

## Sport

## SPORTS TALK



## Hansie Cronje

(South African captain)  
"The batsmen need to concentrate more..... the middle order has been failing to build on a good start."

On his team's inconsistent batting.

## Boost sports WHIZZ KID

## COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-116

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

Competition closes at 8 pm  
June 4, '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1 Who was the man-of-the-match in the opening match of the 1999 cricket World Cup?

Stewart Jayasuria Ranatunga

2 How many runs did Aminul Islam score against New Zealand?

14 15 16

3 Who won the cricket World Cup in 1979?

Australia W Indies Canada

4 Who are the current ICC runners-up?

Kenya Scotland Germany

5 Who is the vice-captain of the Bangladesh cricket team?

Mahmud Minhaz Naimur

Name .....

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

POWERED WITH  
EN-VITS  
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

## Tragedy at WWF

KANSAS CITY, Missouri, May 24: A World Wrestling Federation wrestler was fatally injured when he fell 50 feet (15 meters) into the ring as he was lowered from the ceiling of the arena — stunning the sold-out crowd that initially thought the accident was a stunt, reports AP.

Owen Hart, 33, hit his head on a turnbuckle. Hart, who wrestles under the nickname "Blue Blazer," was given cardiopulmonary resuscitation in the ring in front of the audience at Kemper Arena Sunday and taken to a nearby hospital.

It wasn't immediately clear how Hart fell, but witnesses said the cable he was connected to either broke or became disconnected. The WWF said it was investigated.



CONGRATULATIONS! AC Milan's Argentine player Andres Guglielminpietro (C), who scored the winning goal, is being hugged by teammate Oliver Bierhoff (white shirt) and fans after they defeated Perugia to lift the Serie A title for the 16th time on May 23.

— AFP photo

## Milan delivered when it mattered



MILAN, May 24 (AFP): AC Milan may be swigging champagne and celebrating the 16th league championship of their history, but Italy's league crown this season has gone to a team that no-one took seriously as title contenders until the end of the campaign.

Consistency has triumphed for Milan, where better quality football and better individual skills have failed to lift either Lazio or Fiorentina to the most hallowed accolade in Italian soccer.

Milan succeeded for their ability to put points on the board, even in the face of some miserable football during the first six months of the season, and for an unstoppable late run of victories.

They were also helped by being spared the public lime-light and pressure which was to cause Lazio so much trouble in the final weeks, simply because nobody took AC Milan seriously. Potential champions in Italy are judged on the quality of their football, and Milan's was the worst of the top clubs.

However, that relieved new coach Alberto Zaccheroni of all but the lowest expectations, particularly after two disastrous seasons in which they had failed to qualify for Europe, and gave him the time needed to turn a decade of 4-4-2 football into an attacking 3-4-3.

The sudden changes in tactics and fortunes were meanwhile not the only differences. On Sunday night, Milan were

being hailed by the same volatile fans they'd been living in fear of for two long years.

Vice-president Adriano Galliani watched his team beat Bologna 3-0 in their first match last September, but he admitted that the goalless start to the match at San Siro had been an ordeal.

"We were frightened, I can't hide that," he said. "There's feeling of terror that has arisen after two years without success. Now I just hope that the ghosts have been driven away for good."

Though the ghosts did leave San Siro, Zaccheroni had more than a few scares in the following months as his team suffered bouts of collective amnesia during their matches.

Zaccheroni would spend all week drumming his theory of attacking football into the squad, but by the middle Sunday afternoon it was all history.

Zaccheroni had taken Udinese to third place in the Serie A the previous season by playing 90 minutes of "total football," while AC Milan were used to scoring one goal and then defending the result.

The two cultures were inevitably set on a collision course and the first clashes was not long in coming. Milan's fourth game of the season was a 2-0 win over Venezuela which left Zaccheroni furious.

"That was a step backwards for us," he said. "Everyone can have off days like that one, but I didn't like the way Milan played."

But they did have a knack of scoring goals, despite the ups

and downs of German striker Oliver Bierhoff, while the revered "Old Guard" of Paolo Maldini and Alessandro Costacurta, who had each won 17 trophies in their career before Sunday, ensured that Milan kept their heads while Lazio's youngsters were losing theirs.

And on Sunday, that consistency paid dividends.

On the eve of the match, club president Silvio Berlusconi admitted: "Being top of the table feels all the better because it's so unexpected. It's down to the club, the players and the coaching and medical staff."

"But it's also down to the other teams, who unexpectedly dropped so many points along the way."

Zaccheroni went straight to the changing rooms for another shouting session with the team.

To their credit, Milan kept plugging away at the problem, and were rewarded by many deserved results, along with a few fortuitous ones in injury time — the most recent being a crucial 3-2 win over Sampdoria secured by an own goal five minutes into injury time.

It was a victory which said much about Milan's season, a heady mixture of undoubted skill, sheer determination and a sizeable dollop of luck.

Milan didn't have a goalscorer like Fiorentina's Gabriel Batistuta, who hit 18 goals in the first 19 games, and they didn't have a 17-match unbeaten run like Lazio enjoyed from November to March.

But they did have a knack of scoring goals, despite the ups

and downs of German striker Oliver Bierhoff, while the revered "Old Guard" of Paolo Maldini and Alessandro Costacurta, who had each won 17 trophies in their career before Sunday, ensured that Milan kept their heads while Lazio's youngsters were losing theirs.

And on Sunday, that consistency paid dividends.

On the eve of the match, club president Silvio Berlusconi admitted: "Being top of the table feels all the better because it's so unexpected. It's down to the club, the players and the coaching and medical staff."

"But it's also down to the other teams, who unexpectedly dropped so many points along the way."

Zaccheroni went straight to the changing rooms for another shouting session with the team.

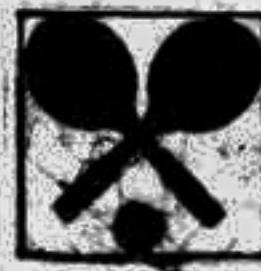
To their credit, Milan kept plugging away at the problem, and were rewarded by many deserved results, along with a few fortuitous ones in injury time — the most recent being a crucial 3-2 win over Sampdoria secured by an own goal five minutes into injury time.

It was a victory which said much about Milan's season, a heady mixture of undoubted skill, sheer determination and a sizeable dollop of luck.

Milan didn't have a goalscorer like Fiorentina's Gabriel Batistuta, who hit 18 goals in the first 19 games, and they didn't have a 17-match unbeaten run like Lazio enjoyed from November to March.

But they did have a knack of scoring goals, despite the ups

## Ivanisevic bids Paris 'bye



PARIS, May 24: Defending champion Carlos Moya survived a tough five-set match at the French Open Monday to advance to the second round over Markus Hippel of Austria, 3-6, 1-6, 6-4, 6-2, 6-4.

Richard Fromberg, Austria, def Anthony Dupuis, France, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1, 6-3.

Jiri Novak, Czech Republic, def Daniel Nestor, Canada, 6-2, 6-2.

Jim Courier, United States, def Alex Calatrava, Spain, 6-1, 6-3, 7-5.

Jens Knippschild, Germany, def Lionel Roux, France, 6-4, 6-3, 6-0.

Dominik Hrbaty, Slovakia, def Julien Boutter, France, 5-7, 6-4, 7-5, 7-5.

WOMEN

Mariana Diaz Oliva, Argentina, def Jolene Watanabe, United States, 6-0, 6-2.

Barbara Schett (15), Austria, def Henrieta Nagyova, Slovakia, 6-1, 6-2.

Adriana Gersi, Czech Republic, def Larisa Weingartner, Germany, 6-4, 6-0.

Kvetka Hardlickova, Czech Republic, def Ludmila Cervanova, Slovakia, 6-2, 7-6 (7-4).

Natasha Zvereva, Belarus, def Christina Papadaki, Greece, 6-3, 7-5.

Anne Kremer, Luxembourg, def Maureen Drake, Canada, 6-2, 6-3.

Richard Fromberg, Austria, def Anthony Dupuis, France, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1, 6-3.

Jiri Novak, Czech Republic, def Daniel Nestor, Canada, 6-2, 6-2.

Jim Courier, United States, def Alex Calatrava, Spain, 6-1, 6-3, 7-5.

Jens Knippschild, Germany, def Lionel Roux, France, 6-4, 6-3, 6-0.

Dominik Hrbaty, Slovakia, def Julien Boutter, France, 5-7, 6-4, 7-5.

WOMEN

Mariana Diaz Oliva, Argentina, def Jolene Watanabe, United States, 6-0, 6-2.

Barbara Schett (15), Austria, def Henrieta Nagyova, Slovakia, 6-1, 6-2.

Adriana Gersi, Czech Republic, def Larisa Weingartner, Germany, 6-4, 6-0.

Kvetka Hardlickova, Czech Republic, def Ludmila Cervanova, Slovakia, 6-2, 7-6 (7-4).

Natasha Zvereva, Belarus, def Christina Papadaki, Greece, 6-3, 7-5.

Anne Kremer, Luxembourg, def Maureen Drake, Canada, 6-2, 6-3.

Richard Fromberg, Austria, def Anthony Dupuis, France, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1, 6-3.

Jiri Novak, Czech Republic, def Daniel Nestor, Canada, 6-2, 6-2.

Jim Courier, United States, def Alex Calatrava, Spain, 6-1, 6-3, 7-5.

Jens Knippschild, Germany, def Lionel Roux, France, 6-4, 6-3, 6-0.

Dominik Hrbaty, Slovakia, def Julien Boutter, France, 5-7, 6-4, 7-5.

WOMEN

Mariana Diaz Oliva, Argentina, def Jolene Watanabe, United States, 6-0, 6-2.

Barbara Schett (15), Austria, def Henrieta Nagyova, Slovakia, 6-1, 6-2.

Adriana Gersi, Czech Republic, def Larisa Weingartner, Germany, 6-4, 6-0.

Kvetka Hardlickova, Czech Republic, def Ludmila Cervanova, Slovakia, 6-2, 7-6 (7-4).

Natasha Zvereva, Belarus, def Christina Papadaki, Greece, 6-3, 7-5.

Anne Kremer, Luxembourg, def Maureen Drake, Canada, 6-2, 6-3.

Richard Fromberg, Austria, def Anthony Dupuis, France, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1, 6-3.

Jiri Novak, Czech Republic, def Daniel Nestor, Canada, 6-2, 6-2.

Jim Courier, United States, def Alex Calatrava, Spain, 6-1, 6-3, 7-5.

Jens Knippschild, Germany, def Lionel Roux, France, 6-4, 6-3, 6-0.

Dominik Hrbaty, Slovakia, def Julien Boutter, France, 5-7, 6-4, 7-5.

WOMEN

Mariana Diaz Oliva, Argentina, def Jolene Watanabe, United States, 6-0, 6-2.

Barbara Schett (15), Austria, def Henrieta Nagyova, Slovakia, 6-1, 6-2.

Adriana Gersi, Czech Republic, def Larisa Weingartner, Germany, 6-4, 6-0.

Kvetka Hardlickova, Czech Republic, def Ludmila Cervanova, Slovakia, 6-2, 7-6 (7-4).

Natasha Zvereva, Belarus, def Christina Papadaki, Greece, 6-3, 7-5.

Anne Kremer, Luxembourg, def Maureen Drake, Canada, 6-2, 6-3.

Richard Fromberg, Austria, def Anthony Dupuis, France, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1, 6-3.

Jiri Novak, Czech Republic, def Daniel Nestor, Canada, 6-2, 6-2.

Jim Courier, United States, def Alex Calatrava, Spain, 6-1, 6-3, 7-5.

Jens Knippschild, Germany, def Lionel Roux, France, 6-4, 6-3, 6-0.

Dominik Hrbaty, Slovakia, def Julien Boutter, France, 5-7, 6-4, 7-5.

WOMEN

Mariana Diaz Oliva, Argentina, def Jolene Watanabe, United States, 6-0, 6-2.

Barbara Schett (15), Austria, def Henrieta Nagyova, Slovakia, 6-1, 6-2.

Adriana Gersi, Czech Republic, def Larisa Weingartner, Germany, 6-4, 6-0.

Kvetka Hardlickova, Czech Republic, def Ludmila Cervanova, Slovakia, 6-2, 7-6 (7-4).

Natasha Zvereva, Belarus, def Christina Papadaki, Greece, 6-3, 7-5.

Anne Kremer, Luxembourg, def Maureen Drake, Canada, 6-2, 6-