eased by the return of England centre-half Sol Campbell from his hamstring problem, he insists skipper Thierry Henry will not be rushed back from a groin injury which has sidelined the French striker since early September.

Swedish international Freddie Ljungberg (hamstring) and 10-million-pounds (18m dollars) midfield signing Alexander Hleb (knee) however have been added to the injury list.

Dutch side Ajax, who have just one point from their opening two games, host Swiss side FC Thun, second with

three points in the other Group B tie. Spanish giants Barcelona, with maximum points and no goals conceded, will be looking to ram home their Group C dominance when they travel to Greek side Panathinaikos.

Second-placed Udinese aim to bounce back from their 4-1 thrashing away to Barcelona when they host tailenders Werder Bremen of Germany.

Group D leaders Manchester United, meanwhile, welcome struggling Lille to their Old Trafford stronghold.

Sir Alex Ferguson's side have had patchy form both at home and in Europe but nevertheless lead the group with four points after a draw with Villarreal and beating Benfica, and will be looking to pull ahead with a win over the French, who have yet to score a goal in the tournament.

Welsh veteran Ryan Giggs, who was 17 when he made his European debut in a Cup Winners' Cup tie against Atletico Madrid in 1991, believes United can relive the days of 1999 when they snatched the title from Bayern Munich in Barcelona.

"We feel we have a great chance. We've got off to a perfect start really and need to ram home the advantage," said Giggs, who will make his 100th European appearance for United.

Wayne Rooney is suspended and with five injured defenders and skipper Roy Keane sidelined, Ferguson must decide whether to put Giggs forward

alongside Ruud van Nistelrooy, or leave him on the left and choose between Cristiano Ronaldo and Park Ji-sung for the other wide berth.

Villarreal midfielders Josico Moreno (achilles tendon) and Marcos Senna (calf and thigh) are both doubtful for the Spanish team's Group D match against Benfica leaving the way open for Hector Font and Alessio Tacchinardi to start against the reigning Portuguese champions.

Some good news for Villarreal coach Manuel Pellegrini is that inspirational midfield playmaker Juan Roman Riquelme trained properly Sunday after returning from international duty with Argentina last week with a variety of bruises.

TUESDAY'S FIXTURES	
(ALL 1845 GMT)	
GROUP A	
Bayern Munich (GER) v Juventus (ITA)	
Rapid Vienna (AUT) v FC Bruges (BEL)	
GROUP B	
Ajax (NED) v FC Thun (SUI)	
Sparta Prague (CZE) v Arsenal (ENG)	
GROUP C	
Panathinaikos (GRE) v Barcelona (ESP)	
Udinese (ITA) v Werder Bremen (GER)	
GROUP D	
Man Utd (ENG) v Lille (FRA)	
Villarreal (ESP) v Benfica (POR)	

PRIMERA LIGA

Challengers miss chance



AFP, Madrid

Getafe and Celta Vigo started the weekend in first and second place in the Spanish first division but both teams lost away from home on Sunday to put Real Madrid in pole position.

Getafe's unbeaten run came to an end with a 1-0 defeat at Real Betis while Osasuna inflicted a 2-0 loss on Celta Vigo to leave Real Madrid, who beat local rivals Atletico 3-0 on Saturday, on top of the pile.

The only goal in Betis's win came after 16 minutes when their Brazilian striker Ricardo Oliveira scored from the penalty spot.

Oliveira got his chance after he had been brought down by Getafe goalkeeper Luis Garcia, who was lucky to be shown only a yellow card rather than getting sent off.

Betis nearly added a second goal midway through the second half when Assuncao hit the cross bar.

"There's always a first time for everything," said Getafe coach Bernd Schuster, whose team slip to third.

"It wasn't the penalty that defeated us, it was our own inability to score. We didn't do anything in the last 20 metres."

Osasuna climb to second, just behind Real Madrid on goal difference, thanks to second half goals from Savo Milosevic and Pierre Webo.

"Our future looks bright. We had a horrible first half, Celta had the upper

hand, but Milosevic's goal did the trick which woke us and our fans up," said Osasuna coach Javier Aguirre.

Milosevic found the net from 20 metres shortly after the break after a pass from David Lopez had found the Serbian striker in plenty of space.

Cameroon international Webo made a lone run down nearly half the pitch to get the Pamplona-based team's second goal seven minutes from the whistle.

Celta Vigo drop to fourth after their second loss of the season.

"We came here with plenty of motivation and incentive to do well and we put our passes together but in the end we couldn't finish anything," lamented Celta coach Fernando Vazquez.

Valencia moved up to fifth with a 2-1 win over Malaga on Sunday.

Roberto Ayala got a rare goal to put Valencia ahead after nine minutes and, after near misses by Mista Ferrer and Marco Di Vajo, Vicente Rodriguez added another for the 2004 champions after 66 minutes.

Malaga's Salva Ballesta scored against his old club eight minutes later but Valencia had been too good for the Costa Del Sol side to be able to salvage a point.

Newly-promoted Cadiz continued to show they can hold their own in the top flight of Spanish football with a 2-0 win at Espanyol.

Matias Pavoni and Jonathan Sesma found the net in the second half for last season's second

division champions.

Real Sociedad got three valuable away points with a 1-0 win at Real Zaragoza, with Xabi Prieto's penalty after 11 minutes ending the only other unbeaten streak in the Spanish first division.

Real Mallorca still prop up the Spanish first division despite their 0-0 draw with Racing Santander.

Mallorca probably quickly realised it wasn't going to be their day when Juan Arango sent a penalty wide after just four minutes and then Tuni Adrover hit the post shortly afterwards.

Reigning Spanish champions Barcelona were 3-1 up with less than 20 minutes to go at Deportivo La Coruna on Saturday, thanks to two goals from Ronaldinho and another by Samuel Eto'o.

However, the Catalan club eventually had to settle for a 3-3 draw after late goals from the Deportivo duo of Pedro Munitis and Ruben Castro.

TOP SIX	
Spanish football league table after Sunday's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points):	
Real	7 5 0 2 17 6 15
Osasuna	7 5 0 2 9 5 15
Getafe	7 4 2 1 11 7 14
Celta	7 4 1 2 10 8 13
Valencia	7 3 3 1 12 10 12
Barcelona	7 2 4 1 14 10 10

SERIE A

Milan stay in touch



AFP, Rome

AC Milan won 2-0 at Cagliari on Sunday to reclaim second place in Serie A and move to within five points of leaders Juventus.

Alberto Gilardino prodded home from close range inside the first 30 seconds after a terrible mix-up in the Cagliari defence before Andriy Shevchenko's 20-yard left-footed drive increased Milan's advantage in the 27th minute.

With one eye on Wednesday's Champions League clash against PSV Eindhoven,

Milan took their foot off the pedal in the second-half and were happy to sit on their lead.

Milan, who took just four points from the first nine but have since won four games in a row, have 16 points from seven matches, five less than Juventus whose 1-0 home victory over Messina on Saturday maintained their 100 per cent record.

Cagliari, still searching for their first win of the campaign, remain in the relegation zone.

AC Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti was full of praise for Brazilian wingback Serginho, best known for his foraging runs but who was a rock in defence for the 'Rossoneri'.

"He was excellent - he provided us with width when we needed it and he did well to keep Mauro Posposito, one of the best wide players around, very

quiet," said Ancelotti.

Gilardino stressed the importance of keeping Juve within sight ahead of their meeting with the title-holders on October 30.

"This win will boost our confidence and we firmly believe we'll catch Juve," he said.

Inter Milan are in third place on 15 points after they thrashed Livorno 5-0 at the San Siro.

Marco Materazzi began the rout in the 11th minute, hooking home the rebound after Juan Sebastian Veron's shot had been blocked.

Julio Cruz doubled the home side's lead nine minutes later, coolly converting Giuseppe Favalli's left-wing cross.

Inter, who were missing Adriano after the Brazilian striker missed his flight back from World Cup duty, then scored three goals in a blistering 12-minute spell at the start of the second-half.

Esteban Cambiasso's low drive a minute after the break ensured no way back for Livorno before the visitors had Francesco Coco sent off. Further strikes from Ivan Cordoba and Alvaro Recoba completed the demolition.

Lazio maintained their 100 per cent home record with a 1-0 victory against Fiorentina.

Luciano Zauri grabbed the winner eight minutes from time, following up after Sebastian Frey had failed to hold on to Christian Manfredini's vicious drive.

Empoli survived the 26th minute

sending-off of Stefano Lucchini to beat 2001 champions Roma 1-0, Francesco Tavano's angled shot clinching victory.

In other matches Vittorio Tosto scored twice as Ascoli defeated Sampdoria 2-1, while Reggina beat Lecce 2-0 in Calabria. A last minute goal from Andrea Caracciolo snatched a 2-2 draw for Palermo at home to Chievo and Parma were held 1-1 by Treviso. On Saturday, Alessandro Del Piero celebrated a rare start for Juventus by scoring the only goal in their narrow but deserved win over Messina.

The 30-year-old Italy international struck in the 24th minute, dribbling past two defenders before firing right-footed into the bottom corner.

Juventus' seventh successive victory left them one win short of the best ever start to a Serie A season, a record held by the Juventus teams of the 1930-31 and the 1985-86 seasons.

In Saturday's other game David Di Michele scored a hat-trick for Udinese in their 3-2 win at Siena.

TOP SIX	
Italian football league table after Sunday's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points):	
Juventus7	7 0 0 13 2 21
Milan7	5 1 1 13 4 16
Inter7	5 0 2 15 5 15
Fiorantina7	4 1 2 14 10 13
Lazio7	4 1 2 10 9 13
Sampdoria7	4 0 3 14 10 12

Ronaldo out of action

REUTERS, Madrid

Real Madrid striker Ronaldo will be out of action for a month after injuring his ankle in his side's 3-0 Primera Liga victory over Atletico Madrid at the weekend.

Real said that the 29-year-old Brazilian had suffered a partial ligament tear in his left ankle and would miss up to six matches including his side's back-to-back Champions League Group F matches against Rosenberg Trondheim. Ronaldo will have to spend a fortnight without putting weight on the joint and a month will be needed for a complete recovery.

The club said that if his recovery went according to plan Ronaldo would be able to reappear in the Primera Liga match against Barcelona on November 20.

The Brazilian, who scored twice in the city derby, was carried off on a stretcher in the dying minutes at the Calderon after sustaining the injury when he put pressure on Atletico defender Luis Perea to turn the ball into his own net.

Right back Michel Salgado is out for 10 days after straining a thigh muscle against Atletico. As well as the matches against Rosenberg the Spanish international is also expected to miss the league games against Valencia and Deportivo Coruna.

Ireland tracking Sir Alex

AFP, London

Former Manchester United defender Denis Irwin says Alex Ferguson could be the next Republic of Ireland manager.

He told the Daily Star that the Football Association of Ireland wanted Ferguson to replace Brian Kerr who is set to lose his job after Ireland failed to qualify for Germany 2006.

"My very reliable sources say there has been contact between the FAI and my old boss," Irwin said.

"Of course he's denying it, he's under contract to United, but that doesn't mean he won't be Republic manager when our next competitive games come round."

"He would be a brilliant choice," said Irwin.

Alex would never manage England, so Ireland, a country and people he knows well, would be the one for him."

Ferguson, who managed Scotland at the 1986 World Cup, said on Sunday he would retire when he stepped down from his Old Trafford job.

The 63-year-old, who has been at Old Trafford since 1986, is on a 12-month rolling contract.

Teenaged delinquent arrested

AFP, Rome

A 57-year-old woman suffered facial injuries after being hit by a firework in Sunday's Serie A match between Ascoli and Sampdoria.

The missile was thrown from the stand housing home supporters into the away supporters enclosure.

The woman, who was with her son and future daughter-in-law, was taken away on a stretcher to a nearby hospital but was later released.

A 16-year-old Ascoli fan was later arrested by police in connection with the incident.

Sourav likely to play in Duleep Trophy

CRICINFO, undated

Sourav Ganguly should be fit enough to play for East Zone in the Duleep Trophy match against North Zone from October 20.

Ganguly has been suffering from early symptoms of tennis elbow, but a doctor attending to him said his condition is getting better.

"He is improving," said Kalyan Mukherjee, an orthopaedic surgeon. "If this trend continues, and he responds to the treatment, then I see no reason why he can't play the Duleep [Trophy] match at Rajkot."

The final decision on this matter will be taken by Dr Ananth Joshi, the sports-medicine expert, when he examines Ganguly on October 18. John Gloster, the team physiotherapist, is also expected to be present during the examination.

The elbow problem for Ganguly first cropped up during the Indian team's tour to Zimbabwe, and also kept him out of the Challenger Series in Mohali. Ganguly was also left out of the Indian squad for the first one-day internationals against Sri Lanka later this month, with the selectors indicating that he would have to prove his fitness first.

PREMIERSHIP

Old is gold



AFP, London

Andy Cole and Kevin Phillips proved that golden oldies have a role to play in the hurly-burly world of the English Premiership on Sunday.

Cole, the former Manchester United and Newcastle striker, grabbed both goals to give Manchester City a 2-1 win over West Ham that lifted his side into fourth place in the table.

The goals were a perfect gift for Cole who celebrated his 34th birthday on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Phillips, three years

younger than his former England international colleague, hit the target to give Aston Villa a 1-0 at city rivals Birmingham.

Cole curled home a superb opener in the 18th minute and then added a close-range second just before the hour mark to beat the Hammers.

Ex-Sunderland striker Phillips, bought by Villa boss David O'Leary from relegated Southampton in the summer, was pressed into action despite not being fully fit and gave his team their first ever Premier-ship win against Birmingham.

Man-of-the-match Cole did his chances of an extended contract at The City of Manchester Stadium no harm

at all with his brace and won the plaudits of manager Stuart Pearce.

"The first goal was a great finish," said Pearce after Cole had scored after being set-up by Darius Vassell's sweet backheel.

"It was clever, the sign of a true goalscorer. Some players would have blasted it. He picked his spot and put it into the top corner. That is why he has got so many goals."

"Andy wants to stay here beyond the end of the season and if he keeps doing that he is going to force my hand."

Cole now has four goals for the season.

ICC cautious on tech



AFP, Sydney

World cricket's governing body said Monday it was taking a cautious approach to extending the use of video technology in the sport following its mixed trial at the Super Series in Australia.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) used the three one-dayers and Test match between Australia and the Rest of the World to experiment with referring appeals to a third or video umpire for adjudication.

Even though the intent was to take the human element out of the decision-making, there was a feeling that some decisions were still inconclusive even after repeated viewings of slow-motion video replays.

ICC chief executive Malcolm Speed emphasised to reporters that the expanded use of technology was in its trial stage after first being used at the 2002 Champions Trophy in Sri Lanka.

"What we've done here is put technology on trial in a Test match for the first time," he said, explaining that

umpires are consulting with the third umpires in the grandstand but the decision remains with the on-field umpire.

"We're taking a cautious approach. There are those who argue that we should be using every aspect of technology that's available and there are those that argue we shouldn't adopt any of it."

Speed said one innovation that seemed to go well in the Australian series was wiring the match umpires to catch sounds at the batsman's end of the pitch to aid in leg before wicket and catching appeals.

But one of the Test umpires, South African Rudi Koertzen, is not a fan of the expanded use of video technology in cricket.

"We all make mistakes and I think the players actually make more mistakes than the umpires do," he said in a television interview before the start of Monday's final day in the Super Test, which Australia won by 210 runs.

"So they should leave it up to us to make the mistakes. We've got to live with that," he said.

"That is only a trial. Who knows how far they're going to take it?"

The World is not enough

FROM PAGE 12 MacGill, who sat unused in the dressing room and watched Australia lose the five-Test Ashes series, grabbed the last three wickets in five balls to claim victory.

He had Daniel Vettori (0) and Steve Harmison (0) out with consecutive deliveries before Muttiah Muralitharan had a rush of blood and jumped down the pitch only to be stumped well out of ground by Adam Gilchrist three balls later.

Matthew Hayden, who scored 111 and 77 in the Super Test, was named man-of-the-match, while Gilchrist was announced man-of-the-series.

The World XI played ingloriously with five ducks in the second innings: skipper Graeme Smith, Inzamamul Haq, Vettori, Harmison and Muralitharan.

South African Jacques Kallis, who shared the ICC World Cricketer of the Year award with Andrew Flintoff last week, was top scorer with an unbeaten 39.

Warne put the skids under the world team with the key wickets of Brian Lara and Rahul Dravid in consecutive overs after the first hour's play.

David was snapped up at slip by Hayden for 23 and Warne snared the prized wicket of the West Indian batting great Lara with a fizzing legbreak that took an inside edge to be taken by Gilchrist.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the fourth day of the Super Test between Australia and

a World XI at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Monday:

AUSTRALIA: First innings 345 (Hayden 111, Gilchrist 94; Flintoff 4-59)

WORLD XI: First innings 190 (Sehwag 76, Kallis 44; MacGill 4-39, Warne 3-23)

AUSTRALIA: Second innings 199 (Hayden 77, Ponting 54; Harmison 3-41, Flintoff 3-48, Muralitharan 3-55)

WORLD XI: Second innings (over-night 25-2)

Shehwag c Gilchrist b MacGill	7
David c Hayden b Warne	23
Lara c Gilchrist b Warne	36
Kallis not out	39
Inzamam lb b Lee	0
Flintoff c Hodge (sub) b MacGill	15
Boucher c Hayden b Warne	17
Vettori c Ptw b MacGill	0
Harmison lbw b MacGill	0
Muralitharan st Gilchrist b MacGill	0
Extras: (b-1, lb-2, nb-4)	7
Total: (All out in 50 overs)	144
Full of wickets: 1-0, 2-18, 3-56, 4-69, 5-	