# on Monday

BRISBANE, Nov 7: Australia's new Test wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist is a tough marker and believes his work begins on Monday's fourth day of the first cricket Test against Pakistan here, reports AFP.

The 27-year-old West Australian gloveman walked into one of the toughest assignments when he replaced Test great wicketkeeper and hometown hero Ian Healy in his debut here this week.

Gilchrist immediately won over the fans when he blazed to 81 off 88 balls in Australia's first innings 515 for nine Sunday following on from his three catches in Pakistan's first innings.

But Gilchrist shrugged off the praise when he declared after Sunday's play that he has unfinished business over the final two days of the Brisbane Test.

"In all seriousness, my work starts tomorrow," Gilchrist said.

"The reason I'm in the team begins in the second innings of a Test match when my job is to take catches and deliveries from all the quicks and Warney (Shane Warne).

"It's certainly pleasing to get some runs, nice to have got through the first innings with the gloves and bagged a couple, but business begins for me to-

Gilchrist said the Gabba pitch was starting to turn and he was conscious of getting as many runs in front to put the pressure on Pakistan over the final days.

"It's (pitch) showing a bit of potential to turn a bit, and it's only day three and while I'm inexperienced at Test match cricket, I've watched a bit on TV and everyone knows days four and five it's going to start to go. "Every run we've got ahead of

Pakistan will be quite vital." Leg-spinner Warne has an excellent record at the Gabba taking 42 wickets in five and a half Tests here.

# Capriati, Rubin reach final

QUEBEC CITY, Nov 7: Continuing a remarkable turnaround, Jennifer Capriati held off fellow American Amy Frazier 2-6, 6-0, 7-5 yesterday to advance to the final of the \$180,000 Bell Challenge tennis event, reports Reuters.

Seeded fourth, Capriati will take on Chanda Rubin in Sunday's all-American final. Rubin, the third seed, avenged a three-set loss to Tara Snyder in last year's final with a 6-1, 6-3 triumph.

Capriati stormed out to a 4-1 lead in the third set before Frazier, the second seed, won four of the next five games to pull even. After Capriati held serve for a 6-5 lead, she broke Frazier in the next game to pull out the victory in one hour, 38 minutes.

"She played well and I had to be ready," said Capriati, who won 10 of 11 games at one point. "She was very aggressive in the third set. I was leading her 4-1 and 5-2, but she always came back. I realised the game is never won in advance, not before it's over.

After finishing 1998 ranked 101st in the world, Capriati has displayed a renewed enthusiasm for tennis this season, with the help of coach Harold Solomon.

French First Division

# Bordeaux's missed opportunity PARIS, Nov 7: Defending

champions Bordeaux had to settle for a 1-1 draw in their home match with Sedan here Saturday, reports AFP.

Bordeaux, who have qualified for the next phase of the European Champions League, were given a fright by the newly-promoted visitors, based on the Franco-Belgian border in the Ardennes.

Sedan goalkeeper Nicolas Sachy was equal to anything the champions could throw at him for the first hour and the underdogs took the lead after 37 minutes.

It was Pius N'Diefi who made the breakthrough against the run of play.

But French international midfielder Johan Micoud squared the match and headed an equaliser past Sachy after 65

Bordeaux, fourth at the start of play, pushed for a winner but ran out of steam after Micoud was sent off five minutes from

full time. That allowed Paris St Germain to leap-frog the title holders and go third behind leaders Auxerre, who visit Nantes Sunday and Lyon who

host Le Havre. PSG clinched a home 2-0 win over St Etienne with goals from

Mickael Madar and Laurent Nancy clinched a 2-0 victory

at Strasbourg. Rennes and Bastia had to

settle for a goalless draw in their clash Saturday.

# Champions League Stade de France to host final

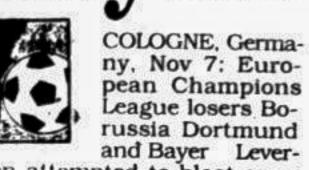
STOCKHOLM, Nov 7: The 2000 European Champions League Final will be staged at the Stade de France in Paris on May 24, European football gov-erning body UEFA's executive committee announced on Saturday, reports AFP.

The UEFA Cup Final will be staged on May 17 in Copen-

The Stade de France, opened in 1998, staged the World Cup Final the same year, won by France 3-0 against Brazil.

# More Gilchrist | Bundesliga

# Bayern back in business



and Bayer Leverkusen attempted to blast away their frustration Saturday with sheer muscle but neither team got the upper hand and their 1-1 result saw each miss an opportunity to go top of the Bundes-

liga, reports AFP. That honour belongs to Bayern Munich after 11 rounds thanks to Carsten Jancker's 44th minute goal which gave them a 1-0 win at SSV Ulm. Bayern have 23 points and are followed by Dortmund (21). Hamburg, Leverkusen (both 20) and 1860 Munich (18).

Dortmund and Leverkusen suffered deep disappointment mid week when they were dumped from Europe's top club competition into the consolation UEFA Cup.

They compensated for that with aggression Saturday in a bid to keep their Bundesliga campaigns on track. Dortmund's Alfred Nijhuis bore the brunt of it with an accidental elbow to the face from Leverkusen goal scorer Ulf Kirsten and team mate Miroslav Stevic was left writhing from a tough Emerson tackle.

"Both sides tried to get a smooth game flow going but we were both aggressive with our tackling and the game got choppy because of all the fouls and niggling," Leverkusen libero Jens Nowotny said.

After missing Tuesday's crucial game at home to Maribor Ulf Kirsten announced his presence with a goal in the 33rd minute which was beautifully set up by Nowotny.

"It would be nice if some of our other strikers could find the net too to increase their selfconfidence," Kirsten said. "We didn't have many chances to score today but at least we used one of them to good effect."

Dortmund struck back in the 43rd minute when a delightful Fredi Bobic pass split Leverkusen's offside trap and Otto Addo converted. "In recent weeks we've

looked good but not been tough enough." Leverkusen coach Christoph Daum said.

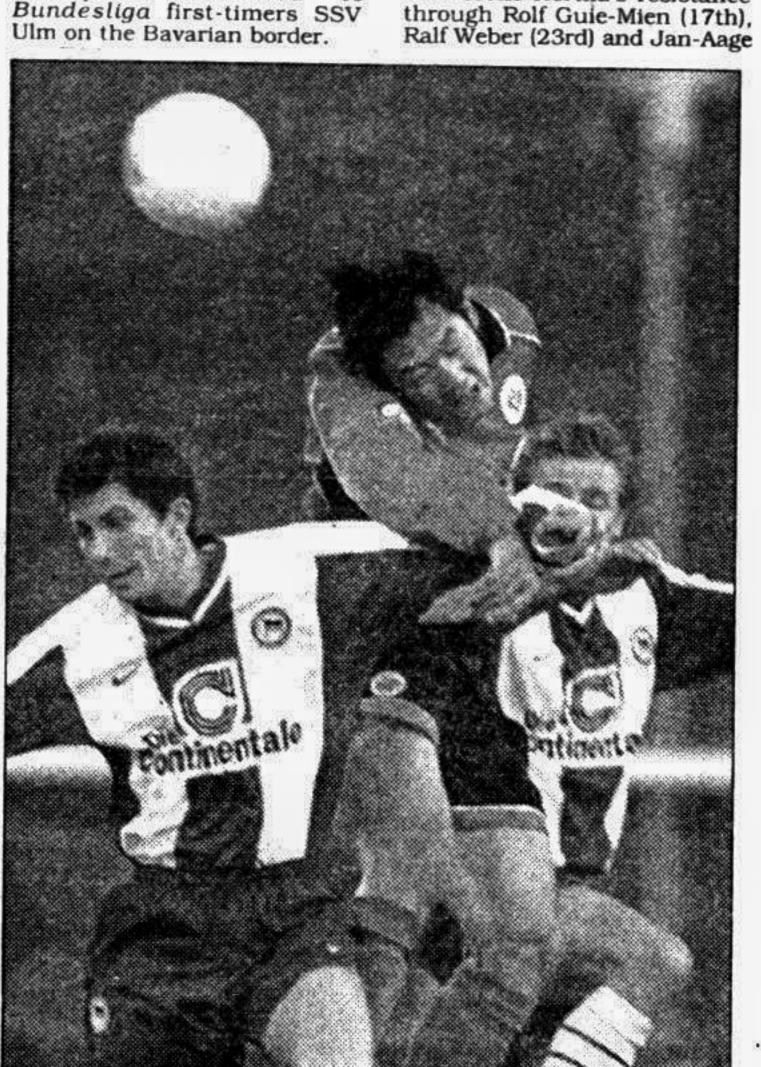
"I don't care about all the compliments about the way we play, they're worthless because we haven't been getting the right results. So today I deliberately focused on the rougher, physical side of things and hoped to introduce a bit of colour later in the game but that didn't hap-

"Christoph is right," Dortmund trainer Michael Skibbe added. "When you've got a hard tackling game with more football-grind than footballplay it's not possible to play at-tractive football."

Bayern manager Uli Honess had a trip down memory lane Saturday when the German champions travelled to Bundesliga first-timers SSV

stage of the Champions League, are struggling at home with just one win from their last 10 Bundesliga games. Three goals in quick succes-

sion broke Hertha's resistance



Eintracht Frankfurt striker Yang Chen (C) leaps above two Hertha Berlin players to head the ball during their Bundesliga fixture at Frankfurt on November 6. -AFP photo

Honess grew up in Ulm and played for them in younger days but on this occasion he took full points with him back to the big

"We opened up well and played good football in the first half." Bayern coach Ottmar Hitzfeld said. "Ulm didn't have a shot on goal while we had three or four.

"We really should have gone ahead earlier and scored more than one goal. I brought in seven new players after the Glasgow Rangers game to spread the load a bit. We did well and deserved to win."

Eintracht Frankfurt cracked their losing streak in impressive fashion with a 4-0 win at home over Hertha Berlin who. despite reaching the second Fjortoft (28th).

Hertha never gave up but Oka Nikolov foiled their best chance to score when he blocked Kjetil Rekdal's 51st minute spot kick. Horst Heldt put the icing on the cake for Frankfurt with his 89th minute penalty sealing their first Bundesliga win since beating bottom side Duisburg on August 21st.

In other games 1860 Munich moved up to fifth place with their 2-1 home win over Unterhaching and Wolfsburg lost 2-0 to VfB Stuttgart.

On Friday Hansa Rostock and Hamburg played an entertaining 3-3 draw while Freiburg thrashed Duisburg 3-0. On Sunday Arminia Bielefeld host Werder Bremen and Schalke travel to Kaiserslautern.

# Ronaldo to feature | Premiership in one match

against Socceroos RIO DE JANEIRO, Nov 7: Brazilian striker Ronaldo will play in just one of the two pre-Olympic friendly internationals for Brazil against Australia on November 14 and 17, according to press reports here on Saturday, reports AFP.

The Inter Milan player said that he did not want to become involved in a dispute between his club and country about whether he should play in the friendlies in preparation for January's pre-Olympic tournament.

Brazil coach Wanderley Luxemburgo has frequently clashed with the Italian club over who has priority for the prolific forward.

The Brazilian Football Confederation (CFB) informed Inter Milan on Thursday that they will insist Ronaldo plays for the Brazil national team for the two friendly matches.

The rules say a player must be released by his club for a maximum of six friendly matches.

Inter claim Ronaldo has already been called up to play six times this year. However, the CBF only counts four selections. - against Barcelona, twice against Argentina and once against Holland.

World football's governing body FIFA on Friday authorised the CBF to let Ronaldo play one of the two matches against Australia, the Brazilian press reported.

Ronaldo will arrive in Australia on Monday to train with the national side.

"It will be a good end to the year: I'm recuperating physcially, I'm going to be a father and on December 3 I will be the first Brazilian to be named an ambassador for the United Nations Organisation," said Ronaldo.

# Paparazzi after Graf

PARIS, Nov 7: Steffi Graf Andre Agassi's girlfriend, was caught unaware by the paparazzi in a clothes shop for babies here earlier this week reports AFP.

Germany's top selling newspaper Bild reported the incident in its Saturday edition, adding to speculation that the former German number one might be pregnant.

However, according to the photographers Graf's purchases were destined for a friend. Graf has been courtside a the Paris Open twice this week

to watch Agassi's progress. In an interview carried in the official Paris Open magazine Graf said: "Between tour naments, my dealings with the company I founded in Germany a few years ago, and not forget ting my foundation for children I barely have any time for my family or even for anything

# Cole stakes a claim



LONDON, Nov 7: Manchester United went to the top of the English Premiership Saturday thanks to

two slices of ma-gic from Andy Cole against Leicester at Old Trafford, putting him in serious

lived with Leeds in action. Sunday against Wimbledon. Ten-man Sunderland pulled a point clear of Arsenal in third after a scrappy 1-1 draw away to

Middlesbrough. Middlesbrough's Hamilton Ricard found the net with quarter of an hour left but high fly-



Manchester United striker Dwight Yorke (L) and Leicester City defender Robbie Savage fight for the ball during their Premiership meeting at Old Trafford on November 6.

contention for a return to the international stage next weekend, reports AFP.

The striker, recalled to Kevin Keegan's England squad for next Saturday's Euro 2000 clash with Scotland at Hampden Park, netted with a spectacular bicycle kick to put United ahead after half an

Cole, in irresistible form for his club, made it two with seven minutes remaining. His first attempt hitting the post, the rebound going in.

United manager Sir Alex Ferguson claims Cole has put himself firmly in the picture to start for England next week although England coach Kevin Keegan is expected to start with Alan Shearer and Michael He believes Cole must have a

strong case and he hailed his first goal as "magnificent". The United boss said: "He's in great form and he has been terrific.

"I think it will be interesting

has been playing very well for "His first goal was magnifi-

to see what happens now and he

cent and there is no other way to describe it. "Because of that and the kind of form he is in, he has put him-

self in the frame.' United top the Premiership for the first time in six weeks but their tenure could be short-

June win at the French Open by

advancing in 1hr 51min -- but

who won on his fifth match

point, now faces unseeded

Russian teenager Marat Safin.

The pair's career record is tied

break down to oust qualifier

Michael Chang of the United

States in three sets 6-7, 7-6, 6-3

will be looking to avenge the

first-round beating that Safin

handed him at Roland Garros

in 1998 over five sets. Agassi

won their only other meeting in

three straightforward sets in

the Davis Cup last year in the

able year and won two Grand

"Andre has had an unbeliev-

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In Sunday's final, Agassi

in 2hr 21min.

United States.

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12 Hang

14 Fly

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Safin came from a set and a

The 29-year-old Las Vegan,

PARIS, Nov 7:

Top-seeded Andre

Agassi overcame

the loss of the

ing Sunderland drew level thanks to a Michael Reddy

strike. Sunderland lost Chris Makin in the first half, the player red-carded for bringing down Brian Deane, his second bookable offence.

Peter Reid slammed his Sunderland side for their lack of discipline: "Referees have got a very difficult job and sometimes they miss things and you can't afford it to affect your discipline," said Reid. "We did and there wasn't

much football played by us for that reason, ending in us losing a player which is happening too many times. Liverpool, unbeaten in their

last five matches, failed to turn almost constant pressure into goals at home to Derby in the first half as Michael Owen made his Premiership return. But Danny Murphy put Liverpool ahead in the 65th

later to edge them nearer the top England received a boost when Liverpool boss Gerard Houllier declared Owen fit for

minute with Jamie Redknapp

extending the lead four minutes

international action next week. The diminutive striker made his comeback following a hamstring problem playing 80 minutes before being withdrawn from the fray.

Houllier said: 'Michael did

can come at the end of matches. "But he looked all right, more than all right actually. He's fully match fit for England. he wouldn't have started for me today if he hadn't been."

well considering he was coming

back from injury. I took him off

in those final minutes to avoid

a repetition of the injury which

Houllier, who celebrates a year in solo control of Liver-

pool at the end of the week, said of Saturday's win: "The virtue we showed against Derby was patience. "It was not our best perfor-

mance but it was a very, very good Liverpool performance.

Derby's miserable afternoon was compounded when their Italian striker Stefano Eranio left Anfield with a broken leg after a horror tackle by Liverpool's Finnish defender Sami Hyypia.

Angry Derby manager Jim Smith blasted referee Uriah Rennie for not sending off Hypia, who was not even booked for the tackle. Smith blasted: "We have

been treated harshly. The tackle broke my player's leg. "It was an unbelievable tackle and it didn't even get a yellow card. It was a diabolical

decision by the referee. There's nothing like the spectre of relegation to get the adrenalin going, and the two bottom of the table sides Wa-

tford and Sheffield Wednesday produced a real thriller. Michel Ngonge, from the Democratoc Republic of Congo. put Watford ahead before the in-

terval with Wednesday levelling with a 56th minute penalty from Gilles De Bilde. But Graham Tayler's trojans are nothing if not resilient and three minutes later Robert Page had put the southerners back in front only for De Bilde to secure

his side a valuable point 12 minutes from time. Southampton's purple patch continued with a 1-0 win away to Aston Villa, courtesy of a late strike by Dean Richards.

Villa boss John Gregory tonight sympathised with his fans' frustrations after watching his side's booed off at the final whistle. He said: 'If you pay to come in, you're allowed to boo," he

said. "We've been booed off at

half-time against Middlesbrough and Bradford this season and on both occasions we managed to win. "If your team doesn't win, that's the reaction you tend to get. We've had that reaction

from fans before today - we had it last season and we had it when we lost to Barnsley 18 months ago. Elsewhere, Coventry went

into a lightning lead after just 43 seconds against Bradford.

But Bradford rallied and drew level thanks to a Lee Mills goal just before the interval.

# Primera Liga



MADRID, Nov 6: Real Madrid's beleaguered Welsh John coach Toshack won a stay of execution after his team overturned a twogoal deficit to beat Primera Liga

leaders Rayo Vallecano here Saturday, reports AFP. It was Real's first victory in domestic competition since August 29 and lifts them to seventh in the table although the rest of the weekend fixture list is yet to be played. However, it could be just enough to persuade meringues president Lorenzo

Sanz to give Toshack more time to turn around the ailing giants. Surprise leaders Rayo, also based in Madrid and whose president Maria Teresa Rivero a mother of 13 - is the only female head of a top European football club, seemed to have sounded the Welshman's death knell when they took a 2-0 lead after 28 minutes through goals from Jordi Ferron and Manuel

Canabal. But clearly Toshack's halftime peptalk did the trick. A minute after the restart Fernando Morientes reduced arrears and then after 52 minutes a Fernando Hierro penalty squared the match.

Six minutes from time Raul popped up with the goal that won the day for Real. English star Steve McManaman and Hierro returned

from injury lay-offs but Toshack was still without Nicolas Anelka. Fernando Redondo. Geremi Nijtap and Bodo Illgner. And thinks looked decidedly bleak after four minutes when Rayo's Basque striker Jon Perez Bolo missed an easy chance.

slack defending to put Rayo ahead and then Real Madrid keeper Albano Bizarri fumbled a shot from Luis Cembranos into the path of Canabal, who made it 2-0 to the hosts. Morientes scored Real's first

Ferron took advantage of

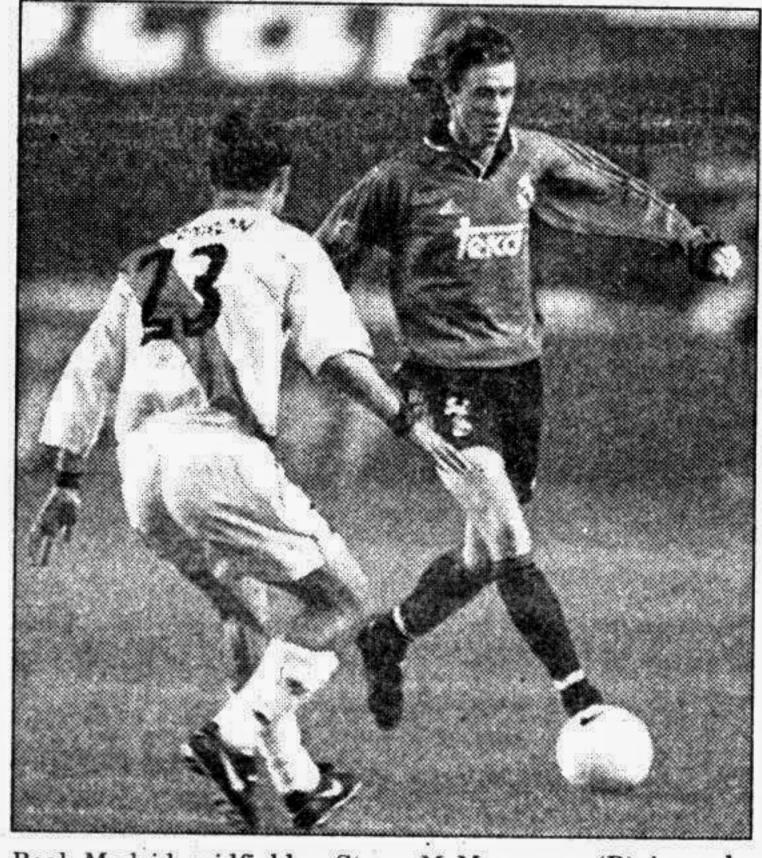
goal, a real work of individualskill and then Hierro's penalty came after a foul on Raul. Morientes was later dismissed for insulting the referee but. Raul's late winner was like mannah from heaven for

Toshack.

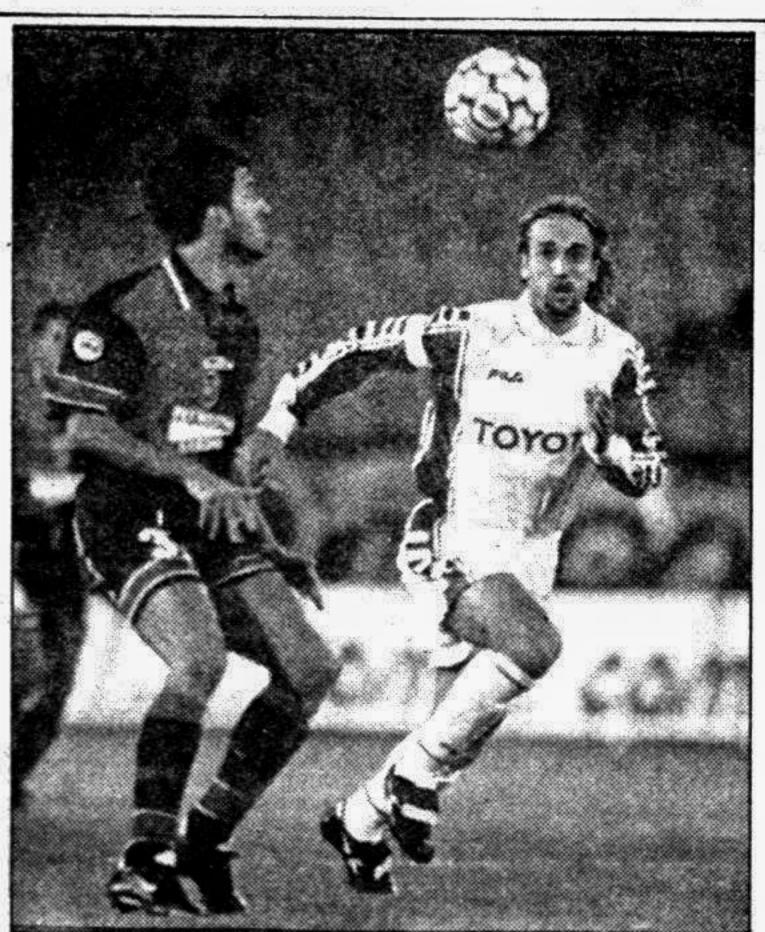
Ironically the big winners of the weekend could be Real's eternal rivals Barcelona who will return to the summit if they beat Malaga Sunday.

### Pierce sent packing LEIPZIG, Germany, Nov 7:

Kveta Hrdlickova of the Czech Republic pulled off the biggest win of her career on Saturday to beat French top seed Mary Pierce 1-6, 6-3, 6-3 and reach the final of the 520,000 dollars WTA tennis tournament in Leipzig, reports Reuters.



Real Madrid midfielder Steve McManaman (R) is under pressure from Ferron of Rayo Vallecano during their Primera liga clash at Madrid on November 6. -AFP photo



Fiorentina skipper Gabriel Batistuta (R) and Cagliari's Gianluca Grassadonia are in pursuit of the ball during their Serie A encounter on November 6. -AFP photo

# Colin, Paula year's best

LONDON, Nov 7: British athletes Colin Jackson and Paula Radcliffe were on Saturday named athletes-ofthe-year by the British Athletics Writers' Association,

reports AFP.

senior male award after becoming the first Briton to regain a world title when racing to the 110 metres hurdles crown in Seville last August. Radcliffe, 25, produced one of the gutsiest displays ever seen by a female when winning

silver in the 10,000m at the

Olympic Stadium to end years of championship heartache on the track. Scottish prospect Chris Baillie, 18, was named junior male athlete after winning gold in the 110m hurdles at the European Junior Championships in Latvia just

weeks after the tragic death of Ross, his brother. Ross died from an extreme allergic reaction after eating a chicken sandwich at Bath University where he was part of an elite training group and seen as Jackson's eventual succes-

Serie A

# Cagliari hold Fiorentina

Sports Reporter Fiorentina failed to break their Sardinia jinx when they were held 1-1 by a determined Cagliari in a Serie A fixture on

Saturday. Italy international Angelo Di Livio put the visitors in front 10 minutes into the game with a 30-yard drive that took a wicked deflection into the Cagliari

But Cameroon international

striker Patrick Mboma

equalised for the home side by

converting a penalty in the 54th. Fiorentina were looking for only their second win against the tiny island team in the 21st Serie A meeting between the two. Cagliari have won 11 of those matches while eight have

Fiorentina, with 10 points are tenth in the table after nine games while Cagliari stay bottom with five having played the same number of matches. In Saturday's other game, Bari overcame Perugia 2-1. Bari

were up 2-0 by the 54th minute

with strikes from Daniel

Andersson and South African

ended in draws.

Phil Masinga. French international Ibrahim Ba pulled one back for Perugia in the 75th. Bari moved to 11th in the table with 10 points while Perugia are sixth on 13. Each. have played nine matches.

### Slams. Something has to happen for me to beat him," said Spain-based Safin, who won his first career ATP tour title in Boston in August, beating

The South American then clawed back two games, staving

off match points in both.

But Agassi, on serve, swiftly moved to 40-15 for two more he didn't have it all his own match points and shut the gate with a rasping forehand to end Lapentti's dreams. The Ecuadorian had earlier shown his potential by bouncing back after losing the open-

ing two games to take the opening set in 34min. "It was a good match. He served so well, ran down a lot of balls. But I stayed focused. He seemed to get tired later on and was not getting to every shot."

said Agassi. "If anything surprised me today it was his serve. I was finding it really heavy and hard to get onto it but once I found my rhythm I was able to execute my game."

"We both played well for two sets then it changed a little bit.

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41 Screw-

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25 Round

23 Dog

**18** Big

Agassi, Safin showdown "I think, if anything, I got to him a little bit physically. I started executing, I kept offence,

I kept working him," Agansi "By the third set he just wasn't getting to that one extra shot. He definitely wasn't mov-

previous meeting on hardcourt in Scottsdale last year - but that was before Lapentti embarked upon a meteoric rise which has taken him from 91 in the world at the start of the year to the brink of the top ten.

Indeed, Australian Open semi-finalist Lapentti, on a hot streak of form after winning Tour titles in Indianapolis in August and Lyon last month, will break into the top ten when the new rankings are published on Monday.

It will be the first time that three South Americans have been placed so high -- Gustavo Kuerten and Marcelo Rios being the other top-ten residents.

Tournament organisers, aware that the Rugby World Cup final between France and Australia would wrest the spotlight away from the Palais Omnisports in the mid-afternoon, elected to bring Agassi's match forward by almost halfan-hour.

J S A U B TJLCVBRAVJB JS PYVXXP. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A WEATHER-

ROOM. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals I

MAN IS FURIOUS, HE STORMS OUT OF THE

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.

### opening set here on Saturday to Britain's Greg Rusedski in the book his place in the final of final. "We'll see what happens. I the 2.5-million-dollar Paris think he's the favourite. Open with a 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 win Agassi and Lapentti split ing as well at the end." over 11th seed Nicolas Lapentti Jackson, 32, picked up the their opening sets as they blew Agassi had won their only of Ecuador, reports AFP. hot and cold on Centre Court. Agassi, a champion at the before the world number one Palais Omnisports Stadium in raced to 5-0 in the decider. 1994, kept on track for a Parisian double following his