

Rennie stops SL surge

BULAWAYO, Nov 8 (Reuters): Sri Lanka were held up by an unbroken century stand after opener Gavin Rennie hit an unbeaten 114 and Gary Brent scored 55 not out in an unfinished fifth wicket stand of 153.

Tardy record for Tasmania

HOBART, Australia, Nov 8 (AFP): A 70-year-old Sheffield Shield cricket record was broken as an improbable Queensland victory charge was thwarted by an even more improbable ninth wicket Tasmanian stand here Monday.

Tait fills in for Nash

CHRISTCHURCH, Nov 8 (Internet report): Northern Districts medium pace bowler Alex Tait has been named as the replacement for Dion Nash who injured his back in the first one day cricket international against India in Rajkot.

French First Division Anderson takes Lyon back atop

UNDATED, Nov 8: Lyon went back to the top of the French First Division by drubbing Le Havre 3-0, reports AFP.

French First Division Anderson takes Lyon back atop

CHRISTCHURCH, Nov 8 (Internet report): Northern Districts medium pace bowler Alex Tait has been named as the replacement for Dion Nash who injured his back in the first one day cricket international against India in Rajkot.

Boje sees Free State home

POTCHEFSTROOM, Nov 8 (Internet report): Nicky Boje smashed 76 runs from 67 balls to guide Free State to a four-wicket win over North West in the SuperSport Series match in Potchefstroom on Sunday.

Bell Challenge Capriati's

QUEBEC CITY, Nov 8: Resurgent Jennifer Capriati won a three-set victory over Chanda Rubin in Sunday night's final of the 180,000 dollars Bell Challenge, reports Reuters.

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Lazio's Chilean superstar Marcelo Salas (L) threatening the Verona goal during their Serie A encounter in Rome on November 7. — AFP photo

Veron venom inspire Lazio

MILAN, Nov 8: Lazio crushed Verona 4-0, tripled their lead at the top of Italian football and made a dream come true for their delighted coach Sven Goran Eriksson on Sunday, reports AFP.

Lazio, unbeaten all season in Italy and Europe, are riding high at the top of Serie A with 21 points, three clear of Juventus, who were held to a 0-0 draw by Torino in the Turin derby on Sunday night.

AC Milan are third after beating Venezia 3-0 and AS Roma fourth after hammering Reggina 4-0, while the shock of the day was Inter Milan's humiliating 3-0 defeat at Bologna.

Veron also provided the long ball into the area for Paulo Negro to head in off the post in the 45th minute, while Croatian striker Alen Boksic smashed home the fourth in the second half.

Lazio coach Sven Goran Eriksson said: "We played good football. We scored four goals and you can't ask for any more than that."

And Eriksson, who recently criticised his men for a lack of "killer instinct", added: "This time everyone was concentrated. Today, everyone walked out determined to kill their opponents."

and Alessandro Del Piero firing blanks, despite plenty of hard work from Zinedine Zidane.

Both sides finished a man short with Juventus' Dutch midfielder Edgar Davids being dismissed after 90 minutes and Torino winger Gigi Lentini controversially following in injury-time.

Inter's disastrous run of form continued as they slumped to a humiliating defeat at Bologna, their sparkling start to the season now a distant memory.

Marcello Lippi's men, who were without injured striker Christian Vieri, have earned just one point from their last four league matches.

Bologna's Swedish giant Kennet Andersson scored in each half, both times heading home a cross from the left from veteran striker Giuseppe Signori.

Signori was rewarded for his efforts in the 76th minute, when he pounced on a defensive mix-up to tap the third into an empty net.

Lippi said: "We have everything here - a great club, great facilities and great players. But there are these ups and downs at the moment which are very worrying."

"We just didn't do anything to get our approach right to this game. A week ago, I saw a great game against Lazio. Today, Bologna caused us problems. But I'm the coach and I accept responsibility."

Inter director general Gabriele Oriati was less diplomatic, saying: "We lost the match, but worse than that we lost it. It was an unbelievable match, I felt ashamed. You can always lose, but not like this."

"It was too bad to be true," he said.

AC Milan showed their mettle by recovering from the 3-2 defeat to Galatasaray which dumped them out of European football to beat Venezia.

They struggled in the first-half but German Oliver Bierhoff steered home a back-header from George Weah in the 55th minute and the Liberian later rounded goalkeeper Fabrizio Casazza to make it 2-0.

U-17 WC soccer from Nov 10

AUCKLAND, Nov 8 (AFP): This is the draw for the FIFA Under-17 World Soccer Championships which kick-off here November 10.

Bundesliga Kaiserslautern leave it late

COLOGNE, Germany, Nov 8: Kaiserslautern did a repeat performance of their UEFA Cup victory this week by scoring two late goals Sunday to steal victory from Schalke, reports AFP.

Marc Willmot had put Schalke ahead with a 45th minute penalty but after the break Kaiserslautern pulled themselves together and kept the visitors bottled up in their own half.

Rangers too good for Celtic

GLASGOW, Nov 8: Rangers won the first Old Firm derby of the Scottish Premier League season on Sunday when second-half goals by Lorenzo Amoroso and Gabriel Amato gave them a 4-2 success over Celtic at Ibrox, reports AFP.

Eyeal Berkovic scored twice for the visitors in a tempestuous first half but Rangers, who had briefly taken the lead through Jonatan Johansson, crucially levelled at 2-2 on the stroke of half-time through a Jorg Albertz penalty.

Dick Advocaat's champions, still unbeaten, now have 31 points, four clear of Celtic who have played a game more.

John Barnes' side were behind following a 20th-minute strike by Finnish striker Johansson, who had earlier clattered the crossbar with a fierce effort.

Premiership Leeds brought down to earth

LONDON, Nov 8: Leeds United suffered their first defeat in 12 matches on Sunday when they lost 2-0 at Wimbledon in the English Premiership, reports AFP.

Tottenham handed north London rivals Arsenal another morale-sapping loss with a 2-1 victory at White Hart Lane.

Elsewhere Chelsea and Newcastle continued to stutter.

Primera Liga Malaga stun Barca

MADRID, Nov 8: Defending champions Barcelona crashed to a shock 2-1 defeat at the Nou Camp to un-

fashionable Malaga Sunday to ensure that the equally unheralded Rayo Vallecano stayed top of the Primera Liga despite their 3-2 defeat by Real Madrid Saturday, reports AFP.

Barcelona, the bookmakers' favourites to win the European Champions League, slumped to fifth place in the Spanish First Division.

Malaga took an early grip on the match when Portuguese star Joaquim Agostinho gave them a ninth minute lead and then a fine move allowed Vicente Valcarlos to make it 2-0 to the visitors just five minutes later.

Leeds brought down to earth

against Kaiserslautern in the UEFA Cup.

But Spurs spoiled their good early work by allowing Patrick Vieira to pull a goal back with a free header from Emmanuel Petit's 38th-minute free-kick.

The second half exploded dramatically into life after only seven minutes when Ljungberg was sent off for taking a swipe at Justin Edinburgh.

The incident happened on the far touchline when the Swedish winger was unhappy with a sliding tackle by the Tottenham full-back.

As Edinburgh tried to get up, Ljungberg pushed him back down, and that sparked a shoving match as players from both sides rushed in.

Referee David Elleray settled things by showing Ljungberg the red card.

Frenchman Patrick Vieira protested too strongly though and was booked for dissent - his fifth domestic of the season which will turn his six-match ban into seven matches.

Arsenal dominated thereafter but failed to find the equaliser and their misery was complete when Keown received a second yellow card for scything down Jose Dominguez in the dying seconds.

Wenger's side stay fourth on 26 points.

At Stamford Bridge Chelsea huffed and puffed but failed to find the breakthrough against West Ham.

Harry Redknapp's side had Chilean defender Javier Margas sent off for a second yellow card four minutes from time but held on for the point.

Chelsea remain ninth, 10 points behind Manchester United.

Kevin Campbell's seventh goal of the season spoiled Newcastle's run of home victories as Everton staged a second-half fightback at St James' Park.

The striker headed home Nick Barmby's 61st-minute cross after Alan Shearer had given the home side the lead from the penalty spot.

THINGS NOT LOOKING UP: A dejected Inter Milan superstar Ronaldo leaving the field after their defeat to Bologna. — AFP photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer. A crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes a CRYPTOQUIP section with a grid of letters and a key.