#### Eva one win away from title

SPORTS REPORTER

Nazrana Khan Eva is within sight of clinching the national title when she stretched her collection to 8.5 points yesterday to maintain solo lead with just one round left of the Camellia 27th National Women's Chess Championship.

Eva, who defeated Arifa Khatun in the penultimate round at the BCF hallroom, will have to overcome defending champion Shamima Akhter Liza, who is in the middle of the table with 5.5 points, in today's 11th and the final round.

Country's lone International Woman Master Rani Hamid, who also has a chance to regain the title only if Eva slips, is on eight points after beating Kishwara Shajrin

In other tenth round games, Nipa split points with Liza, Zakia drew with Shimmi, Shirin beat Masuda and Tanima defeated

#### Inzamam stays as Pak captain

AFP, Karachi

Inzamamul Haq has been retained as Pakistan captain until the end of this year despite his team's oneday series defeat against arch-rivals India, Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) announced Sunday.

The 35-year-old batsman led Pakistan to a 1-0 win in the preceding Test series but they lost the oneday international series 4-1 on

"Expressing full confidence in the team's management, the PCB ad-hoc committee retained Inzamam as captain and Younis Khan as vice-captain for the remainder of the year," the PCB said in a release.

#### The fighter

FROM PAGE 12 is a relative and he actually made it popular among the cricketers. It was even more interesting when umpire David Shepherd called me by that name.

"I want to take the opportunity to thank my local coaches Altaf bhai and Montu bhai who had made contributions early in my career. My family members also helped me a lot to come this far," said a tearful Mahmud.

#### Sylhet crush

FROM PAGE 12

Tapash 2-69, Hasibul 5-71, Sadequr 2-25).

Result: Sylhet won by 141 runs. CHITTAGONG: 471 and 236-3 in 55.5 overs (Masum 84, Nafees 130,

BARISAL: 406 all out in 154.1 overs (Imran 63, Hannan 91, Humayun 54, Towhid 45, Arafat 66, Sabbir 3-69, Yasin 3-59, Raihan 2-152). Result: Match drawn.

#### FOUR-DAYTABLE

Teams	M	W	L	D-Ld	Pts
Dhaka	5	3	1	0	20
Rajshahi	4	3	1	0	20
Sylhet	5	2	2	1	16
Chittagong	5	1	2	2	14
Khulna	5	1	3	1	10
Barisal	5	1	2	0	10



IT'S MY STYLE: Barcelona talisman Ronaldinho dances after scoring against Real Betis during their Primera Liga

### Ronaldinho rules on return

Football

REUTERS, Madrid

Ronaldinho was in inspirational form as he returned to lead Barcelona to a 5-1 home victory over an unfortunate Real Betis in the Primera Liga on Saturday.

The leaders now have 55 points and remain seven clear of secondplaced Real Madrid who recorded their sixth consecutive league win by sweeping aside lowly Alaves 3-0 at the Bernabeu.

Barca's Brazilian playmaker, who was suspended for the league defeats against Atletico Madrid and Valencia, played a part in Henrik Larsson's opener and triggered

Melli's own goal. Ronaldinho then went on to score two himself from free kicks but it was not all plain sailing for win over Espanyol to move up a the home side who had keeper Victor Valdes to thank for a number of crucial saves.

Joaquin pulled a goal back for Betis on the hour but Lionel Messi came off the bench to make it five

In a near repeat of the three to score at the far post. goals Real Madrid scored in 10 minutes against Real Zaragoza in firmly in control in the 28th when the King's Cup in midweek, they

Guti opened the scoring in the sixth minute and Robinho added a second in the 11th, but they had to wait until the 77th before adding a third through Cicinho.

stormed into an early lead at the

Real captain Raul came on as a substitute in the second half to a standing ovation after three months out with a knee injury. Real could slip back to third if

Valencia, who have 46 points, beat Real Sociedad away on Sunday. Below them Javier Saviola scored the only goal as Sevilla beat visitors Celta Vigo 1-0 to climb above them to fifth on 41 points,

two ahead of the Galicians. Villarreal cruised to a 4-0 home

spot to seventh with 38 points. Ronaldinho instigated a classic counter-attack after 17 minutes driving forward in midfield and striker crossed quickly for Larsson post.

A large slice of luck put Barca Melli diverted Ronaldinho's through ball into his own net as he tried to prevent Eto'o reaching the Five minutes Jater Ronaldinho's

free kick came off the wall, hit Melli on the back and rolled into the goal the Betis defender's wrongfooted keeper stood and watched Home keeper Valdes had to be

alert to save well from Dani and Arzu in one-on-one's in the first half as Barca suddenly looked shaky at the back.

In the 58th minute Ronaldinho scored a fourth when his dipping free kick squirmed out of Antonio Doblas's hands and just inside the

Joaquin's free kick from 25 metres out surprised Valdes at his near post soon after but Messi made it five near the end as he showed great persistence feeding Samuel Eto'o on the right harrying defenders to break into flank, from where the Cameroon the area and score off the near

# Eriksson fires



at the quarterfinal stage in the 2002 World Cup.

paper Lance!

The Swede said: "If all the players are fully fit, I can say that this is the best generation of players and the best national

team since I took over in 2001." Eriksson also said that

England captain David Beckham, although he conceded he would like to have FIFA World Player of the Year Ronaldinho in his squad.

It was Ronaldinho whose winning goal in the 2002 World Cup quarterfinal eliminated England and propelled Brazil towards victory in the final under then coach Luiz Felipe Scolari, now in charge of Portugal, who has been touted as a possible successor to Eriksson in the England post.

Eriksson said he "would be English" when England tackle his homeland Sweden but said he was not underestimating

Eriksson said: "We beat them 1-0 in a friendly played in Liverpool (in April 2002) but they won't be easy to beat in the World

Paraguay are not easy as they

England will face Sweden, Germany 2006 would be the "the Paraguay and Trinidad & Tobago greatest moment of the career" of in World Cup's Group B.

### Tigers look to Kapali

What we want to make sure in this

series is that we have the consistency after an encouraging performance in Australia," said Mahela, who expressed his satisfaction over the new venue during their first training session. SQUADS

Alok Kapali, Aftab Ahmed, Khaled

BANGLADESH: Habibul Bashar (captain), Khaled Mashud (vicecaptain), Shahriar Nafees, Mohammad Ashraful, Rajin Saleh,

Mahmud, Mohammad Rafique, Mashrafee-Bin-Mortuza, Syed Rasel and Abdur Razzak.

SRI LANKA (from): Mahlea Jayawardene (captain), Kumar Sangakkara, Upal Tharanga, Sanath Jayasuriya, Jehan Mubarak, Tillakaratne Dilshan, Chamara Kapugedera, Farveez Maharoof, Ruwan Fernando, Dammika Prasad, Dilhara Fernando, Ruchira Perera, Chamara Ganegama, Malinga Bandara and Kaushal

## reminder

in a warm-up match here on Sunday. Blackwell, vying for a spinner's

slot along with Monty Panesar and Shaun Udal, finished with 4-57 as Cricket Club of India President's XI.

The hosts were bowled out for 251 in reply to England's first-innings 299. The tourists were 30-1 in their second innings at stumps on the penultimate day of a three-day game which is not a first-class fixture. England will play one more three-

day match before the three-Test series starts at Nagpur on March 1. BRIEFSCORES

ENGLAND: 299 (Bell 78, Vaughan 54, Strauss 51, Collingwood 47 not out, Pietersen 26, Flintoff 20; Waigankar 3-53, Bachani 2-66) and 30-1 (Trescothick23notout)

Harmison 1-46)

### 38 called for **Asian Games** hockey squad

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Hockey Federation yesterday named a 38-member preliminary squad for the national team which will participate in the Asian Games this year in Qatar.

The residential camp will begin at the BKSP from February 22. All the players have been requested to coaches Jamal Haider, Mamunur Rashid and Barkatullah Chapal by 4 pmon February 22.

### Baggio rejects return request

INTERNET, undated

Roberto Baggio has rejected the opportunity to return to football with Livorno.

Italian football has been shorn of the 'Divine Ponytail' since Baggio announced his retirement in May 2004.

Baggio remains a legendary figure in Serie A and it was with this in mind that new Livorno coach Carlo Mazzone attempted to tempt the former Milan and Juventus playmaker out of retirement.

While Baggio has expressed the utmost respect he holds for Mazzone, at 39-years-old, has decided that his boots are to remain permanently hungup. "I've recently spoke to Mazzone

and he asked me to go with him to Livorno," said Baggio. "Mazzone is a great coach and if

had less pains, to show my thanks, I would have thought about it. Since May 16 2004, the day of my retirement, I have never played.

"I think that after many years of being dedicated to the same things, it is normal to take time out.

Coming back to football? I don't

'I want to do other things but it is difficult as I have always had a big passion for football."

#### Smith ruled out of World Cup

AFP, Manchester

Alan Smith will definitely miss the World Cup after suffering a horror injury in Manchester United's FA Cup defeat at Liverpool but his agent has dismissed reports the midfielder's career could be over.

United manager Sir Alex Ferguson described the injury, in which Smith broke his leg and dislocated his ankle while trying to block a John Arne Riise freekick on Saturday, as the worst he had ever

The game was held up for five minutes as Smith received treatment on the pitch and was given oxygen before being stretchered

He faces at least eight months on the sidelines, but agent Alex Black insists the player is in a posi-tive frame of fining.

"Certainly from what Alan has been told we're not under the impression that it's at all careerthreatening," he told Sky Sports. "It will be a long process to come

back but if anybody is going to come back from it, it'll be Alan. "He is tough, not just physically but mentally as well, so he has

already started to talk about how quickly he can come back and get himself going again. "He is having his operation this morning (Sunday) which will put him in a pot for six to eight weeks | total. He also hit three bound-

and then they'll know the extent of the damage to his ligaments as soon as it calms down. Smith, who United signed as a striker from Leeds United 18 months ago but has since been converted into a midfielder by Ferguson, is renowned for being

#### Church leaders against football exploitation

AFP, Porto Alegre, Brazil

five months before the World Cup begins for an end to the "shameful" work conditions in factories manufacturing footballs.

The issue was raised at the World Council of Churches' conference being held here this week in ner Ronaldinho.

of the German Lutherian Church of South Rhine and Westphalia said: With the World Cup here (in Germany) footballs will be sold by the millions.

euro. With the 32 stitches done by (balls) a day. "The WCC is promoting this

campaign here, in Ronaldinho's home town. These balls must be made in humane conditions."

employees.

### Dravid crosses

achieving the feat. Pakistan captain Inzamamul

Hag is second in the all-time list with 11,251 runs in 356 one-dayers. Sri Lanka's Sanath Jayasuriya is third with 10,512 runs in 354 matches.

The Bangalore-based Dravid has also scored 8,244 runs at an average of 57.65 in 97 Tests.

SERIE A

## Juve held by strugglers

Football

Juventus coach Fabio Capello admitted struggling Sicilians Messina gave his side one of their hardest games of the season after Saturday's entertaining 2-2 Serie Adraw.

Leaders Juve, who played almost the entire second-half with 10 men following the sending-off of Fabio Cannavaro, were denied their 22nd league victory when Sergio Floccari claimed his second goal of the game with a firm header. A point was just reward for

Messina who matched Juve in every department, despite lying a massive 43 points behind them in Italy's top division.

"Few teams have given us as many problems as Messina did," Capello said.

"They were very aggressive, with two quick strikers. They looked dangerous every time they came forward, especially in the first half." Capello was angry with his

Football

Diego Maradona scored twice to

lead Argentina 8-4 over Brazil in an

indoor soccer exhibition between

former national team players from

The match, watched by more

than 10,000 fans at Nilson Nelson

arena in Brasilia, was the first of

three scheduled between the coun-

tries. The other two will take place

in the coming months, one in

Former national team players

for Brazil included Dunga, Bebeto,

Zetti, Aldair, Careca and Muller.

FROM PAGE 12

before Yousuf flicked paceman

during his 85-ball knock.

aries during his 79-ball knock.

Pakistan and India at the National

Akmal c Rudra Pratap b Sreesanth 25

Razzag e Dravid b Rudra Pratap24

Total: (For 8 wkts in 50 overs) 286

Fall of wickets: 1-62, 2-71, 3-77, 4-

39 Actress

42 Heart of

43 George's

44 Make a

46 Nerd-

47 Onus

pack

brother

difference

occupant

dots and

dashes

53 Baking

54 Fifth

the matter

1 Wan-

2 Proof-

dered

reader's

concern

4 Consider 27 Recipe

3 Moreover

5 Echoloca

method

surgical

thread

7 Leading

8 Male title

9 Sluggish

11 Safari

13 Photos

Christmas 18 Two, in

Solution time: 27 mins.

10 Served as

master

Tijuana

a portent 34 Old

6 Ties with

tion

115, 5-210, 6-239, 7-261, 8-264

Stadium in Karachi on Sunday:

Farhat c and b Sreesanth

Malik c Raina b Sreesanth

Yousuf c Zaheer b Agarkar

Inzamam lbw b Powar

Sami c Kaif b Sreesanth

Extras: (lb-5, nb-2, w-14)

1 Frequents Russo

the stacks 40 Addressee

Younis not out

Arafat b Zaheer

Iftikhar not out

ACROSS

6 Cow

catcher

11 Kaliman-

other

name

bafflers

official

Calif.

man ..."

17 8-Down's

evidence

part

20 Trawler

gear

22 Deterio-

paper

19 "CSI"

15 - Grove, 49 Elsie's

16 "I -- line- 51 Convert to

counter- 52 Colored

14 Game

12 ESL

in the last 10 overs.

SCOREBOARD

PAKISTAN

big total.

Argentina and another in Brazil.

both countries here on Saturday.

XINHUA, Brasilia

Maradona's Argentina

too good for Brazil!

defence for allowing Flocarri the Donati's delightful through-ball time and space to head home Salvatore Sullo's crossed freekick four minutes from time.

"Im always irritated by conceding a goal from a setpiece," he said. "Its a pity, as we were still play-

ing well with 10 men." A draw left Juve with 67 points from their 26 matches played, 10 ahead of AC Milan who leapfrogged city rivals Inter Milan into second place with a 1-0 home win against relegation-threatened Cagliari.

A first-half penalty scored by Alberto Gilardino secured victory after Filippo Inzaghi was sent tumbling in the box.

Cagliari would have lost by a much bigger margin had their keeper Antonio Chimenti not been in outstanding form. Interdropped to third after their

goalless draw at Livorno which left them 12 points off the pace with 12 Messina stunned the titleholders in the third minute at their

timidating San Filippo stadium.

The Argentine side included

Alejandro Mancuso, Jose Basualdo,

Sergio Goycochea and Jorge

Minister Angnelo Queiroz awarded

Maradona the Juscelino Kubitschek

After the match, Brazil's Sports

Burruchaga

Floccari chased after Massimo

Juventus looked set to leave Sicily with all three points when substitute Adrian Mutu smashed home a penalty after Rafael had scythed down Ibrahimovic.

before outpacing the Juve defence

and firing a right-footed shot past

from eight yards, Ibrahimovic

brought Juve back on level terms in

Del Piero fed Mauro Camoranesi whose clever dummy

released Pavel Nedved. The Czech

Republic international, making his

200th appearance for Juve, moved

the ball on to Ibrahimovic who

unleashed a rasping, right-footed

drive that flashed past Nicholas

minute for a second yellow card,

but despite being a man down

Cannavaro saw red in the 51st

After missing an easy chance

Buffon for his first Serie A goal.

the 18th minute.

But the home side persisted and they equalised when Floccari met Sullo's delivery with a firm header that Buffon got a hand to but could not prevent from hitting the net.

#### I am a new man: Cafu INTERNET, undated

Marcos Cafu believes knee surgery will add years to his career and that his injury problems are behind him.

"After the tempest comes the rainbow," smiled the Milan star who has struggled with fitness worries and his father's illness. "These last four months have

been terrible for me, but these

problems have made me stronger. I will take part in my fourth World Cup, but my heart is beating as if it ere my first." There were reports that the Brazilian would end his career at

Sao Paolo, but the 34-year-old has no intention of hanging up his boots yet. This week Milan doctor Massimiliano Sala stated that the former Roma man can play

another eight years considering his overall fitness levels. "It's good to have this constitution. How about I play another decade instead of just eight years?"

he joked. Cafu went under the knife in Rio de Janeiro to correct a knee problem, but also had surgery on his nose and

throat to ease his breathing. "I am now a new man and soon I will be able to literally fly on the football field!"

#### Pakistan keep

wickets for 16 runs.

job to restrict Pakistan. Leg-spinner Chawla finished with 4-8 off 8.1 overs, including two wickets in his opening over, and left-arm spinner Jadeja took three

Pakistan kept losing wickets at regular intervals against the Indian spin duo. Middle-order batsman Rameez Raja was the top-scorer with 25 off 67 balls.

Nasir Jamshed (18), Ali Khan (10), Sarfraz Ahmed (15) and Anwar Ali (17) were the other batsmen to

#### reach double-figures. BRIEFSCORES

PAKISTAN: 109 all out in 41.1 overs (Raja 25, Jamshed 18, Ali 17; Chawla 4-8, Jadeja 3-16) INDIA: 71 all out in 18.5 overs Chawla 25, Shah 16; Ali 5-35, Ayub

Result: Pakistan win by 38 runs. Man-of-the-match: Anwar Ali.

CRYPTOQUIP

JC Z CIWZXI VFHITIJOA JV

Z OTIZM TKXIT, J VKEEFVI

WJOUM VZN VUI JV

IS HE CALLED THE VICE PRESIDENT? Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals F

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 50 Stimpy's give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.



by William G Morgan, after the invention of basketball by only 4 years. Morgan designed the game with a combination of basketball,

baseball, tennis and handball,





Tatenda Taibu (Former Zimbabwe cricket captain)

T've pretty much cancelled everything (in Zimbabwe). I just do not see a future. It's sad that I left before I produced the best that I can. I had my best years still to come. I had not reached my peak."

After signing contracts with celebrity English side Lashings and Surrey club Pyrford.



INTERNET, undated

Sven-Goran Eriksson has warned world champions Brazil that he considers England a much more formidable team than the one that exited to the Latin Americans

Eriksson, who will step down as England head coach after the World Cup, made the boast in an interview with Brazilian sports

## Blackwell's

AFP, Mumbal Left-arm spinner Ian Blackwell staked his claim for a berth in England's team for the upcoming Test series in India with four wickets

England gained the lead over the

CCI PRESIDENT'S XI: 251 (Samant 53, Redkar 36, Shah 30; Blackwell 4-57, Hoggard 1-24, Panesar 1-45,

one of the game's tougher charac-

Church leaders have issued a plea

the home town of World Cup win-Martin Domke, a representative

"They are generally made in shameful conditions, often in Pakistan, with workers paid half a hand, they do only three or four

Domke wants workers to be paid at least one euro per ball and given the same rights as salaried

#### 23 Leak slowly FROM PAGE 12 24 Tweak Mohammed Azharuddin in 26 Oliver

Twist's request 28 Plunder 30 Baltimore news-

31 Emotional

#### It was Maradona's first visit to Brazil since he was detained while trying to leave the country after playing a charity match in Argentina's 1986 World Cup hero was detained briefly by air-

port police after showing contempt to authorities following his late arrival for a flight. He was released after being interrogated and was allowed to return to Argentina.

10 1 60

1 50

10

Did not bat: Asif 21 to dampen Pakistan's hopes of a Super-sub: Iqbal (unused) OMRW Yousuf and Younis then took 10 0 64 Zaheer Pakistan past the 200-mark

Ajit Agarkar straight to deep fine-10 Rudra Pratap leg after hitting six boundaries 10 0 49 INDIA Abdul Razzaq hit a rapid 15-Gambhir c Akmal b Iftikhar ball 24 with two boundaries and a Dravid c Malik b Sami

Razzaq

Aleem Dar.

disease

game

attach-

ment

31 "Survivor"

team

32 Summer

33 Advocate

of law-

French

coin

36 Victor

37 Fisher

38 Salon

41 Open

in a

way

quish

45 Actress

48 Fawn's

Spelling

44 Relin-

men's

baskets

lessness

TV.fare

23 Video-

Agarkar

Sreesanth

Marauding Yuvraj, Dhoni

six as Pakistan managed 76 runs Yuvraj not out Younis hit two sixes in Zaheer Dhoni not out Khan's final over to lift Pakistan's Extras: (lb-8, w-7) Total: (For 2 wkts in 46.5 overs)

287 Did not bat: Raina, Kaif, Powar, Agarkar, Zaheer, Rudra Pratap, Scoreboard in the fifth and final one-day international between Sreesanth

Fall of wickets: 1-69, 2-141 Super-sub: Kartik (unused) OMRW 8.5 0 65 Sami 9 0 48 Asif Arafat 0 51 Malik 0 22 8 0 49 0

Man-of-the-series: Yuvraj Singh. Toss: India. Umpires: Steve Bucknor and

Result: India won by 8 wickets

and clinch five-ODI series 4-1.

Man-of-the-match: Yuvraj Singh. 3-9, Jamshed 2-24) Toss: Pakistan. CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer 21 Tropical hedgehog 25 Infamous measure

HITN IWETIVVJHI

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF AN OFFICIAL OVERSES EVIL PRACTICES AND BAD HABITS,