week for Frank Rijkaard's side, who were knocked out of the King's Cup

"We suffered out there today,"

said the Dutchman. "We now

have to react and find a way to

bounce back from this so that we

Without leading striker Samuel Eto'o and World Player of

the Year Ronaldinho, who

between them have scored 29

goals this season, Barca struggled

to find their usual rhythm against

that Torres put the visitors ahead

when he clipped in with his left

after Maxi had outjumped two

defenders to nod an Ariel Ibagaza

cross into his path in the 33rd

Maxi made it 2-0 two minutes

after the break when he steered

in from three metres after

Bulgarian winger Martin Petrov

had sent a low cross into the area

following a scorching run down

Although Henrik Larsson

It came as little surprise then

can rediscover our form."

a rejuvenated Atletico.

by Real Zaragoza.

Ranjan reaches 2nd round

SPORTS REPORTER

Ranjan Ram was the only Bangladeshi player among 16 to reach the second round of the boys' singles in the Dhaka Bank International Junior Tennis Championship yesterday.

Ranjan, who defeated Buceta Parro Alejandro of Spain 7-6, 6-1 in the first round at the National Tennis Complex in Ramna, will take on fourth seed Rungat Christopher of Indonesia today.

Mazharul Islam and Henry Prithul Mondol, who lifted the doubles title in the BKSP version of the competition last month, were the two local players ousted from the first round. Prithul will once again pair with Chinese Taipei's Wang in the doubles competition. The first-round doubles matches will begin today

Sultana Israt, the lone Bangladeshi girl participating in the singles, lost to Datla Tejaswani of India

A total of 32 first round games in boys' and girls' group were decided yesterday.

Rifles College lift h'ball title

SPORTS REPORTER

Bir Shreshtha Munshi Abdur Rouf Rifles College became champions in the Exim Bank Inter College (Men's) Handball with a 26-8 goals victory against Imperial College in the final at the Outer Stadium handball ground yesterday.

The winners led the first half 15-

Ashiqur netted eight goals, Sayeduddin scored six while Arif netted five goals for the winners.

Man of the tournament Liakat scored four goals for Imperial College. Government Bangla College

finished third beating Scholastica 23-10 in the third place play-off

South Asian archery from tomorrow

BANEWS, Phaka or an gnizogra

The Banglalink South Asian Archery Championship will begin tomorrowat BSKP in Savar. Archers from five South Asian

countries India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan and hosts Bangladesh will take part in the first ever meet in four events -- Re-curve bow, FITA Round, Olympic and Team events.

"Our main target of holding the international tournament is to prepare the Bangladeshi archers for the upcoming SA Games in Sri Lanka," said Kazi Rajib Uddin Ahmed, general secretary of Bangladesh Archery Association (BAA) at a press conference yester-

Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan will inaugurate the four-day meet as chief guest.

Rajib informed that Channel I will telecast the inaugural programme live from BKSP.

India are rated as top favourites, followed by Bhutan.

Sponsors Banglalink will provide Tk 16 lakh, fifty per cent of the estimated budget of Tk 32 lakh. The rest of the amount will be procured from the National Sports Council

and other sources. The Bangladesh men's team comprises with Noor-E-Alam, Sanwar Hossain, Rubel Hossain and Syed Tanvir Raihan while Nasrin Khanam Happy, Aumi Chakma, Rina Chakma and Khadiza Mustari Maheen will represent the women's side.

One last

FROM PAGE 12 Attention will also focus on Sri Lankan off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan, who is fed-up with taunts from Australian crowds about his bowling action.

Muralitharan held a press conference in Perth last Saturday to release the results of further tests by experts at the University of Western Australia which proved his action complied with the laws of the game.

"He's gone through a lot over his career and let's hope this final test that's been carried out is the end of it," Moody said.

TEAMS

SRI LANKA (from): Marvan Atapattu (captain), Sanath Jayasuriya, Jehan Mubarak, Upul Tharanga, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene, Russel Arnold, Michael Vandort, Tillekeratne Dilshan, Chamara Kapugedara, Chaminda Vaas, Nuwan Kulasekara, Muttiah Muralitharan, Dilhara Fernando, Malinga Bandara, Akalanka

SOUTH AFRICA (from): Graeme Smith (captain), Boeta Dippenaar, Jacques Rudolph, Herschelle Gibbs, Ashwell Prince, Justin Kemp, Mark Boucher, Andrew Hall, Shaun Pollock, Johan van der Wath, Johan Botha, Monde Zondeki, Charl Langeveldt.



Juventus forward Alessandro Del Piero (L) is congratulated by his teammate Adrian Mutu after scoring against Udinese during their Serie A clash at the Stadio Delle Alpi on Sunday.

Juventus roll on

Football

Juventus maintained their eightpoint lead at the top of the Serie A standings as Alessandro Del Piero came off the bench to score the winner in a 1-0 victory over plucky 10-man Udinese Inter Milan kept up their cham-

pionship challenge with a narrow 1-0 home win against high-flying Chievo while Fiorentina returned to winning ways, defeating rockbottom Lecce 1-0

AC Milan's slim hopes of catching Juve suffered another setback in a dismal 0-0 draw at Lazio which left them in third spot but a massive 14 points behind Juve.

Juventus manager Fabio Capello praised Udinese keeper Morgan De Sanctis for keeping his side at bay until Del Piero's 70th minute winner.

"I have just watched an excellent Udinese team, something which makes me even happier about this victory," he said. "Overall we played well and

Football

on Sunday

Benitez slams

watching Liverpool lose a stormy incident?

Premiership clash with Chelsea 2-0

The Reds manager was angered

after his goalkeeper Jose Reina was

sent off for flicking his hand into

Robben's face with eight minutes

Reina appeared to make mini-

mal contact, but the Dutch winger

fell to the ground clutching his

head as a scuffle broke out between

The incident enraged Benitez,

"I must go to hospital because

obviously Robben's injury is so

serious he will be there for a week,"

who claimed that Robben had

deliberately attempted to get Reina

of the game remaining.

the two sets of players.

sent off by feigning injury.

Robben 'theatrics'

Rafael Benitez furiously accused when you make another profes-

created many chances but their goalkeeper was the man-of-the-

Capello opted for an attacking formation from the beginning, fielding Zlatan Ibrahimovic, David Trezeguet and Adrian Mutu in a three-pronged attack but it took the introduction of the darling of the Stadio Delle Alpi, Del Piero, just before the hour mark to break the deadlock.

Udinese were once again undone by their ill discipline, suffering an eighth red card of the season as Sulley Ali Muntari was dismissed in the 37th minute. It was also the third game in a

row that they have had someone sent off before half-time and despite battling manfully with a numerical disadvantage they could only blame themselves for the Julio Cruz gave Inter an early

lead over Chievo and coach Roberto Mancini admitted after the game that the Milan giants were happy to hold on to what they had rather than take risks in looking to put the game to bed with a second

ing and touching his face, but it

looked like he had broken his neck

the way he reacted. It's crazy. What

kind of professional can you be

clear about this but he was pro-

Mourinho predictably took a dif-

ferent view of the incident, sug-

gesting that Benitez had allowed

"I'm not interested in Rafa

"Sometimes managers say

things they don't mean, especially

after they lose, so I'm not getting

defeat to cloud his judgement.

Benitez's comments," he said.

voked by what was said to him.'

handling of the situation.

"I am happy because Chievo were a difficult and dangerous opponent," he said. "That is why we did not take any great risks, even though we did not kill off the

In Rome, Andriy Shevchenko had the best chance of the match but his powerful header rattled the Lazio crossbar, bounced onto the goalline but back into action.

The defeat was another blow for Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti whose league campaign is running out of steam in the same week that they were dumped out of the Italian "We played better than in recent

outings, running less risks and creating more scoring opportunities," said Ancelotti. "Andriy Shevchenko and

Alberto Gilardino moved well. Organisation is crucial in difficult situations and we still need to improve our overall approach." Fiorentina had to rely on a single

goal from Luca Toni as they continue their Champions League qualification charge and reopened a five-point gap to fifth place Roma.

Captain Ponting

Australia captain Ricky Ponting received the Allan Border medal on Monday as the country's best cricketeroverthe pastyear

Arjen Robben of cheating after sional miss three games for that There was no need. They had win the award twice after finishing won the game and now Reina has to ahead of Mike Hussey and Brett Lee in miss matches which is crazy. Reina has made a mistake and I am very

> The Spanish manager also criticised the referee Alan Wiley's player award. Chelsea manager Jose

domestic interstate competition and spinner Dan Cullen won the Bradman

Gilchrist eyes double ton in ODIs

BBC ONLINE, undated

The opener raised hopes of a new

mark with an amazing start against South Africa in Sydney on Sunday, his 88 coming from just 66 balls.

"The moment you think about it

and try to get it you'll probably find yourselfgetting out."

overs international, is former Pakistan opener Saeed Anwar's 194, hitagainst India in Chennai (Madras) in 1996-97.

Gilchrist is one of seven players to have passed the 150 mark more than once, with three West Indians -- Viv Richards, Brian Lara and Chris Gayle -- doing so three times.

defeat, South Africa captain Graeme Smith tried to remain upbeat despite the fitness worries that have depleted

Rajani survives FROM PAGE 12

before their departure.

Only Mohammedan and Brothers Union are in action in the off-season due their AFC Cup commitment but Mohammedan will leave Dhaka tomorrow for Thailand to play a practice match. vesterday.

Inter outcry at PRIMERA LIGA Barca bow to Torres Juve 'resources'

INTERNET, undated

Inter have reacted bitterly to several of the refereeing decisions which helped Juventus narrowly overcome Udinese on Sunday "Their resources know no bounds." said Nerazzurri President Giacinto Facchetti.

With seven days to go before the 'Derby of Italy', the pre-match hype has already begun with Inter all but accusing the Old Lady of buying the title.

Juventus scored an apparently obvious offside goal, Udinese's Sulley Ali Muntari was sent off for a well-timed tackle and Friulani midfielder José Luis Vidigal was fouled by Fabio Cannavaro as he was about to put the ball into an empty net with just 10 minutes of the game remaining After watching the pictures of

some of the controversial incidents which swung the match at the Stadio Delle Alpi the way of the League leaders, Facchetti could hardly contain himself.

"When a player is pushed in the area when he is about to score, it's a penalty," he fumed. "But as Serse Cosmi says, everyone knows that Juve's resources know no bounds."

Coach Roberto Mancini also reacted to the Juve result, but chose his words more carefully, using irony to state the obvious without landing himself in hot water.

"There was nothing unusual at all about Del Piero's goal," he said sarcastically. "Muntaris sending off was a sacrosanct decision and there was no foul whatsoever by Cannavaro.

"Cosmi is wrong to complain about it because I don't think anything untoward took place at the Delle Alpi, "he added.

New home

FROM PAGE 12 Star batsman Mohammad Ashraful also echoed with his captain and said that he felt comfortable with the fact that they are going to get an exclusive stadium for cricket. "Since we have lost the posses-

sion of the Bangabandhu National Stadium, we felt like being homeless. Now we have got our new home to use only for cricket. The ground is fantastic although it is yet to be completed," said the ace batter. Pace spearhead Mashrafee Bin

Mortuza, however, was highly delighted as he got assistance from I was really enjoying my bowl-

ing on the grassy wickets. The venue is fantastic. It looked nice to me, said the Narail Express.

Chelsea tighten FROM PAGE 12

instinctive first-time drive was well parried by Cech. The game had burst into life.

Liverpool's willingness to sweep

forward opened up gaps at the back and Robben almost exploited them when he raced upfield and sent a cross-shot flashing across the face of Reina's goal. It was a warning that Liverpool

failed to heed.

In the 68th minute, Crespo finally timed a run to perfection to collect Asier Del Horno's pass and bury his shot into the bottom righthand corner. There was still time for one

more moment of drama. Chelsea's players were incensed when Reina came out of his area and barged into Eidur Gudjohnsen and in the ensuing melee, the Spaniard lashed out at Robben.

The red card was inevitable, as was Chelsea's win.

Pakistan clinch

Kartik Ibw b Naved Sreesanth not out Extras: (b-5, lb-2, nb-6, w-3) Total: (All out in 49.4 overs) 328 Fall of wickets: 1-5, 2-99, 3-225, 4-285, 5-305, 6-309, 7-315, 8-321, 9-

Super-sub: Raina for Tendulkar

O M R W 9.4 30 Asif 0 35 Gul 0 70 Afridi 68 0 0 35 Malik 21 PAKISTAN Butt c Dravid b Kartik Akmal c sub (Gambhir) b Sreesanth

Afridi run out Yousufc Zaheer b Agarkar Inzamam obstructing the field Younis not out Razzaq c Dhoni b Agarkar Naved not out Extras: (lb-1, nb-2, w-9) Total: (For 7 wkts in 47 overs) 311

Malik c Dravid b Zaheer

Fall of wickets: 1-50, 2-201, 3-232, 4-244, 5-265, 6-289, 7-299 Did not bat: Asif, Arshad Super-sub: Arshad for Gul Bowler 0 M 0

Pathan 10 Sreesanth 10 0 Zaheer 0 Agarkar Kartik

Sehwag Result: Pakistan won by seven runs on Duckworth-Lewis method. Man-of-the-match: Salman Butt. Toss: Pakistan

Atletico Madrid lived up to their reputation as Barcelona's bogey team when they ended the Spanish champions' 14-match winning run in the league with an emphatic 3-1 victory at the Nou Camp on A classy double from Fernando

Football

REUTERS, Madrid

Torres, which took the striker's tally to six goals in four games against Barca, and another from in-form Argentine Maxi Rodriguez allowed Atletico to complete the double over the Catalans this season Last season, Atletico were the

only team to beat Barca at the Nou Camp and they also held them to a 1-1 draw in Madrid.

The victory, Atletico's third in a row, provided further confirmation of their revival under new coach Pepe Murcia, who replaced Carlos Bianchi last month. The defeat ended a miserable

> "We want to show there is more to selves," added the Arsenal star.

first time ever for a World Cup finals as Ivory Coast did last year, cele-

lent civil war which has claimed masses of lives and left many homeless and their players -- some of whom are hardly the image of the well paid professional earning just 30 US dollars (a fortune to many Congolese) a match for their domestic clubs -- are well aware of their responsibility.

and have had no reason to enjoy life," Lomana Lua Lua.

We at least can help out a little, and give them a reason to smile," added LuaLua, who has lived in side with an instinctive closerange finish midway through the half, Torres killed off all hopes of a comeback when he curled a shot round Victor Valdes after another headed assist from Maxi.

pulled a goal back for the home

Earlier on Sunday, Real Betis striker Dani scored a hattrick but ended up on the losing side when his team went down 4-3 at Real Zaragoza.

Victor Munoz's side stormed into a 4-0 lead inside the first 22 minutes at La Romareda, Argentine striker Diego Milito weighing in with a neat double.

Dani began the fightback when he turned in from close range immediately after the restart and the pint-sized striker grabbed two more early in the second half to make it 4-3, but his efforts were ultimately in vain.

Defeat left the Andalucians hovering three points above the relegation zone which is comprised of Athletic Bilbao, Alaves

However he was unable to give

the DRC a reason to smile longer as

they were beaten 4-1 by hosts Egypt

on Friday, but for him the important

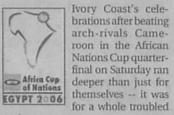
thing was that they acquitted them-

selves well and gave the DRC citizens

two weeks of something else to focus

It's more than football

AFP, Cairo



for a whole troubled The Elephants were the last of three teams involved in the quarterfinals -- Guinea and Democratic Republic of Congo being the other two -- who took to the pitch with far more weighing on their shoulders than just saving either

their reputations or their coach's job. Other richer and untroubled nations take pride in their team's success but neither that nor failure affects them as deeply as those whose daily lives are racked by abject poverty, famine or civil war.

The Ivory Coast players may be fed up when a loss can result in them being booed and heckled and pushed around in Abidjan. But they are just as well aware that

with the country split in two for the

past four years and no sign of the strife abating that they can help bring a momentary bit of pleasure to both "We have a real responsibility,

Ivory Coast than just fighting, and we know all the country is counting on us to give a good account of our-Indeed there cannot be too many

sides, who having qualified for the brated by first kneeling down in the dressingroom -- led by captain Didier Drogba and reciting a peace "Ivorians we ask for your forgive-

ness. Let us come together and put this war behind us," prayed the squad, who bridge the divide with players coming from both the north nd the south. Democratic Republic of Congo has experienced an even more vio-

The people have really suffered

said their 25-year-old captain

Guinea too exited in the quarterfinals, 3-2 to Senegal, but again the result was not as important as the fact they had a point to prove to their impoverished compatriots. "A lot of people in Guinea point at us when we return home and say that

we only come back for holidays and to show off that we are richer than they are," said their star playmaker Pascal Feindouno. "What we have achieved here (they topped their group with three victories from their three matches)

their minds off their daily hardships," added Feindouno, who scored four Not the usual sentiments or

nation isn't simply about things happening on the pitch -- it is not about personal glory, it is about giving blighted nations with oppressed people a rare chance of

United we stand, says Beckham

Football

David Beckham gave an insight on Sunday into why Real Madrid have looked a different side since the

"The secret of the team's success is easy - unity and hard work," said the England captain.

Real Madrid are now unbeaten in nine games in all competitions since 2006 began and the Spanish giants have rattled off four straight

Caro and our confidence is grow-

the way the team played overall,"

said Beckham after Saturday's crushing 4-0 win over Espanyol. "The victory is important

because it allows us to continue our good run, but for me, the most important aspect is that the team is showing the right mentality with all the players working hard for each other," added Beckham.

"We have an excellent team, we're working well and we have an obligation to continue improving then we'll see what happens about the title race.

Beckham's display of inchperfect passes which frequently disected the Barcelona-based side had the home fans roaring their approval. "The fans are behind us again.

It's fantastic to see the Bernabeu

like that."

13 Melody

19 Quest

20 Stick out

21 Draftable

22"Swedish

Nightin-

gale*

Jenny

23 Paradises

27-Down

26 What

27 Active

29 Part of

31 Teensy

33 Philly

T.A.E.

squad

34 Lubricant

picture

36 Motion

4 Discharge 25 Estrange

com-

preceder

10 Summer

According to statistics, the Roma skipper has earned 99 free kicks so far this season - only Mauro Esposito and Luca Toni have received more fouls.

"I keep getting kicked and have to receive physiotherapy constantly," said Totti who struggles with a recurringankle problem. "I dont have time to train because

we play every three days. I am very worried about how this is going to affect the leadup to the World Cup."
Totti, who was banned at Euro 2004 for spitting at Denmarks Christian Poulsen, said he has grown

up now and has learned his lessons in

time for this summer's World Cup finals in Germany. "I dont react anymore because I've finally understood that it gets me nowhere. I have grown up and feel more responsible for the team," he

HEYMFH BFPGV, LEDKS SK

LISTEN TO WRAP MUSIC Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals R

Sachin, Inzy in trouble

Cricket

PTI, Peshawar

Indian maestro Sachin Tendulkar and Pakistan captain Inzamamul Haq faced disciplinary measures for showing dissent against umpires' decisions while the Indian cricket team faced fine for slow over-rate during the first one-day international of the five-match series.

Insiders said the hearing would take place in Islamabad on Tuesday. The two teams would reach there later Monday evening. Tendulkar and Inzamam could be either reprimanded or fined or

both if found guilty.

Tendulkar, who scored 100 but still ended up on the losing side, gestured at his glove to the umpire after being adjudged leg before. Inzamam, after being adjudged obstructing the field, argued with

the umpires against the decision. The home captain, along with coach Bob Woolmer, after the prize distribution ceremony, stormed into the match officials' room

where the two stayed for about 10 As regards the Indian team, they were two overs short and faced a minimum fine to 10 per cent of the

"The field umpires have reported the incidents to the match referee and now the match officials will watch the replays of the incidents later in the evening before calling a hearing in Islamabad on Tuesday," insiders said.

Lara rubbishes retirement talk

BBC ONLINE, undated

Star West Indies batsman Brian Lara has dismissed speculation he would retire after winning a firstclass title with his native Trinidad and "People are always asking me

Lara, Test cricket's leading scorer, is to miss the forthcoming one-day series in New Zealand to focus on Lara said he would enjoy the annual Trinidad carnival instead,

adding: "I will have a chance to jump

up and down and enjoy myself."

when? When? I say, 'You tell me," he

The West Indies one-day team leave for New Zealand on Tuesday, playing a Twenty 20 international and five 50-overgames.

the best again REUTERS, Sydney

Ponting scored 1,544 runs in 2005, including six centuries, at an average of 67.13 to finish the year ranked as the number one batsman in the world.

a poll of team mates, umpires and Shane Warne was named Test player for the 12-month voting period

while Hussey won the best one-day Promising opener Phil Jaques was named as the leading player from the

Young Cricketer of the Year award.

Australia's Adam Gilchrist says it is only a matter of time before a batsman scores 200 in a one-day interna-

"Some player around the world will do it one day but you'll need everything going right," said

The highest score in a limited-

After a Gilchrist-inspired 57-run

Brothers began their training Umpires: Simon Taufel and Asad

AFP, Madrid

wins in the league. "We're playing well under Lopez

By Engene Sheffer CROSSWORD ACROSS 32 Girl 51 Sicilian 1 Parlor sere naded by barber-DOWN item shop 1 Vast 8 Same quartets expanse 34 Merriment 2 On in times 35 Rds. years 3 Retainer they 36"-say

Jacques"

37 Heavy

of the leader? 40 Conk 14 Arm 41 Actor bone 15 Satisfac Julia 42 Australian toriness 16 Grand city opening day? 47 Shrek is 17 Ourselves 48 Truck (Ger.) driver

"HELLO"

12 Pick

18 Durum

and

bulgur

qui vive

company

R W

52

75

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58

1 0 11 0

wriggler 20 Actress Angelina 23 Barak of Israel 24 Monad 25 Pharyn geal tissue 28 X rating

time pest 37 Sleepy 11 Back talk Hollow's Mr. Bones 38 Anger 39 Shared by 40 Transaction 43 Ruby or Sandra 44 Addams

X G P G V W Z E Y X G B S X WVG JFIYM FY W LFPWUZG

FXG UG XKISSGV UIDX? Saturday's Cryptoquip: WHILE PREPARING MY GIFTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS, I SUPPOSE I COULD

The Cryptoquip 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.

has hopefully proven those people wrong and given the Guinean people pride in us and temporarily taken

motivations of the wealthy European international players. But then playing for an African

experiencing the 'feel good factor' no matterhowillusoryitreallyis

Totti reveals

Italian star Francesco Totti believes his

World Cup dream with Italy could be

sabotaged by the constant stream of

foulshe suffers with Romain Serie A.

WC fears

AFP, Rome

because our country is at war," defender Kolo Toure said earlier this England since he was 10.

start of the year.

"I'm pleased with my personal performance but particularly with

> 5 Prejudice 6 Sinbad's bird 7 No specific location 8 Monkey 9 Mater

> > 49 Disarray

50 Wet

Solution time: 24 mins. 29 On the

45 Lair 46 Historic period

Family cousin