

## FORMULA 1 Schumi wins San Marino

AFP, Imola

Michael Schumacher has ended his long drought without a competitive victory in Formula One when he held off a fierce challenge from world champion Spaniard Fernando Alonso to win the San Marino Grand Prix.

The 37-year-old German showed also that Ferrari are back on the winning pace as he increased his record number of wins to 85 and won on the Italian team's home Enzo e Dino Ferrari circuit for the seventh time.

Schumacher came home 2.16 seconds ahead of Alonso in his Renault with Colombian Juan Pablo Montoya third in his McLaren Mercedes ahead of Brazilian Felipe Massa in the second Ferrari.

Finn Kimi Raikkonen was fifth in the second McLaren and the drivers who finished third, fourth and fifth were separated by only 1.6 seconds at the end of the 62 laps that was interrupted by a massive accident on the first lap.

Schumacher had started the race from pole position, having broken the long-established record of Brazilian Ayrton Senna by taking pole for the 66th time.

Schumacher's win puts him second in this year's drivers' world championship standings with 21 points, 15 points behind Alonso who leads on 36 points. In the constructors' table, Renault have 51 and Ferrari have 33.

## Nancy revive Platini days

REUTERS, Paris

Nancy turned to history for inspiration as they beat Nice 2-1 in the French League Cup final on Saturday to lift their first trophy in 28 years.

Nancy, who win a ticket to the UEFA Cup, had been chasing a little since a 1-0 win over Nice in the 1976 French Cup final in which Michel Platini, their finest ever player, got the winner.

The easterners were down to 10 men when Brazilian forward Kim headed home a Benjamin Gavanon free-kick for the winning goal 65 minutes into Saturday's game at the Stade de France.

Forward Monsef Zerka opened the scoring for Nancy from close range on 22 minutes after Nice goalkeeper Hugo Lloris had failed to block an effort from midfielder Pascal Berenguer.

Nice levelled three minutes into the second half when pocket-sized Ivory Coast striker Bakary Samba twisted his way past three defenders before setting up playmaker Marama Vahirua.

His powerful shot from 22 metres left Nancy keeper Olivier Sorin no chance.

Nancy then had defender Sebastian Pyrgrenier sent off after a second booking on 62 minutes but that did not stop them from scoring the winner against the run of play three minutes later.

Nice, chasing a fourth triumph in the competition, kept pressing forward after that and found the back of the net twice but were denied each time for offside.

## Spain, USA in Fed Cup semis

AFP, Paris

Jamea Jackson booked a place for the United States in the Fed Cup semifinals on Sunday as Anabel Medina handed Spain their third successive final four berth.

In Ettenheim, 19-year-old rookie Jackson defeated Martina Muller 7-6 (7/2), 6-2 to give the USA an unbeatable 3-1 lead.

Spanish number one Anabel Medina crushed Austrias Sybille Bammer 6-0, 6-3 to give her country an unassailable 3-0 advantage in Valencia.

The Americans, who have won the event a record 17 times, will meet either Belgium or Russia in the semifinals.

Spain face either France or Italy at home in the semifinals on July 15-17.

## It will not be

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"The general feeling in the ICC is that a country should only get a turn after three World Cups," he said.

Shaharyar added that the ICC Executive Board members would meet in Dubai on April 30 to discuss the two bids and there were chances a decision would be made on the hosts. "We've not decided as yet where the semifinals and final would be held because this would only be decided once the tournament is awarded to us," he said. "But we have agreed that India will organise 22 games, we'll stage 16 matches, Sri Lanka nine and Bangladesh six. I think we are very well prepared and there is very good coordination among the four countries on this tournament."



PHOTO: AFP

John Arne Riise of Liverpool celebrates his strike against Chelsea in the FA Cup semifinal clash at Old Trafford on Saturday.

## FA CUP

# Reds foil Chelsea dream

Football

REUTERS, London

Liverpool reached the FA Cup final and foiled Chelsea's bid for the league-Cup double with a 2-1 victory in their semifinal at Old Trafford in Manchester on Saturday.

Rafael Benitez's side will meet either Middlesbrough or West Ham United, who meet in the other semifinal at Villa Park in Birmingham on Sunday, in the May 13 final at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff.

"To win this game was amazing...I think in the end the players worked so hard, we deserved to win," said Benitez, relieved that his team withstood Chelsea's late onslaught.

Liverpool went ahead midway through the first half when John Arne Riise scored from a free-kick, curing a low shot between Paulo Ferreira and Frank Lampard at the near end of the wall and past unsighted keeper Carlo Cudicini.

Chelsea conceded the second goal from a throw-in on the right on 53 minutes when a poor headed clearance fell to Luis Garcia. The

Spaniard raced away from three defenders to hit a dipping shot high into the far top corner.

"It was a fantastic goal for Luis and necessary for us," said Benitez. Didier Drogba put Chelsea back into the game with 20 minutes left when Liverpool made a hash of clearing the ball and keeper Jose Reina, racing off his line, was caught out of position by the striker's header.

It was Benitez's second win against Jose Mourinho's Chelsea in 10 meetings in all competitions after the Merseysiders put the Londoners out of the Champions League in the semifinals almost a year ago.

Drogba had missed two good chances in the first half, the first when he headed wide after Hernan Crespo had flicked on Frank Lampard's corner from the right.

The Ivory Coast striker also finished badly with a shot wide past the advancing Reina after breaking between the central defenders to chest down a high ball out of defence.

Liverpool's Garcia had been guilty of two misses before his brilliant goal, especially when he scooped the ball over the bar with

the net at his mercy after Gerrard's fine pull-back from the right in first-half stoppage time.

With Liverpool clearly the better side for the first hour, Cudicini made two diving saves, both to his left, first from Xabi Alonso's shot to the far bottom corner and later from Garcia.

Chelsea captain John Terry headed Arjen Robben's free-kick into Reina's net early in the second half but the goal was disallowed because the England defender had both hands on Riise's shoulders when he jumped.

The tide turned Chelsea's way after Drogba's goal, with wingers Robben and Damien Duff on as substitutes stretching the defence, and Reina twice saved from the Dutchman as Liverpool were pinned in their own half.

The last chance of an equaliser and extra time was lost when Joe Cole missed a gilt-edged chance in the fifth minute of stoppage time, hammering a cross from the right over the bar with only Reina to beat.

## PRIMERA LIGA

# Celta hammer Zaragoza

Football

REUTERS, Madrid

Celta Vigo hammered Real Zaragoza 4-0 at home in the Primera Liga on Saturday to move within two points of the Champions League places.

Two goals from Uruguayan midfielder Fabian Canobbio and one apiece for Jorge and Jesus Perera saw off a listless Zaragoza who have nothing left to play for this season.

Celta midfielder Borja Oubina started the move that led to the opening goal in the 30th minute as he fed Fernando Baiano in the area only for Cesar to save at his feet.

But Canobbio picked up the loose ball to score from a tight angle and Jorge put the game beyond Zaragoza just after the restart, firing into an open net after Cesar had come out of his area and failed to clear.

Substitute striker Perera scored a near-post header from a corner for

the third in the 80th minute, and a minute later Canobbio broke through to lob Cesar for his second.

Earlier on Saturday, an under-strength Villarreal clearly had their focus on next week's Champions League semifinal return against Arsenal as they slumped to a 2-0 home defeat against Real Sociedad.

Villarreal coach Manuel Pellegrini had made it clear before the match that turning over Arsenal's 1-0 lead on Tuesday was his priority and rested leading scorer Juan Roman Riquelme, Marcos Senna, and Juan Pablo Sorin among others.

Uruguayan striker Diego Forlan started on the bench. A fired up Sociedad took full advantage, with Mikel Alonso left unopposed after nine minutes to drill a powerful shot at goalkeeper Sebastian Viera, who misjudged it badly as the ball skimmed off his shoulder.

Chilean winger Mark Gonzalez doubled the lead just before the half-hour, scoring his third goal in a

many games with a low free-kick that deflected off a foot in the wall to send Viera the wrong way.

The home side did not muster a shot on target until near the end of the first half but the introduction of Forlan after the break put the pressure on the visitors' goal for a while.

Sociedad wobbled and Forlan skewed a shot wide of the post with just the keeper to beat in the 55th minute.

But Villarreal failed to maintain the momentum and the game finished tamely with Sociedad the side more likely to add to the scores.

The defeat dropped Villarreal to ninth on 49 points after Antonio Lopez's curling free-kick gave Atletico Madrid a 1-0 win over Alaves to put them eighth with 50.

Sociedad climbed away from the relegation zone and are now 12th with 38 points, after a third win in four outings, five points ahead of 18th-placed Alaves in the 20-team standings.

# Spinners spare blushes

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thought that the wicket was assisting the bowlers in the second half, blasted his top batsmen.

"There are three stroke-makers in the top order but unfortunately, we missed their services," he said.

Mohammad Ashraf continued his poor showing in the home series when he skied a catch at mid-off to Dan Cullen off Nathan Bracken for five while Aftab Ahmed, who settled well, spooned a slower delivery by Brett Lee to Michael Clarke at point.

Tushar Imran peculiarly chased a wide delivery by left-arm wrist spinner Brad Hogg but only bottomed out to Gilchrist's gloves.

"But I think we played some good one-day cricket in between 20 to 40 overs as we worked on singles and twos to recover from the damage. At one stage we were in a good position at 170 in 40 overs but we did not have enough quality wicket in hand for the last ten overs," the Tigers coach explained.

"We had three overs to spare and it would have been nice if we could complete the full quota. The spinners did a very good job and picked up some wickets, which is really good for us.

Whatmore informed that Alok Kapali would be fit for the next game. "It was a very unusual and freakish accident that left him with

three stitches on his lip. It was a bit of a shake for him but he should be okay. He is very much in our plans for the future," he said about Kapali, who was injured during the morning's light-warm-up session.

Australian vice-captain Gilchrist, who brutally punished the Bangladeshi bowlers, especially leading paceman Mashrafe Bin Mortuza, gave credit to Bangladesh for pushing them in the first game.

"All credits to Bangladesh as they stretched us. They pushed us in the first Test and now ensured some nervy time in the first one-dayer," said the left-hander who blasted a 46-ball 76.

"We have learnt a very good lesson in the match like first Test which I think definitely will work on the next two games in Dhaka," the man-of-the-match warned.

"Looked like it was the kind of wicket where you had to get the runs against the new ball while it was shiny and hard and coming on to the bat. Fortunately Simon (Katich) and I were able to get the team off to a flying start. Bangladesh fought really well and we are becoming accustomed to that."

Meanwhile, captain Ricky Ponting was desperately looking forward to win a toss in the rest of the series.

"As this series goes on, it would

be pretty hard to chase runs. So hopefully, I'll win a few tosses," said Ponting who has yet to win a toss so far on the tour.

"I think I said this morning during the toss that it would spin a bit as the game went on and it turned out that way. Their spinners bowled very well in the middle after Adam (Gilchrist) had got us off to a flying start. They stayed in the game and competed very well. Luckily we had Hussey and a few good tailenders to bat us across the line. It might have been a different game if we didn't have such a start," he added.

## Laxman rubbishes

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naturally be good on the field."

Laxman also expressed hope and confidence that he would force his way into the one-day team. "Right now my focus is on the Tests and am confident of forcing my way back into the ODI side."

Laxman was left out of the 2003 World Cup and had called it the lowest point of his career. Four years later he still harbours hopes of playing in one.

"Playing in the World Cup is a dream for me and I am confident of achieving it. There is still a lot of cricket to be played before the World Cup and I am sure of finding a place in the team," said Laxman.

## Brazilian Lincoln Ballack's successor?

AFP, Munich

Bayern Munich manager Felix Magath said Sunday he is targeting Schalke 04's Brazilian playmaker Lincoln as a replacement for German international captain Michael Ballack.

The 29-year-old Ballack, out of contract at the end of the season, is being tipped to join English champions Chelsea in the summer and Bayern are reportedly preparing a 13 million euro bid for Lincoln.

"Lincoln is a top class player," Magath said in Bild am Sonntag. "We are talking over a few names and then we want to do something ahead of the new season."

Since joining from German rivals Kaiserslautern in 2001, Lincoln, 27, has become an idol for the Schalke fans and recently signed a contract extension until June 2008.

The Schalke management are well aware that Bayern are looking at the gifted Brazilian but issued a 'hands off' warning.

"I know he (Lincoln) has the class to replace Ballack," said Schalke team manager Andreas Muller. "But the fact is that we will not be letting Lincoln go under any circumstances."

Schalke, who are currently involved in the semifinals of the UEFA Cup, finished runner-up to Bayern in the Bundesliga last season and would hate to see their star player head to dominant rivals Bayern.

Bayern have a history of signing their rivals' best players and captured Werder Bremen's French defender Valerien Ismael for eight million euros in the summer.

## Jason delays county debut

AFP, London

Fast bowler Jason Gillespie delayed his planned debut for Yorkshire against Derbyshire on Sunday because of travel weariness.

The Australian joined up with his new Yorkshire teammates at Headingley but did not play after arriving from Bangladesh Saturday.

"I had hoped to get stuck in straight away but having just played in back-to-back Test matches before some long flights I did not feel it was the best preparation," said Gillespie.

"After talking to Craig White and Darren Lehmann I decided to get over my tiredness and make absolutely sure I am fully recovered in time for Yorkshire's Championship match against Warwickshire at Edgbaston on Wednesday."

Gillespie said he accepted that his days in Australia's one-day side were probably over but he felt that he still had a lot to offer at Test level.

"I would love to be a part of the Ashes series but that is a long way off yet and at the moment I am concentrating solely on taking wickets for Yorkshire," he said.

## A bad day's

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"If all tickets were sold out before the match, then why should those parts of the stadium are empty?" they questioned.

Sources revealed that the crisis for tickets was man-made with an ill motive to earn some quick bucks.

"Some black-marketers in connivance with some local sports organisers bought a few hundred of tickets to sell those on the match day," sources said adding that the black-marketers also managed to collect the costly Club House tickets.

However, much to the frustration, most of the tickets remained unsold. In the face off crowd reluctance, the black-marketers yesterday were compelled to sell the tickets at a much lower price.

An 80-taka gallery ticket was sold at Tk 40 or 60 and a Club House ticket worth of Tk 800 was sold in between Tk 300 and 500.

## Clark unhappy

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conditions. Gillespie, of course, made a historic double-hundred in the game, posting the highest score by a nightwatchman.

"I had spoken to some people about coming home if things got close," Clark said, referring to the imminent birth of his first child. "They wanted to play three spinners, I guess. I'm not sure about the selection, I haven't looked into that."

## Sachin 33 today

FROM PAGE 12  
coach Greg Chappell banking heavily on his experience and influence in the dressing room.

"From being toast of the nation for a decade and a half, it would now appear as if he stands between the team and the golden future. Shame on all I sometimes wonder if all this affects Tendulkar. Beyond the profile of equanimity in public, he is after-all a human and it must hurt", wrote legendary fast bowler turned commentator Wasim Akram in an article with PTI.



## Juninho backs Scolari

INTERNET, undated

Luiz Felipe Scolari should be appointed as the next England manager ahead of Martin O'Neill or Steve McClaren, insists former Middlesbrough star Juninho who has played under all three candidates.

After being part of Scolari's successful 2002 World Cup campaign, the 33-year-old is adamant the current Portugal boss is the best candidate for the job.

He told the Mail on Sunday: "Out of all three of them, I think Scolari is the best coach. "Felipe would be great if he was the England coach. He is doing great things with the Portugal side and would improve the England team."

"Scolari has discipline and he likes to work hard, so he has the profile for the job."

Juninho, however, admits he is less impressed by the credentials of O'Neill and McClaren and is openly critical of the man-management skills of the Boro manager and current favourite.

"The other two coaches are ones I'm less friendly with. My football didn't adapt to them. "McClaren is a good tactical coach but I don't think he deals well with the players."

"On the pitch he is good, but off it, with the players he needs to be more truthful."

## Robson against Becks captaincy

AFP, London

West Brom manager and former-England captain Bryan Robson claimed Sunday that Real Madrid star David Beckham is too weak to captain the national side and should be replaced for the World Cup.

Robson believes that 30-year-old Beckham is not a natural leader and that Chelsea's John Terry or

## BITS AND BOBS

Liverpool's Steven Gerrard would do a better job.

In his autobiography serialised in the Mail on Sunday, Robson said: "As for the England captaincy, David Beckham would not have been my choice."

"He hasn't done a bad job and he has matured, but he's not a natural leader on the pitch. "Steven Gerrard and John Terry are more natural leaders and have the aggression that most managers like in a captain."

"To my mind, Terry, who is also the Chelsea skipper, has probably edged ahead of Gerrard as the best choice. "He leads by example, is an excellent organiser and has the presence that everyone in the team will respect."

"He also scores goals which is a great bonus for a defender."

## Ticketing fraud still a problem

AFP, Berlin

With just six and a half weeks until the World Cup kick-off host nation Germany are still struggling to combat ticketing scams from cunning fraudsters looking to exploit desperate football fans.

The demand for the 3.07 million tickets at the finals, running from June 9 until July 9, has been over-subscribed by a ratio of 20 and fraudsters continue to use new methods to dupe fans.

The illegal black market traders, using online auction website ebay, claimed to have won the tickets as prizes from Coca Cola and faxed apparent confirmation of this to the buyer.

The fan would then transfer money for the match ticket only for the American drinks giant to confirm that the documents had in fact been false.

E-bay has vowed to tighten security in the wake of the scam and Coca Cola have urged fans to look

# Mourinho finds five reasons for defeat

Football

INTERNET, undated

Jose Mourinho gave his post-mortem of Chelsea's FA Cup semifinal defeat and tabled the five reasons why his team lost.

Mourinho has been criticised for his graceless reaction to the 2-1 defeat to Liverpool at Old Trafford.

He did not shake hands with Rafael Benitez and seemed reluctant to give the Reds much credit for their win.

Instead he blamed a combination of mistakes by his own players and referee Graham Poll.

Mourinho said: "The first goal is always important especially in big matches. We had a big chance to score the first goal but we didn't."

"The next situation, the ball goes to the box and there's a very fair challenge but Mr Poll gives a free-kick and after that Riise took it very well."

"I don't know why John Terry's header was disallowed. I think it was a goal. "Their second goal was a defensive mistake. When you make mistakes, sometimes you are punished."

"The reaction was very good. They defend with 10 or 11 players. We dominate, score the goal and we have a big chance to go to extra time."

"An open goal, just with the keeper in front, you have to put the ball in the net but I never like to go

individually and make a player responsible for defeat so I prefer honestly to say that we lost. "If you go to extra time, you go with a psychological advantage but football is about putting the ball in



JOSE MOURINHO

the net and we missed that chance like we missed at Anfield last season in the Champions League in the last minute."

"The Chelsea boss did not accept suggestions that his tactical decision to play fullback Paulo Ferreira in midfield had backfired."

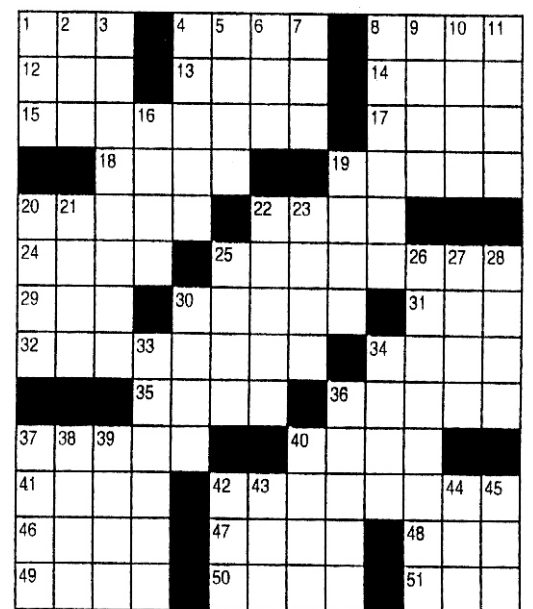
Mourinho said: "They played well. We played 4-4-2 in the last three matches, the team was playing very well and I think Paulo played a very good game for us."

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 35 Rehab candidate 1 "Lost" net-employee path 36 Aware of, work 22 Wakefield 4 Deposited slangly 2 Carnival VIP 8 Basilica 37 Angry setting 23 First section 40 Logical 3 Trade victim 12 Resume 41 En- 4 Memorize 25 Detest 13 Green grossed 5 Senate 26 Vies land 42 Office assistant 27 One 14 After- fixture 6 Rage 28 Mediocre noon 46 State 7 — Moines 30 Disorder telecast with 8 Property 33 Sheen, in 15 Pats certainty 9 Indigent Shropshire 17 Peeved 47 Rain- 10 Rani's 34 Hokkaido 18 Paltry storm wrap 35aborigine 19 Lofty minulia 11 Foil's kin 36 Pleased 20 lair 48 Prior 16 Paper 37 Rugged 25 Poseidon's night quantity 19 Yard cliff 22 Expan- 49 DNA com- 19 Yard 38 Four-star sive 50 Nervous condition review 24 Coed's 51 Clinton's 20 Probab- 39 Tournam- quarters instrument bility ment 25 Tropical flower 39 Tournam- ment 27 Grumpy 40 Urban blight 42 B-F companion- 43 Fort —, Calif. 30 Jousting weapons 44 Peron or Gabor 31 Lennon's lady 45 Tyrannosaurus 32 Bony 34 Writer Kingsley

Solution time: 25 mins.

FOUR LETTERS  
I N D I S T R I A N O N  
C A R S A S S G A W K  
A N D E A I N C H I C  
N B G R E A C C K  
B R A C E I N D N O N  
R U S E V A T E D G E  
A S F I N T B L A S E  
C H I C K C O R E S  
R A V E O V S T I E R  
A F A R A W T Y P O  
T O T E O V A I R I S  
M E E T Y E N C O C A



## CRYPTOQUIP

Y P X A Q R J Y T V S Q T D  
O I S S Q A M I O Q J I L D T J L Q W J S S V  
R L J F L X N R Q A M Q A M " P X F X  
W D T X R L P X F Q N X . .  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AT VARIOUS TIMES I HAVE STOOD ON MY HEAD SO THAT I MIGHT TURN THINGS OVER IN MY MIND.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals P

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.