

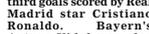
Manuel Neuer to miss rest of season due to foot fracture

MADRID, APR 19 /-/- Bayern Munich goalkeeper Manuel Neuer will miss up to eight weeks of football due to injury, the German club's CEO Karl-Heinz Rummenigge has said. Neuer fractured his left foot during his side's 2-4 Champions League defeat against Real Madrid. Bayern were knocked out of the competition at the quarter-final stage with a 3-6 aggregate loss. The Bayern goalkeeper sustained the injury during Cristiano Ronaldo's third extra-time free kick during the Champions League clash. "Neuer will miss eight weeks," Rummenigge told German publication Sport Bild, which reported that Neuer was seen leaving the stadium on crutches. The match saw a lot of controversy with questions over the second and



Leicester City's Jamie Vardy talks to referee Gianluca Rocchi — Reuters

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Ministry asks SAI to improve infrastructure, assess coaches

NEW DELHI, APR 19 /-/- Appalled by the state of infrastructure and coaching at some of the SAI centres, Sports Minister Vijay Goel says he has sought an assessment report of the facilities as well as the coaches employed there. Goel said he recently visited the Sports Authority of India (SAI) centre at Raipur and was shocked to see that the local Municipal Corporation rents out the facility for social functions. "The SAI centre in Raipur was inside a stadium of the state government. The municipal corporation provides the place for marriages and earns rent from it. It was in poor shape," Goel said in an interaction with PTI journalists. "The coaches are there but they do not have enough students. If they have only 11 players for football, they can't even have two teams. I told them it won't work like this. We want to assess the coaches' performance. Their appraisal will also be done to see how many of them use modern technology, how is their own fitness. I have visited SAI stadiums and told them to prepare coaches' appraisal," he added. Goel said he is in Manipur, his ministry is exploring the possibility of creating a sports university in Gwalior. "In the last nine months, there is no institution or department that I have not visited, whether it is Patiala or Gwalior or SAI centres, or Gopichand Academy. Gwalior has good infrastructure which can be used to create a sports university," he said. Speaking about other issues, the minister ruled out coming out with a legislation which

will make doping a criminal offence. India had featured in top-3 for the third successive year in a report published by World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) for 2015. A total of 117 athletes from the country were punished after testing positive for banned substances. India followed Russia (176) and Italy (129), the same position as in the reports of 2013 and 2014. "We check everything here. Other countries such as Russia have gone far ahead. Legislation is to create fear. But there is already a strong message out there. If an athlete loses respect (due to doping) that is also a punishment. I don't feel we need such a legislation. Our system to catch offenders is strong," he said. Goel also hinted that government does not have any plans to bring IOC into the RTI net. He excepted the cricket board, all other NSFs are covered under RTI. "Let the Supreme Court deal with them. We will see later," was his reply. Recently it was reported that the government has demanded that a few India matches during the upcoming FIFA Under-17 World Cup are allotted to the national capital. Goel said there was nothing wrong with such a request. "Yes we demanded that matches should be in Delhi. If it (schedule) is still not finalised then why not." On the issue of popular sentiment that hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand should be given 'Bharat Ratna', Goel hinted the such a move was not on government's agenda as of now. "My personal view is that he is already Bharat Ratna. If 15 people have got it and 40 others have not, it does not mean people who do not get it are lesser contributors," he said. (PTI)

Stunning victory over Chelsea set tone for Europa League, says Manchester United's Ashley Young

LONDON, APR 19 /-/- Ashley Young felt Manchester United's stunning victory over Chelsea set a benchmark ahead of the conclusion of their Europa League quarter-final against Anderlecht on Thursday. United revitalised their season and blew open the Premier League title race by linking leaders Chelsea 2-0 on Sunday in a tactical masterclass by manager Jose Mourinho. Despite dominating last week's first leg against Anderlecht, United returned from Brussels with a 1-1 draw, but Young says they have no doubts about their ability to finish the job. "We have felt that kind of performance coming," said the versatile England international, United's captain against Chelsea. "There have been a lot of draws at home. I don't think a lot of people saw that scoreline coming, or the type of game, to be honest. "We have belief in ourselves. I have confidence in every single player in the squad. Hopefully we have a semi-final coming up. If we can play like we did against Chelsea, then I am sure we can get through against Anderlecht and into the semi-finals." United's win over Chelsea enhanced their chances of securing a top-four finish in the league, leaving them four points behind fourth-place Manchester City with a game in hand. But whereas the path to a Champions League berth via the league remains steep, should they overcome Anderlecht,

United will be just three games from securing qualification by winning the Europa League. United are bidding to become only the fifth club - after Juventus, Ajax, Bayern Munich and Chelsea - to win all three of Europe's major cup competitions. They lifted the European Cup in 1968, 1999 and 2008 and the now defunct European Cup Winners' Cup in 1991, but have never previously gone beyond the last eight in the Europa League (formerly the UEFA Cup). United are unbeaten in 16 European home games and have won all three of their previous home games against Anderlecht, including a club-record 10-0 rout in September 1956. Relegated to the bench against Chelsea, top scorer Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Michael Carrick and Henrik Mkhitaryan are all expected to return to United's starting XI against Anderlecht. Mkhitaryan's 37th-minute strike at Stoke's stadium Vanden Streek was the only goal of the game. "We feel we have a squad that covers every scenario that we could possibly be faced with on the tour. Most importantly, every player knows his own strengths and understands their role and value within the squad. "Keshav has had an excellent season and is a key player for the Test side and his inclusion in the squad gives us a spinner with a different pace and extra batting depth.

Vettori applauds Gayle, Chahal

RAJKOT, APR 19 /-/- Royal Challengers Bangalore coach Daniel Vettori heaped praise on Chris Gayle for his 38 ball 77, saying that the batsmen like swashbuckling West Indies opener do not need guidance from any coach as they captain with regard to their batting. Gayle smashed a blistering half-century before Yuzvendra Chahal returned with a three-wicket haul as Royal Challengers Bangalore defeated Gujarat Lions by 21 runs here last night. "Good thing about international cricketers is that they probably talk to themselves more than any captain or coach talking to them about their performances," said Vettori at the post match press conference. "They take pride in their performances, they really want to contribute to the team and Chris is a really prideful man, he wants to do well for RCB, do well for any team he plays for. Chris is the strongest and powerful player on the scene, he's got the most wickets and he can take any bowler down." The former New Zealand skipper said

Gayle made the most of the opportunity he got because of AB de Villiers' injury. "Today was his opportunity. AB's injury allowed him to come out and play. We wanted him to play with freedom and we had given him the confidence," Vettori said. The 38-year-old coach also applauded leg-spinner Chahal's three for 31. "I have been lucky enough to have worked with Chahal for the past four years and also played against him when he was in Mumbai. The way he bowled in the Champions League final was the reason why we wanted to get him into RCB," said Vettori. "He is competitive coupled with what you would expect from a quality make a formidable combination for a spin bowler and he is positive and confident of what he is doing. If you can succeed in a stadium like Chinnaswamy then it means you are special and we saw that again today with Chahal's performance," he added. Vettori expressed hope that injured players of RCB would attain full fitness quickly.

Meanwhile, Gujarat Lions' medium pacer Basil Thampi said getting Gayle to be the "best feeling of my life". "It was the best feeling of my life. It was my first wicket in the IPL. I got the big man's wicket and I'm very happy to get him out," said Thampi after taking his maiden IPL wicket in the form of Gayle. The tall pacer from Kerala has expressed his joy over his pressure situation. "I have given me enjoyment. The main thing is that I have to enjoy my bowling. Nowadays, I am bowling well and I just keep doing that. I actually allow the pressure to bowl like that. I know that the batsmen can hit me anytime, but I can also build the pressure that time. I enjoy that pressure," said the 23-year-old. Thampi said the 23-year-old bowlers came from playing tennis ball cricket. "I got my yorkers from tennis ball cricket. When I came to the camp, I kept on practicing in the nets with my coaches and they motivated me to keep doing that," he said. (PTI)

Kevin O'Brien, Paul Stirling declared fit for ODI tour to England

LONDON, APR 19 /-/- In a major boost to Ireland, Kevin O'Brien and Paul Stirling have been declared fit for the two-match ODI series against England. Meanwhile, pace bowler Boyd Rankin has been ruled out of the 14-man squad for the two-match series. O'Brien and Stirling were named in the squad for the ODI series to be played at Bristol and Lords. O'Brien, who scored the fastest century in World Cup history against England in 2011, has recovered from a hamstring injury that kept him out of the last three ODI's against Afghanistan last month. On the other hand, Stirling was declared fit following a finger injury that kept him out of the last two ODI's. "The opportunity to play England in England is a great honour and a great tribute to Irish cricket and its journey," Ireland Cricket quoted head coach John Bracewell as saying. "The 14 players give us the best balance available to take on England in early May. The conditions will be as different as they could be from those we experienced in the last ODI in Ireland. The composition of the two bowling attacks, with pace being key. It'll be another great challenge for our players, but one every player in the Irish cricket can't wait for," added Bracewell.

The series marks Ireland's first one-day internationals on English soil and begins a busy month for them who would then take part in a tri-series involving Bangladesh and New Zealand in Dublin. "There's no doubt that the games against England will be tough but we've got some hard cricket under our belts this past few months and that will stand us in good stead for the challenges that await," said William Porterfield, Ireland's head coach in England. Porterfield admitted the experience of leading an Irish side out at Lords will be a bit special and says that it'll be a "marvelous" experience to lead Ireland's best of Irish cricket. "It'll be a great honour and a special day for all in Irish cricket. I smile when I think that both myself and Eoin (Moran) played for Ireland Under 15's together and here we will be capturing both sides in a one-day international at Lords." "We're all determined to do well, and while we'll certainly respect England, there's absolutely no fear factor there," he added. Ireland squad for England ODIs: William Porterfield (capt), Andrew Rossiter, Peter Glass, George Dockrell, Ed Joyce, Tim Murtagh, Andrew McBriane, Barry McCarthy, Kevin O'Brien, Niall O'Brien, Paul Stirling, Stuart Thompson, Gary Wilson, Craig Young.

John Terry dismisses retirement news after leaving Chelsea

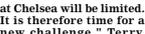
LONDON, APR 19 /-/- John Terry insists he has no intention of retiring when he completes the tough decision of his life by leaving Chelsea at the end of the season. Terry revealed this week that he will bring down the curtain on his glittering 19-year Chelsea career once the current football season ends. The 36-year-old's decision sparked suggestions that he might hang up his boots after playing in just five Premier League games this season. But, writing on Instagram on Wednesday, the former England defender said: "It's with overwhelming emotion that earlier this week I made the decision to announce this will be my last season as a Chelsea player." "This has been the toughest decision of my life for me and my family, but I always envisaged leaving on the right note and at the right time - and that is now. I feel I still have regular football opportunities here and that opportunities here

Maharaj makes debut in Proteas ICC Champions Trophy squad

JOHANNESBURG, APR 19 /-/- Indian-origin left-arm spinner, Keshav Maharaj has been included in the 15-man Proteas squad for the ICC Champions Trophy, Cricket South Africa (CSA) announced today. The squad will play three ODIs against England starting with the first match at Headingley on Monday. Maharaj, 26, will be their first group match of the ICC Champions Trophy against Sri Lanka at the Oval on June 3. The 26-year-old Maharaj has had an impressive debut season for the Test squad and comes into the squad to bolster the spin options alongside Imran Tahir. Morne Morkel makes a return to the limited-overs format after nearly 10 months, adding experience to the pace bowling group featuring Kagiso Rabada, Wayne Parnell, Chris Morris, Dwayne Pretorius and Andile Phehlukwayo. CSA convenor of selectors, Linda Zondi, says the selectors have picked a strong squad which covers all of the combinations and conditions on offer for the eighth edition of the eight-team event. "We have been working with this group of players for the last two seasons where our key emphasis was to build consistency in selection," Zondi commented. "That has shown in how this group has performed over the last while, which has resulted in winning three consecutive ODI series. "We feel we have a squad that covers every scenario that we could possibly be faced with on the tour. Most importantly, every player knows his own strengths and understands their role and value within the squad. "Keshav has had an excellent season and is a key player for the Test side and his inclusion in the squad gives us a spinner with a different pace and extra batting depth.

I am a special talent, avows Yusuf Pathan

KOLKATA, APR 19 /-/- Yusuf Pathan might not have ever looked upto Jose Mourinho for inspiration but his latest self-assessment is akin to the current Manchester United coach's famous statement 'I am the special one'. So does he harbour hopes of an India comeback with so many ahead of him for those couple of slots in the middle-order? "It does not matter to me who's ahead of me (in representing India). I think no one can compete with me. I consider myself as a special talent," Pathan told PTI in an interview today. Having scored 39-ball-59 against Delhi Daredevils, the India discard proved what he is so highly rated in the Kolkata Knight Riders ranks despite his game-changing knocks being few and far in between. "I have to back my talent. It does not take time for things to change. If I continue to perform well, at some point I will get an opportunity if not today then tomorrow," Pathan seemed positive that he may once again don the India blues. "I don't want to look at others. My job is to play good cricket and the start has been good this time. I should be setting good examples and be prepared when ever I get a chance," he said. Pathan made it clear that he will never shy away from playing his natural game like he did under pressure against DD at the Kotla.



Portrait of Yusuf Pathan.

at Chelsea will be limited. It is therefore time for a new challenge," Terry, 36, said. The former Chelsea club captain, has won 14 major honours and made his 713 appearances since he first came out in 1996. Yet, although Blues boss Antonio Conte uses three central defenders in his line-up, there has still been no sign of a recall for Terry since he recovered from an injury-plagued start since to the season. With Terry ruled to the role of a cheerleader on the bench, Chelsea have climbed to the top of the Premier League. Terry would love to bow out by helping Chelsea regain the title and he has so far made no mention of his next destination, with China or the United States potential options, as well as possibly staying in the Premier League with a team like Bourne.

W.B. Govt. Tender
Abridged N.I.(e) No. -WB/ISE/MBC/NT-01(e)/17-18
 1) Construction of irrigation canal of 21.36 km (Right Bank) of Druk Nagar Main Canal, 0.150 km (Left Bank) of Druk Nagar Main Canal, 0.150 km (Left Bank) of Druk Nagar Main Canal, 0.150 km (Right Bank) of Escape channel at Mouza Ilubani in Block P.S. Talampur, Dist. Uttar Dinajpur, Est. Cost: **RS. 96,26,675.00**
 EMD-1,97,734.00
 Location-Tirbati Teesta Colony under Rajnagar Block.
 2) Special repair and consolidation of the Mahananda Barrage Control Room premises & the surrounding campus in Block-Rajnagar & Phansidewa, P.S. Bhaktinagar & Phansidewa, Dist. Jalpaiguri & Darjeeling.
 Est. Cost: **RS. 67,308.00**
 EMD-1,33,746.00
 Location-Fulbari, under Rajnagar Block.
 Bid submission latest date & Time 05.05.2017 at 17:30 Hrs. For further details visit <http://www.wbenders.gov.in> and departmental website www.wbwd.gov.in

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Mahananda Barrage Circle
 Ph.-0352-248435, Fax-0353-256222,
 se-mahabarcir@wbwd.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
 THE S.E., NORTHERN CIRCLE, SOCIAL SECTOR, P.W. DTE., VENUS MORE, SILIGURI, PIN: 734001, ON BEHALF OF GOVERNOR OF WEST BENGAL, INVITES TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BASIS SL.NO. 01/NT/NO. WB/PWD/ISS/ENGIN/07(e)/2017/2018 (2nd Call)
 Tender ID: 2017_WB/PWD_106910_1
 Name of Work: Construction of first and second floor of proposed three storied building including Sanitary & Plumbing works and Electrical works for Pratikshaya for patient