

Sport

Asian Cup soccer
Indonesia rout
Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, Oct 30: Cambodia lost in a dramatic Asian Cup battle with Indonesia here Saturday in which police were called in to quell fan violence, reports AFP.

Indonesia scored five goals to Cambodia's one to snare three points and put them in the top spot on the table with Hong Kong in Group Seven with four points from their two games.

Cambodia's Chan Arunreath scored the home team's only goal in the 72nd minute, bringing a tremendous cheer from the local fans.

But the match was marred by Cambodian fans throwing bottles of mineral water at Indonesian supporters, requiring the intervention of scores of military police at the capital's Olympic Stadium.

"For us it started very badly because they scored two goals in the beginning," said German-born Cambodian coach Joachim Fickert after the match.

"We will try to do better next week with Hong Kong," he added.

Cambodia, languishing at the bottom of the standings with no points, plays Hong Kong in Phnom Penh on November 7 and Indonesia again on November 21th.

Kazakhs dash
Thai hopes

BANGKOK, Oct 30: Kazakhstan snuffed out Thailand's dream of a place at next year's Olympics Saturday with a 4-1 victory which kept alive its own slim hopes of a trip to Sydney, reports AFP.

Kazakhstan broke Thai hearts with a brace of goals within three minutes just after the interval, having taken the lead midway through the first half with a spectacular 30-yard drive from Arslan Travin.

Faint hopes of an Olympic berth now rest on the Kazakh's trip to Japan next week.

If they can pull off an unlikely win against the group favourites they must hope Thailand can upset the Japanese here in a fortnight.

The Thais, coached by former Aston Villa and England striker Peter Withe, started brightly, appearing confident after holding the Kazakhs to a goalless draw in the reverse tie four weeks ago.

Despite surrendering the bulk of possession early on, the Kazakhs restricted Thailand to a few snatched, long range shots.

Soaking up Thai pressure, Kazakhstan worked the classic visitor's strategy perfectly, catching the Thais on the break as Travin powered the ball past Thai keeper Wirat Sanae-ha in the 55th minute.

As glaring holes started to open in their defence, the Thais were unlucky to have their own breakaway goal, by Jatupong Thongsuk ruled offside on the stroke of half-time.

Kazakhstan put the game beyond reach early in the second period when Dmitry Galich thrashed a 15-yard shot past Wirat in the 56th minute and Erion Urasayev added a third three minutes later.

Kazakh coach Vladimir Fomichyev on Friday condemned the sodden state of the pitch at the National Stadium, but had few complaints a day later as his side's brisk passing opened yards of space in the Thai half.

Thailand gave the 8,000 fans a glimpse of hope in the 80th minute when Pongsak Kongkaew touched home from a melee in the six yard box.

Zagreb coach
gets the sack

ZAGREB, Oct 30: Argentine coach Osvaldo Ardiles has been sacked by Croatia Zagreb after a run of poor results in Europe's Champions' League, the club said on Friday, reports Reuters.

Ardiles, who joined Croatia Zagreb only last June on a two-year contract, will be replaced by his assistant Marjan Vlak, the club's former goalkeeper who had been their coach before the Argentine's arrival.

"A unanimous decision was taken at a supervisory board meeting yesterday that the contract will be cancelled and that Marjan Vlak would coach the team," spokesman Ivan Rotim told the news agency.

Ardiles, who formerly coached in England and Japan, was the club's fourth coach in two years.

Ambitious club president Zlatko Cunjuga wants to build a "European" team but Wednesday's 2-1 home defeat by Manchester United meant not only that Croatia would not make the last 16 in the Champions' League but also that they might lose a consolation place in the UEFA Cup.

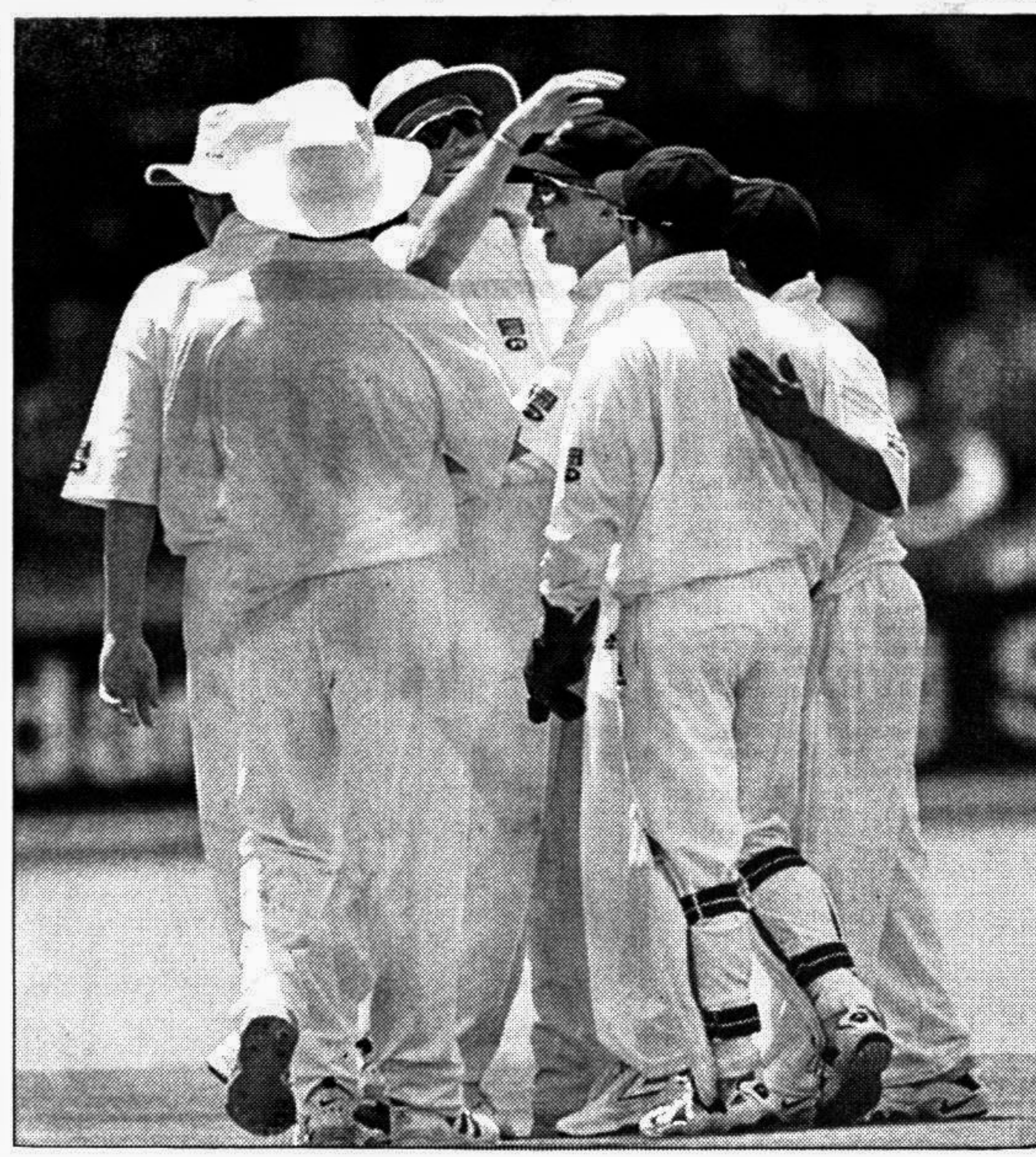
Newspapers put Ardiles's salary at around 750,000 German marks (403,700 dollars) a year, a large sum in a country going through its worst recession in years.

"We have excellent organisation and very talented players. What we have been searching for years is a top-class expert. Perhaps Vlak will be the very one," the Jutarnji List daily quoted club president Cunjuga as saying.

Ardiles was a member of the Argentina team which won the World Cup in 1978.

He joined England's Tottenham Hotspur straight after the World Cup triumph and enjoyed further successes with the London club, where he was highly popular.

Ardiles later managed Spurs after spells as manager at Swindon Town, Newcastle United and West Bromwich Albion. More recently he coached Shimizu S-Pulse in Japan's J-League.



South African cricketers gather after the dismissal of Zimbabwe opener Trevor Gripper on the first day of the Bloemfontein Test on October 29.

Shaun surpasses Peter
Zimbabwe lose their way

BLOEMFONTEIN, Oct 30 (Reuters/AFP): Shaun Pollock claimed his 10th five-wicket haul as South Africa dominated the opening day of the first Test against Zimbabwe here on Friday.

Pollock took five for 39 as Zimbabwe were shot out for 192 on a pitch of steep but consistent bounce. South Africa reached 29 without loss in reply in the 13 overs they faced before the close.

Pollock's performance put him ahead of his fast bowling father Peter, who took nine five-wicket hauls for South Africa in 28 Test matches.

However, Pollock junior is playing his 34th Test.

"He played fewer matches than me, so that's what he'll say if I ever bring it up," Pollock said after the close.

Pollock went into the match with a hamstring strain, the legacy of playing a club match in wet conditions in Durban at the weekend, but said he felt no ill-effects from the injury on Friday.

Zimbabwe's total owed much to a fighting 85 by Guy Whittall. The tourists faced ignominy when Whittall went in at number eight with the total on 79 for six.

Whittall battled with immense spirit, hitting 14 boundaries in a 114-ball innings, including three handsome inside drives in an over from South African fast bowler Allan Donald.

Whittall demonstrated that there were plenty of runs to be made by batsmen prepared to play their strokes on a pitch of high but consistent bounce.

Hansie Cronje's decision to send Zimbabwe in to bat was surprising on what looked a good batting pitch but Pollock ensured that it paid off. He struck with his second delivery, trapping Grant Flower lbw for nought, and was consistently dangerous.

Pollock upstaged his new ball partner, Donald, who took one for 58 in the first Test match played in Donald's home town.

The top order were swept aside, with an unnecessary run-out of Trevor Gripper adding to Zimbabwe's woes. Gripper and visiting captain Alistair Campbell, who made 27, were looking reasonably solid in a third wicket stand of 26 before Gripper was sent back in seeking a second run after Campbell turned a ball from Lance Klusener to backward square leg.

New cap Boeta Dippenaar sent in a good throw which beat Gripper.

Zimbabwe were 47 for three at lunch and their situation worsened when Pollock took two wickets and Donald one soon after lunch before a seventh wicket stand of 38 between Gavin Rennie (14) and Whittall broke the dominance of the bowlers.

Henry Olonga, yorked for one by Jacques Kallis, lent Whittall valuable support in his 47 minutes at the crease in which he shared in a ninth-wicket stand worth 43 runs.

Whittall was last man out when he top-edged a hook against Jacques Kallis, who finished with three for 44.

Dippenaar and the recalled Adam Bacher, opening for South Africa because of injuries to Gary Kirsten and Herschelle Gibbs, gave their side a confident start.

Zimbabwe's attack was depleted by the absence of strike bowler Heath Streat and leg-spinner Paul Strang, both injured.

Dippenaar and Bacher were rather less troubled in scoring 17 and nine not out. Dippenaar celebrated his elevation to the game's highest level by stroking four boundaries.

The match is the first played by Zimbabwe in South Africa.

They also meet in Harare, Zimbabwe, from November 11 to 15.

Springbok Park is the ninth ground in South Africa and the 80th in the world to stage a Test match. A crowd of 5,622 watched the first day's play.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the opening day of the first Test between South Africa and Zimbabwe on Friday:

ZIMBABWE: First innings

G Flower lbw b Pollock	0
Gripper run out	16
Goodwin c Boucher b Pollock	7
Campbell c Klusener b Pollock	27
A Flower lbw b Pollock	13
Johnson c Boucher b Donald	6
Rennie c Cullinan b Kallis	14
G Whittall c Boucher b Kallis	85
B Strang c Cronje b Pollock	9
Olonga b Kallis	1
Mbangwa not out	0
Extras: (lb-6, nb-5, w-3)	14
Total: (All out in 75 overs)	192
Fall of wickets: 1-1; 2-14; 3-41; 4-63; 5-78; 6-79; 7-117; 8-140; 9-183.	

Bowler

	O	M	R	W
Donald	18	5	58	1
Pollock	21	6	39	5
Klusener	16	5	40	0
Kallis	17	4	44	3
Adams	3	1	5	0

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings

Dippenaar not out	17
Bacher not out	9
Extras: (nb-3)	29
Total: (For no loss in 13 overs)	29
To bat: J Kallis, D Cullinan, H Cronje, J Rhodes, S Pollock, M Boucher, L Klusener, A Donald, P Adams.	

Bowler

	O	M	R	W
Olonga	4	1	11	0
Strang	6	3	10	0
Johnson	2	0	8	0
G Flower	1	0	0	0

Umpires: Steve Dunne, New Zealand; David Orchard, South Africa.

TV Umpire: Ian Howell, South Africa.

Match Referee: Jackie Hendricks, West Indies.

Gym tryouts did the trick

LONDON, Oct 30: Tottenham's French winger David Ginola declared himself ready, willing and able to carry on playing for the North London club until well into the next century, reports AFP.

Ginola was at his irresistible best against Kaiserslautern in Thursday's UEFA Cup second-round first-leg victory and he heads to Sunderland tomorrow brimming with confidence.

"I am 32 years old and I feel fantastic," said Ginola.

"You could ask the defender who was marking me for Kaiserslautern - I am younger than me, and I got past him okay."

"If I can carry on playing like I can you will have me in this league for a long time yet!"

Ginola revealed he has done extra work in the gym with Tottenham's fitness coach in an effort to make him stronger.

He said: "I am three kilograms heavier now, and that is because of all the work I have been doing in the gym."

"We knew we needed to be strong for 90 minutes against a German team and be able to cope with the physical challenge. It is paying off."

Ginola upset Kaiserslautern's players who accused him of diving when he was brought down by goalkeeper Andreas Reinke for the penalty scored by Steffen Iversen that won the game.

But he shrugged off their accusations of cheating and said: "The ball was running out, and the goalkeeper really didn't need to challenge me, but he was late and made a mistake. He tried to get the ball, but I was too quick for him."

"People always speculate whether I dive or don't dive, but I don't care what they say. If you look at me this year I have been trying my best, but you cannot stop people trying to find faults with your game. It's always frustrating for me."

The cases are now in the hands of the justice system, which could punish the players and put an end to their careers," Texeira said.

The length of the suspensions was not immediately revealed.

Hiroshi is accused of having played for the Brazilian under-17 squad in the South American Cup when he was in fact 18 years old.

Defender Bell is alleged to have played for the Brazilian junior squad in a 1995 world championship, when he was 20.

Texeira added that the Brazilian team would not be penalised by football's international governing body FIFA.

Cesar's PSG debut

PARIS, Oct 30 (Reuters): The fortunes of Paris St Germain's new Brazilian pair are looking up.

Defender Cesar is set to make his debut away to Le Havre on Saturday after striker Christian Kiarin scored his first goal in last weekend's 3-1 home league win over Sedan.



DAVID GINOLA

Osaka humble
Hiratsuka

TOKYO, Oct 30: South Korean international Hwang Sun-Hong struck home twice to stretch his lead in the goal standings as Cerezo Osaka downed regular bottom placers Bellmare Hiratsuka 6-1 in the J-League football on Saturday, reports AFP.

"We have still four games to go, but I have a very good chance to become the top goal scorer if I do well," said the Korean three-time World Cup player who scored his 21st and 22nd goals of the season.

"I think we have almost completed the formation of our team. That's why I've scored so many goals this season," Hwang added.

It was Cerezo's seventh win against four defeats for 18 points at sixth place to trail front-runners Shimizu S-Pulse by eight points in the standings.

S-Pulse defeated Kyoto Purple Sanga 2-0 to stretch their lead to three points while second placers Kashiwa Reysol and third placers Yokohama Marinos fought it out to a 1-1 draw.

Reysol stood with eight wins, one draw and three defeats for 23 points and Marinos seven wins, two draws and two defeats for 21 points to be tied with Nagoya Grampus Eight, one point above Sanfrecce Hiroshima on 20.

Japan's international forward, Brazilian-born Wagner Lopes led the Grampus Eight with his 11th goal of the season to open the scoring in the 43rd minute as they defeated JEF United Ichihara 2-1.

Defending J-League champions Kashima Antlers and the first-stage winners Jubilo Iwata, the Asian club champions, continued their poor performances, both losing 1-0.

The Antlers bowed to Sanfrecce Hiroshima as Yutaka Takahashi nodded home one of Ken-ichi Sugita's pass in the seventh minute, while the Jubilo went down to Verdy Kawasaki for their fifth straight defeat.

In other games, Vissel Kobe blanked Urawa Red Diamonds 2-0, while Gamba Osaka breezed past Avispa Fukuoka 3-1.

Pierce reaches
last four

LINZ, Austria, Oct 30: Top seed Mary Pierce struggled but beat Romanian Irina Spilrea 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 on Friday to book the last berth in an all-French semifinal at Linz, reports Reuters.

Pierce will meet fourth seed Amel Mauresmo, winner of the opening quarter-final when her Austrian rival Barbara Schwartz pulled out with an arm injury in the third set.

The other semifinal will be contested by fifth seed Sandrine Testud, who beat French compatriot Nathalie Tauziat 6-2, 3-6, 6-2, and unseeded Sarah Pitkowski, a 6-2, 6-0 winner over qualifier Denisa Chladkova of the Czech Republic.

Schwartz, who lost of Mauresmo in Bratislava last week, was forced to retire while trailing 3-6, 7-5, 4-1 with an inflammation in her left playing arm.

Mauresmo, a winner in Bratislava, had a slow start and dropped serve for 5-3 when Schwartz unleashed one of many near-perfect forehand crosses to take the first set in 36 minutes.

Schwartz took a quick break in the third game of the second set before her injury became noticeable. Mauresmo levelled for 4-4 and broke again for 7-5.

The French Australian Open finalist then broke for 2-0 before Schwartz took time out at 3-1 to receive treatment before retiring at the end of the following game and handing victory to the world number 12.

Schwartz, a surprise French Open quarter-finalist who was forced to take tablets for the pain before the match, said: "I knew I would have to win the first two sets because I knew I would be unable to play a third due to the pain."

McEnroe enjoys
both of them

TOKYO, Oct 30: New US Davis Cup team captain John McEnroe proved he is still a star player at the 150,000-dollar Champions tennis tournament here Friday and said he would continue to play both roles in the future, reports AFP.

"I like both, but the Davis Cup is obviously more important, but both are something that I'd like to continue," said McEnroe after a 6-3, 6-4 win over Mansour Bahrami of Iran in the first round.

"I just started with the Davis Cup, but I'm not going to give up the senior tour, because I love the competition and I'd like to keep myself in shape. In my opinion, both can be good for tennis," he added.

But the three-time Wimbledon champion added the Davis Cup schedule needs to be fixed to a certain period so that everybody in the world knows when it starts.

"It's a great opportunity for tennis to show the good side of the sport," said McEnroe, who helped the United States to win the Davis Cup three times as a player.

McEnroe's performance with Bahrami was one of the most entertaining matches here as he won applause and some laughs from a crowd of 4,700 spectators. McEnroe hit an ace when Bahrami sneezed at one time.

American tennis legend Jimmy Connors withdrew with an injury, three-time French Open champion Mats Wilander and fellow Swede Mikael Pernfors also joined McEnroe in the second round.

Wilander defeated American Mel Purcell 6-3, 6-4 and now takes on current senior number one, Henri Leconte of France, who breezed past Andres Gomez of Ecuador 6-3, 6-1.

Women remain mad at Ntini



GRAHAMSTOWN, South Africa, Oct 30 (AFP): A South African appeal court on Friday quashed a six-year jail sentence for rape handed down to Test cricketer Makhaya Ntini, sparking anger among women's rights groups in a country consumed by a national debate on rape.

The Grahamstown High Court set aside the conviction and sentence given to Ntini last May by the East London Regional Court, which found him guilty of raping a 22-year-old housekeeper in the toilet of a cricket club.

Ntini last year became the first black player to turn out for a South African Test side in the white-dominated sport. The judgement leaves him free to pursue his cricketing career.

Judge John Whitehead said there were "too many deficiencies in the State's case" and the "probabilities were overwhelmingly against the version of the complainant".

He said Ntini's guilt had not been proved beyond reasonable doubt.

Anti-rape and women's rights groups reacted with fury.

"Women have been re-raped by the system," said Nicole Barlow, director of Women Against Child Abuse.

"We wonder if his popularity and money got him out of the situation."

Television talk show host and a high-profile campaigner for women's rights, Felicia Mabuza-Suttle said she was "devastated" by the court's decision.

"The time has come for women to recognise that law has little regard for them," she said.

South Africa's United Cricket Board, which has resolutely stood by its young black

star, said in a statement that it was "obviously pleased that the High Court has vindicated Ntini."

The United Cricket Board has continually stated that it deplores the act of rape as a heinous crime.

Ntini, 22, was a standard-bearer for black cricketers in South Africa. The first black



MAKHAYA NTINI

African to represent the country, he played in four Test matches and was selected for the World Cup in England earlier this year.

The UCB, and particularly managing director Dr Ali Bacher, came under intense criticism for their public support of Ntini. Before the case went to court, Bacher said publicly he was convinced that Ntini was innocent.

The UCB supported Ntini

throughout the legal process, although Bacher insisted that there was no financial assistance beyond his salary of about R 20,000 (3,300 dollars) a month as a UCB contracted player.

Barlow said her group would send a harsh message to the UCB for continuing to support Ntini after he was convicted.

Organisations which deal with rape estimate that about one million women are raped every year in South Africa, one of the highest levels of the crime in the world.

Some organisations project that about one in three South African women and one in five men could be raped at least once in their lives.

A recent spate of brutal rapes has raised the profile of the crime, which one MP suggested during a parliamentary debate on the crime this week should be punished with chemical castration.

Bacher said Ntini would be able to play cricket immediately. He could be back playing for his provincial team, Border, for their next match against Gauteng in Johannesburg starting on November 11.

Makhaya has had to endure many traumatic months. His career has been severely affected by the court case, Bacher told the news agency.

Anti-rape campaigner and journalist Charlene Smith, who has written widely about surviving her own rape ordeal, said the decision was unsurprising because the police often bungled rape cases.

"I found it remarkable that a woman that was forced to leave her home, give up her job and injured by severe criticism where she lived was prepared to lie about rape," Smith said of the complainant.

"I hope Ntini is innocent," she said.

Rusedski, Agassi fly



STUTTGART, Germany, Oct 30: Britain's Greg Rusedski Friday exorcised a demon in the form of American Todd Martin to book a Saturday semifinal battle against another of the heaviest hitters of the game at the 2,45-million-dollar Eurocard Open, reports AFP.

Rusedski, seeded third and the king of indoor tennis this autumn with two titles, staged a comeback to save three match points in the second-set tiebreaker on the way to a 4-6, 7-6, 6-4 victory over Martin.

Rusedski made sure of his success, striking 46 winners, 22 aces and producing a serve of 218 kph in his final service game.

He next faces holder Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands in a Saturday showdown.

The Dutchman ended the dream run of Argentine outsider Mariano Zabaleta, a clay-courtier who has found his feet nicely this week on the

European indoor carpet 6-3, 6-2.

Top seed Andre Agassi couldn't be more pleased with his own tennis after trouncing Romanian Andre Pavel 6-2, 6-1 to reach the final four at the Hans-Martin Schleyer Hall.

With Lady-in-Black Steffi Graf sitting quietly beside longtime coach Brad Gilbert, the 29-year-old Agassi went a long way towards impressing his former tennis star girlfriend with the ease of his victory.

Agassi, number one in the world and already qualified for next month's season-ending championship in Hanover.

"I'm enjoying the game, this year has been inspiring time in many ways," said the double 1999 Grand Slam champion.

"To accomplish what I've done this year means the world to me."

Rusedski's victory was sweet revenge for two losses the Canadian-born Briton has taken this year from Martin,

one at the Davis Cup, the other in a Grand Slam.

Their last clash came at the US Open last month, with Rusedski tossing out a two-set lead to lose in the fourth round.

Getting even was definitely on Rusedski's mind. "To come through this pressure and finish off a match like this was extremely satisfying."

The Briton added that his next match won't get any easier against another huge server like himself and Martin.

Sweden's 13th seeded Thomas Enqvist put off Marcelo Rios of Chile 6-4, 6-2 and next plays Agassi.

Australian Open finalist Enqvist has had a modest season after his early-year run of success but was playing in his tenth quarterfinal of 1999.

Rios came into Stuttgart after winning a title in Singapore and losing a final in Shanghai against Swede Magnus Norman.



Dutch Richard Krajicek makes a backhand return against Argentine Mariano Zabaleta at the Eurocard Open on October 29.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

39 Puppy's cry

41 Affirmative action?

42 Squirrel's hangout

44 Nebraska river

46 Pieces of the Titanic?

50 Potsdam pronoun

51 Stephen of 'News Radio'

52 Long, slender cigar

56 Wood-shaping tool

57 Valhalla VIP

58 Lubricant

59 -do- well

60 Wouldn't relinquish

61 Born

DOWN

1 Upper limit

2 'Home of the brave'

3 Vista

4 Did

5 Tina's ex

6 Showdown

7 Arts supporter

8 Swords handle

10 Advantage

11 'Cape -'

16 Newsroom newcomer

20 Foundation

21 Seafood restaurant supply

22 Fermi's concern

23 Wish undone

27 Journalist Nellie

29 Temple of the gods

30 Log

31 Stash

33 One gets all the information backward

35 Backtalk

38 - Vegas

40 Adaptable

43 Insulation material

45 Do something

46 Lebowitz or Drescher

47 Source of wealth

48 Leak slowly

49 Bait

53 Chill in the air

54 Tardiddle

55 Pub offering

Solution time: 27 mins.

Yesterday's answer

CAR LOUT TIRIN
AAR EASE RACE
LE LIE LIND
LANAI LIND
GOSH SOLID
GREEN TEA RIDE
SANDS WEN
AIE GREEN BAY
DIOXIA TIER
PEIA WAGON
GREENWAVE ALE
ABBR ERTE PTX
SIBIS DEAD SOT

CRYPTOQUIP

M B H M Q D F C M R W C V
N D V R C N P X X T F D X I
W C V N H G W G F P I C Q F

"B V M R F H R C T D P V G R M X C G I"
Yesterday's Cryptquip: I IMAGINE EGOMANIA IS OFTEN A STATE OF MINE
Today's Cryptquip Clue: N equals F

The Cryptquip 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.