

SPORTS TALK



Allan Border

(Former Australia cricket captain)
"I have no objections to it but I probably wouldn't have used one."

On the issue of using a radio ear-piece radio by South African captain Hansie Cronje.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-115

✓ Tick the Correct Answers Post to The Daily Star Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm
May 21 '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1	Who will replace Bob Woolmer as South African cricket coach?
Ford	Stewart
2	When England last hosted cricket World Cup?
1975	1987
3	Umpire Steve Bucknor is a Guyanese Jamaican Trinidadian
4	The final match of the 1999 cricket World Cup will be held at Edgbaston
5	The World Cup match between Bangladesh and Scotland will be played in Edinburgh
	Belfast
	Cardiff

Name
.....

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

European soccer scene

PARIS, May 17: AC Milan moved to the brink of their 16th Serie A title and their first in three seasons at the weekend by thrashing Empoli 4-0, while long-time table-toppers Lazio slid off their perch following a 1-1 draw at Fiorentina, reports AFP.

SERIE A

As Milan celebrated their crucial win given them Saturday courtesy of an Olivier Bierhoff hat-trick, the contrast across the city could not have been more marked as their city neighbours at Inter slumped 3-1 at Venezia.

At the other end of the table, the 1990 Cup Winners Cup winners Sampdoria were relegated, a 2-2 draw with Bologna not being enough, just eight years after claiming their only league title.

Only a bizarre turn of events in next weekend's last matches of the season can now stop Milan, who travel to lowly Perugia, still fighting relegation despite Sunday's 2-1 win at Udine.

A Milan win will see them take the title as they currently have 67 points from 33 games with Lazio a point behind on 66, likewise from 33 although with the better goal difference.

For their finale, Lazio are at home to UEFA and Italian Cup winners Parma, who reached the Champions League despite losing 1-0 at home to Piacenza on Sunday.

Fiorentina's participation alongside the top two and Parma in next season's Champions League, was finally secured through Udinese's defeat.

Another issue decided on Sunday was a place in the UEFA Cup for Juventus, who despite being without Zinedine Zidane, Pippo Inzaghi, Didier Deschamps and several other regulars won 1-0 at Bari with a late Antonio Conte goal.

Sampdoria, European Cup finalists in 1992 joined Vicenza and Empoli in Serie B after their draw with Bologna. Some Sampdoria fans went on the rampage afterwards, ripping out seats and throwing them. Police had to charge them and fire tear gas to restore order.

Vicenza, promoted four years ago, had Uruguayans Marcelo Otero and Mendez red-carded in their 2-1 loss at Salernitana, a result which threw the hosts a lifeline.

BUNDESLIGA
In Germany, Bayern Munich

Either Perugia or Salernitana, two points behind their rivals, will take the last relegation slot.

The latter can save themselves if they win their last match at Piacenza and Perugia lose to Milan.

PRIMERA LIGA
Like Milan, Catalan giants Barcelona are also nearly there in the title race, needing just three points from their remaining four matches to secure a second successive Spanish championship.

Barca could have shortened the wait Saturday by beating Valladolid, but a header from Colombian international Harold Lozano handed their visitors a 1-1 draw.

An unmarked Luis Enrique had given Barcelona the lead with a superb right-footed volley.

Barcelona lead Real Mallorca, who lost 1-0 to Racing Santander on Friday, by 10 points, but Valencia lost a good chance to reduce the deficit to nine after losing at home Sunday.

Real Madrid took advantage of that slip to go third, 11 points off the pace, after a double strike from Fernando Morientes wrested a 2-1 win from a 1-0 deficit against battling Oviedo at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium.

The result keeps John Toshack's Real firmly in the Champions League frame.

Real were stunned when Panamanian striker Julio Cesar Dely Valdes opened the scoring for Oviedo after a quarter of an hour.

But seconds before the break Morientes snatched his 12th goal of the season with a crisp low shot after an Oviedo defender could only head a fine crossfield ball by Clarence Seedorf back to the prolific youngster.

Then Brazilian forward Saviello whipped over a low cross which Morientes just managed to toe-poke home for the decider.

The Spanish international striker has been in brilliant form in recent months, notching 18 goals in 21 games.

Real leapfrogged Celta Vigo after the Galicians could only draw 2-2 at home to Real Sociedad, a match in which Vigo had to come from two goals down.

SOCCER
In France, Nantes booked a UEFA Cup slot by winning the French Cup final 1-0 against second division Sedan before a French domestic record crowd of 78,500.

Nantes made it two wins in seven finals - their other one coming in 1979 - after Olivier Monterrubio converted a hotly disputed penalty in the 56th minute after Sedan's Stephane Borboni was deemed to have pushed Frederic Da Rocha in the box.

Sedan, vying for promotion from the second division, paled on the pressure but were unable to find the equaliser.

There was no French league programme, save for a basement battle between Sochaux and Le Havre. Sochaux took the points 1-0 but both sides can still escape the drop.

Nantes had long since won the Bundesliga title - which meant they could afford not to get too excited at losing 2-0 in Nuremberg, who could stay up as a result.

Sasa Cacic and Martin Driller did the damage with second-half goals.

The win has taken Nuremberg to the brink of survival, despite relegation rivals Eintracht Frankfurt also recording a 2-0 victory over Borussia Dortmund, who have a miserable away record.

With two matches to go a clutch of clubs are still in the relegation mire while Borussia Monchengladbach are already down.

Bayer Leverkusen ensured direct qualification for the Champions League with a goalless draw at MSV Duisburg.

Outgoing champions Kaiserslautern could still reach the Champions League preliminaries after beating Schalke 2-0 on Sunday.

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"At the captains' meeting they (tournament organisers) assured all the players that security would be the highest priority."

"It's obviously not their number-one priority."

Sunday's incidents came a day after Azharuddin, the Indian captain, was jostled by a fan after his side's game against South Africa in Hove.

Event manager Michael Browning said: "We will be asking all the host counties to review their security arrangements."

Organisers act over Waugh's fears

WORCESTER, England, May 17: Cricket World Cup organisers on Sunday ordered host counties to review their security arrangements after Australian captain Steve Waugh joined India's Mohammad Azharuddin in complaining about lack of crowd control, reports AFP.

Hundreds of fans invaded the ground after Australia beat Scotland by six wickets. Two male spectators also interrupted play late in the game.

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Event manager Michael Browning said: "We will be asking all the host counties to review their security arrangements."

Cricketcide!

MULTAN, Pakistan, May 17: A 14-year old boy was shot dead today as paramilitary troops opened fire on students celebrating the Pakistan team's victory against the West Indies in the cricket World Cup, police said, reports AFP.

Police said around 60 school students chanting "Long Live Pakistan" marched in Karor Pacca town, some 60 kilometres (37 miles) south of the central Pakistani city of Multan.

When they reached a Shiite place of worship soldiers of the Frontier Constabulary (FC) prevented them from chanting slogans leading to a scuffle during which one trooper opened fire hitting Nayyar Abbas in the chest, they said. Officials said the soldier had been arrested.

The authorities have posted special security guards outside the majority Sunni and minority Shiite community Mosques at several places in Punjab where sectarian violence over the past two years has claimed more than 200 lives.

Fed Cup soccer

S'ngar in group final

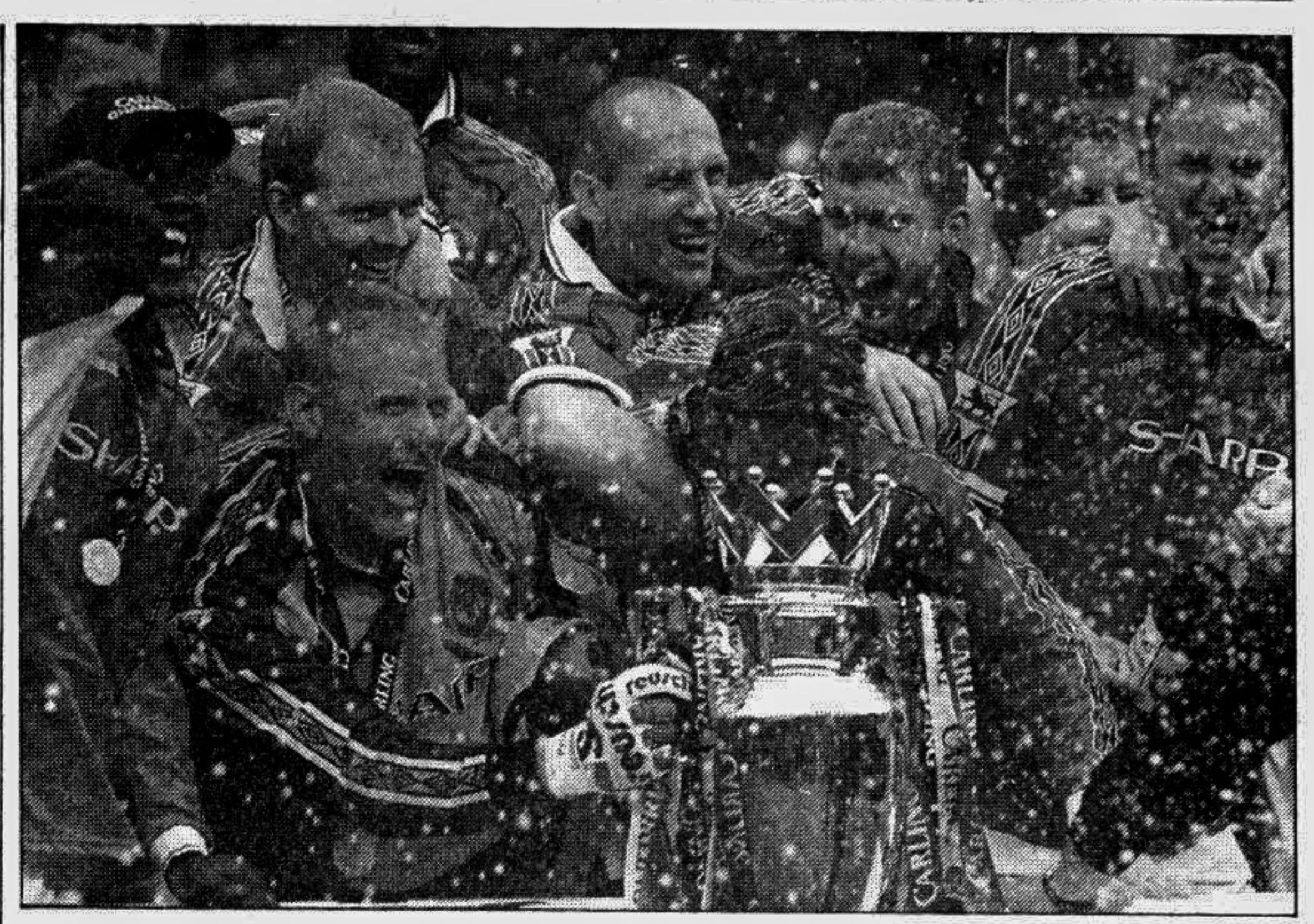
Shantinagar Club reached the group final of the Pedrollo Pumps 15th Federation Cup football tournament beating East End Club 5-4 in the tie-breaker at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. reports UNB.

The match was locked goalless in regulation time.

Shantinagar will meet the winners of the semifinal between Brothers Union and Prantik KC in the final on May 22.

In the day's first match, Prantik Krira Chakra defeated Office League champions Janata Bank Club 1-0.

Today's matches: Muslim Institute vs Bangladesh Army (2:45 pm), and Wari Club vs Dhamondi Club (4:45 pm).



MIGHTY MANCHESTER: Players of newly crowned English Premier League champions Manchester United celebrate at Old Trafford on May 16.

—AFP photo

MU pip Gunners to post

MANCHESTER, May 17: Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson swallowed in the glory of his fifth Premiership title on Sunday — then contemplated the ever-increasing prospect of completing an unprecedented trophy treble over the next 10 days, reports AFP.

Substitute Andy Cole's 47th-minute winner against Tottenham Hotspur at Old Trafford secured a fifth title in seven silverware-laden seasons for United, allowing them to finish a point clear of Arsenal.

The triumph was extra sweet for the Scot who had made no secret of the fact he wanted to win the title in front of his own fans.

"I always hoped we could be champions and the second thing was to win it at Old Trafford," he said before looking beyond next Saturday's FA Cup final against Newcastle, to the European Cup final against Bayern Munich in Barcelona on May 26.

"The big one for me now is the European Cup," he said.

"We have to go to Wembley and win and then Barcelona for the greatest day of our lives. We are going to enjoy ourselves."

Cole's effort rendered irrelevant the efforts of another super-sub, Nigerian Nwankwo Kanu, who scored Arsenal's goal in the 1-0 win over Aston Villa at Highbury.

There had been loud cheers at Highbury when Les Ferdinand opened the scoring for Spurs at Old Trafford after 24 minutes, lofting the ball beyond the out-of-position Peter Schmeichel for his first strike since December 28.

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The Gunners finished their match four minutes before United, and Old Trafford was transformed into a cauldron of tension with 50,000 voices urging the final whistle.

Despite missing out Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger said he was still proud his team had matched the points tally of 78 which was enough to win them last season's title.

"We must congratulate Manchester United as they had a great season, but I also congratulate my team. We have 78 points, the same as last season, we only lost four games and we had the best defence in Europe."

Charlton joined Nottingham Forest and Blackburn in division one after a 1-0 home defeat by Sheffield Wednesday sealed their own fate at the bottom, though Southampton's 2-0 win over Everton meant it made no difference.

Alan Curbishley's men started the day two points behind the Saints, needing to win and hoping their rivals failed to do so.

But Southhampton's survival was rarely in doubt after Latvian Marlians Pahars scored with 24 minutes gone, drilling the ball beyond Thomas Mythe from 12 yards after getting on the end of James Beattie's flick-on.

Pahars headed home his second on 68 minutes and the Saints' top-flight future was safe for another season.

Danny Sonner's 79th minute strike hammered the final nail into Charlton's coffin, as they joined already relegated Blackburn and Nottingham Forest in preparing for life in the First Division.

Pahars performance gave a huge boost to Southampton and to Jones, who lost a brother-in-law in a train accident last week and whose nephew also died recently.

"Congratulations to Alex Ferguson and Manchester

United," said David Hopkin, Newcastle, with one eye on next season's FA Cup final, trailing 1-0 at the break to doormat Blackburn, Jason Wilcox salvaging some pride for the Ewood Park men.

David O'Leary's men had taken the lead at Highfield Road through Clyde Wijnhard's first half effort. But two goals in nine minutes from Paul Telfer and John Aloisi looked to have given Coventry the ideal send-off before Hopkin struck.

Newcastle, with one eye on next season's FA Cup final, trailing 1-0 at the break to doormat Blackburn, Jason Wilcox salvaging some pride for the Ewood Park men.

But German Dietmar Hamann hammered an equaliser six minutes after the break to secure a 1-1 draw at St James's Park.

Patrik Berger, Karlheinz Riedle and Paul Ince ensured Liverpool's disappointing season ended on a high with a 3-0 Anfield stroll against Wimbledon.

West Ham went one better with a 4-0 home thumping of Middlesbrough.

The result meant they leapfrogged Villa into fifth place and will now play in the Intertoto Cup this summer.

Chris Bart-Williams scored the only goal at the City Ground as bottom-placed Nottingham Forest beat Leicester 1-0 to avoid the ignominy of matching Ipswich Town's lowest ever Premiership total of 27 points.

TV Guide

Tuesday 18th May
(All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme)

BBC World

6:00 World News Headlines 6:05 USA Direct 6:30 World Living: A Golfer's Travels - Arizona 7:00 BBC World News inc.

World Business Report/America Today/24 Hours

10:00 BBC World News 11:30 World Focus: The Big Deal

12:00 BBC World News 4:30 World Living: A Golfer's Travels - Arizona 5:00 BBC The World Today 6:30 World Focus: Wild World: Living Dangerously 7:15 World Business Report: The Big Deal

8:30 World News 10:30 Hard Talk 4:00