SPÖRT

Sequera shocks **Pierce**

AFP, Quebec City

Unseeded Milagros Sequera continued her improbable run at the 170,000-dollar Bell Challenge on Saturday, reaching her first career WTA Tour final with a rout of top-seeded Mary Pierce of France.

Sequera, a Venezuelan who has spent most of the year on the lesser ITF Tour, silenced the partisan crowd by embarrassing the Montreal-born Pierce

Having rallied to win two straight matches after dropping the first set, Seguera made quick work of Pierce, a former Grand Slam champion denied a chance at her 16th career title and first $since the 2000 \, French \, Open.$

Sequera, 23, has won eight titles on the ITF circuit but none this year.

She has now won four straight matches and on Sunday she'll try to knock off her third seeded victim in this tournament in No. 2 Maria Sharapova of Russia, who is gunning for her second

Quick Aussie

FROM PAGE 13 kept batting positively. They played better cricket. We tried something different, but it did not work."

The Indian captain made an unusual move when he summoned part-time spinner Sehwag to share the new ball with Zaheer, but there was no stopping Martyn.

SCOREBOARD

Complete scoreboard of the day-night match between India and Australia in the TVS Cup triangular one-day cricket series at the Wankhede Stadium in Bombay on Saturday: AUSTRALIA: 286 for 8 in 50 overs (D

Martyn 100, A Symonds 48, M Beyan 42, A Gilchrist 41; A Agarkar 4-37)

Sehwag lbw b Bracken				0
Tendulkar b Clarke				68
Laxman c Gilchrist b Bichel				21
Dravid c Bichel b Clarke				59
Yuvraj c Gilchrist b Clarke				9
Kaif c Gilchrist b Bracken				10
Agarkar c Symonds b Bracken			Ĺ	2
Patel c Clarke b Hogg				16
Harbhajan c and b Bracken				6
Kumble b Clarke	9			6
Zaheer not out				5
Extras: (lb-2, nb-1, w-4)				7
Total: (All out in 46.2 overs)			2	09
Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-38, 3-137, 4-153				
5-172, 6-175, 7-178, 8-185, 9-200				
Bowler	0	M	R	W
Drookon	10	2	20	- 4

Bracken Williams Bichel 0 31 Symonds 0 28 Hogg Clarke 10 0 42 Result: Australia won by 77 runs.

Rooney reassures

million pounds on new players since

Abramovich took over, confirmed last month that Rooney was a potential future target but downplayed any prospect of an imminent move for the 18-year-old. Two of Chelsea's new acquisitions

made the difference on Saturday, Cameroon midfielder Geremi providing the cross that enabled Romanian forward Adrian Mutu to head the winner four minutes after the break.

"The money Chelsea have spent was the telling factor in the game," Moves admitted after watching his side squander chance after chance to equalise.

Chelsea boss Claudio Ranieri was delighted with his side's second-half display and singled out England midfielder Joe Cole for particular

"We improved in midfield and Joe Cole was fantastic. That was his best game for us. Everything he did was the right thing. I have a lot of confidence in him, he is quick when he needs to be. then slow, every time he received the ball he made things happen."



Clarke Ponting's man

Cricket

Australia captain Ricky Ponting singled out young Michael Clarke who fulfilled his own predictions to set up his team's 77-run victory against India in the TVS Cup one-day tri-series on Saturday.

Clarke, 22, was the unlikely bowling weapon after removing both Sachin Tendulkar and Rahul Dravid to claim four for 42 playing only his sixth oneday international.

Australia stand top of the standings having won two of their three matches so far and have 13 points with India on eight and New Zealand on three after

player is chiefly a batsman, but Ponting said he had been chosen ahead of allrounder Ian Harvey to utilise his leftarm spin on a slow pitch. "Michael is a young bloke who

The talented New South Wales

backs himself well," he told reporters after the match. "It shows the strength

"He told me he was going to get wickets today," he said. "He told me he was going to get Sachin, he did. He told

Three people were killed and 35

injured Sunday in Hindu-Muslim

violence set off by a dispute over a

children's cricket match in the riot-

torn western Indian state of Gujarat,

62 kilometers (38 miles) northwest of

the commercial capital Ahmedabad,

when Muslim boys were playing

cricket and their ball strayed into a

they were beaten up by Hindus after

which there was heavy stone-pelting

between the two communities,'

provincial Home Secretary K

shops and traded potshots with guns

and rocks until police opened fire to

wounds and 35 others were injured,

eight of them from firing and the rest

from stones, Nityanandam said.

Three people died from bullet

disperse the rioters, he said.

Rival crowds burned down several

Nityanandam told this news agency.

"When they tried to get the ball,

Hindu temple, officials said.

The unrest broke out in Viramgam,

officials said.

Ugly cricket!

me he was going to get Dravid and did

Tendulkar was out for 68, bowled trying to make room to play a forcing shot on the off-side, and was quickly followed by Dravid, who was out reverse-sweeping for 59, as India were bowled out for 209 chasing a stiff target Ponting said it was a tough decision

to leave out Ian Harvey, especially after he took two for nine runs during the eight-wicket win over New Zealand on "I didn't think I was going to get 10

overs out of Michael, but four for 42 out of 10 overs is pretty good.' Left-arm Nathan Bracken gave yet another illustration of Australia's

depth in talent by claiming a career-

best four for 29, taking his tally from

three games in the series to 10. The 26-year-old made the side only because of the absence through injury of the top pace trio of Glenn McGrath,

Jason Gillespie and Brett Lee. Bracken had shared seven wickets with Brad Williams to skittle New

Zealand for 97 in Faridabad. Ponting said Martyn's superb 100 on a difficult batting pitch had set up

Nityanandam and K Chakra-

varthy, the state's director general of

police, both said it was unclear

whether the bullets that killed the

three protesters came from police or

returned to normal but that extra

police were sent and a night curfew

months in Gujarat, which last year saw

India's worst communal riots in a

It was the deadliest incident in

The violence broke out in February

2002 when a Muslim mob in the

Gujarat town of Godhra torched a

train carrying right-wing Hindu

Muslims, were killed in the subse-

More than 2,000 people, mostly

The provincial government, led by

India's ruling Hindu nationalists, was

accused by rights groups of turning a

blind or even sympathetic eye to the

vigilante attacks against Muslims.

imposed as precautions.

activists, killing 59 people.

quent orgy of violence.

Chakravarthy said Viramgam had

other rioters.

decade.

Arsenal blow

the eventual easy victory.

humidity.

player said.

dred in India.

batting," said Martyn.

turned," said Ponting

Martyn, 32, who was named the

"It was very rewarding on a difficult

man-of-the-match, was pleased with

his effort made in energy-sapping

wicket like this, having to build part-

nerships and with the bowlers getting a

lot of turn," the Western Australia

"The conditions were tough for

"We just wanted to build a couple of

"He (Martyn) played beautifully

"It was a good total considering the

pitch and then Clarke did a great job as

he had played only a few one-dayers

partnerships. Our goal was to keep

wickets in hand in the closing overs. It

was really a challenge to score a hun-

and it was a very good hundred, espe-

cially on a wicket where the ball

FROM PAGE 16

Looking ahead to what appears to be a three-way title race, United manager Alex Ferguson said: "You're always waiting for someone to slip up. Chelsea and Arsenal won today, it's going to be nip and tuck, and it was important for us to win today too."

Birmingham City, who host Charlton Athletic on Monday, are fourth on 19 points, while Manchester City moved up to fifth place, a point behind, after a wonder goal from Robbie Fowler set them on the way to their 2-0 win at Southampton.

White wallops

White was rewarded for his bold deci sion to send in the opposition after he

In addition to his success with the ball, White took two superb catches at

first slip to claim key wickets. Queensland all-rounder Chris Simpson gave the home team's total some respectability after the score had

been a sorry 154 for seven wickets. He cracked an eve-catching halfcentury in only his second first-class game, smacking 83, including nine fours and five sixes.

Simpson and tailender Ioe Dawes figured in a 65-run stand which equalled a 70-year-old record for Queensland's highest 10th wicket partnership against Victoria

Nehra back

FROM PAGE 13 against Australia if he passed a fitness

Ganguly was ruled out of the first four games of the ongoing one-day series because of a thigh injury.

Rahul Dravid is leading the squad in Ganguly's absence.

SQUAD FOR 2 GAMES

Rahul Dravid (captain), Sachin Tendulkar, Virender Sehwag, Venkatsai Laxman, Yuvraj Singh, Mohammad Kaif, Ajit Agarkar, Parthiv Patel, Anil Kumble, Harbhajan Singh, Zaheer Khan, Ashish Nehra, Hemang Badani, Murali Kartik

BD U-19s lose

SRI LANKA UNDER-19S

FROM PAGE 13

Kularatne not out Vithana c Bashar b Nadif Desilva lbw b Rubaiyat Maharoof not out Extras: (lb-4, w-9, nb-3) Total: (For 2 wkts in 43.5 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-105, 2-149 Did not bat: Dias, Chanaka, Dezoysa

Ratnayake, Silva, Kulasekara, Mathews Shahadat 0 25 10 0 40 Rubaiyat

Bashar 4 0 19 9.5 Kamrul 0 37 Result: Sri Lanka Under-19s won by 8 wickets.

Man-of-the-match: A Kularatne

Cairns boost

FROM PAAE 13

Australia coach John Buchanan warned that his side would continue to be ruthless despite topping of the standings with 13 points from three games. India have eight points from three matches and New Zealand three from

"We are pleased to have had that win last night," he said. "We didn't start the tournament as well as we would have

"The first four games are important in this particular tournament and we'd like to go through with as little damage as possible."

The teams play each other three times in the group stage with the top two qualifying for the November 18 final in

Stuttgart regain

elbowing Schalke defender Niels Oude Kamphuis.

six minutes later when Germany midfielder Sebastian Deisler had to be substituted with a thigh injury that makes him a doubtful starter for Wednesday's Champions League game against Olympique Lyon.

Kamphuis went down in the box enabled Poland defender Tomasz Haito to put Schalke in the lead on 16 minutes Oude Kamphuis then completed the home side's win with 11 minutes left.

Schalke did play well," said Bayern coach Ottmar Hitzfeld.

and we were too passive.'

moved level on points with secondplaced Leverkusen courtesy of a 3-1 which prolific Brazilian striker Ailton Hertha Berlin coach Huub Stevens

hanging on to his job by his fingertips, has plenty to worry about after the troubled capital club crashed 3-0 at VfL Wolfsburg, whose Argentine striker Diego Klimowicz scored twice. Stevens had been told he had to win

his previous two games to stay in charge and survived that ultimatum but the uncertainty has returned.

TOP SIX

German football league table after Saturday's matches (played, won drawn, lost, goals for, against, points) VfB Stuttgart 11 8 3 0 17 2 27 10 8 1 1 23 7 25 11 8 1 2 29 15 25 Bayern Munich 11 6 3 2 25 15 21 10 6 1 3 19 11 19 VfLBochum 11 5 3 3 20 13 18

Deadly Ronaldo

FROM PAGE 16

Deportivo's 0-0 draw at Murcia earlier on Saturday was their second mediocre performance in four days against relegation-threatened opposi-

The Galician visitors constantly attacked but were woefully off-target on the rare occasions they could break down the dogged defence of last season's second division champions.

The best opportunity Deportivo had to break the deadlock came late in the game but Walter Pandiani's header just skimmed over the bar. By contrast, Murcia showed little

ambition and seemed intent on just salvaging a point after their 3-0 midweek mauling by Barcelona. "A draw was fair. Each team had

their chances and Murcia are always

difficult to beat at home," said

Deportivo coach Javier Irureta, not looking for excuses for dropping two

from the bottom of the Spanish first division, despite the draw.

However, after three consecutive defeats, a relieved Murcia coach Joaquin Peiro was grateful for small mercies.

game rather than 45 minutes, and I thought our defence did well to snuff out an attack as dangerous as Deportivo's," commented Peiro.

season in Spain. The only goal of the game came after

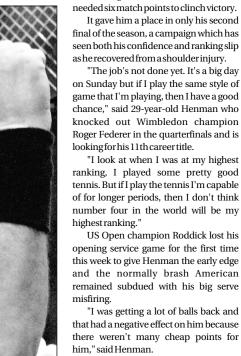
Henman stuns Roddick

Tennis

Britain's Tim Henman spiked the heavy artillery of newly-crowned world number one Andy Roddick here on Saturday to storm into the final of the 2.45-million-euro Paris Masters with a stunning and dramatic 7-6 (7/4), 7-6

Henman will now play Andrei Pavel in Sunday's final after the Romanian continued his fairvtale run with a 6-2, 4-6, 6-4 win over Czech 14th seed Jiri

The 29-year-old Pavel only discovered he was playing in the event last Friday but he has responded to the call in staggering fashion winning four



Andrei Pavel of Romania exults after beating Jiri Novak of the Czech Republic in the semifinal of the Paris Masters Series tournament on

Much ado about

cricketer in the country.

"I have also learnt that objections have been made by certain persons over Ashraful. But I can't say who are they,' said Aminul, who came to see the Development squad training.

Meanwhile, a source said that the Board had previously planned to give Ashraful a complete rest during England's tour of Bangladesh. But the good intention was turned upside down when he was named in the Development squad. The sentiment of the Board was to

allow Ashraful to play the domestic cricket for sometime so that he could correct his mistakes. Ashraful himself was least bothered

about missing the prospect of playing

I am just trying to correct my mistakes. I will not mind if I miss the practice match. I also feel that I need a break from international cricket and play in the domestic matches so that I can overcome my technical flaws," said Ashraful while commenting on the rumors about However, a keen follower of the

"I was dropped for my poor form and

batsman had other ideas. "Obviously the selectors did not

want to take a risk on him since if he did well in the practice match then there would be pressure to select him for the one-day series," fumed a fan at the BNS on Sunday. Imran was very much disappointed

with the matter as he has lack of quality

ously won just three on the tour in the entire year.

He missed six months of the season through a combination of back and wrist injuries and saw his world ranking

Henman, who lost to the 21-year-old Roddick in the first round of the US Open having beaten him on the way to the title

in Washington earlier in the summer needed six match points to clinch victory. It gave him a place in only his second final of the season, a campaign which has

seen both his confidence and ranking slip as he recovered from a shoulder injury. "The job's not done yet. It's a big day on Sunday but if I play the same style of game that I'm playing, then I have a good

Roger Federer in the quarterfinals and is looking for his 11th career title. "I look at when I was at my highest ranking, I played some pretty good tennis. But if I play the tennis I'm capable of for longer periods, then I don't think number four in the world will be my

highest ranking." US Open champion Roddick lost his opening service game for the first time this week to give Henman the early edge and the normally brash American remained subdued with his big serve misfiring.

"I was getting a lot of balls back and that had a negative effect on him because there weren't many cheap points for him," said Henman Roddick refused to be downcast by

"I felt I was in the match the whole way but he came up with the goods. I needed to serve a lot better because he puts a lot of

pressure on you off the return. "It's a shame I couldn't have saved some of my serving from the earlier matches for today," added Roddick who had only faced two break points in his three previous matches going into the

Ctg wicket

hing so full of life

It was learnt that there was a lot of pressure put on the curator of the MA Aziz Stadium wicket Nurul Abedin Nobel from influential quarters to make it as flat as possible which he thankfully ignored.

"I don't want Bangladesh cricket to go back ten years by preparing a pitch where the ball won't get above knee height. It's time to move forward. They might have lost here this time but playing on this pitch have given our batsmen valuable experience which is bound to make them better cricketers, said the former Bangladesh opener.

Honours even in Milan

far better position than the Italy international.

But an eagerly-awaited contest between Italy's two superpowers fizzled out after a promising start and both defences gave little away in a tense first-half.

Juventus dominated at the start of the second-half and came within a whisker of taking the lead early on only for Di

Viao's volley to come back off the right-hand post.

Dida denied Trezeguet with a splendid reaction save before Milan took the lead against the run of play.

failing to spot Trezeguet who was in a down and as Juve's defence pushed up looking for an offside flag, Tomasson found himself free to slot the ball home

> But Juventus are not champions for nothing and they showed they are in no mood to give up their crown by drawing level in the 84th minute. Nedved's pass was brilliantly

from six yards.

flicked up in the air by Trezeguet and Di Vaio's first-time shot flew into the top corner, giving Dida no chance.

Earlier Saturday Lazio scraped a 2-1 win away to Udinese to climb to third. Italy international Bernardo

Corradi headed the visitors in front

only for Vincenzo Iaquinta to level the

season, a typical close-range strike, ensured all three points for Lazio and gave the Roman side a welcome boost ahead of their crunch Champions League clash at home to Chelsea on Tuesday.

Lazio coach Roberto Mancini praised his players for becoming the first team to win at Udinese in the league this season.

"It's not easy to win here as Udinese are a strong team who play great football and always create opportunities to score," he said. "That's why these three points are very important." Italian league standings

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer **ACROSS** 32 Recom-50 Lindstrom 10 Dryer buildur 1 Suitor mended or Zadora

locks 12 Noted name a Indy and Daytona 14 Eastern potentate 15 Emergencyaid orga

nization 16 Songstress 17Go like kangaroo 18 Lively 20 Cole Porter

23 Climber's 49 Actor 24 Terrible 25 Bureau cratic abyrinth 28 Brickshaped candy **29** Girl in the "Fox Trot comics

51 Alluring 5 Actor safety 11 Wagon Alastaiı 13 Cupid's alter ego 8 Lacking 34 Llama DOWN 19 Stud fee? territory 1 Prevent 20"Great 35 A Katzen 2 Compass Expecta-3 Continue tions" boy 36 Obliterate 21 State with talking 37 Leave

certainty vous kid 22 Demolish lurch 5 Octago 23 Equestri-40 Mrs. nal signal an's McKinley handful 41 Wedding Impossi-25 Deluge cake 7 Get the 26 Entreaty portion 27 Dumbo's faint star 29 Blueprint 47 He raised impres-31 Payable Cain sion 48 Poison-8 Sturgeon

33 Greg's TV for its 34 Seafood caviar purchase 9 "So be i 36 Snorri's Lugosi stories Solution time: 24 mins 38 Ocean motior 39 Verifiable 40 Notion 43 Inventor Whitney 44 Citric quenchei

45 Mardi

VIP

46 Saute

Gras

CRYPTOQUIP

F YZFMH JGMNJRMH Z M PGMGW

KRFERW

LFKKRE ER YFNKKR QHGMR Saturday's Cryptoquip: THE APPLE-PEELING RACE WAS DANGEROUSLY CLOSE. I WON WITH ONLY SECONDS TO PARE!

WRMLP

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals L The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one let another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O !" give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and erro

victory over lowly Eintracht Frankfurt in 10 men when defender Thomas Linke was sent off in the 32nd minute for scored his 10th goal this season.

There was more bad news for Bayern

A controversial penalty, after Oude

"I don't think that was a penalty but

"They put us under a lot of pressure

Werder Bremen remained third but

Murcia remain in trouble, second

"We finally played well for a full

Celta Vigo went down 1-0 at home to Racing Santander, who are proving to be one of the surprise teams of the

two minutes when Rodolfo Bodipo nodded across a pass for Israeli international Yossi Benayoun to volley home.

Andrea Pirlo's shot was charged scores with a spectacular volley.