

More Gilchrist on Monday

BRISBANE, Nov 7: Australia's 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 govt man 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 tomorrow."

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 Sacy 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'Diaye who made the breakthrough against the run of play.

But French international midfielder Johann Vogel squared the match and headed an equaliser past Sacy after 65 minutes.

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 Leroy.

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 governing body UEFA's executive committee announced on Saturday, reports AFP.

The UEFA Cup Final will be staged on May 17 in Copenhagen.

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

Bundesliga

Bayern back in business

COLOGNE, Germany, Nov 7: Bayern Munich's Champions League losses Borussia Dortmund 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 Bundesliga, 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 self-confidence," 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 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 happen."

"Christoph is right," Dortmund trainer Michael Skibbe added. "When you've got a hard tackling game with more football-grind than football."

Eintracht Frankfurt cracked their losing streak in impressive fashion with a 4-0 win at home over Hertha Berlin too, despite reaching the second

stage of the Champions League, are struggling at home with just one win from their last 10 Bundesliga games.

Three goals in quick succession broke Hertha's resistance through Ralf Guie-Mien (17th), Ralf Weber (23rd) and Jan-Aage

play it's not possible to play attractive football."

Bayern manager Uli Hoenes had a trip down memory lane Saturday when the German champions travelled to Bundesliga first-timers SSV Ulm on the Bavarian border.

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.

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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 physically, 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.

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 Owen.

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 to see what happens now and he has been playing very well for us."

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"Because of that and the kind of form he is in, he has put himself in the frame."

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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 minute with Jamie Redknapp extending the lead four minutes later to edge them nearer the top three.

England received a boost when Liverpool boss Gerard Houllier declared Owen fit for international action next week.

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

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Ronaldo to feature in one match against Socceros

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 owner who has priority for the prolific forward.

The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) 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.

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Premiership

Cole stakes a claim

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