

Juventus owe Vialli one.

ROME, Mar 20: Gianluca Vialli's spectacular overhead kick gave Juventus a 1-0 victory over visiting Cremonese on Sunday, extending the Turin club's lead atop the Italian First Division, reports AP.

Vialli, who's scored 11 of his 12 goals at home, fired in a cross from Roberto Baggio in the 72nd. 15 minutes after midfielder Stefano De Agostini's expulsion reduced Cremonese to 10 players.

Juventus improved to 17-4-3 for 55 points and increased their lead by two points to six over AC Parma (14-7-3), who drew 2-2 at jowly Reggiana. Ten rounds remain on the schedule.

Three-time defending champions AC Milan stayed in third place, 13 points behind Juve, with a 3-0 victory at Sampdoria of Genoa as Italian international midfielder Demetrio Albertini scored his first two of the season.

AS Roma (11-8-5) are another point back in fourth after beating host Cagliari 1-0 on Argentine striker Abel Balbo's 15th goal.

League play resumes April 2, after taking next Sunday off to accommodate the Italian national side's European Championships qualifier against Estonia at Salerno, Italy, on Saturday.

In other matches Sunday, Lazio of Rome routed Genoa 4-0. Fiorentina edged Padova 1-0. Internazionale of Milan beat Foggia 3-0. Torino defeated Brescia 4-1, and Napoli and Bari drew 1-1.

Juventus 1, Cremonese 0. At Turin, Juventus controlled the action — earning 16 corner kicks to the visitors' two — but relegation-threatened Cremonese (7-4-13) never folded. Vialli, the former international striker whose rebirth this season has sparked Juve, reached his highest seasonal goal total since 1991, when he scored a career-best 19.

His 12 goals are two more than he scored in the last two seasons combined. Juve goalkeeper Angelo Peruzzi extended his shutout streak to 586 minutes before

leaving with an injury in the 57th minute. Reggiana 2, Parma 2. At Reggio Emilia, Russian winger Igor Simutenkov's close-range header in the 67th minute equalized for the 17th-place hosts (3-5-16). After Reggiana winger Mas-



GIANLUCA VIALLI

similiano Esposito scored from 11 metres (yards) in the 13th minute, Parma pulled ahead on headers by Portuguese defender Fernando Couto in 25th and sweeper Lorenzo Minotti in the 39th.

Milan 3, Sampdoria 0. At Genoa, striker Marco Simone's roller put Milan (11-9-4) ahead in the 10th minute and the Red-and-Black pulled away after Sam's veteran defender Moreno Mannini was sent off in the 53rd. Albertini bent in a free kick in the 70th minute and connected from the penalty spot in the 90th as Samp fell to 9-8-7.

Roma 1, Cagliari 0. At Cagliari, Balbo hit his third penalty kick of the season after he was pulled down in the area by defender Matteo Villa. Cagliari (9-8-7) has now lost two straight after going undefeated for eight matches. Lazio 4, Genoa 0. At Rome, the league's lead-

ing offence (55 goals) took advantage of little-used goalkeeper Gianpaolo Spagnolo, making just his third appearance of the season for Genoa (7-6-11).

Defenders Roberto Bacci and Argentine Jose Chamot netted their first goals in the First Division in the 10th and 18th minutes, respectively, and forward Diego Fuser put back a rebound on the stroke of halftime for Lazio (12-4-8). Marco Di Vaio ended the spree in the 56th.

Florentina 1, Padova 0. At Padova, Portuguese midfielder Rui Costa ran on to angle home a rebound in the 62nd minute, deciding a lackluster match pitting two of the league's three worst defenses. Padova (8-2-14) have allowed a league-high 45 goals, followed by Brescia with 41 and Fiorentina (9-9-6) with 37.

Internazionale 3, Foggia 0. At Milan, Dutch striker Dennis Bergkamp — hampered all season by injuries — scored just his second goal, in the 73rd minute, as Foggia (6-7-11) lost their fourth straight. Inter (9-8-7) also received scores from Dutch midfielder Wim Jonk on a powerful free kick in the 30th and midfielder Nicola Bertì in the 45th.

Torino 4, Brescia 1. At Brescia, Andrea Silenzi broke out of a season-long slump to net two as Torino improved to 9-6-9. The striker, who tied for third in the league a year ago with 17 goals but had just two going into this match, scored off a header in the 24th minute and on a penalty kick in the 47th. Midfielder Abedi Pele of Ghana scored in the seventh minute and striker Ruggiero Rizzitelli added his ninth of the season 10 minutes later. Winger Maurizio Neri tallied for last-place Brescia (2-16-1) in the 41st.

Bari 1, Napoli 1. At Bari, striker Benito Carbone's drive from a tough angle on the end line bounced in off goalkeeper Alberto Fontana for a 29th-minute own-goal that salvaged the draw for Napoli (7-10-7). Sandro Tovalieri's 14th goal of the season had given Bari (9-3-12) the lead in the fifth minute.

Anand moves in front

LAS PALMAS, Canary Islands, Mar 20: Viswanathan Anand of India defeated American Gata Kamsky on Sunday to take the lead in the Professional Chess Association World Championship finals series, reports AP.

Anand now leads the match five points to four after nine games. Players receive one point for a victory and a half-point for a draw. The first to reach 6.5 points in the 12-game series wins.

For the seventh time in nine games, the players chose the venerable Ruy Lopez or Spanish opening.

In game one Kamsky played 15...g6 and the game continued with 16. Ra3 Bg7 17. e5 dxe5 18. dxe5 Nh5 and white got the upper hand. In games five and seven, Kamsky played 15...c5. Both games featured complex tactics and were drawn.

On Sunday Kamsky chose 15...Qd7. On move 20, British grandmaster Nigel Short assessed the position as "certainly better" for white. White's pawn on d5 cramped black's position, particularly the bishop on b7.

When Anand's rook penetrated to a7 on move 34, Dutch grandmaster Hanse Ree thought that Anand was winning. The subsequent exchanges on b7 left Kamsky helpless against the infiltration of Anand's queen and rook on his back rank.

Kamsky was forced to concede a pawn and offered another in the hopes of getting into counterplay with his b-pawn. After the game, Anand said it was "difficult to pinpoint" exactly where black went wrong, "but structurally I'm much better and I can attack his queenside pawns at will."

The players resume Tuesday following a rest day Monday.

Liverpool dent M United's hopes

LONDON, Mar 20: Liverpool severely dented Manchester United's hopes of retaining the Premier League title with a 2-0 win at Anfield on Sunday which left Blackburn six points clear at the top of the table, reports Reuter.

Liverpool had most of the early possession and a 25th minute strike by Jamie Redknapp was no less than they deserved.

The move was begun by John Barnes who, although tackled and sprawling on the ground, still managed to poke a pass to Robbie Fowler.

Fowler pushed the ball to Redknapp who skipped past Dennis Irwin before using a left footed shot into the bottom corner of the net.

Liverpool visibly grew in confidence and it needed a piece of brilliance by Peter Schemichel to stop Fowler scoring a second of few minutes later.

Andy Cole, suffering a thigh strain and starting the match on the bench, was sent on for the second half in place of Lee Sharpe and it sharpened up the United attack.

Twice within a few minutes Liverpool keeper David James was forced into making fine saves but then the home side ensured victory five minutes from time.

Michael Thomas, who had replaced Barnes, sent in a low cross and a side-footed shot by Steve McManis took a wicked deflection off a defender to give Schemichel no chance.

The result pushed Liverpool closer to a UEFA Cup place next season and a glorious late winner from Peter Beardsley did the same for Newcastle as they beat Arsenal 1-0 at home.

Newcastle now lie third in the Premier League on 63 points, 13 behind Blackburn, with Liverpool a further six points behind in fourth but with two games in hand over the tyneside club.

Beardsley made the breakthrough with just 60 seconds left. Darren Peacock picked out Barry Venison and he spotted the England midfielder 25 metres out. The finish was explosive, giving Arsenal keeper Vince Bartram no chance.

Newcastle should have sewn up the match much earlier but squandered a number of chances, with striker Paulkitson the main culprit.

It was also a frustrating day for Arsenal's Ian Wright, hero of their Cup Winners' Cup win over Auxerre on Thursday after being dropped for the Premier League clash with Blackburn the previous week.

Wright seemed certain to score when he spotted Pavel Srinick off his line and his job looked on its way into the net. But Srinick got back to tip it on to the bar and away to safety.

Wright earlier appeared to have a good claim for a penalty turned down by referee Gary Willard when he was tripped by Robbe Elliott.



Steffi Graf of Germany plays a forehand return against Canadian Moureen Drake during her second round match at the Lipton Championships in Key Biscayne, Florida on Mar 19. Graf won 6-1, 6-2. — AFP/UNB photo.

Agassi, Sampras post wins

KEY BISCAJNE, Florida, Mar 20: Andre Agassi stayed ahead of the fashion curve Sunday and continued his pursuit of Pete Sampras in the computer rankings, reports AP.

Both players won their opening match at the Lipton Championships, but only Agassi wore a new outfit — striped shirt, baggy beach shorts, black socks, black shoes.

He seemed annoyed when asked about plans for a new clothing ensemble.

"Did you watch the match?" Agassi said. "For those who didn't, the second-ranked Agassi beat Shuzo Matsuoka 6-2, 6-4. The top-ranked Sampras won with similar ease, sweeping Derrick Rostagno 6-3, 6-2 in green shorts, a white shirt, white socks and white shoes."

Sampras and Agassi are contrasting characters in a rivalry reviving tennis. The possibility that the two Americans will meet in next weekend's final has produced uncommon anticipation at Lipton, where the 14,000-seat stadium was sold out Sunday.

"With our games being so different and our personalities being so different, I think people like to see contrast."

Sampras said, "kind of like maybe a Magic Johnson and Larry Bird."

Griming, Sampras provided an unnecessary clarification. "I would be the more conservative Larry Bird. And he is the more flamboyant Magic Johnson."

While the rivals posted routine wins, their foremost competition continued to stumble. Losses by Stefan Edberg and Richard Krajicek left only seven of the top 11 men's seeds alive after two rounds.

No. 5 Michael Stich and No. 9 Todd Martin lost Saturday.

The sixth-seeded Krajicek was eliminated 6-3, 3-6, 6-2 by Paul Kilderry, an Australian qualifier ranked No. 194. Edberg, seeded 11th, lost to German Karsten Braasch 6-3, 7-6 (7-1).

Third-seeded Michael Chang drubbed Jim Grabb 6-0, 6-3.

On the women's side, No. 2 seed Steffi Graf, No. 4 Lindsay Davenport and No. 5 Gabriela Sabatini advanced to the fourth round. Graf swept Maureen Drake 6-1, 6-2. Davenport beat Yuyuki Basuki 6-4, 6-3; and Sabatini eliminated Irina Spirelea 6-1, 7-6 (7-4).

No. 9 seed Mary Joe Fernandez withdrew prior to her opening match because of influenza. Fernandez also pulled

out of the singles draw at the Delray Beach Winter Championships this month because of flu symptoms and sinusitis.

Sampras, ranked No. 1 for the past 18 months, can remain there by reaching Friday's semifinals. He beat Agassi to win the Lipton title last year; he also beat Agassi to win the Indian Wells title last week.

Sampras preceded Agassi on Stadium court Sunday.

"When I show up here at the office," Agassi said, "and notice that he got off the court and playing pretty well, I definitely am a little bit more inspired to go out and play well."

"There are a few guys capable of pushing each other higher. Pete and I do that for each other, and I think the game benefits as a result."

So does Madison Avenue. A new TV commercial that airs Monday shows Sampras and Agassi playing tennis in the street in San Francisco — until a bus breaks up the game by driving over the net.

"In the commercial, I win," Agassi said.

"It's not like we are in an environment to play a real tennis match," Sampras countered. "No one won."

Nothing like a good dispute to fuel a rivalry.

Kafelnikov wins singles, loses doubles

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia, Mar 20: Yevgeny Kafelnikov handily defeated Frenchman Guillaume Raoux 6-2, 6-2 in the finals of the St. Petersburg Open tennis tournament Sunday, but missed a chance at a second victory when he was beaten in the doubles final, reports AP.

Kafelnikov took home dlr\$ 42,500 of the dlr\$ 300,000 in prize money for his victory over Raoux.

In doubles, Martin Damm of the Czech Republic and Anders Jarryd of Sweden bested Kafelnikov and Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland 6-4, 6-2.

"I am pretty much satisfied with this tournament, despite the fact that fortune turned its back on us in the doubles," Kafelnikov said.

Raoux took the loss in stride.

"I think he was better than me," he said. "He played better on the baseline and had better services than I did."

Satisfied with his share of the prize money, Kafelnikov joked that so far he has managed to avoid the tax police.

"I have had no contact with them so far, and I hope to avoid them in the future," he said. "But, if it happens, I will change my residence and settle down in Monte Carlo."

Marshall sets world mark

CALGARY, Alberta, Mar 20: Neal Marshall of Canada set the men's speedskating world record for 3,000 metres on Sunday, completing the distance in 3 minutes 54.08 seconds to break the old mark by 2.08 seconds, reports AP.

The 3,000 is not a normally competed distance in the men's World Cup. Marshall was skating at a weekend invitational tournament in Calgary's Olympic Oval.

The old record had been held by Thomas Bos of the Netherlands.

Marshall's time was the second fastest ever — 1:51.34 — and a Canadian record.

Reality bites US pugilists

MAR DEL PLATA, Argentina, Mar 20: In the space of six short rounds Sunday night, US boxers

found out just how difficult it will be to win gold medals at the Pan Am Games, reports AP.

It took just that long for two Cubans to beat their American counterparts, one on a controversial decision that left Carlos Navarro downcast and US boxers angry.

"Why are we even here?" US heavyweight Lamon Brewster shouted. "If we can't knock them (Cubans) out, we can't win here."

Navarro fought what US

coaches called a perfect fight against Cuba's Juan Despaigue, only to come up an 11-9 loser after taking a 6-0 lead after the first round of the 119-pound bout.

A disconsolate Navarro, who had called his father in Los Angeles and promised him a gold medal before the bout, was so sure he won that he spent the last 10 seconds of the fight dancing around the ring with his hands raised in triumph.

A few minutes later, though, it was the Despaigue's hand in the air, raised by the referee in victory.

"I was dominating throughout the fight," Navarro said.

US coach Tom Mustin stopped just short of accusing the judges of favouring the Cuban fighter. But he found no explanation of how Navarro could only win three points from the first round on.

"That's just not possible," Mustin said. "He was landing all the time, good straight punches. He did everything we asked of him. He fought a perfect fight."

Mustin stood in the ring corner seemingly bewildered after the decision, waiting for lightweight Darris Biagas, who met Cuba's Julio Gonzalez in the second straight US-Cuba matchup of the night.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

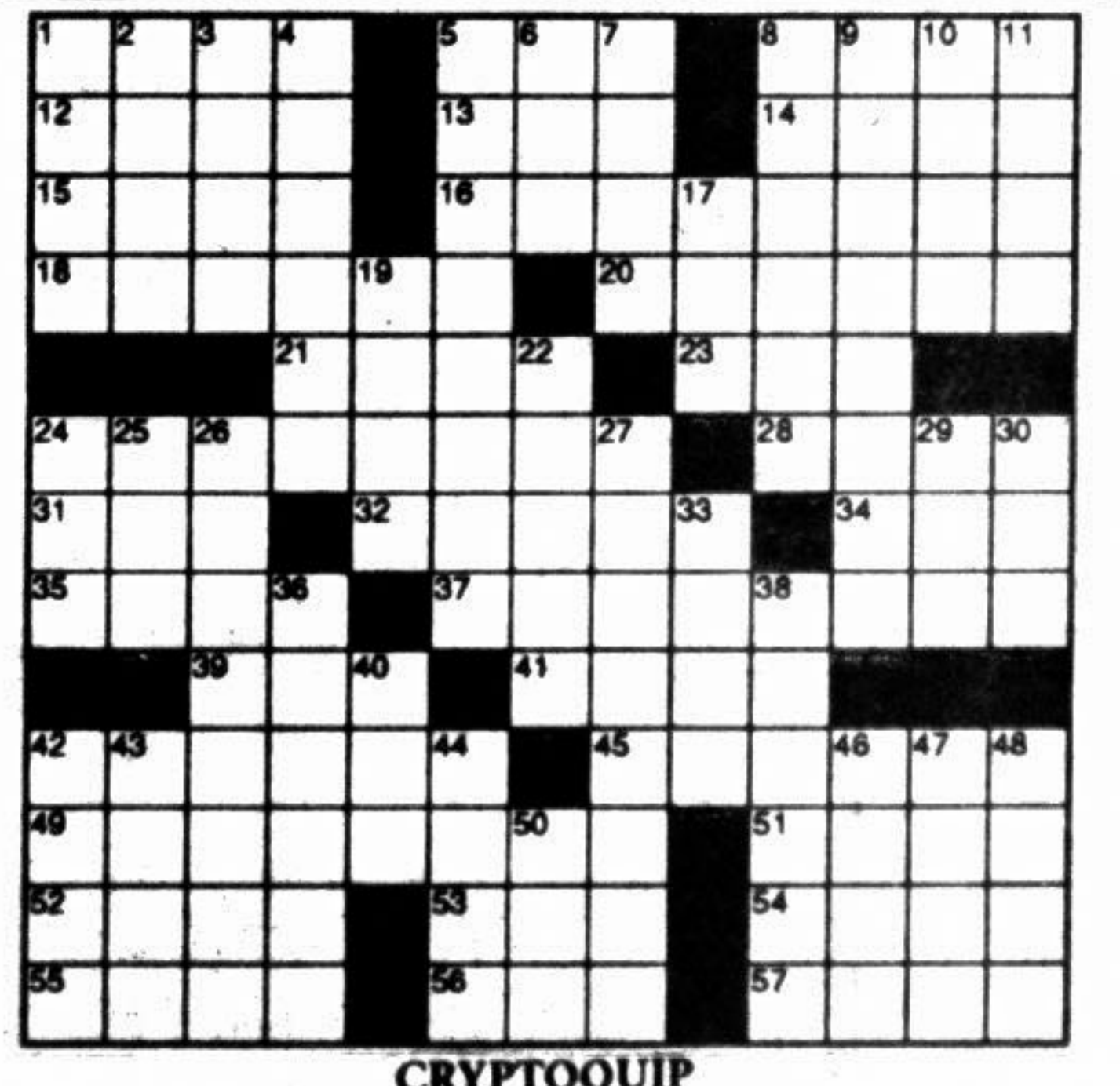
1 Flightless flock
5 Thou squared
8 Sunscreen label abbr.
12 Growing abundantly
13 "Chances —"
14 "Sad to tell..."
15 Bakery employee
16 One may be full of baloney
18 Confettizizes
20 Small boat
21 Garden intruder
23 Slammer
24 Lincoln biographer
28 Sample tape
31 "— Lazy River"
32 Cornered
34 Edge
35 One of Louisiana's girls
37 Ohio city
39 Cartesian conclusion

DOWN

11 Wan
17 Party bowlful
19 Obligation
22 Reverie
24 Long lunch?
25 Mimic
26 Country-wide
27 Like Scrooge, at the end
29 "Ferdinand" cartoonist
30 "Peg — Heart"
33 Crucial time
36 Name: colloq.
38 Destroyed
40 Caesar's 1,002
42 Unrepaired
43 Computer input
44 Broker's advice
46 Scratched (out)
47 Citric flavor
48 Author Uris
50 Sticky stuff

Solution time: 26 min.

T	I	M	I	D	T	R	O	W	E
J	O	C	O	S	E	R	A	V	I
A	R	E	N	A	S	U	R	A	N
W	E	S	T	S	A	K	E	D	D
E	D	E	N	R	A	P			
Y	E	S	A	R	C	H	D	I	V
A	T	T	E	N	T	I	O	N	S
W	A	R	N	S	E	M	I	E	N
E	E	L	N	E	X	T			
E	R	N	A	C	T	S	O	P	A
L	E	G	A	T	O	P	A	N	A
M	A	T	T	E	R	U	N	I	T
S	P	H	E	R	E	N	I	C	E



CRYPTOQUIP

J X X B A N X N V D S A N
O X R A N O V D K A N T J
V T R A V K S X L A A V S Z A
L T N J S L V P J Z X L J P Q Q A J J

Saturday's Cryptoquip: SHE THOUGHT SHE WAS MARRYING A RICH RANCHER, BUT ALL SHE GOT WAS A BUM STEER.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: L 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 give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Real Madrid extend lead

MADRID, Mar 20: Chilean striker Ivan Zamorano gave Real Madrid their lone goal in the 45th minute.

Sunday in a 1-0 victory over Espanyol that extended their lead over FC Barcelona to five points in Spain's First Division, reports AP.

Zamorano widened his lead in the scoring race with his 21st goal of the season as Real Madrid (16-7-3) rose to 39 points.

Barcelona, chasing a fifth straight league title, played a scoreless draw against Valencia. The game left Barcelona two points ahead of Betis and Deportivo after 26 of the 38-round schedule.

Barcelona played without Bulgarian Hristo Stoichkov, recently named European player-of-the-year, who was suspended for two weeks by coach Johan Cruyff on Friday for criticizing his teammates and Cruyff. He will miss only one round since the league schedule is suspended next week due to Spain's European Championship qualifying game against Belgium on March 29.

First Division newcomer Betis moved into third place after beating lowly Compostela

1-0 on Angel Manuel Cuellar's 11th goal of the season in the 59th minute. Betis and Deportivo de La Coruna each have 32 points but Betis is ahead on goal difference.

In other matches Sunday, it was: Oviedo 3, Real Sociedad 0; Tenerife 4, Valladolid 1; Celta 0, Zaragoza 0; Racing Santander 1, Logrones 0; and Sporting Gijon 2, Albacete 1.

On Saturday, Atletico Madrid continued their resurgence and climbed two points away from the relegation zone with a 1-0 victory over Deportivo La Coruna 1-0, and Sevilla beat Athletic Bilbao 2-0. Oviedo 3, Real Sociedad 0. At Oviedo Jesus Alvarez and Pablo Maqueda scored a minute apart to spot Oviedo to a 2-0 lead by the 20th minute. Yugoslav Slavisa Jokanovic completed the route in the 77th.

Tenerife 4, Valladolid 1. At Valladolid, Argentine-born striker Juan Antonio Pizzi scored three goals to lead Tenerife. Pizzi got Tenerife off to a fast start with a goal in the third, then added additional tallies in the 54th and 70th. Sebastian "Chano" Cruzado accounted for the other goal in the 64th. Brazilian striker Nilson Esidio scored Valladolid's lone goal in the 77th minute.

Racing 1, Logrones 0. At Logrones, midfielder Enrique "Quique" Setien scored in the 34th minute to boost Racing into 14th place ahead of Albacete and Compostela. Logrones lost their 17th of the season, remaining in last place by eight points.

Sporting 2, Albacete 1. Nenad Bjelic of Croatia put Albacete ahead 1-0 in the 17th minute before Sporting's defender Jesus Enrique Velasco evened the score three minutes before the half. Romanian striker Marcel Sabou gave Sporting the win with his 76th-minute goal.

Atletico 1, Deportivo 0. At La Coruna, striker Manuel Sanchez headed in the game's lone goal in the 68th minute on a cross from defender Antonio Munoz, giving Atletico their third victory in their last four games (3-1-0) Atletico improved to 9-6-11 and 24 points, while Deportivo have lost two of their last three (1-0-2).

Sevilla 2, Bilbao 0. At Bilbao, Martin "Marcos" de la Fuente knocked in a defender's save off a corner kick in the 34th minute for the only goal Sevilla needed. Romanian striker Ilie Dumitrescu, on loan from Tottenham, made it 2-0 in the 71st minute.



Manchester United's Roy Keane (L) and Liverpool's John Scases fight for the ball during a key English Premier League match in Liverpool on Sunday. Liverpool beat Manchester 2-0. — AFP/UNB photo